

Two more charged in 'Dealer Fold'

By PHIL ATTINGER
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — In two separate cases, Highlands County Sheriff's deputies arrested two more Wednesday on charges of drug possession or drug sales.

Both stemmed from incidents weeks or months ago under a months-long Sheriff's Office investigation titled "Operation Dealer Fold."

The oldest of the two was 6:28 p.m. Sept. 27, 2017 — A traffic stop at West Main Street and North Anoka Avenue in Avon Park.

Deputies saw that the license plate did not match the car, according to arrest reports. They had the driver get out of the car so they could look at the vehicle identification number (VIN) and then asked if they could search the car for contraband.

The driver, 52-year-old Floyd Gene Hodge, of Avon Park, said OK to a search of his car and himself.

During the search, the deputy found a red-tinted transparent plastic bag in Hodge's right pants pocket, reports said. Reports said it contained a crystal-like substance that field-tested positive for methamphetamine.

Any statements by Hodge were redacted from reports.

He has since been charged with possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia,

DEALER | 9

Lawmakers get revenue boost ahead of budget talks

THE NEWS SERVICE OF FLORIDA

TALLAHASSEE — A surge in hurricane-recovery building and a change in the way the state collects gambling payments from the Seminole Tribe will give lawmakers a little fiscal wiggle room as they negotiate a new \$87 billion state budget.

State analysts on Friday adjusted estimates for revenue collections upward by about \$462 million, including \$181 million this year and \$280.5 million for the fiscal year that will start July 1.

The bulk of the increase is one-time, non-recurring money, which will limit its use in the state budget. But it can be a positive factor as Senate and House members work out differences in their budget bills, which were passed Thursday.

"It was money they weren't expecting," said Amy Baker, coordinator of the Legislature's Office of Economic and Demographic Research. "It's going to be nonrecurring, which comes with all the issues associated with that. It's good news."

But she also said "it doesn't really alter the shape" of the longer-term financial challenges facing the state.

A major factor in the increase is explained by the economic cycle Florida goes through when it is hit by a major hurricane like Irma, a powerful storm that impacted the majority of the state in September.

In the immediate aftermath of such a storm, state spending increases and sales-tax collections drop. But then recovery begins and residents, aided by insurance payments, rebuild and repair their property. That increases sales taxes, the state's single-largest revenue source.

BUDGET | 9

Did you know?

Highlands Hammock State Park has a rich history

By JAY MEISEL
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — Whether they were urban legends or there was some truth to it, stories abounded in the past about how con artists sold the Brooklyn Bridge to unfortunate individuals who ended up only with a reduced bank account.

But, there's no doubt that there's somewhat of a link between Highlands Hammock State Park and the Brooklyn Bridge. It's part of the wealth of history surrounding Highlands

Hammock State Park. Few people know about the connection and many may not realize the park played a key role in the Florida State Park system. They also may not know the connection between Highlands Hammock State Park and the Archbold Biological Station.

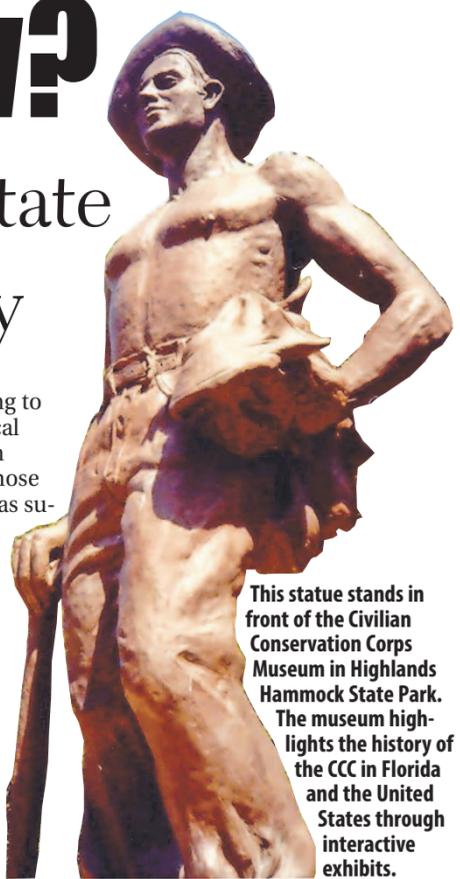
In fact, according to Darrel Smith, a retired park ranger and the first curator of the park's museum, it was the first state park created in Florida.

How Highlands Hammock Park was created is in itself a somewhat complicated

story, according to Smith, and local historian Allen Altwater III, whose grandfather was superintendent at Highlands Hammock State Park from 1935 to 1941.

It's also not well known that the park once included a botanical garden.

PARK | 7



This statue stands in front of the Civilian Conservation Corps Museum in Highlands Hammock State Park. The museum highlights the history of the CCC in Florida and the United States through interactive exhibits.

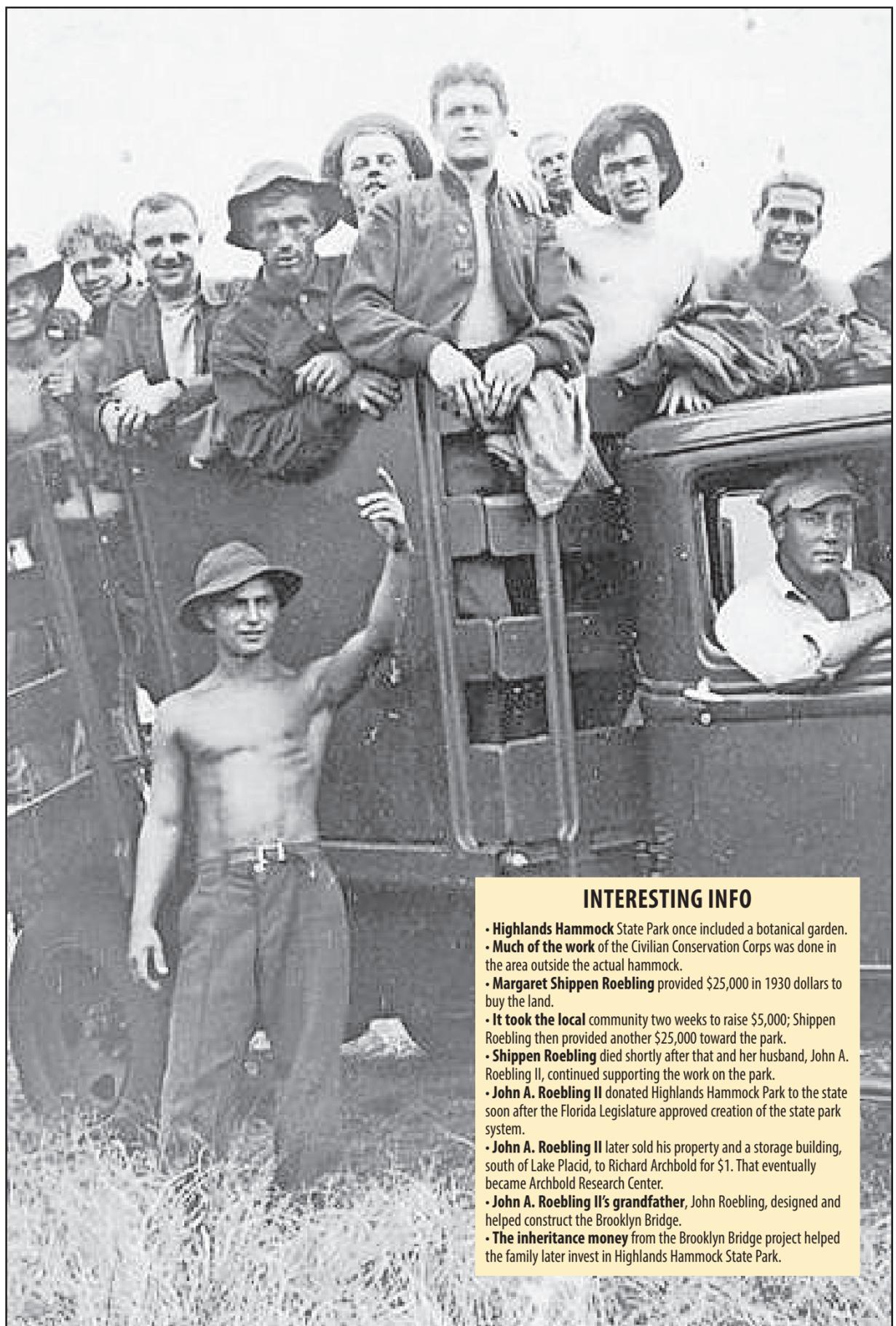


Photo Courtesy of Allen Altwater III

These Civilian Conservation Corps were gearing up to work at creating Highlands Hammock State Park in this undated photo.

INTERESTING INFO

- Highlands Hammock State Park once included a botanical garden.
- Much of the work of the Civilian Conservation Corps was done in the area outside the actual hammock.
- Margaret Shippen Roebling provided \$25,000 in 1930 dollars to buy the land.
- It took the local community two weeks to raise \$5,000; Shippen Roebling then provided another \$25,000 toward the park.
- Shippen Roebling died shortly after that and her husband, John A. Roebling II, continued supporting the work on the park.
- John A. Roebling II donated Highlands Hammock Park to the state soon after the Florida Legislature approved creation of the state park system.
- John A. Roebling II later sold his property and a storage building, south of Lake Placid, to Richard Archbold for \$1. That eventually became Archbold Research Center.
- John A. Roebling II's grandfather, John Roebling, designed and helped construct the Brooklyn Bridge.
- The inheritance money from the Brooklyn Bridge project helped the family later invest in Highlands Hammock State Park.



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Sebring residents warned of water utility scam

By PHIL ATTINGER
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — If someone knocks on your door claiming to be a utility

worker there to test your water, don't believe it.

Scammers have been going door-to-door through the Sebring area claiming to represent Sebring Utilities, according to an alert from the city of Sebring and shared by the Highlands County Sheriff's Office through social media.

The scenario is similar to other door-to-door scams where the a person visits a homeowner who has not called for a worker to visit and has not heard officially from a public entity or agency.

In this case, the visitor offers to test the residents' water for contaminants.

As with such scams involving a possibly of something being amiss, the visitor finds contaminants in the water, and coincidentally, has a water purification system for sale.

"This is 100 percent a scam," the Sheriff's Office stated in a Facebook

post. "If they come calling at your home, send them packing and call the Sebring Police Department."

The non-emergency phone number for the Sebring Police Department is 471-5108.

For those in and around Lake Placid or Avon Park who get similar visitors claiming to belong to those utilities, the number for the Lake Placid Police Department is 863-699-3757, and for Avon Park law enforcement (Sheriff's Office) is 863-402-7200.

Anyone with questions about their water quality should feel free to call contact their local utility to schedule a time for them to visit and test the tap water:

- Sebring Utilities, 863-471-5112
- Avon Park Utilities, 863-452-4433
- Lake Placid Utilities, 863-699-3747

AP eyes new playground equipment, exercise station

City Council to consider agreement with county

By MARC VALERO
STAFF WRITER

AVON PARK — The Avon Park City Council will consider an agreement with the county Monday to share the nearly \$100,000 cost for playground equipment and an exercise station for three locations in the city.

At its meeting at 6 p.m., the City Council will vote on an interlocal agreement to share the funding for playground equipment at Lake Tulane and the MLK Field and an exercise station at Donaldson Park.

According to the agreement, the county will reimburse the city for half of the verifiable cost for capital purchases of the project or \$48,065, whichever is less.



DELEON

The Council will consider another interlocal agreement with the county calling for the

county to make available to the city up to \$110,000 to be used for actual operation and maintenance expenditures for recreation facilities.

Following recommendations from the Airport Community Redevelopment Agency Advisory Board and pilots at the City Council's airport workshop on Feb. 5, the City Council will consider issuing a request for proposal for a FBO (fixed base operator) for the city airport.



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Written by Reginald Rose

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Sponsored By Tina M. Thomas, DMD

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The photo with the most "Likes" wins an Electric Toothbrush (valued at \$90)!

Contest opens February 1st. and runs until February 28th.

Email your photos to Donna.Scherlacher@highlandsnewssun.com and use **ICONIC AVON PARK** in the subject line.

NO PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS PLEASE

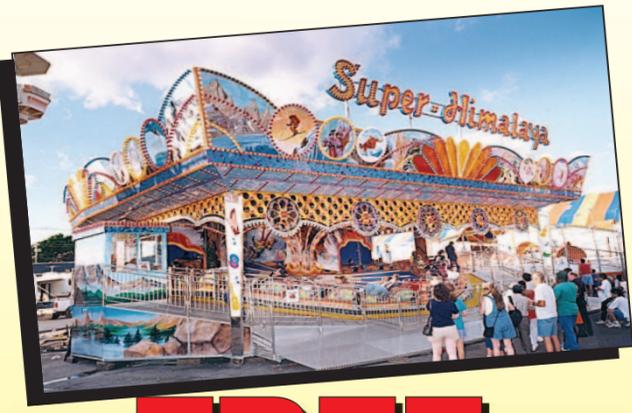
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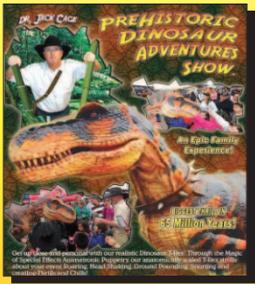
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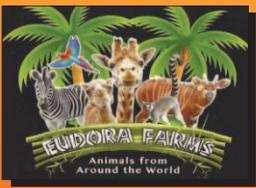


Prehistoric Dinosaur Museum
 Feb. 9th, 15th, 16th 5 pm - 11 pm
 Feb. 10th, 17th 1pm - 10pm
 Feb. 11th 1pm - 9pm
 Feb. 12th, 13th, 14th 5 pm - 10 pm



Jon Simon Master Hypnotist
 Feb. 9th, 10th & 12th - 16th 7 pm & 9 pm
 Feb. 11th 2pm. & 6pm
 Feb. 17th 3pm & 5pm

Red Dragon Laser Tag
 Feb. 13th - 16th 5 pm - 10 pm
 Feb. 17th 1pm - 10pm



Petting Zoo
 Feb. 9th & 12th - 16th 5 pm - 10 pm
 Feb. 10th & 17th 1 pm - 10 pm
 Feb. 11th 1 pm - 9 pm



Rodney Green Chainsaw Carving
 Feb. 12th - 16th 5 pm - 10 pm
 Feb. 17th 1 pm - 10 pm



2017 Little Miss Highlands County Maria Swafford



2017 Miss Highlands County Gabrielle Reyna-Condo

Jr. Miss Highlands County Contest
 Friday, February 9th • 7pm

Miss Highlands County Contest
 Saturday, February 10th • 7pm



2017 Jr. Miss Highlands County Jacey Pella

Little Miss Highlands County Contest
 Sunday, February 11th • 4pm

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 5PM-CLOSING MIDWAY REITHOFFER SHOWS- ARM BAND \$22
 5PM-10PM IND. MIDWAY EXHIBIT BUILDINGS & HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN CENTER OPEN
 5PM-10PM FLAG ROW EUDORA FARMS EXOTIC PETTING ZOO SPONSORED BY GLADES ELECTRIC
 5PM-11PM IND. MIDWAY BEER GARDEN- SPONSORED BY BUDWEISER
 5PM-11PM FLAG ROW PREHISTORIC DINOSAUR MUSEUM
 7PM-10PM SMALL ANIMAL BARN POULTRY & RABBIT DISPLAY
 7PM HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN CENTER JR. MISS HIGHLANDS CO. PAGEANT
 7PM, 9PM TAYLOR OIL STAGE JON SIMON- MASTER HYPNOTIST

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH

AGERO DAY
 1PM-CLOSING MIDWAY REITHOFFER SHOWS- ARM BAND \$22
 1PM-10PM IND. MIDWAY EXHIBIT BUILDINGS & HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN CENTER OPEN
 1PM-10PM FLAG ROW EUDORA FARMS EXOTIC PETTING ZOO SPONSORED BY GLADES ELECTRIC
 1PM-10PM FLAG ROW PREHISTORIC DINOSAUR MUSEUM
 1PM-10PM SMALL ANIMAL BARN POULTRY & RABBIT DISPLAY
 1PM-10PM LIVESTOCK BARN MARKET SWINE DISPLAY
 1PM-11PM IND. MIDWAY BEER GARDEN- SPONSORED BY BUDWEISER
 3PM-6PM SMALL ANIMAL BARN RABBIT JUDGING & SHOWMANSHIP
 7PM HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN CENTER MISS HIGHLANDS CO. PAGEANT
 7PM, 9PM TAYLOR OIL STAGE JON SIMON- MASTER HYPNOTIST

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH

HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN DAY- SENIOR CITIZEN DAY ADMITTED FOR \$4.00 WITH ID
 1PM-CLOSING MIDWAY REITHOFFER SHOWS- ARM BAND \$22
 1PM-9PM IND. MIDWAY EXHIBIT BUILDINGS & HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN CENTER OPEN
 1PM-9PM FLAG ROW EUDORA FARMS EXOTIC PETTING ZOO SPONSORED BY GLADES ELECTRIC
 1PM-9PM FLAG ROW PREHISTORIC DINOSAUR MUSEUM
 1PM-9PM LIVESTOCK BARN SWINE, STEER & COMMERCIAL HEIFER DISPLAY
 1PM-9PM SMALL ANIMAL BARN POULTRY & RABBIT DISPLAY
 1PM-9PM IND. MIDWAY BEER GARDEN- SPONSORED BY BUDWEISER
 3PM LIVESTOCK PAVILION MARKET SWINE SHOW & SHOWMANSHIP
 4PM HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN CENTER LITTLE MISS HIGHLANDS CO. PAGEANT
 2PM, 6PM TAYLOR OIL STAGE JON SIMON- MASTER HYPNOTIST

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH

EDWARD JONES & HEARTLAND RADIO GROUP DAY- OLD FASHIONED DOLLAR DAY
 5PM-CLOSING MIDWAY REITHOFFER SHOWS- NO ARM BANDS
 5PM-10PM IND. MIDWAY EXHIBIT BUILDINGS & HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN CENTER OPEN
 5PM-10PM FLAG ROW EUDORA FARMS EXOTIC PETTING ZOO SPONSORED BY GLADES ELECTRIC
 5PM-10PM FLAG ROW PREHISTORIC DINOSAUR MUSEUM
 5PM-10PM SMALL ANIMAL BARN POULTRY & RABBIT DISPLAY
 5PM-10PM FLAG ROW CHAINSAW CARVING SHOW
 5PM-11PM IND. MIDWAY BEER GARDEN- SPONSORED BY BUDWEISER
 5:30PM LIVESTOCK PAVILION PEE WEE SHOW- SMALL ANIMALS
 6:30PM-8PM LIVESTOCK PAVILION COMMERCIAL HEIFER SHOW & SHOWMANSHIP
 7PM, 9PM TAYLOR OIL STAGE JON SIMON- MASTER HYPNOTIST

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH

JOHNSON STIVENDER WEALTH ADVISORS DAY- HALF PRICE GATE ADMISSION \$4.00
 5PM-CLOSING MIDWAY REITHOFFER SHOWS- ARM BAND \$11
 5PM-10PM IND. MIDWAY EXHIBIT BUILDINGS & HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN CENTER OPEN
 5PM-10PM HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN CENTER RED DRAGON LASER TAG
 5PM-10PM FLAG ROW EUDORA FARMS EXOTIC PETTING ZOO SPONSORED BY GLADES ELECTRIC
 5PM-10PM FLAG ROW PREHISTORIC DINOSAUR MUSEUM
 5PM-10PM LIVESTOCK BARN SWINE, STEER & COMMERCIAL HEIFER DISPLAY
 5PM-10PM SMALL ANIMAL BARN POULTRY & RABBIT DISPLAY
 5PM-10PM FLAG ROW CHAINSAW CARVING SHOW
 5PM-11PM IND. MIDWAY BEER GARDEN- SPONSORED BY BUDWEISER
 5:30PM LIVESTOCK PAVILION PEE WEE SHOW- LARGE ANIMALS

6:30PM LIVESTOCK PAVILION MARKET STEER SHOW & SHOWMANSHIP
 7PM, 9PM TAYLOR OIL STAGE JON SIMON- MASTER HYPNOTIST

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH

HEARTLAND NATIONAL BANK DAY- HALF PRICE GATE ADMISSION \$4.00
 5PM-CLOSING MIDWAY REITHOFFER SHOWS- ARM BAND \$11
 5PM-10PM IND. MIDWAY EXHIBIT BUILDINGS & HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN CENTER OPEN
 5PM-10PM HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN CENTER RED DRAGON LASER TAG
 5PM-10PM FLAG ROW EUDORA FARMS EXOTIC PETTING ZOO SPONSORED BY GLADES ELECTRIC
 5PM-10PM FLAG ROW PREHISTORIC DINOSAUR MUSEUM
 5PM-10PM LIVESTOCK BARN SWINE, STEER & COMMERCIAL HEIFER DISPLAY
 5PM-10PM SMALL ANIMAL BARN POULTRY & RABBIT DISPLAY
 5PM-10PM FLAG ROW CHAINSAW CARVING SHOW
 5PM-11PM IND. MIDWAY BEER GARDEN- SPONSORED BY BUDWEISER
 6PM SMALL ANIMAL BARN POULTRY JUDGING & SHOWMANSHIP
 7PM, 9PM TAYLOR OIL STAGE JON SIMON- MASTER HYPNOTIST

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH

FARM CREDIT DAY- STUDENTS DAY- ADMITTED WITH FOOD CAN FROM 5PM-8PM
 5PM-CLOSING MIDWAY REITHOFFER SHOWS- ARM BAND \$22
 5PM-10PM IND. MIDWAY EXHIBIT BUILDINGS & HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN CENTER OPEN
 5PM-10PM HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN CENTER RED DRAGON LASER TAG
 5PM-10PM FLAG ROW EUDORA FARMS EXOTIC PETTING ZOO SPONSORED BY GLADES ELECTRIC
 5PM-11PM FLAG ROW PREHISTORIC DINOSAUR MUSEUM
 5PM-10PM LIVESTOCK BARN SWINE, STEER & COMMERCIAL HEIFER DISPLAY
 5PM-10PM SMALL ANIMAL BARN POULTRY & RABBIT DISPLAY
 5PM-10PM FLAG ROW CHAINSAW CARVING SHOW
 5PM-11PM IND. MIDWAY BEER GARDEN- SPONSORED BY BUDWEISER
 6:30PM LIVESTOCK PAVILION JUNIOR LIVESTOCK AUCTION SPONSORED BY HEARTLAND NATIONAL BANK
 7PM, 9PM TAYLOR OIL STAGE JON SIMON- MASTER HYPNOTIST

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH

HEACOCK INSURANCE & HARBOR COMMUNITY BANK DAY
 5PM-CLOSING MIDWAY REITHOFFER SHOWS- ARM BAND \$22
 5PM-10PM IND. MIDWAY EXHIBIT BUILDINGS & HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN CENTER OPEN
 5PM-10PM HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN CENTER RED DRAGON LASER TAG
 5PM-10PM FLAG ROW EUDORA FARMS EXOTIC PETTING ZOO SPONSORED BY GLADES ELECTRIC
 5PM-11PM FLAG ROW PREHISTORIC DINOSAUR MUSEUM
 5PM-10PM LIVESTOCK BARN SWINE & STEER DISPLAY
 5PM-10PM SMALL ANIMAL BARN POULTRY & RABBIT DISPLAY
 5PM-10PM FLAG ROW CHAINSAW CARVING SHOW
 5PM-11PM IND. MIDWAY BEER GARDEN- SPONSORED BY BUDWEISER
 7PM, 9PM TAYLOR OIL STAGE JON SIMON- MASTER HYPNOTIST

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH

ALAN JAY AUTOMOTIVE DAY
 1PM-CLOSING MIDWAY REITHOFFER SHOWS- ARM BAND \$22
 1PM-10PM IND. MIDWAY EXHIBIT BUILDINGS & HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN CENTER OPEN
 1PM-10PM HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN CENTER RED DRAGON LASER TAG
 1PM-10PM FLAG ROW EUDORA FARMS EXOTIC PETTING ZOO SPONSORED BY GLADES ELECTRIC
 1PM-10PM FLAG ROW PREHISTORIC DINOSAUR MUSEUM
 1PM-5PM SMALL ANIMAL BARN POULTRY & RABBIT DISPLAY
 1PM-10 PM FLAG ROW CHAINSAW CARVING SHOW
 1PM-11PM IND. MIDWAY BEER GARDEN- SPONSORED BY BUDWEISER
 3PM, 5PM TAYLOR OIL STAGE JON SIMON- MASTER HYPNOTIST
 7PM, 9PM TAYLOR OIL STAGE SONYA STRATTON BAND



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Are school zone speeding signs on your radar? Here's a crash course

By **KIM LEATHERMAN**
STAFF WRITER

LAKE PLACID — Driving is a privilege, not a right and those who do not obey the laws of the roads could lose that privilege.

The consequences of their actions could result in tickets or, if the infraction is bad enough, the suspension or loss of a driver's license, especially in a school zone.

Although not quite doubled, speeding fines are very steep in the school zones. Some examples: speeding 6-9 miles per hour over on a regular street is a \$131 fine. A fine for the same speed in a school zone skyrockets to \$156; 15-19 mph over the speed limit in a non-school zone is \$256, and in a school zone, the offender will dig deep into their pockets for \$406.

Anything over 30 mph in any area is a mandatory court appearance. These fines do not include any driving school fees, legal fees and increases to car insurance.

Throughout Highlands County school zones, flashing signs are strategically placed to enforce the 20 mph speed in order to keep children and crossing guards safe.

Most schools have a flashing yellow light that alerts the driver that they are entering a school zone and need to drop their speed to 20 mph or under. The second sign that drivers normally see is a flashing yellow "your speed" sign. These signs are usually a driver's last warning to slow down before getting pulled over by law enforcement officers.

Upon approaching the speed measurement sign, a lens picks up a vehicle's speed and flashes it on a screen for the driver to see. When the speed of a vehicle climbs toward 20 mph, the sign flashes "Slow Down" to get the attention of the driver.

Lake Placid Police Chief James Fansler feels that, in general, they work well.

"I think they work; I think that some people neglect to pay attention to them," Fansler said. "Some claim that they can't see the sign because the rear-view mirror is in the way or something. I

have gone through our area several times and my mirror has never blocked my view of the signs. You're going to get people who say they never see it."

Fansler did not have any statistics on how many tickets were written before the flashing speed measurement signs went in compared to now.

"I can tell you that we have been very lenient in issuing school zone citations because of how steep the fines are," Fansler said. "But we also feel that it is being taken advantage of because officers are pulling over the same vehicles sometimes multiple times. We have to let folks know that we are serious and that their safety is our first priority. If that means writing citations to get people to slow down and pay attention and be safe, then, that's exactly what we are going to do and what we are doing. That's why there were five citations given out this morning (Wednesday). It boils down to us being stricter in order to get drivers to be safer. We are not interested in writing tickets or the revenue.

There is certainly no such thing as a quota. It is about the safety of the students driving around here, many too fast and some without safety belts on. It is making an impact and it lets them know that we care about the safety of this community."

The county is responsible for obtaining the speed measurement signs, installing them and maintaining them. County Engineer Clinton Howerton said that the units are acquired through the Florida Department of Transportation. Most of them run on solar power.

"We replace the batteries every four years or so," Howerton said. It depends on the size of the battery that's put in there."

Howerton explained that the location of the sign also determines the replacement intervals. "If it were on a busy road, where it's

constantly lit up, the battery is not going to last very long."

They are motion activated so the more motion, the less life the batteries have. The school zone signs last a long time because they are not on except for a couple of hours a day.



COURTESY PHOTO/ CHIEF JAMES FANSLER

Lake Placid Police Chief James Fansler holds a radar gun and may use it to write a ticket to a speeder in the school zones. Unlike the speed measurement signs, his gun must be carefully calibrated.

Howerton explained the signs are in place to alert drivers and make them aware of their speed.

"Because they're not an actual enforcement thing, they don't have to be exact," Howerton said. "It is more of an information thing. They don't have to be exact like an a law enforcement radar gun. They are actually writing a ticket from those, so that's a whole other requirement."

The sign can sometimes pick up a car in front of or behind another, depending on how the laser eye is positioned.

This can lead to a driver seeing a "Slow Down" sign when they are actually driving below the speed limit.

Howerton estimates that the sight lines of the sign's eye is about 300-400 feet in a broad band.

SPEEDING		
6-9 mph.....	\$131.00	
10-14 mph.....	\$206.00	
15-19 mph.....	\$256.00	
20-29 mph.....	\$281.00	
30 mph and above.....	Mandatory court appearance	
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6-9 mph.....	\$156.00	
10-14 mph.....	\$306.00	
15-19 mph.....	\$406.00	
20-29 mph.....	\$456.00	
30 mph and above.....	Mandatory court appearance	
OTHER COMMON VIOLATIONS:		
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Nonmoving violations:	\$116.00	Unsecured load (F.S. 316.172 (1)(b))
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ATV violations (F.S. 316.2074):	\$111.00	Anti-tobacco violation
Child Restraint (F.S. 316.613):	\$166.00	Littering violation
Failure to stop for school bus		Railroad Crossing
(F.S. 316.172 (1)(a))	\$271.00	Nonmoving Boat
Passing a stopped school bus		Moving Boat
(F.S. 316.172 (1)(b)):	mandatory court	Game & Fish violation
Running a red light:	\$264.00	(plus license fee)
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Source: Highlands County Clerk of Courts

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Bowyer Physical Therapy and the Highlands County YMCA are separate business entities, that are not financially related.



KIM LEATHERMAN/ STAFF

This speed measurement sign in Lake Placid is placed in the school zones to slow down drivers and promote safety.

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SUN
NEWSPAPERS

OUR VIEW

Recognizing importance of foster families

Imagine the fear of being taken away from your parents or whatever family setting you have lived in. Perhaps it is due to neglect. Perhaps it is due to a parent being arrested and taken to jail. Perhaps it is due to an unexpected death of a parent or a custodial adult. It may be due to the sudden inability to care for the child(ren) for whatever reason.

In the area serviced by Heartland for Children, there are approximately 987 children in out-of-home care. Nearly 400 of these are placed in a foster or group home setting. Of the 126 children in group care, 71 percent of these are teens. Those are the figures quoted on Heartland for Children's website.

These children all need a chance to live in a traditional family setting and live as normal of a childhood as they possibly can. They need to be able to attend school activities, play sports, to make plans to attend college or find a career of their choice. They need a chance to learn how to succeed and not be part of the system.

Foster parents can help unlock a world of possibilities for these children by offering them a chance to heal and recover from the trauma of being ripped from the only home life they are used to.

Foster parents are the ones who voluntarily take on the role of providing a supportive, safe and loving home to children who come from these unstable, unloving and often abusive homes. They also serve as a role model for biological parents who want to work toward a reunion with their children.

Governor Rick Scott has proclaimed the second week of February as Florida Foster Family Appreciation Week, to be observed Feb. 12-18.

We are happy to see the week set aside for these families who protect and offer hope to the state's most vulnerable children. There are approximately 5,272 foster families currently licensed through the State of Florida to care for the nearly 7,200 children living with them.

Setting aside one week to give them special recognition is the least that can be done to say thank you for stepping up for our children.

For details on qualifications and training to become a foster parent, contact Heartland for Children at 863-519-8900 or submit an email to <https://heartlandforchildren.org/>

Renewed hope for preservation

Florida's legislators are on track to revive funding for Florida Forever, the land preservation fund left dormant after the recession hit a decade ago.

Tallahassee's refusal to resuscitate the program before now was not only short-sighted, considering the long-term public benefits of conservation in a state with a soaring population; but also offensive, considering a statewide voter referendum aimed at funding more land purchases.

In 2014, Florida voters overwhelmingly passed a constitutional amendment that designated a portion of the "doc stamp" tax — a tax on real estate transactions — for conservation programs and land purchases. Afterwards, the Legislature, with approval of the Scott administration, funneled some of that money to ongoing environmental programs.

However, the decades-old Florida Forever got zilch. Exactly. The amount that might have been set aside according to amendment guidelines was nearly \$300 million last year — roughly the same amount of annual pre-recession funding stretching back to 1999. Last year, the land-purchase allotment was zero.

This is an election year, though, and things are looking up.

Recently, the state Senate voted to pump \$100 million into Florida Forever in the next fiscal year.

Meanwhile, a House subcommittee last week approved a bill sponsored by Fort Myers Rep. Matt Caldwell that would put \$57 million directly into Florida Forever in the following year.

The allocation would be raised to \$110 million in the 2023-2014 fiscal year. Millions more would go to reducing existing debt.

If nothing else, it's a step back onto the path of recurring, sustainable conservation, toward something Floridians care about deeply.

That feeling won't fade as population and development continues to soar.

LOCAL LOOK by GABE CLOGSTON

THANK YOU MICO

Enjoy Your Retirement!



Trade tariffs follow 'Groundhog Day' script

Bill Murray starred in a 1993 movie called "Groundhog Day." In the movie, each day when he woke up, Murray repeated the same basic story as the prior day. Only when he learned his life lessons did Bill Murray escape his purgatory.

"Groundhog Day" best describes our history with trade tariffs on Canadian lumber and newsprint.

This is the fifth time since 1982 we've seen trade tariffs applied to Canadian lumber and newsprint. We would think by now our two countries would have figured this out. Maybe, like Bill Murray, our timber trade war with Canada will need to be repeated many more times before we learn our lesson.

Readers asked why a timber trade dispute with Canada occurs so regularly. Because of space, I know my answer is oversimplified, but I want to help readers understand how trade wars start.

At the heart of the dispute is a difference in philosophy of government. About 54 percent of Canada's land below the arctic tree line is protected as forests. Ninety percent of all the trees harvested come off Canadian



David Dunn-Rankin

INK IN MY VEINS

government-owned property.

In the U.S., the majority of forest land used for paper and lumber is privately owned. Canadian public ownership of the forest and USA private ownership of the forest means the harvesting of trees is managed in different ways.

In Canada, they think in 50-year time horizons for the management of their forests. This 50-year planning cycle means the harvesting of lumber is done consistently from year to year, to be proper stewards of the forest. The goal is maintaining the right ecological balance of the overall forest ecosystem. Profit from timber sales is secondary.

In the U.S., because it is warmer, timber can be harvested in 15-year

cycles. The primary goal is profit. Part of making a long-term profit is good stewardship of the land, but profit, not land stewardship, is the primary goal.

In the U.S., a private enterprise might put off harvesting if timber prices drop too low. But when prices are low and Americans don't want to harvest, the Canadians still harvest the same amount of timber and sell it to U.S. customers further depressing market prices. American producers believe Canadians are "dumping" product into the U.S.

In the U.S., we might accelerate harvest of timber if the prices are sky high. In Canada, they don't change production, which means prices increase too far to the upside. The accentuated boom-bust caused by Canada makes U.S. producers upset.

The first big timber dumping dispute occurred in 1982 under the Republican Reagan administration. The second dispute occurred in 1986, again under Reagan. The third dispute occurred under Democrat Bill Clinton.

In 2001, under Republican President

George W. Bush, round four of the timber trade dispute occurred. The last agreement expired in 2015. The Democrat Obama administration started the fifth round by balking at renewing the agreement. 2016 arrived, just in time to see President Trump elect to aggressively create round five of the timber trade war.

Are the Canadians dumping product into the U.S.? When the trade dispute goes to world trade court, the U.S. loses the dumping argument. But Canada does impact the U.S. lumber and newsprint business because of the Canadian philosophy on how they manage their forests.

How many more times do we need to repeat Groundhog Day? We have the smartest readers in America. What is fair to all concerned, including U.S. consumers?

Share your thoughts.

David Dunn-Rankin is CEO of Sun Newspapers, the family- and employee-owned group that owns the Highlands News-Sun and Highlands Sun. He can be reached at daviddr@sun-herald.com.

YOUR VIEW

Negativity is no help

I am responding to Mr. E. J. Claire's recent guest editorial. First, I would like to ask whether Mr. Claire was speaking just for himself. He is a member of the Highlands County Republican Party leadership. I know his views are not shared by all rank and file Republicans, because as I have been out in the county talking to voters, I have met some Republicans who, like me, would like for members of Congress to do what they did 30 years ago — give and take to get legislation and budgets passed.

The gist of what Mr. Claire proclaims is that those on the left are

un-American, socialist and even bordering on communist. And, oh, by the way, leftists are by definition Democrats. He goes on about how the leftists (Democrats) carry on to this day about being cheated out of the presidency in 2016 and somehow the Democrats were involved in Russian collusion in the election.

First, what does he mean by "leftists?" There are progressives in the Democratic Party, but there are moderates, as well. It seems anyone who disagrees with him is a "leftist." This is a false argument that some have repeated over and over. And keep in mind, many Democrats are also church-going, God-fearing people.

Mr. Claire implies "leftists" (Democrats) are

against everything that is good for this country.

It is useless to say much more about Mr. Claire's editorial, but it would do some good to concentrate on some positive stuff, like what voters care about. Voters worry about their own finances. They see their buying power erode as their pay remains stagnant while inflation rises. They worry about having decent healthcare. They worry about having Social Security and Medicare around in a stable form when they need it.

Well, Democrats address all this. We want to see wages grow, not stagnate. We want all people to have decent healthcare. We are committed to keeping Social Security and Medicare

solvent. And we want an economy that is healthy for every person in this country, not just the people who already are wealthy.

Bill Pollard
Avon Park

Leaders not talkers

We have had presidents from both sides brag instead of lead. Our current president is bragging about his economic accomplishments. We have a flu problem. We have a train wreck problem. We have a high ammunition magazine problem. We need a leader, not a talker. This includes a Congress that can't get over its partisanship. Congressmen were attacked by a gunman at a softball practice. We seem to have a mass shooting weekly, including kids shooting kids at school and yet there has been no action on high ammunition firearms. We had a train, full of congressmen, get in a wreck and yet they gave extensions to installing technology that helps prevent train wrecks. We need our leaders to be proactive, and not reactive.

David Molloy
Sebring

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Letters are welcome on virtually any subject, but we do have some rules. We will not accept any Letters to the Editor that mention a business in a negative tone, as they have no means to defend themselves. Please keep Letters to the Editor to less than 250 words. Letters will be edited to length as well as for grammar and spelling. All letters must be signed with full name — not initials. An address and telephone number must be included. The phone number and address are not for publication, but must be provided. In the case of letters that are emailed, the same

rules apply.

Due to the number of letters received, we are able to run only four letters per person per month.

The Letters to the Editor section is designed as a public forum for community discourse, and the opinions and statements made in letters are solely those of the individual writers. The newspaper takes no responsibility for the content of these letters.

Please send or bring correspondence to the Highlands News-Sun, Letters to the Editor, 315 US 27 North Sebring, FL 33870, or fax to 863-385-1954. Readers may also email Letters to the Editor to editor@newssun.com.

PARK

FROM PAGE 1

Today, many people associate the Civilian Conservation Corps, which was created by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, to provide jobs during the Depression, with the construction of the park.

However, although the CCC members constructed the picnic area in the park, including buildings, much of the CCC work was done in the area outside the actual hammock.

It was through the support of Margaret Shippen Roebling and her family, as well as the Sebring community, that a substantial portion of the park was completed. Her husband's grandfather designed and helped construct the Brooklyn Bridge.

Smith said the history leading up to the creation of the first state park began around 1930 when "a local lawyer set up a corporation, Florida Tropical Parks Association, for the local residents who were trying to get possession of 1,200-plus acres of beautiful natural Florida that was controlled by



Photo courtesy of Allen Altvater III

Highlands Hammock State Park once had a working saw mill.

the land business" at the time of the Depression.

He indicated that Margaret Shippen Roebling, a naturalist, became acquainted with the effort through her son, who knew the Sebring family.

It's believed that she flew into Sebring with her son and agreed soon afterwards to pay \$25,000 in 1930 dollars to buy the land.

After she provided the money, "20-plus cowboys were quickly hired to start clearing trails and forming the park," Smith said.

And even back then there were similar concerns to today's debate over the benefits of automation versus the elimination of jobs.

"Mrs. Roebling had requested when she wrote that check that they not spend money on mechanical equipment as 'too many men needed work,'" Smith stated in a

history document.

By fall, Altvater said, the work continued, but the money was running short. The Florida Tropical Parks Association asked for another \$25,000, he said.

But, Roebling balked at just handing over another \$25,000, Altvater said.

"She didn't want to do it all," he said.

Instead, she offered that if residents raised \$5,000, she would provide another \$25,000, he said. It took only two weeks for that to happen, he said.

But, she never lived to see the completion of the park. She died shortly after that and her husband, John A. Roebling II, continued supporting the work on the park so that it would be a memorial to her.

John A. Roebling II donated Highlands Hammock Park to the state soon after the Florida Legislature approved creation of the state park system.

At the time of Margaret Roebling's death, the Roebling family was building a winter home south of Lake Placid. John A. Roebling II sold the property and a storage building to Richard Archbold for \$1. That eventually became Archbold Research Center.

The Roebling family was a prominent family

of industrialists and engineers. Smith said that inheritance money from the Brooklyn Bridge project that John Roebling designed and helped build helped the family later invest in Highlands Hammock State Park.

Another part of the

history of Highlands Hammock State Park is that it once had a botanical garden developed by the Gardens Clubs of Florida.

In 1941, the park closed temporarily because the Civil Conservation Corps had

left the park. Altvater said that although the park was closed people would visit. They removed many of the plants in the botanical garden.

The botanical garden was never revived, but Smith would like to see that happen.



JAY MEISEL/STAFF

Allen Altvater III looks over a map of Highlands Hammock State Park.

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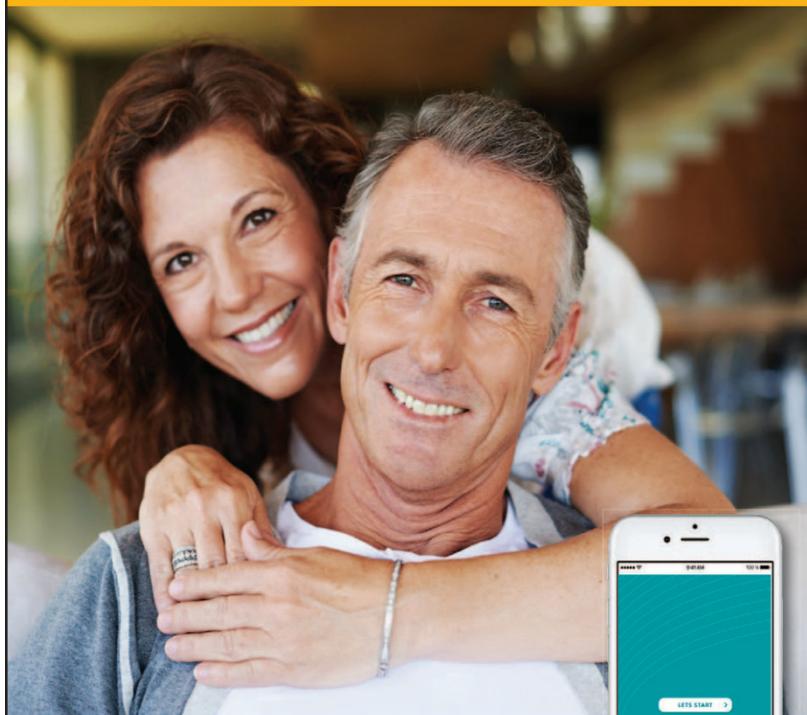
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MARC VALERO/STAFF

Fire call at Big Lots

A call of a structure fire at the Avon Park Big Lots store around 3 p.m. Friday prompted a response from the City of Avon Park Fire Department, West Sebring Volunteer Fire Department, Highlands Lakes Volunteer Fire Department and Highlands County Fire Services. The fire was apparently extinguished quickly with no visible exterior damage to the store or shopping plaza. Some smoke was visible when firefighter used a fan by a front door to remove smoke from the structure. No further information was available.

Soup Up the Arts to help three families

By **MARC VALERO**
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — Get ready to be “bowled” over with creative soup bowls from Sebring High School art students, and soup, bread and dessert from local businesses and families.

It’s “Soup up the Arts 2018: Hawaiian Luau” from 4:30-7 p.m. Thursday in the SHS cafeteria. Tickets are \$15 for adults, and \$8 for children 10 and under.

You will have a choice of a bowl to take home, while you enjoy soup, bread, dessert and drink by local businesses and families.

Upgrade to a fancier bowl for \$3 to \$10 more.

The event includes a student art show, student entertainment, pottery wheel demonstrations, chalk walk, photo booth and more

The event will assist the following guests of honor:

- The Pinkie Brown

family to help grandma pay the cost of the foundation of her house to be built after her house burnt down last March. This will help take care of a grandchild at Sebring High with a heart condition and another at the Kindergarten Learning Center with asthma.

• The Kurtz family: Grandma and grandpa are helping take care of their daughter’s children (the mother of the children passed away in car accident). The grandfather has cancer and they found a tumor on the grandmother. The two children are ages 5 and 7 years old.

• The Bobo family: Family of eight whose mother has stage four colon cancer. Christie is teaching at Heartland Christian and has one child at Lake Placid High and three others with her.

Tickets are on sale and donations of food, supplies and monetary



FILE PHOTO

Sebring High School’s annual Soup Up the Arts is 4:30 – 7 p.m. Thursday in the Sebring High School cafeteria.

donations are still needed, or if anyone wants to come help glaze, according to Sebring High art teacher Steve VanDam.

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Julie L. Iellimo, P.A.-C. **Darrin A. Rotman, M.D.**

BUDGET

FROM PAGE 1

“Hurricane Irma suppressed collections during the initial emergency in September while boosting collections in the recovery months as rebuilding began in earnest,” according to the new estimate.

The adjusted forecast shows an increase in sales tax collections this year of \$189 million, with about two-thirds of that related to recovery activities. The sales tax estimate increased by \$171 million in 2018-19, with 69 percent attributed to recovery.

The recovery activity is projected to end next year, and an analysis done by Baker and other state economists in 2017 showed the long-term financial effects of a major hurricane or a hurricane season are likely to be negative for the state budget.

The report showed after the 2005 hurricane season, the state spent \$626 million, while reaping only \$422 million in increased revenue.

Baker said she anticipates a similar result from Irma where “the state ends up spending more money than it brings in, by a good bit.”

Another positive in the new forecast is an adjustment in the way the Seminole Tribe of Florida makes payments from its casino operations.

Starting next year, the tribe will make monthly

payments based on its annual estimate of gambling activity. That replaces a system where the tribe paid a fixed monthly amount and then made a one-time adjustment in the subsequent year.

The net effect will be an increase of more than \$100 million in state revenue from the casinos next year, most of which will be a one-time increase.

The new forecast noted a major negative factor in that corporate income tax collections were \$113 million below the estimate this year through December. It was likely caused by the state decision to let businesses impacted by Irma hold off on tax payments until Feb. 15.

The report predicts the shortfall will be negated once the delayed collections begin coming in next month.

After passing their proposed 2018-2019 budgets on Thursday, the House and Senate will begin negotiating their differences in the next few weeks. The legislative session is scheduled to end March 9, with a new budget taking effect July 1.

Huge education bill passes in the House

By **MARC VALERO**
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — The nearly 200-page massive House Bill 7055 on education passed in the Florida House on Thursday by a 66-43 vote.

The bill summary states it revises provisions relating to Commissioner of Education, Department of Education, school districts, school district superintendents, statewide standardized



Shoop

assessments, charter schools, educational scholarship programs, principal autonomy pilot program initiative, dual enrollment, Florida Virtual School and private schools, and includes appropriations totaling \$20.2 million.

Highlands School Board members Donna Howerton, Jan Shoop and Jill Compton-Twist were in Tallahassee on Wednesday and Thursday to learn about the legislative session, including HB 7055.

The bill is sponsored by the Appropriations Committee, Education Committee and representatives Michael Bileca, R-Miami, and Manny Diaz Jr., R-Hialeah Gardens.

Howerton said they sat in on debate on HB 7055 before the House took action.

The legislative briefing by the Florida School Boards Association did a breakdown on HB 7055 and its 60 sections that affect education.

“This bill is huge,” she said. Not all of it will impact Highlands County.

“Legislators have so many bills before them. We now have to do our homework in sharing how it will affect our students and the classroom for Highlands County,” Howerton said.

“Our legislators are awesome and support public education.

“They have always reached out for our input to help them make the decisions before them. But, it is frustrating each time I go and observe the process.”

Shoop said they were told the bill would pass in the House.

As of right now there are 60 Sections to HB 7055, Shoop said. “So as you can imagine, there is both positive and negative for Highlands County.”

The state teachers union, Florida Education Association, continued to voice its opposition to the bill.

“HB 7055 is a 198-page log-rolled bill full of

proposals that do nothing to improve public education in Florida. It is a disaster for our students and will create very real problems for our schools. Legislators should focus on investing in our neighborhood public schools, where 90 percent of children attend, not diverting money from them on fly-by-night schemes and vouchers – and personal gain,” said FEA President Joanne McCall.



Howerton

DEALER

FROM PAGE 1

via a warrant issued, as part of the operation. His bail was set at \$5,000 and he bonded out of the Highlands County jail sometime on Thursday morning.

Also charged on Wednesday was Paige Marie Oldfield, 50, of Avon Park on charges of sale of methamphetamine and possession of drug equipment.

She was originally charged in the first wave of arrests last month, under the same charges. Arrest reports did not indicate if these were the same charges or additional ones from the same investigation.

Arrest reports dated Wednesday state that at approximately 7:30 p.m. Dec. 13, 2017, members of the Sheriff’s Office Special Operations Unit spoke with a confidential informant who got a text message from Oldfield agreeing to sell methamphetamine to the informant at Oldfield’s address in Avon Park.

Deputies searched the informant for drugs, outfitted the person with a hidden video camera, microphone and \$150 cash, then drove that person in an unmarked car to Oldfield’s home. The informant knocked on the door, Oldfield answered, and the informant gave her \$150 for 5 grams of methamphetamine.

After the sale, the informant got back into the car and deputies drove to a secure location.

Deputies then retrieved the drugs and recording, arrest reports state.

The two were among 31 named in mid-January as a part of the drug sting operation. Oldfield was listed among the original 23 arrested and charged. Hodge was listed along with seven others as having a warrant issued against him.

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FLORIDA REPORT

Niceville artist paints Olympic goalie masks

By **HEATHER OSBOURNE**
NORTHWEST FLORIDA DAILY
NEWS OF FORT WALTON
BEACH

NICEVILLE (AP) — The U.S. hockey team's goaltenders will be sporting the artwork of one of Niceville's own during the 2018 Winter Olympics.

Jason Livery, owner of HeadStrongGrafx in Niceville, pulled red, white and blue from his paint collection to create patriotic mask designs for goalies David Leggio and Brandon Maxwell.

"I do a lot of work for USA Hockey, and they approached me three weeks ago and said they have guys who were announced to play for Team USA for the Olympics,"

Livery said. "They asked if I would be interested in painting their masks, and of course I said yes."

Livery is one of only a handful of people worldwide who specialize in painting goalies' masks.

The painter was introduced into the industry in 2011 while living in St. Louis. It was there he got a chance to paint a mask for Brian Elliott, who at the time was a goalie with the NHL's St. Louis Blues. Since then, Livery has painted masks for Jake Allen, Jaro Halák, Scott Darling, Ben Bishop, Calvin Pickard, Jonas Hiller, Kari Ramo, Darcy Kuemper, Jimmy Howard, Petr Mrazek and many others.

The tradition of painting goalie masks



DEVON RAVINE/ NORTHWEST FLORIDA DAILY NEWS VIA AP

In this Friday, Jan. 26 photo, Jason Livery paints a hockey mask for the U.S. Olympic hockey team in Niceville.. The mask is one of two that will be used in the 2018 Winter Olympics. The U.S. hockey team's goaltenders will be sporting the artwork of one of Niceville's own during the 2018 Winter Olympics.

began in the late 1960s with Boston Bruins trainer John Forristall. After a puck hit Bruins player Gerry Cheever in the mask, Forristall

drew black stitches on it. Since that iconic moment, hockey mask painting has become widely popular as well as competitive.

While working on the U.S. Olympic masks last Friday, Livery received word that he was announced as an official mask painter for the North American Hockey League.

"To represent our country and be able to provide the artwork for the 2018 Winter Olympics is an honor," Livery said. "I never thought in a million years I would be sought after the way I am to do some of these high profile masks."

Because of the high demand for his work, Livery employs a designer out of New York who works with the goalies to create the mask templates. Livery then uses those templates to airbrush

onto the masks.

Livery said designing masks for the Olympics is especially tricky because of artistic restrictions. He said his team had to throw out several ideas, like painting the Statue of Liberty or using the phrase "The land of the free."

"It's been a learning experience," he said. "Usually the goalies say what they want and the team has no problem with it. We couldn't have what I thought were iconic images and phrases (for the U.S. Olympic masks)."

Instead, Livery and his designer opted for the Great Seal of the United States and the official "U.S.A." Olympic logo.

AROUND THE STATE

Teen shoots self while trying to kill trash animals

MYAKKA CITY (AP) — Authorities say a Florida teen died after accidentally shooting himself with a handgun.

New outlets reports that 15-year-old Wyatt Austin Ballard Hall died Thursday night at his Myakka City home, southeast of Tampa Bay.

The teen's parents told Manatee County deputies that their son had been trying to shoot animals getting in the trash outside their home. They heard a gunshot from their bedroom, and

then the teen came back inside, saying he had shot himself.

Officials say paramedics responded and attempted live-saving measures, but the boy was pronounced dead.

Developer pays \$350K fine for filling in wetland

NAPLES (AP) — A Florida developer will pay a \$350,000 fine for illegally filling in more than an acre of wetlands for a condominium project.

The U.S. Department of Justice on Friday said in a news release

that it had settled the case with Lodge/Abbott Investments Associates LLC, who filled in tidal areas in Naples for a "high-end" condo tower.

Under the settlement, the developer has also purchased \$54,000 in credits from a "wetlands mitigation bank." These banks are wetlands that are restored or preserved in other areas that are meant offset the damage.

Lodge/Abbott was cited for illegally filling in the wetlands of Wiggins Pass and the Cocohatchee River under the Clean Water Act. The company did so

without a required permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Deputies remove gator from grocery parking lot

SARASOTA (AP) — Authorities say deputies have removed a four-foot alligator from the parking lot of a grocery store.

The Herald-Tribune reports that Sarasota County deputies responded Thursday to a Sarasota Winn-Dixie.

Sgt. Mark Tuls and Deputy Lincoln Dilling wrangled the reptile, which had been hiding

under an SUV.

A sheriff's office spokeswoman says the alligator was relocated to a less populated area in the eastern part of the county.

Jury chosen in slaying trial of man

JACKSONVILLE (AP) — A jury has been selected in the trial of a man who faces a possible death sentence if convicted of the rape and murder of an 8-year-old girl in 2013.

News outlets reports that the panel was selected Friday in the trial

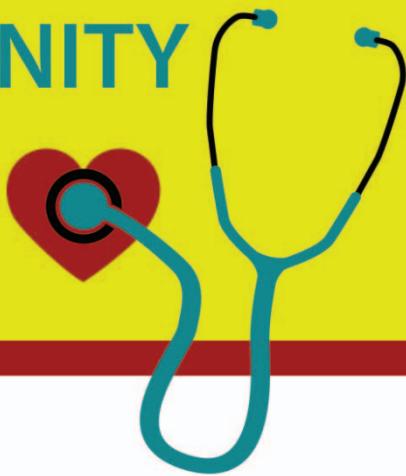
of 61-year-old Donald Smith.

Smith is charged with the first-degree murder, rape and kidnapping of Cherish Perrywinkle.

Smith is accused of killing Perrywinkle after luring her family to Wal-Mart in June 2013 with promises to buy food and clothing. Cherish's mother called 911 after she began to suspect Smith had left with the girl.

Smith's attorneys had asked for the trial to be moved, saying a fair jury was impossible because of widespread local media coverage.

Lake Placid COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR



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FREE Health Fair

Wednesday, February 21

8:30 - 11:30 am

The Genesis Center

at Lake Placid First Presbyterian Church

- ♥ Multiple Health Care Vendors
- ♥ Door Prizes
- ♥ Fasting Lab Work \$10 (8:30-10:30 am)
Blood sugar and lipid panel

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Cancer Presentation



John Bollinger, MD

Board-certified Radiation Oncologist
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PART 1: CANCER

**"Modern Evidence-based
Treatment of Cancer
- The Role of Radiation Therapy"**

Tuesday, February 22

6:30 pm

Florida Hospital Sebring

Conference Room 1 (second floor)

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LOCAL SPORTS

Devils win district title

Avon Park edges Tenoroc for district championship

By MARK PINSON
STAFF WRITER

AVON PARK - Avon Park senior forward Alisha Walker poured in a game-high 24 points to lead the Red Devils to a 42-41 win over Tenoroc in the Class 5A-District 8 championship game on Friday night.

The loss dropped Tenoroc to 9-10 on the season, while the thrilling victory improved Avon Park to 23-3 overall.

"I am so proud and happy for all the girls, especially my six seniors," said Red Devil head coach Paulette Daley. "It was a hard-fought game and we were able to overcome a lot of adversity to get this win."

Avon Park, which was the No. 1 seed and had beaten Tenoroc twice during the regular season, managed to win despite not having the services of starting guard Tajenay Vassell.

"We knew Tenoroc was going to come in here and play us tough," said Daley. "They gave us all we wanted and it's a credit to our girls that they hung in there and didn't give up. Every girl had a role to play with Tajenay out and they stepped up, got the job done and won the district championship."

Avon Park started the first quarter strong as the 6-foot 1 Walker dominated in the paint

and scored six points to give the Red Devils a 10-7 lead heading to the second quarter.

Tenoroc, a small but scrappy team, stayed close by running a lot of clock on each possession to shorten the game.

The strategy worked as Leonaja Joe scored six of her team-high 16 points and Alex Polingo added eight of her 12 points to pull the Titans within

DEVILS | 8



MARK PINSON/STAFF

Avon Park players and head coach Paulette Daley won the Class 5A-District 8 championship with a thrilling 42-41 win over Tenoroc on Friday night. The Red Devils will host a regional quarterfinal on Thursday night.

Trio of Blue Streaks sign



ALLEN MOODY/STAFF

Seated, from left; Anthony Healy, Darius Campbell and Brian Lane, with Sebring coaches in the background.

Campbell, Healy, Lane each moving on to college football

By ALLEN MOODY
HIGHLANDS SUN EDITOR

SEBRING — Three Sebring football players may have seen the end of their high school playing days, but are beginning a brand new chapter on the gridiron, as seniors Brian Lane, Anthony Healy and Darius Campbell signed with colleges on the first day of National Signing Day. Lane and Healy will be staying close to home and signed with Warner University, while Campbell will be heading to Hutchinson Community College in Kansas.

"All of these young men have a great opportunity," said Sebring

football coach LaVaar Scott. "Any time you can further your education and your athletic career that's special. It takes work and commitment."

Coach Scott was proud of all three players, but said as a coach, it's always nice when you see a young man turn things around, such as Campbell, who was dismissed from the team on two occasions.

"When you see somebody like Darius, that makes it even more gratifying," Scott said. "It took Darius a long time to come around, but eventually he got it. He put in the work academically, he was ineligible. He pushed through. He didn't let anything

hold him back. He kept fighting."

Campbell said the team's defensive line schemes are similar to Sebring's which was nice and he was aware of the school's reputation for getting players to four-year schools, which was another point in their favor.

Campbell is also aware that it can get a bit chilly in Kansas.

"It's going to be a new experience, but I think I can handle it," he said.

He was spotted by Hutchinson coaches during the South-Central All-Star Football Classic practice and they talked to him the following day. Several weeks after that they came to his house

for a visit and he'll now be heading that way.

"I'm going to miss my family, Sebring football and Coach Scott," Campbell said.

Scott said Healy - who he introduced to the crowd as 'Big A' always had the size, and when the desire followed, you have a great football player.

"When we first got him was lazy and then he got with the program," Scott said. "He became a leader for us and he pushed and he worked."

Healy said his parents were a huge help and pushed him to become better and he was grateful for the opportunity to play close to home.

FOOTBALL | 4

New moon means great fishing

By DAVE DOUGLASS
HIGHLANDS BASS ANGLER



The Florida freshwater fishing forecast for the second full week of February gives anglers the new moon week, centered on Thursday's new moon. The lunar orbit arrives at its furthest point from earth today — lunar apogee — so the new moon effects will still be on the weaker end of the annual new moon power-rating scale. (July 13 produces a 'super new moon' with a 10 power-rating)

Water temperatures are now within the 'ideal feeding temperature range of 70-82 degrees.' All fish species will be feeding every two days. Bass will stop spawning and return to a normal seasonal feeding pattern. A southeast to easterly wind will be at ideal speeds of 6 to 10 miles per hour for the next five days. The sun to cloud ratio will also be ideal.

All fishing factors considered; February winter fishing doesn't get any better. There are no negatives this week only positives and thus every reason to go fishing. New moon weather conditions like we'll have this week, produced all your best fishing stories and memories. However, you need to make more great fishing stories. So, time to 'Go Fishing.'

Best Fishing Days: Monday through Wednesday during the morning overhead period will be the best fishing days of the week. Thursday's new moon could also produce very good fishing action, depending on how atmospheric pressure changes with the front forecast after Wednesday's midday hours.

The Major Fishing Period: The moon overhead period occurs at 9:25 a.m. today and the atmospheric pressure plot of the past three days has consistently shown an average pressure rise period starting about an hour prior to the overhead period. I expect this trend to continue over the next three days. Therefore, a 5-rating will occur from 7-10 a.m. and daily this period moves later by 30 to 45 minutes and increases in rating by a half number daily.

The Minor Fishing Period: The moonset occurs today at 2:50 p.m. and the sunset at 6:14 p.m., both occurring during the warmest water temperature of the day. And there has been a second pressure

FISHING | 5

Omori takes Bassmaster lead Angler takes 4-pound lead at Lake Martin

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS
NEWS-SUN

Since the Bassmaster Tournament Trail hasn't visited Lake Martin for a major event in more than 15 years, the belief coming into this week's Bassmaster Elite at Lake Martin presented by Econo Lodge was that veteran local anglers with recent experience on the fishery had a chance to dominate.

But after two days, the top of the leaderboard includes a guy from Japan, a rookie from Arizona and a longtime

pro from Washington State.

So much for local domination.

Takahiro Omori, a Japanese angler who now lives Texas, caught 14 pounds, 9 ounces and jumped from second place into the lead with a two-day weight of 32-11. He's followed by veteran Roy Hawk of Arizona (28-12), who is fishing his first-ever Elite Series event, and Washington angler Luke Clausen, who joined the Elite Series last year after a long and successful career on the FLW Tour.

Omori said most of his fish came early — and from one magical spot.

"I don't want to tell anybody about that spot because I've got to go back tomorrow," Omori said. "It's a really good spot, but it's about all I have."

In the interest of saving fish for the final two days of the tournament, Omori left his best area well before lunchtime and went looking for something else similar.

"After I left that spot, I started practicing," Omori said. "I tried to find another place to

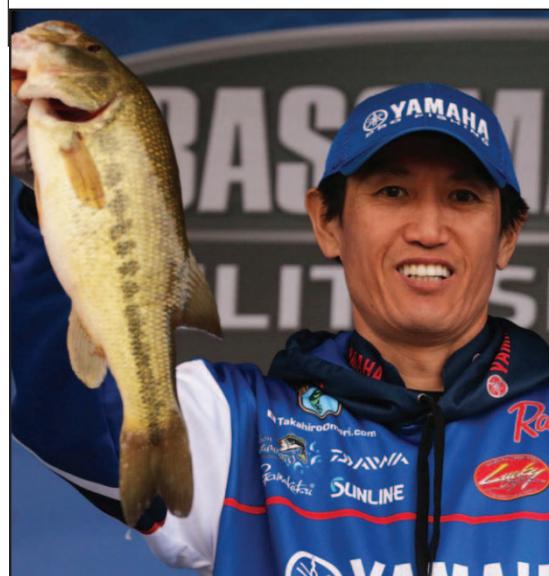
fish, and I couldn't find it.

"I still have to be open-minded because this time of the year, anything can happen."

Despite heavy rains in the forecast for the next two days, Omori said he believes the spot will still be good.

"We had a pretty good rain Sunday night and then another one Wednesday night," he said. "So, the spot should be okay."

Omori's lead over Hawk is nearly 4 pounds, but Hawk came on strong Friday.



SEIGO SAITO/B.A.S.S.

Takahiro Omori of Emory, Texas, took the lead on the second day of the 2018 Bassmaster Elite at Lake Martin.

2018 Grapefruit League Spring Training Schedules

Atlanta Braves
ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex
700 Victory Way
Kissimmee, FL 34747
Ticket Information: 407-939-4263
 Feb. 23, 1:10 p.m. vs. New York Mets at Port St. Lucie
 Feb. 24, 1:05 p.m. vs. Houston Astros at West Palm Beach
 Feb. 25, 1:05 p.m. vs. Washington Nationals at West Palm Beach
 Feb. 26, 1:05 p.m. vs. WASHINGTON NATIONALS at HOME
 Feb. 27, 1:05 p.m. vs. PITTSBURGH PIRATES at HOME
 Feb. 28, 1:05 p.m. vs. NEW YORK METS at HOME
 March 01, 1:05 p.m. vs. WASHINGTON NATIONALS at HOME
 March 01, 1:05 p.m. vs. Detroit Tigers at Lakeland
 March 02, 1:05 p.m. vs. New York Yankees at Tampa
 March 03, 1:05 p.m. vs. ST. LOUIS CARDINALS at HOME
 March 04, 1:05 p.m. vs. MIAMI MARLINS at HOME
 March 05, 1:05 p.m. vs. PITTSBURGH PIRATES at HOME
 March 06, 1:07 p.m. vs. Toronto Blue Jays at Dunedin
 March 08, 1:05 p.m. vs. HOUSTON ASTROS at HOME
 March 09, 6:05 p.m. vs. NEW YORK YANKEES at HOME
 March 10, 1:05 p.m. vs. Pittsburgh Pirates at Bradenton
 March 11, 1:05 p.m. vs. Detroit Tigers at Lakeland
 March 12, 6:05 p.m. vs. PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES at HOME
 March 13, 1:05 p.m. vs. TORONTO BLUE JAY at HOME
 March 14, 1:05 p.m. vs. PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES at HOME
 March 15, 1:05 p.m. vs. DETROIT TIGERS at HOME
 March 16, 1:05 p.m. vs. Pittsburgh Pirates at Bradenton
 March 17, 1:05 p.m. vs. ST. LOUIS CARDINALS at HOME
 March 17, 1:05 p.m. vs. Philadelphia Phillies at Clearwater
 March 18, 1:05 p.m. vs. Houston Astros at West Palm Beach
 March 19, 1:05 p.m. vs. TORONTO BLUE JAYS at HOME
 March 21, 6:05 p.m. vs. TIGERS at HOME
 March 22, 1:05 p.m. vs. St. Louis Cardinals at Jupiter
 March 23, 1:05 p.m. vs. DETROIT TIGERS at HOME
 March 24, 1:05 p.m. vs. NEW YORK YANKEES at HOME
 March 25, 1:05 p.m. vs. Detroit Tigers at Lakeland

March 14, 1:05 p.m. vs. Minnesota Twins at Fort Myers
 March 15, 1:05 p.m. vs. TORONTO BLUE JAYS at HOME
 March 16, 6:05 p.m. vs. MINNESOTA TWINS at HOME
 March 17, 1:05 p.m. vs. TAMPA BAY RAYS at HOME
 March 18, 1:05 p.m. vs. Pittsburgh Pirates at Bradenton
 March 19, 1:05 p.m. vs. PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES at HOME
 March 20, 1:05 p.m. vs. PITTSBURGH PIRATES at HOME
 March 21, 1:05 p.m. vs. Tampa Bay Rays at Port Charlotte
 March 22, 1:05 p.m. vs. Baltimore Orioles at Sarasota
 March 23, 1:05 p.m. vs. New York Yankees at Tampa
 March 24, 1:05 p.m. vs. HOUSTON ASTROS at HOME
 March 25, 1:05 p.m. vs. Minnesota Twins at Fort Myers

Detroit Tigers
Public Field at Joker Marchant Stadium
2301 Lakeland Hills Drive
Lakeland, FL 33805
Ticket Information: 863-686-8075
 Feb. 22, 1:05 p.m. vs. FLORIDA SOUTHERN COLLEGE at HOME
 Feb. 23, 1:05 p.m. vs. New York Yankees at Tampa
 Feb. 24, 1:05 p.m. vs. BLUE JAYS at HOME
 Feb. 25, 1:05 p.m. vs. PITTSBURGH PIRATES at HOME
 Feb. 26, 1:05 p.m. vs. Baltimore Orioles at Sarasota
 Feb. 25, 1:07 p.m. vs. Toronto Blue Jays at Dunedin
 Feb. 27, 1:05 p.m. vs. Philadelphia Phillies at Clearwater
 Feb. 28, 1:05 p.m. vs. New York Yankees at Tampa
 March 01, 1:05 p.m. vs. ATLANTA BRAVES at HOME
 March 02, 1:05 p.m. vs. MIAMI MARLINS at HOME
 March 03, 1:05 p.m. vs. TAMPA BAY RAYS at HOME
 March 04, 1:05 p.m. vs. Washington Nationals at West Palm Beach
 March 05, 1:10 p.m. vs. New York Mets at Port St. Lucie
 March 06, 1:05 p.m. vs. NEW YORK YANKEES at HOME
 March 07, 1:05 p.m. vs. TORONTO BLUE JAYS at HOME
 March 08, 1:05 p.m. vs. Pittsburgh Pirates at Bradenton
 March 09, 1:05 p.m. vs. NEW YORK METS

at HOME
 March 10, 1:07 p.m. vs. Toronto Blue Jays at Dunedin
 March 11, 1:05 p.m. vs. BRAVES at HOME
 March 12, 1:05 p.m. vs. WASHINGTON NATIONALS at HOME
 March 13, 1:05 p.m. vs. New York Yankees at Tampa
 March 15, 1:05 p.m. vs. Atlanta Braves at Disney
 March 16, 1:05 p.m. vs. PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES at HOME
 March 17, 1:05 p.m. vs. NEW YORK YANKEES at HOME
 March 18, 1:05 p.m. vs. Tampa Bay Rays at Port Charlotte
 March 19, 1:05 p.m. vs. BALTIMORE ORIOLES at HOME
 March 20, 1:05 p.m. vs. NEW YORK YANKEES at HOME
 March 21, 6:05 p.m. vs. Atlanta Braves at Disney
 March 22, 1:05 p.m. vs. Philadelphia Phillies at Clearwater
 March 23, 1:05 p.m. vs. Atlanta Braves at Disney
 March 24, 1:05 p.m. vs. PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES at HOME
 March 25, 1:05 p.m. vs. ATLANTA BRAVES at HOME
 March 26, 1:05 p.m. vs. TAMPA BAY RAYS at HOME
 March 27, 12:35 p.m. vs. Tampa Bay Rays at Tropicana Field

Houston Astros
Ballpark of the Palm Beaches
5444 Haverhill Road North
West Palm Beach, FL 33407
Ticket Information: 561-500-4487
 Feb. 23, 1:05 p.m. vs. WASHINGTON NATIONALS at HOME
 Feb. 24, 1:05 p.m. vs. ATLANTA BRAVES at HOME
 Feb. 25, 1:05 p.m. vs. St. Louis Cardinals at Jupiter
 Feb. 26, 1:05 p.m. vs. NEW YORK METS at HOME
 Feb. 26, 1:05 p.m. vs. Miami Marlins at Jupiter
 Feb. 27, 1:10 p.m. vs. New York Mets at Port St. Lucie
 Feb. 28, 1:05 p.m. vs. TWINS at HOME
 March 01, 1:10 p.m. vs. BOSTON RED SOX at HOME
 March 02, 6:05 p.m. vs. NEW YORK METS at HOME
 March 03, 1:05 p.m. vs. WASHINGTON NATIONALS at HOME
 March 04, 1:05 p.m. vs. St. Louis Cardinals at Jupiter
 March 05, 1:05 p.m. vs. MIAMI MARLINS at

HOME
 March 06, 1:05 p.m. vs. Washington Nationals at West Palm Beach
 March 06, 1:10 p.m. vs. New York Mets at Port St. Lucie
 March 07, 1:05 p.m. vs. MIAMI MARLINS at HOME
 March 08, 1:05 p.m. vs. Atlanta Braves at Disney
 March 09, 6:05 p.m. vs. ST. LOUIS CARDINALS at HOME
 March 10, 1:05 p.m. vs. WASHINGTON NATIONALS at HOME
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 March 15, 1:05 p.m. vs. Washington Nationals at West Palm Beach
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 March 19, 1:05 p.m. vs. NEW YORK METS at HOME
 March 21, 1:05 p.m. vs. Washington Nationals at West Palm Beach
 March 22, 1:05 p.m. vs. MIAMI MARLINS at HOME
 March 23, 1:05 p.m. vs. Minnesota Twins at Fort Myers
 March 23, 6:05 p.m. vs. Washington Nationals at West Palm Beach
 March 24, 1:05 p.m. vs. Boston Red Sox at Fort Myers
 March 25, 1:05 p.m. vs. Miami Marlins at Jupiter

Miami Marlins
Roger Dean Chevrolet Stadium
4751 Main Street
Jupiter, FL 33458
Ticket Info: 561-630-1828
 Feb. 23, 1:05 p.m. vs. ST. LOUIS CARDINALS at HOME
 Feb. 24, 1:05 p.m. vs. WASHINGTON NATIONALS at HOME
 Feb. 25, 1:10 p.m. vs. New York Mets at Port St. Lucie
 Feb. 26, 1:05 p.m. vs. HOUSTON ASTROS at HOME
 Feb. 27, 1:05 p.m. vs. Washington Nationals at West Palm Beach
 Feb. 28, 1:05 p.m. vs. WASHINGTON NATIONALS at HOME
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 March 02, 1:05 p.m. vs. Detroit Tigers at

Lakeland
 March 03, 1:05 p.m. vs. NEW YORK METS at HOME
 March 04, 1:05 p.m. vs. Atlanta Braves at Disney
 March 05, 1:05 p.m. vs. Houston Astros at West Palm Beach
 March 06, 1:05 p.m. vs. ST. LOUIS CARDINALS at HOME
 March 07, 1:05 p.m. vs. Houston Astros at West Palm Beach
 March 08, 1:05 p.m. vs. St. Louis Cardinals at Jupiter
 March 09, 1:05 p.m. vs. BOSTON RED SOX at Jupiter
 March 10, 1:05 p.m. vs. St. Louis Cardinals at Jupiter
 March 11, 1:05 p.m. vs. NEW YORK YANKEES at HOME
 March 12, 6:35 p.m. vs. New York Yankees at Tampa
 March 13, 1:05 p.m. vs. BALTIMORE ORIOLES at HOME
 March 14, 1:05 p.m. vs. NEW YORK METS at HOME
 March 15, 1:10 p.m. vs. New York Mets at Port St. Lucie
 March 16, 1:05 p.m. vs. St. Louis Cardinals at Jupiter
 March 17, 1:05 p.m. vs. HOUSTON ASTROS at HOME
 March 18, 1:05 p.m. vs. New York Yankees at Tampa
 March 19, 1:05 p.m. vs. WASHINGTON NATIONALS at HOME
 March 20, 1:05 p.m. vs. Washington Nationals at West Palm Beach
 March 21, 1:05 p.m. vs. ST. LOUIS CARDINALS at HOME
 March 22, 1:05 p.m. vs. Houston Astros at West Palm Beach
 March 23, 7:05 p.m. vs. WASHINGTON NATIONALS at HOME
 March 24, 1:05 p.m. vs. Washington Nationals at West Palm Beach
 March 25, 1:05 p.m. vs. HOUSTON ASTROS at HOME
 March 25, 12:10 p.m. vs. New York Mets at Port St. Lucie

at HOME
 Feb. 27, 6:05 p.m. vs. BOSTON RED SOX at HOME
 Feb. 28, 1:05 p.m. vs. TAMPA BAY RAYS at HOME
 Feb. 28, 1:05 p.m. vs. Houston Astros at West Palm Beach
 March 01, 1:05 p.m. vs. St. Louis Cardinals at Jupiter
 March 02, 1:05 p.m. vs. TORONTO BLUE JAYS at HOME
 March 03, 1:07 p.m. vs. Toronto Blue Jays at Dunedin
 March 04, 1:05 p.m. vs. PITTSBURGH PIRATES at HOME
 March 05, 1:05 p.m. vs. Philadelphia Phillies at Clearwater
 March 06, 1:05 p.m. vs. BALTIMORE ORIOLES at HOME
 March 07, 1:05 p.m. vs. Boston Red Sox at Jet Blue Park
 March 09, 1:05 p.m. vs. Tampa Bay Rays at Port Charlotte
 March 10, 1:05 p.m. vs. BOSTON RED SOX at HOME
 March 11, 1:05 p.m. vs. Tampa Bay Rays at Port Charlotte
 March 12, 6:35 p.m. vs. New York Yankees at Tampa
 March 13, 1:05 p.m. vs. BALTIMORE ORIOLES at HOME
 March 14, 1:05 p.m. vs. BOSTON RED SOX at HOME
 March 15, 1:05 p.m. vs. Tampa Bay Rays at Port Charlotte
 March 16, 1:05 p.m. vs. TAMPA BAY RAYS at HOME
 March 16, 6:05 p.m. vs. Boston Red Sox at Jet Blue Park
 March 17, 1:05 p.m. vs. Pittsburgh Pirates at Bradenton
 March 18, 1:05 p.m. vs. PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES at HOME
 March 19, 1:05 p.m. vs. Pittsburgh Pirates at Bradenton
 March 21, 1:05 p.m. vs. PITTSBURGH PIRATES at HOME
 March 22, 1:05 p.m. vs. NEW YORK YANKEES at HOME
 March 23, 1:05 p.m. vs. HOUSTON ASTROS at HOME
 March 24, 6:05 p.m. vs. Baltimore Orioles at Sarasota
 March 25, 1:05 p.m. vs. BOSTON RED SOX at HOME

New York Mets
First Data Field
525 NW Peacock Blvd.
Port St. Lucie, FL 34986

Baltimore Orioles
Ed Smith Stadium
2700 12th Street
Sarasota, FL 34237
Ticket Information: 941-893-6300
 Feb. 23, 1:05 p.m. vs. TAMPA BAY RAYS at HOME
 Feb. 24, 6:05 p.m. vs. MINNESOTA TWINS at HOME
 Feb. 24, 1:05 p.m. vs. Philadelphia Phillies at Clearwater
 Feb. 25, 1:05 p.m. vs. Boston Red Sox at Fort Myers
 Feb. 26, 1:05 p.m. vs. DETROIT TIGERS at HOME
 Feb. 27, 1:05 p.m. vs. Tampa Bay Rays at Port Charlotte
 Feb. 28, 1:05 p.m. vs. ST. LOUIS CARDINALS at HOME
 March 01, 1:05 p.m. vs. Tampa Bay Rays at Port Charlotte
 March 02, 1:05 p.m. vs. PITTSBURGH PIRATE at HOME
 March 03, 1:05 p.m. vs. Philadelphia Phillies at Clearwater
 March 04, 1:05 p.m. vs. BOSTON RED SOX at HOME
 March 06, 1:05 p.m. vs. Minnesota Twins at Fort Myers
 March 07, 1:05 p.m. vs. Tampa Bay Rays at Port Charlotte
 March 08, 1:05 p.m. vs. TORONTO BLUE JAYS at HOME
 March 09, 1:07 p.m. vs. Toronto Blue Jays at Dunedin
 March 10, 1:05 p.m. vs. PITTSBURGH PIRATES at HOME
 March 11, 6:05 p.m. vs. PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES at HOME
 March 11, 1:05 p.m. vs. Boston Red Sox at Fort Myers
 March 12, 1:05 p.m. vs. Pittsburgh Pirates at Bradenton
 March 13, 1:05 p.m. vs. Minnesota Twins at Fort Myers
 March 14, 1:05 p.m. vs. NEW YORK YANKEES at HOME
 March 15, 1:05 p.m. vs. St. Louis Cardinals at Jupiter
 March 16, 1:10 p.m. vs. New York Mets at Port St. Lucie
 March 17, 1:05 p.m. vs. TORONTO BLUE JAYS at HOME
 March 18, 1:05 p.m. vs. NEW YORK METS at HOME
 March 19, 1:05 p.m. vs. Detroit Tigers at Lakeland
 March 20, 6:05 p.m. vs. TAMPA BAY RAYS at HOME
 March 21, 6:35 p.m. vs. New York Yankees at Tampa
 March 22, 1:05 p.m. vs. BOSTON RED SOX at HOME
 March 23, 1:05 p.m. vs. TAMPA BAY RAYS at HOME
 March 24, 6:05 p.m. vs. MINNESOTA TWINS at HOME
 March 25, 1:05 p.m. vs. Philadelphia Phillies at Clearwater

Boston Red Sox
Jet Blue Park
11500 Fenway South Drive
Fort Myers, FL 33913
Tickets by Phone: 888-733-7696
For Ticket and Other Information: 239-334-4700
 Feb. 22, 1:05 p.m. vs. UCONN HUSKIES at HOME
 Feb. 22, After Game 1 vs. BOSTON COLLEGE at HOME
 Feb. 23, 1:05 p.m. vs. MINNESOTA TWINS at HOME
 Feb. 24, 1:05 p.m. vs. TAMPA BAY RAYS at HOME
 Feb. 25, 1:05 p.m. vs. BALTIMORE ORIOLES at HOME
 Feb. 26, 1:05 p.m. vs. Pittsburgh Pirates at Bradenton
 Feb. 27, 1:05 p.m. vs. ST. LOUIS CARDINALS at HOME
 Feb. 27, 6:05 p.m. vs. Minnesota Twins at Fort Myers
 Feb. 28, 1:05 p.m. vs. PITTSBURGH PIRATES at HOME
 March 01, 1:05 p.m. vs. Houston Astros at West Palm Beach
 March 02, 1:05 p.m. vs. St. Louis Cardinals at Jupiter
 March 03, 1:05 p.m. vs. NEW YORK YANKEES at HOME
 March 04, 1:05 p.m. vs. Baltimore Orioles at Sarasota
 March 06, 1:05 p.m. vs. Tampa Bay Rays at Port Charlotte
 March 07, 1:05 p.m. vs. MINNESOTA TWINS at HOME
 March 07, 1:05 p.m. vs. Philadelphia Phillies at Clearwater
 March 08, 1:05 p.m. vs. TAMPA BAY RAYS at HOME
 March 09, 1:05 p.m. vs. Miami Marlins at Jupiter
 March 10, 1:05 p.m. vs. Minnesota Twins at Fort Myers
 March 11, 1:05 p.m. vs. BALTIMORE ORIOLES at HOME
 March 12, 1:07 p.m. vs. Toronto Blue Jays at Dunedin

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FLORIDA HOSPITAL

TRAINING

FROM PAGE 2

Ticket Information: 772-871-2115
 Feb. 23, 1:10 p.m. vs. ATLANTA BRAVES at HOME
 Feb. 24, 1:10 p.m. vs. ST. LOUIS CARDINALS at HOME
 Feb. 25, 1:10 p.m. vs. MARLINS at HOME
 Feb. 26, 1:05 p.m. vs. HOUSTON ASTROS at West Palm Beach
 Feb. 27, 1:10 p.m. vs. HOUSTON ASTROS at HOME
 Feb. 28, 1:05 p.m. vs. Atlanta Braves at Disney
 March 01, 1:10 p.m. vs. MIAMI MARLINS at HOME
 March 02, 1:10 p.m. vs. WASHINGTON NATIONALS at HOME
 March 02, 6:05 p.m. vs. Houston Astros at West Palm Beach
 March 03, 1:05 p.m. vs. Miami Marlins at Jupiter
 March 04, 1:10 p.m. vs. WASHINGTON NATIONALS at HOME
 March 05, 1:10 p.m. vs. DETROIT TIGERS at HOME
 March 06, 1:10 p.m. vs. HOUSTON ASTROS at HOME
 March 07, 1:10 p.m. vs. YANKEES at HOME
 March 08, 1:05 p.m. vs. Washington Nationals at West Palm Beach
 March 09, 1:05 p.m. vs. Detroit Tigers at Lakeland
 March 10, 1:05 p.m. vs. New York Yankees at Tampa
 March 11, 1:10 p.m. vs. HOUSTON ASTROS at HOME
 March 13, 1:10 p.m. vs. HOUSTON ASTROS at HOME
 March 13, 7:05 p.m. vs. Washington Nationals at West Palm Beach
 March 14, 1:05 p.m. vs. Miami Marlins at Jupiter
 March 15, 1:10 p.m. vs. MIAMI MARLINS at HOME
 March 16, 1:10 p.m. vs. BALTIMORE ORIOLES at HOME
 March 17, 1:05 p.m. vs. Washington Nationals at West Palm Beach
 March 18, 1:05 p.m. vs. Baltimore Orioles at Sarasota
 March 19, 1:05 p.m. vs. Houston Astros at West Palm Beach
 March 20, 1:05 p.m. vs. St. Louis Cardinals at Jupiter
 March 22, 6:10 p.m. vs. WASHINGTON NATIONALS at HOME
 March 23, 1:10 p.m. vs. ST. LOUIS CARDINALS at HOME
 March 24, 1:05 p.m. vs. St. Louis Cardinals at Jupiter
 March 25, 12:10 p.m. vs. MIAMI MARLINS at HOME

New York Yankees
George M. Steinbrenner Field
1 Steinbrenner Drive
Tampa, FL 33614
Ticket Information: 813-879-2244
 Feb. 23, 1:05 p.m. vs. DETROIT TIGERS at HOME
 Feb. 24, 1:05 p.m. vs. Pittsburgh Pirates at Bradenton
 Feb. 25, 1:05 p.m. vs. Philadelphia Phillies at Clearwater
 Feb. 26, 6:35 p.m. vs. PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES at HOME
 Feb. 27, 1:07 p.m. vs. Toronto Blue Jays at Dunedin
 Feb. 28, 1:05 p.m. vs. DETROIT TIGERS at HOME
 March 01, 1:05 p.m. vs. Philadelphia Phillies at Clearwater
 March 02, 1:05 p.m. vs. ATLANTA BRAVES at HOME
 March 03, 1:05 p.m. vs. Boston Red Sox at

Fort Myers
 March 04, 1:05 p.m. vs. TAMPA BAY RAYS at HOME
 March 06, 1:05 p.m. vs. Detroit Tigers at Lakeland
 March 07, 1:10 p.m. vs. New York Mets at Port St. Lucie
 March 08, 1:05 p.m. vs. PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES at HOME
 March 09, 6:05 p.m. vs. Atlanta Braves at Disney
 March 10, 1:05 p.m. vs. NEW YORK METS at HOME
 March 11, 1:05 p.m. vs. Miami Marlins at Jupiter
 March 12, 6:35 p.m. vs. TWINS at HOME
 March 13, 1:05 p.m. vs. TIGERS at HOME
 March 14, 1:05 p.m. vs. Baltimore Orioles at Sarasota
 March 15, 1:05 p.m. vs. PITTSBURGH PIRATES at HOME
 March 16, 6:35 p.m. vs. HOUSTON ASTROS at HOME
 March 17, 1:05 p.m. vs. Detroit Tigers at Lakeland
 March 18, 1:05 p.m. vs. MIAMI MARLINS at HOME
 March 19, 6:35 p.m. vs. TAMPA BAY RAYS at HOME
 March 20, 1:05 p.m. vs. Detroit Tigers at Lakeland
 March 21, 6:35 p.m. vs. BALTIMORE ORIOLES at HOME
 March 22, 1:05 p.m. vs. Minnesota Twins at Fort Myers
 March 23, 1:05 p.m. vs. BOSTON RED SIX at HOME
 March 24, 1:05 p.m. vs. TORONTO BLUE JAYS at HOME
 March 24, 1:05 p.m. vs. Atlanta Braves at Disney
 March 25, 1:05 p.m. vs. Tampa Bay Rays at Port Charlotte

Philadelphia Phillies
Spectrum Field
601 N. Old Coachman Road
Clearwater, FL 33765
Ticket Information: 727-467-4457
 Feb. 22, 1:05 p.m. vs. UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA at HOME
 Feb. 23, 1:07 p.m. vs. Toronto Blue Jays at Dunedin
 Feb. 24, 1:05 p.m. vs. BALTIMORE ORIOLES at HOME
 Feb. 25, 1:05 p.m. vs. YANKEES at HOME
 Feb. 26, 6:35 p.m. vs. New York Yankees at Tampa
 Feb. 27, 1:05 p.m. vs. TIGERS at HOME
 Feb. 28, 1:07 p.m. vs. Toronto Blue Jays at Dunedin
 March 01, 1:05 p.m. vs. NEW YORK YANKEES at HOME
 March 02, 1:05 p.m. vs. Tampa Bay Rays at Port Charlotte
 March 03, 1:05 p.m. vs. BALTIMORE ORIOLES at HOME
 March 03, 1:05 p.m. vs. Pittsburgh Pirates at Bradenton
 March 04, 1:05 p.m. vs. TORONTO BLUE JAYS at HOME
 March 05, 1:05 p.m. vs. MINNESOTA TWINS at HOME
 March 07, 1:05 p.m. vs. BOSTON RED SOX at HOME
 March 08, 1:05 p.m. vs. New York Yankees at Tampa
 March 09, 1:05 p.m. vs. PITTSBURGH PIRATES at HOME
 March 10, 1:05 p.m. vs. TAMPA BAY RAYS at HOME
 March 11, 6:05 p.m. vs. Baltimore Orioles at Sarasota
 March 12, 6:05 p.m. vs. Atlanta Braves at Disney
 March 13, 1:05 p.m. vs. RAYS at HOME
 March 14, 1:05 p.m. vs. Atlanta Braves at Disney
 March 16, 1:05 p.m. vs. TORONTO BLUE JAYS at HOME
 March 16, 1:05 p.m. vs. Detroit Tigers at

Lakeland
 March 17, 1:05 p.m. vs. ATLANTA BRAVES at HOME
 March 18, 1:05 p.m. vs. Minnesota Twins at Fort Myers
 March 19, 1:05 p.m. vs. Boston Red Sox at Fort Myers
 March 20, 1:05 p.m. vs. TORONTO BLUE JAYS at HOME
 March 21, 1:07 p.m. vs. Toronto Blue Jays at Dunedin
 March 22, 1:05 p.m. vs. DETROIT TIGERS at HOME
 March 23, 1:05 p.m. vs. Pittsburgh Pirates at Bradenton
 March 24, 1:05 p.m. vs. Detroit Tigers at Lakeland
 March 25, 1:05 p.m. vs. BALTIMORE ORIOLES at HOME
 March 26, 1:05 p.m. vs. Pittsburgh Pirates at Bradenton
 March 27, 1:05 p.m. vs. PITTSBURGH PIRATES at HOME

Pittsburgh Pirates
LECOM Park
1611 Ninth Street West
Bradenton, FL 34205
Ticket Information: 941-747-3031
 Feb. 23, 1:05 p.m. vs. Tampa Bay Rays at Port Charlotte
 Feb. 24, 1:05 p.m. vs. NEW YORK YANKEES at HOME
 Feb. 25, 1:05 p.m. vs. Detroit Tigers at Lakeland
 Feb. 26, 1:05 p.m. vs. RED SOX at HOME
 Feb. 27, 1:05 p.m. vs. Atlanta Braves at Disney
 Feb. 28, 1:05 p.m. vs. Boston Red Sox at Fort Myers
 March 01, 1:05 p.m. vs. TORONTO BLUE JAYS at HOME
 March 02, 1:05 p.m. vs. Baltimore Orioles at Sarasota
 March 03, 1:05 p.m. vs. PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES at HOME
 March 04, 1:05 p.m. vs. Minnesota Twins at Fort Myers
 March 05, 1:05 p.m. vs. Atlanta Braves at Disney
 March 07, 1:07 p.m. vs. Toronto Blue Jays at Dunedin
 March 08, 1:05 p.m. vs. DETROIT TIGERS at HOME
 March 09, 1:05 p.m. vs. Philadelphia Phillies at Clearwater
 March 10, 1:05 p.m. vs. ATLANTA BRAVES at HOME
 March 10, 1:05 p.m. vs. Baltimore Orioles at Sarasota
 March 11, 1:07 p.m. vs. Toronto Blue Jays at Dunedin
 March 12, 1:05 p.m. vs. BALTIMORE ORIOLES at HOME
 March 12, 1:05 p.m. vs. TAMPA BAY RAYS at HOME
 March 15, 1:05 p.m. vs. New York Yankees at Tampa
 March 16, 1:05 p.m. vs. ATLANTA BRAVES at HOME
 March 17, 1:05 p.m. vs. TWINS at HOME
 March 18, 1:05 p.m. vs. BOSTON RED SOX at HOME
 March 18, 1:07 p.m. vs. Toronto Blue Jays at Dunedin
 March 19, 1:05 p.m. vs. TWINS at HOME
 March 20, 1:05 p.m. vs. Boston Red Sox at Fort Myers
 March 21, 6:05 p.m. vs. Minnesota Twins at Fort Myers
 March 22, 6:05 p.m. vs. TORONTO BLUE JAYS at HOME
 March 23, 1:05 p.m. vs. PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES at HOME
 March 24, 1:05 p.m. vs. TAMPA BAY RAYS at HOME
 March 25, 1:07 p.m. vs. Toronto Blue Jays at Dunedin
 March 26, 1:05 p.m. vs. PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES at HOME
 March 27, 1:05 p.m. vs. Philadelphia Phil-

lies at Clearwater
St. Louis Cardinals
Roger Dean Chevrolet Stadium
4751 Main Street
Jupiter, FL 33458
Ticket Info: 561-630-1828
 Feb. 23, 1:05 p.m. vs. Miami Marlins at Jupiter
 Feb. 24, 1:10 p.m. vs. New York Mets at Port St. Lucie
 Feb. 25, 1:05 p.m. vs. HOUSTON ASTROS at HOME
 Feb. 26, 1:05 p.m. vs. Minnesota Twins at Fort Myers
 Feb. 28, 1:05 p.m. vs. Boston Red Sox at Fort Myers
 Feb. 28, 1:05 p.m. vs. Baltimore Orioles at Sarasota
 March 01, 1:05 p.m. vs. MINNESOTA TWINS at HOME
 March 02, 1:05 p.m. vs. BOSTON RED SOX at HOME
 March 03, 1:05 p.m. vs. Atlanta Braves at Disney
 March 04, 1:05 p.m. vs. HOUSTON ASTROS at HOME
 March 05, 1:05 p.m. vs. WASHINGTON NATIONALS at HOME
 March 06, 1:05 p.m. vs. Miami Marlins at Jupiter
 March 07, 1:05 p.m. vs. WASHINGTON NATIONALS at HOME
 March 08, 1:05 p.m. vs. MIAMI MARLINS at HOME
 March 09, 6:05 p.m. vs. Houston Astros at West Palm Beach
 March 10, 1:05 p.m. vs. MIAMI MARLINS at HOME
 March 11, 1:05 p.m. vs. Washington Nationals at West Palm Beach
 March 13, 1:05 p.m. vs. Miami Marlins at Jupiter
 March 14, 1:05 p.m. vs. Houston Astros at West Palm Beach
 March 15, 1:05 p.m. vs. BALTIMORE ORIOLES at HOME
 March 16, 1:05 p.m. vs. MIAMI MARLINS at HOME
 March 16, 1:05 p.m. vs. Washington Nationals at West Palm Beach
 March 17, 1:05 p.m. vs. Atlanta Braves at Disney
 March 18, 1:05 p.m. vs. WASHINGTON NATIONALS at HOME
 March 20, 1:05 p.m. vs. METS at HOME
 March 21, 1:05 p.m. vs. Miami Marlins at Jupiter
 March 22, 1:05 p.m. vs. ATLANTA BRAVES at HOME
 March 23, 1:10 p.m. vs. New York Mets at Port St. Lucie
 March 24, 1:05 p.m. vs. METS at HOME
 March 25, 1:05 p.m. vs. Washington Nationals at West Palm Beach

Tampa Bay Rays
Charlotte Sports Park
2300 El Jobean Road
Port Charlotte, FL 33948
Ticket Information: 888-326-7297
 Feb. 23, 1:05 p.m. vs. PITTSBURGH PIRATES at HOME
 Feb. 23, 1:05 p.m. vs. Baltimore Orioles at Dunedin
 Feb. 24, 1:05 p.m. vs. Boston Red Sox at Fort Myers
 Feb. 25, 1:05 p.m. vs. Minnesota Twins at Fort Myers
 Feb. 26, 1:05 p.m. vs. TORONTO BLUE JAYS at HOME
 Feb. 27, 1:05 p.m. vs. BALTIMORE ORIOLES at HOME
 Feb. 28, 1:05 p.m. vs. Minnesota Twins at Fort Myers
 March 01, 1:05 p.m. vs. BALTIMORE ORIOLES at HOME
 March 02, 1:05 p.m. vs. PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES at HOME
 March 03, 1:05 p.m. vs. Detroit Tigers at Lakeland

March 04, 1:05 p.m. vs. New York Yankees at Tampa
 March 06, 1:05 p.m. vs. BOSTON RED SOX at HOME
 March 07, 1:05 p.m. vs. BALTIMORE ORIOLES at HOME
 March 08, 1:05 p.m. vs. Boston Red Sox at Fort Myers
 March 09, 1:05 p.m. vs. MINNESOTA TWINS at HOME
 March 10, 1:05 p.m. vs. Philadelphia Phillies at Clearwater
 March 11, 1:05 p.m. vs. MINNESOTA TWINS at HOME
 March 13, 1:05 p.m. vs. Philadelphia Phillies at Clearwater
 March 14, 1:05 p.m. vs. Pittsburgh Pirates at Bradenton
 March 15, 1:05 p.m. vs. MINNESOTA TWINS at HOME
 March 16, 1:05 p.m. vs. Minnesota Twins at Fort Myers
 March 17, 1:05 p.m. vs. Boston Red Sox at Fort Myers
 March 18, 1:05 p.m. vs. DETROIT at HOME
 March 19, 6:35 p.m. vs. New York Yankees at Tampa
 March 20, 6:05 p.m. vs. Baltimore Orioles at Sarasota
 March 21, 1:05 p.m. vs. BOSTON RED SOX at HOME
 March 22, 1:05 p.m. vs. Toronto Blue Jays at Dunedin
 March 23, 1:05 p.m. vs. TORONTO BLUE JAYS at HOME
 March 23, 1:05 p.m. vs. Baltimore Orioles at Sarasota
 March 24, 1:05 p.m. vs. Pittsburgh Pirates at Bradenton
 March 25, 1:05 p.m. vs. NEW YORK YANKEES at HOME
 March 26, 1:05 p.m. vs. Detroit Tigers at Lakeland
 March 27, 12:35 p.m. vs. DETROIT TIGERS at Tropicana Field

Toronto Blue Jays
Dunedin Stadium
373 Douglas Avenue
Dunedin, FL 34698
Ticket Information: 727-733-0429
 Feb. 23, 1:07 p.m. vs. PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES at HOME
 Feb. 24, 1:05 p.m. vs. Detroit Tigers at Lakeland
 Feb. 25, 1:07 p.m. vs. DETROIT TIGERS at HOME
 Feb. 26, 1:05 p.m. vs. Tampa Bay Rays at Port Charlotte
 Feb. 27, 1:07 p.m. vs. NEW YORK YANKEES at HOME
 Feb. 28, 1:07 p.m. vs. PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES at HOME
 March 01, 1:05 p.m. vs. Pittsburgh Pirates at Clearwater
 March 02, 1:05 p.m. vs. Minnesota Twins at Fort Myers
 March 03, 1:07 p.m. vs. MINNESOTA TWINS at HOME
 March 04, 1:05 p.m. vs. Philadelphia Phillies at Clearwater
 March 06, 1:07 p.m. vs. ATLANTA BRAVES at HOME
 March 07, 1:07 p.m. vs. PITTSBURGH PIRATES at HOME
 March 07, 1:05 p.m. vs. Detroit Tigers at Lakeland
 March 08, 1:05 p.m. vs. Baltimore Orioles at Sarasota
 March 09, 1:07 p.m. vs. BALTIMORE ORIOLES at HOME
 March 10, 1:07 p.m. vs. DETROIT at HOME
 March 11, 1:07 p.m. vs. PITTSBURGH PIRATES at HOME
 March 12, 1:07 p.m. vs. BOSTON RED SOX at HOME
 March 13, 1:05 p.m. vs. Atlanta Braves at Disney
 March 15, 1:05 p.m. vs. Boston Red Sox at Fort Myers
 March 16, 1:05 p.m. vs. Philadelphia Phil-

lies at Clearwater
 March 17, 1:07 p.m. vs. TEAM CANADA at HOME
 March 17, 1:05 p.m. vs. Baltimore Orioles at Sarasota
 March 18, 1:07 p.m. vs. PITTSBURGH PIRATES at HOME
 March 19, 1:05 p.m. vs. Atlanta Braves at Disney
 March 20, 1:05 p.m. vs. Philadelphia Phillies at Clearwater
 March 21, 1:07 p.m. vs. PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES at HOME
 March 22, 1:07 p.m. vs. TAMPA BAY RAYS at HOME
 March 22, 6:05 p.m. vs. Pittsburgh Pirates at Bradenton
 March 23, 1:05 p.m. vs. Tampa Bay Rays at Port Charlotte
 March 24, 1:05 p.m. vs. New York Yankees at Tampa
 March 25, 1:07 p.m. vs. PITTSBURGH PIRATES at HOME

Washington Nationals
Ballpark of the Palm Beaches
5444 Haverhill Road North
West Palm Beach, FL 33407
Ticket Info: 561-500-4487
 Feb. 23, 1:05 p.m. vs. Houston Astros at West Palm Beach
 Feb. 24, 1:05 p.m. vs. Miami Marlins at Jupiter
 Feb. 25, 1:05 p.m. vs. ATLANTA BRAVES at HOME
 Feb. 26, 1:05 p.m. vs. Atlanta Braves at Disney
 Feb. 27, 1:05 p.m. vs. MIAMI MARLINS at HOME
 Feb. 28, 1:05 p.m. vs. Miami Marlins at Jupiter
 March 01, 1:05 p.m. vs. Atlanta Braves at Disney
 March 02, 1:10 p.m. vs. New York Mets at Port St. Lucie
 March 03, 1:05 p.m. vs. Houston Astros at West Palm Beach
 March 04, 1:05 p.m. vs. DETROIT TIGERS at HOME
 March 04, 1:10 p.m. vs. New York Mets at Port St. Lucie
 March 05, 1:05 p.m. vs. St. Louis Cardinals at Jupiter
 March 06, 1:05 p.m. vs. HOUSTON ASTROS at HOME
 March 07, 1:05 p.m. vs. St. Louis Cardinals at Jupiter
 March 08, 1:05 p.m. vs. NEW YORK METS at HOME
 March 10, 1:05 p.m. vs. Houston Astros at West Palm Beach
 March 11, 1:05 p.m. vs. ST. LOUIS CARDINALS at HOME
 March 12, 1:05 p.m. vs. Detroit Tigers at Lakeland
 March 13, 7:05 p.m. vs. NEW YORK METS at HOME
 March 15, 1:05 p.m. vs. HOUSTON ASTROS at HOME
 March 16, 1:05 p.m. vs. ST. LOUIS CARDINALS at HOME
 March 17, 1:05 p.m. vs. NEW YORK METS at HOME
 March 18, 1:05 p.m. vs. St. Louis Cardinals at HOME
 March 19, 1:05 p.m. vs. Miami Marlins at Jupiter
 March 20, 1:05 p.m. vs. MIAMI MARLINS at HOME
 March 21, 1:05 p.m. vs. HOUSTON ASTROS at HOME
 March 22, 6:10 p.m. vs. New York Mets at Port St. Lucie
 March 23, 6:05 p.m. vs. HOUSTON ASTROS at HOME
 March 23, 7:05 p.m. vs. Miami Marlins at Jupiter
 March 24, 1:05 p.m. vs. MIAMI MARLINS at HOME
 March 25, 1:05 p.m. vs. ST. LOUIS CARDINALS at HOME

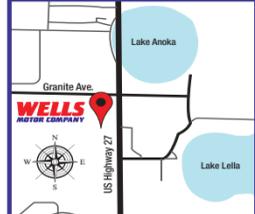
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 <p>NEW 2018 DODGE CHALLENGER SXT BLACKTOP PACKAGE</p> <p>\$30,680 MSRP -\$2,252 DISCOUNT & REBATES</p> <p>Net Cost \$28,428 OR LEASE FROM \$259/mos*</p>	 <p>NEW 2017 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN SE</p> <p>\$30,185 MSRP -\$6,000 DISCOUNT & REBATES</p> <p>Net Cost \$24,185 OR LEASE FROM \$359/mos*</p>	 <p>NEW 2017 DODGE JOURNEY CROSSROADS</p> <p>\$30,585 MSRP -\$5,928 DISCOUNT & REBATES</p> <p>Net Cost \$24,657 OR LEASE FROM \$295/mos**</p>	 <p>Jeep 2017 JEEP RENEGADE LATITUDE</p> <p>\$26,650 MSRP -\$6,500 DISCOUNT & REBATES</p> <p>Net Cost \$20,150</p>	<h2 style="color: white; background-color: red; padding: 10px;">NEW 2017 JEEP CHEROKEE POWER BUYS! WHILE THEY LAST</h2>	 <p>Jeep 2017 JEEP LATITUDE</p> <p>\$28,485 MSRP -\$6,500 DISCOUNT & REBATES</p> <p>Net Cost \$21,985</p>
 <p>Jeep NEW 2017 JEEP LATITUDE 14 SPORT</p> <p>\$27,400 MSRP -\$5,562 DISCOUNT & REBATES</p> <p>Net Cost \$21,838 OR LEASE FROM \$299/mos*</p>	 <p>Jeep ALL NEW 2017 JEEP COMPASS</p> <p>Buy From \$19,499 OR LEASE A 2018 COMPASS LATITUDE FROM \$239/mos**</p>	 <p>NEW 2018 RAM QUAD CAB EXPRESS</p> <p>\$37,530 MSRP -\$6,264 DISCOUNT & REBATES</p> <p>Net Cost \$31,266 OR LEASE FROM \$322/mos**</p>			

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FOOTBALL

FROM PAGE 1

"It's a great support system," he said.

Healy felt Warner was a great academic fit and he thought his new coaches were great people.

He was also happy to have Lane going to Warner with him, just as Lane thought it was great to be playing with Healy another four years.

Lane was glad the recruiting process was over and he had his next school picked out.

"It feels good to knowing where I'm going," Lane said. "It's close to home, it's great academically and for a while I didn't really have an idea where I'd be going."

Scott said it was nice sending several more players to Warner after doing it last year, as it meant the Warner coaches were impressed enough with the first few players for them to come right back to when looking at potential recruits and that hasn't always been the case.

Lane said he's miss his family, Friday nights and

the Blue Streak coaching staff.

Scott said Lane will definitely be missed.

"He did a lot for this program," he said. "He did a lot of good things on and off the field."

Scott said it's always a great feeling when players move on to college.

"When you get these kids, you don't make a promise, but you tell them if they work hard in the classroom, in the weight room and put it all out there on the field, we'll find somewhere for you and you'll have an opportunity," he said.



ALLEN MOODY/STAFF

Sebring's Darius Campbell, sitting, will be playing college football at Hutchinson Community College in Kansas next year.



ALLEN MOODY/STAFF

Sebring's Brian Lane, seated, will be attending Warner University to play football.



ALLEN MOODY/STAFF

Sebring's Anthony Healy will be playing football for Warner University next season.

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FISHING

FROM PAGE 1

spike period which has been starting around the 4 to 5 p.m. hours of the afternoon, so therefore a 4 to 5 rating will occur from 2-6:30 p.m. Daily this period moves later by about 45 minutes and will increase in rating by a half number daily. For the second half of this week the sunset period will be very good.

Prime Monthly Periods: Feb. 26 to March 3, full moon; March 14-20, new moon; March 28-April 3, full moon. Highlands Bass Angler Bass Guide-Trips are \$250 for one or two anglers. All gear, bait and tackle included for an artificial-bait six-hour trip. Cold water and weather protection provided. Custom bass fishing charters available. Call to plan and book your bass fishing experience today.

Istokpoga.info News: The lake level is at 39.25 feet above sea level, which is three inches below the max-level in the one-foot management-threshold range for the winter season. Currently the maximum and minimum levels are 39.50 and 38.50 feet above sea level, respectively. Three of four gates are open 3 inches and flowing 340 cubic feet per second combined total.

Istokpoga.info website has links to the South Florida Water Mgmt. (SFWMD) real time S68 and S68X spillway

gates status, and flow status data of all water way structures from Kissimmee to Clewiston.

Access this article online using FloridaLakesFishingForecast.com OR BassFishingForecast.com. Need a lake map? Go to FloridaLakesMaps.com for free lake contour maps for hundreds of your favorite lakes statewide.

Fishing from Shorelines: Learn where the deeper water comes closest to shorelines using a lake contour map. There are 45 Highlands County lake maps published at floridalakesmaps.com. Each map is edited to include boat ramp locations and have been enlarged for easy reading of the lake-bottom contour delineations. You'll discover that the majority of the lakes' public boat ramps and docks are located within the better shoreline fishing areas.

HighlandsBassAngler.com offers bass fishing guide-trip options, fishing-help tools, 72 lake-contour maps and additional map sources and fishing philosophy. Personalized custom fishing packages for beginners to professional anglers are available upon request.

Dave Douglass is a bass fishing guide and teacher on 25 lakes, from the towns of Kissimmee to Clewiston. Visit HighlandsBassAngler.com for complete details. Phone: 863-381-8474. Email: DavidPDouglass@hotmail.com.

SPORTS BRIEFS

American Legion Post 25 golf tournament

American Legion Post 25 is holding a golf tournament at Golf Hammock on Saturday, Feb. 24, with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. Sign-in begins at 7 a.m.

The cost is \$60 per player and there will be two flights, as well as long drive for men and women and a putting contest. Drinks will be provided on the course and there is a dinner in the clubhouse.

Entry is limited to the first 36 teams and you can sign-up at the American Legion Post 25 or at the Golf Hammock pro shop.

YMCA soccer sign-ups

The Highlands County YMCA Spring Soccer registration deadline

for ages 3-15 ends Feb. 19. For questions call 382-9622.

Run the Lake 15K

The Run the Lake 15K, for both individual runners or relay teams, will take place Saturday, Feb. 24, beginning at 7:30 a.m. at Don Jose Mexican Restaurant in Sebring. To sign-up visit www.runsignup.com/race/fl/sebring/yrunthelake15K.

Samaritan's Touch Care Center golf tournament

The sixth annual Samaritan's Touch Care Center Benefit Golf tournament will take place at Highlands Ridge North on Saturday, Feb. 24 with an 8 a.m. shotgun start. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. The cost is \$75 per player and includes lunch, prized and raffles, refreshments

and golf. Entries must be received by Feb. 20. Checks may be mailed to Samaritan's Touch Care Center at 3015 Herring Ave., Sebring, FL 33870. For more information contact Tina Walker at admin.support@samatrianstouch.org or 471-1870 ext. 102.

After School Tennis Program

The After School Tennis Program at the Thakkar Tennis Center at the Country Club of Sebring will run through March 2. The classes are for tennis players aged 4 to 18 and are taught by USPTA Certified Tennis Professional Horace Watkis, formerly part of Chicago's famous Mid-Town Tennis Club

Pro Staff and Head Pro at Frenchman's Cover in Port Antonio, Jamaica.

Tiny Tots (ages 4 to 6) meet on Tuesday from 3:15 to 4 p.m. and the cost is \$37, while Future Champs (ages 6 to 12) meet 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Monday through Friday and players can choose which day of the week they would like to attend.

The Pre-Tournament Academy meets on Wednesday from 4 to 5:30 p.m. and the cost is \$60, while High School Team Level meets on Thursday between 4 and 5:30 p.m. and the cost is \$60.

For more information contact Watkis at horacewatkis@hotmail.com or 863-414-2164 or 386-4282.

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LOCAL RUNNING

23rd Annual Florida Hospital Heartland 10K

Age Group Results

Female Open Winner:

Regan Davenport, 45:36.0.

Male Open Winner:

Sean Brown, 39:27.6.

Female 12 to 18:

Hilary Cajuste, 1:16:19.0.

Male 12 to 18:

Zachary VanFleet, 44:49.7; David Barajas, 48:49.2; Jhezer Maranan, 1:03:57.6.

Female 19 to 24:

Keziah Maranan, 1:17:16.0.

Male 19 to 24:

Samuel Jacobs, 53:32.0.

Female 25 to 29:

Katie Altwater, 52:46.1; Brittani Loury, 1:00:18.5; Samantha Carter, 1:11:54.8; Charmaine Dawn Cruz, 1:17:16.0; Amy Bohan, 1:29:31.0.

Male 25 to 29:

Mervyn Mendoza, 1:03:57.7.

Female 30 to 34:

Michelle Hoff, 1:07:30.0; Latosha Harnage, 1:07:34.1; Katherine Eures, 1:16:56.5.

Female 35 to 39:

Corien Peavy, 53:27.8; Shawn Beumel, 1:01:54.5; Amanda Maghan, 1:06:12.7; Kristine Albritton, 1:11:53.0; Tere Lumusco, 1:14:33.0.

Male 35 to 39:

David Zoerb, 51:55.6; Jason Maghan, 1:00:53.8; David Schuknecht, 1:17:55.0.

Female 40 to 44:

Laura VanFleet, 58:33.5; Christine Gilbert, 1:00:22.5; Sharla Elliott, 1:05:04.3.

Male 40 to 44:

Tony Darrow, 48:58.0; Shane White, 55:46.1; Antonio Vasquez, 56:43.4; Brian VanFleet, 56:50.4; Richard Soluta, 1:01:52.1.

Female 45 to 49:

Sharon Pridgeon-Fennell, 1:04:49.3; Eydee Grice, 1:11:48.1; Mary Beth Przychocki, 1:18:26.2; Sara Zamora-Baldrige, 1:28:22.0; Judy Bassett, 1:29:30.0.

Male 45 to 49:

Thomas Lamorte, 1:02:31.8; Pankaj Patel, 1:05:53.0.

Female 50 to 54:

Julie Gallivan Parker, 59:41.9; Kimberly Houser, 1:17:28.9.

Male 50 to 54:

Mark Colbert, 50:12.9; Lou Aguilar, 51:55.8.

Female 55 to 59:

Jude Stewart, 1:24:55.2.

Male 55 to 59:

Roldan Mendoza, 1:01:51.6.

Female 60 to 64:

Karen Whall, 1:07:38.8; Elena Febre, 1:09:11.8; Martie Brooker, 1:11:27.7; Marcia Percy, 1:16:56.1.

Male 60 to 64:

Chuck Best, 45:57.5; Bryan Gross, 46:22.0; Amit Shah, 1:08:43.5.

Female 65 and Over:

Bettye Hart, 1:24:59.1.

Male 65 and Over:

Peter Lewia, 57:23.2.

23rd Annual Florida Hospital Heartland 5K

Age Group Results

Female Open Winner:

Emily Vargas, 20:28.9.

Male Open Winner:

Dylan Branch, 17:06.5.

Female 10 and Under:

Madelyn Nadaskay, 29:33.4; Hopelynn Clogston, 34:25.0; Amelia Roberts, 38:43.0; Charlie Howell, 55:23.4; Kalani Cruz, 56:00.8; Simra Challa, 1:06:18.8.

Male 10 and Under:

Nolan Roberts, 24:58.0; Diego Mendoza, 25:03.5; Brooker Revell, 27:39.0; Liam Bryant, 28:26.2; Jonathan Regino, 28:30.1; Aiden Bryant, 32:55.4; Jordan Vincent, 32:58.5; Connor Darrow, 33:34.2; Jace Regino, 38:03.4; Zachary Oliver, 40:21.4; Jayden Vincent, 57:28.3.

Female 11 to 14:

Jacey Mandrell, 25:58.2; Ellissa Nawrocki, 26:39.7; Isabella Manint, 31:38.7; Rey Mier, 33:01.5; Alexis Peralta, 37:05.6; Akilah Challa, 39:01.0; Mallory Oliver, 40:21.0; Cadie Vogel, 40:21.4; Abigail Peralta, 48:44.1; Selena Peralta, 48:45.2; Cali Wasdin, 49:06.2; Cassidy Seralde, 59:41.0.

Male 11 to 14:

Zander Durastanti, 21:00.9; Nic Colbert, 21:57.9; Jacob Duncan, 22:13.0; Austin Ulm, 22:13.9; Caleb Nadaskay, 22:18.1; Rollin Sutherlin, 23:11.8; Ivan Caleb Floresta, 23:31.0; Joshua Regino, 24:31.2; Jarrell Cruz, 30:31.7; Devam Patel, 34:34.0; Matthew Duncan, 37:48.4.

Female 15 to 18:

Vedi Persad, 27:31.1; Crystal Mendoza, 50:20.0; Arianna Ortega, 58:56.5.

Male 15 to 18:

Zack Durastanti, 18:50.4; Zander Bogurt, 19:09.9; Ethan Vargas, 20:28.2; Dylan Black, 22:48.8; Damian Nawrocki, 23:34.0; Rohin Patel, 26:17.0; Eric Sanchez, 29:57.9; Jacob Regino, 33:02.8; Tony Vasquez Jr., 36:04.5; Rodolfo Delacruz III, 38:49.0.

Female 19 to 24:

Julia VanFleet, 36:03.0; Rochelle Anne Mendoza, 43:19.7; Kiersten Wilson, 46:52.3; Janesza Cardona, 49:02.5; Amanda Berrones, 50:36.0.

Male 19 to 24:

Andrew Hagans, 49:02.3.

Female 25 to 29:

Jessica Friere, 23:24.7; Crystal Sanchez, 28:03.5; Nicole Pope, 28:33.0; Fayett Fleurimond, 30:43.3; Lauren Escamilla, 36:31.1; Jillian Spangler, 39:12.7; Katie Hoffner, 39:29.6; Mary Braddock, 42:33.9; Dezirae Noriega, 44:16.8; Natalie Matos, 44:59.1; Brenda Santos, 48:43.3; Rebekah Scott, 213 50:18.6; Alejandra Nava, 50:35.9; Danielle Neal, 51:22.4; Roxana Sustaita, 53:44.0; Ashley Miller, 56:05.2; Stephanie Rivera, 1:00:14.3; Eroca Moore, 1:34:18.7.

Male 25 to 29:

Sam Friere, 19:59.5; Fredy Luna, 27:28.0; Jose Noriega, 28:36.1; Daniel Garcia, 34:09.7; Kadeen Cuencas, 35:34.0; Alex Carlson, 57:28.2.

Female 30 to 34:

Nora Mar, 28:34.4; Anastasia Saunders, 29:09.0; Rose Virgile, 29:27.5; Jessica Perry, 29:46.1; Sarah Brock, 33:41.4; Desiree Vincent, 34:14.5; Rebecca Nadaskay, 34:19.3; Kimberley Wasdin, 35:34.0; Yeni Detrinidad, 36:17.4; Teresa Mendoza, 39:46.4; Monica Medrano, 41:42.3; Justine Villarreal, 42:12.5; Wen Jiang, 42:26.7; Kayla Jackson, 45:57.0; Liz Ruiz, 50:24.3; Crystal Acevedo, 58:56.6; Casey Colletti, 1:04:34.4; Gi Novilla, 1:07:47.1; Catherine

Gonzalez-Castillo, 1:10:22.2.

Male 30 to 34:

Darryl White, 24:25.0; John Wilcoxon, 25:42.5; Aaron Lundquist, 29:19.1; A.J. Pastor, 36:02.6; David Morales, 37:01.8; Joseph Detrinidad, 1:04:09.9.

Female 35 to 39:

Melannie Hermoso, 28:50.1; Kimberly Manint, 30:49.4; Kim Darrow, 33:36.8; Wendy Turner, 33:44.2; Carole Pierre, 34:28.2; Nina Benton, 35:45.5; Angie Hernandez, 36:41.6; Stacey Clogston, 37:28.4; Mary Ann Duncan, 37:54.2; Claudia Regino, 38:09.7; Vanessa Yu, 38:50.8; Jordan

Shannon, 39:20.0; Julia Roberts, 39:36.7; Tara Huften, 40:10.9; Tonya Mease, 40:27.8; Sirena Skrzyniarz, 45:58.9; Marie Hernandez, 48:50.4; Belize Simmons, 50:00.9; Nickie Eason, 1:04:36.8; Brandee McDaniel, 1:14:05.0.

Male 35 to 39:

Vinson Palasigue, 24:39.6; Darrell Mullin, 26:58.6; Jeremy Vincent, 27:03.4; Mark Aris MacAsieb, 27:03.9; Mark Sevigny, 29:19.1; Adam Crews, 34:11.2; Arnold Katigbak, 35:22.3; Mortimer Bo Jackson III, 45:56.6.

Female 40 to 44:

Marne Black, 24:50.1; Monifa Springer, 26:37.8;

Janette MacAsieb, 27:37.0; Polly Mandrell, 28:12.3; Marlene Brantley, 28:57.6; Joanna Cruz, 29:41.3; Mary Tamayo, 29:58.7; Rosalie Oliver, 30:18.1; Nicole Lorden, 31:49.0; April Ricker, 34:27.8; Misty Matthews, 34:37.6; Jennifer Katigbak, 35:22.4; Hazel Go, 38:48.9; Joy Bogurt, 41:18.2; Jamie Bateman, 47:06.4; Misty Barrett, 51:35.5; Michelle Brown, 54:04.0; Joann Seralde, 54:17.6; Sharvia Hester, 57:19.0; Shywanda Clayton, 57:19.0; Ginelica Ortega, 58:56.5;

RUNNING | 7

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RUNNING

FROM PAGE 6

Shameema Challa, 1:06:30.1.

Male 40 to 44: Jon Spencer, 25:48.0; Zbigniew Nawrocki, 26:15.0; Gallardo Hermoso, 27:02.5; Gershon Fidacan, 34:23.0; Michael Torralba, 35:22.4; Mike Huften, 40:10.5.

Female 45 to 49: Tammie Colbert, 29:35.1; Michele Bednosky, 33:16.5; Clarina Ayala, 33:54.4; Danette Sapp, 34:37.0; Tammy Mortensen, 39:13.6; Valerie Wells, 40:07.7; Debra Moyer, 41:36.6; Kimberly Simmons, 45:00.2; Maria Luisa Dela Cruz, 46:49.1; Emma Maranan, 46:56.4; Susan Bailey, 48:07.4; Andrea McHan, 48:07.7; 3 Judy New, 48:42.1; Stacy Lower, 50:36.0; Marsha May, 52:35.4; Minto Patel, 54:33.9; Sylvia Moore, 57:15.3; Marie Jezzelle Montalbo, 1:00:14.0; Anna Lizza Gomez, 1:00:16.6; Chat Oca, 1:07:45.1; Tanya Marie, 1:08:14.6.

Male 45 to 49: Ricky Mortensen, 30:44.0; Rodolfo Dela-Cruz Jr., 31:27.0; Ron Bednosky, 32:45.4; Kerry Harris, 33:09.2; Andrew Floresta, 33:31.8; Chad Mease, 40:27.5; David Oliver, 40:46.0; Billy Bateman, 47:06.2; Jess Baldrige, 50:23.3; Sreenivas Challa, 1:06:30.2.

Female 50 to 54: Solesnir Pinillos, 37:02.4; Renee Ladue, 37:32.4; Juleana Sheldon, 42:12.2; Andrea Brown, 46:26.5;

Lisa Herriman, 47:29.3; Amy Brown, 48:54.6; Mildred Bautista, 51:23.9; Melissa Gonzalez, 51:29.9; Trish Best, 52:35.7; Sherri Crow, 54:49.9; Gina Smith, 56:43.3; Janine Jones, 57:26.5; Sarah Paustian, 57:45.9; Janet Uchtman, 58:57.6; Carmen Felts, 1:05:59.5.

Male 50 to 54: Lewis Wells, 30:14.5; Brad Peltzer, 36:47.8; Omri Maranan, 46:56.5; David Best, 52:36.2.

Female 55 to 59: Becky McIntyre, 30:34.2; Linda Smock, 38:51.0; Amy Campbell, 42:58.3; Emily Altier, 42:59.9; Loida Mendoza, 43:19.1; Emmie Marasigan, 46:50.0; Ruth Kindle, 46:59.4; Jacki Moore, 47:20.5; Rubeliza Rada, 47:42.4; Dawn Hanrahan, 50:50.5; Diana Acevedo, 54:03.0; Judy Ewing, 54:17.0; Parul Shah, 54:34.0; Jane Bayless, 54:50.1; Patti Verrone, 55:29.1; Susan Carlson, 58:16.3; Janet Albritton, 1:14:05.2.

Male 55 to 59: Eric Jennings, 24:25.0; Steve Parker, 35:27.9; Tom Moore, 47:01.6; Darryl Smith, 56:41.9.

Female 60 to 64: Debbie Webber, 32:58.3; Shirley Whitsitt, 42:18.1; Barb Sheasley, 45:05.6; Lucinda Mathews, 48:21.9; Nancy Scott, 50:18.9; Donna Mastin, 50:22.2; Maryann Hodge, 52:45.4; Carmie Pitts, 56:10.4; Paula Cole, 58:58.3; Christine Greenwald, 1:15:22.7.

Male 60 to 64: Randy Grice, 24:34.9; Randy Surber, 33:26.7; Nigel Bacchus, 37:01.1; Ranjan Patel, 38:02.6; Richard Percy, 39:59.3; Eddie



ALLEN MOODY/STAFF

Runners take off at the start of the 23rd annual Bill Jarrett Ford 5K Run/Walk & 10K at Florida Hospital Heartland.

Fitch, 40:06.7.

Female 65 to 69: Shelley Hey, 42:11.5; Laura Bowen, 43:08.0; Dorie Roa, 47:45.8; Lois J Sitterding, 48:22.3; Jeanne Harvey, 48:22.7; Carol Foss, 48:23.7; Martha Merrill, 53:22.0; Carmelita Lim, 53:22.6; Brenda Garza, 56:38.5; Lillian Ventura, 57:43.3;

Grace Deleon, 1:02:52.6.

Male 65 to 69: Michael Stewart, 25:22.7; Kenny Vincent, 44:31.7; Abe Lim, 46:13.0; Wiley McCall, 1:14:01.1.

Female 70 to 74: Mary Carol Plott, 43:15.0; Mary Carleton, 46:46.7; Judy Bateman, 48:57.6; Janice Stevens, 51:17.1; Viny

Crews, 56:15.2; Shirley Foulk, 1:08:06.0; Sylvia Rankin, 1:08:06.2.

Male 70 to 74: Richard L Bisson, 36:46.0; Ronald Seigny, 40:28.2; Antonio Roa, 46:27.0; Carlos Julio Gonzalez, 48:13.1; Abel Ventura, 57:58.3.

Female 75 to 79: Lois Hotchkiss, 37:40.2;

Audrey Smith, 43:07.5; Becky Farrens, 46:50.2; Martha Vetal, 49:44.5.

Male 75 to 79: Chuck Imboden, 25:17.1; Luis Fresquez, 40:03.0.

Female 80 and Over: Carol Stickney, 49:52.9.

Male 80 and Over: Harold Smith, 31:49.9; Kenneth Filppula, 51:46.1.

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DEVILS

FROM PAGE 1

22-21 at the half.

Both teams struggled to score in the third period and Walker, who also had a game-high 15 rebounds and five blocks, was able to score six points in the paint to tie the score at 30 heading to the final eight minutes.

Avon Park junior Asiah Dewberry drained a key 3-pointer from the right baseline and followed that up with a short jump shot to put the Red

Devils up by five points midway through the period.

But once again Tenoroc answered as Cierra Boone drilled a 3-pointer from the top of the key and Joe made one of two free throws to pull the Titans within 42-39 with 30.1 seconds left to play.

Avon Park broke the Tenoroc press and ran a lot of clock before turning the ball over on a bad pass with 1.6 seconds remaining in the game.

Tenoroc's Polingo banked in a two-point shot as time expired, but it wasn't enough as

the Red Devils held on for the victory. "It feels great to finally win the district championship," said Walker. "It wasn't easy but I'm proud of my teammates."

As district champion, Avon Park will host a regional quarterfinal game on Thursday night.

"It's sweet to win the district title and now we get to play a regional quarterfinal at home and that's a big advantage for us," said Daley. "We've had a good season, I'm so happy for the seniors and we're looking forward to playing another game."



MARK PINSON/STAFF

Avon Park senior Kiara Griffin scores as Tenoroc's Leonaja Joe defend's during Friday night's district title game.



MARK PINSON/STAFF

Avon Park's Kiara Griffin brings the ball up the floor as Tenoroc's Alexandria Polingo (3) closes in during Friday night's game.



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330 DOGS LEAP, ZIP AND WHIRL IN WESTMINSTER AGILITY CONTEST

See page 10.



WH response to abuse claims shines light on victims' fears

By **JULIET LINDERMAN**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — When Jennifer Willoughby and Colbie Holderness stepped forward to tell the story of how they were physically, verbally and emotionally abused by their ex-husband, who had since become a top White House aide, President Donald Trump had nothing but good things to say about the man they had accused of domestic violence.

Rob Porter “did a great job while he was at the White House. And we hope he has a wonderful career,” Trump said Friday, adding that the aide had vehemently maintained his innocence.

The president followed that up Saturday with a tweet that “lives are being shattered and destroyed by a mere allegation.”

Porter’s resignation was announced Wednesday, just hours after a photograph was published of Holderness with a black eye, allegedly inflicted by Porter. Trump’s staff secretary called the allegations from his former spouses “outrageous” and “simply false.”

Trump’s chief of staff, John Kelly, had defended Porter on Tuesday as “a man of true integrity and honor” and “a friend, confidante and trusted professional.” By some accounts, White House counsel Don McGahn had been apprised of some accusations about Porter at least four times, including as early as January 2017.

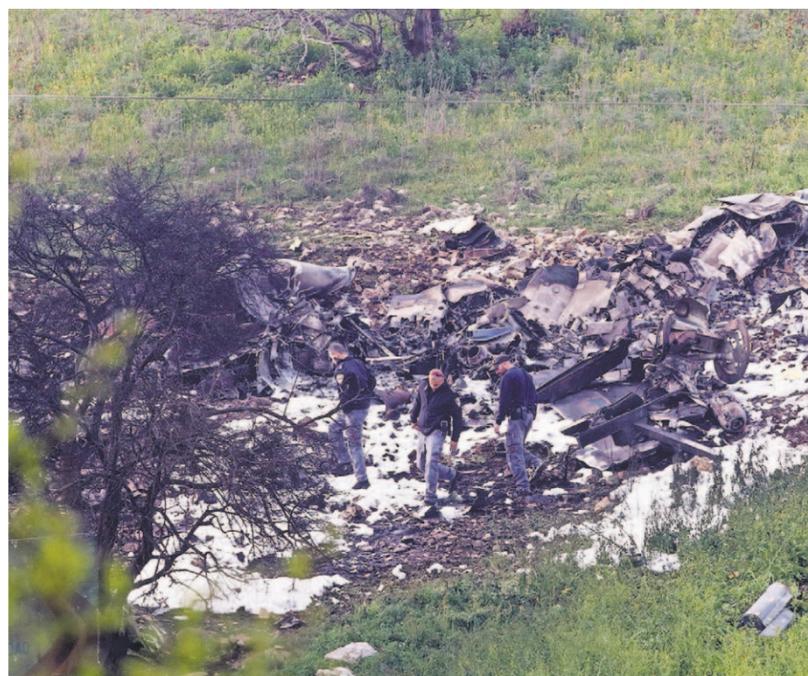
The White House response serves as a high-profile illustration of the obstacles many women face in speaking out about their abuse. First and foremost: Will anyone believe them?

“It so clearly illustrates that even today, in 2018, a lot of people react to these sorts of allegations by assuming that the woman is lying, or by indicating that, in essence, how a man behaves with women is nobody’s business, that it’s irrelevant,” said Emily Martin, National Women’s Law Center general counsel and vice president for education and workplace justice. “It

ABUSE | 4

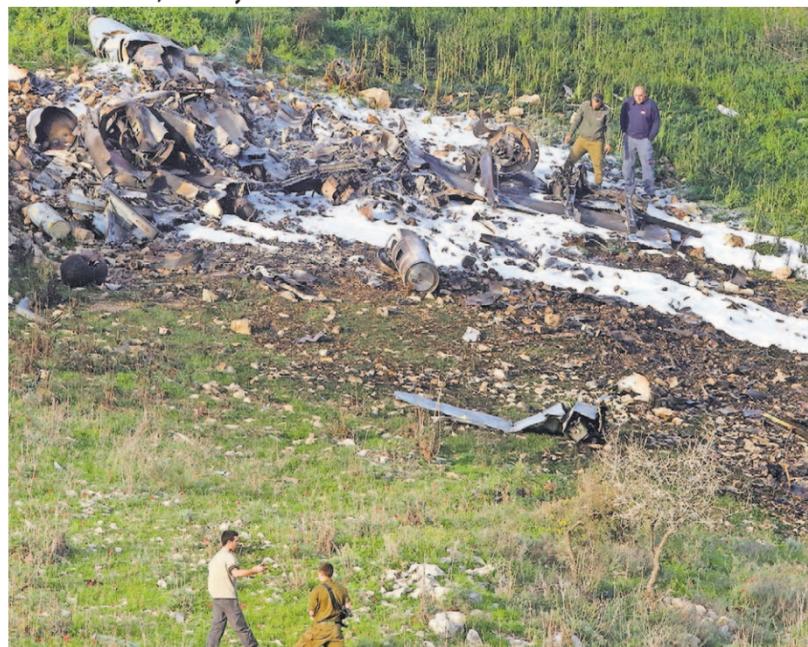
Israel downs Iranian drone and strikes Syria, F-16 crashes

By **ARON HELLER** and **SARAH EL DEEB**
ASSOCIATED PRESS



AP FILE PHOTOS

Israeli security stands around the wreckage of an F-16 that crashed in northern Israel, near kibbutz of Harduf, Saturday.



JERUSALEM — In its most serious engagement in neighboring Syria since fighting there began in 2011, Israel shot down an infiltrating Iranian drone Saturday and struck Iranian targets deep in Syria before one of its own jets was downed.

The sudden escalation offers what could be a harbinger of what lies ahead as the Syrian fighting winds down and an emboldened Iran establishes a military presence that Israel vows it will never accept.

Israel has issued several stern warnings of late about the increased Iranian involvement along its border in Syria and Lebanon. The Israeli Cabinet just held a meeting near the Syrian border to highlight the new threats, which it attributes to Iran’s growing confidence given the success of the government of Bashar Assad in the Syrian civil war thanks to their support.

Israel called the drone infiltration a “severe and irregular violation of Israeli sovereignty” and warned that Iran would be held accountable for its meddling, raising the specter of a larger confrontation in an area that has remained largely stable since a monthlong war between Israel and Hezbollah in Lebanon in 2006.

“This is a serious Iranian attack on Israeli territory. Iran is dragging the region into an adventure in which it doesn’t know how it will end,” Israel’s chief military spokesman, Brig. Gen. Ronen Manelis, said in a special statement. “Whoever is responsible for this incident is the one who will pay the price.”

Israel would not confirm whether the aircraft was actually shot down by enemy fire, which would mark the first such instance for Israel since 1982 during the first Lebanon war.

Israel fears Iran could use Syrian territory to stage attacks or create a land corridor from Iran to Lebanon that could allow it to transfer

ISRAEL | 4

Cuba on US diplomats’ health attacks: No way it’s sonic weapons

By **MIMI WHITEFIELD**
MIAMI HERALD

HAVANA — Cuban investigators have discarded widespread speculation that a sonic weapon is to blame for damaging the health of two dozen American diplomats stationed in Havana.

Among their own theories? That stress over shifting U.S.-Cuba relations could have exacerbated health problems.

Initial news reports in August, citing unnamed U.S. officials, blamed a mysterious host of symptoms — hearing loss, ringing in the ears, disequilibrium, headaches, fatigue, facial and abdominal pain, memory and sleep disorders, mild concussions and nausea — on attacks using a “covert sonic device.”

In an exclusive interview with the Miami Herald, five top members of the Cuban team

investigating the incidents described their hypotheses and preliminary findings in a case that threatens to put U.S.-Cuba relations in the deep freeze. The United States has already withdrawn most American diplomats from Havana, expelled 17 Cuban diplomats from Washington and warned that Americans should reconsider travel to Cuba and avoid two hotels, the Nacional and Capri.

Based on the still-limited evidence that’s been shared by the FBI, the State Department and their own investigation, the Cuban researchers said they don’t believe health symptoms suffered by U.S. Embassy personnel were caused by a sonic weapon or sound waves.

A State Department spokesman said in response to Herald queries about the Cuban theories: “We still do not have

definitive answers on the source or cause of the attacks. The investigation into the attacks is ongoing.”

Unless the U.S. shares more data on their investigation, Cuban investigators said, what caused the health symptoms may remain an unsolved mystery.

They also complained that they’re often the last to know when new developments in the bizarre case surface in the United States.

When the State Department said recently that it had received 19 unconfirmed reports from American travelers to the island who complained of health symptoms similar to those experienced by diplomatic personnel, Cuban investigators said they learned about it not from U.S. officials but by reading it in the Miami Herald and el

Nuevo Herald.

“Without cooperation, we’re not going to get anywhere,” said Dr. Manuel Jorge Villar Kuscevic, an ear, nose and throat specialist and coordinator of the Cuban expert committee looking into the diplomats’ health problems.

More than 80 Cuban specialists are working on the case and they have come up with 14 hypotheses — from mass hysteria to a toxin or virus.

In rejecting the sonic attacks theory, Cuban investigators point out that not all the Americans suffered hearing loss. If a sonic weapon or sound waves intense enough to produce the array of symptoms were employed, all the diplomats would have shown auditory damage, they said.

“For a sound to be forceful enough to give you a concussion, people would end up deaf,”

said Dr. Mitchell Joseph Valdes Sosa, head of the Cuban Center for Neuroscience.

“We have discarded the idea that the damages could be produced by any type of sound — much less by any type of sonic weapon,” said Villar.

“This type of weapon doesn’t exist in Cuba,” added Col. Ramiro Ramirez Alvarez, chief of diplomatic security at Cuba’s Interior Ministry. “The United States is the first one that would have this type of thing. They’re made there; they’re sold there.”

A long-range acoustic device (LRAD), a type of sound blaster that emits sound in the 145-151 decibel range, has been used in the U.S. for crowd control as well as internationally to repel Somali pirates and in war situations. Such sound canons are quite

CUBA | 4

OxyContin maker will stop promoting opioids to doctors

By **MARLEY JAY** and **MATT PERRONE**
AP BUSINESS WRITERS

NEW YORK — The maker of the powerful painkiller OxyContin said it will stop marketing opioid drugs to doctors, bowing to a key demand of lawsuits that blame the company for helping trigger the current drug abuse epidemic.

OxyContin has long been the world’s top-selling opioid painkiller, bringing in billions in sales for privately-held

Purdue, which also sells a newer and longer-lasting opioid drug called Hysingla.

The company announced its surprise reversal on Saturday. Purdue’s statement said it eliminated more than half its sales staff this week and will no longer send sales representatives to doctors’ offices to discuss opioid drugs. Its remaining sales staff of about 200 will focus on other medications.

The OxyContin pill, a time-release version of oxycodone, was hailed as a

breakthrough treatment for chronic pain when it was approved in late 1995. It worked over 12 hours to maintain a steady level of oxycodone in patients suffering from a wide range of pain ailments. But some users quickly discovered they could get a heroin-like high by crushing the pills and snorting or injecting the entire dose at once. In 2010 Purdue reformulated OxyContin to make it harder to crush and stopped selling

OPIOIDS | 4



AP FILE PHOTO

This Feb. 19, 2013 file photo shows OxyContin pills arranged for a photo at a pharmacy in Montpelier, Vt. The maker of the powerful painkiller said it will stop marketing opioid drugs to doctors, a surprise reversal after lawsuits blaming the company for helping trigger the current drug abuse epidemic.

FINANCIAL / WEATHER

High-Yield Stocks

Dear Readers: Last week, I gave you some of Ossie Ollum's recommendations for low-priced stocks and promised to give you more this week. But for some reason, he wasn't confident about his other picks. However, many readers are interested in stocks yielding over 10 percent, and Ashley Madison was kind enough to help me out. Ash believes there are some uncommonly good high yields out there but warns that if the stock market takes a dip, each of these recommendations will probably dip more than the market.



Malcolm Berko

level. Ashley's total return that year was minus 31.2 percent. Not good, that! In 2017, Ashley's January 10-stock portfolio was down by 37.2 percent 11 months later. However, because the third time is a charm (in most movies, it's the third key that opens the door), Ashley gave me 10 high yielders to share with you this week. Still, you may need all the help you can get, so I propose that you spend the remaining Sundays of this year in the amen corner of your church. It won't cost you a thing, but your family may be surprised at the results.

Uniti Group (UNIT-\$16.05) is a real estate investment trust that owns, acquires and leases mission-critical communications assets, such as fiber optics, cell towers, data centers and consumer broadband. UNIT has a 14.62 percent yield.

NuStar Energy (NS-\$34.78) engages in the terminaling, storage and marketing of petroleum products. NS yields 12.7 percent. NS also provides pilotage, tug assistance, line hauling and emergency response.

Arlington Asset Investment (AI-\$11.37) acquires mortgages and related assets issued by the U.S. government or guaranteed as to principal and interest. AI does this with leverage and yields 18.54 percent. You may need a lot of help on this one.

KCAP Financial (KCAP-\$3.38) is a business development company specializing in debt securities. It acquires complementary businesses in the insurance, food, health care, defense and aerospace industries. KCAP yields 11.8 percent.

Navios Maritime Acquisition (NNA-\$0.90) yields 22 percent, charters vessels to other companies, provides marine transportation services worldwide and owns a fleet of 36 double-hulled tankers. You'll need even more help from the Big Guy on this one.

Black Box Corp. (BBOX-\$3.80) yields 12.15 percent. This high-tech company provides digital technology solutions that help clients design, build and manage their IT infrastructure. BBOX offers specialty networking multimedia and KVM (keyboard, video and mouse) switches.

Orchid Island Capital (ORC-\$8.45) yields 16.26 percent and invests in residential mortgage-backed securities, including traditional

pass-through agency paper, structured agency securities and collateralized mortgage obligations.

Washington Prime Group (WPG-\$6.75) yields 14.66 percent and is engaged in the ownership, management and development of retail properties. The Duff & Phelps Select Energy MLP Fund (DSE-\$6.87) yields 13.83 percent and invests at least 80 percent of its assets in select energy master limited partnerships. DSE offers exposure to the ongoing energy renaissance and the reshaping of the U.S. energy economy.

The Fiduciary/Claymore MLP Opportunity Fund (FMO-\$11.77) pays a 14.67 percent dividend. This exchange-traded fund owns selected MLPs that management feels could have a positive impact on the economy.

Invest about \$4,000 in each issue. Use a discount broker and the maximum commission would be \$4.95 per issue. In fact, your total commission would be under \$50 at one of the big discounters, such as Charles Schwab or Fidelity. And by December, we'll know whether Ashley Madison has gotten her groove back.

Please address your financial questions to Malcolm Berko, P.O. Box 8303, Largo, FL 33775, or email him at mjbberko@yahoo.com.

FINANCIAL NEWS BRIEFS

ENI drilling rig halts at sea after seeing Turkish warships

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Cyprus' foreign minister says a rig belonging to the Italian energy firm ENI has halted its journey in the Mediterranean Sea after encountering Turkish warships.

Ioannis Kasoulides told state broadcaster RIK on Saturday that the rig, which was to start exploratory drilling off the eastern Mediterranean island, is waiting for directions from ENI. He says Cyprus authorities are in contact with the company and the Italian government.

The rig was on its way to drill an exploratory well southeast of the island when it encountered the Turkish warships on manoeuvres.

On Thursday, Cyprus said ENI and partner TOTAL of France had discovered a potentially sizeable gas deposit south of the island.

Turkey opposes the drilling, saying it flouts the rights of the breakaway Turkish Cypriots to ethnically-split Cyprus' natural resources.

Russian nuke researchers arrested for illicit crypto-mining

MOSCOW (AP) — Two employees of Russia's top nuclear research institute have been arrested for using the facility's super-computer for crypto-currency mining.

Russian news agencies cited the Russian Federal Nuclear Center as confirming the arrests on Friday. But the reports did not indicate whether the

employees had made any money from the computer use. In mining, computers are used to solve mathematical problems to verify transactions and are rewarded in crypto-currency.

The center, in the closed-off city of Sarov, 240 miles east of Moscow, is a research and development facility for nuclear weapons.

The Interfax and state RIA-Novosti news agencies cited the center as saying that criminal charges apparently were filed against the employees, but the charges were not specified.

Lobbying expenses spiked as Congress shaped tax code rewrite

WASHINGTON (AP) — Money spent on lobbying by corporations, trade associations and special interest groups spiked during the final three months of 2017 as they battled for the biggest breaks possible in the most dramatic tax overhaul in decades.

The figures are eye-popping among the heavyweights.

Newly filed lobbying disclosure reports show the National Association of Realtors tallied \$22.2 million between Oct. 1 and Dec. 31. That's double what the organization spent in the third quarter on lobbying activities.

The Business Roundtable spent \$17.3 million in the fourth quarter, nearly quadruple the amount from the prior three months.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce reported spending \$16.8 million, a \$3.7 million increase.

TODAY / TONIGHT MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY

A passing shower or two	Partly cloudy and warm	Times of clouds and sun	Very warm with clouds and sun	Partly to mostly sunny	Partial sunshine	Partly sunny
HIGH 86°	LOW 68°	86° / 66°	86° / 66°	86° / 63°	85° / 63°	86° / 61°
55% chance of rain	25% chance of rain	25% chance of rain	15% chance of rain	10% chance of rain	10% chance of rain	15% chance of rain

66° GULF WATER TEMPERATURE

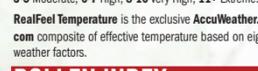
FLORIDA CITIES

City	Today	Mon.
Apalachicola	71 65 r	72 63 r
Bradenton	82 69 c	82 68 c
Clearwater	81 70 c	81 68 c
Coral Springs	85 74 pc	86 74 pc
Daytona Beach	83 67 pc	82 65 c
Fort Lauderdale	82 73 sh	83 73 pc
Fort Myers	86 68 pc	88 67 pc
Gainesville	82 64 c	78 63 r
Jacksonville	83 64 c	78 60 r
Key Largo	81 75 s	81 74 pc
Key West	81 75 s	81 74 pc
Lakeland	86 67 sh	84 67 c
Melbourne	84 71 pc	84 68 pc
Miami	85 73 pc	86 73 pc
Naples	85 69 pc	86 68 pc
Ocala	85 66 c	81 65 t
Okeechobee	84 66 pc	84 65 pc
Orlando	87 67 pc	87 67 pc
Panama City	72 63 r	72 60 r
Pensacola	72 65 r	72 60 r
Pompano Beach	83 75 pc	83 74 pc
St. Augustine	78 64 c	76 61 r
St. Petersburg	83 69 c	82 68 c
Sarasota	83 67 c	83 66 c
Tallahassee	74 63 r	74 62 r
Tampa	85 70 c	84 69 c
Vero Beach	84 69 pc	84 68 pc
West Palm Beach	84 74 pc	83 73 pc

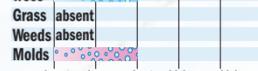
CONDITIONS TODAY



POLLEN INDEX



AIR QUALITY INDEX



TIDES

Location	High	Low	High	Low
Punta Gorda	Today 2:46p	7:28a	11:52p	6:04p
Mon. 3:13p	8:10a	---	6:59p	
Englewood	Today 1:23p	5:44a	10:29p	4:20p
Mon. 1:50p	6:26a	11:18p	5:15p	
Boca Grande	Today 11:58a	4:32a	9:44p	2:33p
Mon. 12:16p	5:10a	10:26p	3:29p	
El Jobean	Today 3:18p	7:57a	---	6:33p
Mon. 12:24a	8:39a	3:45p	7:28p	
Venice	Today 11:38a	4:23a	8:44p	2:59p
Mon. 12:05p	5:05a	9:33p	3:54p	

MARINE

Location	Wind	Speed	Seas	Bay/Inland
Cape Sable to Tarpon Springs	SE	8-16	1-3	Light
Tarpon Springs to Apalachicola	S	8-16	1-3	Light

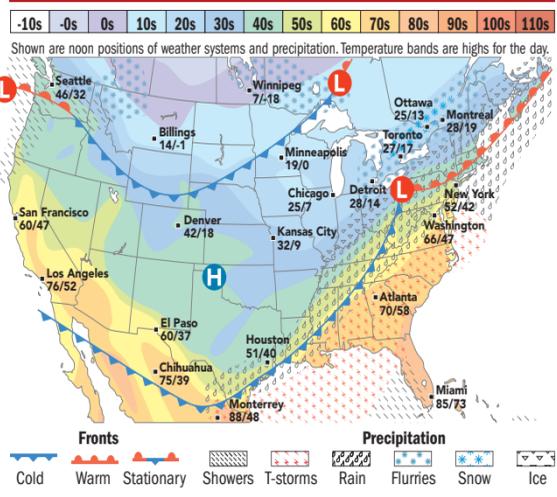
SUN AND MOON

Day	Rise	Set
Today	7:08 a.m.	6:18 p.m.
Monday	7:07 a.m.	6:18 p.m.

SOLUNAR TABLE

Day	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Today	2:05a	8:17a	2:29p	8:41p
Mon.	2:48a	9:00a	3:12p	9:24p
Tue.	3:32a	9:44a	3:56p	10:08p

THE NATION



U.S. EXTREMES

High	88° at Immokalee, FL	Low	-36° at Chinook, MT
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City	Today	Mon.	City	Today	Mon.
Albuquerque	48 30 pc	59 38 s	Jackson, MS	65 40 r	51 44 r
Anchorage	36 30 sn	40 29 sn	Kansas City	32 9 c	36 23 s
Atlanta	70 58 r	67 53 r	Knoxville	66 43 r	53 44 r
Baltimore	63 43 r	44 25 r	Las Vegas	62 45 s	65 50 pc
Billings	14 -1 sn	4 12 sn	Los Angeles	76 52 s	61 51 sh
Birmingham	70 46 r	60 49 r	Louisville	39 26 r	44 30 pc
Boise	47 28 c	46 26 pc	Memphis	44 31 c	47 37 c
Boston	44 39 r	44 24 pc	Milwaukee	27 11 sn	23 15 pc
Buffalo	36 19 i	27 7 pc	Minneapolis	19 0 s	16 9 pc
Burlington, VT	38 27 i	32 9 c	Montgomery	72 59 r	67 58 r
Charleston, WV	60 33 r	42 32 r	Nashville	53 33 r	48 39 r
Charlotte	71 60 r	66 44 r	New Orleans	75 57 r	64 58 r
Chicago	25 7 sn	25 12 s	New York City	52 42 r	46 30 pc
Cincinnati	38 23 r	41 24 pc	Norfolk, VA	75 58 t	63 39 r
Cleveland	35 17 i	29 13 pc	Oklahoma City	38 17 c	48 28 s
Columbia, SC	74 65 t	72 49 r	Omaha	24 3 s	20 14 pc
Columbus, OH	39 22 i	36 19 pc	Philadelphia	61 45 r	47 26 pc
Concord, NH	37 33 r	39 13 pc	Phoenix	76 52 s	72 55 pc
Dallas	42 27 c	55 40 pc	Pittsburgh	48 25 r	36 16 pc
Denver	42 18 s	35 19 pc	Portland, ME	38 34 r	40 15 pc
Des Moines	22 1 s	18 11 pc	Portland, OR	48 30 pc	49 27 pc
Detroit	28 14 sn	26 8 c	Providence	49 42 r	46 24 pc
Duluth	16 -6 c	11 2 c	Raleigh	73 62 t	64 41 r
Fairbanks	6 2 sn	27 15 sn	Salt Lake City	51 38 s	49 30 pc
Fargo	13 -12 pc	8 3 c	St. Louis	29 14 sn	38 22 s
Hartford	44 36 r	41 19 pc	San Antonio	43 35 r	56 47 c
Helena	15 -4 sn	11 1 c	San Diego	68 56 s	63 52 sh
Honolulu	82 66 pc	82 69 pc	San Francisco	60 47 c	62 47 pc
Houston	51 40 r	58 50 pc	Seattle	46 32 c	46 30 s
Indianapolis	31 16 i	36 20 s	Washington, DC	66 47 r	47 32 r

WEATHER HISTORY

The blizzard of Feb. 11, 1983, buried areas from Washington, D.C., to New York under 2 feet of snow.

WEATHER TRIVIA™

Q: Has snow ever been observed on Miami Beach?

A: Yes. Jan. 19, 1977

PORT CHARLOTTE

Punta Gorda through 2 p.m. Saturday
Temperatures
High/Low 86°/61°
Normal High/Low 77°/54°
Record High 86° (2018)
Record Low 35° (1995)
Precipitation (in inches)
24 hours through 2 p.m. Sat. 0.00"
Month to date 0.66"
Normal month to date 0.78"
Year to date 2.64"
Normal year to date 2.58"
Record 0.57" (1973)

MONTHLY RAINFALL

Month	2018	2017	Avg. Record/Year
Jan.	1.98	0.88	1.80 9.93/2016
Feb.	0.66	0.94	2.52 11.05/1983
Mar.	0.80	3.08	9.26/1970
Apr.	1.59	2.03	5.80/1994
May	2.74	2.50	9.45/1991
Jun.	14.79	8.92	23.99/1974
Jul.	9.02	8.22	14.22/1995
Aug.	13.12	8.01	15.60/1995
Sep.	12.46	6.84	14.03/1979
Oct.	2.54	2.93	10.88/1995
Nov.	0.44	1.91	5.53/2002
Dec.	1.04	1.78	6.83/2002
Year	2.64	60.36	50.74 (since 1931)

VENICE

Venice through 2 p.m. Saturday
Temperatures
High/Low 82°/66°
Normal High/Low 73°/53°
Record High 86° (2001)
Record Low 35° (1979)
Precipitation (in inches)
24 hours through 2 p.m. Sat. 0.00"
Month to date 0.25"
Normal month to date 0.73"
Year to date 1.64"
Normal year to date 3.17"
Record 0.57" (1973)

SEBRING

Sebring through 2 p.m. Saturday
Temperatures
High/Low 82°/64°
Precipitation (in inches)
24 hours through 2 p.m. Sat. 0.00"

City	Hi/Lo	Outlook	Delays
Ft. Myers	86/68	part cldy	none
Punta Gorda	87/68	part cldy	none
Sarasota	83/67	cloudy	none

WORLD

Come visit: South Korea's leader invited to North Korea

By **FOSTER KLUG and KIM TONG-HYUNG**

ASSOCIATED PRESS

PYEONGCHANG, South Korea — A rare invitation to Pyongyang for South Korea's president marked Day Two of the North Korean Kim dynasty's southern road tour Saturday, part of an accelerating diplomatic thaw that included some Korean liquor over lunch and the shared joy of watching a "unified" Korea team play hockey at the Olympics.

Nothing has been settled on any trip north by South Korean President Moon Jae-in. But the verbal message to come at a "convenient time" from dictator Kim Jong Un, delivered by his visiting younger sister, Kim Yo Jong, is part of a sudden rush of improving feelings between the rivals during the Pyeongchang Olympics. The result: a heady, sometimes surreal, state of affairs in a South Korea that has seen far more threat than charm out of the North.

Still, it wouldn't be South Korea if people weren't asking the perennial question when it comes to North Korea changing gears and showering its rival with apparent affection: What's in it for Pyongyang?

Past "charm offensives" have been interpreted as North Korea trying to recoup from crippling sanctions on their nuclear program, or trying to drive a wedge between Seoul and its U.S. ally.

A massive military parade in Pyongyang on the eve of the just-opened Pyeongchang Games has been used as Exhibit A by skeptics. In it, Kim Jong Un highlighted several huge intercontinental ballistic missiles, which were successfully flight tested three times last year and could reach deep into the U.S. mainland when perfected.

Even so, there's also cautious optimism, or curiosity at least. If peace

isn't imminent, a summit in Pyongyang between Moon and Kim Jong Un seems preferable to recent months' threats.

Moon told Kim Yo Jong that the North and South should continue to build conditions for a summit, Moon spokesman Kim Eui-kyeom said. The U.S. and the North should quickly resume dialogue, he said.

The lunch Saturday at Seoul's presidential mansion between Moon and Kim Yo Jong was the most significant diplomatic encounter between the rivals in years. The night before, Kim and other North Korean delegates attended the opening ceremony of the Olympics, watching a "unified" Korean team march under a banner showing an undivided Korean Peninsula.

In a surreal mixture of dignitaries, the Olympic Stadium's VIP box included Kim Yo Jong and North Korea's nominal head of state, Kim Yong Nam, sitting above and behind U.S. Vice President Mike Pence and fellow hard-liner Shinzo Abe, Japan's prime minister. Pence and the Kims seemed to go out of their way not to acknowledge each other.

That was not the case with Moon — either at the games, when he enthusiastically reached up to shake Kim Yo Jong's hand, or at the lunch the next day. South Korean television showed its smiling president entering a reception room Saturday and shaking hands with the North Koreans.

The opening part of the talks was mostly about the weather: Pyeongchang was colder than Seoul, it was agreed.

"You went through a lot of trouble braving the cold until late" last night, Moon told the North Koreans, referring to their attendance at the frigid opening ceremonies.

At the luncheon,



KIM JU-SUNG/YONHAP VIA AP

South Korean President Moon Jae-in, third from right, speaks to Kim Yo Jong, second from left, sister of North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, and North Korean delegation during a meeting at the presidential house in Seoul, South Korea, Saturday, Feb. 10, 2018. South Korean President Moon is hosting lunch for the senior North Korean officials in the most significant diplomatic encounter between the rivals in years.

Moon proposed a toast, calling for peace and "mutual prosperity" for the two Koreas. He then recalled his past visit to the North's Diamond Mountain resort, where he and his mother met his North Korean aunt during a temporary reunion of families separated by the 1950-53 Korean War.

He also talked about visiting the North Korean border town of Kaesong, where the countries operated a joint factory park that had been a symbol of rapprochement before South Korea shut it down in 2016, after North Korea's fourth nuclear test.

"But I haven't been to Pyongyang," Moon said, according to comments provided by his office.

Kim Yo Jong said she hopes to see Moon in Pyongyang soon so that he and her brother could "exchange views over many issues," which she said would make "North-South relations develop like yesterday was a long time ago."

"We hope that President (Moon) could leave a legacy that would last over generations by leading the way in opening a new era of

unification," she said.

After sitting at a table, Kim Yo Jong placed a blue document folder in front of her. She later gave that folder to Moon, and Moon's office said it was a personal letter from her brother. Officials didn't reveal what was written in it.

After meeting with Moon, the North Korean delegates boarded a bullet train to Gangneung, a coastal city hosting some Olympic events. Later Saturday night, they all joined the chief of the International Olympic Committee to watch the debut of the inter-Korean team in the women's ice hockey tournament. The Koreans were crushed by Switzerland, 8-0.

Pence's office didn't directly address Kim's invitation to Moon. "The vice president is grateful that President Moon reaffirmed his strong commitment to the global maximum pressure campaign and for his support for continued sanctions," Pence spokeswoman Alyssa Farah said when asked about the developments.

But Pence said that Moon shared "a bit" about his meeting with the North Koreans, and

that he "appreciated him sharing his perspective on that."

"I leave here very confident that we are going to continue to do the things we've known have to be done to continue to pressure North Korea to abandon their nuclear ambitions," Pence said.

Moon is eager to use Kim Yo Jong's presence at the games to restore regular communication with North Korea and eventually pull it into nuclear talks. Many in Seoul, however, while interested in the warming high-level contacts, are also tempering expectations for a real breakthrough.

There's worry, too, that the proposed summit Pyongyang may come with preconditions — a North Korean specialty. A big one could be a demand to cease the U.S.-South Korean war games that North Korea claims are preparation for invasion.

But Moon, a liberal who has always wanted to engage the North, will also have to convince a good portion of his own people who are deeply wary about North Korean intentions.

Throw in there the accusations that South

Korea has had to arrange huge payouts for past meetings, and that these earlier encounters, while producing indelible images, have done little to slow North Korea's pursuit of nuclear weapons.

Even if there are more meetings between the rivals after the Games, accomplishing something is another matter. South Korea wants a northern neighbor without nukes; North Korea vows to keep its weapons until the United States discards its "hostile" policies against the country.

Hours before Friday's opening ceremony in Pyeongchang, Japan's Abe warned Moon not to fall for North Korea's "smile diplomacy" during the Olympics, according to Moon's office. Pence carried a similar message.

They seem to have gone unheeded.

"Kim Jong Un is clearly serious about reviving talks with the South to improve relations," said Koh Yu-hwan, a North Korea expert at Seoul's Dongguk University and a security adviser to Moon.

"It seems clear," he said, "that the countries have entered a phase of restoring a regular level of contact."

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

Singer of 'narco-ballads' shot dead in Mexican capital

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Javier Reyes, a singer of ballads lionizing drug gang bosses, was shot dead in the Mexican capital, authorities and local media reported.

Mexico City prosecutors said in a statement that the 33-year-old man was found with multiple bullet wounds in an SUV on Friday in the southern borough of Tlahuac. He was taken to a hospital, where he died.

Prosecutors did not name the victim, but Mayor Miguel Angel Mancera confirmed that he was the singer of a "narco-corrido" about a now-dead cartel leader known as "El Ojos," or "The Eyes."

Mancera called the killing "a direct execution" and said a gun was found in the vehicle, though it was not clear whether it belonged to the victim or how it got there.

Prosecutors were investigating the case as a homicide.

Javier Reyes is seen in online videos performing the ballad about "El Ojos" and another dedicated to the late Amado Carrillo Fuentes, a cartel boss known as the "Lord of the Skies" for his extensive air smuggling operation.

"El Ojos," said to have been the leader of a gang named for the Tlahuac borough, was killed

by security forces in an operation last July in Mexico City.

Carrillo Fuentes died in 1997.

Boko Haram extremists release 13 hostages to Nigeria

YOLA, Nigeria (AP) — Nigeria's government says Boko Haram extremists have released three university lecturers and 10 women who had been kidnapped in separate raids last year.

Presidential spokesman Garba Shehu said Saturday the release of the 13 people follows negotiations directed by President Muhammadu Buhari and facilitated by the International Committee of the Red Cross. It said the 13 are now in the custody of the Department of State Security Services in Abuja.

The university lecturers were abducted while conducting oil evaluations in the Lake Chad area last year. Many of their colleagues were killed. The 10 women had been kidnapped in a raid on a military convoy last year on Damboa road near Maiduguri.

The ICRC said it acted only as a facilitator at the talks.

4 civilians die in central Mali after vehicle hits land mine

BAMAKO, Mali (AP) — Mali's

army says at least four people have been killed and several others wounded after their vehicle hit an explosive device in the central Mopti region.

The army said the civilians were returning from a village market Friday afternoon when their vehicle hit a land mine between Kontza and Dera in the West African nation's central region.

This attack on civilians comes weeks after 26 people, including women and children, were killed after their vehicle hit a land mine near the border with Burkina Faso on the way to a market in Mali.

No group has yet claimed responsibility for the attacks, although al-Qaida-linked jihadist groups regularly lay mines targeting Malian soldiers.

Islamic militants also stormed an army camp on Jan. 27 in northern Mali, killing at least 14 soldiers.

Tropical storm hits American Samoa with outages, some damage

PAGO PAGO, American Samoa (AP) — Some damage to buildings and wide-spread power outages were reported on American Samoa early Saturday, a day after tropical storm Gita passed near the U.S. territory in the South

Pacific.

The port and airport in Pago Pago were closed Friday because of the storm, which moved away from Tutuila, the largest island in American Samoa. A tropical storm warning remained in place Saturday as American Samoa was forecast to have heavy winds and rains.

American Samoa is located about 2,550 miles southwest of Hawaii.

French activists celebrate abandoned airport project

PARIS (AP) — A colorful crowd has celebrated the French government's decision to abandon plans to build a new airport in the west of the country.

At a victory party Saturday, thousands of environmentalists, farmers and activists, some wearing Carnival masks, symbolically set fire to a giant wooden plane in a field in Notre-Dame-des-Landes. The village near the western city of Nantes was where a controversial airport was to be built.

Supporters from other French regions joined activists who have occupied the site and camped out in makeshift settlements for years to resist the project, hoping to make the land "a space of

social, environmental and agricultural experimentation."

Last month, Prime Minister Edouard Philippe announced that France won't build the planned airport, putting an end to a half-century-old project.

Mary Lou McDonald takes over as Sinn Fein party leader

LONDON (AP) — Gerry Adams' three decades at the helm of the Sinn Fein party have come to an end with Mary Lou McDonald taking over as leader.

McDonald, the first woman to lead the party, is also the first Sinn Fein leader with no direct connection to Ireland's period of violence known as the Troubles. Her confirmation came at a conference Saturday in Dublin attended by 2,000 delegates.

The end of Adams' tenure marks a new era for the political party, which wants to unite the United Kingdom's Northern Ireland with the republic to the south.

Adams, who announced in November he was stepping down after 34 years, was the key figure in the peace process that saw the signing of the 1998 Good Friday Agreement and the formation of a power-sharing government in Northern Ireland.

FROM PAGE ONE

OPIOIDS

FROM PAGE 1

the original form of the drug.

Purdue eventually acknowledged that its promotions exaggerated the drug's safety and minimized the risks of addiction. After federal investigations, the company and three executives pleaded guilty in 2007 and agreed to pay more than \$600 million for misleading the public about the risks of OxyContin. But the drug continued to rack up blockbuster sales.

Dr. Andrew Kolodny, director of opioid policy research at Brandeis University and an advocate for stronger regulation of opioid drug companies, said Purdue's decision is helpful, but that to make a real difference, other opioid drug companies have to do the same.

"It is difficult to promote more cautious prescribing to the medical community because opioid manufacturers promote opioid use," he said. Two other companies that sell the medications, Johnson & Johnson and Allergan, did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Kolodny said that opioids are useful for cancer patients who are suffering from severe pain, and for people who only need a pain medication for a few days. But he said the companies have promoted them as a treatment for chronic pain, where they are more harmful and less helpful, because it's more profitable.

"They are still doing this abroad," Kolodny added. "They are following the same playbook that they used in the United States."

Purdue Pharma only does business in the U.S. It is associated with two other companies, Mundipharma and Napp, that operate in other countries. It said those companies have separate leadership and operate according to local regulations.

Purdue and other opioid drugmakers and pharmaceutical distributors continue defending themselves against hundreds of local and state lawsuits seeking to hold the industry accountable for the drug overdose epidemic. The lawsuits say drugmakers misled doctors and patients about the risks of opioids by enlisting "front groups" and "key opinion leaders" who oversold the drugs' benefits and encouraged overprescribing. State and local governments are seeking money and changes to how the industry operates, including an end to the use of outside groups to push their drugs.

Kolodny is serving as an expert advising the court in those lawsuits.

U.S. deaths linked to opioids have quadrupled since 2000 to roughly 42,000 in 2016, or about 115 lives lost per day. Although initially driven by prescription drugs, most opioid deaths now involve illicit drugs, including heroin and fentanyl.

ISRAEL

FROM PAGE 1

weapons more easily to Hezbollah — Lebanon's Iranian-backed political party and militant group sworn to Israel's destruction. Though Israel has largely stayed out of the Syrian conflict, it has struck weapons convoys destined for Hezbollah — which is fighting alongside Syrian forces — almost 100 times since 2012.

But Israel has refrained from striking Iranian sites directly. Syria has also repeatedly said it will respond to Israeli airstrikes but has rarely returned fire. Both of those trends came to an abrupt end Saturday as a rapid escalation played out in the early morning hours.

At dawn, Israel said it shot down an Iranian unmanned aircraft that penetrated its airspace and then destroyed the Iranian site in central Syria that it said launched it. Upon their

return, Israel's jets came under heavy Syrian anti-aircraft fire and the pilots of one of the F-16s had to eject and the plane crashed in northern Israel. One pilot was seriously wounded and the other one lightly.

In subsequent attacks, the Israeli military said it struck four additional Iranian positions and eight Syrian sites, causing significant damage. The Israeli jets again faced a heavy barrage of anti-aircraft missiles but returned home safely, as large explosions were reported in Syria and warning sirens blared in northern Israel.

Iran denied Israel's shooting down of a drone, with Foreign Ministry spokesman Bahram Ghasem calling the account "ridiculous," while the joint operations room for the Syrian military and its allies insisted the drone had not violated Israeli airspace and was on a regular mission gathering intelligence on Islamic State militants.

Regardless, Hezbollah said Saturday's

developments signaled a "new strategic phase" in engaging Israel, which has been mostly off the guerrilla group's radar as it has been knee-deep in the fighting in Syria.

Former Syrian lawmaker and political commentator Sharif Shehade said the anti-aircraft fire marked a political decision in Syria to respond to Israeli strikes, and that tensions would continue to rise unless Washington and Moscow intervened to calm the situation.

"It is a decisive decision to confront the Israeli air force and its careless behavior," he told The Associated Press in Damascus, "I think what happened today is a lesson for Israel."

However, a former Israeli Air Force pilot, retired Lt. Col. Reuven Ben-Shalom, said the fierce Israeli response actually sent "very clear messages" to the other side, showing Iran how deep Israel's knowledge was of its activity in Syria.

"The fact that a drone like this is identified, tracked and intercepted

ABUSE

FROM PAGE 1

suggests that what we really need to worry about is how these allegations will impact the man who is accused."

Months before Willoughby spoke to reporters and identified Porter by name, she published a blog post explaining the fear and anxiety she felt about leaving her marriage and going public about the abuse she said she had suffered at the hands of a powerful man who was well-liked and well-respected.

"Everyone loved him. People commented all the time how lucky I was. Strangers complimented him to me every time we went out. But in my home, the abuse was insidious. The threats were personal. The terror was real. And yet I stayed," she wrote. "When I tried to get help, I was counseled to consider carefully how what I said might affect his career. And so I kept my mouth shut and stayed."

In an interview on CNN's "Anderson Cooper 360," Willoughby said she's often asked why she stayed in a relationship with Porter if he was a "monster."

"The reality is he's not a monster," she said. "He is an intelligent, kind, chivalrous, caring, professional man. And he is deeply troubled and angry and violent. I don't think those things are mutually exclusive."

Martin said victims of domestic violence and abuse often hesitate to come forward or to leave their relationships, no matter how toxic, because they worry nobody will believe their accounts, particularly when the balance of power between the abuser and the victim is uneven.

"That dynamic leaves many simply unwilling to consider the possibility that he has engaged in acts of violence, and when people aren't willing to imagine that, the easiest thing to do is disbelieve the woman making these allegations," Martin said.

Both Holderness and Willoughby spoke of how



AP FILE PHOTO

In this Jan. 18, file photo, President Donald Trump, joined by Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, left, Vice President Mike Pence, second from left, and White House Chief of Staff John Kelly, right, speaks to the media as he arrives at the Pentagon.

Porter's abuse shattered their confidence and manipulated their emotions, making the women feel powerless. In an interview with NBC, Willoughby said she didn't even realize she was in an abusive relationship until she had been suffering for a year.

Jessica Corbett is the wife of David Sorensen, who on Friday resigned as a White House speechwriter amid allegations that he physically and emotionally abused her. She wrote in a blog post that she was "embarrassed to tell anyone because I thought that this wasn't something that happened to women like me; it didn't happen in my social circles."

"It's lonely enough being a victim of abuse," she wrote. "It's even worse when the victim is made to stand alone."

Sorensen has denied the allegations. Debby Tucker, president of the board of directors for the National Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence, said women are far more likely to be accused of fabricating stories than men. Such long-standing social biases play into victims' reluctance to share their stories.

"The societal belief system supports the idea that women are vindictive, spiteful, and lie for advantage in custody and other matters," she said.

providing the perpetrators of this a lot of knowledge about what they've done," Secretary of State Rex Tillerson told The Associated Press in January.

The U.S. government has stopped short of saying the Cuban government is behind the incidents, but it does hold authorities on the island responsible for failing to protect its diplomats — a responsibility of a host government under the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations.

Diplomats began reporting headaches, dizziness, hearing problems and ear pain in December 2016 and January 2017, Dr. Charles Rosenfarb, director of the Department of State's Bureau of Medical

Services, said at a Senate subcommittee hearing in January. As early as November 2016, some diplomats said they heard strange sounds in their homes that accompanied the onset of symptoms.

Some described "a high-pitched beam of sound, a 'baffling sensation' similar to driving in a car with the windows partially open, or intense pressure in one ear, said Rosenfarb.

The Cuban investigative team said security and protection — both visible and invisible — have been stepped up at the U.S. Embassy and 42 diplomatic homes. The Cubans are continuing their investigation, and the team said it is close to publishing a scientific summary of its work.

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AP FILE PHOTO

In this Monday, Nov 25, 2013, file photo, technicians inspect an Israeli air force F-16 jet at the Ovda airbase near Eilat, southern Israel.

so smoothly by the Israeli air force demonstrates our capabilities, demonstrates our resolve not to allow the breach of Israel to sovereignty," he said. "I think it's good that our enemies learn and understand these capabilities."

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defense Minister Avigdor Lieberman convened the top brass at military headquarters in Tel Aviv for long hours of emergency consultations throughout the Jewish

Sabbath to discuss next steps.

Military spokesman Lt. Col. Jonathan Conricus said Saturday's incident marked the most "blatant and severe violation of Israeli sovereignty" yet. He said while Israel had no interest in further escalation it was prepared to "extract a heavy price" for such aggression.

By directly sending the drone into Israel on a military mission, Conricus said Iran was "playing with fire."

ALMANAC

Today is **Sunday, Feb. 11**, the 42nd day of 2018. There are 323 days left in the year.

Today in history

On **Feb. 11, 1968**, New York City's fourth and current Madison Square Garden, located on Manhattan's West Side at the site of what used to be the Pennsylvania Station building, opened with a "Salute to the USO" hosted by Bob Hope and Bing Crosby. (The same evening, the New York Rangers played their final game at the third Garden, tying the Detroit Red Wings 3-3.)

On this date

In **1963**, American author and poet Sylvia Plath was found dead in her London flat, a suicide; she was 30.

In **1972**, McGraw-Hill Publishing Co. and Life magazine scrapped plans to publish what turned out to be a fake autobiography of reclusive billionaire Howard Hughes.

In **1986**, Soviet dissident Natan Sharansky was released by the Soviet Union after nine years of captivity as part of an East-West prisoner exchange.

In **1990**, South African black activist Nelson Mandela was freed after 27 years in captivity.

In **2012**, pop singer Whitney Houston, 48, was found dead in a hotel room bathtub in Beverly Hills, California.

Today's birthdays

Actor **Conrad Janis** is 90. Fashion designer **Mary Quant** is 84. Actor **Burt Reynolds** is 82. Actress **Tina Louise** is 80. Bandleader **Sergio Mendes** is 77. Actor **Philip Anglim** is 66. Former Florida Gov. **Jeb Bush** is 65. Actress **Catherine Hickland** is 62. Rock musician **David Usikkinen** (The Hooters) is 62. Actress **Carey Lowell** is 57. Singer **Sheryl Crow** is 56. Former Alaska Gov. **Sarah Palin** is 54. Actress **Jennifer Aniston** is 49.

Bible verse

"Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine." — 2 Timothy 4:2.

It is so easy to get hung up on a production rather than the simple presentation of the gospel. What is it that all mankind needs to hear? That we are all sinners, that Jesus Christ is the only Savior, and salvation is far sure if we will only believe.

ODD NEWS

Professor replaced after insisting Australia isn't a country

MANCHESTER, N.H. (AP) — An online adjunct professor incorrectly told a student that Australia isn't a country and gave her a failing grade, prompting Southern New Hampshire University to replace the instructor.

Buzzfeed News reports that the 27-year-old student in Idaho was assigned to compare American social norms to that of another country. She chose to study social media use in Australia, but the professor gave her a zero on that portion of the assignment, saying Australia is a continent, not a country.

Australia is actually both — a country and a continent.

University officials tell WMUR-TV the instructor has been replaced following an investigation. In a statement, the university said it deeply regrets the interaction between the professor and student, and wished athletes from Australia good luck in the Olympic games.

NATION

Equifax hack put more info at risk than consumers knew

By SARAH SKIDMORE SELL
AP PERSONAL FINANCE WRITER

The Equifax data breach exposed more of consumers' personal information than the company first disclosed last year, according to documents given to lawmakers.

The credit reporting company announced in September that the personal information of 145.5 million consumers had been compromised in a data breach. It originally said that the information accessed included names, Social Security numbers, birth dates, addresses and — in some cases — driver's license numbers and credit card numbers. It also said some consumers' credit card numbers were among the information exposed, as well as the personal information from thousands of dispute documents.

However, Atlanta-based Equifax Inc. recently disclosed in a document submitted to the Senate Banking Committee, that a forensic investigation found criminals accessed other information from company records. According to the document, provided to The Associated Press by Sen. Elizabeth Warren's office, that included tax identification numbers, email addresses and phone numbers. Finer details, such as the expiration dates for credit cards or issuing states for driver's licenses, were also included in the list.

The additional insight into the massive breach was first reported by the Wall Street Journal.

Equifax's disclosure, which it has not made directly to consumers, underscores the depth of detail the company keeps on individuals that it may have put at risk. And it adds to the string

of missteps the company has made in recovering from the security debacle.

Equifax spokeswoman Meredith Griffanti said that "in no way did we intend to mislead consumers." The company last year disclosed only the information that affected the greatest number of consumers and wanted to "act with the greatest clarity" in terms of the information provided to the committee, she said.

Griffanti also said that while the list provided to the committee includes all the potential data points that may have been accessed by criminals, those elements impacted a minimal portion of consumers. And some data — like passport numbers — were not stolen. The company reiterated that the total number of consumers affected is unchanged.

"When you are making

that kind of announcement, where do you draw the line? If you saw the list we provided the banking finance committee it was pretty exhaustive," Griffanti said. "We wanted to show them that no stone was left unturned."

But to consumers whose information was exposed, it may feel like yet another slap in the face.

Equifax waited months to disclose the hack. After it did, anxious consumers experienced jammed phone lines and uninformed company representatives. An Equifax website set up to help people determine their exposure was described as sketchy by security experts and provided inconsistent and unhelpful information to many. The company blamed the online customer help page's problems on a vendor's software code



AP FILE PHOTO

This Saturday, July 21, 2017 file, photo shows signage at the corporate headquarters of Equifax Inc.

after it appeared that it had been hacked as well.

Equifax has tried to make changes, replacing its CEO, as well as spending millions to research and rectify the breach. In January, it launched a service that allows consumers to lock and unlock their credit report. But a test of the site by The New York Times found it unusable in many ways. The company said this experience

was an exception and it has made some key changes to the service since it first launched.

The company continues to deal with multiple regulatory investigations into the matter as well as hundreds of consumer lawsuits. Warren, D-Mass., released a report on the hack Wednesday that described it as "one of the largest and most significant data security lapses in history."

Ex-Texas death row inmate now questions prosecutors

ASSOCIATED PRESS

DALLAS — A man who was exonerated after spending 12 years on Texas' death row questioned candidates running to become Dallas' top prosecutor on Saturday about how they would prevent wrongful convictions like his.

Anthony Graves moderated a panel of candidates for Dallas County district attorney. Speaking to The Associated Press beforehand, Graves said he wanted to push forward changes to the criminal justice system in the nation's most active death penalty state.

"I understand better than most the power that the DA's office wields," Graves said. "And I understand better than most how bad that can go

if they decide to abuse it. I lived that injustice."

Convicted in 1994 of being involved in the killings of six people, Graves was cleared in 2010 after an alleged accomplice recanted his testimony and an investigation found misconduct by the district attorney in the case. That prosecutor, former Bursleson County district attorney Charles Sebesta, was later disbarred.

Graves now serves as the smart justice initiatives manager for the American Civil Liberties Union of Texas, which sponsored the event.

Two candidates, Democrats John Creuzot and Elizabeth Frizell, took part in Saturday's event. District Attorney Faith Johnson, a Republican, declined to attend. A spokesman for her

campaign said Johnson would be "happy to attend" a forum with the Democratic winner of the March 6 primary.

Among the questions put to Creuzot and Frizell were how they would handle misdemeanor drug cases and whether they would direct their prosecutors to reduce or drop charges against defendants in cases where a conviction could make someone eligible for deportation.

When asked by Graves, both declined to commit that they would refuse to seek the death penalty, if elected. They said they would commit to not pushing for life sentences without parole for juvenile defendants.

Texas has executed 547 people since 1982, when the state resumed executions after the

lifting of a U.S. Supreme Court ban. Thirteen people, including Graves, have been exonerated from Texas' death row, according to the Death Penalty Information Center, which opposes executions.

Despite its law-and-order reputation, Texas has enacted several changes to its criminal justice system in the last decade, including a bill signed in 2017 that includes new standards on the use of photo lineups and the testimony of jailhouse informants.

But Graves said Texas has to better implement the laws it has passed and consider further changes. "There's been some words put on paper, but if you look at the actual practice, you would think someone is pulling one over on us," he said.

Judge awards father custody of abused daughter's body

ASSOCIATED PRESS

MILWAUKEE — A judge has awarded a Texas man exclusive custody of his abused daughter's body, which has languished in the Milwaukee County morgue for two months amid a dispute with the girl's mother, who is implicated in her death.

Circuit Court Judge David Borowski granted Michael Krouser's request at a hearing Friday, but he criticized Krouser for being absent from his children's lives for years. The judge ordered Krouser to arrange a funeral for his 14-year-old daughter.

Amina Krouser's mother, Azlyza Ababneh, is charged with abusing and neglecting her daughter resulting in the girl's death. Ababneh is Muslim and her attorney says that for religious reasons, Ababneh objects to the father's plans to cremate Amina's body and have the ashes sent to his home in San Antonio.

Because Ababneh is not charged with homicide, she retains the right under Wisconsin law to determine how her daughter's remains should be handled.

Michael Krouser, who admitted that since his divorce from Ababneh

he had paid little if any child support, asked for exclusive custody of his daughter's remains. The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reports that although the judge called Krouser's behavior as a father "atrocious" and "despicable," he said could not allow the girl's body to remain at the morgue and eventually be turned over to the county to be buried in an unmarked grave.

"That would be a further indignity to this poor child," Borowski said.

According to a criminal complaint, Amina Krouser and her two siblings lived with their mother in a house that had no heat or running water. The teen became ill with cold-like symptoms Nov. 26, and Ababneh believed her daughter was being lazy and beat her with a belt and a plastic pipe, according to the criminal complaint and medical examiner's report. The girl was taken to a hospital and died Dec. 10.

In giving Krouser control of his daughter's body, Borowski did not rule whether it had to be cremated or buried. But he did order Krouser to hold a funeral for her.

"She at least deserves a decent, respectful service," Borowski said.

NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Disgraced former gymnastics doctor sent to Arizona prison

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — Prison records show that disgraced former gymnastics doctor Larry Nassar has been transferred to a federal prison in Tucson, Arizona.

The Federal Bureau of Prisons online inmate registry on Saturday showed that the 54-year-old was housed at the high security prison that also has an adjacent minimum security satellite camp. Nassar faces two long prison sentences in Michigan for molestation. But first he must serve 60 years in federal prison for child pornography crimes.

The Nassar scandal upended the gymnastics world and raised alarms about the sport's ask-no-questions culture. His serial sexual abuse of girls and young women has shaken Michigan State University and elite sports associations.

More than 250 women and girls gave statements about the abuse in two Michigan courtrooms in recent weeks.

Long Island man arrested on cockfighting charges

ISLIP, N.Y. (AP) — Police searching for drugs at a home in

New York discovered more than 60 caged roosters, a mistreated pit bull, a pheasant and equipment used to stage illegal cockfighting matches.

Officers called in the local Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and arrested 40-year-old Reynaldo Bonilla, who was to be arraigned on Saturday on charges including animal cruelty.

The roosters were trained for cockfighting and will have to be euthanized, because they can't be rehabilitated and were likely injected with steroids and other chemicals, Suffolk County SPCA Chief Roy Gross said.

Also stored on the property were a fighting ring, razor blade-like spurs that are attached to the roosters when they fight and "little boxing gloves" that protect the birds when they train, he said.

"The call it a blood sport," Gross said. Spectators who bet on the fights "want to see the birds cutting each other, seeing the blood, and generally they bleed out. It's barbaric. They generally fight to the death," he said.

Investigators haven't determined if fights were staged at the property, or if the birds were only being housed there in the hamlet of Brentwood on Long Island, he added.

The name of Bonilla's attorney

wasn't immediately available. If convicted, he will be placed on an animal abuse registry that allows authorities to track his whereabouts.

Police: 2 officers killed responding to 911; suspect held

WESTERVILLE, Ohio (AP) — Police in Ohio say two officers have been fatally shot at a home in a Columbus suburb, and a suspect is in custody.

Westerville police say in a statement that the shootings happened Saturday after officers responded to a 911 hang-up call around 11:30 a.m. The officers were shot after they arrived at a residence.

Police say a suspect is in custody but provided no other details. Authorities have scheduled a news conference for later Saturday afternoon.

Republican Gov. John Kasich, who lives with his family in a nearby township, tweeted he's "very saddened to learn of the deaths of two of my hometown police officers." He asked Ohio residents to join him in "lifting up these officers' families in prayer."

Westerville, on the northeast side of Columbus, is a suburb with about 39,000 residents.

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD

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NATION

Help for Puerto Rican college students has islanders worried

By COLLIN BINKLEY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — It sounded like a scam at first. Three weeks after Hurricane Maria struck Puerto Rico, Brown University was offering to pick up 40 of the island's top students in a private jet and shuttle them to the Ivy League school to study for a year. And it would all be free.

Coral Murphy was suspicious, but she applied anyway. Even after the acceptance email arrived, she still had doubts. Reality set in only after she got to the airport and boarded the jet, where students were served sparkling water and sandwiches garnished with edible flowers.

"I'm still kind of in shock," said Murphy, 20, a junior in journalism who is now in her second term at Brown. "I'm like, 'Where am I?'"

Murphy is among hundreds of Puerto Ricans who have come to colleges on the U.S. mainland following the devastation wrought by Maria, often drawn by offers of free or discounted tuition from schools hoping to help students continue their education while the island recovers.

Most of the offers are for one or two semesters, with the expectation that students will return to their home universities in Puerto Rico. But some educators in the U.S. territory worry that some of the Caribbean island's brightest students won't come back to an already beleaguered public university system.

"Some of these programs

have targeted the cream of our crop, the best we have," said Don Walicek, who teaches English and linguistics at the University of Puerto Rico. "Will they ever come back to Puerto Rico?"

Even before the hurricane, enrollment had been falling at the University of Puerto Rico, where students went on strike last year protesting deep budget cuts. When the system's main campus at Rio Piedras reopened after Maria, more than 900 students — roughly 6 percent of the student body — did not return.

Those who relocated are among thousands of other Puerto Ricans leaving the island, where electricity is still in short supply amid a grueling recovery process.

The tuition offers from mainland universities are modeled on programs created in 2005 to help U.S. students displaced by Hurricane Katrina. But Walicek and two other professors wrote an open letter in November noting that, unlike schools in New Orleans that closed for months, the University of Puerto Rico reopened just five weeks after Hurricane Maria. The exodus of students has reduced enrollment, forcing the cancellation of some courses.

Officials behind the assistance programs say they're only trying to help, and they're encouraging students to return home after this school year.

"We want and expect them to return to their home institutions to conclude their degrees," said Marisa Quinn, chief of staff to the provost at

Brown. "We really don't want to do anything to undermine the university's capacity to reopen and recover with great strength."

A total of 30 students accepted Brown's offer and arrived on campus in October. Other schools hosting students at no charge include Cornell University, which has 58 students from Puerto Rico this term. New York University is hosting about 50. Tulane University enrolled 16. Some are offering language support to students from the Spanish-speaking island, while others required applicants to be proficient in English.

Dozens of other schools have offered reduced tuition rates typically reserved for state residents, a move adopted by all public universities in New York and Massachusetts. A smaller group of schools also has extended this discount to students from the U.S. Virgin Islands, which was battered by storms Irma and Maria.

For universities, the act of charity can also bring a boost in publicity and a crop of talented students. While a year at Brown or NYU can top \$70,000, many schools are adding students within their existing capacity, limiting the cost. In many cases, donors and foundations have chipped in.

Many students who came to the mainland say they feel pulled between an allegiance to Puerto Rico and the bright opportunities they see here. Some vow to return home, but others say they'll apply to other mainland schools or



AP PHOTO

In this Jan. 30, photo Brown University students from Puerto Rico, Jessica Ortiz, of Gurabo, seated left, receives a hug from Mariana Ramos Ortiz, of Cabo Rojo, top left, as Fabiola Guasp, of San Juan, center, speaks with Coral Murphy, of Manati, right, and Katerina Ramos Jordan, of Trajillo Alto, top right, following dinner in a cafeteria on the school's campus, in Providence, R.I.

return for graduate studies.

The Massachusetts College of Art and Design in Boston brought 10 students from Puerto Rico last month, including some who see the program as a stepping stone.

"If I see another option, I will take it," said Tanisha Pacheco Rodriguez, a senior painting major, adding that after the hurricane hit, morale plummeted at her school, the School of Visual Arts and Design of Puerto Rico. "I appreciate this moment because it's like being reborn."

At Brown, sophomore biology student Andrea Rodriguez-Villafane said she wants to keep studying on the mainland, where she says

internships are easier to find.

"Here, they give you opportunities on a silver plate. At the University of Puerto Rico, you have to search for them and be extremely determined," she said. "They won't come to you."

In Puerto Rico, she fears the threat of new budget cuts at school and the danger posed by future hurricanes. But she is conflicted, because it's also her home.

"I'm pretty terrified, but at the same time I have family in Puerto Rico, and I also feel this sense of responsibility that I should come back," she said. "If everyone leaves, who will be there to help Puerto Rico?"

Sunday Television

VEN-VENICE E-N-ENGLEWOOD SAR-SARASOTA PC-PORT CHARLOTTE ARC-ARCADIA SPG-SOUTH PUNTA GORDA

FEB. 11		VEN	EN	SAR	PC	ARC	SPG	FOS	PRIME TIME												
		6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30								
BROADCAST	ABC (40)	7	7	7	10	7	-	-	ABC World News Tonight (N)	News (N)	America's Funniest Home Videos (N)	Celebrity Family Feud (N)	Celebrity Family Feud (N)	Shark Tank (N)	ABC7 News @ 11pm (N)	(35) Paid Program Sponsored.					
	ABC (26)	-	-	-	7	11	7	-	ABC World News Tonight (N)	ABC7 News @ 6:30pm (N)	America's Funniest Home Videos (N)	Celebrity Family Feud (N)	Celebrity Family Feud (N)	Shark Tank (N)	ABC7 News @ 11:00pm (N)	Entertainment Tonight (N)					
	CBS (11)	213	213	-	5	5	5	-	PGA Tour Golf (Live) (HD)	CBS Weekend News (N) (HD)	60 Minutes (N) (HD)	Big Brother: Celebrity Edition (N) (HD)	SEAL Team: Tip of the Spear (N) (HD)	NCIS: Los Angeles: Assets (N) (HD)	WINK News at 11pm Sunday (N) (HD)						
	CBS (10)	10	10	10	-	-	10	-	PGA Tour Golf (Live) (HD)	10 News Weekend (N)	60 Minutes (N) (HD)	Big Brother: Celebrity Edition (N) (HD)	SEAL Team: Tip of the Spear (N) (HD)	NCIS: Los Angeles: Assets (N) (HD)	10 News Weekend at 11:00 (N)	Joel Osteen Message of Christ (N)					
	NBC (20)	-	232	-	2	2	2	-	NBC2 News @ 6pm - Sun (N)	NBC Nightly News (N) (HD)	2018 Olympic Winter Games: Figure Skating, Alpine Skiing, Freestyle Skiing, Snowboarding, Luge: from PyeongChang, South Korea (Live) (HD)						NBC2 News @ 11pm - Sun (N)	2018 Olympic Winter Games			
	NBC (8)	8	8	8	-	8	8	-	NewsChannel 8 at 6:00 (N)	NBC Nightly News (N) (HD)	2018 Olympic Winter Games: Figure Skating, Alpine Skiing, Freestyle Skiing, Snowboarding, Luge: from PyeongChang, South Korea (Live) (HD)						NewsChannel 8 at 11:00 (N)	2018 Olympic Winter Games			
	FOX (36)	-	-	-	4	4	4	-	Comedy.TV (N) (N)	Brooklyn Nine-Nine (N) (HD)	Bob's Burgers (N) (HD)	The Simpsons (N) (HD)	Ghosted Office (N) (HD)	Family Guy (N) (HD)	LA to Vegas (N) (HD)	FOX 4 News at Ten (N) (HD)	Rookie Blue: All by Her Selfie (N) (HD)				
	FOX (13)	13	13	13	-	13	-	-	FOX 13 6:00 News (N) (HD)	News events of the day are reported. (N) (HD)	Brooklyn Nine-Nine (N) (HD)	Bob's Burgers (N) (HD)	The Simpsons (N) (HD)	Ghosted Office (N) (HD)	Family Guy (N) (HD)	LA to Vegas (N) (HD)	FOX 13 10:00 News (N) (HD)	FOX 13 11:00 News (N) (HD)			
	PBS (30)	-	3	-	3	3	3	-	(5:30) Princes of the Palace (N) (HD)	Father Brown: The Hand of Lucia (N) (HD)	Masterpiece: Victoria II: Faith, Hope & Charity (N) (HD)	Masterpiece: Victoria II: Faith, Hope & Charity (N) (HD)	Masterpiece: Victoria II: The King Over the Water (N) (HD)	Queen Elizabeth's Secret Agents (N) (HD)	Cordially: Highclere Castle (N) (HD)	Independent Lens: Winnie (N) (HD)					
	PBS (3)	3	17	3	-	-	3	-	PBS Newshour Weekend (N)	WEDU Arts Plus (N) (HD)	Father Brown: The Standing Stones (N) (HD)	Masterpiece: Victoria II: Faith, Hope & Charity (N) (HD)	Masterpiece: Victoria II: The King Over the Water (N) (HD)	Queen Elizabeth's Secret Agents (N) (HD)	A Place to Call Home: And the Blind Shall See (N) (HD)	See Sarah's baby. (N) (HD)					
CW (46)	-	-	-	6	21	6	-	Goldbergs (N) (HD)	News (N) (HD)	Bang Teaching (N) (HD)	Bang Party (N) (HD)	Girls Caroline's birthday. (N) (HD)	2 Broke Girls (N) (HD)	Blue Bloods: Lost Souls (N) (HD)	Modern Family Best men. (N) (HD)	Modern Family House flip. (N) (HD)	WINK News @ 10pm (N) (HD)	Mike & Molly (N) (HD)	Mike & Molly (N) (HD)	Mike & Molly (N) (HD)	
CW (44)	9	9	9	-	-	4	-	Mike & Molly (N) (HD)	Mike & Molly (N) (HD)	Girls Caroline's birthday. (N) (HD)	2 Broke Girls (N) (HD)	Blue Bloods: Lost Souls (N) (HD)	Modern Family Best men. (N) (HD)	Modern Family House flip. (N) (HD)	Saving Hope: All Things Must Pass (N) (HD)	CSI: Miami: Long Gone (N) (HD)					
MYN (38)	11	11	11	-	-	14	-	Bones (N) (HD)	Scientist and cop investigate murders. (N) (HD)	Family Feud (N) (HD)	Family Feud (N) (HD)	News Channel 8 News @ 8pm (N) (HD)	Full Measure (N) (HD)	Seinfeld (N) (HD)	Elementary (N) (HD)	Born to Ride (N) (HD)	Paid Program Sponsored.				
IND (32)	12	12	12	-	38	-	12	Modern Family Best men. (N) (HD)	Modern Family House flip. (N) (HD)	Bang Teaching (N) (HD)	Bang Party (N) (HD)	Anger (N) (HD)	Anger (N) (HD)	Leverage: The Stork Job (N) (HD)	Leverage: The Top Hat Job (N) (HD)	Matter of Fact (N) (HD)	Hiring America (N) (HD)				
ION (66)	2	2	2	13	26	-	17	NCIS: Los Angeles: Rude Awakenings (N) (HD)	Rude Awakenings (N) (HD)	NCIS: Los Angeles: Skin Deep (N) (HD)	NCIS: Los Angeles: Collateral (N) (HD)	Private Eyes: The Code (N) (HD)	Private Eyes: The Code (N) (HD)	Private Eyes: The Code (N) (HD)	Private Eyes: The Code (N) (HD)	NCIS: Los Angeles: The Gold Standard (N) (HD)					
NEWS	CNBC	39	39	39	39	37	102	Shark Tank (N) (HD)	Shark Tank (N) (HD)	Shark Tank (N) (HD)	Shark Tank (N) (HD)	Shark Tank (N) (HD)	Shark Tank (N) (HD)	Undr. Boss (N) (HD)	Undr. Boss (N) (HD)						
	CNN	32	32	32	32	38	100	CNN Newsroom (N)	CNN Newsroom (N)	CNN Newsroom (N)	CNN Newsroom (N)	CNN Newsroom (N)	CNN Newsroom (N)	Radical (N) (HD)	Radical (N) (HD)						
	CSPAN	18	18	18	18	37	12	NewsMkr (N) (HD)	Washington This Week (N) (HD)	Q&A: Doug Mills (N) (HD)	Questions (N) (HD)	Questions (N) (HD)	Questions (N) (HD)	Questions (N) (HD)	Questions (N) (HD)						
	FNC	64	64	64	64	71	118	FOX Report Sun. (N)	Scandalous (N) (HD)	Scandalous (N) (HD)	Scandalous (N) (HD)	Next Revolution (N) (HD)	FOX News (HD)	Scandalous (N) (HD)							
	MSNBC	83	83	83	83	185	40	103	Meet the Press (HD)	Kasie DC Capitol Hill news. (N) (HD)	Weekend (N) (HD)	Weekend (N) (HD)	Weekend (N) (HD)	Weekend (N) (HD)	Weekend (N) (HD)						
	SNN	6	6	6	11	-	-	-	Weekend (N) (HD)	Weekend (N) (HD)	Aging G (N) (HD)	Matter (N) (HD)	Weekend (N) (HD)	Weekend (N) (HD)	Weekend (N) (HD)	Archives					
	ENC	150	150	150	150	150	350	350	Men in Black II (02, Action) (N) (HD)	Agents (N) (HD)	(31) The Shallows (16, Drama) (N) (HD)	Young woman must fight for life after being attacked by great white shark. (N) (HD)	The Lady Vanishes (38) (N) (HD)	A young woman is baffled when an elderly lady vanishes from a moving train. (N) (HD)	(39) Unfaithful (02, Drama) (N) (HD)	A suburban housewife has an extramarital affair with a young Frenchman. (N) (HD)					
	HBO	302	302	302	302	302	400	400	(4:55) Snatched (17, Comedy) (N) (HD)	Wonder Woman (17) (N) (HD)	The princess of the Amazons meets a pilot who tells her of a war in the world beyond her secluded island, inspiring her to seek an end to the fighting. (N) (HD)	Here and Now: Eleven Eleven (N) (HD)	A wife makes plans for a special party. (N) (HD)	Divorce (N) (HD)	Frances gets news. (N) (HD)	Crashing Pete (N) (HD)	Here and Now: Eleven Eleven (N) (HD)				
	HB02	303	303	303	303	303	402	402	Real Time w/Bill Maher (N) (HD)	2 Dope Queens: Hair (N) (HD)	A conversation is held about hairstyles. (N) (HD)	High Maintenance: Derech (N) (HD)	Crashing Pete (N) (HD)	Crashing Pete (N) (HD)	(05) Scott Pilgrim vs. the World (10, Comedy) (N) (HD)	A nerdy bass guitarist is forced to battle a girl's seven evil exes. (N) (HD)	Run, Fatboy, Run (08) (N) (HD)	Man runs in marathon to prove his love. (N) (HD)			
	HB03	304	304	304	304	304	404	404	(4:35) Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World (03) (N) (HD)	Man on the Moon (99, Drama) (N) (HD)	Jim Carrey, Danny DeVito. An oddball stand-up comic captures both TV & wrestling audiences' attention. (N) (HD)	O (01, Drama) (N) (HD)	Mekhi Phifer. A teenager manipulates his teammate into believing his girlfriend is cheating. (N) (HD)	(45) Nocturnal Animals (16, Thriller) (N) (HD)	A woman interprets ex-husband's novel as veiled threat on her life. (N) (HD)						
MAX	320	320	320	320	320	420	420	(20) Risky Business (83, Comedy) (N) (HD)	Tom Cruise. A teen opens a brothel to help pay for damages done to his father's sports car. (N) (HD)	The Mummy (17, Adventure) (N) (HD)	Tom Cruise, Sofia Boutella. Fearsome ancient princess awakens and brings terror in her search for vengeance. (N) (HD)	(55) Identity (03, Horror) (N) (HD)	A group of strangers is stranded at a desolate motel during a thunderstorm. (N) (HD)	(25) Drag Me to Hell (09) (N) (HD)	★★★						
MAX2	321	321	321	321	321	422	422	(15) The Truth About Charlie (02, Mystery) (N) (HD)	Woman learns her dead husband has stolen money that some undesirables want back. (N) (HD)	Strike Back (N) (HD)	Armed forces. (N) (HD)	(50) Black Sea (14, Adventure) (N) (HD)	Jude Law, Scoot McNairy. Sub captain and a ragtag crew find nearly \$200M in gold and test their loyalty. (N) (HD)	(45) The Blair Witch Project (99) (N) (HD)	A horrifying chain of events point to the fate of three missing film students. (N) (HD)						
SHO	340	340	340	340	340	365	365	Homeland: R is for Romeo (N) (HD)	Quinn makes a startling discovery. (N) (HD)	Homeland: America First (N) (HD)	Carrie and Quinn try to keep Keane safe. (N) (HD)	President: Disaster Response (N) (HD)	President: Disaster Response (N) (HD)	Homeland: Enemy of the State (N) (HD)	Keane's administration is scrutinized. (N) (HD)	The Chi: Today Was a Good Day (N) (HD)	Block party brings group together. (N) (HD)				
TMC	350	350	350	350	350	385	385	(15) A Woman, a Part (17, Drama) (N) (HD)	Maggie Siff, Cara Seymour. An exhausted workaholic actress finds herself at a crossroads. (N) (HD)	Carol (15, Romance) (N) (HD)	Cate Blanchett, Rooney Mara. Two women meet, and their instant connection soon develops into a deep love. (N) (HD)	In the Bedroom (02, Drama) (N) (HD)	Sissy Spacek, Tom Wilkinson. A teenager is brutally murdered by the jealous husband of an older woman. (N) (HD)								

Today's Live Sports

- 9:30 a.m. **FS1 German Bundesliga Soccer** Borussia Monchengladbach at Stuttgart. (L)
- 12 p.m. **ESPN2 Women's College Basketball** Michigan at Michigan State. (L)
- FOX Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Qualifying** Daytona. (L)
- NBC NHL Hockey** Pittsburgh Penguins at St. Louis Blues. (L)
- 1 p.m. **CBS College Basketball** Michigan at Wisconsin. (L)
- CW College Basketball** Wake Forest at Syracuse. (L)
- ESPN PBA Bowling** PBA Tournament of Champions. (L)
- FS1 NHRA Qualifying** Pomona. (T)
- FSN Women's College Basketball** Georgia Tech at Notre Dame. (L)
- GOLF PGA Tour Golf AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am: Final Round.** (L)
- 2 p.m. **ESPN2 Women's College Basketball** Ohio State at South Florida. (L)
- 3 p.m. **CBS PGA Tour Golf AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am: Final Round.** (L)
- FS1 Monster Energy NASCAR Cup Series** Advance Auto Parts Clash. (L)
- FSN Women's College Basketball** North Carolina at North Carolina State. (L)
- GOLF PGA Tour Champions Golf** Boca Raton Championship: Final Round. (L)
- NBC 2018 Olympic Winter Games** Speed Skating, Biathlon, Cross-Country. (T)
- 3:30 p.m. **ABC NBA Basketball** Cleveland at Boston. (L)
- 4 p.m. **ESPN College Basketball** Cincinnati at SMU. (L)
- ESPN2 Women's College Basketball** Florida State Seminoles at Miami Hurricanes. (L)
- 5 p.m. **FS1 NHRA Drag Racing** Pomona. (L)
- 6 p.m. **ESPN College Basketball** Duke at Georgia Tech. (L)
- ESPN2 College Wrestling** Ohio State at Michigan. (L)
- 7 p.m. **NBC 2018 Olympic Winter Games** Figure Skating, Alpine Skiing, Freestyle Skiing, Snowboarding, Luge. (L)
- 10:30 p.m. **FS1 AMA Arenacross Series** Greensboro, NC from Greensboro Coliseum in Greensboro, N.C. (T)
- 11:35 p.m. **NBC 2018 Olympic Winter Games** Alpine Skiing, Snowboarding from PyeongChang, South Korea. (L)

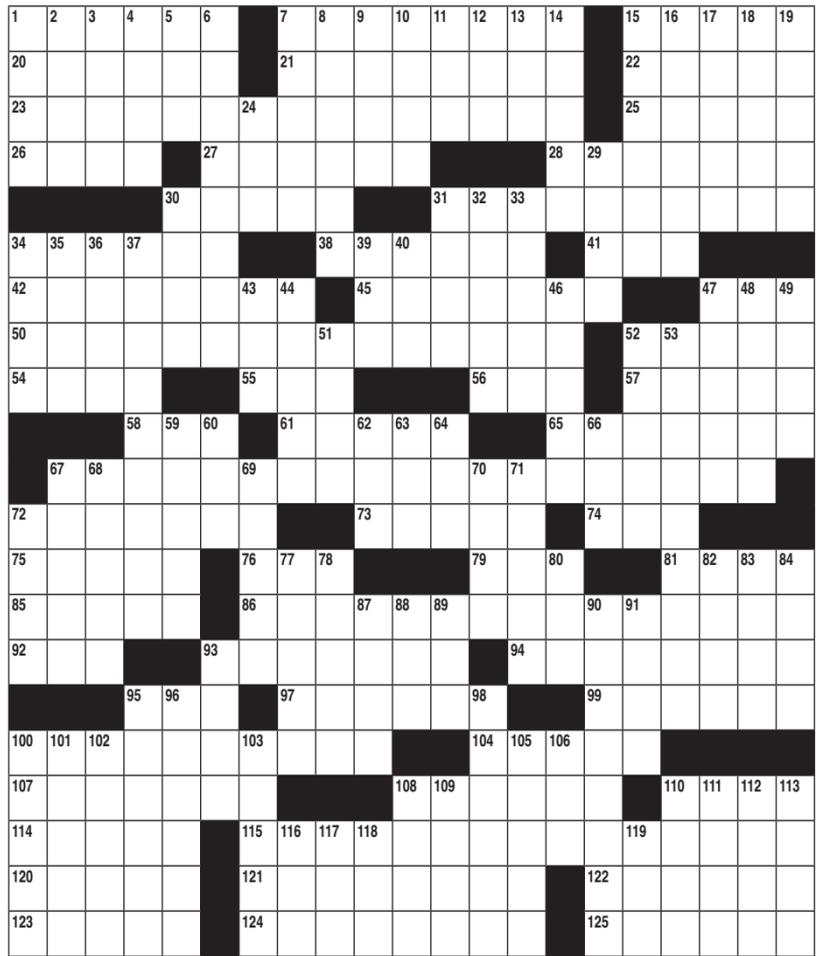
NEW YORK TIMES SUNDAY CROSSWORD

No. 0204

CRACKING WISE

BY DAVID LEVINSON WILK / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

- ACROSS**
- 1 52-story Boston skyscraper, familiarly
 - 7 Brass instrument with a mellow sound
 - 15 ___ Malfoy, student at Hogwarts
 - 20 Sorokin and Spelling
 - 21 Kind of equinox
 - 22 Puerto ___
 - 23 "Stop! You're killing me!"
 - 25 ___-garde
 - 26 Give some lip
 - 27 Uncut
 - 28 More than willing
 - 30 For whom the Lorax speaks
 - 31 Internet home to "Between Two Ferns"
 - 34 Latin for "womb"
 - 38 Monsieur's mate
 - 41 Y or N, maybe
 - 42 Shakespeare character who says, "This above all: to thine own self be true"
 - 45 Actor Jason
 - 47 Zugspitze, e.g.
 - 50 A person skilled at deadpan has one
 - 52 What "4" may stand for
 - 54 French river or department
 - 55 Beseech
 - 56 Advert's ending?
- DOWN**
- 1 Some body art, for short
 - 2 "Hilarious!"
 - 3 Noteworthy times
 - 4 Lobster traps
 - 5 Med. professionals who take a pledge named for Florence Nightingale
 - 6 Welcomes
 - 7 Plaster
 - 8 Condition for filmom's Rain Man
 - 9 Suffix with speed
 - 10 "Oh, what the hell ... I'll do it"
 - 11 "Uh, you've told me quite enough"
 - 12 Where Michael Jordan played coll. ball
 - 13 Meadow call
 - 14 Poet Ginsberg
 - 15 "Game of Thrones" creature
 - 16 Joan who quipped "A Peeping Tom looked in my window and pulled down the shade"
 - 17 "Pick ___ ..."
 - 18 "Pretty please?"
 - 19 Doing a pirouette, say
 - 24 Poison ivy, e.g.
- ACROSS**
- 57 Designer Geoffrey
 - 58 Carrier to Karachi
 - 61 Tugboat sounds familiarly
 - 65 Decked out
 - 67 Unimpressed response to someone's one-liner
 - 72 ___ intolerance
 - 73 Novo-Ogaryovo is the official one of the Russian president
 - 74 Lavatory sign
 - 75 Hawke of "Training Day"
 - 76 Regrettable
 - 79 Broadway's Hagen
 - 81 "Roméo et Juliette" segment
 - 85 Coin-toss call
 - 86 Stand-up chain started in Los Angeles
 - 92 Big engine additive
 - 93 Log-in needs
 - 94 Verbally assail
 - 95 "Iglu," for "igloo": Abbr.
 - 97 Cover over, in a way
 - 99 Start limping
 - 100 It might involve someone being "so poor" or "so old"
 - 104 "___, amigo"
 - 107 Count ___
 - 108 Nail-salon employees, at times
 - 110 Its "reads are a pain / And the fingering's insane," per Ogden Nash
 - 114 Lipinski and Reid
 - 115 "Jeez ... lighten up!"
 - 120 Be grandiloquent
- DOWN**
- 29 Some sneakers
 - 30 Something carried onstage?
 - 31 "Terrif!"
 - 32 Fifth category of taste with a Japanese name
 - 33 "Peter ___ Greatest Hits" (1974 album)
 - 34 High hairstyle
 - 35 Doughnut figures
 - 36 Late '50s singing sensation
 - 37 One of many scattered in a honeymoon suite, maybe
 - 39 Light bark
 - 40 Cry from Homer
 - 43 Kind of port for a flash drive
 - 44 Manage
 - 46 Night vision?
 - 47 Bowl
 - 48 Maid's armful
 - 49 Made an appeal
 - 51 Hymn starter
 - 52 Habitation
 - 53 Around the time of birth
 - 59 Chains
 - 60 Car-rental giant
 - 62 Poet who wrote "Fortune and love favor the brave"
 - 63 Org. that offers PreV enrollment
 - 64 ___ fly
 - 66 One on the left?: Abbr.
 - 67 Greatly bother
 - 68 TV blocking device
 - 69 Tops
 - 70 Finish all at once, in a way



- 71 Things taken by government officials
- 72 "Sounds like a plan!"
- 77 "Don't be ___!"
- 78 ___ Walcott, Nobel Prize-winning poet
- 80 Patriots' org.
- 82 Bad state to be in
- 83 Mine transport
- 84 Modern party summons
- 87 Euros replaced them
- 88 Bustle
- 89 Grp. that puts on a show
- 90 Fleets
- 91 Wall St. bigwigs
- 93 Like Mount Narodnaya
- 95 Empty
- 96 Brings a smile to
- 98 Like some angels and dominoes
- 100 Champion
- 101 Airport that J.F.K. dedicated in 1963
- 102 Erin of "Joanie Loves Chachi"
- 103 Locks up
- 105 Concoct
- 106 Bug
- 108 Jester
- 109 Feeling
- 110 Anthony Hopkins' "Thor" role
- 111 City NNE of San Antone
- 112 "My treat!"
- 113 "My stars!"
- 116 Cambodia's Angkor ___
- 117 Court org.
- 118 Skit show, for short
- 119 What makes you you?

FOR ANSWERS, TURN TO PAGE 5

Ask the Fool

401(k)? Yes

Should I contribute to a 401(k)? — J.R., Columbus, Ohio

Definitely consider it if your employer offers one. With a traditional 401(k), your employer plunks a portion of your salary that you specify into the account. That contribution comes from pre-tax income. So if your taxable income is \$50,000 for the year and you contribute \$5,000 to your 401(k), your taxable income will fall to \$45,000. Your tax bill will be smaller, and you'll have some pre-tax dollars invested for the future.

Your contributions will grow untaxed until you withdraw them in retirement, as you must generally do starting at age 70 1/2. Then they're taxed at your ordinary income rate.

Money in a 401(k) can usually be invested in a variety of things. We recommend broad-market stock index funds, such as ones based on the S&P 500. It can be good to balance that with some bonds, too, but less so the further you are from retirement.

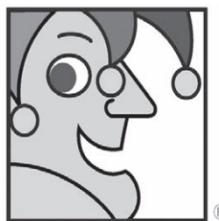
Best of all, many employers match a portion of your 401(k) contributions. If your company does so, make the most of it — that's free money!

Note, too, that you may also be able to opt for a Roth 401(k) plan, where your contributions are post-tax and withdrawals in retirement are tax-free.

I know inflation decreases the value of money over time. Is there any upside to it? — N.R., Spokane, Washington

Here's one: If you're making fixed mortgage payments, inflation can make the dollar value of those payments worth less over time. For example, if you're earning \$50,000 annually now and paying \$1,000 per month, that \$1,000 will be a smaller portion of your income in 15 years, if your salary grows along with inflation.

Want more information about stocks? Send us an email to foolnews@fool.com.



Fool's School

How to Ruin Your Retirement

Too many people are preparing for retirement solely by saving some money and hoping it will be enough. That can lead to disaster. Improve your retirement by avoiding the following common mistakes:

1. Having no clue about how much money you'll need. Online tools at apps.finra.org/calcs/1/retirement and ssa.gov/retire2 can help you plan.
2. Not saving enough. Saving 10 percent of your salary often isn't enough. Fifteen to 20 percent might be needed to reach your goals.
3. Ignoring asset allocation. Your long-term money is likely to grow fastest in stocks, not bonds or bank accounts. Consider low-fee index funds for bonds and stocks.
4. Cashing in your 401(k) early. A third or more of workers do this, often when changing jobs, and it leaves them less to live on later. Instead, consider rolling over that money to an IRA, where it can continue growing in a tax-advantaged manner.

5. Spending your retirement nest egg too quickly. Don't risk running out of money while you still need it. Have a withdrawal plan that will make your money last. Consider fixed annuities. (Variable and indexed annuities are more problematic.)

6. Retiring too soon. Retire early only if you have enough money to do so. If you're in your 60s, you still may have two or three decades ahead of you, so plan conservatively and be sure to factor in health care, which could cost you thousands of dollars annually. Explore part-time or project work that you might take on in retirement.

7. Getting bad, or no, advice. Retirement planning is a huge and critical undertaking, and there's no shame in seeking help with it. Favor fee-only financial advisers over ones who might have conflicts of interest, through earning sales commissions. (Find fee-only advisers at nappa.org.)

Learn much more at fool.com/retirement/index.aspx and money.cnn.com/retirement, and try our "Rule Your Retirement" newsletter for free via fool.com/services. It offers solid, concise advice, along with stock and fund recommendations.

Name That Company

I trace my roots back to the 1946 founding of a telecommunications engineering company in Tokyo. My first products included a rice cooker and a power megaphone. In 1960 I introduced the world's first direct-view portable TV. My Trinitron was a huge success, but my Betamax was not. I launched my Walkman in 1979 and the world's first CD player in 1982. Today I'm a multimedia giant, with a market value recently near \$67 billion, and more than 120,000 employees. I'm involved in electronics, gaming systems, motion pictures, music and even biotechnology and financial services. Who am I?

Think you know the answer? We'll announce it in next week's edition.

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Get investing advice and information on the go, now FREE on Android and iPhone.

My Dumbest Investment

A Humbling Mistake

I keep my dumbest investment as a reminder of what a true pump-and-dump stock is. I will never sell it — at this point, why bother? I have 49,600 shares valued at ... \$0.0001 per share.

The experience has made me think twice before I hit the buy button, and I often go back and double-check everything before I buy any stock. Luckily for me, it wasn't a very costly mistake — just a humbling one — J.W.S., online

The Fool Responds: You're not alone in having fallen for a penny stock (one trading for less than about \$5 per share). The numbers can seem appealing, such as if you can get 50,000 shares for just \$1,000, when a stock trades for \$0.02 per share. It can seem very unlikely that the stock will fall further, but as you've found out, it can. Pump-and-dump schemes are rampant with penny stocks. A manipulator buys shares in a penny stock and then hypes it online or in newsletters, luring others into buying the stock and sending the share price up. Then the manipulator sells his shares, sending the stock sharply down, and burning those who fell for the hype.

- Many penny stocks are tied to small, speculative companies
- with no track record of profitability or reliable growth. Steer clear.
- Remember that \$300 shares of a healthy company can soar over time, while a \$0.05 stock can still plunge.

LAST WEEK'S TRIVIA ANSWER

I trace my roots back to 1876, an era of questionable healing elixirs, when a Civil War veteran and pharmacist founded me in order to make high-quality medicines. In 1923 I introduced the world's first commercially available insulin product, in 1955 I was the first to make and distribute the Salk polio vaccine globally, and in 1986 I launched Prozac to treat depression. Today, based in Indianapolis and with a market value recently near \$90 billion, I'm a global health care giant with more than 40,000 employees, over 9,000 of whom work in research and development. Who am I? (Answer: Eli Lilly)



Want to Invest? Email us at foolnews@fool.com, and we'll send you some tips to start investing. Sorry, we can't provide individual financial advice.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

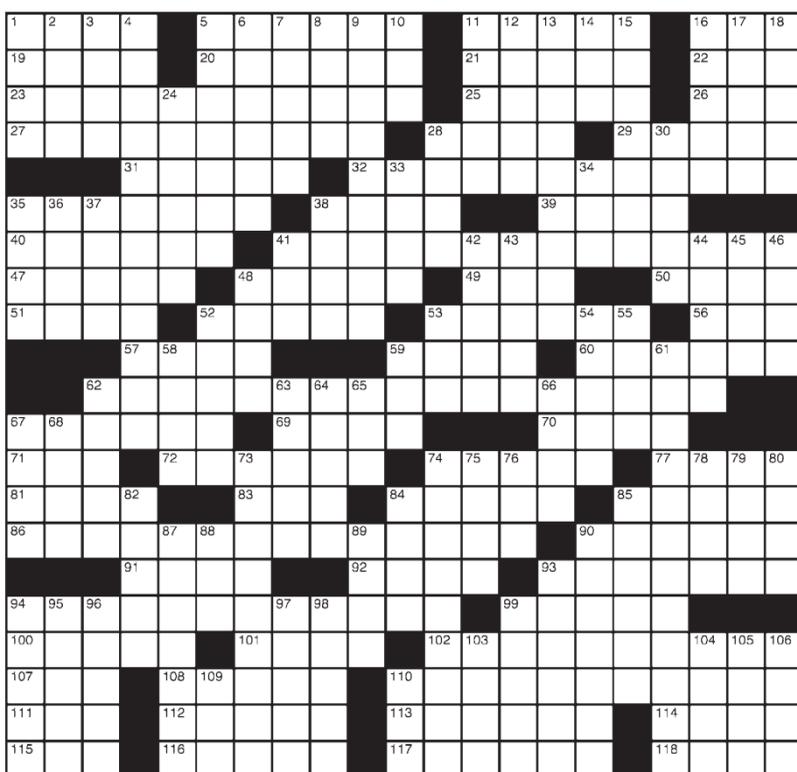
SUBSTITUTE MEASURES

By Ed Sessa

- ACROSS
1 Hindu 'sir'
5 Beaucoup
11 Engineer's details
16 Shortening letters
19 Abba not known for singing
20 From the top, to Tiberius
21 'Yes ___': 2008 campaign slogan
22 Boomer's kid
23 Measly treat for Polly?
25 Marinade used in Spanish cooking
26 ___-Magnon
27 Lizard-like amphibian
28 Latin trio word
29 Breakers in semis
31 Ceremonies
32 Work required to raise kids?
35 Decked out
38 Sextet in the Senate
39 Levelheaded
40 Math useful for cooks
41 Advantage in kickboxing?
47 Fragrant compound
48 Ancient jewelry staples
49 Be an incredible speaker?
50 President Taft's birthplace
51 Not dressed for swimming, generally
52 Small 27-Acrosses
53 Snake oil hawker, say
56 Wing
57 They're heard in herds
59 Straight
60 2012 presidential candidate
62 The buying power of cash?
67 Like much folk music
69 Face or race
70 Mad king of the stage
71 One in a golfer's bag
72 Certain winner
74 Some 'Vette roofs
77 Musical ending
81 Divided sea
83 Crowded-room atmosphere
84 Longtime name in catalogs
85 'The Exorcist' actor Max von ___
86 Cub soda?
90 Former mid-sized Chevy
91 'A creel of ___, all ripples': Sylvia Plath
92 Fruit pastry
93 Reddened, perhaps
94 Polished pearls?
99 Barbecue brand
100 Popular type
101 Cleanup hitter's stats
102 Milk choice
107 Non's opposite
108 Popular type
110 Bad snippets of Miss Muffet's memory?
111 Topper for Rumpole of the Bailey
112 Thicket of trees
113 Persevered in
114 Traveler from 76-Down
115 Sign before Virgo
116 Lugged
117 Treatment for some causes of backache
118 Puts to bed
DOWN
1 More than just asks
2 Start of a magical chant
3 Canaanite idol
4 Certain singles bar frequenter, in theory
5 Spot charges
6 Showed bias
7 How many boxed sets are recorded
8 Blackjack table gratuity
9 Puts too much in the fishtank
10 On behalf of
11 Hindu title
12 Organ part
13 Coral reef, e.g.
14 Hailed wine?
15 Cool, colorful treat
16 Reign supreme
17 Land at Orly?
18 Dracula repellent
24 Key with three flats
28 Shells on Omaha Beach
30 Good, in Guadalupe
33 Painting and dancing
34 Preserves holder
35 Trojan War god
36 Mrs. on a spice rack
37 Germany's von Bismarck
38 Suckling's milk source
41 How many are chosen?
42 Ground grain
43 Muscle-bone connection
44 Belgian treaty city
45 4-point F, for one
46 Word with Ghost or Grail
48 First lady before Mamie
52 Tally-keeping cut
53 Wine label word
54 City NW of Marseille
55 Pelican St. acronym
58 Mayberry tippler
59 Little one
61 Marvin Gaye classic subtitled 'The Ecology'
62 Gluten source
63 Texas Hold 'em declaration
64 Mustang sally?
65 Tokyo dough
66 Hurdle for Hannibal
67 'More than I can list' abbr.
68 Actress Hatcher
73 Ad-libbed
74 Unwraps excitedly
75 Political asset
76 Home to 114-Across
78 One-eyed Norse deity
79 Ready to eat
80 Lots (of), as cash
82 '90s daytime talk show
84 Brief quarrel
85 Unrivaled
87 Bring to life, in a way
88 From the past
89 Ones affected by bad weather, briefly
90 First word in France's motto
93 Opposite of pass
94 One might elicit a nervous 'Nice dog' one
95 'Taxi' dispatcher
96 La Paz paisano
97 Belittle
98 Nettled
99 Single-minded about
103 Little snorts
104 Berkshire school
105 Socially awkward one
106 Sounds of disapproval
109 Jack, Jill or Joey
110 One of a pair on a rack

Los Angeles Times Sunday Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis



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2/11/18

GOREN BRIDGE

THE YOUNG AT PLAY

Neither vulnerable, East deals

NORTH
A Q J 8 3
9 4
J 8 3 2
K 10

WEST
10 4 2
K 10 7 5 2
7 6
9 5 4

EAST
K 7 5
Q J 3
10 9 4
A J 8 6

SOUTH
9 6
A 8 6
A K Q 5
Q 7 3 2

The bidding:

Table with 4 columns: EAST, SOUTH, WEST, NORTH. Row 1: 1♣, 1NT, Pass, 2♦*. Row 2: Pass, 2♠, Pass, 3♦. Row 3: Pass, 3NT, All pass.

*Transfer to spades

Opening lead: Five of ♡

The East hand would not be considered an opening bid by most USA players, but this deal was played in Australia, where they don't have such exacting standards. There are a number of bidding systems popular in Australia that are unheard of in the USA. This deal was played in a team match and the East player at

the other table opened one no trump, in the middle of his agreed 9-14 point range. West was young Australian expert Nabil Edgton, fresh out of the junior ranks.

The opening heart lead went to East's jack as declarer ducked. Declarer also ducked the queen of hearts continuation, and Edgton paused to think. Setting up his hearts was pointless, as he had no possible entry to cash them. He had to look for tricks in a different suit. The dummy, and partner's opening bid, meant that clubs had to be the suit, so Edgton overtook the queen of hearts with the king and shifted to the four of clubs.

Declarer put in dummy's 10 of clubs and captured East's jack with the queen. South knew that East had to have the king of spades for his opening bid and the contract could still be made if that card were singleton. Declarer did his best by leading the nine of spades to dummy's ace. No luck. He continued with the queen of spades to East's king. East cashed the ace of clubs and led a club to Edgton's nine for down one after a lovely defense.

(Bob Jones welcomes readers' responses sent in care of this paper. Please send your e-mail responses to tcaeditors@tribpub.com)

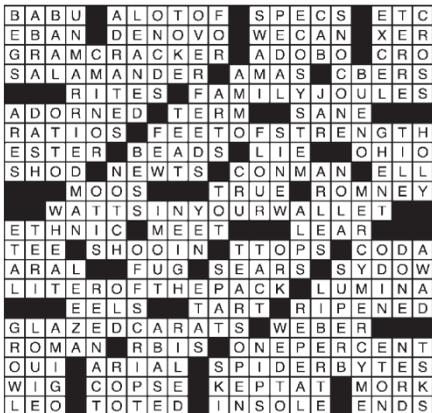
CRYPTOGRAMS

CRYPTOGRAMS by Myles Mellor

- 1. O N Q F L P I K X D G P H R F Z R U Y M
B S R L N A H D Y K D X K X H U Q Y D N Q S , L P
O A B Q U R K M L Q U R H U R I M R A F Z N A H
N R L Q O R S G !
2. H X V M P W C M T E K V D M T X H P J P V
V C M W S P Q Q V P S N U I E K B V K Z V B T I
P I J Q C K B V M J , " M D M T X V U H M U K R M I
H X H K B V C Q K H M Z K K S Q R M P N Q ! "
3. W F Q Z Z I T . S . Z S W D N S A Z J H C
Z N S D H W X X Z J T W L A J O O L F Z N A S S X
L F J U H J F K D L A D H S X . F J U J C I D J Q H C
O L K Q A S L Z J Q Z !
4. R S D W J R S Y V N U M F R S U U N R Q K N W
U G F G A - B N J Z U M Y N S U : " R W N J G M
O D S G W R S U G W R V R U K N U O Q ? Z U M Y N S U :
" O S N O U K N W B S G A S G W Q R W N ! "

PUZZLE ANSWERS

(Puzzles on previous pages)



JUMBLE

Answer :

POCKET OUTWIT SHADOW DEGREE BURLAP MIGHTY

When the Mars colony opened its first restaurant, customers really liked its —

GOOD ATMOSPHERE

- 1. The brontosaurus sang loud and long. Their band is called the Brontachorus.
2. I was reading a good Thesaurus. Then the angry tyrannosaurus saw us!
3. We got raucous arguing with a flying Stegosaurus. He tried to bore us with a chorus of porous theories. It ended pretty badly.
4. The brilliant prunes played some great tunes. Omg! They're raisin' hell at the date

bar!

HOLIDAY MATHS HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). You'll contemplate a move that would totally change your lifestyle. Some people wouldn't even consider this. Give yourself points just for having the guts to entertain the idea.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Friendship should not be relegated to a lower position than romantic love. Sometimes being "just friends" is exactly what's needed to take love to a more real, nurturing and committed place.
GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You'll make friends wherever you go, so don't worry about whether or not you have good company. Company is never far from you. Bonus: There's a distinct advantage in being the new person.
CANCER (June 22-July 22). Much suffering in the world is caused by people wanting to change others to be more like them. Too much similarity among a group is definitely not only unnecessary but also unhealthy.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). People get used to a base level of attention from you. That loving attention begins to just feel normal. The situation requires intermittent acts of initiative. The tiniest novel gesture will liberate a flow of adoring energy.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Get ahead of the competition by doing better work than any of the others on a consistent basis. There will be a few obvious hurdles, though nothing insurmountable once you put your mind to it.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). The physical world expresses itself through moving and through being. There's no arguing with it, and that's the beauty. Can your statement be made without words? Look into this today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Don't worry too much now about presenting yourself in a novel way. You don't have to try to stand out. And you can't help but be original. It's not in one thing you say or do but in the sum of your work.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). To show small but unmistakable kindness to the one for which you currently feel only neutrality will change you — and the world — for the better, to a degree that's totally disproportionate to the small gesture.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Quiet water acts as a mirror, whereas nothing can be reflected in rushing or disturbed water. The mind is the same way. Reflection happens in mental stillness. Distortion happens in the blur of having too many thoughts.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Such sayings as "mind your own business" and "to each his own" may feel rather common and small, but they are packed with a great deal of wisdom and power. Intolerance is suffering. Tolerance is peace.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Yes, nice people are pleasant to hang around with, and they're a lot less work. But people who aren't nice have their merits, too, and there will be a benefit to relating to them today, as well.
TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Feb. 11). Compatibility is a puzzle, and the pieces will fall right in place for you this solar return. This will be as true in your professional life as it is in your personal life. You've simply a knack for being a part of winning teams. April is when an investment pays you back. June brings a big improvement that will take a while to settle into. Leo and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 5, 30, 22, 25 and 14.



GOOD NEWS TODAY



AP PHOTOS

Tommee, a golden retriever, competes in the Masters Agility Championship during the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show, Saturday, in New York.



Austyn Rock, a golden retriever, competes in the Masters Agility Championship during the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show, Saturday, in New York.

330 dogs leap, zip and whirl in Westminster agility contest

By JENNIFER PELTZ
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Leslie Holm has no trouble pulling together a big-time performance. She spent 19 years as a lighting technician and electrician on tours by acts ranging from Beyonce to Bon Jovi.

But guiding her dog, Riley Nico, through the Westminster Kennel Club agility competition? “This gives me butterflies,” Holm says.

She never envisioned herself doing something like this before adopting

the mixed-breed dog and seeing her jump over benches and weave around people at a pooch park.

Three years later, in her first turn Saturday at the nation’s most famous dog show, Riley Nico finished racking up points to be at the “master agility champion” level.

But Holm says the biggest reward isn’t a ribbon or title — it’s a connection.

“You’re teammates. It’s not just like having a pet,” says Holm, who’s now an electrician for conventions so she can

be home more with her dogs.

As many as 330 dogs, from Yorkshire terriers to German shepherds, and their human teammates navigated jumps, turns, ramps and tunnels as the show opened Saturday, aiming for the nighttime, televised finals. (Not to be outdone, some pedigreed cats had a go at agility at a companion event next door.)

The show, now in its 142nd year, added agility in 2014, incorporating an increasingly popular sport — and with it, mixed-breed dogs. A record 29 of them signed up to compete this year.

The more traditional part of Westminster, featuring 2,882 entries, begins Monday morning and leads up to the best in show pick Tuesday night at Madison Square Garden.

Agility winners so far have all been purebred, and the sport definitely has its breeds-to-beat. Just ask these 55 border collies, 34 Shetland sheepdogs or 18 Australian shepherds, for instance.

But contestants like Zuri the basenji and Valur the Saluki came from breeds seldom seen at agility trials.

Greyhound-like Salukis have speed and stamina but are known for independent-mindedness. So

Christine Klein figured out how to get Valur engaged: make sure training isn’t repetitive, and don’t bother correcting him if he makes a mistake.

“He doesn’t like to be wrong,” the Sharon, Vermont, woman chuckled.

On the other end of the lankiness spectrum is Spec the longhaired dachshund — or “the Weavin’ Weiner,” as owner Carole Krivanich calls him.

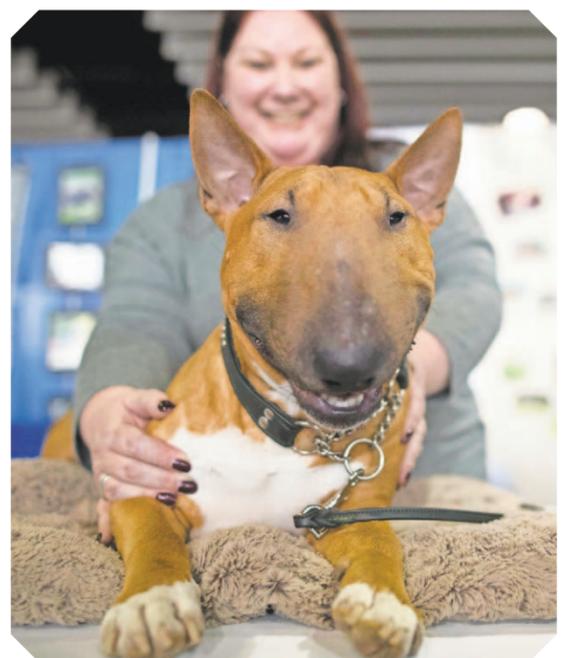
He has to overcome short legs and an extended torso. And then there’s his scent hound’s nose.

“For him to run along the ground and not stop and smell anything is a challenge,” said Krivanich, of Milton, Delaware.

Westminster’s agility competition is separate from the more traditional, sedate purebred judging that goes toward the coveted Best in Show trophy. But 6-year-old Chester, a Doberman pinscher, is doing both at his first Westminster.

Owner Steve Garcia got Chester as a pet, with no thought of dog sports until he saw how much the Doberman seemed to enjoy a basic obedience class.

That led to agility, scent work and a therapy-dog certification. Garcia, of Massapequa,



Erin Marcotte, of Raymond, N.H., shows Ronin, a 2-year-old miniature bull terrier, during the Meet The Breeds companion event to the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show, Saturday, in New York.

hopes Chester can “be the ambassador” for a breed sometimes perceived as threatening.

Inspired by interest in dog agility, cat fanciers began holding agility competitions in the early 2000s, largely with the goal of getting people to play more with their felines.

Spots had never tried agility before Saturday at “Meet the Breeds,” a Westminster companion event involving both the American Kennel Club

and The International Cat Association.

The 4-month-old Bengal kitten initially seemed a bit puzzled by the obstacles. But she quickly seemed to get the hang of it — mostly — after a few times following a toy-dangling trainer through the course.

“People used to think you couldn’t train cats,” said Spots’ owner and breeder, Vicki Jeffers of Califon, New Jersey. “But they can see that you can.”



Pumpkin, a 4-month-old Thai, is shown during the Meet The Breeds companion event to the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show, Saturday, in New York.

Igloos built by migrants warm hearts in Italian village

By CHARLENE PELE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN SIMONE DI VALLEVE, Italy — San Simone, a tiny village in the Italian Alps, once had a thriving ski trade. But financial issues kept the lifts closed this winter. The local hotel now houses about 80 African asylum-seekers who were assigned to live there when they arrived in Italy.

But restaurant owner Davide Midali saw promise in both his village and its new residents. To lure tourists back, he set out to build igloos that could be rented overnight, like ones he had seen in Sweden. That’s how a handful of immigrants unaccustomed to the cold picked up the art of igloo-making.

“When some of them

saw me creating these blocks of snow, they voluntarily decided to give a hand to reach a common goal,” Midali said.

Working with a small crew of volunteers, Midali built six igloos, each taking four or five days to complete.

The igloos, which were set up as a mini-village, sleep 18 altogether and have been fully booked on weekends since mid-January. Curious people stop by to snap photographs or for a peek inside the snow domes. Schools in Milan and Bergamo have brought children up for fieldtrips.

For \$123 per person, a couple can dine at Midali’s restaurant, sleep in an igloo and eat an organic breakfast before embarking on a guided snowshoe excursion in the Valle

Brembana mountains.

Midali thinks the project has allowed him and the migrants to understand each other a little better, maybe even to serve as an example for others in San Simone.

In that way, the connection forged with tools and snow is a small counterpoint to the pre-election campaigning in Italy that has featured right-wing parties pledging to expel thousands of migrants.

Cristian Palazzi, president of the local tourism board, said the igloo undertaking project was “a small step to give life to a small community.”

“I cannot guarantee whether this is enough, but for sure this has been a great idea because without it, today San Simone would be dead.”



AP PHOTO

In this photo taken on Friday, Feb. 2, tourists relax on sun chairs next to an igloo village in San Simone di Valleve, near Bergamo, northern Italy.



Custom home in Tomoka Heights

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

This home is at 32 Acacia Court North in Lake Placid. It is priced for \$259,000 and is listed with Carol Edwards with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Properties Group.

This 2007 custom-built "island" home offers three spacious bedrooms and two baths with more than 2,400 livable square feet.

As you enter through the front leaded glass door, you will see nothing but the best in quality. Thermo-pane windows are throughout the home with decorator custom window treatments. The flooring is real wood bamboo with the exception of the wet areas.

The kitchen is open and oversized with wood cabinets and self-closing drawers. The counter top is SileStone quartz with a Kohler porcelain sink. The kitchen has a large breakfast bar and a cheery morning room for casual meals.

EDWARDS | 2



COURTESY PHOTO

This home is located at 32 Acacia Court North in Lake Placid. It is priced for \$259,000 and is listed with Carol Edwards of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Properties Group.

DIRECTIONS

32 Acacia Court North, Lake Placid

From U.S. 27 in Lake Placid, turn onto Tomoka Boulevard South. Turn right onto Rosewood Drive North. Turn right to stay on Rosewood Drive North. Turn right onto Acacia Court North. The home is on the left.

Impressive Spring Lake home

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

This home is at 309 Ridge Court in Sebring. It is priced for \$249,900 and is listed with Bea Ross and Melba Starling with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Properties Group.

This impressive pool home with a new pool cage is located directly on the Spring Lake Golf Course. The open floor plan adds great fun for entertaining family and friends.

Featuring cathedral ceilings, the home's three bedrooms are all privately located. The master bedroom is very large, with his-and-hers walk-in closets and glass doors leading out to the pool, along with a double vanity, a whirlpool tub and separate glass enclosed walk-in shower.

The enclosed pool is a great space to enjoy your morning coffee and start your day viewing wildlife and early golfers. The pool is heated.

The garage can house two cars and

ROSS | 2



COURTESY PHOTO

This home is at 309 Ridge Court in Sebring. It is priced for \$249,900 and is listed with Bea Ross and Melba Starling with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Properties Group.

DIRECTIONS

309 Ridge Court, Sebring

From U.S. 27 in south Sebring, turn east on U.S. 98. Turn left onto Spring Lake Boulevard. Turn left onto Duane Palmer Boulevard. Turn right onto Coral Ridge Road. Turn right onto Ridge Court. The home is on the left.

Serene house on Little Lake

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

This home is at 1731 Circle Drive in Lake Placid. It is priced for \$245,000 and is listed with Maureen Cool with Re/Max Realty Plus.

Many lake front buyers are looking for a private, scenic and serene setting to enjoy aquatic wildlife sightings and a relaxed lifestyle. This home will fulfill this desire

Located on Little Lake, a small pristine four-acre lake in the heart of Sylvan Shores, this home provides the perfect lake setting at an affordable price without all the weekend hustle and bustle of the larger lakes.

The home has three bedrooms, two baths and a two-car garage. It was built in 2007 and has 1,730 square feet of air-conditioned space and 2,534 total square feet under roof.

Inviting curb appeal welcomes you the moment you drive up to this

COOL | 2



COURTESY PHOTO

This home is at 1731 Circle Drive in Lake Placid. It is priced for \$245,000 and is listed with Maureen Cool with Re/Max Realty Plus.

DIRECTIONS

1731 Circle Drive, Lake Placid

From U.S. 27 in Lake Placid, turn east onto County Road 621. Turn left onto Lake Clay Drive at the Sylvan Shores entrance. Turn right onto Oak Avenue, across from the Lake Clay boat ramp. Turn right onto Pinetop Terrace. Turn left onto Circle Drive. The home is on the right.



COURTESY PHOTO

The kitchen is open and oversized with wood cabinets and self-closing drawers.

EDWARDS

FROM PAGE 1

This home also offers a formal living and dining room. The windowed family room offers plenty of light.

The master bedroom

is fit for a queen with an elegant lighted tray ceiling. The master bath offers double sinks and cultured marble shower and non-slip floor. The guest bedrooms are spacious with a Jacuzzi tub in the guest bath.

The laundry room offers extra cabinets.

This lovely home offers 9-foot ceilings throughout with custom crown molding in most rooms. Professional artist touches can be found throughout the home. All interior doorways are handicap accessible.

Brick pavers are used in the driveway,

COOL

FROM PAGE 1

well-maintained home. A beveled glass front door with sidelights sets the stage to the home as you enter.

The home opens to a large great room with lake views through the French doors that open to the screened porch. Upgrades in the great room included porcelain tile flooring, plant shelves, wide baseboards, walls with rounded corners and cathedral ceilings. The versatile floor plan flows from the living room space to the dining room area and gourmet kitchen, which has a large peninsular island separating it from the great room.

The kitchen has all the features any chef will love — stunning dark solid wood cabinets, upgraded stainless steel appliances, large walk-in pantry, trending light colored quartz counter tops and prep island. The large peninsular counter is perfect for casual meals or additional seating when entertaining.

The dining room is conveniently located next to the kitchen and has French doors that open to the screened porch, extending the living space.

The laundry room is adjacent to the kitchen and opens into the two-car garage for convenience and has cabinets over the washer/dryer for additional storage. Also included with the home is a central vacuum system.

The split floor plan offers a spacious master suite with a tall tray ceiling and overlooks the lake. There are two closets and a private master bathroom with a high top vanity and a step-in shower with glass enclosure.

The secondary bedrooms are a generous size with the guest bedroom overlooking the lake. The third bedroom overlooks a lushly landscaped front yard and is currently used as a home office. The hall/guest bathroom features an oversized soak tub.

A spacious 12 by 24 screened porch offers open views of the backyard and lake. The exterior has a fenced backyard and patio for barbecuing. An outside utility room on the side of the garage is ideal for storing garden tools or lake toys. The beautifully landscaped yard

has curbed flowerbeds for easy maintenance. The adjacent lot is also available to extend your lake frontage.

Little Lake does not have public access but is quiet and offers fishing, canoeing, kayaking and paddle boarding from the shore of your backyard. The Lake Clay boat ramp with a dock and

pavilion is just minutes away and offers 367 acres of boating, fishing and watersport activities. Downtown Lake Placid with cute store fronts, restaurants and world famous murals is a short drive away. Lake Placid is located within two hours of most South Florida locations.

If you are downsizing

PEOPLE IN REAL ESTATE



Maureen Cool is with RE/MAX Realty Plus. Call 863-873-7243.



Carol Edwards is with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Properties Group. Call 863-441-2994.



Bea Ross is with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Properties Group. Call 863-273-0315.

HOW TO APPEAR IN PEOPLE IN REAL ESTATE

Members of the Heartland Association of Realtors who want to submit articles about their professional achievements should call Eileen Powers at 863-386-5809. People in Real Estate submissions appear on a space availability basis. All submissions are subject to change.

walkways and the spacious patio. This home has the energy wall for low electric bills.

Check out this beautiful home in the waterfront, gated community of Tomoka Heights,

which offers an active senior lifestyle for its residents.

For more information, call Edwards at

863-441-2994. For more information and photos, visit www.csedwards.net and click on MLS 246064.

ROSS

FROM PAGE 1

a golf cart and has a skeeter beater screen installed. The interior of garage is nicely finished and could also be used as a great game room.

This home is situated on a beautiful landscaped lot in a private

section of Spring Lake that does not have any homeowner's association fees.

For more information or to schedule a showing, call Ross at 863-273-0315 or Starling at 863-465-7100.

Ask about MLS 245138. View photos and visual tour at vimeopro.com/prestigeaerialservices/309-ridge-ct.



COURTESY PHOTO

The versatile floor plan flows from the living room space to the dining room area and gourmet kitchen.



COURTESY PHOTO

A spacious 12 by 24 screened porch offers open views of the backyard and lake.

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Gray is more than an interior design trend

By **SHELLY SAPP**
CONTRIBUTED STORY

The Revs Institute in Naples is an amazing design experience. This was a private, invitation only, facility just a few years ago, housing the private car collection of the Collier family. Now it's a non profit so they are

required to let interiors designers in too.

I suspected I was invited to join my Porscheophile husband to ensure our 4 year old did not cause any "incidents." But I was instead taken back by the timeless beauty of these cars and how their design embraced the use of the

gray spectrum. To a point I even asked my husband to take our "angel" for a few fleeting moments so I could photograph some of them.

We forget sometimes that design is bigger than our magazines, HGTV or any blog. It has a soul of its own that thrived before us and will

progress with or without us shaping its direction online.

While gray may not sound like the most interesting place to start when dissecting the color schemes of these stunningly designed works of automotive sculpture, it is timely and even controversial, since technically

gray is not even a color. It is a neutral or achromatic color; gray is an intermediate color between black and white.

As is the case in most homes, my husband gets little say in how we (read "I") decorate. I give him one job and that is to pick a paint color for our bedroom. Since 1997 and three homes in, that color has been gray. So, I can speak with some authority on the subject, having used it on and off trend.

Gray feels so flat when it is used without seasoning and should never be overused. The engineers of these depression-era automobiles realized the same thing and they are a fascinating way to illustrate this modern design quandary. Let's look at some helpful strategies:

First, I suggest using more than one shade of gray. Just choose two shades lighter or darker from the same page on the paint deck to get a deeper affect in a space. It can draw the eye to an accent wall behind the bed or an otherwise uneventful popcorn ceiling.

Second, don't be afraid to bring in some texture. The change in shadow alone causes some eye-catching drama to what may be becoming an overly sterile project. Texture can be in the form of a shag rug in a comfortable shade of cream or using that wonderful stack of wicker baskets you brought back from Arizona last November between two recliners. It doesn't have to be something large in the room, just enough to

excite the senses.

Finally, always add a little honey to your project when working in grays. Consider a hickory plank floor, or bronze pendant lighting when you pick materials for your kitchen remodel.

So, while our iPad is telling us this is in or that is out, and gray is a trend, remember the greatest generation of automotive engineers in the world knew gray was a timeless force of design to be embraced for your most adored spaces. I can say with almost certainty my bedroom will still have gray paint when I am 90.

Just add some depth through shading, fold in some texture for affect and add honey for a truly ravishing interior.

Shelly Sapp is with Shelly Sapp Interiors. Call 863-991-2578, email shelly@shellysappinteriors.com or visit shellysappinteriors.com.

Barrett joins Re/Max Realty Plus

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

SEBRING — Tom Barrett has joined Re/Max Realty Plus in Sebring.

He currently resides in Sebring and is a long time native of Highlands County.

He has a diverse background in infrastructure, home construction and remodeling and now as one of the top new Realtors in Highlands County. Barrett is well versed in



BARRETT

residential as well as commercial real estate.

Whether buying or selling, Barrett will provide you with the special attention anyone would expect from a professional.

His hard work and dedication to his clients sets him apart.

Focusing on the clients' satisfaction and interests, he relates with

their wants and needs and makes it his number one priority to go above and beyond in helping his clients purchase or sell their home.

"I'm extremely excited to work with Re/Ma Realty Plus," Barrett said. "I look forward to serving Highlands County for many years to come."

"Remember I work when you don't. Night and weekend appointments always welcomed!"

To contact Barrett, call 863-873-6523 or 863-385-0077.

2018s biggest trends

By **SOPHIE MIURA**
DOMAINE

The start of a new year always sparks a conversation about trend predictions among home decor experts, but few are as equipped to share their picks as 1stdibs.

The global marketplace recently tapped its extensive network of roughly 40,000 interior designers to find out which trends they believe are on the rise — and which to retire now.

"1stdibs is fortunate to have 40,000 of the most talented interior designers take part in our trade program," said Sarah Liebel, GM of the 1stdibs Trade Program.

"This group is responsible for putting together some of the most beautiful spaces throughout the world."

Here's what the tastemakers had to say about 2018's top trends:

Trends on the rise

1. Warm, bright colors:

26 percent of designers said more color, warmer tones and brighter shades are on the rise. Jewel tones top the list again, with shades of teal, eggplant and emerald green the No. 1 choices.

2. Velvet and stone: Brushed metals, velvet and stone are on the rise.

3. Geometric patterns and florals: 24 percent mentioned geometric patterns as a top trend, while 32 percent believe florals will remain strong in 2018.

Trends to retire

1. Minimalism: "While modern design maintains popularity, designers report expecting to see more complexity in both color and details come into vogue versus the minimalist style (down 3 percent from 2017) we've seen recently," 1stdibs says.

2. Millennial pink: The once-popular shade of blush is on the way out.

3. Brass: Most designers predict brass finishes will fall out of favor.

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Long-term US mortgage rates climb for fifth straight week

By PAUL WISEMAN
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Long-term U.S. mortgage rates climbed for the fifth straight week amid investors' growing concern about inflation.

Mortgage giant Freddie Mac said Thursday the average rate on 30-year, fixed-rate mortgages shot up to 4.32 percent this week, up from 4.22 percent last week and the highest since December 2016. A year ago, it stood at 4.17 percent.

The rate on 15-year, fixed-rate loans, popular

among homeowners who refinanced, rose to 3.77 percent from 3.68 percent last week and the highest since May 2011. It was 3.39 percent a year ago.

A strong U.S. economy is raising fears that inflation may be on the rise; investors are demanding higher interest rates. The yield on 10-year Treasury notes, which influences mortgage rates, has risen the past week to 2.88 percent from 2.78 percent.

"Will higher rates break housing-market momentum? It's too early to tell for sure," said Len Kiefer, a Freddie Mac economist.

He noted that applications to buy homes are still up 8 percent from a year ago.

The rate on five-year adjustable rate mortgages rose to 3.57 percent this week from 3.53 percent last week and the highest since April 2011. It was 3.21 percent a year ago.

To calculate average mortgage rates, Freddie Mac surveys lenders across the country between Monday and Wednesday each week.

The average doesn't include extra fees, known as points, which most borrowers must pay to get



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This January file photo shows an existing home for sale in Walpole, Mass. On Thursday, Feb. 8, Freddie Mac reports on the week's average U.S. mortgage rates.

the lowest rates. The fee on 30-year loans blipped up to 0.6 point from

0.5 point last week. The fees were all unchanged at 0.5 point for 15-year

mortgages and 0.4 point for five-year adjustable mortgages.

How to buy a house before selling the one in which you live

MORTGAGE PROFESSOR

Jack Guttentag

A homeowner who wants to exchange the house in which she lives for another one that better meets her current needs and capacities can save herself much grief and expense by buying the new house before selling the old one.

Buying the new house first means having to move only once instead of twice. The downside is that financing a house purchase when you already own a home is more difficult. Coping with these difficulties is the subject of this article.

When a homeowner applies for a mortgage to purchase another house, since the borrower can permanently occupy only one house, the practice is to view the purchased house as the borrower's residence, leaving the existing house as an investment property. Investment loans are riskier than loans secured by a permanent residence.

Since the applicant for a new purchase loan is viewed as having a risky investment property, the payment reserve requirement — the number of months of monthly payments the borrower must have in the bank at closing — is higher. Further, the expense-to-income ratio used to assess the borrower's ability to make future payments will include the payment on the existing mortgage as well as the payment on a new mortgage.

For these reasons, the purchaser may find it difficult to qualify for a loan from a traditional mortgage lender, which raises questions about other potential sources.

If the borrower has a 401(k) retirement account and her employer permits loans against it for the purpose of buying a house, which most do, this is a low-cost and usually a low-risk way to finance the home purchase before selling the existing house. It avoids collateral and affordability issues because no lender is involved — the borrower is lending to herself.

The cost of borrowing against a 401(k) account is the earnings foregone on the amount borrowed, which is no longer earning a return. The risk is that if the borrower loses her job, or changes employers, she

must pay back the loan in full within a short period, often 60 days. If she doesn't, it is treated as a withdrawal and subjected to taxes and penalties. While 401(k) accounts can usually be rolled over into 401(k) accounts at a new employer, or into an IRA, without triggering tax payments or penalties, loans from a 401(k) cannot be rolled over.

If you have a binding contract of sale on the old house, and a bank with which you have a history, a bridge loan is the way to go. A bridge loan is used to provide funds needed for a short period until another source of funds becomes available. In the home loan market, a bridge loan, sometimes called a "swing" loan, allows a home buyer to close on the new home purchase before closing on the old home sale.

I used an unsecured bridge loan on my last purchase, and it was relatively simple and hassle-free. While the rate may be high, the interest payment won't amount to much because the period covered by the loan is short.

Banks aren't crazy about bridge loans because they realize they are one-shot affairs and they are unlikely to see the borrower again unless the borrower is already a customer. For this reason, you should go to the institution where you currently hold your household deposit and declare (in a polite

way) that, as a customer, you expect this service.

If you don't have a binding contract of sale, you can't get an unsecured bridge loan. However, if you have significant equity in the house, and if the house is not yet listed, you can probably get a home equity line of credit or HELOC. With a HELOC, you can draw the amount you need to close on the new house, subject to a maximum draw.

If your old house is listed for sale, however, a HELOC may not be available. Lenders are not much interested in a deal that will last only a few months. If they go ahead on a home that is listed for sale, there likely will be a cancellation

charge, and you may have to pay closing costs that they ordinarily waive to attract new customers.

The aftermath of the financial crisis included large numbers of foreclosed homes placed on the market, most of which required work to be habitable. In response, large numbers of people went into the business of buying these houses, fixing them up and reselling at a profit. They are called "house flippers," and a wave of new lenders arose to finance them.

Homeowners looking to buy before selling, and who are shut out of all the sources discussed above, can try a house flipper lender. They would not be interested in the permanent loan

on the new house, but they might be willing to finance the purchase subject to repayment when the existing home is sold. The price will be high, but that matters little when the period is

short. Jack Guttentag is professor emeritus of finance at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. Comments and questions can be left at mtgprofessor.com

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Looking to sell? Keep these strategies in mind

Editor's note: This column originally published Dec. 11, 2016.



TODAY'S REAL ESTATE
JULIO SEDA

When you are considering whether or not to sell your home, the most important recommendation I have is to contact a minimum of three full time Real Estate agents and interview them. It is necessary that you select the one who is most knowledgeable of the area and community where your property is located.

Once you have chosen your agent and prior to the agent commencing the listing presentation, arrange a tour of the home and work out a flexible showing schedule with the Realtor. During this process, feel free to ask the agent for comments on how to improve the possibility of

an offer. It is also crucial that you ask the agent about his or her property-showing action plan. In said action plan, the agent can demonstrate to you how he or she will advertise the property and create a constant flow of prospective buyers.

It is imperative that sellers always keep

in mind that the first impression happens in a matter of seconds. The first and most important step for a buyer to become interested in your home is that first impression.

Begin by calling the buyer's attention through a simple cute and inexpensive landscape. Clean up weeds, dry leaves, dry plants or branches. Retouch or repaint the front entrance, keep the patio and garage organized. Remember that the first view of your home to a buyer is the exterior and in many cases that first view is what will drive a buyer to come inside to view the property.

All for sale homes should be in show room, model home condition at all times. Your agent should assist you with

creating a balanced look between the exterior and interior of your home. This process is called staging.

1. People can be photogenic but many clients are distracted by portraits of the seller and may miss out on key selling points of the home. Art should be displayed without people in it. The reason you want to de-personalize your home is because you want buyers to view it as their potential home. Prospective buyers won't be able to picture themselves in the house if they're surrounded by dozens of photos of your children and grandparents. I also recommend removing any religious items from plain view.

2. To make a room appear bigger, paint it the same color as the

adjacent room. If you have a small kitchen and dining room, the same color will create a seamless look and make both rooms feel like one big space. Another tip to give the illusion of more space is to paint the walls the same color as your draperies.

3. Because you want your home to show like a model, remove your packing and clutter to a storage facility or arrange a garage sale to get rid of clutter and create revenue.

4. Rearrange rooms to identify them for a distinct use. For example, a small room should have a few small pieces of furniture.

5. The closets should be kept neat, organized and clutter free. Remember this is so buyers can feel that there is enough room

for his or her family.

6. During the selling process, always look for wall scratches and door frames and doors knob areas with hand stains. If it needs cleaning or painting, it should be done prior to showing. Sellers should keep in mind that a buyer is always in a concerned mood.

Therefore he or she needs to feel that your home is a problem-free purchase. Sellers also need to be aware that other agent who show homes like their house will call other prospective buyers. Remember more showings means a sale.

To submit questions, comments or topics, call Julio Seda at 786-991-8235 or email 0532315@gmail.com.

In home decor, orange is the new black

DESIGN RECIPES
CATHY HOBBS

Perhaps surprisingly, orange is one of the most versatile colors. Whether as an accent color or the foundation of your color scheme, orange is a color that can lend itself to both formal and casual settings.

Why orange?

Orange is a warm color that

can truly go a long way to help warm up a space. Unlike red, which the color orange is often compared to, orange is subtler, while still being a warm color. Many shades of orange also have strong yellow undertones, which also help to keep spaces light and fresh.

Color pairings

Orange is the new black in the sense that it can be paired

with a number of colors. You can pair orange with cooler colors such as charcoal gray and blue, as well as neutral colors such as white, brown and taupe.

Where to use orange

The beauty of orange is its versatility. Orange can be used in social areas to create a sense of energy such as a living room or family room, as well as in

spaces where you may want to create a sense of fun, such as a children's bedroom or bathroom.

Orange as an accent color

It may sound daring, but orange can also work well as a paint color either throughout a room or as an accent color. When using orange as a paint color, one of the most

successful techniques is to incorporate high contrast. You can achieve this by introducing high contrast colors such as white, light gray or cream.

Cathy Hobbs, based in New York City, is an Emmy Award-winning television host and a nationally known interior design and home staging expert. Contact her at info@cathyhobbs.com or visit her website at www.cathyhobbs.com.

REAL ESTATE MARKETPLACE

1000

REAL ESTATE

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OPEN HOUSE
1010

Feb. 10 & 11, 10a-3p at 301 Woodbine Dr., Sebring (Town & Country MHP). 1993 Merit dblwide, 2/2, open flr plan, dblwide carport, mostly furn. 859-221-3766 (private showing)

Sat & Sun, Feb 10 & 11 9a-2p: 455 Bobwhite Dr. Sebring (Buttonwood Bay) 2/2 open floor plan; new roof & many new appliances.

NEED CASH?

HOMES FOR SALE
1020

BEAUTIFUL, SPACIOUS, MOVE IN READY HOME FOR SALE
828 Catfish Creek Rd., Lake Placid
3br, 3ba, extra large fr w/real fireplace, 9 closets, granite kitchen counter tops, all kit appliances, + washer dryer, 2 screen porches, 2,477 sq.ft. +- AND, DETACHED 4th BR SUITE W/BATHROOM (Mother-in-law suite, hobby room, workshop). 8 ceiling fans, lawn irrigation by well, laminate wood & ceramic floors, fenced back yard, exterior lighting, AND property taxes around \$850+
*** NY & NJ Take Note ***
Priced to sell quick! \$187,800 Call Chip Eifler 863-465-0888

Sebring-3/2, CBS home; 20x20 wkshop; lrg oak trees; new roof & many upgrades. Close to schools & shopping. \$118k. 863-381-0538

HOMES FOR SALE
LAKE PLACID
1027

3br/2ba w/carport- Lanai, newer roof & floors. Quiet & clean area. \$87k obo. Preapproved only. 812-290-3758

By Owner: 123 Heather Lane, Lake Placid. Lrg corner lot on canal: Over 160' of Canal Frontage leading to Lake Francis (5 mins to lake) 2/2, large sunroom, open kit. lcg detached garage. \$150,000 OBO. 269-469-1060 or 269-876-6564

WATERFRONT HOMES 1030



By Owner- 7042 CR 17 S., Sebring. 3/2/1.5, parking for motor home, lg boat, etc., lg driveway, lots of closets, pantries, lg screen tiled lanai facing lake, extra lg lot, lots of fruit trees, pier w/hand rails & deck, lg windows for exc view of lake, beautiful sunrises to wake up to! \$199,000. Barb 260-437-8401. Will pay any agents with buyer 3.0%. More photos on Zillow, For Sale by Owner.

ADVERTISE!

CONDOS/VILLAS FOR SALE
1040



Covered Bridge Villa- 2/2 Roof 2018, H2O heater 2016, built 2000, most furniture incl. \$106,000. 224-523-5006

Covered Bridge Villa- 2/2, fully furn. Turnkey ready! \$85/mo maint. fee; \$127k 863-699-0801

MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE
1090

2013 Itasca Sunova- 35', 3 slides; gas engine; Ford chassis, elect. awning, low mi. \$79,900. 863-840-2729

MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE
1090

By owner 3/2/2 4040 Rain Dance, Tanglewood, Sebring. many upgrades, partially furn, clean, \$72,000 neg, (863)269-8094, (716)228-3870

Francis 2 MHP, 55+ park, 2/1.5, furnished, lge screen porch, carport, own your land, low fees-\$38 mo-705-308-9411

Mobile Home 28x8 w/FL room 10x20, good cond., \$4,500, background ck, low rent, 55+ in LP-717-773-2493

Paradise Village MHP, Lake Placid- 2/1.5, furn. w/lrg FL rm, newer AC & fridge. Amenities incl. & sm. pet friendly. 863-451-6071

Sebring - on own land 1/4 acre, 2/2, partially furn., new kitchen, new appliances, new floor in dining/kitchen area, garage & 2 outside buildings, 863-855-4320

Sebring 55+ single wide 2/2, screened entry/carport, furn'd, washer/dryer, shed, new paint, \$10,900, 863-658-2454.

Sebring Francis I- 1/1 furn., shed, W/D, FL rm. 99 yr lease, shareholder. \$18k. 30427 Tiger Tail Rd. Call or stop by! 574-242-1765

Sebring- 1/1 in 55+ Park, 39' w/new metal roof, large porch & shed. Rent \$1,900/yr \$12,500 269-795-9823

Sebring-2/2 dblwide in 55+ Park: 2019 Cactus Lane. New roof & AC. Price negotiable. 920-230-2434

You Save Big Bucks Shopping Classifieds!

LP Sunshine RV Park-1BR, 36' with 2 tip outs & 34' FL rm! 11x6 shed, golf cart, W/D Turnkey. Reduced: \$15k! MUST SELL ASAP! 863-699-1711



Sebring Village-55+ Park, 2/2, laminate flrs, full lanai, lg carport, shed, fully furn. Bright & Clean! REDUCED: \$16k 863-382-2418

WANTED TO BUY
1120

Lake Placid CASH for Your Home! Rapid Closing; Any Condition. Must have sufficient equity. Ken 863-441-2689

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HOMES FOR RENT
1210

Apartment & Houses for Rent in Highlands County Starting at \$450 Pet Friendly! Call Mike 863-243-9191 www.Mylakeplacid.com

APARTMENTS FOR RENT
1320

Avon Park-3/1 w/carport, shed, new tub & tile. Close to shopping \$645/mo+ 1st/sec. 561-719-2520

Brae Locke Villa's 4071 Thunderbird Rd., Sebring 863-382-6216 TDD #1-800-955-8771

1BR basic rent: \$605 2BR basic rent: \$637

We accept Section 8 Housing. Rental assistance may be available for those who qualify. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Cable TV Free- Cen. A/C, quiet, safe. Lg 1 bdr, tile flrs, mini blinds. FREE 1/2 1st mo. 863-385-1999

Downtown Sebring- 1BR \$425 No pets. Incl. water, sewer & garbage! 800-743-2301

APARTMENTS FOR RENT
1320

HERON'S LANDING 1 Heron's Landing Ln. Lake Placid, FL 33852
Accepting Applications 62 years of age or older, handicapped/disabled, regardless of age, with or without children.

1 Bedroom starts at \$436 2 Bedroom starts at \$515

Office Hours Monday-Friday, 8am-Noon 863-699-2899 TDD# 1-800-955-8771 This institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer



Martin Luther King Apts. 1848 Jones Dr., Sebring 863-382-1467 TDD #1-800-955-8771

1BR basic rent: \$514 2BR basic rent: \$549 3BR basic rent: \$594 4BR basic rent: \$629

We accept Section 8 Housing. Rental assistance may be available for those who qualify. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Looking for Adventure? Find it in the Classifieds

MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT
1340

Sebring 2b/1.5 doublewide-\$600/mo, 1st & last. \$35 background credit check, no pets, 863-381-4110/863-381-5174

ROOMS FOR RENT
1360

Roommate, furnished, all utilities incl. \$550/mo. 1st, sec close to Mall. non-smokers/no pets 863-414-2001.

COMMERCIAL RENTAL
1392

Liberty Star Plaza
Sebring *Liberty Star Plaza* Leasing 3000-18,000 sqft; Built out. US 27 Near SR 66 863-471-0663

WANTED TO RENT
1420

Lady Gardner & Golfer Husband looking for 1 mo rental in private home. Willing to trade same-use of duplex in Sebring OH. Email photos avail. 330-938-1590

LOTS & ACREAGE
1500

Lake Okeechobee Lot Channel w/seawall & dock, 110 x78, existing slab, empty septic, electr. & water hook-ups. REDUCED!! \$27K 269-476-2188 or 269-506-6510

ARCADIA 55 acre parcel w/ lake for rent or sale. Water, electric, septic on site. Need your OWN 5th wheel or mobile home. \$725/mo. Call 239-693-7270.

Commerical Lot- hardtop road, surveyed, beside P.O. in Florida, FL. Will trade for coins, guns, vacant land in other states or money. \$6,900. 863-655-1989

Owner Financing-1 acre lot Orange Blossom & Avon Park Estates. 165' x 301' Low down payment. 262-997-1125

Sebring-1ac lot; 130'x335' ft; Orange Blossom Estates, Unit 5 PB6 pg 40, Lot 36 block 8. \$10k obo. 863-381-1943

WAREHOUSE & STORAGE
1640

Lake Placid Commerical Warehouse-1500sf w/2 sm offices. Front & rear 12' door. \$700/mo. 863-840-1396

Miller's Storage, 4011 US 27 S., Sebring, 407-873-3068. 10x30 units \$140/mo., 8x12 units \$80/mo. (both incl taxes).

Start the gardening year off right with florists' flapjacks

By MAUREEN GILMER
YARDSMART

This year, all the haute florists will sell flapjacks and Christmas trees. Kalanchoe thyrsiflora is the hottest red plant going, despite its preference for arid climates. Their peculiar shapes are added to the most impossible companions in holiday and gift plants. You'll see flapjacks added for color with orchids and moss, set into dense pots of house plants and holiday wreaths. Though beautiful at first, eventually you'll have to choose to save the dry flapjacks or save the moist tropicals they're planted with, as they are mutually exclusive. Unless the flapjacks are extracted and repotted early in the new year, they are doomed.

Flapjacks in pots are really juveniles newly rooted from last year's cuttings.

They are in the vegetative phase, growing larger and larger like a head of lettuce. Growers adjust the light on their young plants to bring out the bright red coloring on schedule for the holiday sales.

Along the coast and in the mild Southwest, flapjacks are popular landscape plants, proving they do well in most natural soils. Their Achilles' heel is too much moisture for too long or in conjunction with frost or extended rains. They are most reliable on gentle slopes and banks with a south-facing exposure to ensure drainage. If not

cut by frost, the plants become perennial.

The flapjack of summer must bloom and shed seed. This spoils their original form as they bolt before they bloom. Bolting is a process where the central stem of that tidy clump of pancakes starts telescoping upward, extending the amount of stem in between each leaf. They do not die, but simply hunker down for the rains to come and begin growing again.

Gardeners experienced with flapjacks have learned that once they bolt, the beauty wanes. If cut short in winter, the remaining stem will regrow the following year, gradually replacing its foliage. Leave that tall bolt-stem too long and you get more massive growth that won't have the youthful beauty of the parent. It will however continue to add seasonal color to that frost-free landscape.

For many, the stalks en masse create a beautiful textural effect late in the season. They will be visited by hummingbirds and other pollinators, then birds come for seed, so don't be in a hurry to remove them. Do so when they can't stand up properly and just before they flop.

Those who are ready to salvage holiday succulents from wholly unsuitable compositions should put them in a bag of cactus soil and well drained pots.

To transplant gently, insert a utensil under the succulent to push it

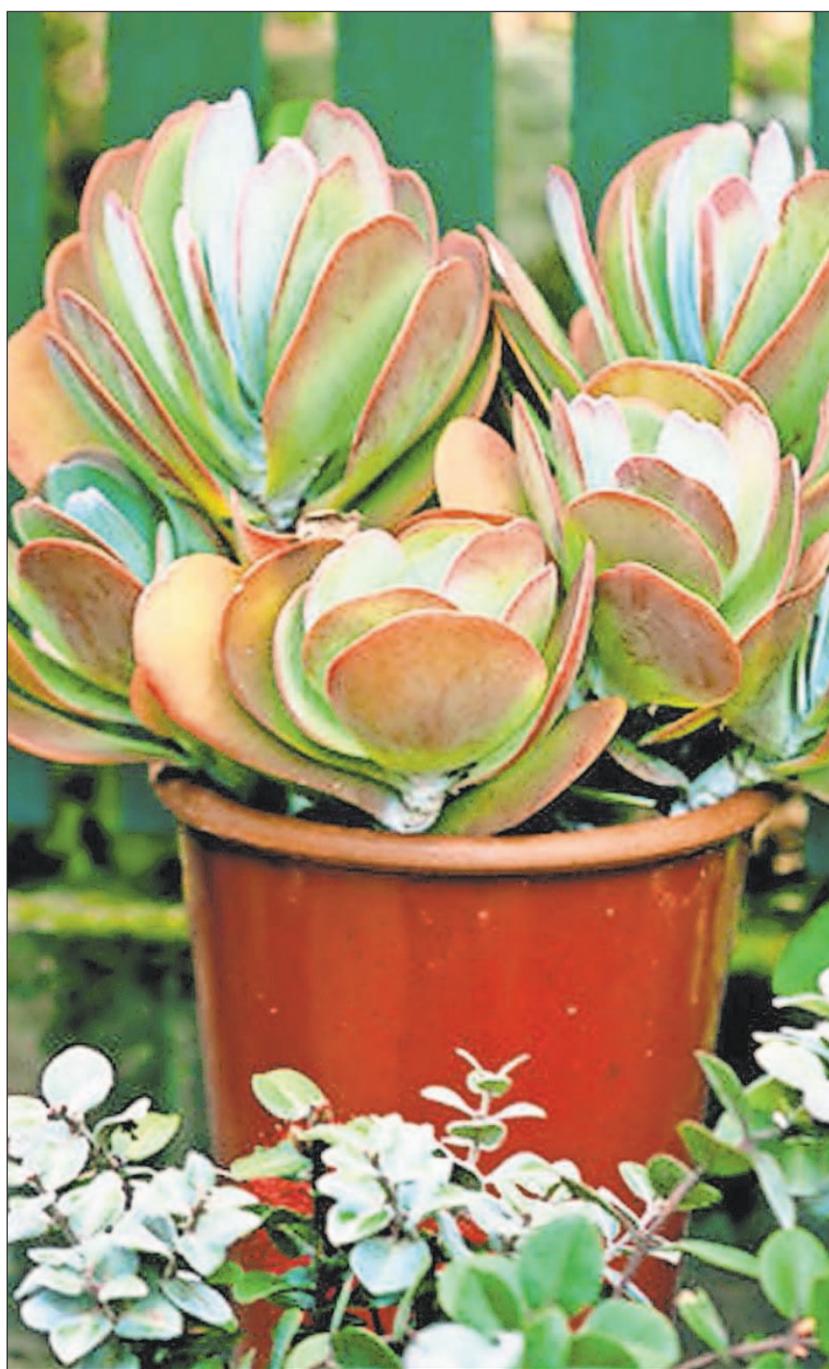
up and out from underneath. Don't pull it out or the roots may break off, which can start rot. Let it sit in the open air to dry out for a couple of days before transplanting. Then set it in an empty pot and fill with dry cactus mix. Leave it for a week or two in moderate light to adjust. Watch for fine wrinkling of the leaves to indicate dehydration before watering in.

Flapjacks are sold at most florists and greenhouses during the cold months and in garden centers everywhere else. Buy young plants and nurse them along to decorate future holidays with their progeny. An old flapjack with multiple re-growths can be cut into many new plants for next year.

Keep in mind that flapjacks grown in too much shade remain light green. Those in the sun take on a vivid reddish coral coloring that is so bright, it's rivaling poinsettia. Even Christmas cactus is being challenged by a living pancake for the holiday season.

Best of all it'll be with you throughout the new year indoors and out. So rather than buying unsustainable specialties for holiday decor and gifts that are tossed after they wilt or rot, choose those with flapjacks and start planning a whole new look next summer.

Maureen Gilmer is an author, horticulturist and landscape designer. Learn more at www.MoPlants.com



COURTESY PHOTO

You'll see flapjacks added for color with orchids and moss, set into dense pots of house plants and holiday wreaths. Flapjacks in pots are really juveniles newly rooted from last year's cuttings.

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 <p>ANITA ZAHN: 863-840-1420 anitazahn@gmail.com</p>	 <p>ANDREA CRANMER: 863-451-6400 acranmerrealtor@gmail.com</p>	 <p>DIANA WILLIAMS: 863-414-5151 dwilliams90@htn.net</p>	 <p>DANA OLSON: 863-451-1775 dolsonrealtor@gmail.com RENTAL SPECIALIST</p>
 <p>CUSTOM BUILT HOME WITH COUNTRY CHARM</p> <p>18.21 Acres Zoned AG. Features open front porch 6 x 41. 10 X 14 foyer that overlooks lg living room which vaulted ceiling & Formal 12 x 12 Dining Room. Tile floors, Bedrooms w/wood flooring Kitchen offers high vaulted ceiling, breakfast bar, room for a table, walk in pantry. Split bedroom plan. 10x10 Office/den next to master BR. Master bath has dbl vanity, separate toilet closet, shower, lg walk-in closet. Laundry room has built in cabinets. French door opens to 10 x 35 patio, lovely private yard, fenced, water conditioner. MLS#242366 \$389,000</p> <p>Contact: Anita Zahn: 863-840-1420 anitazahn@gmail.com</p>	 <p>GREAT CURB APPEAL!</p> <p>Charming 3/2 home on a quiet street minutes from Historic Downtown Sebring. Unique home boasts Old world charm! So many possibilities surround this property such as R3P zoning. Excellent if used as professional offices, residential or income property. Ideal location close to Highlands County Court House and Sheriff's Dept. Plenty of parking with 12x20 detached garage. MLS#245455 \$94,900</p> <p>Contact: Andrea Cranmer: 863-451-6400 acranmerrealtor@gmail.com</p>	 <p>THIS IS WHAT FLORIDA LIVING IS ALL ABOUT!</p> <p>2 Bedroom/2 Bath Lakefront charmer with expansive outdoor living areas on all sides of this quaint home. Community boat ramp and park at your door. 7 sets of french doors to enjoy the views from all areas of the home. Open concept living with granite counters and new appliances. Huge Master bath and dressing area. Lakefront living at its best! MLS#245080 \$1500/mo.</p> <p>Contact: Diana Williams: 863-414-5151 dwilliams90@htn.net</p>	 <p>1561 LAKEVIEW DR #949, SEBRING</p> <p>This 2/2 in sought after community! Updated kitchen & baths. Open concept kitchen, dining/living room. Community pool, dock on Lake Jackson. MLS#245350 \$995/mo.</p> <p>Contact: Dana Olson: 863-451-1775 dolsonrealtor@gmail.com</p>
 <p>COMMERCIAL BUILDING IN AVON PARK</p> <p>2400 Sq foot of space, zoned C 4. Concrete block and stucco in excellent condition! The possibilities are endless, this space has 2 central ac systems (owner says they are serviced every year). Can be divided into 2 units if wanted, owner used 1/2 and rented the other side. There are 2 bathrooms & 2 dressing rooms. This was used as a church, a bridal shop, antique furniture store, ect... There is street parking out front and a city municipal parking lot out back. MLS#242645 \$143,800</p> <p>Contact: Anita Zahn: 863-840-1420 anitazahn@gmail.com</p>	 <p>THIS IS TRULY A MAGNIFICENT HOME</p> <p>Elegant custom designed 4 beds, 3 baths 2405 sqft home, starting with the custom maple kitchen cabinets, gorgeous granite counter tops and impeccable landscaping. From the moment you enter the home you will notice the attention to detail from the high end wood plank flooring to the full kitchen in the 38x15 Patio/lanai and oversized 3 car garage. Pride of ownership shows as this home has been very well maintained. The 34x50 detached workshop has a full bath a wine room with sink & cabinets and can easily be converted into a mother-in-law suite or guest house. MLS#244543 \$349,900</p> <p>Contact: Andrea Cranmer: 863-451-6400 acranmerrealtor@gmail.com</p>	 <p>HISTORIC HOME!</p> <p>This 2 bedroom, 1 bath home with large eat in kitchen in wonderful downtown Sebring. Utility in house. Cute front porch. Walking distance to circle. MLS#244956 \$700/mo.</p> <p>Contact: Diana Williams: 863-414-5151 dwilliams90@htn.net</p>	 <p>368 WASHINGTON BLVD, LAKE PLACID</p> <p>Great place for your family. Huge yard, 3/2 w/ bonus room off the dining room with French doors to the master bedroom. Nice pantry in the kitchen. MLS#246104 \$1,150/mo.</p> <p>Contact: Dana Olson: 863-451-1775 dolsonrealtor@gmail.com</p>
 <p>BORDERS OTHER RESIDENTIAL - LARGE ACREAGE CORNER SITE!</p> <p>Vacant citrus grove land for sale on high 58.79 acres with substantial irrigation well in place. Zoned ag with commercial neighbors on north/west. Upside potential to convert more commercial frontage sites on paved county road with agri-business off main road. Great cross roads of residential communities to north around Lake Istokpoga and west around Lake Huntley. Major agricultural operations on muck land to east. MLS#237252</p> <p>Contact: Anita Zahn: 863-840-1420 anitazahn@gmail.com</p>	 <p>BEAUTIFUL LAKE FRONT HOME IS A MUST SEE!</p> <p>Starting with the impeccable landscaping and breathtaking views of desirable Lake Sebring from nearly every room you enter. It's been a wonderful weekend home for this family for many years. This charming home boasts 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms which includes a private guest suite or mother-in-law suite. Remodeled kitchen with granite counter tops, open to the family room and dining room!. MLS#245332 \$219,900</p> <p>Contact: Andrea Cranmer: 863-451-6400 acranmerrealtor@gmail.com</p>	 <p>1911 WIGHTMAN, SEBRING</p> <p>Very cute 2/1 home with brand new kitchen and appliances. Private utility room. Spacious yard. Lawn care is included! MLS#245961 \$775/mo.</p> <p>Contact: Diana Williams: 863-414-5151 dwilliams90@htn.net</p>	 <p>502 CHELSEA WAY, LAKE PLACID</p> <p>3/2 Resort style living at DeAnn Estates. Very nice 3/2 property just off US 27. Community pool & club house w/lake views!!! Closed in lania and opened to living room for more space. Master has wall of built ins. Full size stack washer and dryer. You will want to check this ONE out!! MLS#243591 \$1,100/mo.</p> <p>Contact: Dana Olson: 863-451-1775 dolsonrealtor@gmail.com</p>

6 New Year's resolutions for new homeowners

By **BETH BUCZYNSKI**
NERDWALLET

as quickly as possible, and then contribute as much as you can moving forward.

2. TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT YOUR HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE

Just because a standard homeowners insurance policy satisfied your lender doesn't mean you're adequately covered.

"Homeowners insurance isn't one-size-fits-all. There are unique coverage options and, more importantly, 'exclusions' that homeowners need to be aware of," says Ryan Andrew, president of The Andrew Agency, an independent insurance agency in Richmond, Virginia.

Does your policy cover the full cost of your jewelry or other valuables? Are disasters like earthquakes and floods excluded? Will the policy pay if your dog bites the new mailman?

"Your home is usually your biggest asset," Andrew says. "Spend a few minutes reviewing your coverage and exclusions, and ask questions so you understand your policy."

3. GET AN ENERGY EFFICIENCY AUDIT

Heating, cooling and powering a home isn't cheap. Why be uncomfortable or spend more because your house wastes energy?

After the dust settles, you may notice more about your home, particularly if you bought new construction, says Jessie Ferguson, director of operations at Renewable,



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this Tuesday, June 9, 2015, file photo, a "Sold" sign is displayed in the yard of a newly-constructed home in the Briar Chapel community in Chapel Hill, N.C. With just a few smart decisions, such as creating an emergency fund and getting an energy efficiency audit, you can get your homeownership off to a positive start.

a home energy consulting company. Maybe the air smells funny or one bedroom is colder than the others. She recommends getting an energy efficiency audit rather than guessing at the problem.

Using blower door tests and infrared cameras, energy audits measure air leaks and detect air infiltration or missing insulation. Audits are performed by utility companies, city governments and some contractors.

"An energy audit is an inexpensive way to get real information about your house. They'll tell you which fixes will deliver the best bang for your buck," Ferguson says.

In addition to lowering your utility bills and making you more comfortable, a more efficient home may end

up putting free money in your pocket, thanks to local, state and federal rebates.

4. CONSIDER A HOME WARRANTY

If the appliances in your new home are near the end of their life cycles, a home warranty may help shield you from the cost of replacement.

Also called home service contracts, home warranties are annual agreements that offset the repair or replacement cost of major home components and appliances.

Approach home warranty companies with caution, however. Read customer reviews and avoid gimmicks that seem too good to be true. Like insurance policies, home warranties are full of fine print, and homeowners often fail to realize what's excluded until they try to make a

claim.

"They can be helpful in the first year of homeownership, when you have so many other things to think about and pay for," Ferguson says of home warranties. "Just make sure you know exactly what you're getting."

5. CREATE A DISASTER KIT WITH A HOME INVENTORY

Your new home is your castle, but it's not indestructible. A disaster kit that includes financial documents and a home inventory will speed up recovery if the unthinkable happens.

A home inventory can be as simple as snapping pictures of big-ticket items in your home, or you could record items, brands, original prices, ages and condition in a spreadsheet.

No matter which

method you choose, a home inventory is the best way to make sure you have enough insurance coverage to replace your valuables, Andrew says.

Store the inventory, along with copies of your personal identification, credit card information, vehicle records and other important documents, in a fireproof safe or another place that's easily accessible if you have to evacuate.

6. MAKE A PLAN TO BUILD EQUITY

Unless you bought your home with cash, it will be many years until you own it outright. Make plans now to build equity faster so you can unlock more benefits of homeownership even sooner.

Equity is a fancy word for "how much of your house is paid off." Home equity is a valuable asset; accrue enough and you can use it to finance major renovations or pay off student loans.

You can build equity slowly just by making your monthly mortgage payments, or you can find ways to speed up the process. For example, take on smart home improvements or switch to biweekly payments to get "equity rich" even faster.

This article originally appeared on the personal finance website NerdWallet. Beth Buczynski is a writer at NerdWallet. Email: bbuczynski@nerdwallet.com. Twitter: @bethbuczynski.

8 affordable buys that make every first home look expensive

By **SACHA STREBE**
DOMAINE

to more than just our health. Stop your mess in its tracks with storage that looks like stylish decor and makes chaos look chic.

3. A chic rug

No home, whether it's your first or not, is complete without a rug (or three). It's the single most transformative thing you can do to any space, aside from paint. While there are several styles you can choose from (and this process is very personal), we recommend a jute or a flat-weave style. It's incredibly hardy so it withstands any spills or wear and tear, but we love it for layering with — it's the one home hack that transitions your home to winter. Throw a vintage or colorful small rug over the top for instant texture and visual flavor. It's a super-simple change, but it makes the biggest difference. Promise.

4. Sleek lighting

When you move into a new rental, the space doesn't always come with stylish lighting. In fact, it's typically mismatched, cheap (not in a good way), and dated. It's one of the first things Athena Calderone switches out. "The best thing about a lighting investment is you can take it with you when you leave," she told MyDomaine. If you can't swap the pendant lights, purchase some polished table lamps to spruce up a dimly lit corner or side table. If you consider the placement of each lamp, you don't even have to turn on the ugly ones that come with the apartment. Or opt for a stylish floor lamp to light up a dimly lit corner.

5. Luxe bedding

When you consider

how much time you spend in it, it's pretty easy to see why luxury bedding is a prerequisite for any new home. If you love the new messy bed trend too, make sure you add linen sheets to your cart. This beautiful fabric feels just as good as it looks and adds an instant air of luxury to any boudoir. While they're typically very costly, you can source some cost-effective sets from H&M.

6. Elevated dishware

Whether you plan on hosting guests for refined dinner parties or prefer to dine alone, you should always keep your buffet or kitchen cupboard well-stocked with upscale dining sets from dinner plates to bowls, salad, and side dishes. After all, a good hostess is always prepared for unexpected guests.

7. Clean towels

Before you move in, it's time to toss all your tired, ratty towels and replace them with fresh ones that match your new space. There's nothing more satisfying than stepping out of your shower or bath and wrapping your body in a fluffy bath towel or unique Turkish varieties. It's the simple things in life that count, right? While you can certainly spend a fortune on towels, there are plenty of luxe low-cost versions that look the part but won't break the bank.

8. A comfortable couch

If there is one thing every living room needs, it's a cozy sofa that looks designer but doesn't make your credit card go into hiding. You also want it to be durable and withstand house parties and movie nights. Because spills happen.



Covered Bridge has been voted the Best Real Estate Community in Highlands County!

You have found Florida's best active adult 55 and over retirement community that is still affordable!

Our new detached single family homes, built with block construction start at \$159,900 including the lot.

The monthly maintenance fee is only \$85.00 and this includes lawn maintenance basic cable, use of the clubhouse, heated pool and Jacuzzi, exercise room, marina and RV storage area.

You won't find a better offering than this.

Directions: US 27 S. From Sebring turn right on Lake Francis Rd, take Venetian Parkway, Follow signs to model homes.

Please give us a call today to find out more about the exceptional opportunities we have available for you in Covered Bridge.

Lake and Land Realty of Highlands, Inc. agents, Sue Clark and Eve Brock are a phone call away at **863-446-0908 or 863-441-0969.**

Caladiums: a gorgeous, easy option for plantings

Who doesn't want a plant or flower that blooms for months and months, stays small, is gorgeous, and will pop back up on its own year after year?

Too good to be true you say? Nope, Highlands County is the premier commercial growing region for just such a plant: caladiums. As a matter of fact, Highlands County provides 99 percent of all the caladiums sold worldwide.

How Highlands County became the premiere growing area for caladiums would fill a book all by itself, but the short version is they were brought to the 1898 Chicago World Fair from Brazil and elicited some interest from Florida growers. The French had hybridized several varieties way back in 1790 but growing conditions weren't very good for a Brazilian-native plant. It was left to the Southern United States to pick up the tuber, so to speak, and run with it.

The first serious attempt to grow caladiums was in Apopka but a frost decimated the first go-around. The grower then moved his operation south to Lake Placid and hit the sweet spot for caladium growing.

There are currently 1,500 acres of caladiums under cultivation with several growers producing literally hundreds of different varieties. To drive by a caladium field is really a wonder in its own right with beautiful leaves as far as the eye can see. Take County Road 621 east from Lake



GROWING PAINS
Charlie Reynolds

Placid and you will go down a gentle slope and onto an old lake bed that used to be a part of Lake Istokpoga but is now a vast field of what is called "muck soil."

This highly organic material from the ancient lake bed consists of very fine particles that don't support many types of plants because there is little room in the soil for oxygen to get to the roots. As a matter of fact, in the grand scheme of soil making, muck soils are the final stage before clay.

Caladiums thrive in this soil type and the excellent climatic conditions in Lake Placid as well. Caladiums are tubers, much like potatoes and they both like dense compact soil. Couple this with the unique rain schedule we have in Highlands County and presto; there are acres and acres of gorgeous caladiums growing in that old lake bed.

Planting and growing caladiums is easy as long as a few rules are followed. The best time to plant is toward the end of March or the beginning of April.



COURTESY PHOTO

The elongated, undulated edged lance types of caladiums, as seen here, have a shorter growth habit and are said to have greater sun tolerance.

The deciding factor is temperature.

The soil temperature must be above 65 degrees to ensure survival and sprouting. Planting in April will see results in a month or so weather permitting and once sprouted the leaves will last four or five months.

After the leaves begin to wilt or die, it may be best to dig the tubers up, get the excess dirt off, dry the tuber in the shade and put it in a ventilated sack or bag until next March or April. Frost will kill a caladium tuber and even cold weather below 60 degrees can harm the tuber.

I leave mine in the ground for the winter and have had good luck so far. I guess it depends on gambling whether we have a harsh winter or not.

The next consideration is planting depth. Make sure the top of the tuber is at least 1.5 inches

below the soil because there are roots on the top of the tuber as well as the bottom that must be in contact with soil. As a rule of thumb, the pointy side of the tuber goes up. If the tuber is planted upside down it will still sprout, it will just be delayed a month or two.

When planting in a row be sure to stagger the bulbs in a zig zag shape so they will look fuller when they sprout. Six inches between tubers is a good separation for dooryard planting. To create a bunching effect every three or four feet, plant five or six tubers together in the hole and voila! A bouquet of caladiums.

The same goes for pot planting of caladiums. Placing one tuber in a pot is like growing one grass blade for your lawn. Put as many tubers as will fit in that pot and stand back. If they get too crowded, take some out.

Caladiums are non-allergenic and can be used as cut flowers without sneezing and wheezing. I found out that after cutting a caladium leaf stem the leaf immediately wilts. Place the leaf stem in water, wait a few hours and it will re-hydrate itself and stay fresh looking for two weeks or more. Try that with a petunia!

There are basically two types of caladiums, fancy leaf and lance or strap leaf. The heart-shaped fancy variety is the more popular type with homeowners for its larger, colorful leaves. The elongated, undulated edged lance types have a shorter growth habit and are said to have greater sun tolerance.

I wondered what varieties are best for sun or shade and a grower chuckled and said, "We grow all our caladiums in open fields under the full sun and they all do well, however, some thick-leaved varieties seem to do better under the hot sun than thin-leaved ones but there is no set law on where to plant a caladium, it will survive with ample water and an organic soil."

You just can't beat a gorgeous colorful plant that needs little care and stays beautiful for four months or more and even lasts two to three weeks as a cutting in a vase. I strongly recommend caladiums not only for their beauty but because they are locally grown and that tells me they have found a home here in Highlands County.

A very special thanks to Darlene Fyfers from Happiness Farms for helping me keep my facts straight on growing caladiums.

Ever think about canning your own food? Well then, c'mon down to the Bert J. Harris Jr. Agricultural Center on George Boulevard to learn the basics as well as tips for the experienced canner. Our very own Amy Immekus, an experienced Florida Master Gardener, will give a class on canning from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 24. Cost is \$5.

For more information or for payment option, call David Austin, the Urban Horticultural Extension Agent for Highlands County, at 863-402-6540 or email davidaustrin@ufl.edu.

Got questions? We got answers. Contact the Extension Office on George Boulevard at 863-402-6540 or stop by in person between 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

If you have a question that may help others, submit it directly to Highlands News-Sun at karen.clogston@highlandsnewssun.com for possible publication.

Charlie Reynolds is a Highlands County Master Gardener and has been named the Florida Master Gardener of the Year by The University of Florida IFAS for 2017-2018.

The articles presented here originate from visitors' questions at the Master Gardener Help Desk.

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6032 Apple
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CAGED POOL

100 Tangerine
WOW!!! What a stunner! Completely remodeled inside and out! Awesome open split floor plan boasting 3 bedrooms, & 2 baths. Living & Family Rooms. Granite kitchen and baths. Attached 2 car garage, roofed lanai and screened pool. All on a large corner lot.
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303 CHIVES STREET, SEBRING
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THE RETIREMENT LIFESTYLE YOU ALWAYS DREAMED ABOUT!
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Reggie Maxon (413) 478-3327 \$38,500

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2/2 w/new kitchen cabinets & SS appliances, granite counters. Newer roof & AC. 2 car garage, screened dbl carport. Concrete stamped driveway. On Water. SB2126
Kathy Rose (844) 802-7751
\$114,900

CALLING ALL FUTURE SNOWBIRDS
2 BR 2 BA Furnished home. Wood laminate flooring. Freezer included plus all yard tools and new troy riding mower. 10 by 13 shed. SB2124
Kathy Rose (844) 802-7751
\$25,000

GREAT HOME FOR RELAXING OR ENTERTAINING
Nice well kept 2/2, open floor plan, corner lot w/great curb appeal. Lg living & kitchen w/island breakfast bar, new SS Appliances, beautiful laminate, wood floors. New Insulated FL Room with AC. SB2156
Hammond Team (863) 450-3339
\$29,900

COMFORTABLE 2/2 HOME
Open floor plan, Golf cart path. Nice Living Room, Master Suite, inside laundry, & 12 shed, 13x20 carport w/roof being repaired. Have to see to appreciate. SB2172
Hammond Team (863) 450-3339
\$35,000

BEAUTIFUL METICULOUS MOTOR PORT HOME!
2/2. New Appliances, Cabinets & granite. Finished lanai, laminate & tile floors, beautifully landscaped. LG shed w/stand up attic. 2 LG covered carports. Roof In 2017. Pet free. SB2135
Donald Lariviere (863) 450-3340
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WELL MAINTAINED HOME WITH GREAT CURB APPEAL
3/2 w/den & living RM, LG eat in kitchen & dining room. Fantastic views from your A/C lanai. Separate laundry, large garage. Home has newer roof and AC unit. SB2133
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PRICE REDUCED!
2/2, Great kitchen w/island, upgraded appliances, formal living rm. A/C lanai, nice cart shed & workshop. Large carport. Nicely Landscaped corner lot. SB2089
Duane Madson (863) 808-4588
\$39,900

ON THE WATER!
Fully furnished 2/2 with Den. Also has large carport and nice 1 car garage. Roof is Approx. 5 years old. Golf Cart included. SB2129
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NICE HOME! GREAT LOCATION!
Feel right at home in this 2 BR 2 BA home SB2100
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TWO BEDROOM IN GOOD CONDITION!
Mature landscape in quiet neighborhood, Two Bedroom, Two Bath split floor plan, screened lanai with covered porch owner anxious. SB2180
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TURN KEY 2/2 HOME - READY TO MOVE IN
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PERFECT FOR ENTERTAINING!
2/2/2 w/large Office/Den. Huge screened porch, dbl covered drive, laminate floors, X-Lg windowed lanai. Lots of cabinet/closet space. LG eat-in kitchen, large pantry. Great open floor plan. SB2175
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\$68,900

MUST SEE! BEAUTIFUL HOME ON LG CORNER LOT
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\$49,900

BEAUTIFUL VIEWS OF LAKE CLAY
2/2 ideal for retirement! Great bass fishing. Front patio, Fla rm, rear screened porch. New roof 2017, newer laminate floors. Small friendly park offers boat ramp, dock & slip, pool, and low lot rent. Walk to Lake Placid stores. SB2196
Orla or Don Cox (863) 658-3955
\$28,500

2/2 FURNISHED & TURN KEY FOR YOU!
LG master BR w/huge walk in closet. French doors to suite bath. Newer: lifetime rubber roof; X-Lg Trane AC, Heat pump; newer fridge newer floors and more. SB2192
Orla or Don Cox (863) 658-3955
\$37,900



Sunday, February 11, 2018

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NHL: Lightning

Bolts' champ now known as 'Coach Vinny'

By **JOE SMITH**
Tampa Bay Times

BRANDON — The 7-year-old Brandon Bulls hockey team arrived at its Christmas party in Palma Ceia not knowing the special gift it soon would receive. The kids played video games and ate lunch on a December Saturday. Their coach gathered them in the living room. One parent jokingly wondered if the coach would recite "The Night

Before Christmas." Instead, the coach recalled how he used to tell his father he wanted to play in the NHL, how one day he'd hoist the Stanley Cup. "I've got one more surprise for you outside," he said. The Bulls were stunned to find the Stanley Cup sitting on a bar table in the driveway. They touched, hugged and kissed the Cup, posing for photos. "That's one of the

benefits of having a Stanley Cup champion as your head coach," Lightning coach Jon Cooper said. "It's like hitting the coaching lottery." The coach is former Lightning star Vinny Lecavalier, who had his No. 4 retired Saturday at Amalie Arena in front of a sellout crowd, including 40 family and friends. Most of his Bulls team will be in the stands, too. But to them, he's just "Coach Vinny." Lecavalier, 37, who

retired in June 2016, is in his first full season coaching the Brandon-based travel team, which features his son, Gabriel, 6; Cooper's son, Johnny; Lightning defenseman Dan Girardi's son, Landon; and goalie Peter Budaj's son, Peter. There also are eight other kids, from all over Tampa Bay. Many didn't know who Lecavalier was until they looked up his highlights on YouTube.

SEE LIGHTNING, 3



Former Tampa Bay Lightning center Vincent Lecavalier waves during his jersey retirement ceremony Saturday in Tampa.

AP PHOTO

WINTER OLYMPICS: Women's Hockey

UNIFIED START



South Korea's goalie Shin So-jung (31), of the combined Korea team, watches the puck go into the goal during the second period of the preliminary round of the women's hockey game at the 2018 Winter Olympics Saturday in Gangneung, South Korea.

AP PHOTO

Combined Korean hockey team loses to Swiss in Olympic debut

Associated Press

GANGNEUNG, South Korea — The moment was too important to be overshadowed by a loss. No matter the final score. The Korean women's hockey team, the first in Olympic history to combine players from North and South, was routed

8-0 by Switzerland on Saturday night in its debut game, outshot 52-8 in a matchup that could have been far worse if not for the goaltending of Shin So Jung. The poor showing didn't stop the sellout crowd from cheering throughout much of the game, the chants led often by North Korea's famous cheering group, and it didn't lessen the import of

the event. "I think a unified one is stronger than two divided ones ... If North and South Korea will send unified teams on sports and all other sectors, we'll have good results," North Korean player Jong Su Hyon said after the game.

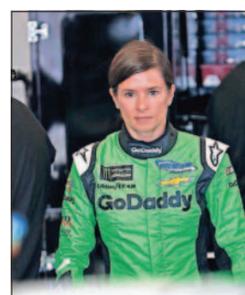
SEE HOCKEY, 4

AUTO RACING: NASCAR

Patrick arrives in Daytona for 1st stop of 'Danica Double'

By **JENNA FRYER**
Associated Press

DAYTONA BEACH — Danica Patrick watched drivers turn laps out of the corner of her eye. In her whirlwind preparation for the "Danica Double," getting a car ready for the first event of the NASCAR season had not been a priority. But with practice running for Sunday's exhibition race at Daytona International Speedway — an event Patrick would have been eligible to enter if she had a car — the highest-finishing woman in Daytona 500 history could only follow along on a TV monitor. "It all came together too late," she said Saturday. "A couple of



Danica Patrick looks over her car before a practice session at Daytona International Speedway Saturday in Daytona Beach.

AP PHOTO

days ago I was thinking to myself that we should have run the backup car in the (exhibition). ... I was like, 'Man, where was I on that one?' I didn't think of it soon enough. It would have been good practice."

SEE DANICA, 6

GOLF: Pebble Beach National Pro-Am Johnson shares the lead at Pebble Beach

By **DOUG FERGUSON**
Associated Press

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. — Dustin Johnson overcame a sloppy back nine in the stiffening breeze by making a 10-foot birdie on the

18th hole at Pebble Beach for a 2-under 70 that gave him a share of the lead going into the final round of the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am.

SEE GOLF, 2

MLB: Rays

So much for the idyll winds of spring — Rays are part of an ugly rhetoric

By **MARC TOPKIN**
Tampa Bay Times

At what normally is a time for hope, optimism and romantic prose about the smell of the grass, the opening of spring camps has been marred by ugly rhetoric. And the Rays, without

saying anything, are pretty much right in the middle of it. Responding to the frozen free agent market that has many of his constituents restless, union chief Tony Clark last week charged that "a significant number of teams are engaged in

a race to the bottom" and that doing so "is a fundamental breach of the trust" between team and fans, threatening "the very integrity of the game." Agent Scott Boras, who has several of the biggest-name unemployed players, noted the

loss of "hope and faith" and then, typically, went dramatic, claiming, "We have a noncompetitive cancer that's ruining the fabric of the sport." Obviously that is a matter of perspective. Team/MLB officials say the lack of signings is more a matter of the

market correcting itself, with front offices all being wiser about not paying veterans for past performance, and they are absolutely, positively not colluding in doing so. (Nor, we assume, with Russia.) The buzzword is "tanking," suggesting

teams are intentionally trying to lose — or, at the least, not trying to win — to get better draft picks and signing money. Some, led by the Marlins and Pirates, have been more obvious, others less so.

SEE RAYS, 3

INDEX | Lottery 2 | Baseball 3 | Olympics 4 | Scoreboard 5 | College Basketball 6

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Florida Lottery

www.flalottery.com

PICK 2

Feb. 10N.....0-1
Feb. 10D.....5-2
Feb. 9N.....6-5
Feb. 9D.....6-1
Feb. 8N.....7-3
Feb. 8D.....4-1
D-Day, N-Night

PICK 3

Feb. 10N.....6-6-6
Feb. 10D.....0-7-4
Feb. 9N.....8-4-8
Feb. 9D.....2-4-8
Feb. 8N.....6-8-4
Feb. 8D.....0-3-9
D-Day, N-Night

PICK 4

Feb. 10N.....1-5-1-9
Feb. 10D.....4-8-9-7
Feb. 9N.....0-4-0-1
Feb. 9D.....5-3-1-8
Feb. 8N.....4-5-2-7
Feb. 8D.....4-5-7-1
D-Day, N-Night

PICK 5

Feb. 10N.....3-1-1-8-3
Feb. 10D.....86-6-9-1-6
Feb. 9N.....1-1-2-3-9
Feb. 9D.....0-2-9-1-9
Feb. 8N.....1-6-5-8-1
Feb. 8D.....6-9-7-0-0
D-Day, N-Night

FANTASY 5

Feb. 10 3-5-10-12-32
Feb. 9 7-10-14-18-36
Feb. 8 3-9-24-29-31

PAYOFF FOR Feb. 10
1.5-digit winners \$246,059.40
404.....4-digit winners \$98.00
12,185....3-digit winners \$9.00

CASH FOR LIFE

Feb. 8 9-37-47-51-55
Cash Ball 4
Feb. 5 30-36-39-55-60
Cash Ball 1

SPORTS ON TV**AUTO RACING**

Noon
FOX — NASCAR, Monster Energy Cup Series, Daytona 500, qualifying, at Daytona Beach
3 p.m.
FS1 — NASCAR, Monster Energy Cup Series, Advance Auto Parts Clash, at Daytona Beach

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Noon
CBSSN — Loyola (Md.) at Lafayette
1 p.m.
CBS — Michigan at Wisconsin
2 p.m.
CBSSN — Wagner at Fairleigh Dickinson
4 p.m.
CBSSN — UCF at Memphis
ESPN — Cincinnati at SMU
ESPNU — Illinois St. at Valparaiso
6 p.m.
ESPN — Duke at Georgia Tech
ESPNU — Tulane at Houston
7 p.m.
BTN — Penn St. at Illinois
8 p.m.
ESPNU — Washington St. at Oregon

COLLEGE WRESTLING

6 p.m.
ESPN2 — Ohio St. at Michigan

DRAG RACING

1 p.m.
FS1 — NHRA, Lucas Oil Winter Nationals, qualifying, at Pomona, Calif. (taped)
5 p.m.
FS1 — NHRA, Lucas Oil NHRA Winter Nationals, finals, at Pomona, Calif.

GOLF

1 p.m.
GOLF — PGA Tour, AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, final round, at Pebble Beach, Calif.
3 p.m.
CBS — PGA Tour, AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, final round, at Pebble Beach, Calif.
GOLF — PGA Champions Tour, Boca Raton Championship, final round, at Boca Raton

NBA BASKETBALL

3:30 p.m.
ABC — Cleveland at Boston
7 p.m.
NBA — Dallas at Houston

NHL HOCKEY

Noon
NBC — Pittsburgh at St. Louis

SOCCER

9 a.m.
NBCSN — Premier League, Newcastle United vs. Manchester United
9:30 a.m.

•••

PAYOFF FOR Feb. 8

0.....5-of-5 CB..... \$1,000/Day
0.....5-of-5..... \$1,000/Week
3.....4-of-5 CB..... \$2,500
11.....4-of-5..... \$500

LUCKY MONEY

Feb. 9 14-26-35-36
Lucky Ball..... 11
Feb. 6 1-18-25-27
Lucky Ball..... 4

•••

PAYOFF FOR Feb. 9

0.....4-of-4 LB\$550,000
3.....4-of-4..... \$1,756,000
25.....3-of-4 LB\$461.50
552....3-of-4..... \$61.50

LOTTO

Feb. 10 5-7-26-30-37-46
Feb. 7 11-19-24-43-48-49

•••

PAYOFF FOR FEB. 7

0...6-digit winners \$9 million
14...5-digit winners..\$5,797.00
919....4-digit winners..\$73.00

POWERBALL

Feb. 10 1-13-27-41-59
Powerball 30
Feb. 7 23-34-35-40-47
Powerball 10

•••

PAYOFF FOR Feb. 7

0....5 of 5 + PB...\$165 Million
0....5 of 5 \$1 million
1....4 of 5 + PB \$50,000
29....4 of 5 \$100
ESTIMATED JACKPOT
\$184 million

MEGA MILLIONS

Feb. 9 28-34-41-46-47
Mega Ball 14
Feb. 6 14-17-25-45-58
Mega Ball 25

•••

PAYOFF FOR Feb. 6

0....5 of 5 + MB.. \$120 Million
0....5 of 5 \$1 Million
0....4 of 5 + MB \$10,000
16....4 of 5 \$500
ESTIMATED JACKPOT
\$136 million

NBA ROUNDUP

Antetokounmpo, Terry lead Bucks over Magic

By **DICK SCANLON**
Associated Press

ORLANDO — Giannis Antetokounmpo had 32 points and Jason Terry came off the bench to score 11 points in the second half in the Milwaukee Bucks' 111-104 victory over the Orlando Magic on Saturday night.

A couple of 3-pointers by the 40-year-old Terry put the Bucks ahead to stay late in the third quarter, although the game stayed close until Antetokounmpo's three-point play made it 107-100 with 45.7 seconds left. Milwaukee stayed ahead by hitting 13 of 20 shots in the fourth quarter, winning for the eighth time in 10 games.

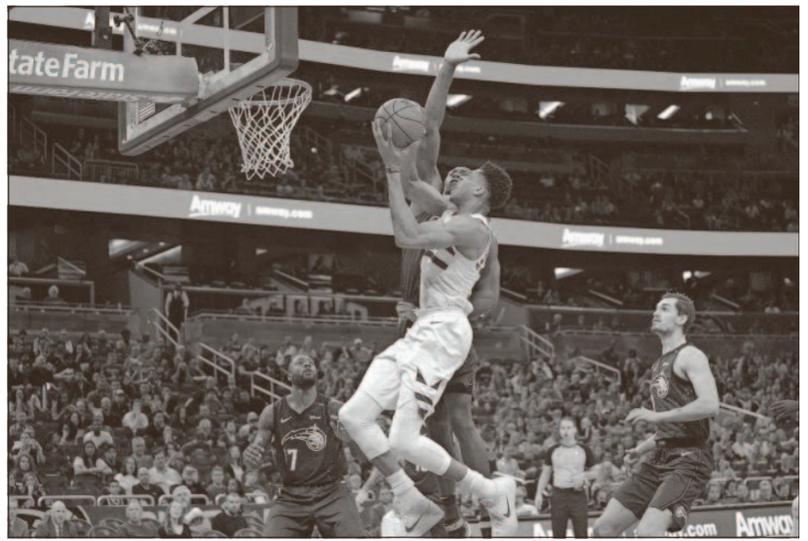
Mario Hezonja led Orlando with 23 points. Evan Fournier added 20, and Shelvin Mack had 19.

Khris Middleton had 21 points, nine rebounds and seven assists for Milwaukee.

The Bucks (31-24) won for the sixth straight time in the second game of a back-to-back.

The Magic missed 14 straight 3-point shots and saw their three-game winning streak broken.

Mack made all six of his shots in the first half, including a couple of 3-pointers, in leading Orlando to a 54-50 halftime lead.



Milwaukee Bucks forward Giannis Antetokounmpo (34) goes up for a shot in front of Orlando Magic center Bismack Biyombo as guard Shelvin Mack (7) and guard Mario Hezonja (8) watch during the first half Saturday in Orlando.

AP PHOTO

Hezonja scored nine of Orlando's first 11 points, and a couple of free throws by D.J. Augustin with 3:31 left in the second quarter gave the Magic a nine-point lead, the biggest for either team until the Bucks matched it in the fourth quarter.

76ERS 112, CLIPPERS 98:

Joel Embiid had 29 points and tied a career high with 16 rebounds, and the Philadelphia 76ers beat the Los Angeles Clippers 112-98 on Saturday night for their third straight victory.

JJ Redick and T.J. McConnell each had 17 points for the 76ers, who were 10 of 17 (58.8 percent) from 3-point range in the first half and shot 55.1 percent overall to

lead 69-55 at halftime. Ben Simmons had 14 points, 10 assists and five rebounds. The Sixers cooled off in the third, going 1 for 10 from 3, and committed five turnovers, allowing the Clippers to creep within six and enter the fourth down 85-78.

Los Angeles got within 95-93 with 5 minutes left, but a tough shot by McConnell in the paint and Redick's 3-pointer were part on an 8-0 spurt that sealed it. The Sixers ended the game on a 17-5 run. Former Sixers guard Lou Williams led the Clippers with 23 points, and Danilo Gallinari had 22. Los Angeles had its three-game win streak snapped and is 3-2 since trading Blake Griffin to Detroit.

PELICANS 138, NETS 128, 20T: Anthony Davis had 44 points and 17 rebounds, Rajon Rondo had a triple-double, and the New Orleans Pelicans recovered after blowing a 28-point lead to beat the Brooklyn Nets 138-128 in two overtimes on Saturday night. Rondo finished with 25 points, 12 assists and 10 rebounds as the Pelicans snapped a three-game losing streak. Nikola Mirotic had 21 points and 16 boards, and Jrue Holiday chipped in 22 points. Allen Crabbe made eight 3-pointers and scored 28 points for the Nets, who have lost their last four games. Spencer Dinwiddie chipped in 24 points and 10 rebounds, and D'Angelo Russell came off the bench with 21 points and nine assists.

NHL ROUNDUP

Vasilevskiy makes 44 saves, Lightning beat Kings

By **MARK DIDTLER**
Associated Press

TAMPA — Andrei Vasilevskiy made 44 saves, Steven Stamkos had a goal and an assist, and the NHL-leading Tampa Bay Lightning beat the Los Angeles Kings 4-3 Saturday night.

Tampa Bay also got goals from Alex Killorn, Cedric Paquette and Nikita Kucherov.

Jonny Brodzinski, Kyle Clifford and Christian Folin scored for the Kings, who nearly came back from a three-goal deficit entering the third period. Jonathan Quick stopped 13 of 14 shots after replacing Darcy Kuemper early in the second.

The Lightning retired Vincent Lecavalier's No. 4 during a pregame ceremony. Lecavalier, who tops the franchise list for game played (1,037) and goals (383), joined Martin St. Louis as the only Tampa Bay players to have their jerseys retired.

After Stamkos scored 65 seconds into the game,



Tampa Bay Lightning center Cedric Paquette (13) celebrates after scoring against the Los Angeles Kings during the second period Saturday in Tampa.

AP PHOTO

Los Angeles tied it at 1 on its first shot by Brodzinski at 5:02 of the first.

Vasilevskiy then stopped 17 straight shots over the rest of the period, including a spectacular save on Anze Kopitar when he put his glove behind his back.

Killorn made it 2-1 on a breakaway off a Stamkos pass right after serving an interference penalty.

Paquette put the Lightning up 3-1 at 3:12 of the second when his

backhand from behind the net went in off Kuemper's left leg. Kuemper departed after giving up three goals on 14 shots.

Los Angeles right wing Dustin Brown received a five-minute kneeing penalty and a game misconduct for a hit on Tampa Bay rookie defenseman Mikhail Sergachev, who returned for the third.

Kucherov scored on the ensuing power play. Clifford scored 3:17 into

the third before Folin cut the deficit to 4-3 with 6:55 remaining. Vasilevskiy turned aside 18 third-period shots, making a big save at the buzzer on Drew Doughty.

BLUE JACKETS 6, DEVILS 1: Artemi Panarin and Oliver Bjorkstrand each had a goal and an assist, and Sergei Bobrovsky stopped 35 shots as the Columbus Blue Jackets beat the New Jersey Devils 6-1 on Saturday night to snap a five-game losing streak. Pierre-Luc Dubois, Josh Anderson, Nick Foligno and Matt Calvert also scored for the Blue Jackets, who badly needed a win after dropping both ends of a home-and-home series this week to Metropolitan Division-leading Washington and falling farther behind the Capitals in the tightly bunched division. It was their first win in regulation in their last 14 games. Keith Kinkaid, playing in place of an injured Cory Schneider, stopped 44 shots for the Devils, who have lost three straight and seven of their last 10.

GOLF

From Page 1

Given the conditions, the 70 at Pebble Beach felt like hard work.

Ted Potter Jr. shot a 62 at Monterey Peninsula and left wondering how much better it could have been. Potter, with virtually no one watching his round because the stars were at Pebble on Saturday, was 11 under with three holes to play, needing only one birdie and two pars for a 59.

He bogeyed the last two holes, which at least was enough to tie for the lead.

"I didn't feel like I hit bad shots coming in there on the last couple, making bogeys there, but I just knew it was going to be tough coming in," Potter said.

They were at 14-under 201, and with more wind in the forecast — compared with virtually none the previous two days — this could be wide open.

Johnson is going for his second straight PGA Tour victory having won by eight shots at Kapalua to start the year. He also is virtually assured of being only the fifth player since the world ranking began in 1986 to be No. 1 for an entire year.

Jason Day, coming off a playoff victory at Torrey Pines two weeks ago, had a 69 at Pebble Beach and was two shots behind along with Troy Merritt, who had the lead until four bogeys over his last six holes at Monterey Peninsula for a 69.

Jon Rahm birdied his last three holes at Spyglass Hill and worked his way back into contention with a 70. He was in a group at 11 under that included 50-year-old Steve Stricker (70) and Patrick Rodgers (69).

Also in the mix was Phil Mickelson, though he made it harder on himself with

a three-putt bogey on the 18th at Pebble Beach for a 72. Mickelson had gone 46 consecutive holes without a bogey, though he managed only one birdie Saturday at Pebble Beach.

Rory McIlroy's debut in this tournament was a short one. He hit into the ocean with an iron on the par-5 sixth hole leading to bogey. He finished with a drive that bounced along the rocks left of the 18th hole, though he took his penalty drop, hit the pin with his third shot and finished with a birdie. No matter. He still managed a 72 and missed the cut by two shots.

MLB: Marlins Mattingly says he's excited about new-look Marlins

Associated Press

MIAMI — After all the deals and departures, Miami Marlins manager Don Mattingly says he's enthused about the upcoming season.

Really, he is.

"You probably think I'm crazy but I'm really excited about what's going on," Mattingly said Saturday during the team's Fan Fest event at Marlins Park. "I can say it — look you right in the camera, look you right in the eye — I can tell you how excited I am to be here, and what we're doing."

This will be his third season guiding the club, and he'll see a radically revamped roster without many stars when spring training begins within a week. Soon after taking over last fall, the new Marlins' ownership, overseen by majority partner Bruce Sherman and CEO Derek Jeter, traded half the club's starting lineup in an attempt to dramatically cut payroll and build an organizational foundation.

Gone in exchange for prospects were reigning NL MVP Giancarlo Stanton, who hit 59 home runs, and fellow outfielders Marcell Ozuna and Christian Yelich. They combined for a major league-best .913 OPS among outfield trios last season.

Also traded for additional minor leaguers was second baseman Dee Gordon, who hit .308, stole an NL-leading 60 bases in 2017 and won the league batting title in 2015.

There is also the possibility the Marlins are not done dealing and additionally slashing payroll. Catcher J.T. Realmuto and second baseman Starlin Castro, the only acquisition with extended major league experience and who joined Miami in the Stanton deal, reportedly have asked to be traded.

"I know what you guys know, obviously," Realmuto said Saturday. "For me it is getting ready to start the season, whether it's in Miami or somewhere else. No matter what happens my job is to play baseball."

The trades have resulted in widespread displeasure with Marlins fans. But Mattingly backs the new ownership's approach.

"We knew that we had a good lineup but also knew we were 10 games out of the wild card with those guys," Mattingly said. "We didn't match up pitching and offense. There had to be something done. No matter how much offense you have you're not going to win without pitching."

"I know some of the things have been unpopular. When you look at it, for me, they're things that had to be done," he said.

Mattingly said he reached out to the traded players he managed the past two seasons.

"Hopefully, we've impacted their careers," Mattingly said. "As a coach you feel like you're a teacher and you want to help these guys develop."

SOCCER: U.S. Soccer Federation

US Soccer reboots, elects Carlos Cordeiro president

By FRED GOODALL
Associated Press

ORLANDO — Carlos Cordeiro insists he's the right choice to lead the U.S. Soccer Federation, which must chart a new course after its men's national team failed to qualify for this year's World Cup.

The 61-year-old business executive won the governing body's presidential election Saturday. He succeeds Sunil Gulati, who led the organization since 2006.

Cordeiro was Gulati's right-hand man the past two years. Now, he's charged, among other things, with running the U.S. end of a bid with



AP FILE PHOTO

Carlos Cordeiro, vice president of U.S. Soccer, watches warmups from the team bench ahead of the start of the U.S.'s final World Cup qualifying match against Trinidad and Tobago at Ato Boldon Stadium in Couva, Trinidad.

Mexico and Canada for the right to host the 2026 World Cup.

Other priorities include the hiring of a general

manager for the men's team, a position Cordeiro said must be filled before launching a coaching search.

OLYMPICS: Women's Basketball



AP PHOTO

United States' Diana Taurasi smiles during a women's gold medal basketball game against Spain at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Taurasi ready for final go-round with USA Basketball

By DOUG FEINBERG
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Diana Taurasi wants to make the most of her final go-round with USA Basketball.

The four-time Olympic gold medalist is back for one more run at a world championship and potentially the 2020 Tokyo Olympics if she can stay healthy.

"It's made me more driven than ever to be healthy for it. I want to end it the right way," Taurasi said in a phone interview Saturday. "It's something that I take very seriously. I want to be at the highest level to play for our country."

Taurasi had to leave her Russian team in December because of a back issue. She's been

rehabbing and was able to participate in the USA training camp that took place in South Carolina this weekend. Taurasi spent most of her time on the bike and cheered on her teammates. She also walked through a few drills and of course talked a little trash.

"I'm as healthy as a 35-year-old can get," Taurasi said. "I'll take these three months to rehab and be ready for the whole gauntlet of the WNBA and world championship."

USA coach Dawn Staley has been thrilled that Taurasi and Sue Bird decided to keep playing for the U.S.

"They bring so much every time they step on the court and off it as well," Staley said.

RAYS

From Page 1

"You could argue you're going to compete with more clubs to get the first pick in the draft," Seattle GM Jerry Dipoto said last week, "than you would to win the World Series."

So where does that leave the Rays?

They went into the offseason talking about a rebuild, though not necessarily blowing up the whole roster. Trading franchise cornerstone Evan Longoria seemed a push that way, but the slow free agent market has also limited their opportunity to make trades necessary to cede to ownership's request to cut payroll.

At some point, they are going to have to do that, dealing from the group of higher-paid veterans

including C Wilson Ramos, OF/DHs Denard Span and Corey Dickerson, RHPs Jake Odorizzi and closer Alex Colome and INF Brad Miller. If it goes too long, they could take even more extreme action and release players, paying one-sixth or one-fourth if they have non-guaranteed salaries.

Cutting payroll at a time when you are trying to get the community excited about building a new stadium, negotiating for a more lucrative TV deal and, like all teams, supposedly getting a \$50 million payout from MLB certainly can be debated. There can be some merit if it's to create opportunity for the young core they keep bragging on in hopes of getting them ready and able to compete sooner than later. Either way, they are part of the nasty conversation.

LIGHTNING

From Page 1

The same goes for some parents.

"For the first six months he was our coach, I had no idea he was a thing," said Molly Burchette, whose son, Bear Wright, 7, plays for the Bulls. "He's extremely down to earth, a regular locker room guy. He just happens to be a really good coach."

There are perks, like posing with the Cup or practicing one time at Amalie Arena. But Lecavalier tries to make fun the driving force, whether that's ending practices with games of tag, or letting the kids wrap him up like a mummy on Halloween. Lecavalier feels like his life has come full circle, following in the footsteps of his father, Yvon, who coached him as a kid in Montreal.

"I learned everything from him," Lecavalier said. "I remember when I was young, I was laughing because my dad always did the same drills. Turning, stopping and fundamentals, and now I'm doing the exact same thing. Which is good, because the kids need to learn how to learn. But I'm trying to make it fun at the same time."

Yvon, who ran a hockey school in Montreal for 15 years and coached Lecavalier for a few of them, said he never hesitated to bench his son.

"He'd be taking it easy for a period or two,

He reiterated the ultimate goal is to help soccer realize its vast potential in the United States.

"I think we have an opportunity to really transform it into a No. 1 sport. I think the demographics favor that," Cordeiro said. "There's a reason why the millennials identify with soccer, so I think that's very much in our favor. We have to do a number of things ourselves to make it happen, and make it happen more rapidly."

Cordeiro, a former Goldman Sachs partner, was elected on the third ballot with 68.6 percent of the vote. The field initially featured eight

candidates. Cordeiro pulled away from Kathy Carter, who is on leave as president of Major League Soccer's marketing arm.

Carter had the backing of MLS Commissioner Don Garber and narrowly trailed Cordeiro on the first ballot. MLS, as well as the National Women's Soccer League and United Soccer League, shifted their support to Cordeiro after the second ballot.

The other candidates were: former men's national team players Paul Caligiuri, Kyle Martino and Eric Wynalda, lawyers Steve Gans and Michael Wingrad and former U.S. women's goalkeeper Hope Solo.



AP PHOTO

Former Tampa Bay Lightning center Vincent Lecavalier, third from left, is joined by family members during his jersey retirement ceremony Saturday in Tampa.

and I'd bench him," Yvon said. "In the third period, we'd win."

Yvon isn't surprised to see Lecavalier coaching, too, feeling this relaxed environment is more fitting than the pressure-packed Montreal youth hockey scene.

"Vinny is more calm than me," Yvon said. "Here, it's more fun, there's no standings." There's a lot of drills focusing on skating — turns, backwards. But there are also scrimmages at the end, and on Saturdays.

"It's really fun," 7-year-old Bear Wright says.

"He lets us play games," said 7-year-old Johnny Cooper.

As much as Lecavalier knows the game, it's a challenge finding ways to teach kids this age.

There was the time he tried to draw up a drill on a dry erase board, the shape of the rink.

"Bad idea," Lecavalier quipped. "One kid, my son, said, 'What's the scribbly scrabbly you're

doing? I put my head down, put the board away and tried to show them. You've got to realize it's not an NHL practice, it's 6-7-year-olds playing."

Lecavalier's team was picked at an open tryout over the summer, the team practicing twice a week (scrimmaging on Saturdays) and participating in a few tournaments. It costs \$850 for the season, from August to March.

"The kids got rapidly better, a lot faster than the other kids," said Lawson White, Liam's dad.

Once Liam joined Lecavalier's team, he went online to look up the center's fights. "He goes, did you really fight Zdeno Chara?" Lawson recalled. "Vinny said, 'No. I fought him twice. And didn't get one lick in.'"

Others got a little starstruck. "When I met him, I'm like, 'Oh my gosh, that's Vinny!'" Bear Wright says.

Coach Vinny.

Devil Rays daze

Kudos for the rollout of cool-looking 20th anniversary merchandise and giveaways, embracing a Devil Rays past that was long ignored. Here were three items we (jokingly) thought we might see: Talking Chuck LaMar bobblehead that says, "Yes, Sir!"; Vince Naimoli action figure that yells and chases employees down the hall; a "Hit Show" figurine of Jose Canseco, Vinny Castilla, Fred McGriff and Greg Vaughn that sits on a shelf and does nothing.

Pecota, picatta

Based on whom they currently have on the roster, the Rays are getting some love from the Baseball Prospectus PECOTA computer projections. Like serious, 84-win, second wild-card love, finishing

behind the Yankees (96-66) and Red Sox (87-75). But most teams won't look on opening day like they do now, given all the signings and trades still to come. Those totals are subject to change.

Rays rumblings

Will be interesting to see what take commissioner Rob Manfred has on the Ybor stadium developments when he's at the Trop on Thursday for MLB's spring media day. ... Don't really get the logic in calling the nonprofit group backing the Ybor move Tampa Bay Rays 2020, since it has nothing to do with the 20th anniversary and definitely won't happen by 2020. ... Biggest decision that affects play will be whether to have a retractable roof (and potentially natural grass) or a fixed roof (and more turf). For what it's worth, the Marlins had their roof open for only six games in 2017, 50 in six seasons. ... One very cool change at the Trop this year is the return of an organ — a traditional double-decker organ, played by a real person. ... Longoria's Ducky's restaurant will no longer sponsor the 162 Landing area he made famous; talks are said to be ongoing about retaining a presence. ... Bringing back Sergio Romo is a good move for a bullpen lacking guys who have been there, done that. ... Longtime coach Tom Foley said he is enjoying his new special assistant role and will be in spring training, and in his No. 6 uniform, doing whatever is asked. ... Cool return to the Trop for Mindy Downer, who started there as a suite attendant and is now new concessionaire Levy's director of operations.

WINTER OLYMPICS

A ROUNDUP OF SATURDAY'S HIGHLIGHTS /// LOOKING AHEAD TO SUNDAY

What to watch for today

LUGE

The U.S. has two men in Chris Mazdzer and Tucker West who won World Cup races since Sochi, but it would be a surprise if either makes the podium.



FIGURE SKATING

The team event finishes with the men's and women's free skates and free dance. The medals should come down to Russia, Canada and the U.S., who made up the Sochi podium in that order.



ALPINE SKIING

Women's giant slalom. Mikaela Shiffrin makes her Pyeongchang debut here, the first of potentially five individual events where she could earn a medal.



SATURDAY'S SPOTLIGHT

Dig it: US woman makes history



AP PHOTO

Jessica Diggins of the United States reacts after the women's 7.5km skiathlon cross-country skiing competition at the Winter Olympics Saturday in Pyeongchang, South Korea.

Jessie Diggins finishes 5th in skiathlon, best ever for a US woman

Associated Press

PYEONGCHANG, South Korea — Jessie Diggins wasn't quite fast enough to catch the history she was chasing Saturday. That didn't mean she finished her first race of the Pyeongchang Olympics with any disappointment, or without a meaningful achievement.

Diggins, of Afton, Minn., led the U.S. contingent with a fifth-place finish in the women's skiathlon at Alpensia Cross-Country Skiing Center. Battling nerves and cramping, she still recorded the highest placing of any American woman in history in a cross-country ski race at the Winter Games.

Sweden's Charlotte Kalla used a bold move in the final two kilometers to win, with

Marit Bjoergen of Norway taking silver and Krista Parmakoski of Finland earning bronze.

Kalla's gold medal was the first awarded at the Pyeongchang Games and made her the first Swedish woman to win three Olympic cross-country titles. Bjoergen set a record, too, with her 11th Olympic medal, the most won by any woman in cross-country at the Winter Games.

The American women would be delighted just to win their first Olympic medal in the sport.

Though Diggins didn't get it done in the skiathlon, which includes a 7.5-kilometer classic leg and 7.5k freestyle leg, she and her teammates have several more opportunities in Pyeongchang — and Saturday left her feeling good about their chances.

"Today was a good race for me," said Diggins, whose time of 40 minutes, 59.6 seconds was 14.7 seconds behind Kalla.

"It was not my best race, which I'm really happy about, because I'm ready to do some more.

"I'm really excited. I think I'm in a good place at these games. It's really cool being seconds away from a medal and seeing it right there. I know it's possible. I know I have what it takes."

The other Americans didn't fare as well. Caitlin Patterson was 34th Kikkan Randall was 40th and Rosie Brennan was 58th.

The U.S. women entered the Olympics shouldering heavy expectations, created by their move up the World Cup rankings. The greatest hopes rest with Diggins, third in the circuit's overall standings. She clearly felt it, though the anxiety seemed to subside once she got going.

At the halfway point of the classic leg, Diggins was third, as close as she would get to the lead. She was trying to find the optimal position on a course she labeled as both tactical

and "a serious grinder," with a biting wind complicating things further. After falling back to 10th place early in the freestyle leg, she moved up steadily late in the race.

"There are a few crucial pinch points where you don't want to be stuck behind people," she said of the freestyle portion. "I was not in a smart position when Charlotte made her move. Then, when I got my body to start pushing, it just was a little bit late.

"I really was wrecked at the finish. I gave it absolutely everything I had, and I'm proud of that. So I'm walking away happy."

Kalla seized the early lead and set a brisk pace. Bjoergen moved up through a lead pack of about 20 skiers and passed Kalla on the second lap of the race. The two swapped positions several times before Kalla attacked on the final lap, charging to the front and immediately putting distance between her and the rest of the field.

ROUNDUP

WOMEN'S HOCKEY

Alina Muller scored four goals, including three in the first period, to lead Switzerland over Korea 8-0 in the preliminary round for women's hockey. The first combined Korean team was clearly overmatched by the Swiss, but that didn't mute fans' enthusiasm for a team dressing three North Koreans. Sara Hjalmarsson scored 1:53 into the third period and Sweden held off Japan 2-1 earlier Saturday. It was only Japan's third appearance in the Olympics for

women's hockey, and they had to start off pool play against a country that took home silver in 2006 and bronze in 2002.

MEN'S DOWNHILL

The men's downhill has been postponed until Thursday because of strong winds. To make room for the Alpine program's marquee race, the men's super-G will shift from Thursday to Friday. The downhill was supposed to be the first race of the 11-event Alpine program. But three hours before it was supposed to start, race organizers said they needed to reschedule

it. They say they can't operate the gondola lift that would carry teams and officials up the mountain.

FIGURE SKATING

American siblings Maia and Alex Shibutani will compete in the ice dance and Bradie Tennell in the women's short program when the team competition resumes Sunday at Gangneung Ice Arena. The American team, second behind Canada after the pairs and men's short programs, waited until the last possible moment to announce its lineup in a bit of gamesmanship with its rival

nations. The top five nations after their short programs advance to the free skate later Sunday.

MEN'S SLOPESTYLE SNOWBOARDING

Teenager Red Gerard has won the United States' first gold medal, edging Canadians Max Parrot and Mark Morris in men's slopestyle snowboarding. Gerard, a 17-year-old from Silverthorne, Colorado, drilled his third and final run on the chilly but sun-splashed course at Phoenix Snow Park. His score of 87.16 was just enough to slip by Parrot.

HOCKEY

From Page 1

Fans unfurled a large banner reading "We are one" after the game and then IOC President Thomas Bach and South Korean President Moon Jae-in joined the powerful sister of North Korea leader Kim Jong Un, Kim Yo Jong, and Kim Yong Nam, North Korea's nominal head of state, for photos with the team.

The dignitaries walked to the Korean bench, taking turns talking to

players still standing on the ice. After a photo together, each of the Koreans shook hands with the three men while Kim Jong Un's sister watched.

It was a raucous and historic night mixing sports and politics on an international stage for a second straight night in this remote region of South Korea. The game came just 24 hours after an extraordinary opening ceremony filled with signs of unity between the two rivals. And like the ceremony, North

and South leaders spent long moments in close proximity.

The two North Koreans are on a landmark visit to the South amid a flurry of abrupt reconciliation steps, and both attended the opening ceremony before having a luncheon with Moon at Moon's presidential palace earlier Saturday. The North Koreans have invited Moon to visit Pyongyang in what would be the third inter-Korean summit talks since their 1945 division.

Fans roared every time

a Korean got the puck on her stick, and Han Soojin nearly put the team on the board with a shot from the left circle that hit the crossbar early in the first period. North Korean Jong Su Hyon had one of Korea's three shots in the opening period.

Still, the Koreans were playing the world's sixth-ranked team. Alina Muller had a hat trick for Switzerland by the end of the first period and added a fourth early in the second. Coach Sarah Murray played three

North Korean forwards as required in the deal that created the team; she had to scratch three of her South Korean players.

"Obviously, it is tough to lose. Nobody likes losing, especially me ... I think they were nervous," Murray said. "Coming on first such a big crowd and the first game on Olympic stage. I think in the first period we were nervous and it was hard to come back from that."

South Korean player Ko Hyein said: "We had

a tight game at first in the first period, but our mental toughness wasn't really good so we lost our posture after suffering the first goal. But we'll make up for that weak point for the next game."

Hundreds of spectators lined the streets outside Kwandong Hockey Center before the game, chanting and waving small "unification flags" amid gusting, chilly winds. One man held up a sign that read, "The peace of all mankind."

MEDAL COUNT

Through Feb. 10

Country	G	S	B	T
Netherlands	1	2	1	4
Norway	0	3	1	4
Germany	2	0	0	2
Canada	0	1	1	2
South Korea	1	0	0	1
Sweden	1	0	0	1
United States	1	0	0	1
Czech Republic	0	0	1	1
Finland	0	0	1	1
OA Russia	0	0	1	1

GAMES FACES

Here is a handful of men and women in Alpine skiing who never have won an Olympic medal but could be better-known to fans by the time the Pyeongchang Games are done:

BEAT FEUZ, Switzerland: A victory by Feuz on what's his 31st birthday would not surprise anyone in the skiing world. He is, after all, the reigning world champion in the downhill and owns three World Cup wins and a pair of second-place finishes this season. At his lone previous Olympics, four years ago, he was still recovering from left knee problems and his best showing in three races was 13th.

DOMINIK PARIS, Italy: This is his third Olympics and he's never fared better than 11th. But Paris was the silver medalist at the 2013 world championships and is a consistent contender on the World Cup circuit, winding up third in the downhill standings three times and sitting in that spot this season, too. He also won the downhill on home snow in Bormio in December and was second in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, on Jan. 27.

WENDY HOLDENER, Switzerland: She might just be the biggest threat to Shiffrin's pursuit of multiple gold medals in the technical events of slalom and giant slalom. Since failing to finish either of those races at the Sochi Olympics at age 20, Holdener has established herself as a top competitor, taking home a gold in the combined event and a silver in the slalom (behind Shiffrin) at last year's world championships.

PETRA VLHOVA, Slovakia: Another potential challenger to Shiffrin, she was 18 — just like the American — at the Sochi Games, finishing no better than 19th. But she is now an established slalom racer, with two wins this season.

SOFIA GOGGIA, Italy: If Vonn does not win what would be her second Olympic downhill title, it might just be because Goggia earns a medal in her Winter Games debut at age 25. And she might become a real star, because her personality is as electric as her skiing. Goggia has won two World Cup downhills this season, along with a couple of second-place finishes.

SCOREBOARD

PRO BASKETBALL

NBA
All times Eastern

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

W	L	PCT.	GB	
Boston	40	17	.702	—
Toronto	38	16	.704	—
Philadelphia	28	25	.528	9½
New York	23	33	.411	16
Brooklyn	19	38	.333	20½

Southeast Division

W	L	PCT.	GB	
Washington	31	24	.564	—
Miami	30	26	.536	1½
Charlotte	23	32	.418	8
Orlando	18	37	.327	13
Atlanta	17	39	.304	14½

Central Division

W	L	PCT.	GB	
Cleveland	32	22	.593	—
Milwaukee	31	24	.564	1½
Indiana	31	25	.554	2
Detroit	27	27	.500	5
Chicago	19	35	.352	13

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

W	L	PCT.	GB	
Houston	41	13	.759	—
San Antonio	35	21	.625	7
New Orleans	29	26	.527	12½
Memphis	18	36	.333	23
Dallas	17	38	.309	24½

Northwest Division

W	L	PCT.	GB	
Minnesota	34	24	.586	—
Portland	31	25	.554	2
Oklahoma City	31	25	.554	2
Denver	29	26	.527	3½
Utah	27	28	.491	5½

Pacific Division

W	L	PCT.	GB	
Golden State	42	13	.764	—
L.A. Clippers	28	26	.519	13½
L.A. Lakers	23	31	.426	18½
Phoenix	18	38	.321	24½
Sacramento	17	37	.315	24½

Friday's Games

L.A. Clippers 108, Detroit 95
Philadelphia 100, New Orleans 82
Cleveland 123, Atlanta 107
Indiana 97, Boston 91
Houston 130, Denver 104
Miami 91, Milwaukee 85
Utah 106, Charlotte 94
Chicago 114, Minnesota 113
Portland 118, Sacramento 100

Saturday's Games

New Orleans 138, Brooklyn 128, 2OT
Milwaukee 111, Orlando 104
Philadelphia 112, L.A. Clippers 98
Washington at Chicago, late
L.A. Lakers at Dallas, late
San Antonio at Golden State, late
Denver at Phoenix, late

Today's Games

Toronto at Charlotte, 1 p.m.
Cleveland at Boston, 3:30 p.m.
Detroit at Atlanta, 3:30 p.m.
New York at Indiana, 5 p.m.
Dallas at Houston, 7 p.m.
Memphis at Oklahoma City, 7 p.m.
Sacramento at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
Utah at Portland, 9 p.m.

Monday's Games

New Orleans at Detroit, 7 p.m.
New York at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Brooklyn, 7:30 p.m.
Orlando at Chicago, 8 p.m.
San Antonio at Utah, 9 p.m.
Phoenix at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

PELICANS 138, NETS 128, 2OT

NEW ORLEANS (138)
Moore 5-8 0-0 12, Mirotic 8-18 3-4 21, Davis 16-35 9-14 44, Rondo 11-16 3-6 25, Holiday 7-15 1-12 22, Miller 1-4 0-0 3, Diallo 3-4 2-2 8, Liggins 0-1 0-0 0, Clark 1-5 1-1 3. Totals 52-106 25-39 138.

BROOKLYN (128)
Harris 4-8 2-2 12, Carroll 4-16 3-4 12, Allen 4-6 0-0 8, Dinwiddie 5-22 12-24, Crabbe 10-24 0-0 28, Cunningham 1-2 0-0 2, Webb III 1-0 0-0 0, Acy 3-10 2-2 10, Lokofer 3-4 0-0 6, Russell 7-18 2-2 21, Staushaus 2-3 0-0 5. Totals 43-114 21-22 128.

NEW ORLEANS 34 38 28 16 8 14 — 138

BROOKLYN 22 30 33 31 8 4 — 128

3-Point Goals—New Orleans 9-24 (Davis 3-5, Moore 2-4, Mirotic 2-8, Holiday 1-2, Miller 1-3, Rondo 0-1, Liggins 0-1), Brooklyn 21-59 (Crabbe 8-18, Russell 5-11-3, Harris 2-4, Acy 2-7, Dinwiddie 2-9, Staushaus 1-2, Carroll 1-4, Cunningham 0-1, Webb III 0-1). Fouled Out—Carroll, Harris. Rebounds—New Orleans 59 (Davis 17), Brooklyn 60 (Harris 10). Assists—New Orleans 23 (Rondo 12), Brooklyn 30 (Dinwiddie 10). Total Fouls—New Orleans 18, Brooklyn 30. Technicals—Brooklyn coach Nets (Defensive three second). A—16,572 (17,732).

BUCKS 111, MAGIC 104

MILWAUKEE (111)
Middleton 8-13 4-5 21, Antetokounmpo 14-24 4-7 32, Maker 5-8 2-13, Bledsoe 6-10 4-4 18, Snell 1-3 0-0 3, Zeller 2-3 0-0 4, Terry 4-7 0-0 11, Kilpatrick 3-9 2-9 2, Brown 0-5 0-0 0. Totals 43-82 16-20 111.

ORLANDO (104)
Simmons 4-14 0-9, Hezonja 8-16 6-7 23, Byombyo 1-5 2-2 4, Augustin 2-7 7-11, Fournier 8-15 2-20, Ivundu 1-2 2-2 4, Speights 1-4 0-0 3, Birch 2-5 2-4 6, Mack 8-10 1-2 19, Afflalo 2-5 0-0 5. Totals 37-83 22-26 104.

MILWAUKEE 24 26 28 33 — 111

ORLANDO 29 25 30 30 — 104

3-Point Goals—Milwaukee 9-25 (Terry 3-5, Bledsoe 2-3, Maker 1-3, Snell 1-3, Middleton 1-4, Kilpatrick 1-5, Antetokounmpo 0-1, Brown 0-1), Orlando 8-30 (Mack 2-4, Fournier 2-5, Speights 1-3, Afflalo 1-3, Hezonja 1-5, Simmons 1-6, Augustin 0-4). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Milwaukee 41 (Middleton 9), Orlando 41 (Birch 9). Assists—Milwaukee 28 (Bledsoe 8), Orlando 23 (Mack 10). Total Fouls—Milwaukee 16, Orlando 14. Technicals—Middleton. A—18,347 (18,846).

76ERS 112, CLIPPERS 98

L.A. CLIPPERS (98)
Harris 7-16 3-5 17, Gallinari 7-15 5-6 22, Jordan 4-7 2-6 10, Rivers 4-14 1-1 10, Bradley 2-6 0-0 4, Dekker 0-0 0-0 0, W.Johnson 0-0 0-0 0, Harrell 4-5 0-1 8, Wallace 1-4 2-2 9, L.Williams 9-21 1-2 23. Totals 38-88 14-23 98.

PHILADELPHIA (112)
Covington 3-11 0-0 7, Saric 4-12 1-1 10, Embiid 9-23 10-13 29, Simmons 7-13 0-1 14, Redick 6-12 0-0 17, A.Johnson 1-1 0-0 2, Booker 2-4 0-0 4, McConnell 6-7 2-2 17, Anderson 5-7 0-0 12. Totals 43-90 13-17 112.

L.A. CLIPPERS 28 27 23 20 — 98

PHILADELPHIA 37 32 16 27 — 112

3-Point Goals—L.A. Clippers 8-32 (L.Williams 4-10, Gallinari 3-9, Rivers 1-8, Harris 0-5), Philadelphia 13-33 (Redick 5-10, McConnell 3-3, Anderson 2-3, Saric 1-5, Covington 1-6, Embiid 1-6). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—L.A. Clippers 53 (Jordan 21), Philadelphia 45 (Embiid 16). Assists—L.A. Clippers 20 (L.Williams 6), Philadelphia 32 (Simmons 10). Total Fouls—L.A. Clippers 16, Philadelphia 18. A—20,504 (21,600).

ODDS

PREGAME.COM LINE

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

Today

FAVORITE	LINE	O/U	UNDERDOG
at Boston	4½	213	Cleveland
Detroit	3½	211	at Atlanta
at Indiana	Off	Off	New York
at Minnesota	13½	212	Sacramento
at Oklahoma City	Off	Off	Memphis
at Houston	13½	216½	Dallas
at Portland	Off	Off	Utah

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Today

FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG
at Syracuse	7½	Wake Forest
Michigan	3	at Wisconsin
Louisville	3	at Pittsburgh
at Memphis	1½	UCF
at S. Illinois	4½	Bradley
at Valparaiso	5	Illinois St.
at Colorado	3	Stanford
Cincinnati	7	at SMU
at Houston	7	Tulane
Duke	9½	at Georgia Tech
Penn St.	2½	at Illinois
at Oregon	14½	Washington St.

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

Today

FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG	LINE
at Washington	-185	Detroit	+170
at St. Louis	-113	Pittsburgh	+105
at Winnipeg	-225	N.Y. Rangers	+203
at Dallas	Off	Vancouver	Off
at Buffalo	Off	Colorado	Off
at New Jersey	Off	Boston	Off
Calgary	-113	at NY Islanders	+103
at Anaheim	-165	San Jose	+155
at Las Vegas	Off	Philadelphia	Off

Updated odds available at Pregame.com

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

American League
TORONTO BLUE JAYS — Agreed to terms with RHP John Axford on a minor league contract.

National League
NEW YORK METS — Designated 3B Matt Reynolds for assignment.

PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES — Agreed to terms with LHP Josh Tols on a minor league contract.

FOOTBALL

National Football League
NEW YORK JETS — Signed DB Kacy Rodgers II to a reserve/future contract.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League
NEW YORK RANGERS — Recalled G Alexander Georgiev from Hartford (AHL) and G Chris Nell from Kansas City (ECHL) to Hartford.

WASHINGTON CAPITALS — Re-signed C Lars Eller to a five-year contract extension.

American Hockey League
HARTFORD WOLF PACK — Released D Desmond Bergin from his professional tryout agreement.

MILWAUKEE ADMIRALS — Recalled D Rick Pinkston from Atlanta (ECHL).

SOCCER
U.S. SOCCER — Elected Carlos Cordeiro president to a four-year term.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

MEN'S BASKETBALL

THE AP TOP 25 RESULTS/SCHEDULE

Friday's Game

No. 18 Rhode Island 72, Davidson 59

Saturday's Games

No. 1 Villanova 86, Butler 75
No. 2 Virginia 61, Virginia Tech 60
No. 4 Michigan State 68, No. 3 Purdue 65
No. 5 Xavier 72, Creighton 71
No. 7 Texas Tech at Kansas State, late
No. 8 Auburn 78, Georgia 61
Baylor 80, No. 10 Kansas 64
No. 11 Saint Mary's vs. No. 12 Gonzaga, late
No. 13 Arizona vs. Southern Cal, late
No. 14 Ohio State 82, Iowa 64
Alabama 78, No. 15 Tennessee 50
Iowa State 88, No. 17 Oklahoma 80
Oklahoma State 88, No. 19 West Virginia 85
No. 21 North Carolina 96, N.C. State 89
No. 22 Wichita State 95, UConn 74
No. 23 Nevada vs. San Diego State, late
No. 24 Kentucky at Texas A&M, late
Boston College 72, No. 25 Miami 70

Today's Games

No. 6 Cincinnati at SMU, 4 p.m.
No. 9 Duke at Georgia Tech, 6 p.m.
No. 20 Michigan at Wisconsin, 1 p.m.

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

EA
Boston College 72, Miami 70
Brown 91, Columbia 88, OT
Bryant 79, Mount St. Mary's 77
Canisius 71, Quinnipiac 64
Dartmouth 72, Princeton 56
DePaul 80, Providence 63
Fordham 80, Duquesne 57
Georgetown 83, Seton Hall 80
Harvard 76, Penn 67
Holy Cross 73, Boston U. 62
Iona 86, St. Peter's 77
Lehigh 80, American U. 78, OT
Marquette 93, Monmouth (NJ) 76
Navy 68, Army 59
Niagara 95, Fairfield 83
Northwestern 77, towson 62
Detroit 83
Montreal 55
Oklahoma St. 88, West Virginia 85
Rider 89, Marist 79
Robert Morris 96, LIU Brooklyn 82
Sacred Heart 67, CCSU 50
Saint Joseph's 85, Umass 73
St. Bonaventure 97, Richmond 88
St. Francis (Pa.) 90, St. Francis Brooklyn 65
St. John's 68, Marquette 78
Stetson 84, NJIT 80
Villanova 86, Butler 75
Yale 74, Cornell 65

SOUTH
Alabama 78, Tennessee 50
Alabama St. 69, Alabama A&M 50
Alcorn St. 94, MVSU 90, OT
Appalachian St. 81, Coastal Carolina 66
Auburn 78, Georgia 61
Bethune-Cookman 87, Md.-Eastern Shore 67
Campbell 88, Longwood 54
Charleston Southern 64, Presbyterian 54
Coll. of Charleston 89, Drexel 67
E. Kentucky 75, Morehead St. 73
ETSU 70, VMI 56
Florida 65, South Carolina 41
Florida A&M 65, NC Central 56
Florida Gulf Coast 88, SC-Upstate 71
Furman 76, Wofford 52
George Mason 72, George Washington 65
Hampton 82, Norfolk St. 52
Kennesaw St. 78, Jacksonville 54
LSU 82, Mississippi 66
Liberty 77, Gardner-Webb 65
Lipscomb 82, North Florida 70
Louisiana-Lafayette 102, Georgia Southern 91
Louisiana-Monroe 90, Georgia St. 82, OT
Marshall 79, FAU 68
Maryland 73, Northwestern 57
Mercer 84, Chattanooga 75
Middle Tennessee 79, North Texas 73
N. Kentucky 86, Green Bay 80
Nicholls 94, Houston Baptist 67
North Carolina 96, NC State 89
Old Dominion 82, Louisiana Tech 69
SC State 90, NC A&T 85
SE Louisiana 74, McNeese St. 67
SE Missouri 81, UT Martin 77, OT
Savannah St. 97, Morgan St. 94, OT
Southern U. 70, Ark.-Pine Bluff 62
Temple 73, South Florida 55
Tennessee St. 65, Jacksonville St. 47
Troy 82, UALR 64
UAB 61, Rice 56
UNC-Asheville 66, Radford 64
UNC-Greensboro 65, W. Carolina 48
UNC-Wilmington 90, Hofstra 70
VCU 88, Dayton 84, OT
Virginia Tech 61, Virginia 60, OT
W. Kentucky 83, FIU 76
William & Mary 83, Delaware 66
Winthrop 82, High Point 70
The Citadel at Sanford, late
Belmont at Tennessee Tech, late

MIDWEST
Akron 69, Cent. Michigan 63
Austin Peay 76, E. Illinois 69
Bowling Green 70, E. Michigan 63, OT
Drake 71, N. Iowa 64
Iowa St. 88, Oklahoma 80
Loyola of Chicago 75, Indiana St. 71
Michigan St. 68, Purdue 65
Milwaukee 74, Wright St. 73
Missouri 89, Mississippi St. 85, OT
Missouri St. 72, Evansville 55
Murray St. 75, SIU-Edwardsville 66
N. Illinois 90, Buffalo 88, OT
Nebraska 67, Rutgers 55
Notre Dame 84, Florida St. 69
Ohio St. 82, Iowa 64
Seattle 91, Chicago St. 81
W. Michigan 69, Ohio 60
Wichita St. 95, UConn 74
Xavier 72, Creighton 71
Youngstown St. 84, IUPUI 80
CS Bakersfield at Rio Grande, late
Utah Valley at UMKC, late
Fort Wayne at Nebraska-Omaha, late
Cleveland St. at Ill.-Chicago, late
La Salle at Saint Louis, late
Texas Tech at Kansas St., late

SOUTHWEST
Ablene Christian 80, Incarnate Word 69
Baylor 80, Kansas 64
Grambling St. 90, Prairie View 85
S. Dakota St. 85, Oral Roberts 75
Sam Houston St. 71, Lamar 69
Stephen E. Austin 97, Northwestern St. 50
TCU 87, Texas 71
Texas-Arlington 70, Texas State 68, OT
Texas Tech 88, UConn 74
New Orleans at Texas A&M-CC, late
Kentucky at Texas A&M, late
Vanderbilt at Arkansas, late
UTSA at UTEP, late
Jackson St. at Texas Southern, late

FAR WEST
Air Force 100, New Mexico 92
Arizona St. 88, UCLA 79
BYU 75, San Francisco 73, OT
Cal St.-Fullerton 68, UC Davis 66
Colorado St. 90, San Jose St. 73
Denver 66, N. Dakota St. 69
Loyola Marymount 85, Pepperdine 79
Neveda 83, San Diego St. 58
Portland St. 80, Montana St. 77
S. Utah 63, N. Arizona 54
Santa Clara 70, San Diego 64
Wyoming at UNLV, late

UC Irvine at UC Riverside, late
Grand Canyon at New Mexico St., late
N. Colorado at Weber St., late
Sacramento St. at Montana, late
Boise St. at Utah St., late
North Dakota at Idaho St., late
California at Utah, late
Portland at Pacific, late
Washington at Oregon St., late
Gonzaga at Saint Mary's (Cal), late
Southern Cal at Arizona, late
Cal Poly at Long Beach St., late

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

EAST
Loyola (Md.) at Lafayette, noon
Louisville at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.
UMBC at New Hampshire, 1 p.m.
Wake Forest at Syracuse, 1 p.m.
Wagner at Fairleigh Dickinson, 2 p.m.
Stony Brook at Maine, 2 p.m.
Albany (NY) at Hartford, 2 p.m.
Mass.-Lowell at Vermont, 2 p.m.

SOUTH
UCF at Memphis, 4 p.m.
Duke at Georgia Tech, 6 p.m.

MIDWEST
Michigan at Wisconsin, 1 p.m.
Purdue at South Dakota, 2 p.m.
Bradley at S. Illinois, 4 p.m.
Illinois St. at Valparaiso, 4 p.m.
Penn St. at Illinois, 7 p.m.

SOUTHWEST
Cincinnati at SMU, 4 p.m.
Tulane at Houston, 6 p.m.

FAR WEST
CS Northridge at Hawaii, midnight (Sunday)
Stanford at Colorado, 4 p.m.
Washington St. at Oregon, 8 p.m.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

THE AP TOP 25 RESULTS/SCHEDULE

Friday's Games

No. 8 UCLA 69, Arizona 46
No. 9 Oregon 76, Washington 63
No. 16 Oregon State 63, Washington State 61, OT
No. 17 Stanford 70, Utah 49
Southern Cal 77, No. 25 Arizona State 62

Saturday's Games

No. 1 UConn 124, Wichita State 43
No. 3 Baylor vs. No. 24 TCU, late
No. 6 Texas vs. Kansas State, late
No. 20 Green Bay 65, Milwaukee 36
No. 22 Oklahoma State at Iowa State, late

Today's Games

No. 2 Mississippi State vs. Kentucky, 2 p.m.
No. 5 Notre Dame vs. Georgia Tech, 1 p.m.
No. 7 South Carolina vs. Florida, 1 p.m.
No. 8 UCLA vs. No. 25 Arizona State, 4 p.m.
No. 9 Oregon at Washington State, 4 p.m.
No. 10 Maryland at Rutgers, noon
No. 11 Tennessee vs. No. 18 Georgia, 3 p.m.
No. 12 Florida State at Miami, 4 p.m.
No. 13 Ohio State at South Florida, 2 p.m.
No. 14 Texas A&M at LSU, 3 p.m.
No. 15 Missouri at Arkansas, 5 p.m.
No. 16 Oregon State at Washington, 6 p.m.
No. 17 Stanford vs. Colorado, 6 p.m.
No. 19 Duke at Clemson, 2 p.m.
No. 21 Michigan at Michigan State, noon
No. 23 N.C. State at North Carolina, 3 p.m.

PRO HOCKEY

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Tampa Bay	53	37	14	3	77	194	142
Boston	53	33	12	8	74	175	128
Toronto	57	33	19	5	71	188	159
Florida	52	23	23	6	52	147	167
Detroit	53	21	23	9	51	142	161
Montreal	55	22	26	7	51	144	172
Ottawa	54	19	26	9	47	144	188
Buffalo	55	16	29	10	42	128	180

Metropolitan Division

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Washington	54	32	17	5	69	169	156
Atlanta	56	30	22	4	64	172	170
New Jersey	54	27	19	8	62	160	165
Philadelphia	54	26	19	9	61	157	158
Pittsburgh	55	28	23	4	60	147	155
N.Y. Islanders	56	27	23	6	60	191	207
Carolina	55	25	21	9	59	148	165
N.Y. Rangers	55	26	24	5	57	161	171

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Nashville	54	33	12	9	75	169	140
Winnipeg	55	32	14	9	73	178	148
St. Louis	57	34	20	7	61	166	143
Dallas	56	33	19	4	70	175	145
Minnesota	54	29	19	6	64	162	156
Colorado	53	29	20	4	62	168	156
Chicago	54	24	22	8	56	157	152

Pacific Division

GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Vegas	54	36	14	4	76	186	148
Los Angeles	54	30	19	5	65	156	129
San Jose	54	28	18	8	64	156	150
Calgary	55	28	19	8	64	156	157
Anaheim	56	27	19	10	64	158	161
Edmonton	53	23	26	4	50	148	171
Vancouver	55	21	28	6	48	141	180
Arizona	54	13	32	9	35	126	189

Two points are awarded for a win, one point for an overtime or shootout loss.

Friday's Games

Washington 4, Columbus 2
N.Y. Islanders 7, Detroit 6, OT
N.Y. Rangers 4, Calgary 3
Carolina 4, Vancouver 1
Old Dominion 82, Louisiana Tech 69
SC State 90, NC A&T 85
SE Louisiana 74, McNeese St. 67
SE Missouri 81, UT Martin 77, OT
Savannah St. 97, Morgan St. 94, OT
Southern U. 70, Ark.-Pine Bluff 62
Temple 73, South Florida 55
Tennessee St. 65, Jacksonville St. 47
Troy 82, UALR 64
UAB 61, Rice 56
UNC-Asheville 66, Radford 64
UNC-Greensboro 65, W. Carolina 48
UNC-Wilmington 90, Hofstra 70
VCU 88, Dayton 84, OT
Virginia Tech 61, Virginia 60, OT
W. Kentucky 83, FIU 76
William & Mary 83, Delaware 66
Winthrop 82, High Point 70
The Citadel at Sanford, late
Belmont at Tennessee Tech, late

MIDWEST
Akron 69, Cent. Michigan 63
Austin Peay 76, E. Illinois 69
Bowling Green 70, E. Michigan 63, OT
Drake 71, N. Iowa 64
Iowa St. 88, Oklahoma 80
Loyola of Chicago 75, Indiana St. 71
Michigan St. 68, Purdue 65
Milwaukee 74, Wright St. 73
Missouri 89, Mississippi St. 85, OT
Missouri St. 72, Evansville 55
Murray St. 75, SIU-Edwardsville 66
N. Illinois 90, Buffalo 88, OT
Nebraska 67, Rutgers 55
Notre Dame 84, Florida

COLLEGE BASKETBALL: Florida 65, South Carolina 41

Florida rolls past South Carolina

Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Florida continued to solidify its postseason prospects with a 65-41 win over South Carolina on Saturday.

The Gators (17-8, 8-4 SEC) never fell off the NCAA Tournament bubble but losing three of four games before beating LSU earlier in the week dropped them from the Top 25 and lessened their chances of winning the SEC regular-season championship. After the slump-breaking win over the Tigers, Florida crushed the Gamecocks (13-12, 4-8) at Colonial Life Arena by dominating the paint.

Florida's defense blocked eight shots in the first half, 10 for the game, and contained center Chris Silva, the anchor of the Gamecocks' offense. The Gators outrebounded South Carolina by 22.



AP PHOTO

Florida forward Kevarrus Hayes (13) blocks South Carolina forward Chris Silva (30) during the first half Saturday in Columbia, S.C.

"We showed up to play, but then Florida said, 'We're not losing to you guys again,'" coach Frank Martin said. "They ratcheted up the competitiveness of the game and we looked for the backdoor instead of the fight."

When South Carolina made a brief run to get back in the game, the

Gators sank six of their final seven shots for a 21-point lead at halftime. Florida never let South Carolina get within 15 points in the second half. The Gamecocks lost their fifth straight.

"This was our best performance of the year. Everybody contributed defensively and on the glass," Florida coach

Mike White said. "Of course, we're reminded how much success South Carolina's had against us."

The Gamecocks had a two-game winning streak over the Gators, the first to reach their first Final Four last season and the second that started Florida's midseason skid.

The Gamecocks beat Florida on Jan. 24 by hitting 11 3-pointers and getting 22 points from point guard Wes Myers. On Saturday, Myers was on the bench as Hassan Gravett started. South Carolina made two 3-pointers and Myers was scoreless.

Silva found his way through Florida's defense for 10 points and Frank Booker scored 17, the Gamecocks' only offensive highlights.

"We're a hurt team right now," Martin said. "We're a team lacking spirit."

COLLEGE BASKETBALL: Notre Dame 84, Florida State 69



AP PHOTO

Florida State's Trent Forrest (3) competes for a rebound with Notre Dame's Rex Pflueger (0) and John Mooney (33) during the first half Saturday in South Bend, Ind.

Irish top Seminoles

By JOHN FINERAN
Associated Press

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — Matt Farrell scored a career-high 28 points to lead Notre Dame's potent three-guard attack in an 84-69 victory Saturday over Florida State.

Rex Pflueger added a career-high 19 points and T.J. Gibbs matched him with 19 after a poor shooting first half (2 of 12) as Mike Brey's Irish (15-10, 5-7 Atlantic Coast Conference) won their second straight after losing seven in a row.

C.J. Walker had 16 points, Phil Cofer, 12 and P.J. Savoy, 11 — all in the first half — for the

Seminole (17-8, 6-7 ACC), who lost their second straight and left coach Leonard Hamilton still seeking his 500th career victory.

Both teams struggled shooting early — Florida State went 5½ minutes between field goals and Notre Dame nearly 5 minutes — before the Irish found their stroke from 3-point range hitting six of its first 12 on way to its biggest lead of the half, 32-22, with 3:42 before the half.

The Irish then answered a 6-0 Seminole run and took a 40-34 halftime lead on the fourth 3-pointer by Farrell, who had 14 points.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Michigan State edges Purdue in top-5 clash

Associated Press

EAST LANSING, Mich. — Miles Bridges delivered at a key moment in a big game for Michigan State.

Forget about the NBA. This is worth the wait for the talented sophomore.

Bridges connected on a tiebreaking 3-pointer with 2.7 seconds left and finished with 20 points, helping the fourth-ranked Spartans beat No. 3 Purdue 68-65 on Saturday.

"Those type of moments, that's the main reason I came back," he said.

Tom Izzo is sure thankful he decided to return. The Hall of Fame coach encouraged Bridges to enter the NBA draft last year after his freshman season, but the forward from Flint, Michigan, wanted to stay in school.

"He came back to be in these kind of games and try to help us win a championship of some kind," Izzo said. "Miles, he got what he deserved."

The Spartans (24-3, 12-2 Big Ten) have won eight straight, improving their chances of contending for a conference championship and earning a No. 1 seed for the NCAA Tournament.

No. 1 VILLANOVA 86, BUTLER 75:

Donte DiVincenzo scored a career-high 30 points, Jalen Brunson had 27 and No. 1 Villanova bounced back from its second loss of the season, rallying past Butler 86-75 Saturday. Omari Spellman added 10 points and 11 rebounds for the Wildcats (23-2, 10-2 Big East), who avoided losing consecutive games for the first time since March 2013. The injury-depleted Wildcats were coming off a surprising home loss to last-place



AP PHOTO

Michigan State's Cassius Winston, left, is pressured by Purdue's P.J. Thompson during the first half Saturday in East Lansing, Mich.

St. John's three days earlier. Kelan Martin scored 30 and Kamara Baldwin had 25 for Butler (17-9, 7-6), which handed Villanova its first loss of the season on Dec. 30.

VIRGINIA TECH 61, No. 2 VIRGINIA 60:

Kerry Blackshear Jr. scored on a putback with 5.8 seconds left and Virginia Tech spoiled Virginia's opportunity to climb to No. 1. Blackshear rebounded a missed layup by Justin Robinson and banked it in as he was being fouled. He missed the free throw, but Ty Jerome's 28-foot attempt at the other end missed badly and the Hokies (18-7, 7-5 Atlantic Coast Conference) had a marquee victory. Robinson led the Hokies with 20 points and seven assists.

No. 5 XAVIER 72, CREIGHTON 71:

Quentin Goodin made two free throws with three-tenths of a second left, allowing Xavier to hold off Creighton. Goodin got fouled by Ronnie Harrell Jr. after Harrell had made three straight free throws to give the Bluejays a one-point lead with 4.6 seconds left. Goodin took an inbound pass from Naji Marshall and drove the

length of the court to the basket, with Harrell making contact in the lane and sending him to the line. Toby Harrell's baseball pass sailed out of bounds on the other end, and the Big East-leading Musketeers (23-2, 11-2) to win.

No. 8 AUBURN 78, GEORGIA 61:

Jared Harper scored 24 points and Auburn, playing without top scorer Bryce Brown, showed impressive depth by beating Georgia. Auburn leaned heavily on Harper early in the game. He scored 12 consecutive points for the Tigers, including back-to-back 3s for a 17-9 lead. Auburn (22-3, 10-2 Southeastern Conference) never relinquished the advantage. Harper also had a game-high seven assists.

BAYLOR 80, No. 10 KANSAS 64:

Manu Lecomte scored eight straight points for Baylor after Big 12 co-leader Kansas had pulled within a basket, and the senior guard finished with 18 overall in the Bears' upset victory. The Jayhawks (19-6, 8-4 Big 12) trailed 30-20 at halftime after having more turnovers (nine) than made field goals (seven) before the break. They were

down by as many as 13 points after that but got within 58-56 with 7:14 left after consecutive jumpers by Lagerald Vick. Lecomte then made a jumper for Baylor (15-10, 5-7) with 6:50 left and Kansas couldn't comeback. Devonte Graham had 14 of his 23 points after halftime for Kansas, while Malik Newman finished with 20.

No. 14 OHIO STATE 82, IOWA 64:

Keita Bates-Diop had 14 points and eight rebounds, and Ohio State beat Iowa for sole possession of first place in the Big Ten. Kaleb Wesson added 18 points and C.J. Jackson scored 14 for the Buckeyes (21-5, 13-1 Big Ten), who were 9 for 20 from 3-point range. Leading scorer Tyler Cook had just eight points for the Hawkeyes (12-15, 3-11). Bates-Diop made two early 3-pointers but Iowa made the lanky small forward largely ineffective in the first half.

ALABAMA 78, No. 15 TENNESSEE 50:

Donta Hall had 17 points and 11 rebounds and Collin Sexton scored 16 points to lead Alabama to a victory over Tennessee. The Crimson Tide (16-10, 7-5 Southeastern Conference) thoroughly dominated the Volunteers (18-6, 8-4) around the basket and cashed in on a number of fast-break chances. Hall made 8 of 10 field goals and blocked three shots. Tennessee had no answer to Sexton's quick darts to the basket, and the freshman also had four assists.

IOWA STATE 88, No. 17 OKLAHOMA 80:

Iowa State freshman Lindell Wigginton upstaged Trae Young by scoring 26 points and the Cyclones upset Oklahoma, handing the Sooners their sixth consecutive road loss. Fellow rookie Cam Lard had 19 points with 17 rebounds for the Cyclones (13-11, 4-8 Big 12).

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DANICA

From Page 1

Patrick is retiring after she races in both NASCAR's Feb. 18 season-opening Daytona 500 and the Indianapolis 500 in May.

After a speaking engagement in Grand Cayman, she pulled through the speedway gates for her first stop on a two-race farewell tour. She finally got in her Daytona 500 car Saturday afternoon and briefly led a practice session before settling into

16th for the day.

This offseason, Patrick has been the big headline in auto racing, as has often been the case through the years.

First, she announced her retirement plans, then the end of her five-year relationship with NASCAR driver Ricky Stenhouse Jr. She published a wellness book and revealed she's now dating Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers, who will be at the Daytona 500.

"He's going to be here to support me and he's

excited," Patrick told The Associated Press. "I'm excited to show him what I do."

A week before her final NASCAR race, she isn't sure what her emotions will be when the green flag drops for the 500. She thinks she'll be fine but noted that when she announced her retirement in November she unexpectedly began to sob.

"Imagine when you leave here on Sunday, you don't have anything to do really for a couple of months. Seems pretty

exciting, doesn't it? Right? That's how I feel," she said. "But when I think next Sunday comes, I'm sure I'll be a lot more retrospective or introspective and emotional about the finality of it. And, you know, just have a little bit more perspective. But right now, I'm fine. I'm good. I'm excited about it all."

"I made the decision last year that this is what I was good with. Otherwise, I wouldn't have been doing it. So, I've had a lot of time to mentally transition."

Blackjack, other table games make debut at Seminole Brighton Casino

SPECIAL TO
HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

BRIGHTON — Seminole Brighton Casino introduced Blackjack and other table games to its guests recently with a grand opening event.

The first deal took place at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 30 and the event included a performance by the "Rat Pack Now."

The casino, located northwest of Lake Okeechobee, revealed

a new pit area (encompassing 750 square feet) that offers six table games — five Blackjack and one Three-Card Poker. More than 30 new positions have been filled as a result of adding table games.

The casino has also expanded its new non-smoking slot area to 1,300 square feet with 54 games.

"We are excited to offer our guests this new experience," said Seminole

Brighton Casino General Manager Marty Johns. "The table games simply enhance our status as being the Lake Okeechobee region's number one gaming destination."

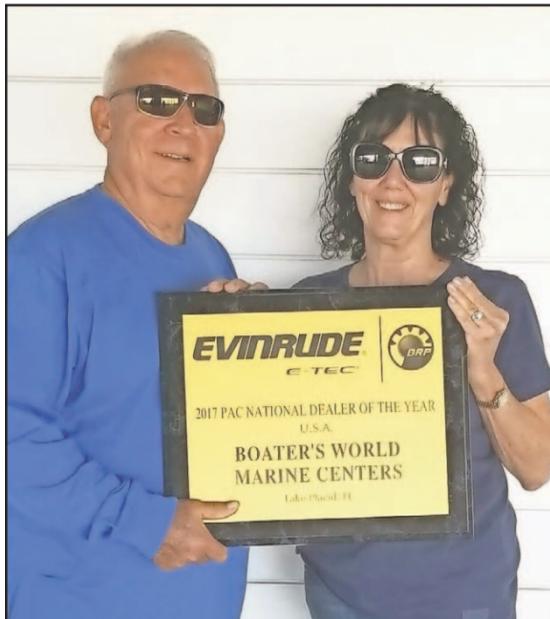
Seminole Brighton Casino is one of several Florida-based gaming facilities owned and operated by the Seminole Tribe of Florida. The Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Hollywood, Florida was

BLACKJACK | 2



ERICA WHITE/STAFF

Guests gather around the Three-Card Poker table during the grand opening of the Blackjack and other table games that took place recently at Seminole Brighton Casino near Okeechobee.



COURTESY PHOTO

Owners/Founders of Boater's World, Tom and Billye D'Azevedo with the National Dealer of the Year Award.

Boater's World named 'Dealer of the Year'

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

SEBRING — Boater's World Marine Centers has recently been recognized with multiple "Dealer of the Year" awards from Evinrude Etec (BRP), which is one of the largest outboard engine manufacturers in the world. Through the joint efforts of the Teams at Boater's World and BOATS.NET, they have earned three Parts, Accessory and Clothing or "PAC" sales awards. Boater's World is very honored and proud to receive the 2017 District, Regional and National PAC "Dealer of the Year" Awards and offer all of the credit to their "World Class Team," great business partners and Amazing Customers.

With the vision of Owners/Founders Tom and Billye D'Azevedo and the leadership of CEO, Martin Polo, Boater's World has witnessed the unparalleled growth and success in the Marine Industry. From a small family business that got its start in Highlands County, Florida, they are now a nationwide industry leader and innovator.

When asked about the success of the business, Tom D'Azevedo said "We've been through ups and downs but have never once chosen to look backwards. Our success comes from our commitment to always look ahead." Forward thinking has and will always be a pillar for which Boater's World and BOATS.NET are built on.

Boater's World would like to say 'thank you' to the Town of Lake Placid, Highlands County and all of their customers from across the country that have supported them.

Tax cut, bonuses for workers? Many businesses not sure yet



JIM MONE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"The tax cut allows us to invest more in our growing business," Andrew Tjernlund said. "In this low-unemployment environment, securing and rewarding our employees is the best use of this freed-up money."

By **JOYCE M. ROSENBERG**

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
NEW YORK — Small business owners may want to hand out bonuses and raises now that there's a new tax law, but many don't know if they'll have any wealth to share.

"We didn't base any raises or bonuses on the tax situation because, quite frankly, until it actually happens, no one's sure what's going to happen," says Rod Hughes, a vice president at Kimball Hughes Public Relations in Blue Bell, Pennsylvania. The company gave its seven full-time employees year-end bonuses last month.

It's easier for big companies like Walmart and Home Depot to award bonuses because they already know their top tax rate is dropping to 21 percent from 35 percent under the old law. Millions of small business owners have far less certainty.

The law provides for a break for the owners

of sole proprietorships, partnerships and small businesses structured as what are called S corporations. But while they can deduct 20 percent of their business income, the size of the deduction declines when an individual owner's taxable income reaches \$157,500. And the IRS still needs to issue regulations on how these owners' business income is calculated.

"The 20 percent deduction is extremely complex and it's going to require a complete understanding of how the statute works," says William Hornberger, an attorney with tax expertise at the firm Jackson Walker in Dallas.

Big companies also have an advantage because they have billions of dollars in cash reserves. Small and mid-size businesses often don't have such cushions or access to big lines of credit that can help pay operating costs if revenue slows. Giving bonuses or raises in response to

a potential tax cut could leave smaller companies vulnerable to a cash flow crisis.

Even when tax professionals have more clarity about the law, small and mid-sized companies are likely to hold off. Owners typically give raises at the end of the year or early in the new year, after they have assessed how employees and the company overall have performed. If owners have a sense of what their revenue and profits will be in the year ahead, that goes into the mix as well.

Mark Carpenter has consulted both of his accounting firms about the law, and gotten different opinions about its potential impact on his roofing company.

"We need to see how the rules change and if it allows us to raise wages," says Carpenter, whose business, Columbia Roofing & Sheet Metal, is based in Tualatin, Oregon. He's already given employees raises

and bonuses based on the company's performance, but needs to be careful with cash flow because the business is growing rapidly.

It's not known exactly how many companies overall have awarded raises or bonuses based on the law. The most recent report on employee wages from payroll company ADP covers the fourth quarter of 2017 and doesn't reflect the impact of the law. But the first-quarter report also may not reveal any trends because it won't specify the factors that go into higher pay, spokeswoman Allyce Hackmann says.

Many business owners say they don't base decisions, including raises and bonuses, primarily on how much money they might save on taxes. Small business advisers say they've been seeing their clients holding to that conservative approach since the law went on the books in

TAX | 2

Starting your own business seminar

AVON PARK — The Florida SBDC at USF is offering a "Starting Your Business" workshop from 6-8:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 22, at SFSC Corporate and Community Education, 600 W. College Drive, Building H Room 110 in Avon Park. You will learn:

- How to obtain a business license,
- How to structure your business as a legal entity,
- The importance of business planning,
- And how to move from idea to opportunity.

Fee is \$10, refer to CRN21453. To register, call 863-784-7405.

Clear skies and clear hearing

Lampe & Kiefer Hearing Aid Center celebrates 50 years in business

By **PHIL ATTINGER**

STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — Roseann Kiefer said Lampe & Kiefer Hearing Aid Center probably has had 50,000 customers over 50 years, thanks mostly to walk-ins.

To celebrate, she hosted a walk-in open house party at the office — 130 S. Commerce Ave., near Wall Street in downtown Sebring — and topped it off with a walk-up free lunch of grilled hot dogs and hamburgers under a tent.

As of midday, Kiefer

had estimated a crowd of 300 people, and was still greeting folks as late as 4:30 p.m.

Kiefer grew up in the family practice, and later became an audiologist herself. She said walk-ins make the business. While she has approximately 18,000 customers in her database, walk-ins and referrals made up the bulk of the 50,000, she said.

Her office has been in its current spot for at least five years, in a renovated



PHIL ATTINGER/STAFF

From left, Kendra Allen, a new addition to the staff to Lampe & Kiefer Hearing Aid Center in Sebring, speaks with Rachele Orsini and Jamie Katz, doctors of audiology at Starkey Hearing Technologies. Lampe-Kiefer celebrated 50 years in business on Friday with an open house and free lunch of grilled hot dogs and hamburgers to all who came to visit.

CLEAR | 2

CLEAR

FROM PAGE 1

historic one-story house. Previously, she said, the practice was in an old pine-framed two-story house just next door, at the corner of Commerce Avenue and Wall Street.

Lampe & Kiefer had already moved to its current spot when the old two-story house caught fire and burned five years ago this April. Kiefer had just finished renovating the office when the old house next door caught fire that night.

Sebring firefighters, and a firewall she had installed, saved her office, but it was destroyed inside from smoke. She had to have all the work redone, but it gave her a chance to modernize the office with state-of-the-art stereo equipment and



PHIL ATTINGER/STAFF

Rosann Kiefer gets a photograph of a visitor's 'fur baby': A terrier in a stroller. Kiefer celebrated the 50th anniversary of Lampe & Kiefer Hearing Aid Center on Friday with an open house and walk-up lunch for all visitors.

the ability to transmit photos of the inner ear to a physician to create "a dead-on prescription."

In the last two months, Kiefer added a new audiologist: University

of Maryland graduate Kendra Allen from Washington, D.C. Allen said Friday she is looking forward to getting tied into the community.

Lampe & Kiefer also has its place in world history. Audiologist Richard Charles Lampe was Lt. Lampe, a World War II fighter ace, flying the P-51 Mustang and the Supermarine Spitfire, Kiefer said. He was part of the Beadle Squadron, and much of his wartime memorabilia, including the U.S. flag from his casket, are on display at the office.

Highlands News-Sun correspondent Christopher Tuffley contributed to this report.



Walk-in diners at Lampe & Kiefer Hearing Aid Center enjoy catered lunch of grilled hot dogs and hamburgers from The Gator Shack on Friday to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the audiology practice.

BLACKJACK

FROM PAGE 1

the first to offer blackjack and other table games – in June of 2008.

For information about the new table games area, visit the property's website at www.seminolebrightoncasino.com.

Seminole Brighton Casino is a 27,000-square-foot casino with six table games, over 400 slot machines, including electronic Blackjack and video poker games, high-stakes bingo action and Josiah, a full service restaurant and lounge. The casino also has an area for those

who prefer to play slot machines in a smoke-free environment. Its warm and friendly staff, ultra-modern air-conditioning system, clean atmosphere, and rewarding casino promotions are a welcome alternative to big city gaming.

The Seminole Brighton Casino is just west of Lake Okeechobee on the Brighton Seminole Reservation, 17735 Reservation Road, Okeechobee. For more information, call toll-free 800-360-9875 or 863-467-9998 or visit online at www.seminolebrightoncasino.com or on www.facebook.com/seminolebrightoncasino.

TAX

FROM PAGE 1

December.

"The idea of giving more money to employees purely on speculation that you're going to see more in your pocket, that's counterintuitive," says David Lewis, CEO of OperationsInc, a human resources provider based in Norwalk, Connecticut, whose clients are primarily small and mid-sized companies.

Rob Basso is seeing raises being awarded at the clients of his company, Advantage Payroll Services, but he's not hearing that the tax cut is a factor.

"What they're doing is sticking to the normal reasons for giving raises, like giving merit raises," says Basso, whose company is based in Plainview, New York.

Steve Kalafer has given the 700 employees of his car dealerships bonuses of up to \$500 because Flemington Car & Truck Country Family of Brands will benefit from the corporate tax cut. But any further bonuses, or raises, will depend on how many cars his dealerships sell.

"We don't have a clear trend for the year," says Kalafer, whose dealerships are located in Flemington, New Jersey. It's worth noting that

many of the big corporations gave one-time bonuses, not permanent raises. So if the tax cut turns out to be less of a boon than expected, or the companies have a bad year, they're not committed to higher compensation going forward.

But the prospect of a tax cut does help some owners feel more secure about increasing staffers' pay. Tjernlund Products has given raises and bonuses, mindful of the need to recruit and retain talented workers in Minnesota's tight labor market; the state's unemployment rate is a full percentage point below the national rate of 4.1 percent.

Co-owner Andrew Tjernlund doesn't know what taxes will be like for the company that manufactures fans and ventilation equipment. But he sees the law as an opportunity to be a more competitive employer.

"The tax cut allows us to invest more in our growing business," he says. "In this low-unemployment environment, securing and rewarding our employees is the best use of this freed-up money."

Hughes also believes tax savings can help his company in a tough labor market.

"The war for talent is only going to get harder as we go along," he says.

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Do's and don'ts when using shopping apps

By **LAUREN SCHWAHN**
NERDWALLET

Retailers such as Target and Amazon are embracing mobile applications to help consumers save money and time with features like digital wallets and augmented reality. When used strategically, apps can streamline in-store trips and online purchases, but shoppers could also find that convenience comes with a risk: impulsive decisions and overspending.

"Now shopping can be anytime, anywhere, multiple times a day, which is great for customers who value convenience," said Casey Taylor, a partner in the Atlanta office of Bain and Company, a management consulting firm. "But for customers on a budget, what I would share as the primary caution is that it makes

it very easy — almost too easy."

Here's how to get the most out of retail apps, while avoiding the downsides.

Don't enable notifications

Push notifications — alerts that pop up on your phone — and emails tend to "catch people at vulnerable moments," enticing them to spend money on things they otherwise wouldn't, said Marshal Cohen, chief industry analyst at the NPD Group, a market research company.

Data show that 9.6 times more users make a purchase when an app sends a promotional push notification compared with those who didn't receive one, according to Leanplum, a mobile marketing

platform. Notifications also increase the amount an average shopper spends 16 percent.

A quick fix: Turn off notifications in the app or your device's settings and opt out of retailers' emails if they're too tempting to resist overspending.

Do make a shopping list

Take inventory and make a list of what you need. Shopping lists can deter impulse purchases by keeping specific merchandise top-of-mind. Most retailer apps make it easy to view and edit lists on your device.

For example, the app for Kohl's enables shoppers to set a budget, and then automatically deducts the price of each item on the list. Other merchants, like The

Home Depot, include maps or aisle numbers to help customers track down products on their lists at local stores.

Don't keep payment information on file

Although storing shipping and billing information speeds up the checkout process, it can also smooth the way for frivolous purchases. Researchers have found that compared with cash, behind-the-scenes payment methods make shoppers feel detached from their money — and more likely to spend.

"Now with technologies where you can just use your fingerprint, or you just take a photo of your credit card, it makes payment incredibly simple," Taylor said.

Instead, enter payment information each time, rather than saving credit card numbers or linking to a PayPal account. The extra step makes the exchange of money feel more real.

At the very least, "take a breath before tapping 'checkout' to make sure that your purchase is as much about you really needing that item versus the fact that the

shopping experience has become more entertaining and has become very easy," Taylor said.

Do use your camera

Use the camera feature within apps to read product details and customer reviews.

"It allows you to have a greater usage of knowledge of what those products you're purchasing can do," Cohen said.

Some apps surface product information when an item's bar code is scanned with the camera. Beauty retailer Sephora's app incorporates augmented reality, which allows shoppers to virtually try on makeup products and colors as they look into their device's camera.

As well, cameras can summon savings: Snap a picture of your receipt in Walmart's app, and its Savings Catcher tool will match a competitor's lower advertised price — even after your purchase. Walmart refunds the difference on an electronic gift card. Target's app checks for manufacturer coupons and in-store deals on scanned items.

Don't focus on one retailer

Through exclusive offers and built-in loyalty programs, "individual retailers' shopping apps intend to lock-in shoppers," Jie Zhang, professor of marketing at the University of Maryland's Robert H. Smith School of Business, said in an email. For example, the wallet feature on the J.C. Penney app lets shoppers see and redeem rewards, coupons and gift cards in one place.

But using only one retailer's app could mean missing out on opportunities to save money.

"Yeah, there might be a 20 percent-off sale, but it could be really easy to go get 35 percent off somewhere else for the same exact product," Cohen said.

Use a price comparison tool, like ShopSavvy or Google Shopping, to locate the best price across multiple merchants.

This article was provided to The Associated Press by the personal finance website NerdWallet. Lauren Schwahn is a writer at NerdWallet. Email: lschwahn@nerdwallet.com. Twitter: @lauren_schwahn.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2018, photo shows a Walmart application prompt to enable notifications on an iPhone in New York.



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NOTICE OF MEETING 26

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING

The Board of Commissioners of the Highlands County Hospital District will hold a regular meeting on Thursday, February 22, 2018, at 1:15 p.m. at the Highlands County Commission Board Room 600 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida to discuss regular business of the Hospital District. One or more members of the Highlands County Board of County Commissioners may be present at the meeting. All interested persons are invited to attend.

Any person who might wish to appeal any decision made by the Highlands County Hospital District Board, in public hearing or meeting is hereby advised that he will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made which will include the testimony and evidence upon which such appeal is to be based. The Board of County Commissioners of Highlands County, Florida, does not discriminate upon the basis of any individual's disability status. This non-discrimination policy involves every aspect of the Board's functions, including one's access to, participation, employment or treatment in its programs or activities. *Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation as provided for in the Americans with Disabilities Act or Section 286.26 Florida Statutes should contact Ms. Pamela Rogers, ADA Coordinator at: 863-402-6842 (Voice), or via Florida Relay Service 711, or by e-mail: progers@hcbcc.org. Requests for CART or interpreter services should be made at least 24 hours in advance to permit coordination of the service.

February 11, 2018

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 Harvester needs 426 temporary workers to cultivate and harvest citrus, watermelon and blueberries, 04-01-18 to 06-02-18. The employer is **Johnson Harvesting, Inc.** Workers will be paid \$11.29 per hour depending on work location and piece rate(s) may be offered depending on crop activity, but will be guaranteed \$11.29 per hour rate. Workers must be able to lift and carry 80 to 100 pounds. Work-sites are located in DeSoto, Hardee, Polk, Manatee, Hillsborough, Lake and Pasco counties, Florida. Employer will guarantee the opportunity for work for the hourly equivalent of 3/4 of the hours of the work period. The employer will provide the tools necessary to perform the described job duties without charge to the worker. Housing will be provided for individual workers outside normal commuting distance. For workers residing beyond normal commuting distances, reasonable transportation and subsistence expenses to the worksite will be provided or paid by the employer after completion of 50% of the work period. Apply for this job at the Florida One-Stop Career Center office located at 2160 Northeast Roan Avenue, Arcadia, FL 34266 (863)-993-1008 using job listing number FL10618276.

WORKERS WANTED
M.K. Harvesting, Inc., Sebring, FL, needs 40 temporary workers from 03/19/2018-06/05/2018 Monday-Saturday in Sebring FL. **Harvesting and Packing Watermelons:** Workers must be able to lift up to 50lbs. **Harvesting Citrus-**Workers required to climb ladders into trees, fill sacks and dump them into tubs. Watermelon and Citrus workers must be able to work in up to 100 degree temperature and rain. Workers are guaranteed 3/4 of the hours and pay based on 36 hours per week, unless an act of God otherwise prohibits harvesting activities. Necessary supplies, tools and equipment provided free. Free housing provided, if outside commuting area. Incoming transportation and subsistence for eligible workers paid when 50% of work contract is completed or earlier if applicable. No additional workers will be hired after 50% of contract is complete. Workers are guaranteed \$11.29/hr. or the AEWR but may make more on piece rate. Apply at nearest local SWA Office FL 10611719.

NIGHT AUDITOR, HOTEL JACARANDA
 Application deadline: 2/18/18. Please visit
<http://sfsc.interviewexchange.com>
 for detailed position announcement. 863-784-7132. EA/EO VET'S PREF.

FIND YOUR BEST FRIEND IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

PT Handyman Wanted
 Must be experienced & have own tools. Duties include: painting, light plumbing, light electrical work & apt. turns. Call between 10-4 **863-452-6565** TDD 711 (Avon Park); or 941-685-6888. *This institution is an equal opportunity provider & employer.

Part-time Truck Driver
 Needed for local landscape supply company. These are small dump trucks. Clean license required. Ideal for retired or semi-retired person. 12-20 hrs/week. **Apply in person** at Butwell Stone & Soil, Inc. 300 W. Lake Isis Ave. Avon Park.

Truck Driver Needed to deliver US mail Lake Placid & Sebring area. Class ACDL needed. \$19/hr. Health ins, dental, vision. Call Edgar 863-381-6195.

WORKERS NEEDED
 28 workers needed for **Gomello, LLC** for vegetable harvesting, from 03/26/18 to 05/05/18. Pay: \$11.29/hr. for all hours worked or applicable piece rate. Job location: Southwest Florida. Job duties: standing, walking, stooping, bending, and lifting up to 60 pounds for long periods of time outdoors in all weather conditions. Job opportunity is temporary, 36hr/week guaranteeing at least 3/4 of the time offered. Housing provided to workers who cannot reasonably return to permanent residence at the end of work day. If applicable, expenses for subsistence & transportation to the worksite will be provided. Work tools, supplies, and equipment provided at no cost. Job order holding office is at SWA, 107 East Madison St Tallahassee, FL 32399, and Job Order # FL10618992.

PROFESSIONAL 2010

Now Hiring a PT/FT Licensed Massage Therapist & PT Yoga or Tai Chi Instructor.
 Email resumes to: intuitivewellness@hotmail.com

You Save Big Bucks Shopping Classifieds!

MEDICAL 2030

Currently Hiring:
 ★ **CNA/MA**- Must have certification up to date
 ★ **Billing Specialist**- Experience required.
 Positions are Full-Time for busy specialty practice. Benefits available.
Email resume to: hneff@floridajointspine.com

Oaks at Avon
 ★ **HIRING LPNs**★
 Full-Time & Part-Time Positions
 Career Advancement Opportunities
 All Eligible Applicants will be Interviewed Directly.
Highly Competitive Salaries
 Readers Choice Award Facility
Apply at 1010 US Hwy 27 N., Avon Park or fax resume to Tammy Padilla at 863-453-5308

Oaks at Avon
 A NOT FOR PROFIT FACILITY

OAKS AT AVON
 Is Hiring CNAs Full/Part-Time, all shifts. **Apply at 1010 Hwy 27N Avon Park or fax resume to Tammy Padilla at 863-453-5308.**

Oaks at Avon
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Oaks at Avon
 ★★ **SIGN ON BONUS** ★★
New Wages
 Readers Choice Award Facility
 ★ **HIRING RNs** ★
 Full-Time & Part-Time Positions
 Flexible Shifts Available
 Career Advancement Opportunities
 All Eligible Applicants will be Interviewed Directly.
Apply at 1010 US Hwy 27 N., Avon Park or fax resume to Tammy Padilla at 863-453-5308

Oaks at Avon
 A NOT FOR PROFIT FACILITY

Seeking Full-Time LPN
 Electronic Health Records and Clinical experience in Internal Medicine and Cardiac Care required.
Benefits Provided!
Call 863-386-9595

Full-Time Medical Assistant Position Available
 Electronic Health Records & Clinical Knowledge Required.
Call 863-386-9595

Part-time Rehab Aide Position - available in Sebring Hospital Rehab Department. Must be dependable with good transportation and willing to work weekends and holidays. High school diploma or GED required. Must be able to do heavy lifting. Can not be nicotine user. Drug and nicotine testing required. Computer skills required. Pay rate depending on experience. On the job training. **Apply in person** at The Therapy Center, 6325 Us 27 North Suite 101 Sebring FL 33873.

RESTAURANT/HOTEL 2040

NOW HIRING
 Shift Managers, Cooks and Cashiers
KENTUCKY FRIED CHICKEN
 in Highlands, Hardee & Polk.
 Apply in person all locations or send resume to mabkfc@gmail.com

Waitstaff Wanted High volume pizzeria. Must be @ least 18yrs old; weekends a must; full or part time. Apply in person at **Mr. Sammy's NY Style Pizza, 312 W. Interlake Blvd., Lake Placid**

GENERAL 2100

EQUIPMENT OPERATOR
 For grove equipment. Clean Florida Driver License is required. Pay based on experience. Drug-free workplace. **Apply in person** 8am - 11am & 1pm - 4pm Monday - Friday at 109 Arron Dr., Lake Placid, FL **863-465-2821** or email: **office@lpclip.com**

CLASSIFIED WORKS!

SEEKING EMPLOYMENT 2120

Home Health Aide seeking work: will cook, clean, companion in Lake Placid area. Bilingual, exp'd, ref. avail. 863-441-1716



3000 NOTICES

LOST & FOUND 3090

Found: Small young female dog in Placid Lakes, Lake Placid. Call to identify, 407-739-8179.

6000 MERCHANDISE



HIGHLANDS HOT DEALS!
Do you have stuff to sell at \$500 or less?
Advertise your merchandise now in the Classified Section!
\$3 for 3 Lines
\$4 for 4 Lines
\$5 for 5 Lines

Call
863-385-6155 or 863-658-0307

HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN
 YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1919

GARAGE SALES 6014

Lake Placid Covered Bridge Annual Fair Sat. Feb. 17, 8-2pm
 Bake Sale, Food, Clothes, Bikes, Linens, Jewelry, Furn., Small Appl., Books, Drawings for Cash, Gift Baskets, more! Hwy 27 to Lake Francis Rd. Gate on Peachtree Rd. will be open.

Get BIGGER RESULTS with a Highlands News-Sun Garage Sale Ad - ONLY \$22 for 4 lines.....!
Call 863-385-6155 in Highlands County

Sebring - **Giant Craft & Garage Sale.** Baked goods, coffee, donuts. **Over 30 vendors.** Wednesday Feb 14, 8-12, Leisure Acres Clubhouse, 3651 US Hwy 27 S.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS 6030

Clock, German Cuckoo Forrest, Vintage, 2 large cones, \$80, 954-394-8932

Clock, Seth Thomas, 1950, wall box style, colored glass, \$40, 954-394-8932

Dishes (NIKKO), phoenix, blue flowers, 40 pcs, \$100.00, 863-658-1574

Fruit & Vegetable Peeler, automatic rotary, uses 4 AA batteries, never used, still in box, \$10.00 - 863-273-7625

Glass Hand Blown Jar, Blenko, amber, 5" D x 11" H, \$25.00 - 863-658-1574

Lamps w/shades (2), heavy base, very nice table lamps, \$12.50 each - 863-471-6277

Lamps, bedside (2), 2 ft tall, metal silver or nickel looking, teal/white, pull chain for on and off, \$25 for both 239-645-9229

Mirror, 22" round with 24"sq. wood frame, brown, \$20.00, 863-385-6414

Mirror, oak plank, 40" x 29" with 4 copper "snake" hooks, \$50.00 - 863-385-6414

Sweeper, Kenmore light weight roll around sweeper, \$45.00 260-402-1287

Turkey Serving Platter, oval 16" by Gibson, fine ceramic, micro/dishwasher safe, unused, new in box, \$12-863-273-7625

TV Tray Tables (2), wood, w/te legs w/blues & sandpipers on top, ex. cond., rarely used, \$35 ea or both \$60 - 863-273-7625

Vacuum Cleaner, Bissell, upright, bagged/bagless, reconditioned, 30 day guarantee, \$20.00 - 863-402-2285

Vacuum Cleaner, Oreck upright, works great, light weight, new belt and bag \$50.00, (863) 402-2285

Vellux Throw Blankets (2) handmade, blue w/wolves & purple w/floral, Exc. cond., \$20.00 each - 863-273-7625

Wall Mirror - With beveled edging. 3 ft. X 6 ft., \$100.00 - 863-465-6434.

HOLIDAY ITEMS 6031

Christmas Wreaths - 18" and 24" round, some with lights \$10 each (863) 385-6414

FURNITURE 6035

(2) Rocking, swivel chairs-with matching ottoman; brown w/multi color print fabric. \$150 obo. 765-894-5217.

Bed, queen Tempurpedic, cost \$2,000, will sell for \$500 obo, like new, 828-361-5884

Book Cases (4), small, 3H, 2L 2 shelves plus bottom shelf, adjustable, 3 used, 1 new in box, all for \$40.00 - 239-645-9229

Dinette Set-wood & wrought iron table & 4 chairs. Expands to 54". Exc. condition!! \$250. 863-452-0858

Dining Room Set- 5' rect. table w/6 chairs. \$110. **863-465-9729**

Dining Room Table w/2 leaves & 4 padded castered chairs, \$125.00 - 260-402-1287

Dressing Table w/bench, solid oak, never used, asking \$200.00 - 863-471-3640

Electric Bed w/memory foam mattress, like new condition, \$325.00 - 863-257-0177

Kitchen Pedestal Table, 42" round, 4 leather padded chairs almond, ex cond. \$300 - 863-385-6414

Kitchen Table w/4 chairs on rollers and upholsterd, good shape, \$175.00, 863-385-6994

Marble Table, wrought iron, 36" dia, 17" high, over 60 years old, \$150 - 863-414-1020

SEBRING city ON THE CIRCLE

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
 The City of Sebring is recruiting for the following position(s):
 Building Official Closes: Open Until filled

For an application contact the City of Sebring, (863) 471-5100 or visit us on our website at www.mysebring.com.
Drug Free Work place, EOE, Vet Pref.

FURNITURE 6035

Recliner, burgundy, 6 months old, paid \$400.00, asking \$200.00 - 863-471-3640

Reclining sofa and loveseat. Clean and in good condition, \$225, (207) 837-3708

Rocker/Recliner (2), lt. blue, \$175 ea., end table with lamp, \$10.00 - 260-402-1287

Sofa, Sectional, green and gray in color, recliner and full size bed, good shape, \$200, 863-385-6994

Table & 4 Chairs, solid wood, 36" high, shelves underneath in ctr., must see, cost \$1,800, sell for \$500 obo - 828-361-5884

Table, Coca Cola w/4 chairs, wood/wrought iron, \$125, 863-382-9355

Find your Best Friend in the Classifieds!

Tables. coffee, sofa, and 2 end tables, wrought iron legs with glass tops, \$150, 724-840-9844

TV Stand, glass, \$35.00, 863-471-6277

TV Table, glass, \$50.00, 863-273-2103

ELECTRONICS 6038

Tablet Galaxy Tab A, Samsung, 1.5 yrs old, barely used, 8"L, nice blue leather cover, \$149.00 firm - 863-471-0098

TV/STEREO/RADIO 6040

2 older **TV,** works good, is cable ready, both for \$25.00, 863-273-1560

COMPUTER EQUIPMENT 6060

Dell Laptop- Inspiron 15, 500 Series w/ Cannon MG 3520 printer/copier. \$200 **863-840-0897**

CLOTHING / JEWELRY/ ACCESSORIES 6065

Boots, men's work boots, \$10.00 - 863-273-2103

Leather Jacket, womens size large, \$50.00 - 863-273-2103

Men's Jacket-Dale Earnhardt Jr. Budweiser lined. Sz 2x. Exc. cond. \$25. **508-826-5148**

Pants, mens size 32 - 34, \$3.00 to \$5.00, 863-273-2103

T-Shirts, Greatful Dead, large, \$5.00 to \$10.00 ea., 863-273-2103

ANTIQUES COLLECTIBLES 6070

Antiques Wanted
 Upscale Decorative Items, Art Glass, Sterling, etc.
812-535-1400

Coins-5 pure silver 2018 American Eagles, 1 oz .999, in perfect mint cond., each in air tight holders, \$150 - 863-840-1380

Iron, sad iron, very old, \$25.00, 863-414-0481

Victorian Love Seat, over 100 years old, \$300.00, 863-414-1020

Vintage Military Padlocks (2) w/key-new in box-Eagle, shackle w/9" chain-key come out when locked, \$15 ea. - 863-273-7625

**MUSICAL
6090**

Grand Piano & bench, chattering parlor, very good condition, \$500.00 - 863-655-2973

Guitar-Miley Cyrus purple Ed/collectors, \$45, 863-382-9355

Lowrey Festival Organ-w/bench, exc. cond! Come see & hear that sweet Lowrey sound! \$300. 240-405-9302 (Sebring)

**MEDICAL
6095**

Electric Chair-Pronto Invacare M51. Brand new batteries, fully adjustable. \$400. **239-564-6368**

Mobility Electric Chair, Pride Jet 3, very good condition, \$450.00 - 306-862-6544

**Mobility Scooter-
Brand New! \$500.
239-405-3001**

Walkers, 4 wheels/seats/lg wheels, \$25, 863-382-9355

Wheelchair, new condition, \$75.00 - 863-257-0177

**BABY ITEMS
6120**

Graco baby stroller with second seat for toddler, exc cond, \$50, 814-434-1659.

**GOLF ACCESSORIES
6125**

Cleveland Irons Golf Clubs-(RH) #3-9, PW, Senior Flex, exc. cond. \$50. **508-826-5148**

Golf Clubs w/bags, 1 set is right handed & 1 is left handed, \$35.00 each - 863-471-6277

Golf Clubs, complete set of woods and irons w/bag and new balls, \$225.00, 706-809-0073

Golf Shafts, stainless, Reg Flex, new never cut, 1-100, \$3.00 each, 765-473-1271

**GOLF CARTS
6126**

4 Tires & aluminum wheels for golf cart, \$200 - 863-453-4234

Cover for golf cart, "classic" storage cover, new, \$50.00 863-314-6007

**EXERCISE/
FITNESS
6128**

6 speed bike power climber \$45 (863) 699-0559

Treadmill, Gold's Gym, \$200 - 863-465-6434

**SPORTING GOODS
6130**

Camp Stove, Koblenz, 4 burners, brand new, hurricane ready, \$45.00 - 863-402-9181

**FIREARMS
6131**

Beretta Colt 45 Revolver-S/S, stag grips, new cond. W/95 rounds of ammo. \$450. **317-494-3900**

Remington 15-shot pump .22 cal rifle-Approx. 95 yrs old! \$275 obo **765-366-5905**

**FIREARMS
ACCESSORIES
6132**

Gun Cabinet, Handmade, pine holds 7 guns w/lock drawer, glass shelves, for curio cabinet, \$100, 863-402-2285

**HUNTING &
FISHING SUPPLIES
6133**

Buckaroo Jigs, limited number and colors, 12 to a sheet, \$12.00 each sheet, 863-273-0807

Seat, Gray bass fishing folding, (Pair), new condition, used twice, \$125 for the pair, 863-840-1380

**BICYCLES/
TRICYCLES
6135**

2 26" ladies bicycle \$30 each (502) 395-0989

3 wheel bicycle \$150 (502) 395-0989

3 wheel bicycle \$160. (502) 395-0989

3 wheel bicycle Schwinn \$150 (502) 330-4248.

Bike, men's 10 speed, exc. cond., \$35.00 - 863-402-0101

**BICYCLES/
TRICYCLES
6135**

American made Workman adult trike, like new, cost \$500+, asking \$325, 863-243-2262.

Bike, Schwinn Skyliner, 21 speed, exc. cond., \$125.00, 863-402-0101

Bike, Trailmate 3 whel, 24", clean, good tires, basket, reflectors, handbrake, \$1500BO, 863-458-1003

Bike, women's 10 speed, exc. cond., \$35.00 - 863-402-0101

Child/Dog Bike Carrier Attachment- Red. \$40. **863-471-0504**

Men's 7 speed bicycle, Schwinn \$50. (502) 395-0989

Tricycle, TrailMate Desoto classic, good tires, basket, reflectors, handbrake, 24", \$150 obo 863-458-1003

**TOYS/GAMES
6138**

Metal swing set from Sam's club, great condition, \$200, 863-835-2004

**PHOTOGRAPHY/
VIDEO
6140**

Tripod - majestic mdl 2500, hvy duty and gearhead/tilting, \$200.00 both - 863-385-6414

**LAWN & GARDEN
6160**

Edger, B&D Edge-Hog, model LE750, electric, good condition, \$25, 765-473-1271

Lawn Mower, Craftsman, 21 HP 42" cut, VT3000, \$450, 863-382-9355

Lawn Tractor, Craftsman, 21 HP, 42" deck, 2 blade, elect start, good cond, 7 months on warranty, \$500, 765-473-1271

Planter, Brass, solid/lg handles, 18"Hx20"W, \$450, 863-382-9355

**Pressure Washer
2400 psi, needs tune up. \$80.
603-848-2186****OUTDOOR LIVING
6161**

Patio Table & 4 swivel rockers, \$125.00 - 260-402-1287

Picnic table, wood \$20 (863) 699-0559

**BUILDING
SUPPLIES
6170**

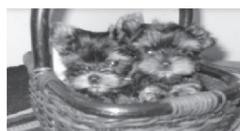
Porcelain Floor Tile 12x12, POLISHED Bianco Marfil, 70 s/f, \$65, 863-441-1619.

**TOOLS/MACHINERY
6190**

Circular Saw, Black & Decker 7.25" w/extra blades, \$55.00 863-385-6414

Table saw Skill 10" \$100. (502) 330-4248

Work Bench, folding, wood top, metal legs, 15"W x 32"H x 24"L, exc. cond., \$15.00, 863-382-8745

**DOGS
6233**

YORKIE MINIS CKC Absolutely Adorable & Healthy Great Selection, meet the parents! TEACUPS AVAILABLE Prices starting at \$795+. **941-773-0723 • 322-6709 minimagicYorkie.com**

(M) English Bulldog- Born 5/17/17; Pedigree, all shots, has chip, registered. White/Red. Named Charlie \$500. **863-414-5974**

**LIVESTOCK
6235**

Chicken Hutch, holds 4 to 6 chickens, new, never used, \$200.00 - 863-452-5539

**APPLIANCES
6250**

Dishwasher-Kenmore, portable, giant tub model, cutting board top, never used, \$350 obo, 407-375-4992 AP

Dishwasher-KitchenAid, portable, with butcher board top. \$135. **309-397-4545**

**APPLIANCES
6250**

Dishwasher- Portable; Whirlpool; Brand New (used only once!) \$300. 231-203-3092

Electric Heater Oil Radiator type. \$25. **603-848-2186**

Abe's "Plug into lower prices" *Appliance & TV* Sales & Service

★ Used Appliances ★ Up to 90 day warranty. **Help Wanted/Local Delivery Call 863-655-4995**

Keurig Vue coffee maker, excellent condition, \$30, 828-361-5884, 863-385-5885.

Kitchen Appliances- refrigerator-good cond., upper freezer: \$75. Small chest freezer; works good. \$50. **863-465-2072**

Refrigerator, Kenmore, ice maker, top freezer, white, 10 yrs old \$150 (863) 633-9389

Stove, 24" gas, like new, used only 3 months, \$150.00, 765-337-6376

Upright Freezer, Maytag 15.7 cu. ft., self defrost, reversible door, clean, \$325 obo, 407-375-4992 AP

**MISCELLANEOUS
6260**

Attention vendors: 4 cement encased weights for tents, \$12, 814-434-1659.

Bar Top, has map & zodiac signs, wood bottom holds liquor bottles, top lifts up for ice & glasses, \$450, 239-645-9229

Bird cage, 40x24, heavy metal-gold, no bottom, \$35, 863-382-9355

Camel Saddle, 23.5 Lx19.5 H brass accents w/pad, \$75.00 863-658-1574

Carryall fits on receiver hitch \$40. (502) 330-4248.

Cow Dinner Door Bell, cast iron, hand painted, must see!! \$25.00 - 863-273-7625

Door Knob Set, new in box, \$10.00 - 863-382-8745



TROPICAL FRUIT TREES Avocados Bananas Citrus trees Mango Peach Longan Starfruit Soursoop Figs Jujube Lychee Mulberry Papaya Sugarapple Jackfruit Tamarind Coconut trees Miracle Fruit Blueberries Jabatacaba Sapote & Guava **91 Carefree Ct., Venus, FL 33960 305-216-8452**

Flag Poles, movable, great for campers-\$12.50-863-471-6277

Generator, 5500-8500 Briggs/Stratt good cond. 30amp, \$250 (863) 382-9355

Goblets (2), made in Italy by Ravello, orange/gold design, \$35.00 for set, 863-273-7625

Ladder, Warner, aluminum, 6ft. load max \$250lbs, exc. cond., costs \$49.00, selling for \$20.00 - 863-382-8745

Metal Storage Cabinet, 72"x 36"x18" w/4 adjustable shelves grey, \$55.00 - 863-385-6414

PIANO LESSONS Learn a fast, new, easy way! Teaching ladies & youth ages 7 & up. Limited spaces; call now! **863-443-2689**

Pocket Watch w/stand, Timber Wolf, Franklin Mint, beautiful detail, chain/case incl., EC **must see**-\$130-863-273-7625

Rolling Cooler w/Speakers, telescopic handle, collapsible canvas, 18"H, blue, side pockets, ex cond-\$20-863-273-7625

Step Stool with handle and rubber top tread, \$20.00 - 863-385-6414

Vase, metal 4ft H, silver/plumes. \$30, 863-382-9355

**FIND YOUR
BEST FRIEND
IN THE
CLASSIFIEDS!**

Western Books, .40 to .60 each, 863-385-1563

Wolf Musical Water Globes Tune is "Memory" for 1 & "You've got a friend" on the other, \$25 ea., 863-273-7625

**FREE MERCHANDISE
6260**

FREE POND FISH- Fish need a new home. Call 863-414-5974.

Scooter, 4 wheel pride legend, does not run, for parts use, located in Sebring, 269-903-8599

7000**TRANSPORTATION****FORD
7070**

2007 Ford Fusion SE, looks & runs like new, serviced regularly, \$4850 OBO, 863-381-5112, 863-243-1389, 863-465-9100.

**JEEP
7080**

2005 Jeep Wrangler, good tires, 81K, good condition, 6 speed manual transmission \$10,500, 863-273-2103

**MAZDA
7180**

2006 Mazda MX-5 Miata sport car, convert., auto trans., 85,000 mi, exc cond, \$8795. 863-257-0936, 863-258-0454.

**NISSAN
7200**

Nissan Pathfinder, 2003 SE SUV, 4 WD, sun roof, 83K, exc. cond., \$5,600 - 863-386-0655

**TOYOTA
7210**

2004 Toyota Corolla S, auto, cold A/C, ABS brakes, all power, air foil on back, red, good tread, 231,000 mi, \$2950, 863-314-8788.

**ANTIQUES/
COLLECTIBLES
7250**

1984 Mercedes 380SL Coupe 8 cyl, hard top convert., customized cart, new paint, leather seats. \$12k. **519-735-2380.**

**AUTO PARTS/
ACCESSORIES
7270**

Dual Range Battery Charger, Century 10/2 AMP automatic, 6 & 12 volt, exc. cond., \$35.00 863-273-7625

Weather Tech Mats for 2015 Ford Edge, front, back & cargo mat, \$200 obo - 863-441-0781

**GOLF CARTS
7327**

1993 EZ-Go Cart New cover & charger. Runs good. \$900 obo. **724-504-0396**

**BOATS-POWERED
7330**

1980 Mircrocraft alum boat-w/10hp Johnson. Newly painted, good cond. Incl. trailer. \$750. **937-604-9317 (LP)**

**SAILBOATS
7331**

22' Sailboat with trailer- \$2,000 **269-214-1726**

**MARINE SUPPLY
& EQUIP.
7338**

Pontoon Boat Cover- 17'-20' Never Used! In box. \$50. **863-441-1619**

Boat Lift-3/4 hp GE motor; 2 10ft dbl bunks; alum I-beam constr. complete assembly. \$975. **786-385-9708**

**CANOE/KAYAKS
7339**

Canoe, 14.5' American Eagle fiberglass double end canoe, normal wear, \$125.00 - 863-655-2973

Kayak, Old Town Otter \$100 (863) 699-0801

**TRAILER
& ACCESSORIES
7341**

Utility trailer, tilt bed, 41/2 x 71/2, spare tire, \$300 OBO, 863-449-1972.

**CYCLES/MOPEDS/
SCOOTERS
7360**

2005 Yamaha 1100 Silverado Classic, black & gold, like new cond, low miles 13,600. \$3500 OBO, 863-273-0876 after 9am

2007 Yamaha CP 250 Morphous Scooter- like new; black & silver. \$2,750 obo. **863-471-0504**

2011 Kawasaki 900 Volcan MC Classic- metallic blue, windshield, backrest, bags, flr boards, good tires, etc. 10,984 mi. Exc. Cond! \$4,300. **863-260-0296**

Half Helmets, mens lge & womens XS, black, Harley lettering on side with nylon carrier, seldom used \$75 each - 701-713-0449

Harley Mufflers, orig. set of slip on 3" at round tip, like new, used 200 miles on 07 ultra classic, \$150.00 - 701-713-0449

Jacket, mens leather Harley FXRG (type w/crash padding), XL, never worn, \$575.00 - 701-713-0449

Jacket, men's leather Harley, angled zipper type, XL, never worn, \$325.00 - 701-713-0449

Jacket, womens leather Harley special edition, fancy, sm, never worn, \$275.00 - 701-713-0449

Leather Vest, men's, stitched Harley logo, large, never worn, \$150.00 - 701-713-0449

Mufflers - Harley Screaming Eagle chrome set of slip on mufflers 3.5" at angle tip, like new, used 200 miles on 07 ultra classic, \$250.00 - 701-713-0449

Vest, womens leather Harley special edition, fancy, colorful, Harley log stitching, small, never worn, \$200.00 - 701-713-0449

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2005 Potomac 5th Wheel-32' all new laminate flrs. All reasonable offers accepted. **802-730-5959 or 802-730-4323**

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2012 Winnebago 5th wheel, 33 ft, 3 slides, excellent condition, \$16,500, 863-664-0172.

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What if I really, really need my tax refund?

Q: I really need my tax refund, to cover bills and pay down debt. How can I get it as fast as possible?

A: The average individual tax refund was \$2,895 in 2017, according to the IRS. I understand why you'd want so much money in your hands ASAP: For the typical American, that would cover rent for about three months, or a car payment for almost six months.

The problem? If you don't spend it strategically, you could be back in the same position by St. Patrick's Day. The issue isn't that you want your tax refund now. It's that you need it now.

A tax refund is a chance to do what we all know we should do, but somehow avoid: change our ways. Here's how to get your refund fast, then use it to build a savings account you can pull from when necessary — and avoid an anxious wait again next year.

How to fast-track your refund

Tax season started Jan. 29. Wait to file until you've received key documents, like all your W-2s, or a Form 1098-E student loan interest statement, says Trent Porter, a certified financial planner and certified public accountant in Durango, Colorado.

For the fastest turnaround time, file taxes online and elect to direct deposit your refund to



ASK BRIANNA

Brianna McGurran

your bank account. The IRS says it will issue most refunds within 21 days, but many filers receive federal refunds in 10 days to two weeks, Porter says. If you'll claim the Earned Income Tax Credit or the Additional Child Tax Credit, though, your refund won't arrive until Feb. 27 or later, the IRS says.

Several tax-prep companies offer interest-free tax refund advance loans, which are repaid with your expected refund and can help cover bills before it arrives. While these loans are an option for those who need money immediately, they often come on a prepaid debit card, which could have associated fees.

In some cases, getting a loan requires you to visit a tax preparer in person, which can cost more than filing online — especially if you earn less than \$66,000 and qualify for the IRS' Free File program. You can even receive in-person help for free through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program if your income is \$54,000 or less.

Spend your refund wisely

Before your refund hits the bank and you're tempted to buy a round at the next work happy hour, make a plan for it.

Cover necessary bills first to keep the lights on and your student loans or rent payments in good standing. Consider spending the rest this way:

- 50 percent to debt (high-interest credit card debt should go first)
- At least 30 percent to savings
- No more than 20 percent to things you want

The IRS lets you direct deposit your refund into multiple accounts. By making a plan, you can send the amount you've earmarked straight to savings and sleep a little better at night.

You may be in dire straits and need your entire refund for food and shelter. It happens — and keeping yourself healthy and housed comes first. But you can use your taxes to change what happens next year.

Skip the monster refund in 2019

By saving consistently — starting with your current refund, and throughout the year — you're less likely to feel strapped in 2019.

When the government refunds you money every spring, it means you've been overfilling the IRS' coffers throughout the

year. Update your Form W-4 at work so you get that money in your

paycheck instead. Start by increasing the number of allowances you

claim by 1, Porter says; that means your employer will withhold less tax.

North America's Ultimate Tribute To

Fleetwood Mac

RUMOURS



LIVE IN CONCERT

Saturday, February 17, 2018 at 7:00pm

GENESIS CENTER • 218 Belleview Street Lake Placid, FL 33852

Based in Atlanta, GA, Rumours captures the energy of Fleetwood Mac at the height of their career by blending perfect harmonies, precise instrumentation, and a visually engaging stage show.

The six members of Rumours are professional musicians with experience across the spectrum of genre — folk, blues, country, rock, and everything in between. Rumours' diverse background, coupled with a professional approach to the craft, has propelled them to their status as one of the most highly regarded tribute bands in the country.

Songs you know and love!

- The Chain
- Gypsy
- Leather & Lace
- Seven Wonders
- Edge of Seventeen
- Go Your Own Way
- Little Lies
- Gold Dust Woman
- Rhiannon
- Don't Stop
- Stop Draggin'
- My Heart
- AND MORE!

ADVANCE TICKETS:
\$21 General Admission, \$29 - \$35 Reserved

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Purchase tickets online at:
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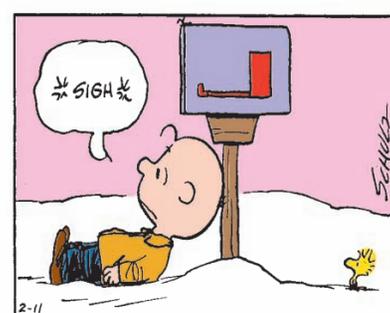
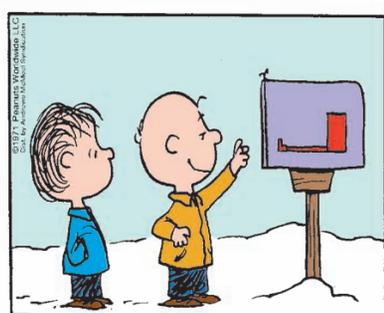
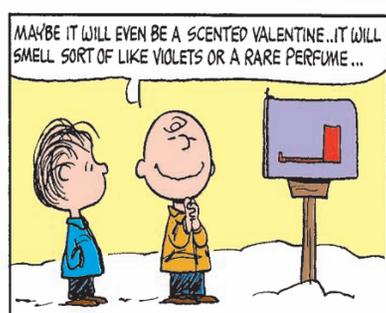
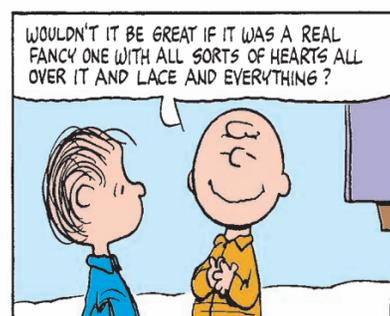
TILE/GROUT 5195



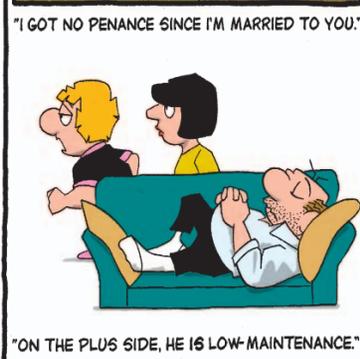
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the FUNNIES

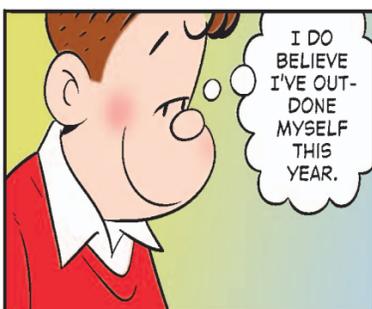
PEANUTS
featuring
"Good ol'
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by SCHULZ



THE LOCKHORNS
BY BUNNY HOEST AND JOHN REINER



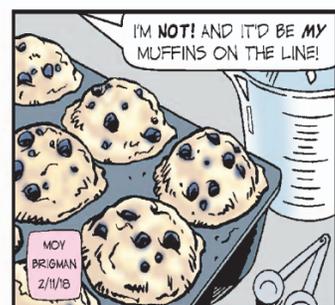
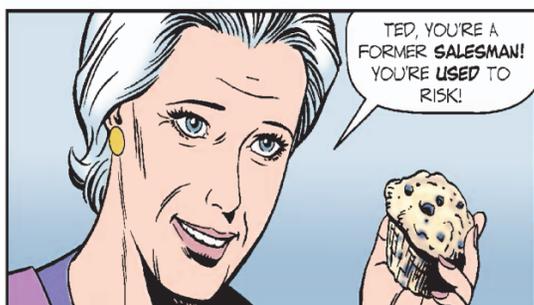
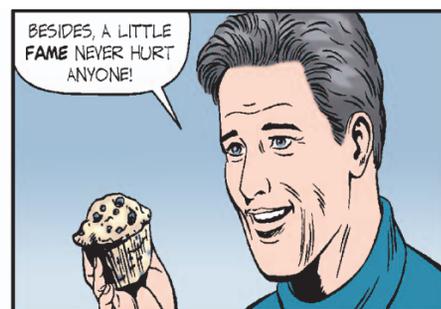
Hi and Lois
by BRIAN and GREG WALKER

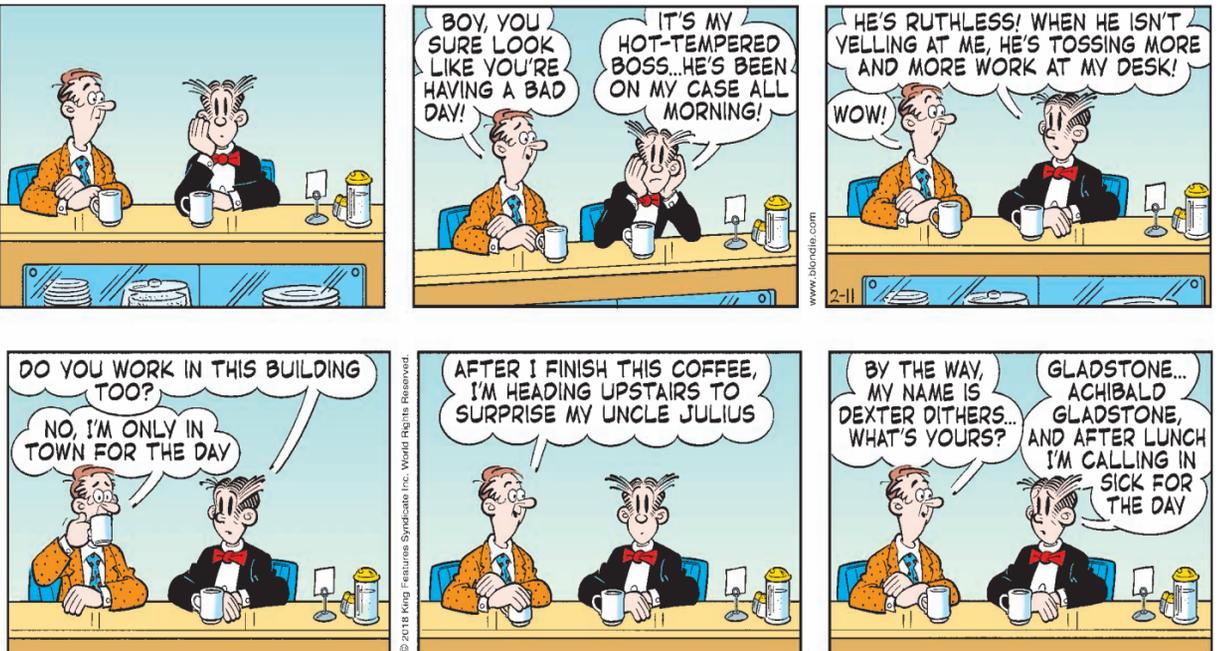
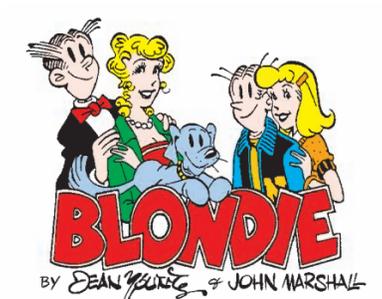
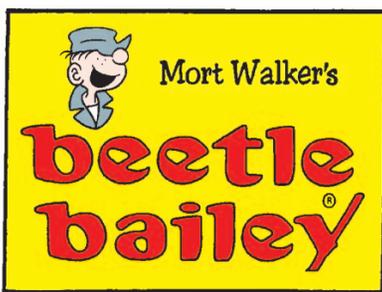
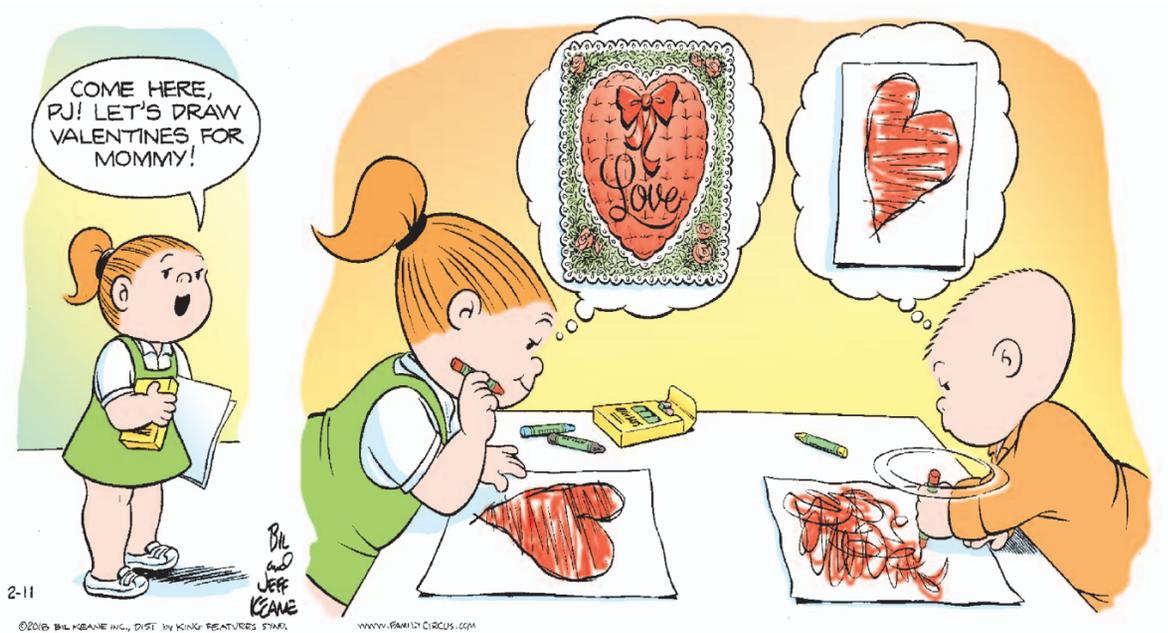
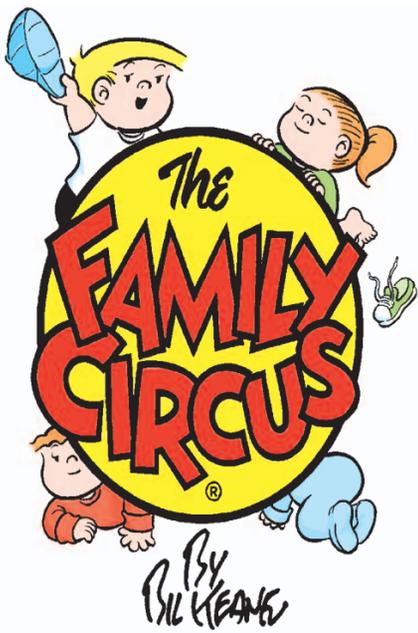


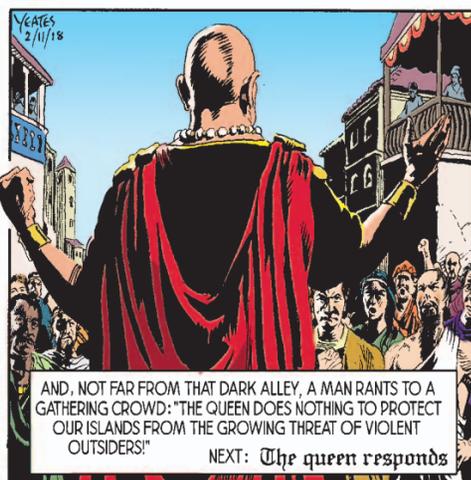
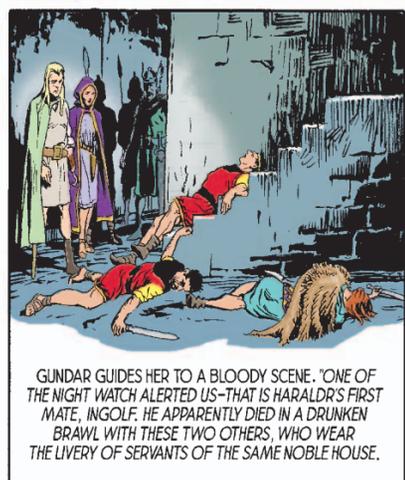
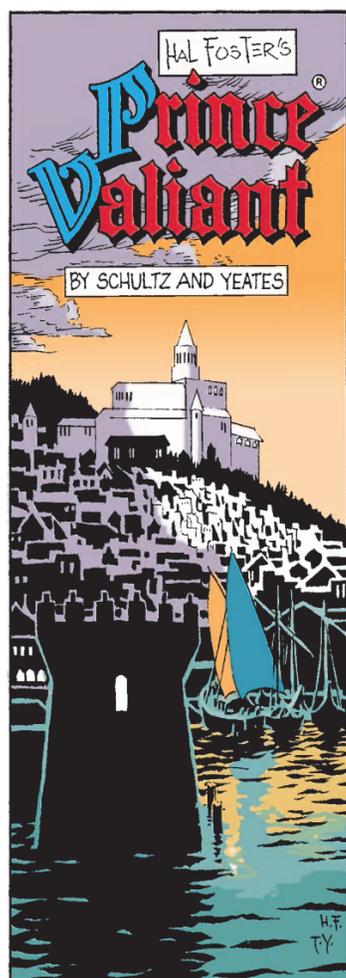
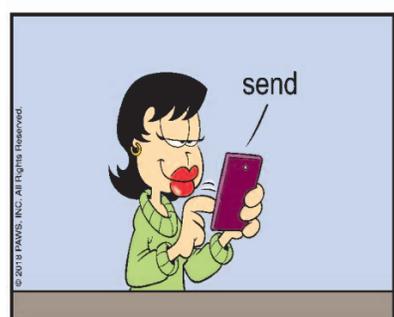
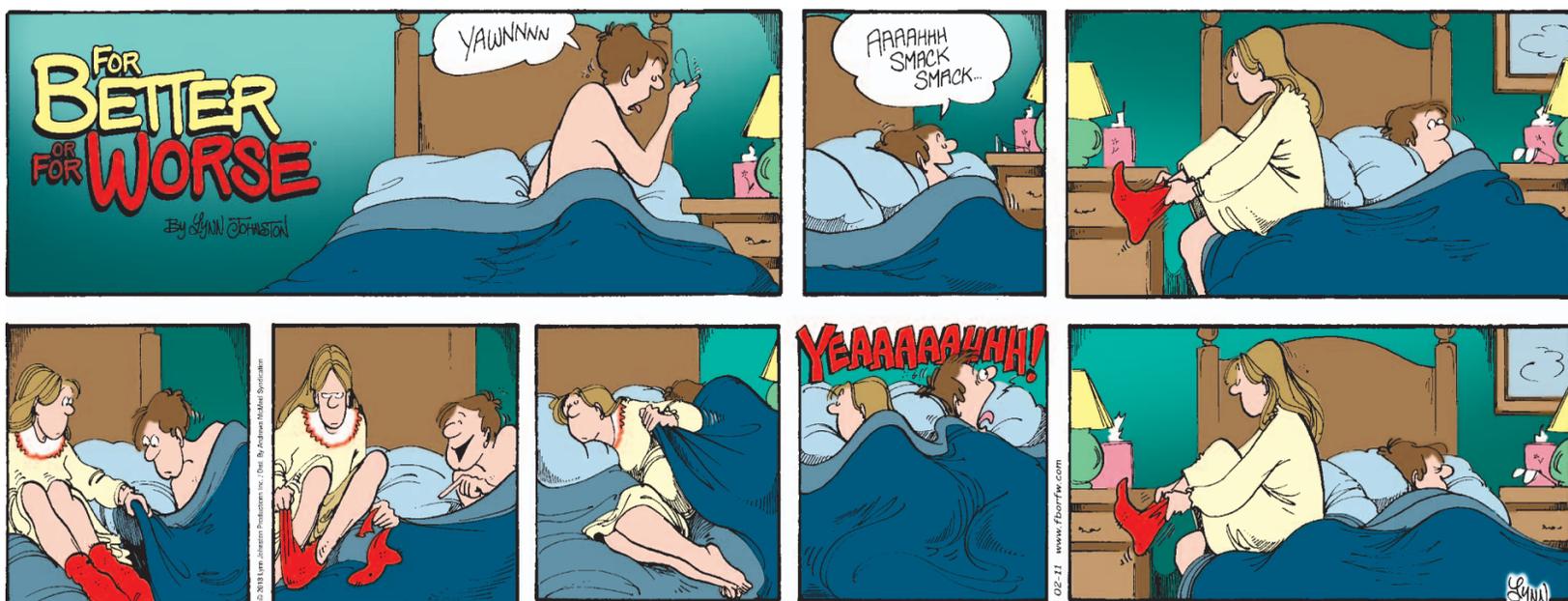
MARY WORTH

IT'S ALL DOABLE!

"THE RISK OF A WRONG DECISION IS PREFERABLE TO THE TERROR OF INDECISION." -MAIMONIDES

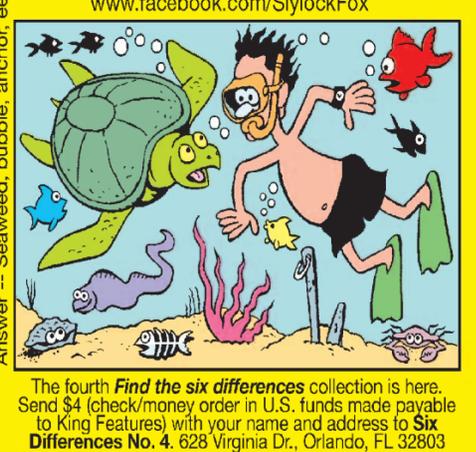
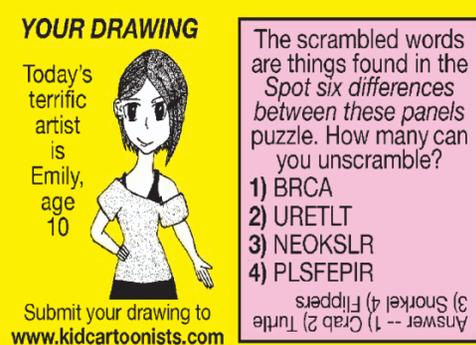
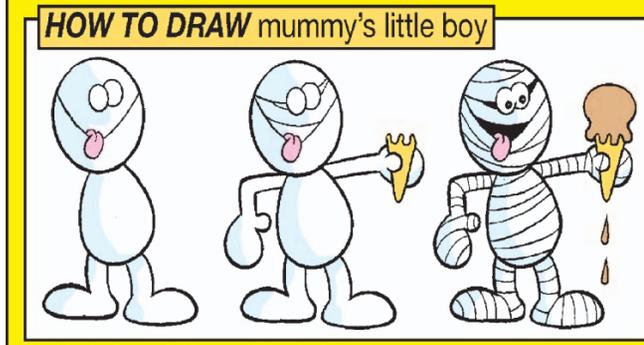
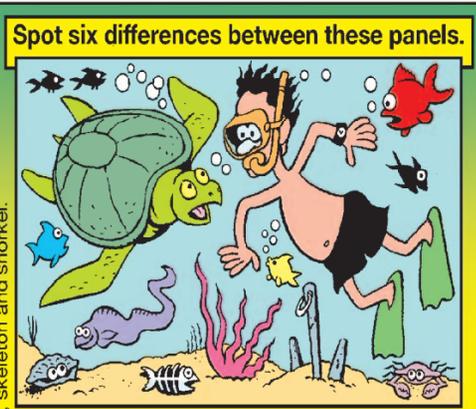
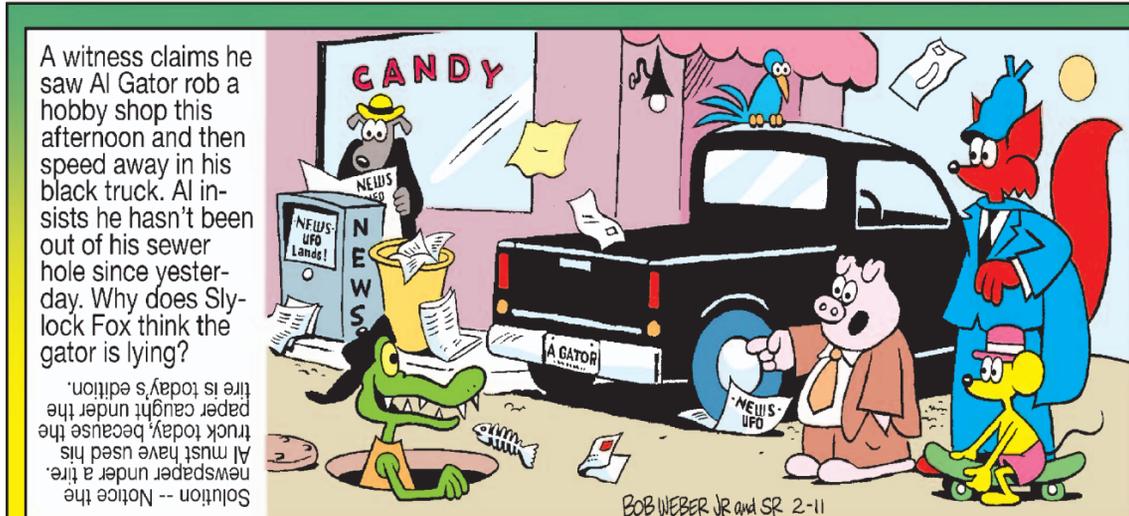






SLYLOCK FOX and COMICS FOR KIDS

BY BOB WEBER JR.





ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT and JIM BORGMAN

THIS QUIZ WILL COUNT AS TWENTY PERCENT OF YOUR SEMESTER GRADE.

THERE ARE THIRTY-FIVE QUESTIONS ALTOGETHER.

FIFTEEN MULTIPLE-CHOICE, FIFTEEN TRUE OR FALSE, FOUR FILL-IN-THE-BLANK AND ONE ESSAY.

ANY QUESTIONS LEFT BLANK WILL BE COUNTED AS INCORRECT.

YOU HAVE FIFTY MINUTES...

...BEGIN.

NO PRESSURE.

JEFF MACNELLY'S

Shoe

By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly

2/11

HOW WAS THE VICTIM IDENTIFIED, CHIEF?

THROUGH HIS DENTAL RECORDS ...

HIS DENTIST SAID HE STILL OWES HIM \$2,800.

PICKLES

BY BRIAN CRANE

EARL, WHAT DOES THIS FACIAL EXPRESSION SAY TO YOU?

YOU'RE HAVING A STROKE?

NO!! HOW ABOUT THIS ONE?

OR THIS?

WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?

I HAVE A DOCTOR APPOINTMENT TOMORROW.

SO...?

I'M PRACTICING LOOKING SHOCKED WHEN HE TELLS ME I NEED TO LOSE WEIGHT.

THE BORN LOSER

by Art & Chip Sansom

DO WE HAVE TO WATCH BASKETBALL?

THIS IS A BIG GAME, GLADYS, I REALLY WANT TO SEE IT!

I HATE BASKETBALL! IT'S SO BORING - THEY JUST RUN BACK AND FORTH THE ENTIRE GAME!

DON'T YOU EVER GET TIRED OF WATCHING THE SAME THING OVER AND OVER?

NO - IT'S A DIFFERENT DISPLAY OF ATHLETIC PROWESS EACH TIME!

DO YOU GET SICK OF WATCHING ALL THOSE HOUSEWIVES SHOWS OVER AND OVER?

NO - THERE'S A DIFFERENT EMOTIONAL MELTDOWN EVERY SHOW!

TIGER

BY BUD BLAKE

DON'T THROW IT YET, HUGO

NOT YET! WAIT TILL SHE GETS CLOSER

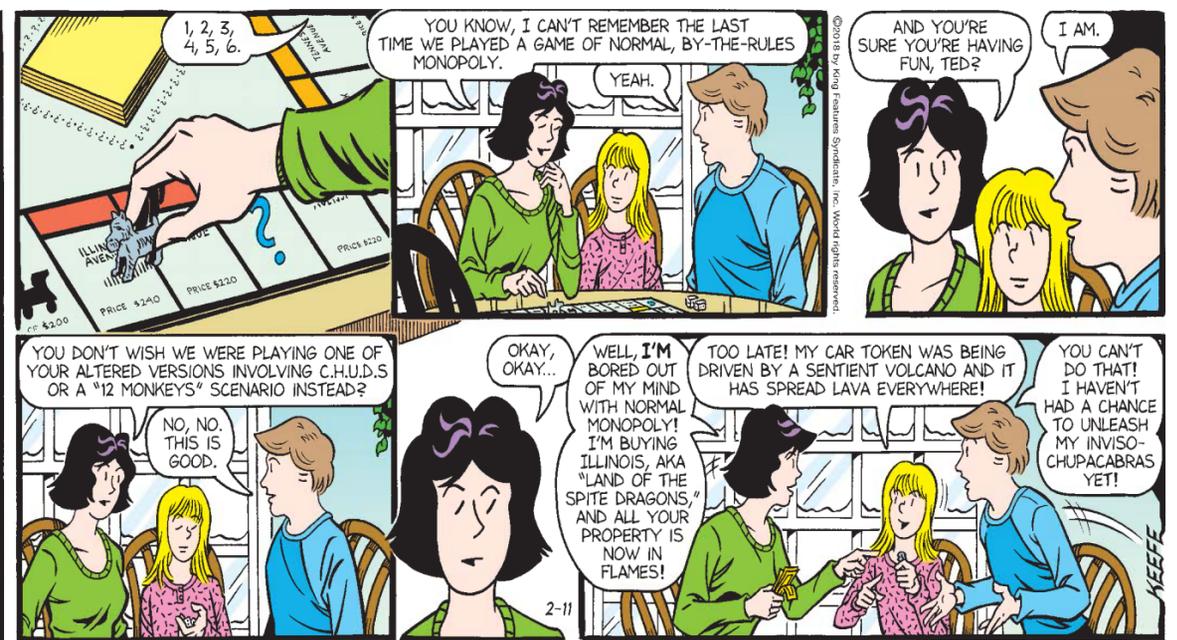
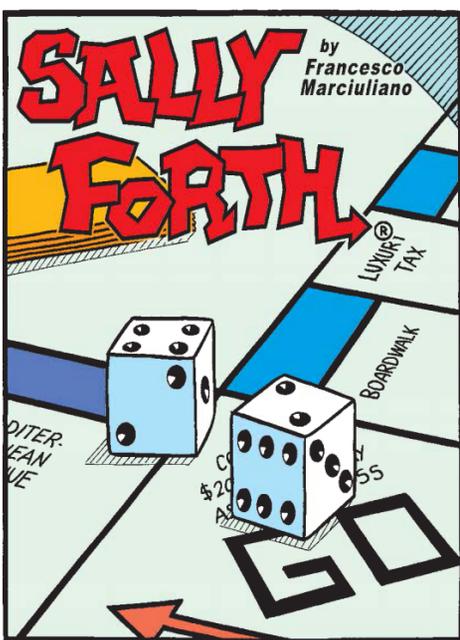
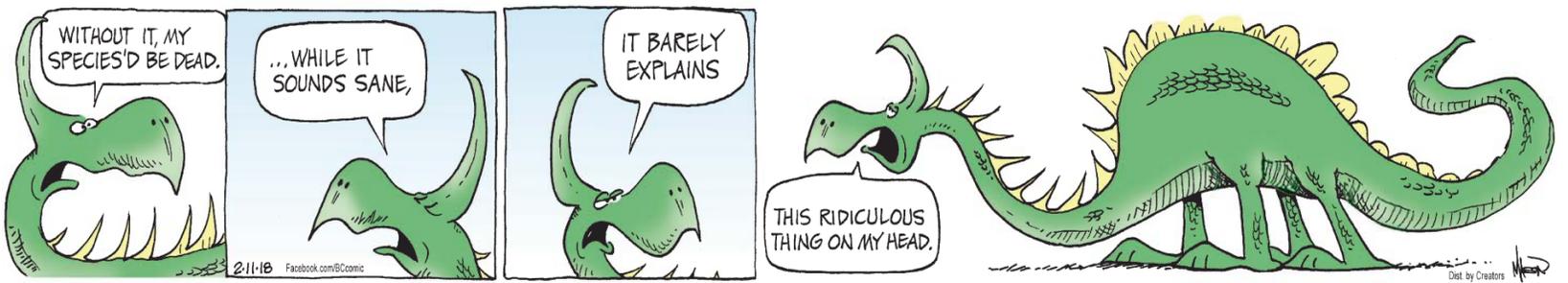
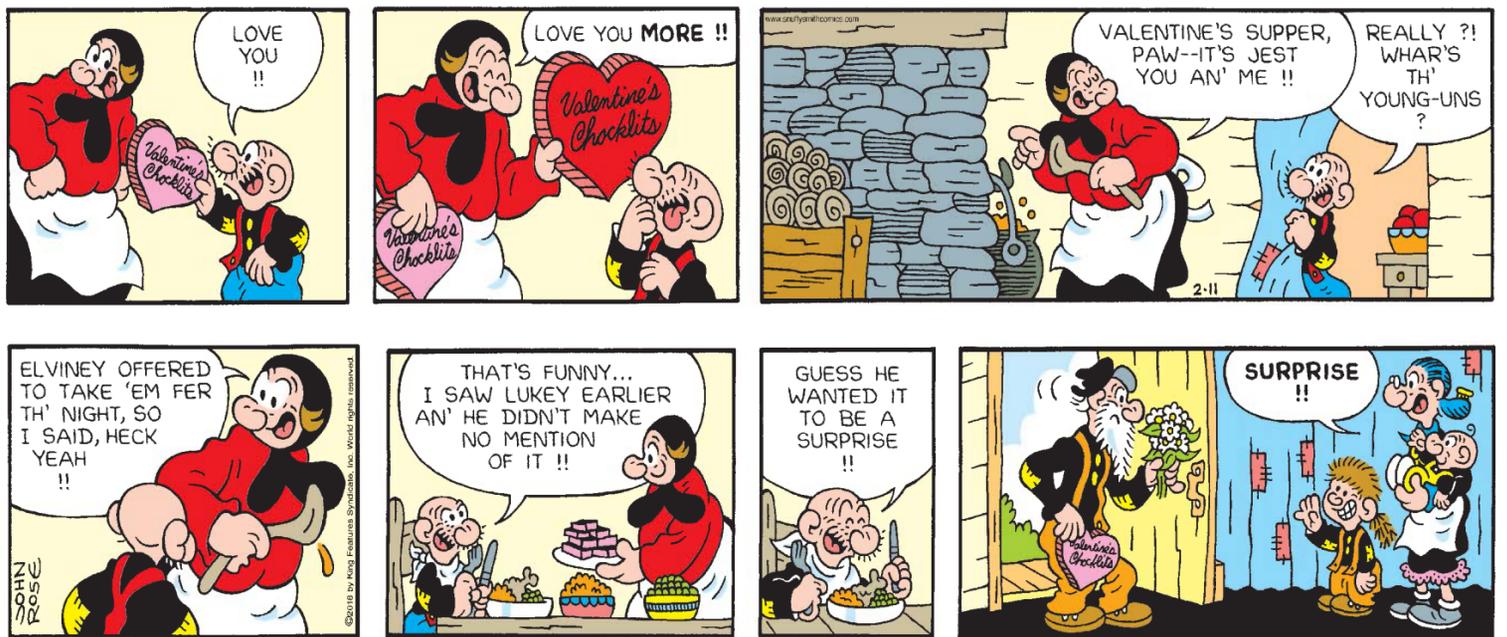
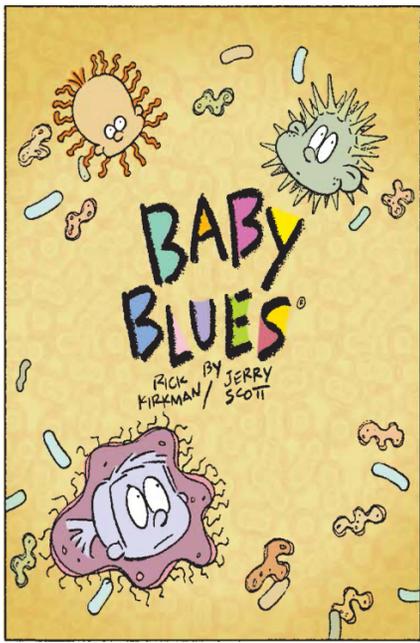
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NOW!

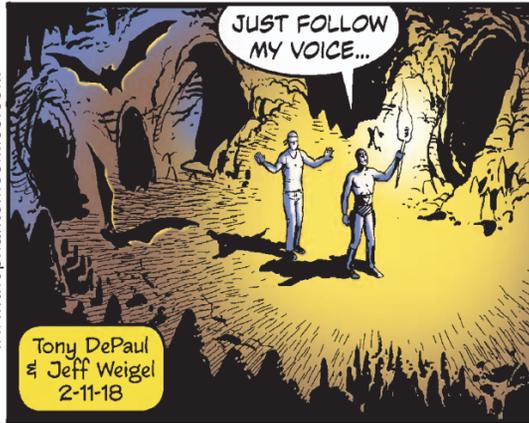
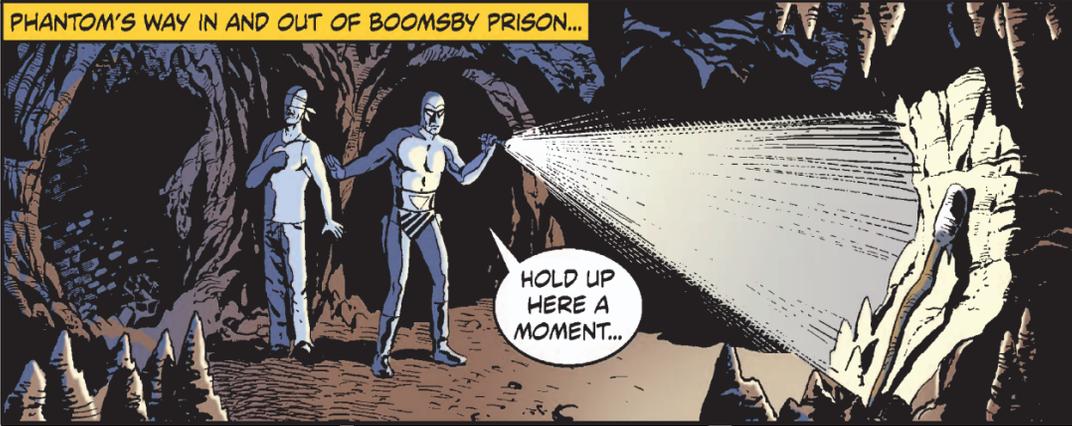




THE PHANTOM

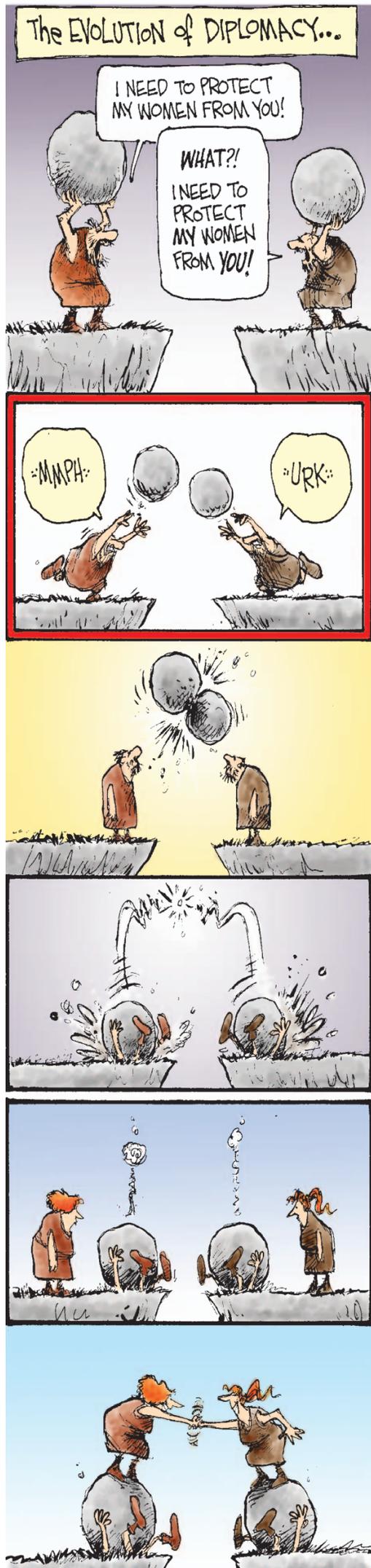
BY LEE FALK

PHANTOM'S WAY IN AND OUT OF BOOMSBY PRISON...

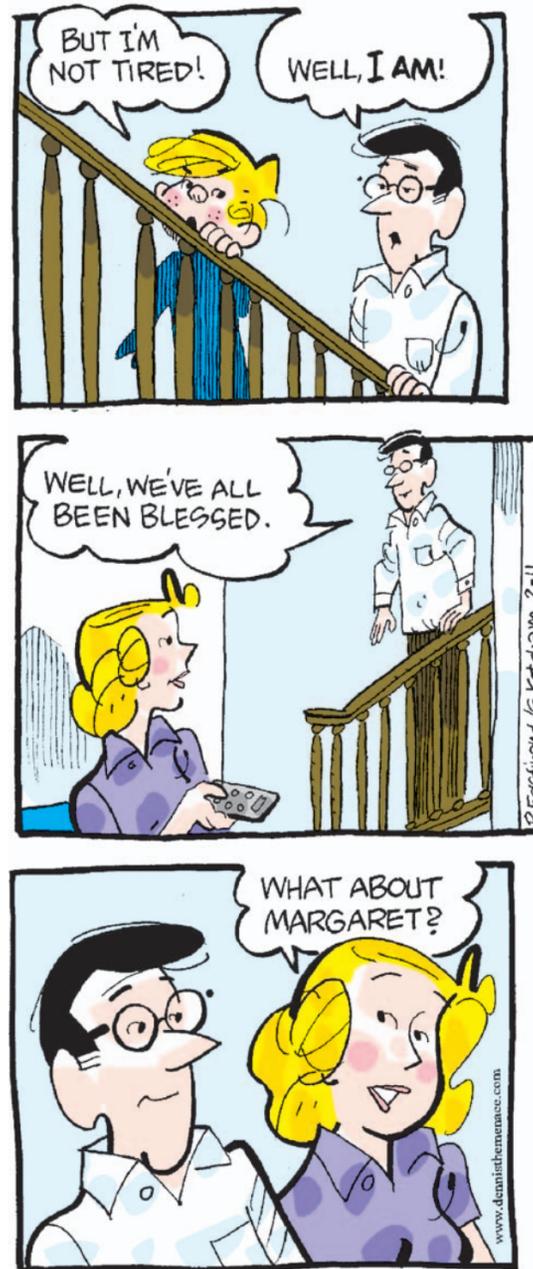


NON SEQUITUR

BY WILEY



DENNIS THE MENACE



BY HANK KETCHAM

