



## How to Choose



Your guide for for choosing whatever you may need in Highlands County and beyond is available now. **DETAILS Inside**

## Grimsley's Chamber talk includes campaign



PHIL ATTINGER/STAFF

Sen. Denise Grimsley, R-Zolfo Springs, speaks at Wednesday's Greater Sebring Chamber of Commerce Legislative Review Luncheon about her work as chair of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and her candidacy for Florida Commissioner of Agriculture.

## Two complain to Chamber director

By PHIL ATTINGER  
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — Those at Wednesday's Greater Sebring Chamber of Commerce Legislative Review Luncheon heard a bit of campaigning.

Sen. Denise Grimsley, R-Zolfo Springs, joined Rep. Cary Pigman, R-Avon Park, to a talk with local business leaders about recent legislation. However, as her part of the presentation dealt with agriculture and consumer protection legislation, it turned toward her candidacy for Florida Commissioner of Agriculture.

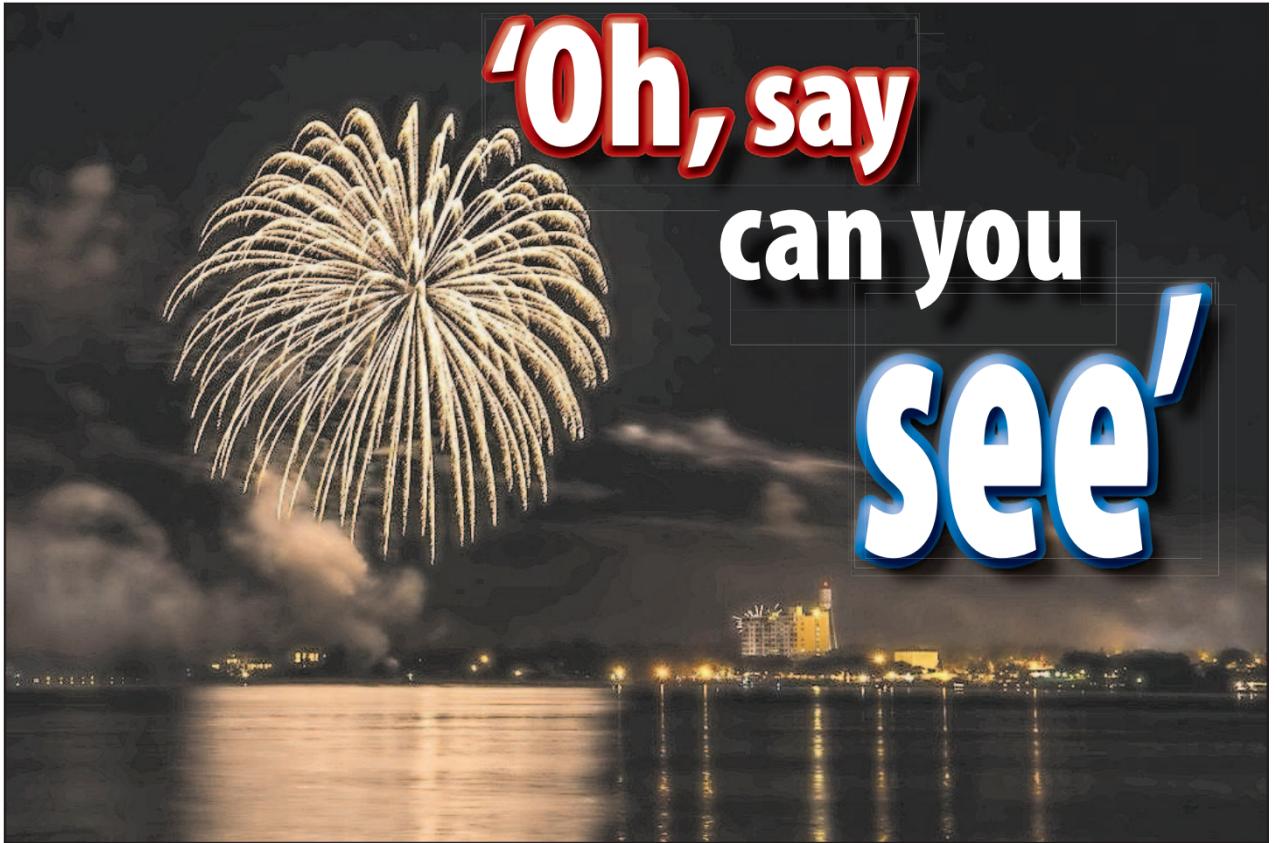
Chamber CEO Liz Barber said Thursday that she received text messages during Grimsley's presentation. "In the middle of the event, I was told I needed to get up and take her microphone," Barber said in a phone interview.

She didn't. She said the two complaints she got were not from members.

She also said, while the Chamber does not endorse candidates, it gives members like Grimsley a chance at each meeting to speak about their business or upcoming events — even political campaigns — for a minute or two.

In a later email conversation, Barber said the annual Legislative Review Luncheon, hosted by the Chamber and in its third year, gives Chamber members an overview of recent legislation, explains how

CHAMBER | 10



KEVIN MAIN/COURTESY PHOTO

Local companies develop the fireworks displays in Highlands County.

## Fourth of July Celebrations in Highlands County

By MELISSA MAIN  
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — Fourth of July celebrations in Highlands County range from a 5K run at Highlands Hammock State Park in the morning to three fabulous fireworks displays at night in each part of the county.

Celebrations today actually resemble the very first celebrations hundreds of years ago. In the beginning stages of our country, while the U.S. was still fighting the British for independence, citizens fired cannons, held parades, attended concerts, made bonfires and read the Declaration of Independence in public.

Today, we combine the fire and noise in the form of fireworks. The firing of cannons fell out of fashion, but much of the merrymaking remains the same, including the tradition of eating apple pie.

In a letter from John Adams to his wife, Abigail, he stated, "The second day of July, 1776, will be the most memorable epoch in the history of America ... It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward



KEVIN MAIN/COURTESY PHOTO

Firework display companies place the fireworks on barges and float them on lakes to create impressive displays that are beautifully reflected over the water.

forever more."

The U.S. has remembered this historic occasion just as Adams envisioned, especially

with the illuminations.

Fireworks are an integral part of our July 4 celebrations.

However, people have not

### IDEAS TO CELEBRATE THE 4TH OF JULY WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

1. Watch fireworks in Highlands County.
2. Participate in the Fire Cracker 5k at Highlands Hammock as a family or ask a friend to come along. The cost is \$25, and the event starts at 7:30 a.m. Register by Monday at the Ranger station or sign up at [runsignup.com/Race/FL/Sebring/21stAnnualFirecracker5K](http://runsignup.com/Race/FL/Sebring/21stAnnualFirecracker5K)
3. Watch a patriotic revue at Highlands Little Theatre and eat a tasty lunch from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free shows are available every hour. Lunch is available for a small fee.
4. Plan a cookout with friends and family with hamburgers, hot dogs, ribs, corn or anything else that can be cooked on the grill.
5. Visit a local park for a picnic.
6. Read the actual Declaration of Independence. Find the document online at [ushistory.org/declaration/document/](http://ushistory.org/declaration/document/)
7. Explain the Declaration of Independence to younger family members or have them watch videos about it online at [history.com/topics/holidays/july-4th](http://history.com/topics/holidays/july-4th)

celebrated on the day that John Adams thought was most appropriate. He believed that July 2 was the correct date for the celebrations

FIREWORKS | 9

## USDA hosts hurricane relief meeting

### Growers strongly urged to attend



METRO CREATIVE SERVICES

By PHIL ATTINGER  
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — Long-awaited federal help for citrus crop losses still hasn't arrived, but a program to provide help will soon take applications.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency (FSA) will hold several meetings this week on the Wildfire Hurricane Indemnity Program (WHIP), the first step in the Hurricane Irma relief package.

The closest for most

Highlands County citrus growers will be 9-11 a.m. Tuesday at the Bert J. Harris Jr. Agricultural Center in Sebring.

Other meetings will be Monday in Lake Alfred, Tuesday in LaBelle and Thursday in Fort Pierce. The schedule is below.

- 6-8 p.m. Monday at Citrus Research and Education Center, 700 Experiment Station Road, Lake Alfred.
- 9-11 a.m. Tuesday at Bert

CITRUS | 10



Comics.....NEWS WIRE  
Classifieds.....D3-4  
Highlands Homes.....C1

Local Sports.....B1  
Lottery.....SPORTS

Obituaries.....A5  
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Good Morning To  
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# School district is now hiring

By **MARC VALERO**  
STAFF WRITER



MARC VALERO/STAFF

**While the Highlands County School District has many openings for teachers, Fred Wild Elementary in Sebring has all its positions filled, according to Principal Jeannie Inagawa.**

SEBRING — From assistant principals to teachers to school bus drivers, the School Board of Highlands County has many positions to fill before the start of the 2018-19 school year on Aug. 13.

The district is now hiring for the following positions:

- Elementary music teacher
- Guidance counselor
- Elementary teachers
- Exceptional Student Education teachers (all levels)
- Middle school (English, science, math, social science)
- Family & Consumer Science teacher
- Psychologist
- Social worker
- Speech & Language Pathologists
- Physical therapist

The district also has a number of school support staff openings.

Fred Wild Elementary School Principal Jeannie

Inagawa said she has hired two teachers and at this moment she is “all hired up and fully staffed” for the beginning of the school year.

“We are fortunate right now,” she said.

Fred Wild Elementary had just a few openings, but she was able to quickly hire after the school year ended and, “we are ready,” Inagawa said.

The district is advertising to fill two assistant principal positions - the Avon Elementary School opening has a closing date for applications of July 10 and Hill-Gustat Middle School's closing date is

July 9. Transportation Director David Solomon said the district needs about 15 more school bus drivers.

“We have put out hiring signs at all of our schools,” he said. “Later on this month we do plan to put out advertisements on the radio and newspaper.”

He doesn't want to hire too early and lose some of the drivers before the start of the school year, Solomon said.

“Probably within the next two weeks we will be gearing up so we can get potential drivers in and get them trained and have them ready for the school year,” he said.

# Former principal reprimanded by state

By **MARC VALERO**  
STAFF WRITER



ALLEN

SEBRING — A former Highlands County School District principal has been placed on a two-year probationary period of her educator's certificate and has been issued a letter of reprimand from the Education Practices Commission.

The disciplinary actions in the case of Education Commissioner Pam Stewart against Jackie Allen are noted in the final order of a settlement agreement that was filed June 18.

Allen was in her second year as principal of Hill-Gustat Middle School when, in September 2015, she was placed on administrative leave by then superintendent Wally Cox.

The letter of reprimand to Allen from the Presiding Officer of the Education Practices Commission Christie Gold states, “By your actions, you have lessened the reputation of all who practice our profession. The profession cannot condone your action, nor can the public

who employ us.” Gold said the reprimand letter is being placed in Allen's state certification file and a copy is being sent to the School Board of Highlands County for placement in her personnel file.

The settlement agreement also calls for Allen to take a three-credit hour college level course in education ethics.

After Allen's removal from Hill-Gustat Middle, throughout the remainder of September and into October of 2015, numerous staff members were interviewed to support or disclaim allegations of misconduct on Allen's part, according to a school district report, which was released one year later in accordance with personnel policy.

A Hill-Gustat Middle School curriculum leadership team survey termed Allen's leadership style as “there is no leadership,” “unprofessional/rude,”

“insincere/demeaning” and “angry/control freak.”

The Education Practices Commission administrative complaint offered more specific allegations concerning Allen's behavior.

Between 2014 and 2015, Allen created a hostile and intimidating work environment, according to the commission's administrative complaint.

Allen, in the presence of staff and/or students, “publicly belittled the assistant principal” on multiple occasions, the complaint states.

She made condescending remarks to a clerical worker and said inappropriate comments on the personal affairs of her subordinates, the complaint adds. Allen reversed school-wide decisions regarding the students, without informing staff, the complaint added.

In accordance with her annual contract as an administrator, Cox sent a non-renewal letter to Allen on April 25, 2016 to end her employment with the district.

## Correction

A story on the front page of the Saturday, June 30 edition of the Highlands News-Sun had the wrong number for Senate Bill 872, the Young Farmers and Ranchers Act. We apologize for any confusion this may have caused.

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# 4<sup>th</sup> of JULY

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## GARBAGE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

- **NO SERVICE** on Fourth of July, Wednesday, July 4, 2018
- **WEDNESDAY Collection** Changed to Thursday 7-5-18
- **THURSDAY Collection** Changed to Friday 7-6-18
- **FRIDAY Collection** Changed to Saturday 7-7-18 “For Holiday Collection Only”

**For Questions Call (863) 655-0005**

\*This DOES NOT Pertain To City Limits of Avon Park, Sebring, and the town of Lake Placid

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adhp-3591149

# Leave Fido at home for fireworks show

By **KIM LEATHERMAN**  
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — Pets and their owners are often inseparable so it may be tempting to bring Fido to Independence Day picnics, parties and fireworks shows. Experts agree that the rockets' red glare tends to scare the four-legged members of the family and they are better off left at home.

The lights and sounds from fireworks and large crowds can make animals anxious. A nervous animal can run away or become destructive, said Allen Altvater, practice manager at Sebring Animal Hospital. Examples of destructive behavior include chewing inappropriate items or clawing through interior doors.

"People take their dogs everywhere these days — Lowe's, Home Depot, Tractor Supply Company — a lot of the big-box stores are now pet-friendly," he said. "People tend to take them with them wherever they go, so I would certainly not advise them to take them to a fireworks show."

A good way to determine how your animal will react to fireworks is to compare it to their reaction to thunderstorms.

"Most people who have pets with those issues pretty much know about it," Altvater said. "In Florida, we have thunderstorms all the time, and so most people know when they have special needs pets. If thunder scares your pets, then obviously, the fireworks will also. Most of the pets will be OK."

Altvater said cats normally handle the fireworks and thunderstorm noises better than dogs. He said they usually will just find a remote place to hide or a dark place to hunker down in.

He also recommends bringing dogs inside, maybe to a laundry room or other quiet room. Include some chew toys and maybe a favorite blanket or pillow for comfort.

There are many over-the-counter products and remedies for pet anxiety that Altvater knows about but has never used. There's the Thundershirt for cats and dogs, which retails for about \$35-45 online and promises to calm anxious pets, and homeopathic oral drops and sprays. He said some of those products could actually help an animal.

"Just like in the human line, there are homeopathic items," he said. "We are not going to say those things don't work; they may be helpful. A lot of those things are regulated by the Food and Drug Administration."

"We live in a consumer-driven world; if there's products that are out there that are harmful, usually those things get purged off the market pretty quick," Altvater said. "I am not saying that everything in the big-box stores are perfectly good but, generally they are not going to last out there on the market if they're known to create problems."

Tranquilizers may be needed in some cases. "We have a handful of animals that are on either anxiety medicine, a lot of those are by prescription. The doctors will have to see the pets to make sure it's appropriate. We definitely wouldn't advise self-medicating," he said. "This isn't something when you think, 'Oh, my dog's got issues and I need to put him on something.' They need to make sure that there isn't some other issue that would create a



KIM LEATHERMAN /STAFF

**Kittens handle the fireworks better than their canine counterparts. They will find a spot to curl up in or a dark place to hide.**

complication.

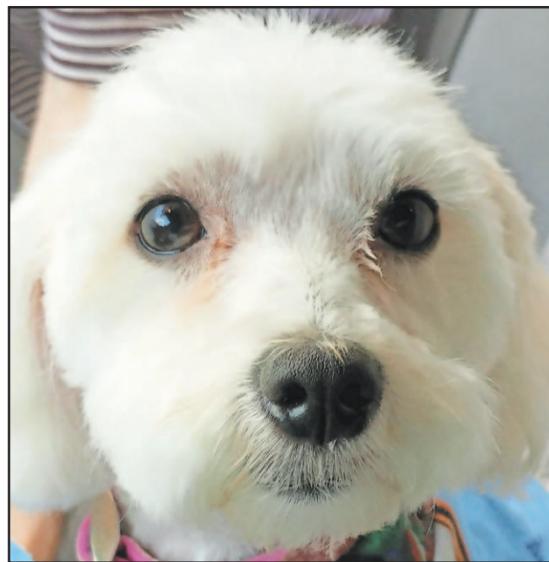
"The doctor would want to examine the dog and try to get a pretty good background from the client to ensure it is something that is warranted for them. The majority of our

pets don't need anything," Altvater said.

No one is denying the dangers to people and animals when it comes to fireworks. Vice President of Phantom Fireworks William Weimer gave

some tips on keeping Fido calm and healthy this Fourth of July. He wrote:

- Distract pets with a game like fetch.
- Close windows and doors, turn on air conditioning and television and



FILE PHOTO

**This cute pup may need a little TLC when the fireworks begin in earnest on Independence Day.**

radios for white noise.

- Walk and exercise pets before the fireworks start.

The American Veterinary Medical Foundation urges pet owners to keep animals at home also, not to give them table scraps or get near a hot grill, and always provide shade and lots of water. In case an animal should run off or get loose, they recommend the pet should have an ID

tag on, be micro-chipped and the owner should have a current picture.

Pet owners are not done with their responsibilities after the last firework flash and boom of the night. Owners should scour the animal's yard and play areas to ensure there are no remnants of firecrackers or metal sparklers to step on.

More safety information is available at [amva.org](http://amva.org).



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**OBITUARIES**

**Betty Louise Bassitt**

A memorial service will be held for Betty Louise Bassitt at 3 p.m. today (Sunday, July 1) at Union Congregational with Pastor Bill Breylinger officiating. Arrangements with Fountain Funeral Home.

**Dorothy L. DeVoss**



Dorothy L. "Dot" DeVoss, 92, passed away on Wednesday, June 20, 2018 in Lake Placid, Florida. She was born

on Feb. 4, 1926 to the late George and Blanche (Murphy) Dickey in Wapello, Iowa. She had been a resident of Highlands County, Florida since 1999 coming from Iowa. Dorothy had been a clerk at the Crescent Dry Cleaners in Davenport, Iowa for 40 years before her retirement. She had been a member of the American Legion Post 25 in Lake Placid and the Elks, as well as the VFW. She was a great dancer, enjoyed the outdoors planting and tending flowers. She loved and celebrated holidays either by decorating or wearing costumes or both. She especially loved her family and will

be missed by all who knew and loved her. She is survived by 11 nieces and nephews, Sharon Stanger of Iowa, Fred Dickey of Arizona, Richard, Tom and Larry Dickey all of Iowa, Carol Pigg of Iowa, Andrea Shields of Iowa, Deanna Klinkenberg of Iowa, Suzie Ricketts of Lake Placid, Florida and Dennis Ricketts of Iowa. She is also survived by her sister-in-law, Trudy Ricketts, and special friends, Julie and Tony Carey. Dorothy was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Richard DeVoss; her sisters, Hazel, Helen, Evelyn and Lelia; and her brothers, Fred, Clem,

Earl and Joe. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to the American Legion Post 25, 1490 U.S. 27 North, Lake Placid, FL 33852 for The Honor Flight. Services entrusted to Stephenson-Nelson Funeral Home, 4001 Sebring Parkway, Sebring, FL 33870. Online condolences may be left at stephensonnelsonfh.com.

**Janet H. Patterson**

Janet H. Patterson died at home on June 23, 2018. She was born on Sept. 29, 1942 in Birmingham, Alabama

to Samuel J. Harris and Janet M. Harris. She was a graduate of the Mississippi University for Women and worked for years with the physically handicapped, originally as a pioneering driving instructor for those with severe spinal cord injuries and ultimately as a case manager for those with traumatic brain injury and other physical disabilities. She is preceded in death by her daughter, Jennifer M. Carpenter, and survived by her daughter, Janet H. Shields of Hayesville, North Carolina; brother, Samuel J. Harris Jr. of Pinson, Alabama; and

husband, Arthur S. Patterson. Janet was a strong, courageous, determined, and loving individual who gave of herself to help others. She will be missed by all who knew her. Janet requested that any donations in her name be made to the New Testament Church and Mission in Sebring, Florida or the Key West Humane Society. There will be a graveside service held at a later date. Arrangements entrusted to Stephenson-Nelson Funeral Home, 4001 Sebring Parkway, Sebring, FL 33870. Online condolences may be left at stephensonnelsonfh.com.

**COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS**

**Champion for Children nominations**

SEBRING — The 19th annual Judge Clifton M. Kelly Champion for Children Awards Gala will be held on Thursday, Sept. 27 at Grace Bible Church in Sebring. The awards dinner and ceremony celebrates and recognizes community members who have dedicated their lives to impacting children. The community is invited to nominate a child advocate. Nominations are due by Monday. Contact the Champion for Children Foundation for details at 863-382-2905 or ChampionforChildren.org.

**Highlands tea party meeting**

SEBRING — The Highlands Tea Party will meet from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday at Homer's Restaurant, 1000 Sebring Parkway. Dinner at 5 p.m. Guest speaker will be Sen. Denise Grimsley, R-Zolfo Springs.

**Agricultural flea market**

LAKE PLACID - Ecoventure LLC presents an agricultural flea market from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. every Saturday, 111 South Sun N' Lakes Blvd. in Lake Placid. This is a free community event. For information, call Jacques or Yvette at 305-255-1114 or 305-469-4769. Please RSVP, space is limited.

**Flag retirement ceremony**

AVON PARK - The American Legion Post 69 will have an Independence Day Flag Retirement Ceremony at 9 a.m. Wednesday at

American Legion Post 69, 1301 W. Bell St. in Avon Park.

**Fourth of July celebration**

LAKE PLACID - The American Legion Post 25 will have a Fourth of July Celebration at 4 p.m. Wednesday at the post in Lake Placid. A barbecue dinner and festivities honor Vietnam veterans. Dennis & Wendy will perform at 4:30 p.m. It is open to the public. For information, call 863-465-0975.

**Summer cookout on tap**

SEBRING - Emmanuel Church of Christ will hold a summer cookout from 5-7 p.m. Friday, July 6, 3115 Hope St. (corner of Hope Street and Hammock Road). Hamburgers, hot dogs, potato salad, chips,

dessert and sweet tea. Tickets are \$6 and must be purchased in advance. Dine-in or carry-out. The public is welcome. For information or tickets, call 863-471-1999.

**VFW catfish, shrimp dinner**

AVON PARK - The VFW Post 9853 will serve a catfish and shrimp dinner from 4:30-6:30 p.m. on Friday, July 6 at VFW Post 9853, 75 N. Olivia Drive in Avon Park. Includes choice of potato salad, French fries and dessert. Cost is \$8. Carryout available until sold out. Smoke-free dining room. Open to the public.

**Smart driver class**

SEBRING - The next AARP Smart Driver class will be from 9 a.m. to

3:30 p.m. on Monday, July 9, at Emmanuel United Church of Christ, 3115 Hope St. in Sebring.

To register, call Mary Jane Lloyd at 863-452-0335.

**Christmas in July set**

LAKE PLACID - The Greater Lake Placid Chamber of Commerce Membership Luncheon will take place from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Wednesday, July 11, at Lake Placid Elks Lodge, 200 E. CR 621. Lunch, which costs \$12, is grilled chicken with alfredo sauce. RSVP on or before July 9.

For information, call 863-465-4331 or visit chamber@lpfla.com.

**Ask-a-lawyer**

**clinic set**

SEBRING - Florida Rural Legal Services Inc. will hold a free ask-a-lawyer clinic for low income individuals from 1-3 p.m. on Thursday, July 12, at the Sebring Public Library, 319 W. Center Ave.

To be screened for eligibility and to secure a consultation, call Sheena Robinson at 863-688-7376, Ext. 3018 by Tuesday, July 10.

**Princess Day at dance studio**

SEBRING - Extreme Dance Studio will have its 2018 Princess Summer Day Camp from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Thursday, July 12, at Extreme Dance Studio, 253 US 27 N. in Sebring (same plaza as Five Guys). Cost is \$65 and is for ages 3-6. Lunch and snacks provided. For more information, call 863-386-5425.

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**FLORIDA NEWS BRIEFS**

**New laws: Marriage age, opioids, criminal records**

TALLAHASSEE (AP) — There are 105 new laws going into effect in Florida this weekend.

Sunday marks the start of the state's new fiscal year and nearly half of the bills the Legislature passed earlier this year will become law.

That includes restrictions on prescriptions of opioids, school vouchers for students who are victims of bullying or other violence, not allowing anyone under 17 to marry and further protections for vulnerable seniors.

The budget that goes into effect has nearly \$90 billion worth of spending that includes money for schools, universities and colleges, health care programs, the state's prison system.

Lawmakers passed 200 bills during their annual session that ended in March.

**Man pleads no contest to drunken driving crash**

BARTOW (AP) — A Florida man has pleaded no contest to DUI manslaughter in a fatal drunken driving crash.

The Ledger reports that 26-year-old Travis Wade Coats entered his plea Friday. He faces up to 15 years in prison at his Aug. 3 sentencing.

Authorities say Coats was driving the wrong way on Interstate 4 in Polk County in January 2017 when he crashed head-on into Demerrio Alistaire Tobler's car. Tobler died at the scene.

Coats' blood alcohol level measured 0.18 percent after the crash. Florida law considers a driver impaired

at 0.08 percent.

**UCF professor charged with stalking student**

ORLANDO (AP) — Authorities say a Florida college professor stalked a student, following her around and messaging her hundreds of times a day.

A University of Central Florida police report says 39-year-old Ali Borji, an assistant computer science professor, was arrested Thursday at his on-campus office and charged with two misdemeanor stalking counts.

The victim told police that she had met Borji last June while she was working on her Ph.D, and they dated for a short time before she decided to end it.

Authorities say Borji continued to message and seek out the woman in person.

The woman told police she eventually moved out of state last fall to get away from Borji. When she returned for the spring semester, she says the stalking resumed.

The university says Borji has resigned and been banned from the campus.

Borji was being held on \$1,000 bail. Jail records didn't list an attorney.

**Attorney for man accused of killing 2 withdraws**

ORLANDO (AP) — The defense attorney for a man accused of killing his pregnant ex-girlfriend and a Florida police officer has withdrawn from the case.

The Orlando Sentinel reports that Roger Weeden stepped down Friday as Markeith Loyd's lead attorney.

Weeden told the judge there was a

misunderstanding when he was appointed. Procedural rules require lead counsel to have tried at least two death penalty cases as co-counsel, but Weeden had only tried one case twice because it ended with a mistrial the first time. He said he didn't want to create grounds for appeal later.

Loyd asked to be represented by high-priced Miami attorney Terence Lenamon, but the judge told Loyd he doesn't get to pick his lawyer when taxpayers are paying for his defense.

Authorities say Loyd killed Sade Dixon in December 2016, and then gunned down Orlando police Lt. Debra Clayton while she was trying to arrest him.

**Pensacola Beach swimmer warned about sea lice**

PENSACOLA (AP) — Florida officials are warning swimmers about stinging sea lice at a Florida beach.

The Pensacola News Journal reports that Pensacola Beach lifeguard stands posted purple flags earlier this week for the presence of dangerous marine life.

Water safety chief Dave Greenwood says sea lice are tiny jellyfish larvae and jellyfish cells that can mildly irritate a swimmer's skin. He says they aren't very intense and can't live outside the warm saltwater. They don't remain on a swimmer's body after they leave the water.

The Florida Department of Health says sea lice can cause small red bumps on a person's skin within a day of exposure. The rash can also be accompanied by flu-like symptoms.

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# Preliminary numbers show \$156 million school budget District hopes to improve its fund balance ratio

By **MARC VALERO**  
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — The School Board of Highlands County has more budget workshops planned and will receive data from the state before finalizing its budget, but the district's preliminary 2018-19 budget totals \$156.3 million.

At its July 10 meeting, the School Board will vote to advertise its tentative budget, which currently shows a tax rate of 6.327 mills. That is .215 mills less than the 2017-18 tax rate for a budget that totaled \$149.07 million.

But, those preliminary numbers, including the tax rate, can change.

Assistant Superintendent of

Business Operations Mike Averyt said the district has not yet received the "required local effort" portion of the tax rate.

The Highlands County Property Appraiser certifies the tax roll to the state, and then around July 15 the state will send the required local effort to the district, he explained. "That's the number we will use at the budget hearing on July 31."

"We are still doing budget workshops and so it can still change before the final public hearing in September."

But, for now, the preliminary budget



AVERYT

is balanced based on the estimates from the state, Averyt said.

There continue to be lasting effects on the district's fund balance, from paying out \$2.5 million last year of a \$3.5 million lawsuit settlement agreement.

The fund balance will be down because of the settlement, but the "fund balance ratio," will hopefully be above 3 percent, Averyt said.

Is a 3 percent fund balance ratio realistic?

"I think so," Averyt replied. "We posted our final payroll and I am estimating our accruals at this point, and it does look like we are going to be above 3 percent on our fund balance ratio, which is good news."

"That means the



MARC VALERO/STAFF

The School Board of Highlands County will consider advertising its tentative budget for the 2018-19 school year at its July 10 meeting.

state doesn't come in and monitor you any longer," he added.

The district hopes to get that number to 4 percent eventually and

the preliminary budget will get the district to 4 percent, he said.

## Sebring man charged with battery of elderly person

By **MELISSA MAIN**  
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — A Sebring man purchased a bike, promising to pay the seller later. When the seller tried to collect his money, the buyer's friend allegedly punched him in the eye, authorities said.

William Lloyd Rook, 34, of Sebring, was charged with battery on a person 65 years of age or older.

The victim sold the bike

in good faith and believed the buyer would pay for the bike at a later date, the arrest report stated.

However, the buyer failed to bring the money for the bike as promised, the report said, and he contacted his friend, Rook, about the attempted collection, the



ROOK

report stated.

Rook came to the victim's residence and made contact with him in the backyard. According to the victim, Rook grabbed him by the hair and hit him on his right eye with a closed fist, reports said.

Officers noted a visible laceration on the right side of the victim's eye, and his right eye was visibly swollen, the arrest report stated.

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2. There are many

countries that have their Independence Day during the month of July. These include the United States, Belarus, Venezuela, Argentina, Belgium, the Bahamas, and the Maldives. The national days for France and Canada occur in July as well.

3. July is the warmest month in the Northern Hemisphere on average. It is similar to January in the Southern Hemisphere. Sometimes the hot, long days of July are called the "dog days of

summer."

4. July is sometimes called the Hay Month because the grass dries out due to a lack of rain and can be made into hay.

5. Symbols of July: Birthstone is ruby, the flower is larkspur or water lily, zodiac signs are Cancer and Leo. The ruby is often associated with contentment, love, passion, and integrity.

Source: <https://www.ducksters.com/history/julyinhistory.php>

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# FIREWORKS

FROM PAGE 1

since that is when the Continental Congress approved the resolution for the colonies to declare their independence from England.

However, the declaration still had to be written, and Thomas Jefferson's final draft of the Declaration of Independence was not finalized and signed until July 4.

In Highlands County, residents can enjoy fantastic firework displays close to home. Each city or town is preparing an elaborate display that is only possible because of the donations and support from the community. Jaycees spearheaded celebrations in Lake Placid and Avon Park. The City of Sebring planned a celebration over the City Pier, and Sun 'n Lake of Sebring has organized its own celebration. There is a \$3 fee for the Sun 'n Lake event, but the rest of the celebrations are free.

In Sun 'n Lake, Pyro Display Co. will be providing and launching the fireworks on Tuesday. This is the only fireworks display on Tuesday, and it allows residents to catch two firework celebrations. People can attend the show at Sun 'n Lake on Tuesday and then they can choose another display from Avon Park, Lake Placid or Sebring on Wednesday.

Sun 'n Lake spent \$10,500 on a 20-minute display. The festivities at Tee Time Circle will last from 5:30-9:30 p.m. Besides the thrill and noise of fireworks, music from the Shannon Reed Band and Ian Belanger from Belanger Media Group will be delight attendees. The two groups will alternate performances, and Belanger Media Group will be hosting interactive games. Hamburger and hot dog meals will also be available.

The Avon Park Jaycees and the City of Avon Park are sponsoring a fireworks display over Lake Verona, which will begin at 9 p.m. Wednesday at Donaldson Park. The city provided \$5,000 as a donation toward the fireworks, which totaled \$14,000. In addition, the city also donated associated services, including law enforcement and fire trucks.

According to Travis Turner, the event chair, the event should last 25 minutes. Organizers were able to include additional special effects fireworks from Pyro Display Co. this year.

"If someone hasn't had the opportunity to watch our display, come to Donaldson Park. I'm sure you will enjoy it," Turner said. "We are fortunate to have the support of the city and the community to put on a good show. We shoot the fireworks over water so we can shoot larger shells and have a bigger show."

The City of Sebring will be shooting fireworks over Lake Jackson at 9 p.m. Wednesday. According to Assistant City Administrator Bob Hoffman, Greg Dixon, from Pyro Display Co., will be putting fireworks on a barge on Lake Jackson 400-500 feet from the City Pier.

"The fireworks are especially beautiful on the lake, and many people watch from their boats," Hoffman said. "However, the fire department and police department watch to ensure that people are a safe distance from the barge."



KEVIN MAIN/COURTESY PHOTO

Without the financial support of residents and businesses, the elaborate fireworks displays that are enjoyed all over Highlands County would not be possible

"We have been fundraising for this since March, and we have raised \$20,000. The City of Sebring contributed \$5,000, the Community Redevelopment Agency provided \$5,000 and the rest of the contributions

were from businesses and individuals," he said. "We will have one or two food vendors for the crowd, and a local DJ, Jeremy Daughtery, will provide the music," Hoffman said. "We have upped our game to be

the best we can be." In Lake Placid, the Jaycees have been furiously fundraising to organize a fireworks display at 9 p.m. Wednesday over Lake June. The Town of Lake Placid donated \$5,000



KEVIN MAIN/COURTESY PHOTO

Avon Park, Sebring and Lake Placid will all have firework displays on July 4. If it rains, Avon Park and Sebring will have a rainy day schedule at the same time the following day.

toward the \$10,000-plus cost of the event, and the town will be providing law enforcement.

According to Brandon Paynor, a Jaycees representative, the 20- to 25-minute show will feature fireworks from Star

Flight, a local fireworks company. Participants can gather in the Lake June Ball Fields or Bishop Park.

"This will be a very big and impressive show," Paynor said.

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	<b>SUDDENLY NOT ABLE TO SPEAK, SEE, WALK OR MOVE</b>		<b>SEVERE ALLERGIC REACTION WITH SWELLING, HIVES</b>
	<b>POSSIBLE BROKEN BONE</b>		<b>COUGHING OR THROWING UP BLOOD</b>

Source: medlineplus.gov/ency/patientinstructions/000593.htm

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# CHAMBER

FROM PAGE 1

changes in laws may affect small businesses and tells what legislation is in the pipeline.

Both keynote speakers knew the topic, Barber said. It was printed on event invitations and mentioned as she welcomed attendees.

Other local candidates attended. Charlene Edwards and Isaac Durrance are running for School Board of Highlands County, District 1. Audrey Ascuitto, D-Sebring, is challenging Pigman for Florida House of Representatives, District 55.

They did not speak. "Though the event is not designed as a candidate forum, and the Sebring Chamber does not endorse candidates, we do offer a number of ways for candidates that are members of

the Chamber to get their message out to the voters," Barber wrote.

Barber also said candidates may bring pamphlets, yard signs, and other marketing materials to the Chamber Welcome Center on U.S. 27 so guests to learn about them.

To qualify for these benefits, Barber said, a candidate must be a Chamber member. Rates for candidates are \$150 for the rest of this calendar year, she said.

"I believe that the perception of the amount of time spent on the campaign is subjective," Barber continued. "The Chamber feels strongly that the agriculture-related bills that she has worked during the previous session on was the majority of her presentation."

When asked if it would have been possible to redirect Grimsley with a question on legislation, Barber agreed, but said when it came time for

questions, no one in the audience asked any.

"Should someone (have) had a concern, that time would have been ideal to have posed those questions," Barber wrote.

Grimsley, at the 2018 Florida Republican Party Sunshine Summit on Friday, texted replies to questions about the Legislative Review.

She said she talked of two bills she got passed.

Senate Bill 962, on telephone solicitation, would allow carriers like Verizon and CenturyLink to block scam calls coming into a customer's phone from local numbers.

Prior to this, they didn't have legal authority to do so, Grimsley said.

The legislation goes into effect in July and is under the

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

"What I said at the meeting was we will continue to see these individuals responsible for these calls figure out a way to get around technology, so it's important that your next Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services be focused on this as a matter of consumer protection," Grimsley said. "Make no mistake about it: These are not just annoying phone calls they are coming after your personal information."

Grimsley said she mentioned Senate Bill 872, the Young Farmers and Ranchers Act. It creates a "dollar-by-dollar matching grant program" for young

people, ages 18-31, who want to get into farming, but don't have resources to do so.

It also creates an advisory task force to the agriculture commissioner on issues affecting young farmers and ranchers, a clearinghouse on the department's website to access scholarships/grants and a mentor program to match young people with seasoned farmers.

The average age of a farmer is 59 years old, she said.

"These are things that I was focused on as a senator and as the chairman of the Senate agriculture committee, but I will also continue to be focused on them commissioner of agriculture," Grimsley wrote. "My goal was also to say

goodbye to my constituents because I will no longer be representing them as a senator come November."

She said she did speak about her campaign as it related to those topics, thanked constituents for allowing her to represent them in both the House and Senate and let them know her campaign was the reason they hadn't seen her much.

"I also made a promise to them at the lunch that I would not forget where I came from and that I would be back home soon," Grimsley wrote. "I gave a very similar speech last year at this same meeting. These are my friends, and I want them to know I care about them and will continue to work hard on their behalf."

# CITRUS

FROM PAGE 1

J. Harris Jr. Agricultural Center, 4509 George Blvd., Sebring

• 2-4 p.m. Tuesday at Dallas Townsend Agricultural Center, 1085 Pratt Blvd., LaBelle.

• 10 a.m.-noon Thursday, at USDA/ARS Research Center, 2001 S. Rock Road, Fort Pierce.

The Florida Citrus Mutual has strongly urged all growers to attend at least one meeting. The WHIP may provide growers with up to \$900,000 in relief payments, the Mutual reports, depending on what help they already received from insurance.

It will also serve as a precursor to a block grant program of hurricane relief, more federal funds administered by the Florida Division of Emergency Management.

Ray Royce, executive director of the Highlands County Citrus Growers Association, said sign-up is starting July 16 for the FSA relief programs.

WHIP has a certain amount of money, but growers might also get help from the second pool of federal money distributed by Emergency Management, Royce said, especially if they aren't being served by WHIP.

There are details that affect eligibility, Royce said, but with this new program, those details may have changed from previous assistance.

More than a dozen years ago, the USDA responded quickly to hurricane relief, Royce said. The system was different then.

In 2004, he said, the

government had an average broad-base number based on wind zones. This time, it's based on individual loss rates.

"It's hard to determine that," Royce said.

For example, he said, a grower has to take the expected revenue from a crop, and then subtract the revenue it brought in — if any — then subtract any insurance payouts.

After that, Royce said, the USDA will multiply it by a "WHIP factor," which could be anywhere from 65-85 percent, depending on the insurance the grower had.

Also, he said, the usual formula includes estimating the expected revenue from the average of the last five years' production records.

"The downside of that is the crop on the trees (in 2017) was better than any of those other crops," Royce said. "The storm hit the best crop we've had for a while."

Since Irma, Royce said, there hasn't really been really good information on exact compensation.

"No one will get fully compensated for the loss," Royce said. "You're going to be able to seek partial reimbursement for the fruit that was lost."

Meanwhile, growers have had some help for debris cleanup and sales tax relief/reimbursement. This will be the first time since Irma that there will be a program for citrus growers to get some partial compensation for their fruit loss.

"Usually we know what the program will do, but this time we don't know," Royce said.

The only way to find out, Royce said, is to get one of meetings this week.

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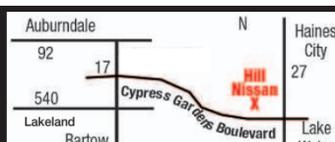
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# LOCAL SPORTS

## CORE autosport shows speed at Watkins Glen



ALLEN MOODY/STAFF

The No. 54 CORE autosport Prototype leads the Turner Motorsport BMW at Sebring.

## CJ Miller Racing Acura returns to action

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

For the first time since the morning warm up for the 2017 Motul Petit Le Mans, an LMP2 car topped the time charts at the end of the first day of IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship practice for the Sahlen's Six Hours of The Glen.

Romain Dumas did the honors in the No. 54 CORE autosport ORECA LMP2 machine, clocking a best lap of one minute, 33.481 seconds (130.935 mph) around the 3.4-mile Watkins Glen International circuit. Even more impressively, it was Dumas' first time at Watkins Glen in 10 years.

"First of all, for sure the car is very good," said Dumas, who is sharing the No. 54 with co-drivers Colin Braun and Jon Bennett. "The balance is right. I didn't drive for 10 years here, so I just had to do some laps and improve myself more than the car. It's a good sign for the race. It's nice to be back here

in this championship and in this car. So far, all looks great, so we have to continue."

It's been a good week for Dumas. Last Sunday, the Frenchman shattered the track record at the Pikes Peak International Hillclimb, navigating the 12.42-mile course in

CORE | 4

## Behrendt wins Spring Lake qualifier



ALLEN MOODY/STAFF

Gary Behrendt and Kay Gorham were the winners of the Heartland Golf Championship qualifier at Spring Lake Golf Resort.

## Kay Gorham captures women's side of Heartland Golf Championship qualifying event

BY ALLEN MOODY  
HIGHLANDS SUN EDITOR

SPRING LAKE — The first qualifying tournament of the Heartland Golf Championship, presented by the Highlands News-Sun, was held at Spring Lake Golf Resort on Saturday and there were a few late changes to the tournament format. For starters, Pro-Am points were used for score-keeping purposes, so that one or two implosions on the links don't ruin a golfer's entire round.

The other change had to do with the number of qualifiers, as it was determined for fields of less than 10 men and five women, all would advance to the championship event at a course to be determined at a later date.

"We tried to lay some rules down," said Spring Lake Director of Golf Bill Davis. "Because it's the summer, it's tough to get people to come right now. We tried to think of the best way to get participation into Sept. 15, for the last event (the championship)."

Gary Behrendt edged Richard Strawn for the men's title by a score of 41 to 40. Fred Brune and Steve Gorham tied for third place with 37 points each.

"I haven't been playing a lot lately, so today was a good day," Behrendt said.

Behrendt said it was fun playing with the gang in his foursome, although he loves golf and playing with anybody.

"We play in the Inner-Club and then you get to play with people you've never played with," he said. "I used to do a lot of tournaments."

If there was going to be any home course advantage, you'd think it might come to Edd Vowels, owner of Spring Lake Golf Resort, but that wasn't the case.

"I played terrible," he said with a laugh.

Behrendt said the course was in great shape and was grateful for all the work put into the course.

"The greens are a beautiful-looking surface, but they're a little bit slow, at least for me," Behrendt said.

"Our whole group was



Gary Behrendt watches his chip shot onto the green during Saturday's Heartland Golf Championship qualifying event at Spring Lake Golf Resort.

GOLF | 2



HIGHLANDS BASS ANGLER

Dave Douglass

## July fishing starts with tough conditions

The Freshwater Fishing Forecast for the first week of July gives anglers the development of the weak last quarter moon phase and normal rainy season weather forecast. In other words, we'll experience normal summertime fishing conditions with little help from the moon until the second half of this week.

All fishing factors considered, anglers will experience the greatest challenge of the month to catch fish over the next four days. The reason? Low lunar influence (since the moon arrived furthest away from earth last night) for starters, then low or no atmospheric pressure change and low wind and very little wave-action are forecasted. And lastly, water is starting to lose adequate dissolved oxygen levels since temperatures have climbed into the middle to upper eighty degree range.

During the days of the lunar apogee (five-day period of two days before and after) fish-feeding daily migration-patterns are almost non-existent and any activity centers on the daily solar periods.

However, Florida's summer heat and subsequent high water temps and low dissolved oxygen rates during the 3-7 a.m. and hours of the sunrise, cause a daily feeding period during the 'highest oxygen rate period' 12 hours later; at the end of the day's photosynthesis period, during the hours leading up to the sunset.

This month the best fishing weeks are the second and third weeks. A super new moon occurs July 12 with the lunar perigee five hours and 40 minutes later. If sunshine dominates cloud-cover during the middle of next week, we will experience excellent fishing results.

**Best Fishing Days:** Thursday and Friday looks to give the anglers the most degree of factor-change. More wind, some moderate pressure change during

FISHING | 5

## Fritts takes lead at Elite Series event



SEIGO SAITO/B.A.S.S PHOTO

David Fritts of Lexington, N.C., took the lead on the first day of the Berkley Bassmaster Elite at Lake Oahe presented by Abu Garcia, bringing 19 pounds, 7 ounces to the scales.

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

The mystery of South Dakota's smallmouth was solved by Elite Series pro David Fritts during the first day of the Berkley Bassmaster Elite at Lake Oahe presented by Abu Garcia. The 1993 Bassmaster Classic champion caught a 19-pound, 7-ounce limit of smallmouth to best the 107-angler field on a body of water that he

had never seen before, while battling 4-foot waves.

"Man, I should have had 23 pounds today," the tournament leader lamented. "I had three giants jump off this morning that would have really improved my weight. But I'm really happy with what I caught."

The North Carolina veteran found his pattern during the waning hours of the final practice day.

"I was pretty frustrated until about the last hour of practice, when I stumbled on this little deal. It involves a pretty specific structure and Berkley bait combo, so I'm pretty confident that I'll be able to duplicate this," he said. "I didn't sit there and burn up a bunch of fish."

Making Fritts' catch even more impressive was the fact that he fought through massive waves to land his limit,

which made not only the fishing tougher, but also negatively affected the school he had found.

"The wind killed me today. Really, it blew out some of my best stuff and made it just so difficult to make precise casts and then to fight fish that are hooked. If it lays down tomorrow, it will probably be better for everyone."

In addition to leading

ELITE | 5

# GOLF

FROM PAGE 1

coming up short.

"We all appreciate Mr. Vowels and Bill have done to improve the course. It really shows."

Kay Gorham, who captured the women's title, agreed with the assessment of the course.

"The course is in real good shape considering all the rain we've had," she said. "Our Superintendent, Mr. Davis, is top-notch. One night we had four inches of rain and another

night 3.5 inches. We're very lucky for all the support we have out here."

She said she had a great time playing in the event and thought it was a great event.

"I think we need to support the clubs in the summer and whatever anybody can do to participate for the longer-term or year-round residents, it's positive," she said.

The next qualifying tournament for the Heartland Golf Championship will take place Saturday, July 7 at Sebring Golf Club.



ALLEN MOODY/STAFF

Edd Vowels, owner of Spring Lake Golf Resort, tees off in the Heartland Golf Championship, presented by the Highlands News-Sun on Saturday.



Fred Brune tees off during the Heartland Golf Championship qualifying event at Spring Lake Golf Resort on Saturday.

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# State bowling tournament takes place



SHARON WEATHERHEAD/CORRESPONDENT

Local team, "Fire Truck" – from left; Nic Watson, John Weatherhead, Alex Arnaout and Ted Watson. Angi Watson is in the front.

**BY SHARON WEATHERHEAD**  
CORRESPONDENT

At this time Highlands County is without a location for local bowlers to hone their skills. However, that doesn't stop them from enjoying their sport. Some of the local bowlers now travel to Bowl of Fun lanes in Wauchula or to Cypress Lanes in Winter Haven.

Many bowlers enjoy the fun, travel and challenge of bowling the state tournament. This year, the 84th annual Florida State Open Championship was held at AMF Lakeland Lanes in Lakeland and at Cypress Lanes in Winter Haven.

"We had a great turnout again this year," said Bob Peters, tournament director with the Florida State USBC Bowling Association. "We had nearly 4,000 entries this year, just like the last four years."

The Sebring bowlers are part of the Orange Belt association of the USBC (United States Bowling Congress). AMF Lakeland Lanes hosted the doubles and singles portion of the tournament; Cypress Lanes was the location for the team bowling event.

Peters explained the rules before each squad of bowling, "Remember the 10-pin average rule. Also note that all (bowling) averages are verified before payout. You must wear a collared shirt and have a photo ID and your USBC card to check in."

To some, bowling is a fun game; to others, bowling is a sport. The lanes are professionally 'dressed' before the start of play with a specific lane oil pattern. Bowlers learn to 'read' the lanes in order to use the pattern to their advantage.

If you are a serious bowler, this sport requires an investment. Equipment includes shoes, balls, ball carrier (bag), rosin bag, grip tape, finger inserts, bowling glove or wrist support, shoe covers, cleaner and microfiber towels.

Bowling balls are made of various materials, such as urethane and reactive cover stock for the main shot. Balls react differently to lane conditions based on what they are made of. Some balls used for spare shooting only, may primarily be plastic.

Balls such as the 'Hammer Fierce Phobia'



Players compete at Cypress Lanes in Winter Haven.

and the 'Storm Soniq' run around \$200. Shoes with interchangeable soles (for different lane conditions) cost around \$150. Quality equipment is expensive.

Bowling a 'perfect

game', 12 consecutive strikes in a single 10-frame game, is a very difficult accomplishment. Approximately 13 participants bowled a 300 game during the tournament, while

another eight rolled 299 games. The highest series (a three game set) is a 900. Several bowlers had a series over 800.

"Fire Truck" is one of the local teams from



The AMF Lakeland Lanes monitor puts up the names of local players at the state bowling tournament.

Sebring bowling in the tournament. The bowlers were Nic Watson, John Weatherhead, Ted Watson, Alex Arnaout and Angi Watson. This team travels together each year to participate in the tournament.

The team did very well and hopes to place in the cash range. With nearly 4,000 entries, this is a

possibility. The tournament ran from May 5th – June 24th. Final official scores have not been released yet.

Bowlers attended from all over the state including Sarasota, Miami, Jacksonville and Ft. Myers.

"Next year the 85th annual tournament is in Jacksonville," said Peters.



Tournament Director Bob Peters explaining the tournament rules at AMF Lakeland Lanes.



AMF Lakeland Lanes.

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# CORE

FROM PAGE 1

seven minutes, 57.148 seconds in an electric Volkswagen race car.

Dane Cameron posted the day's second-fastest time, which led the morning practice session at 1:33.562 (130.822 mph) in the No. 6 Acura Team Penske Acura ARX-05 DPi machine he shares with co-driver Juan Pablo Montoya. Coincidentally, it was Montoya who last led a WeatherTech Championship practice in an LMP2 machine, when he paced the morning warm-up session prior to the 2017 WeatherTech Championship season finale at Road Atlanta.

Richard Westbrook, a winner at Watkins Glen in 2014, 2015 and 2016, led both GT Le Mans (GTLM) sessions on Friday, with his best time of 1:42.886 (118.966 mph) coming in the afternoon session aboard the No. 67 Ford Chip Ganassi Racing Ford GT he shares with Ryan Briscoe.

Sheldon van der Linde was quickest on the day in the GT Daytona (GTD) class in the No. 29 Montaplast by Land Motorsport Audi R8 LMS. His best time, which also came in the afternoon session, was a 1:45.142 (116.413 mph). Van der Linde, co-driver Christopher Mies and the Land team is competing in its first WeatherTech Championship race since the Mobil 1 Twelve Hours of Sebring Presented by Advance Auto Parts.

The Sahlen's Six Hours of The Glen will be televised live on FS1 beginning at 9:30 a.m. ET on Sunday. Live IMSA Radio coverage also is available on IMSA.com, RadioLeMans.com and SiriusXM Radio.

WeatherTech was well represented in the GTE Am class at the 24 Hours of Le Mans with a pair of Ferraris carrying the familiar logo.

The No. 84 JMW Motorsport Ferrari 488 GTE shared by Cooper MacNeil, Jeff Segal and Liam Griffin sported a white WeatherTech livery similar to what the No. 63 Scuderia Corsa Ferrari team uses



ALLEN MOODY/STAFF

The No. 6 Acura Team Penske Acura placed second on the practice charts at Watkins Glen.



The No. 36 CJ Wilson Acura leads the No. 99 JDC-Miller Motorsports Prototype at Sebring International Raceway.

in the WeatherTech Championship GTD class. In addition, the red No. 85 Keating Motorsports Ferrari shared by Ben Keating, Jeroen Bleekemolen and Luca Stolz also carried the logo.

WeatherTech got considerable screen time during the race telecast, as both cars ran among the leaders through

much of the race. In the end, the No. 85 team finished on the podium in third, with the No. 84 fifth.

"Having two Ferrari 488s at Le Mans with the WeatherTech livery was very cool," said MacNeil. "I think WeatherTech had the most presence/identity of any two cars in the race. The combination of bringing

our brand to Europe as well as supporting IMSA with our [WeatherTech Championship-branded] coaster giveaway at the parade to get both logos in front of the enthusiastic Le Mans fans.

"Both cars were well received and to have one on the podium and the other finish in the top five made for a very successful week in France."

A year after MacNeil stood on the Le Mans podium for the first time, Keating got the same experience this year with his third-place performance.

"This was my fourth Le Mans ever, and my first podium," Keating said. "This year and last year, I have been with WeatherTech. We were stablemates with WeatherTech in IMSA last year, and that fostered a great relationship with those guys. They've been a great partner for being able to go over there and pull off a run at Le Mans.

"It was just a really special experience. It was the first time in that race where I really felt like, 'We've got a shot' and that's a nice feeling to have when you're making the huge investment of time and money, and just blood, sweat and tears to make it over there for that race."

The No. 36 CJ Wilson Acura NSX GT3 is back in action at the Sahlen's Six Hours of The Glen with co-drivers Marc Miller and Till Bechtolsheimer. It is the team's

second WeatherTech Championship race ever and its first since the Mobil 1 Twelve Hours of Sebring Presented by Advance Auto Parts in March.

"We're just trying to shake off the cobwebs a little bit," said team owner C.J. Wilson, the former Major League Baseball pitcher. "I think a lot of the other teams have had a chance to get to know their cars a little bit better and we're still maybe a step behind. We made good progress today.

"We got to the point where we introduced different things by trying to push the setup and Till and Marc both had a lot of really good laps. We got a lot of time in, so now we just have to kind of dial in the car a little bit."

Wilson and Bechtolsheimer also were at the Pikes Peak Hillclimb last weekend driving Porsche Cayman GT4 Clubsport race cars up the mountain, though not quite as quickly as Dumas. Nevertheless, Wilson thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

"I had a chance to run Pikes Peak with Porsche and it was really super sketchy hilarious," Wilson said. "I was thinking how great it would be if I was racing here (at Watkins Glen), because there's no cliffs to fall off. People say, 'Man, the guardrails are really close at Watkins Glen,' but they're there. They're there to catch you if you push a little too far.

"It was a little bit uncomfortable, because on the actual race day, it snowed, it sleeted, it was windy, it was foggy, it was a little bit of everything that you wouldn't want to necessarily drive in, but it just sort of adds to the adventure. I'd love to go back and do it again if possible."



The No. 63 WeatherTech Ferrari races at Sebring.



The No. 67 Ford GT had the fastest practice time among GTLM cars at Watkins Glen.



The No. 29 Montaplast by Land Motorsport Audi paced the GTD entries and is competing in its first race since Sebring.

# ELITE

FROM PAGE 1

the tournament, Fritts also weighed in the Phoenix Boats Big Bass of the day. The 4-11 small-mouth was the first bass he caught this morning. If that fish holds on as big bass for the next three days, Fritts will earn \$1,500.

Mark Daniels Jr. landed 18-12 to take the second place spot after the scales closed on Day 1. "I had a pretty good practice, but didn't think I had found an 18-pound limit. So, I'm pretty jacked," Daniels said. "The wind

was brutal. There were easy 5-footers out there, and I ran 50 miles north. But, it looks like the effort was worth it."

His effort included targeting fish that were both shallow and deep, but he declined to offer more details until after the tournament concludes.

"Although there are a ton of fish in this lake, it seems like they are in very specific areas. So, you can't just run down the bank and catch 'em. I'm thinking my area has the fish to duplicate today's weight, but I'm not sure how it would hold up to three or four days of pressure."

Reigning Bassmaster

Classic Champion Jordan Lee sits in the third place spot just a few ounces behind Daniels. Lee weighing in 18-9.

"I caught all the fish on a little spot I found in practice, and it wasn't all that good, but it was the best thing I found. Today, the conditions really changed, and the wind blew and that spot got better. But, conditions will change again tomorrow and I don't know what those fish might do," Lee admitted. "I hope they stay there

and bite again." Rounding out the Top 6 for Day 1 are Josh Bertrand, 18-8; Justin Lucas, 17-5; and Casey

Ashley, 17-0. This marks the first time for B.A.S.S. — the world's largest fishing organization — to hold

a professional bass tournament on the massive, 370,000-acre impoundment of the Missouri River.

Daily takeoffs will occur each competition day from the Spring Creek Resort & Marina, and weigh-ins will be held at Steamboat Park in Pierre at 3:45 p.m.

The Bassmaster Elite Series Outdoors Expo will be held in conjunction with the tournament. The Expo will take place at Steamboat Park today beginning at noon. The expo will feature boat demo rides, an aquarium, free prizes and the latest fishing products on the market. All activities are free and open to the public.

For more information, visit Bassmaster.com.



SEIGO SAITO/B.A.S.S. PHOTO

Jordan Lee competing on the first day of the Berkley Bassmaster Elite at Lake Oahe presented by Abu Garcia.



COURTESY PHOTO

Dave Douglass shows a 7.5-pound Istokpoga bass caught on a Medlock Double Brush Guard Jig.

# FISHING

FROM PAGE 1

the midmorning hours.

**The Major Fishing Period:** Today the moon is underfoot at 4:16 p.m. and dissolved oxygen levels are highest at this time so, I am predicting fish trigger on the day's oxygen production and feed in thriving vegetation from 4-8 p.m. at an intensity rating of 2-4. This period should remain the same for the first half of this week.

**The Minor Fishing Period:** Since the lunar influence is low, fish will default back to solar noon as a feeding trigger, which today occurs at 1:30 p.m. Therefore fishing 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. could produce a feed rating of 2-3. This feeding period will remain consistent for the next four days.

**Prime Monthly Periods:** July 10-16, super new moon; July 24-29, weak full moon; August 8-13, super new moon; August 24-28, full moon.

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**Seasonal Safety Notes:** Alligators are in their 'mating season' which occurs from April through August. Males are very aggressive and dangerous so be alert. Expect gators to be in your pools and other areas near small waterways, or in other words, 'where they usually are not', so scan areas for gator activity.

Istokpoga.info News: The lake level is at 38.18 feet above sea level, which is slightly below the maximum level of 38.25 feet in the nine-inch management-threshold range for July. The minimum level for the beginning of July is 37.50 feet but it will be raised six inches over the

next six-weeks.

The seasonal 'rainy season-buffer schedule' is necessary because the lake fills six times faster than water is able to be released during major rain events. Currently three of four S68 spillway gates are open 20 inches and flowing a combined 1,320 cubic feet per second.

Fishing the Istokpoga spillway? Visit Istokpoga.info website and click on the links to the South Florida Water Mgmt. (SFWMD) real time S68 and S68X spillway gates status webpage. You'll find water level and flow status data of all water way structures from Kissimmee to Clewiston. Also provided is a link to the Army Corps of Engineers' graphical plot, annual water-management schedule website link.

Access this article online using, FloridaLakesFishingForecast.com or BassFishingForecast.com.

**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 online 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 package options, from 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](http://HighlandsBassAngler.com) for complete details. Phone: 863-381-8474. Email: [DavidPDouglass@hotmail.com](mailto:DavidPDouglass@hotmail.com).

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# Porsche 919 Hybrid Evo smashes Nurburgring track record

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

Friday morning Porsche factor driver Timo Bernhard lapped the 12.94-mile Nurburgring Nordschleife race circuit in 5 minutes, 19.55 seconds. This resulted in an average speed of 145.3 miles-per-hour on what is revered by race drivers, engineers and enthusiasts alike as the world's most difficult track. Driving the Porsche 919 Hybrid Evo, Bernhard beat the previous lap record, set by Stefan Bellof, by 51.58 seconds.

For 35 years and 31 days Bellof's 6:11.13 minutes record remained uncontested. The German driver from Gießen, who tragically died at



PORSCHE AG PHOTO

Porsche celebrates after the Porsche Hybrid 919 Evo broke a track record at Nurburgring by more than 50 seconds on Friday. The standard Porsche 919 Hybrid will race at Sebring in March.

Spa-Francorchamps in 1985, was counted as the biggest racing talent of his time. He set his record on May 28, 1983 at the wheel of a powerful 620 horsepower Rothmans Porsche 956 C during

practice for the 1000-kilometer WEC sports car race. Also his average speed was over 200 kilometers-per-hour

Bernhard, a five-time overall winner of the Nürburgring 24-hours,

two-time outright winner of the Le Mans 24-hours and reigning World Endurance Champion with the Porsche 919 Hybrid, clambered out of the tight Le Mans prototype cockpit. "This

is a great moment for me and for the entire team — the 919 program's icing on the cake. The Evo was perfectly prepared and I have done my best on this lap. Thanks to the aerodynamic downforce, at sections I never imagined you can stay on full throttle.

"I'm pretty familiar with the Nordschleife. But today I got to learn it in a new way."

Bernhard is a huge admirer of Bellof. In 2015, on the 13th anniversary of Bellof's fatal accident, he raced at the Spa-Francorchamps 6-hour race of the FIA World Endurance Championship with a helmet carrying the famous black-red-gold

design of the 1980s star. "For me Stefan Bellof is and remains a giant", Bernhard said. "Today my respect for his achievement with the technology available back then increased even more."

The Evo version of the Porsche 919 Hybrid is based on the car that took outright victory at the Le Mans 24-Hours and won the FIA World Endurance Championship in 2015, 2016 and 2017. Over the winter, it was freed from some restrictions determined by the regulations.

Its hybrid power train now develops a system output of 1,160 horsepower. Top speed at Nurburgring was 229.5 miles-per-hour.

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## Trump claims Saudi Arabia will boost oil production

By **KEN THOMAS** and **JON GAMBRELL**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BERKELEY HEIGHTS, N.J. — President Donald Trump said Saturday that he had received assurances from King Salman of Saudi Arabia that the kingdom will increase oil production, “maybe up to 2,000,000 barrels” in response to turmoil in Iran and Venezuela. Saudi Arabia acknowledged the call took place, but mentioned no production targets.

Trump wrote on Twitter that he had asked the king in a phone call to boost oil production “to make up the difference... Prices to (sic) high! He has agreed!”

A little over an hour later, the state-run Saudi Press Agency reported on the call, but offered few details.

“During the call, the two leaders stressed the need to make efforts to maintain the stability of oil markets and the growth of the global economy,” the statement said.

Saudi Arabia says that King Salman has spoken to President Donald Trump, but gave no mention of the 2 million barrels of extra production the American leader tweeted about earlier in the day.

A statement on the state-run Saudi Press Agency on Saturday afternoon said: “During the call, the two leaders stressed the need to make efforts to maintain the stability of oil markets and the growth of the global economy.”

It added that there also was an understanding that oil-producing countries would need “to compensate for any potential shortage of supplies.” It did not elaborate.

Oil prices have edged higher as the Trump administration has pushed allies to end all purchases of oil from Iran following the U.S. pulling out of the nuclear deal between Tehran and world powers. Prices also have risen with ongoing unrest in Venezuela and fighting in Libya over control of that country’s oil infrastructure.

Last week, members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries cartel led by Saudi Arabia and non-cartel

OIL | 4

## ‘We care’: Family separation protests flood US cities

By **ELLEN KNICKMEYER**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS



AP PHOTOS

Activists, including one holding a “Star Wars”-themed sign, gather during a rally to protest the Trump administration’s approach to illegal border crossings and separation of children from immigrant parents Saturday, in Salt Lake City.



Deborah Langerman and Cara Hwang push a cart to a protest of the Trump administration’s approach to illegal border crossings and separation of children from immigrant parents at the Statehouse, Saturday, in Indianapolis.

WASHINGTON — They wore white. They shook their fists in the air. They carried signs reading: “No more children in cages,” and “What’s next? Concentration Camps?”

In major cities and tiny towns, hundreds of thousands of marchers gathered Saturday across America, moved by accounts of children separated from their parents at the U.S.-Mexico border, in the latest act of mass resistance against President Donald Trump’s immigration policies.

Protesters flooded more than 700 marches, from immigrant-friendly cities like New York and Los Angeles to conservative Appalachia and Wyoming. They gathered on the front lawn of a Border Patrol station in McAllen, Texas, near a detention center where migrant children were being held in cages, and on a street corner near Trump’s golf resort at Bedminster, New Jersey, where the president is spending the weekend.

“Do you know where our children are?” one protester’s sign there asked. Another offered: “Even the Trump family belongs together.”

Trump has backed away from the family separation policy amid bipartisan and international uproar, and those marching Saturday demanded the government quickly reunite the families that were already divided.

In the president’s hometown of New York City, an estimated 30,000 marchers poured across the Brooklyn Bridge in sweltering 90-degree heat, some carrying their children on their shoulders, chanting, “Shame!” Drivers honked their horns in support.

“It’s important for this administration to know that these policies that rip apart families — that treat people as less than human, like they’re vermin — are not the way of God, they are not the law of love,” said the Rev. Julie Hoplemazian, an

PROTEST | 4

## Evangelical leaders downplay potential Roe v. Wade reversal

By **STEVE PEOPLES**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — For evangelical Christian leaders like Jerry Falwell Jr., this is their political holy grail.

Like many religious conservatives in a position to know, the Liberty University president with close ties to the White House suspects that the Supreme Court vacancy

President Donald Trump fills in the coming months will ultimately lead to the reversal of the landmark abortion case Roe v. Wade. But instead of celebrating publicly, some evangelical leaders are downplaying their fortune on an issue that has defined their movement for decades.

“What people don’t understand is that if you overturn Roe v. Wade, all that does is give

the states the right to decide whether abortion is legal or illegal,” Falwell told The Associated Press in an interview. “My guess is that there’d probably be less than 20 states that would make abortion illegal if given that right.”

Falwell added: “In the ‘70s, I don’t know how many states had abortion illegal before Roe v. Wade, but it won’t be near as many this time.”

The sentiment, echoed by evangelical leaders across the country this past week, underscores the delicate politics that surround a moment many religious conservatives have longed for. With the retirement of swing vote Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy, Trump and his Republican allies in the Senate plan to install a conservative justice who could re-define the law of the land on

some of the nation’s most explosive policy debates — none bigger than abortion.

And while these are the very best of times for the religious right, social conservatives risk a powerful backlash from their opponents if they cheer too loudly. Women’s groups have already raised the alarm for their constituents, particularly

REVERSAL | 4

## Fear turns into joy: Rescue boat saves 60 in Mediterranean

By **RENATA BRITO** and **FRANCES D’EMILIO**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ABOARD THE OPEN ARMS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA — The full moon was the only light as a terrified 9-year-old boy from Central African Republic climbed into a rubber dinghy held together with duct tape, risking death in the dark waters off Libya along with his parents and 57 other trafficked migrants.

After a long night on the Mediterranean Sea, a Spanish rescue boat spotted them on the horizon after dawn.

“People were screaming, I was afraid,” said the boy, Krisley Dokouada. “But after seeing the rescue boat, I knew there was no more danger.”

Their savior Saturday was the Open Arms, which became the third rescue ship run by humanitarian aid groups to draw the

ire of Italy’s anti-migrant interior minister, Matteo Salvini. He has vowed that Italy’s new populist government will no longer allow such rescue boats to dock in Italy, which has taken in hundreds of thousands of migrants rescued at sea in the last few years.

Malta then angrily rebuffed Salvini’s claim that the tiny Mediterranean nation was closest to the rescue ship and should give it safe harbor.

That left Open Arms, operated by the Spanish group Proactiva Open Arms, relieved that all were safely rescued but without knowing where or when the boat will reach land.

Later Saturday, in an unrelated rescue much further west, Spanish authorities reported saving another 63 people trying to reach the country’s southern coast from North Africa.

While European



AP PHOTO

Migrants aboard a rubber dinghy off the Libyan coast are provided of life vests by rescuers aboard the Open Arms aid boat, of Proactiva Open Arms Spanish NGO, Saturday.

politicians bickered about where the migrants should go, those rescued by the Open Arms were jubilant — jumping, chanting and hugging their rescuers.

Krisley’s tensions melted when he was allowed to sit for a few minutes in the captain’s seat.

For months, his family had lived in Libya, while they awaited their chance to make the Mediterranean crossing. His mother, Judith Dokouada, said she never left the shelter for fear of being kidnapped or sold as a slave, a fate many

African migrants have spoken of to human rights advocates.

“There is war at home. They kill people, they beat people, they rape women, they kill boys,” said Dokouada, 32.

She and her husband want to raise Krisley in a

safer place.

Another of those rescued, Bitcha Honoree, said he knew the risk he was taking when he boarded the dinghy in the middle of the night.

The 39-year-old man from Cameroon said that he was sold twice as a slave, kidnapped and tortured in Libya while awaiting his chance to get aboard a smuggler’s boat. His brother sold his home in order to pay the ransom demanded by his captors in largely lawless Libya.

Many have died on the dangerous crossing. The U.N. refugee agency says 1,137 migrants are estimated to have died on Mediterranean so far this year. And that does not include the 100 migrants reported missing and feared dead at sea Friday off the coast of Libya.

A few hours after the Open Arms rescue Saturday, Salvini declared that the Spanish rescue

RESCUE | 4

# Weed, Trump and teacher pay: This week in Florida politics

By **BRENDAN FARRINGTON, GARY FINEOUT and JOE REEDY**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**TALLAHASSEE** — Florida's 2018 midterm election is one of the most important in years. The governor's office and all three Cabinet seats are on the ballot, Republican Gov. Rick Scott is challenging three-term Democratic U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson, several congressional seats will be competitive, and Floridians will vote on 13 proposed constitutional amendments, ranging from property tax cuts to banning greyhound racing. The following are items of political interest from the past week:

## HE'S IN THEIR HEADS

Do you think President Donald Trump will be a factor in Florida's election? If you say yes, you're

right. Yes, Democrats are complaining about the president and trying to create a blue wave. But Republicans like Trump, and the two top candidates running for governor know it. In the first debate between U.S. Rep. Ron DeSantis and Agriculture Commissioner Adam Putnam, Trump was mentioned by name or as "the president" more than 50 times. That's not including Trump being referred to as "he." DeSantis, who is endorsed by Trump, evoked the president's name more often, roughly twice as much as Putnam.

## TRY, TRY AGAIN

Personal injury lawyer John Morgan passed on a chance to run for governor, but the man who led the effort to

get medical marijuana legalized in Florida says he's going to try to put some other issues on the ballot in 2020. Morgan said he plans to push for constitutional amendments to raise the minimum wage to \$15 an hour and to legalize recreational marijuana. Morgan said last year that he would not push to get recreational pot legalized, but after seeing Gov. Rick Scott and the Department of Health's handling of medical marijuana, he has changed his mind. "The slow play on implementing medical marijuana is so bad that you have to think it is intentional," Morgan said. "Rick Scott has made the decision that he wants things done his way or they won't be done at all. He's not upholding the law with the constitutional amendment. He's

breaking it." Morgan is also well versed in the process of getting referendums on the state ballot. His medical marijuana proposal fell just shy in 2014 of the 60 percent it needed to be implemented. Two years later, it was approved by 72 percent of voters. "I made 1,000 mistakes in 2014. I learned from those and we got it passed in 2016," he said. **CAN TEACHERS BE AVERAGE?** The Florida Education Association is asking that legislative candidates and candidates for governor take a pledge: Make us average, at least when it comes to teacher pay. The union that represents the state's teachers this week asked those running for state office to support budgets that would raise Florida's teacher salaries to the

national average by 2023. Florida's teacher salaries currently rank near the bottom nationally and union leaders say that some teachers require extra jobs to help pay their bills. "No one should spend all day teaching our children and then have to go to a second job just to get by," said Joanne McCall, the FEA president. The FEA has set up a website to keep track of those politicians who agree to the pledge. Four of the main Democratic candidates for governor have signed the pledge as have several legislators. So far no Republicans have agreed to the pledge. Republicans have routinely clashed with the FEA over private school vouchers, charter schools and other initiatives. McCall said that local teachers plan to

meet with legislative candidates face to face and ask them to join the effort. "We want them to look them in the eye and say 'they are not worth a living wage,'" said McCall. **QUOTES OF THE WEEK** "I care more about the other St. Petersburg, St. Petersburg, Florida," Putnam during a debate with DeSantis, who has often gone on Fox News to defend Trump and criticize the probe into Russia meddling in the 2016 election. "I am not in favor in Florida of doing recreational marijuana because I remember in high school that was the number one reason why some of the people I went to school with ended up falling out and didn't do good in school, didn't do good in sports," DeSantis.

## HEADLINES AROUND THE STATE

**Police: Man confesses to killing pregnant wife, dad-in-law**  
FORT LAUDERDALE (AP) — Authorities say a Florida man charged with fatally shooting his pregnant wife texted from her cellphone to make it seem like she was still alive. Fort Lauderdale police say 20-year-old Martine Bernard's body was found earlier this month in an alley behind the home she shared with her husband, 22-year-old Cassandritz Blanc. Bernard was six months

pregnant. The Sun Sentinel reports Blanc is charged with first-degree murder for his wife's death. Authorities say Blanc told them he shot his wife for disrespecting him and also confessed to killing her father. Roosevelt Bernard' body was found in a field near the residence. Police said it had been set on fire. Authorities say Blanc tried to dismember his wife's body and left her remains in their apartment for eight days. He's being held without bond.

**Small plane crashes after running out of fuel**  
PINE LOG (AP) — A single-engine plane has crashed on a Florida road after running out of fuel. Bay County Sheriff's officials say the plane landed upside down Saturday near Pine Log and West Bay and is leaking fuel. The front tire appears to have sunk in the sand. Authorities say the pilot was not injured and was able to speak with deputies when they arrived on scene. The News Herald

reports the Cessna had flown from Destin to Deland and was heading to Panama City Beach. **Woman fatally shoots herself during traffic stop**  
FORT LAUDERDALE (AP) — Authorities are investigating after a Florida woman fatally shot herself during a routine traffic stop. Broward Sheriff's deputies say they pulled over Gabrielle Holley this week for driving with an expired tag. As the deputy approached her vehicle, Holley shot herself.

**UCF professor charged with stalking student**  
ORLANDO (AP) — Authorities say a Florida college professor stalked a student, following her around and messaging her hundreds of times a day. A University of Central Florida police report says 39-year-old Ali Borji, an assistant computer science professor, was arrested Thursday at his on-campus office and charged with two misdemeanor stalking counts. The victim told police that she had met Borji

last June while she was working on her Ph.D. and they dated for a short time before she decided to end it. Authorities say Borji continued to message and seek out the woman in person. The woman told police she eventually moved out of state last fall to get away from Borji. When she returned for the spring semester, she says the stalking resumed. The university says Borji has resigned and been banned from the campus. Borji was being held on \$1,000 bail. Jail records didn't list an attorney.

TODAY / TONIGHT	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
A shower and t-storm around <b>HIGH 91°</b> 60% chance of rain	Partly sunny, a stray t-storm in the p.m. <b>92° / 75°</b> 45% chance of rain	Mostly cloudy and humid; a p.m. t-storm <b>91° / 74°</b> 60% chance of rain	Variable clouds, a t-storm in the p.m. <b>91° / 75°</b> 50% chance of rain	Partly sunny and humid; a p.m. t-storm <b>92° / 76°</b> 55% chance of rain	Chance for an afternoon thunderstorm <b>93° / 75°</b> 30% chance of rain

**86° GULF WATER TEMPERATURE**

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

FLORIDA CITIES	
City	Today Mon.
Apalachicola	87 78 t 89 77 t
Bradenton	89 77 t 90 77 t
Clearwater	89 77 t 90 77 t
Coral Springs	91 78 t 91 76 pc
Daytona Beach	88 73 t 89 73 pc
Fort Lauderdale	89 79 t 90 76 pc
Fort Myers	92 75 t 92 75 t
Gainesville	89 72 t 92 73 t
Jacksonville	88 72 t 91 72 t
Key Largo	88 77 t 88 78 t
Key West	89 81 pc 89 80 t
Lakeland	90 75 t 92 73 t
Melbourne	91 77 t 90 76 pc
Miami	89 78 t 89 75 t
Naples	92 76 t 91 77 t
Ocala	87 71 t 90 70 t
Okeechobee	89 73 t 89 72 t
Orlando	90 73 t 91 72 t
Panama City	85 74 t 86 76 t
Pensacola	87 73 t 84 76 t
Pompano Beach	90 79 t 90 77 pc
St. Augustine	86 73 t 87 73 pc
St. Petersburg	89 75 t 89 72 t
Sarasota	89 77 t 91 75 t
Tallahassee	85 72 t 90 72 t
Tampa	88 79 t 91 76 t
West Beach	90 75 pc 90 75 pc
Verde Palm Beach	88 76 t 88 74 pc

TIDES	
High	Low
<b>Punta Gorda</b>	Today 7:13a 12:35a 4:57p 10:54a
Mon. 7:40a 1:10a 5:40p 11:49a	
<b>Englewood</b>	Today 5:50a 9:10a 3:34p 11:26p
Mon. 6:17a 10:05a 4:17p ---	
<b>Boca Grande</b>	Today 5:18a 7:41a 1:54p 10:16p
Mon. 5:58a 8:29a 2:27p 10:53p	
<b>El Jobean</b>	Today 7:45a 1:04a 5:29p 11:23a
Mon. 8:12a 1:39a 6:12p 12:18p	
<b>Venice</b>	Today 4:05a 7:49a 1:49p 10:05p
Mon. 4:32a 8:44a 2:32p 10:41p	

MARINE	
Wind	Seas
SW 4-8	0-1 Light
<b>Cape Sable to Tarpon Springs</b>	SW 4-8 0-1 Light
<b>Tarpon Springs to Apalachicola</b>	SSW 6-12 1-2 Light

SUN AND MOON	
The Sun	Rise Set
Today	6:38 a.m. 8:27 p.m.
Monday	6:38 a.m. 8:27 p.m.
Today	11:03 p.m. 9:30 a.m.
Monday	11:40 p.m. 10:22 a.m.

**THE NATION** Publication date: 07/1/18

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.

**U.S. Extremes** (For the 48 contiguous states yesterday)  
High ..... 100° at Needles, CA Low ..... 31° at Dillon, CO

City	Today	Mon.	City	Today	Mon.
Albuquerque	92 65 pc 94 66 s	Jackson, MS	94 72 t 90 71 t		
Anchorage	66 52 pc 68 55 s	Kansas City	84 66 pc 91 71 s		
Atlanta	85 71 t 86 72 t	Knoxville	87 72 t 87 71 t		
Baltimore	98 74 pc 98 74 pc	Las Vegas	106 83 s 107 79 s		
Billings	78 56 pc 77 54 pc	Los Angeles	77 61 pc 76 62 pc		
Birmingham	88 71 t 87 71 t	Louisville	93 77 pc 90 76 t		
Boise	86 57 s 81 50 pc	Memphis	96 76 s 96 74 t		
Boston	88 69 s 84 72 t	Millwaukee	89 68 t 80 65 s		
Buffalo	91 76 pc 91 74 t	Minneapolis	81 67 sh 88 69 pc		
Burlington, VT	94 77 pc 97 76 s	Montgomery	87 71 t 88 70 t		
Charleston, WV	95 72 s 93 71 t	Nashville	93 73 t 93 71 t		
Charlotte	91 73 pc 93 73 pc	New Orleans	93 79 t 89 76 t		
Chicago	93 73 t 86 69 t	New York City	98 77 pc 91 76 pc		
Cincinnati	93 75 pc 90 72 t	Norfolk, VA	93 75 s 92 75 pc		
Cleveland	95 75 pc 91 73 t	Oklahoma City	89 72 t 94 72 pc		
Columbia, SC	93 74 t 95 74 s	Omaha	83 64 s 89 70 s		
Columbus, OH	95 76 pc 89 73 t	Philadelphia	100 77 pc 98 76 pc		
Concord, NH	93 65 s 91 69 s	Phoenix	105 78 s 107 81 s		
Dallas	101 77 s 101 79 s	Pittsburgh	94 72 pc 92 72 t		
Denver	88 59 pc 94 61 s	Portland, ME	83 62 pc 76 65 s		
Des Moines	83 64 sh 88 70 s	Portland, OR	75 55 pc 71 53 pc		
Detroit	94 78 pc 90 75 t	Providence	94 70 s 88 70 s		
Duluth	73 60 t 84 64 pc	Raleigh	94 73 pc 96 72 s		
Fairbanks	72 53 sh 72 52 pc	Salt Lake City	88 65 s 95 66 s		
Fargo	84 59 s 89 69 t	St. Louis	96 75 t 91 75 pc		
Hartford	100 73 s 96 70 t	San Antonio	101 74 s 101 75 s		
Helena	76 51 pc 73 49 pc	San Diego	72 64 pc 72 64 pc		
Honolulu	87 76 pc 88 76 c	San Francisco	77 60 pc 75 59 pc		
Houston	91 75 pc 96 76 t	Seattle	70 52 c 70 51 c		
Indianapolis	92 75 pc 89 73 t	Washington, DC	99 78 pc 97 78 pc		

**PORT CHARLOTTE**  
Punta Gorda through 2 p.m. Saturday

**Temperatures**  
High/Low 89°/78°  
Normal High/Low 92°/73°  
Record High 98° (1973)  
Record Low 66° (1981)

**Precipitation** (in inches)  
24 hours through 2 p.m. Sat. 0.04"  
Month to date 5.89"  
Normal month to date 8.92"  
Year to date 26.19"  
Normal year to date 20.96"  
Record 4.96" (1991)

**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.	0.53	0.80	3.28	9.26/1970
Apr.	1.15	1.59	2.03	5.80/1994
May	15.98	2.74	2.50	15.98/2018
Jun.	5.89	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	26.19	60.36	50.74	(since 1931)

Totals are from a 24-hour period ending at 5 p.m.

**SEBRING**  
Sebring through 2 p.m. Saturday

**Temperatures**  
High/Low 89°/73°

**Precipitation** (in inches)  
24 hours through 2 p.m. Sat. 0.20"

**AIRPORT**  
Possible weather-related delays today. Check with your airline for the most updated schedules.

Hi/Lo	Outlook	Delays
Pt. Myers	92/75	storms afternoon
Punta Gorda	92/77	storms afternoon
Sarasota	89/77	storms all day

**CONDITIONS TODAY**  
UV Index and RealFeel Temperature® Today

86 94 101 102 97 94

8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m.

The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection. 0-2 Low; 3-5 Moderate; 6-7 High; 8-10 Very High; 11+ Extreme.

**POLLEN INDEX**  
Pollen Index readings as of Saturday

Trees absent  
Grass low  
Weeds moderate  
Molds high

absent low moderate high very high

Source: National Allergy Bureau

**AIR QUALITY INDEX**  
Air Quality Index readings as of Saturday

30

0-50 Good; 51-100 Moderate; 101-150 Unhealthy for sensitive groups; 151-200 Unhealthy; 201-300 Very Unhealthy; 301-500 Hazardous

Main pollutant: Ozone  
Source: sccgov.net

**SOLAR TABLE**

Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Today	8:52a	2:40a	9:15p 3:03p
Mon.	9:43a	3:31a	10:05p 3:54p
Tue.	10:32a	4:21a	10:54p 4:43p

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

**WEATHER HISTORY**  
Heavy rain that started July 1, 1975, in eastern North Dakota caused flooding three days later on the Red River.

**WEATHER TRIVIA™**  
Q: What is the record low temperature for the lower 48 states in July?  
A: -10° F at Painter, Wyoming, on July 21, 1911.

**WORLD CITIES**

City	Today	Mon.	City	Today	Mon.
Amsterdam	80 59 s 77 57 s	Mexico City	75 56 t 75 54 t		
Baghdad	110 83 s 113 87 s	Montreal	91 74 c 97 74 t		
Beijing	94 70 s 89 72 c	Ottawa	96 73 pc 97 69 t		
Berlin	69 48 s 72 51 pc	Paris	91 66 pc 87 65 pc		
Buenos Aires	63 49 t 57 35 pc	Regina	68 50 sh 73 50 s		
Cairo	94 74 t 96 74 s	Rio de Janeiro	79 68 s 83 70 s		
Calgary	65 46 pc 56 46 sh	Rome	84 66 s 84 68 s		
Canun	88 75 pc 88 75 pc	St. John's	61 43 sh 56 44 c		
Dublin	72 51 pc 72 54 pc	San Juan	89 77 s 88 78 t		
Edmonton	65 45 c 62 47 sh	Sydney	61 49 pc 61 50 pc		
Halifax	68 57 c 69 60 c	Tokyo	87 75 s 88 76 t		
Kiev	62 49 sh 59 54 s	Toronto	94 75 s 92 71 t		
London	86 63 pc 83 59 s	Vancouver	68 55 c 67 53 pc		
Madrid	84 60 s 85 59 s	Winnipeg	79 58 t 81 61 s		

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

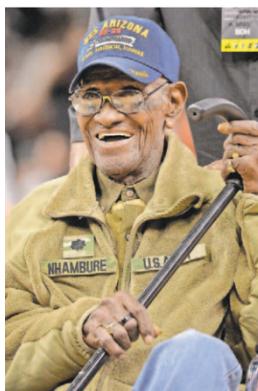
# Oldest US veteran robbed

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Someone obtained the personal information of a Texas resident who's believed to be the oldest man in the U.S. and used it to drain his bank account.

The family of Richard Overton says Social Security and banking account numbers for the 112-year-old Austin man were used to make seven withdrawals over the past several months.

Cousin Volma Overton declined to say how much was stolen but said it was a "significant amount of money." He says the money was used to purchase savings bonds. A police report was filed Friday.

The money was separate from a 2015 online campaign that raised more than \$300,000 for



FILE PHOTO

**In this March 23, 2017, file photo, Richard Overton**

Richard Overton, the nation's oldest World War II veteran who was at Pearl Harbor just after the Japanese attack.

The fundraiser provided around-the-clock, in-home care for Overton.



# Arizona honors firefighters killed by flames 5 years ago

PRESCOTT, Ariz. (AP) — Saturday marks five years since 19 wildland firefighters died in Arizona.

Prescott is honoring the men with bell tolls and by reading each of their names. A service also will be held earlier in the day at the cemetery where some of them are buried.

Most of the Granite Mountain Hotshots died June 30, 2013, after becoming trapped in a brush-choked canyon in Yarnell, about 90 miles

northwest of Phoenix.

It was the deadliest day for firefighters since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Since then, memorials have been built around town. Families have created foundations to honor the men's work. Books and a movie have been released.

Only one of the crew members survived. Brendan McDonough was serving as a lookout.

Investigators never determined exactly what led to the men's deaths.

## HEADLINES AROUND THE NATION

### California college security specialist killed, suspect shot

POMONA, Calif. (AP) — Authorities say a Southern California college public security specialist has been stabbed to death and the suspect fatally shot by police.

The Los Angeles Sheriff's Department said Saturday that the 37-year-old victim's body was found in his patrol truck Friday afternoon on the campus of Cal Poly Pomona.

Department spokeswoman Trina Schrader said witnesses found the suspect nearby and that campus police fatally shot him about 30 minutes later.

Schrader says the knife used to kill the victim was recovered. She didn't release any more details or the identities of the victim and suspect.

The public polytechnic university, east of Los Angeles, has more than 25,000 undergraduate and graduate students.

### NSA deletion of call records raising questions

WASHINGTON (AP) — The National Security Agency is deleting more than 685 million call records the government obtained since 2015 from telecommunication companies in connection with investigations. And that is raising questions about the viability of the program.

The NSA's bulk collection of call records was initially curtailed by Congress after former NSA contractor Edward Snowden leaked documents revealing

extensive government surveillance. The law, enacted in June 2015, said that going forward, the data would be retained by telecommunications companies, not the NSA, but that the intelligence agency could query the massive database.

Now the NSA is deleting all the information it collected from the queries. The agency released a statement late Thursday saying it started deleting the records in May after reports of irregularities.

### Barack Obama visits venture capital firm on California trip

Former President Barack Obama has visited a prominent Silicon Valley venture capital firm.

Andrew Chen, a general partner at Andreessen Horowitz, posted a photo on Twitter of Obama posing Friday with a large group of people, including several venture capitalists at the firm based in Menlo Park, California.

The firm on Saturday declined to comment on the reason for the visit.

Obama, while still president in 2016, was asked by Bloomberg about his post-presidency plans and mentioned Silicon Valley and pulling together his interests in science and organization.

The Office of Barack and Michelle Obama didn't immediately respond to an emailed request for comment Saturday.

Obama also headlined a Democratic fundraiser Friday in nearby Atherton.

### Police: Teacher, 70, offered 16-year-old girl iPhone for sex

CENTRAL ISLIP, N.Y. (AP) — Police say a 70-year-old Long Island math teacher gave two 16-year-old students cash for nude or revealing photos and offered one of them a top-of-the-line iPhone if she'd have sex with him.

Jairo Inswasty was charged Thursday with endangering the welfare of a child. He was immediately suspended from his teaching position at Central Islip High School.

Suffolk County police said Inswasty paid one student \$5 for a bikini photo and the other student \$150 to pose for nude photos.

Police Commissioner Geraldine Hart says Inswasty later offered the second student an iPhone X to have sex. She declined.

No phone number was listed for Inswasty. Court records did not list a lawyer who could speak on his behalf.

Inswasty's union did not immediately respond to a message.

### Pharmacy chain, Ohio Health Department sued over HIV mailing

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — A class-action lawsuit has been filed with the Ohio Court of Claims against CVS Caremark and the state Health Department over a mailing that might have publicly disclosed the identity of 6,000 HIV patients.

The Columbus Dispatch reports the lawsuit filed by a Cleveland-area attorney says the

state shared private medical information with CVS last summer without patients' authorization, allowing CVS to make a marketing pitch to non-customers about its pharmacy services.

The lawsuit says the designation "PM 6402 HIV" was visible above the name and address of recipients.

A federal lawsuit was filed against CVS in March over the mailing.

A CVS spokesman says the company takes patient information seriously and will handle future mailings differently.

A Health Department spokesman says the agency doesn't comment on pending litigation.

### Police: 8 shot at Georgia nightclub, no fatalities

ASHBURN, Ga. (AP) — At least eight people were shot at a nightclub in Georgia, but police say no one was killed.

News outlets report the shooting in Ashburn, about 160 miles south of Atlanta, happened Saturday at around 2:30 a.m. Officials are not sure if the shooting happened inside or outside the nightclub.

The victims have been taken to Tift Regional Hospital and one was airlifted to a hospital in Macon. Their conditions have not been released.

The Ashburn Police Department is investigating the shooting with the help of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. Authorities are asking anyone who was at the nightclub at the time of the shooting to call police to help give a "detailed view of what went on."

## HEADLINES AROUND THE WORLD

### Gaza officials say blast, cause unknown, kills 2 residents

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — The Palestinian Health Ministry in Gaza says a mysterious explosion has killed two residents and injured eight others, three seriously.

Local media reports said Saturday's blast rocked a house in the city's eastern neighborhood of Shejaeya. Other reports said it was a fireworks workshop.

There was no immediate comment from Hamas, the militant group that runs the territory.

The reports ruled out Israeli involvement in the incident.

Fatal work accidents, mostly in weapons manufacturing or storage facilities, are common in the territory.

### Ethiopia set to remove 3 armed groups from terror list

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (AP) — Ethiopia's cabinet has passed a resolution to remove three armed groups from a terror list as part of sweeping reforms under a new prime minister. The groups, operating mainly from neighboring Eritrea, had opposed the government that ruled Ethiopia for close to three decades.

The resolution delisting the Ogaden National Liberation Front, the Oromo Liberation Front and Ginbot 7 now goes to Parliament, the prime minister's chief of staff, Fitsum Arega, said Saturday on Twitter: "The decision will encourage groups to use peaceful political discourse to achieve political ends."

Senior figures with the groups, including British national Andargachew Tsige, were released from prison in the weeks after Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed took office in April.

Al-Qaida and the Somalia-based al-Shabab remain on Ethiopia's terror list. The five groups were listed in 2011 under Ethiopia's anti-terrorism proclamation, which the government at the time said was aimed at undercutting terror threats at home and in the region.

The cabinet also approved a law to be sent to Parliament that grants amnesty for individuals and groups either under investigation or convicted for treason, crime against the constitutional order and armed struggle.

Ethiopia's ruling coalition and affiliated parties hold all seats in Parliament.

### Mexicans welcome pre-election quiet period

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexicans are enjoying a much-needed break from the political propaganda that has engulfed them for months leading up to elections on Sunday.

Mexican law dictates that candidates and parties must cease their campaign activities three days before elections so that voters can reflect on their options.

Workers pulled down giant banners with the smiling faces of politicians that have accompanied capital dwellers for 150 days. Authorities in Mexico City said that as of Saturday they had removed more than 10 tons of roadside propaganda.

Mexicans will cast votes for posts at every level of government, including the presidency.

The campaign season was marked by lively debates, allegations of vote buying and more than 130 politicians murdered. The election has become a referendum of sorts on widespread government corruption.

### Protesters angry over 7-year-old's rape in India

NEW DELHI (AP) — Hundreds of people on Saturday blocked streets and shut down businesses in parts of central India to protest the rape of a 7-year-old girl.

The protesters demanded the death penalty for two suspects arrested on suspicion of raping the girl and trying to slit her throat with a knife on Tuesday in Mandsaur, a town in Madhya Pradesh state. The town is 425 miles southwest of New Delhi.

The girl was allegedly abducted while waiting to be picked up from school by her parents. She is in a stable condition in a hospital, police officer Manoj Kumar Singh said.

Crimes against women in India have been rising despite tougher laws. India has been shaken by a series of sexual assaults since 2012, when a student was gang-raped and murdered on a moving New Delhi bus.

The government has passed a series of laws increasing punishment for rape of an adult to 20 years in prison, but it's rare for more than a few weeks to pass without another report of a brutal sexual assault.

Responding to widespread outrage over the recent rape and killing of young girls and other attacks on children, India's government recently approved the death penalty for people convicted of raping children under 12.



SACRAMENTO ZOO VIA AP

In this photo taken Tuesday is the zoo's new baby red panda.

# California zoo vets raising neglected baby red panda

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — The newest furry member of the Sacramento Zoo is relying on human care after her mother started neglecting the tiny red panda.

Sacramento Zoo spokeswoman Laurel Vincent said Friday that the female cub was born Monday to 7-year-old Pili and 9-year-old Takeo.

Veterinarians took the 4-ounce hypothermic cub into intensive care a day after her mother left

her unattended.

Vincent says the cub, not yet named, is fed every three hours and her health is improving, but she will likely be in an incubator for months.

Red pandas are endangered, and only 50 percent of newborns survive more than a month. The zoo's most recent red panda cub died after two days.

Fewer than 10,000 red pandas remain in the wild, according to the World Wildlife Fund.

## ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD

C	A	S	P	E	R		O	L	D	H	A	N	D		S	I	G	M	A	S					
D	I	P	O	L	E		R	E	V	E	N	U	E		O	N	E	A	C	T					
S	L	I	P	I	N		D	O	R	S	A	L	F	I	N		M	E	A	N	L	Y			
							E	S	C	A	P	E	S		L	E	C	A	R	R	E				
A	L	L	T	I	M	E	R		F	I	N	N	S		S	A	L	T	B	A	T	H			
B	O	B	A	T	E	A		M	E	T	E	D		B	I	G	O	T	R	Y					
F	R	E	R	E			F	I	N	I	S	H	E	R	S			A	X	I	O	M			
A	R	R		D	R	E	A	D	S		D	O	U	B	T	S		N	U	M					
B	E	G	S		E	L	L	I	E		D	O	N	O	R	T		H	G	T	S				
							H	U	F	F	I	N	E	S		R	E	F	I	N	A	N	C	E	
							M	W	A	H								A	A	R	P				
S	E	A	M	O	N	S	T	E	R						D	E	E	P	T	H	R	E	A	T	
A	R	T		H	O	P	E	S	O		A	L	D	R	I	N		E	T	C					
C	L	E	F		G	R	E	A	T		W	H	I	T	E		G	L	I	B					
K	E	R	R	Y		A	M	I	S		N	I	T	E		P	O	B	O	Y					
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							R	A	Z	Z	E	S		S	H	A	R	K		M	A	L	I	G	N
J	A	Z	Z	U	P		D	E	A	F	E	A	R		W	O	L	F	E	D					
A	N	A	L		A	M	I	T	Y	I	S	L	A	N	D		L	I	A	R					
W	A	R	E		L	A	T	T	E		T	E	N	O	R		A	S	T	O					
S	T	D	S		I	T	S	O	K		S	L	I	M	Y		S	H	O	P					

**SAVE LIVES. GIVE BLOOD.**

## PROTEST

FROM PAGE 1

Episcopal priest marching in Brooklyn.

The families split up as they tried to enter the U.S. illegally were largely fleeing extreme violence, persecution or economic collapse in their home countries, often in Central America.

In Washington, D.C., another massive crowd gathered in Lafayette Park across from the White House in what was expected to be the largest protest of the day, stretching for hours under a searing sun. Firefighters at one point misted the crowd to help people cool off.

Lin-Manuel Miranda, creator of the musical "Hamilton," sang a lullaby dedicated to parents unable to sing to their children. Singer-songwriter Alicia Keys

read a letter written by a woman whose child had been taken away from her at the border.

Around her, thousands waved signs: "I care," some read, referencing a jacket that first lady Melania Trump wore when traveling to visit child migrants. Her jacket said, "I really don't care, do U?" and it became a rallying cry for protesters Saturday.

"We care!" marchers shouted outside Dallas City Hall. Organizer Michelle Wentz says opposition to the Trump administration's "barbaric and inhumane" policy has seemed to cross political party lines. The "zero tolerance policy" of prosecuting people caught entering the country illegally led officials to separate more than 2,000 children from their parents before being abandoned.

Trump took to Twitter to show his support for

Immigration and Customs Enforcement amid calls from some Democrats for major changes to the agency. Tweeting from New Jersey on Saturday, Trump urged ICE agents to "not worry or lose your spirit." He wrote that "the radical left Dems want you out. Next it will be all police."

Though many at the rallies were seasoned anti-Trump demonstrators, others were new to activism, including parents who said they felt compelled to act after heart-wrenching accounts of families torn apart.

Nationwide, groups came together in city parks and downtown squares, while others converged on the international bridge between El Paso, Texas, and Juarez, Mexico.

At the border, they protested what speakers described as unconstitutional overreach by the Trump administration

and heavy-handed tactics by immigration agents. They carried signs with slogans like "We are all immigrants" as they chanted "Love, not hate, makes America great."

Marchers took to the streets in Raleigh, North Carolina; Louisville, Kentucky; Pittsburgh; Houston; cities in Alaska, Hawaii and Puerto Rico, as well as Antler, North Dakota, population 27.

Steve Adelmund, a father of two, was inspired to organize a protest in rural Marshalltown, Iowa, after turning on the news on Father's Day and seeing children being separated from their families and held in cages.

"It hit me in the heart. I cried," said Adelmund, whose event drew about 125 people.

In Columbus, Ohio, at least one person was arrested when protesters blocked a downtown street, the Columbus Dispatch reported. But

most of the rallies remained peaceful.

In downtown Los Angeles, John Legend serenaded the crowd while Democratic politicians who have clashed with Trump had strong words for the president, including U.S. Rep. Maxine Waters who called for impeachment.

In Boston, a Brazilian mother separated from her 10-year-old son at the border 37 days ago approached the microphone.

"We came to the United States seeking help, and we never imagined that this could happen. So I beg everyone, please release these children, give my son back to me," she said through an interpreter and wept.

He son has pleaded with her on the phone to bring him home.

"I beg you all," she said. "Please fight and continue fighting, because we will win."

## OIL

FROM PAGE 1

members agreed to pump 1 million barrels more crude oil per day, a move that should help contain the recent rise in global energy prices. However, summer months in the U.S. usually lead to increased demand for oil, pushing up the price of gasoline in a midterm election year. A gallon of regular gasoline sold on average in the U.S. for \$2.85, up from \$2.23 a gallon last year, according to AAA.

If Trump's comments are accurate, oil analyst Phil Flynn said it could immediately knock \$2 or \$3 off a barrel of oil. But he said it's unlikely that decrease could sustain itself as demand spikes, leading prices to rise by wintertime.

"We'll need more oil down the road and there'll be nowhere to get it," said Flynn, of the Price Futures Group. "This leaves the world in kind of a vulnerable state."

Other analysts were more doubtful about immediate effects.

Trump appears to be trying to "talk the market down," said Lawrence Goldstein, who directs the Energy Policy Research Foundation. He questioned whether Trump's words would do anything to reverse the

effects on the market of declining Iranian oil production. He also noted it always takes at least two months before a change in shipping commitments affects the market.

Trump's aim may be to exert maximum pressure on Iran while at the same time not upsetting potential U.S. midterm voters with higher gas prices, said Antoine Halff, a Columbia University researcher and former chief oil analyst for the International Energy Agency.

Trump's comments came Saturday as global financial markets were closed. Brent crude stood at \$79.42 a barrel, while U.S. benchmark crude was at \$74.15.

Saudi Arabia currently produces some 10 million barrels of crude oil a day. Its record is 10.72 million barrels a day. Trump's tweet offered no time-frame for the additional 2 million barrels — whether that meant per day or per month.

However, Saudi Aramco CEO Amin Nasser told journalists in India on Monday that the state oil company has spare capacity of 2 million barrels of oil a day. That was after Saudi Energy Minister Khalid al-Falih said the kingdom would honor the OPEC decision to stick to a 1-million-barrel increase.

## REVERSAL

FROM PAGE 1

suburban women, who are poised to play an outsized role in the fight for the House majority this November.

Two-thirds of Americans do not want to see Roe v. Wade overturned, according to a poll released Friday by the nonpartisan Kaiser Family Foundation. Among women of reproductive age, three out of four want the high court ruling left alone. The poll was conducted before Kennedy's retirement was announced.

"The left is going to try very hard to say this is all about overturning Roe," said Johnnie Moore, a Southern Baptist minister who was a co-chairman of the Trump campaign's evangelical advisory board. The more significant shift on the high court, he said, would likely be the help

given to conservatives in their fight for what they call religious freedom.

Tony Perkins, who leads the socially conservative Family Research Council, said abortion was simply "a factor" in evangelicals' excitement over a more conservative Supreme Court. He suggested that public opinion was already shifting against abortion rights, although that's not true of the Roe v. Wade ruling, which has become slightly more popular over time.

Perkins agreed with Moore that the broader push for religious freedom was a bigger conservative focus.

Many evangelicals, for example, have lashed out against Obama-era laws that required churches and other religious institutions to provide their employees with women's reproductive services, including access to abortion and birth control. Others have rallied behind private business

owners who faced legal repercussions after denying services to gay people.

Yet sweeping restrictions to abortion rights are certainly on the table, Moore noted.

"There is a high level of confidence within the community that overturning Roe is actually, finally possible," Moore said. He added: "Evangelicals have never been more confident in the future of America than they are now. It's just a fact."

Despite Trump's struggles with Christian values in his personal life at times, skeptical evangelical Christians lined up behind him in the 2016 election, and they remain one of his most loyal constituencies.

The president's standing with white evangelical Christians hit an all-time high in April when 75 percent of evangelicals held a favorable view of Trump, according to a poll conducted by the Public Religion Research Institute.

## RESCUE

FROM PAGE 1

boat "can forget about arriving in an Italian port" and claimed it should go to Malta.

Even though the number of migrants arriving in Europe is sharply down this year from 2017, migration issues have deepened political divisions in the European Union, fueled in part by the demands of anti-migrant

nationalist parties.

Roberto Fico, a leading figure in the 5-Star Movement, the senior partner in Italy's ruling coalition, told reporters after inspecting a migrant reception center in Sicily that "I wouldn't close the ports."

The Open Arms' captain, Marco Martinez, said he told the Rome-based Maritime Rescue Coordination Center about the migrants and was instructed to call Libyan maritime authorities, who

didn't answer. The captain said officials in Rome then told him it was up to him to decide whether to carry out the rescue.

"I took the decision to save these human beings," Martinez told an AP journalist who viewed the rescue from a dinghy belonging to its sister ship Astral.

The mayor of the Spanish port city of Barcelona, Ada Colau, urged Spain's new prime minister, Pedro Sanchez, to permit the Open Arms to dock in her city.

# Widow gets free lunch and bad advice

**Dear Mr. Berko:** I've enclosed my check for you to review my portfolio. My husband passed away four years ago, and I'm now a 71-year-old widow. A lady friend and I attended an invitation-only lunch for seniors two weeks ago, which was very interesting. The speaker believes that in the coming years, we're going to have a stock market crash and very high inflation that will last at least through the next two elections.

My daughter and I visited him at his office, and he recommended that I sell our nine stocks and two mutual funds, which my husband bought and have been in our account since he died. The stockbroker said that 20 percent of the proceeds should be invested in a floating-rate mutual fund, which would pay more each time interest rates go up. Then, he said, we should invest 30 percent in an annuity that guarantees against any loss and pays a guaranteed 6 percent. He wants the



Malcolm Berko

last 30 percent to go in a private real estate limited partnership that owns new Section 8 apartments. This real estate partnership would protect me against inflation and start paying an 8 percent dividend in three years. He advises that we leave the remaining 20 percent in a money market account.

Both my daughter and I think this makes good sense, and so does our accountant, who has known this broker for years. I'm close to my husband's sister, who is a pharmacist and smart in business ways. She reads your column in Cleveland and told me to contact you before making any changes. — TB, Vancouver, Wash.

Dear TB: Beware of free

"educational" lunches; they're infrequently free and seldom educational. Rather, they're a salesman's decoy and an investor's trap. And because of your profile — a widow with several million dollars and no financial experience — you're defined as a "whale" (a big catch) by financial advisers.

Thank you for the \$1,000 check, which I've returned. Your newspaper pays me well for my semiweekly advice. That your sister-in-law told you to write to me suggests she's a very smart lady. This adviser has the makings of a great sociopath who would steal the dimes from his dead mother's eyes. I know many financial advisers like this cur. Their sweet spiels could persuade the devil to join a Baptist church. I urge you to contact the investment adviser who helped your husband five years ago. If he's still in business, I believe that his advice would jibe with mine.

I can't think of a reason to sell a single one of your nine stocks — Medtronic,

Caterpillar, Boeing, Johnson & Johnson, Southern, American Express, Chevron, Home Depot and NextEra Energy. Those are nine stocks that you can keep for the rest and best of your life — and your daughter's life, too. Nor would I, in my wildest dreams, ever consider selling your two mutual funds — Fidelity Growth Co. Fund and Dodge & Cox Stock Fund. They are managed darn well and have enviable long-term annual returns. Your husband had a fine adviser, who didn't need those risible government rules and investment guidelines from Washington telling him how to invest your spouse's money. Sadly, an increasing number of financial advisers have become so greedy and viscerally unscrupulous. Now the federal government finds it must enact laws requiring financial advisers to put the clients' best interests first. The realization is that too many financial advisers are putting their best interest first and not the clients', and that's

scary. It certainly describes the fellow who bought you lunch.

Your \$2.8 million portfolio is a widow's dream and a slick financial adviser's Golconda. If you followed this creep's advice, he would make an 8 percent commission on an \$840,000 real estate limited partnership purchase. That would be a \$67,200 payday. Next, he'd take a \$17,000 commission on an \$560,000 purchase of a floating-rate bond fund. Then he would scarf a 6 percent fee, or \$50,040, on an \$840,000 purchase of a 5 percent annuity. The total commission cost would be \$134,600, and this rotter would pocket that money, which is just about what the average stockbroker makes in a year, in one afternoon. Meanwhile, your accountant may be in cahoots with this brokster and might share some of the commission.

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

## ALMANAC

Today is Sunday, July 1, the 182nd day of 2018. There are 183 days left in the year. This is Canada Day.

### Today in history

On July 1, 1867, Canada became a self-governing dominion of Great Britain as the British North America Act took effect.

### On this date

In 1535, Sir Thomas More went on trial in England, charged with high treason for rejecting the Oath of Supremacy. (More was convicted, and executed.)

In 1916, during World War I, France and Britain launched the Somme Offensive against the German army; the 4½-month battle resulted in heavy casualties and produced no clear winner.

In 1934, Hollywood began enforcing its Production Code subjecting motion pictures to censorship review.

In 1946, the United States exploded a 20-kiloton atomic bomb near Bikini Atoll in the Pacific.

In 1961, Diana, the princess of Wales, was born in Sandringham, England. (She died in a 1997 car crash in Paris at age 36.)

In 1973, the Drug Enforcement Administration was established.

In 1987, President Ronald Reagan nominated federal appeals court judge Robert H. Bork to the Supreme Court, setting off a tempestuous confirmation process that ended with Bork's rejection by the Senate.

### Today's birthdays

Actress Olivia de Havilland is 102. Actress-dancer Leslie Caron is 87. Actress Jean Marsh is 84. Actor Jamie Farr is 84. Actor David Prowse is 83. Cookiemaker Wally Amos is 82. Dancer-choreographer Twyla Tharp is 77. Actress Genevieve Bujold is 76. Rock singer-actress Deborah Harry is 73. Movie-TV producer-director Michael Pressman is 68. Actor Daryl Anderson is 84. Actor Trevor Eve is 67. Actor Terrence Mann is 67. Actor-comedian Dan Aykroyd is 66. Actress Lorna Patterson is 62. Actor Alan Ruck is 62. Rhythm and blues singer Evelyn "Champagne" King is 58. Olympic gold medal track star Carl Lewis is 57. Country singer Michelle Wright is 57. Actor Andre Braugher is 56. Actor Dominic Keating is 56. Actress Pamela Anderson is 51. Actor Thomas Sadoski is 42. Actress Liv Tyler is 41.

### Bible verse

"Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it: except the Lord keep the city; the watchman waketh but in vain." — Psalms 127:1.

The reason many homes have so much and yet are so unhappy is that they failed to invite the Lord as an honored guest. Without Him life will be in vain and futile.

## ODD NEWS

### All aboard: Hello Kitty bullet train debuts

TOKYO, Japan (AP) — A Hello Kitty-themed "shinkansen" bullet train has debuted in Japan. Adorned with the cartoon icon inside and out, it's a dream ride for fans of the internationally popular character.

The special shinkansen had its inaugural round trip Saturday between Osaka and Fukuoka, connecting Japan's west and south. It will run through September.

The stylish, eight-car train is painted pink and white, showcasing Hello Kitty images and trademark ribbons from flooring to seat covers and windows.

In one car, a life-size Hello Kitty doll donning a train crew uniform and a hat — decorated with a pink bow, of course — greets passengers.

Hello Kitty, created in 1974 by the Japanese company Sanrio Co., is a global icon with fans of all ages.



KYODO NEWS VIA AP

Hello Kitty-themed bullet train

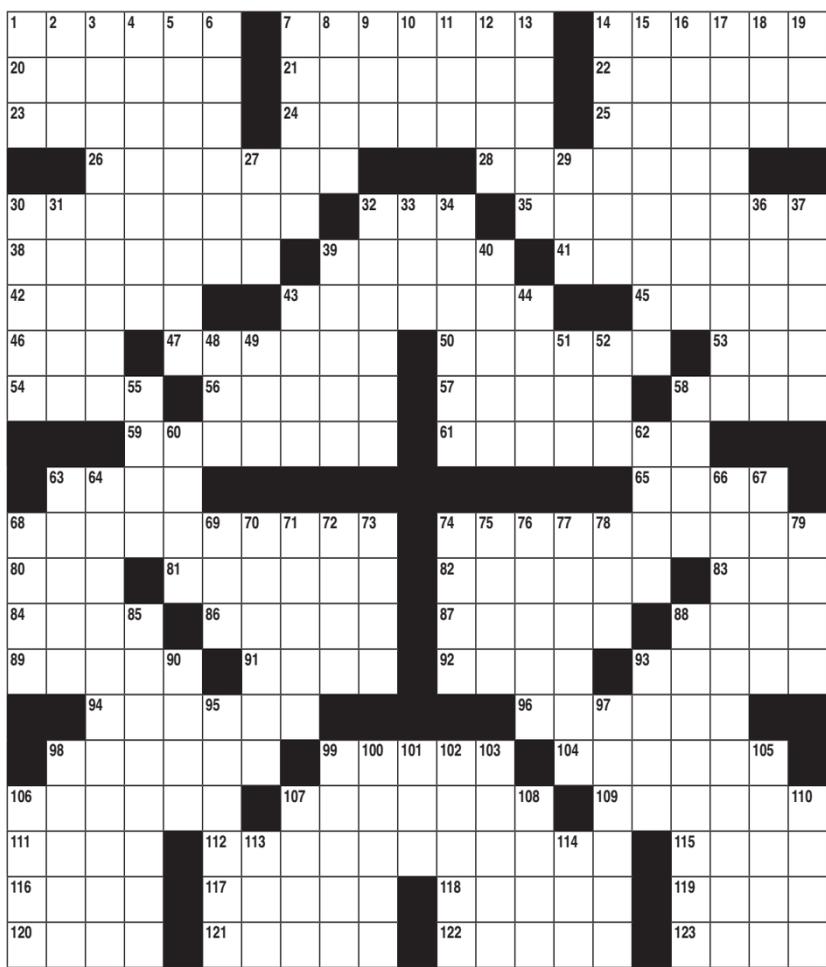
# NEW YORK TIMES SUNDAY CROSSWORD

No. 0624

## CREATURE FEATURE BY TIMOTHY POLIN / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

After completing this puzzle, draw a line starting at the middle square of 59-Across and connect five appropriate squares in roughly clockwise order to reveal an image suggested by this puzzle's theme.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>ACROSS</b>   | <b>DOWN</b>   |
| 1 "Friendly" cartoon character                          | 1 Things investors take an interest in?                                     |
| 7 Pro   | 2 Suffer  |
| 14 Symbols in calculus                                  | 3 106-Down director   |
| 20 Simple kind of antenna                               | 4 Pink, e.g.  |
| 21 Expenditures' counterpart                            | 5 Brought out   |
| 22 Lacking a break                                      | 6 Christen anew   |
| 23 Add surreptitiously                                  | 7 Tidiness  |
| 24 Worrisome sight for a swimmer                        | 8 Proud, fiery types, they say  |
| 25 With spite   | 9 Save for later, in a way  |
| 26 Some Houdini feats                                   | 10 Fathers or brothers  |
| 28 John of spy fiction                                  | 11 Santa ____   |
| 30 Something extraordinary that won't soon be forgotten | 12 No longer in force   |
| 32 Some northern Europeans                              | 13 Gives meaning to   |
| 35 Bit of hydrotherapy                                  | 14 Horn of Africa native  |
| 38 Caffeinated drink with tapioca balls                 | 15 Neon, e.g.   |
| 39 Doled (out)  | 16 Transmission   |
| 41 Opposite of colorblindness?                          | 17 Like the menace in 106-Down  |
| 42 "____ Jacques"                                       | 18 Common knee injury site, briefly   |
| 43 Ones eligible for marathon prizes                    | 19 Locale for a trough  |
| 45 "Don't bite the hand that feeds you," e.g.           | 27 Fairy-tale "lump"  |
| 46 Flight-board abbr.                                   | 29 Hack   |
| 47 Sinking feelings                                     | 30 Hit BBC comedy, briefly  |
| 50 Mistrusts  | 31 Peter of "The Maltese Falcon"  |
| 53 Mother or sister                                     | 32 Handles deftly   |
|   | 33 Utmost degree  |
|   | 34 Farm machine   |
|   | 36 Something to angle for   |
|   | 37 "In Dulci Jubilo" and others   |
|   | 39 Modest skirts  |
|   | 40 Modern subject of F.A.A. regulation                                      |
|   | 43 TV show with the season's highest rating, often                          |
|   | 44 "____ U.S.A." (1963 hit)   |
|   | 48 Sports arbiter   |
|   | 49 Pixelike   |
|   | 51 Cabaret accessory  |
|   | 52 Country-music channel, once  |
|   | 55 Decorative pillowcase  |
|   | 58 Adjudicate, as a case  |
|   | 60 "This is looking bad"  |
|   | 62 Lyricist Sammy   |
|   | 63 Singer Haggard   |
|   | 64 Golfer's obstacle  |
|   | 66 Ska-punk band with the 1997 song "Sell Out"                              |
|   | 67 Sunning area   |
|   | 68 Ax   |
|   | 69 Seasonal quaff   |
|   | 70 Small herrings   |
|   | 71 Is a crowd   |
|   | 72 Actor Morales  |
|   | 73 Deteriorates   |
|   | 74 Beginning  |
|   | 75 Precollege, for short  |
|   | 76 Text tweaks  |
|   | 77 Midcrisis hire, perhaps  |
|   | 78 Word with black or blood   |
|   | 79 Frozen-dessert chain   |
|   | 85 Leaves nervously exhausted   |
|   | 88 Thugs  |
|   | 90 Aromatic yellow citrus   |
|   | 93 Preppy wear  |
|   | 95 Himalayan native   |
|   | 97 Cheap and gaudy  |
|   | 98 Charged  |
|   | 99 Scrap  |
|   | 100 Actress Salma   |
|   | 101 Movie org. whose "100 Years ... 100 Thrills" list has 106-Down at No. 2 |
|   | 102 Takes a load off  |
|   | 103 Superman, by birth  |
|   | 105 "Coo-oo-ool!"   |
|   | 106 1975 summer blockbuster   |
|   | 107 Morse clicks  |
|   | 108 Indian blueblood  |
|   | 110 Teensy amount   |
|   | 113 Yogi's accessory  |
|   | 114 Oscar ____ (Hollywood honor, informally)                                |



FOR ANSWERS, TURN TO PAGE 3

### Ask the Fool

#### Market Share, Explained

Q What's "market share"? — *M.R., Venice, Florida*

A It refers to the percentage of a market that a product, service or company commands, and it's a useful measure to track when researching companies or industries.

Think about smartphones, for example. If many of your friends use iPhones, you might assume that Apple enjoys the highest market share in the category. But actually, as of the end of March, Samsung had that honor, with a 20.5 percent global share; followed by Apple, with 14.1 percent; and the Chinese company Huawei, with 10.4 percent. (That means that 20.5 percent of smartphones sold worldwide in the last quarter were Samsung devices.)

It's also good to pay attention to trends and growth rates. Apple may be in second place, but it gained share from the end of 2017 to the end of March 2018, rising to that 14.1 percent from 13.7 percent. Samsung's share shrank from 20.8 percent to 20.5 percent.

As another example, the U.S. market share leader in ice cream brands last year was private label brands, with 20 percent of the market, followed by Breyers, with 9.2 percent; Ben & Jerry's, with 8.7 percent; and Haagen-Dazs, with 8.4 percent.

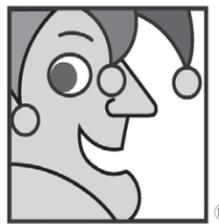
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Q Why can't I find stock listings in the newspaper on Mondays? — *C.C., Seattle*

A The stock markets in America are closed on weekends, so there is no action to report on Mondays.

Don't think you have to follow stocks' daily moves, though. It's more important to keep up with how a company is performing than how its stock is moving. Great fortunes can be amassed by buying into companies you've researched well and believe in and then simply hanging on for the long term.

Want more information about stocks? Send us an email to [foolnews@fool.com](mailto:foolnews@fool.com).



## The Motley Fool

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### Fool's School

#### How to Build a Better Retirement

Most of us are looking forward to retirement, but yours may not be as good as you hoped if you don't plan for it and make some smart moves — like these:

- Pay off debt. It's OK to maintain a low-interest-rate mortgage, but work hard to pay off any high-interest-rate debt, such as that from credit cards.
- Have a plan. Run the numbers to see how much money you'll need for retirement, how close you are to your goal and how you might get there. Online calculators such as those at [calculator.net](http://calculator.net) and [finra.org/retirementcalculator](http://finra.org/retirementcalculator) can help, and a financial planner can be well worth hiring, too. (You'll find fee-only ones at [napfa.org](http://napfa.org).)
- Save aggressively. Don't just save a little in your 401(k) and hope for the best. The more you save, and the earlier you do so, the more you'll likely end up with in retirement. Long-term money stands a good chance of growing well in the stock market, and low-

fee S&P 500 index funds can have you in stocks quickly and easily. Contribute generously to IRAs and/or 401(k)s.

- Spend less. There are lots of relatively painless ways to cut back, such as by switching from cable TV to one or more streaming services and by shopping around for lower insurance rates on your various policies. Eat out a little less often and shop only when you need things, not just for fun. If you can spend \$200 less per month, that's \$2,400 per year, which would grow to more than \$118,000 over 20 years at an average annual growth rate of 8 percent.
- Consider retiring a few years later than planned, to save more money and delay starting to tap your nest egg. You might enjoy company-sponsored health insurance a bit longer, too. Or aim to retire early, if you can. A good plan and discipline can have many retiring in their early 60s or sooner.

Learn much more at [fool.com/retirement/index.aspx](http://fool.com/retirement/index.aspx) and [money.cnn.com/retirement](http://money.cnn.com/retirement), and try our "Rule Your Retirement" service at [fool.com/services](http://fool.com/services). It offers solid, concise advice, along with stock and fund recommendations.

### My Dumbest Investment

#### The Wrong Stock

My dumbest investment was when I trusted a "day trader" to execute an order to buy \$10,000 worth of Apple at \$27 per share. Instead, he bought shares of another company, which immediately went bye-bye. The guy's boss? He stood behind this bozo.

The lesson I learned is: Don't trust anyone working with your money. If you don't take care of your own business, then someone else will. — *I., online*

**The Fool Responds:** If it was really a day trader who was managing your money, you probably would have done poorly, regardless. Day traders are known for buying and selling frequently, which racks up commission charges and has any gains taxed at generally higher tax rates.

More important, day traders are known for losing money. No less an authority than the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has warned: "Day traders typically suffer severe financial losses in their first months of trading, and many never graduate to profit-making status." If you'd owned Apple stock for only a few hours or days, you would have lost out on a heck of a lot of future growth.

Consulting financial professionals is fine, but as you concluded, it's best to stay in control of your own money and do your own research and thinking, too, as no one has your best interests at heart as much as you do.

### The Motley Fool Take

#### A Fat Blue-Chip Dividend

Telecom giant AT&T (NYSE: T) has been around for generations in various forms, and it's not done growing. Its shares have been beaten down due to competitive pressures and uncertainty surrounding its planned merger with Time Warner. Of course, as a stock's price falls, its dividend yield rises, and AT&T's payout recently yielded a fat 6.2 percent.

Better still, that payout is likely to increase in the future, as AT&T has boosted its dividend for 34 years in a row. AT&T generated roughly \$18.3 billion in free cash flow over the trailing-12-month period. Its robust cash flow generation is likely to continue, thanks to its being an Internet of Things (IoT) platform provider and its strong positions in the still-reliable wireless service and video businesses. (The company will soon be rolling out its 5G network.)

With the merger with Time Warner recently completed, AT&T's long-term prospects are even better. The union will create one of the world's leading entertainment producers, open up new service bundling opportunities and allow for the combined company to use AT&T's strength in the mobile and internet spaces to get better advertising rates for Time Warner networks and content.

AT&T is the second-largest wireless carrier in the U.S., and the nation's top wireline and pay-TV service provider. Those businesses give it a wide defensive moat against its potential challengers. Give the company some consideration for your long-term portfolio.

### Name That Company

I trace my roots back to First Omaha Securities, established in Nebraska in 1975. I was a pioneering discount brokerage, with commission fees as low as \$8 as early as 1998. (Today my online stock trades cost \$6.95.) Over the years I merged with or acquired K. Aufhauser, Datek, National Discount Brokers, thinkorswim and Scottrade. I was first to offer automated trades via touch-tone phone back in 1988. Today I have more than 10,000 employees, more than 11 million funded client accounts, and more than \$1 trillion in client assets. I execute more than 900,000 trades daily. Who am I?

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

### LAST WEEK'S TRIVIA ANSWER

I trace my roots back to Alex Manoogian's screw products company that began making parts for the auto industry in Detroit in 1929. In 1954, Manoogian designed a revolutionary single-handle faucet that was a hit. Today I'm a leader in home improvement and construction products, with more than 20 companies under my roof and dozens of manufacturing facilities worldwide. My brands include Behr paints, Delta and Hansgrohe faucets and fixtures, KraftMaid and Merillat cabinets, Milgard windows and doors, Kichler decorative and outdoor lighting and Hot Spring spas. My market value recently topped \$12 billion. Who am I? (Answer: Masco)



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

COOL COMFORT

By Gail Grabowski

ACROSS

- 1 Tip off
5 Iridescent stones
10 Broadway restaurant founder
15 Fancy window feature
19 Bizet's 'Habanera,' e.g.
20 Frequent co-star of Sly
21 From the top
22 Large volume
23 Bottom of a pie
25 Quality bedding material
27 Gourmet gastropod
28 Puts at risk
30 Ring components
31 Fish caught in pots
33 Stock ending?
34 Historic 1804 contest
35 Texas city in the film 'Friday Night Lights'
38 Org. with a New London academy
41 Sites with jets
45 Leading the line
46 Where Petaluma is
50 Switchboard connection: Abbr.
51 Mil. driller
52 For hire to sire
53 It may be a lot
54 Wistful remark
56 Burn the toast, say
57 How much sautéing is done
58 Hate the idea of
59 Org. founded on the 100th anniversary of Lincoln's birth
60 'Dark of the Moon' poet
62 Hummus scooper
63 Fam. tree member
64 Religious faction
65 Room in some posh residences

- 69 Made off with
72 Barely done
74 Road closing?
75 Amazon predator
77 Brand with a Creamy Vodka sauce
79 1954 Ford debut
81 Great Plains tribe
82 Unc, to Dad
83 'It's not my first \_\_\_!'
84 Choral part
85 Teaching model
86 Hugs, on cards
87 Manning of football
88 Tex-Mex dipper
91 Botch
92 Carriers of carriers
94 Pre-college, briefly
95 Female folklore fiend
97 Scoffing sounds
98 Rel. title
100 'She Believes \_\_\_': Kenny Rogers hit
101 Lash out at
104 Like parts of the Great Plains
108 Invited
112 Oakland-based environmental group
114 2009 Meryl Streep role
116 Author Dinesen
117 Ruin, with 'up'
118 Part of PGA: Abbr.
119 Singer on a 2007 Black Heritage postage stamp, familiarly
120 Is just right
121 Bring to a boil
122 Lots of paper
123 Overly curious

DOWN

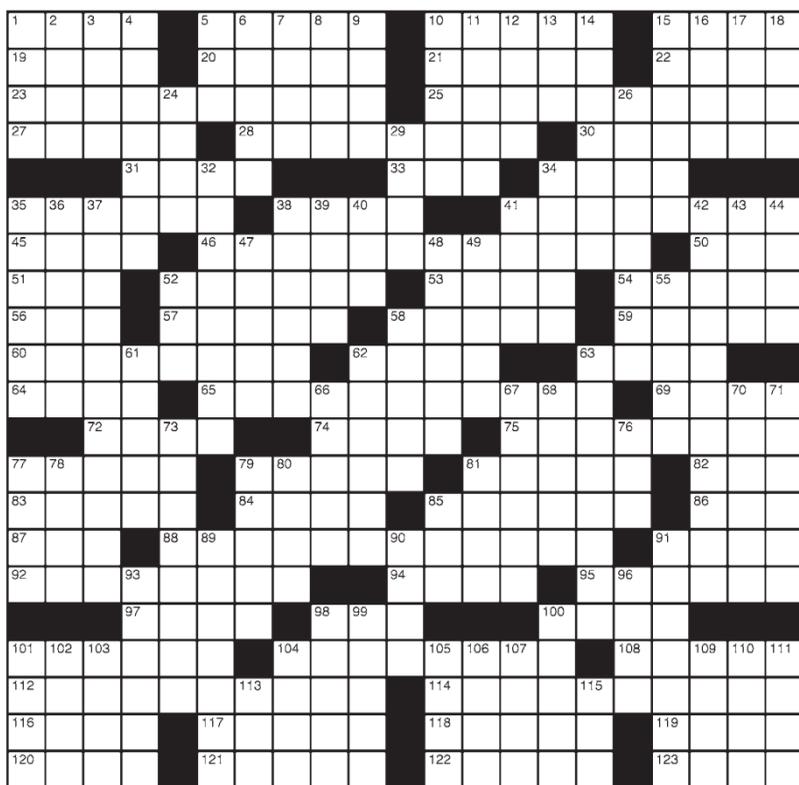
- 1 Pub hardware
2 Shillelagh's land
3 '\_\_\_ With a 'Z': 1972 TV special

- 4 Like the most summery day
5 Non-Rx
6 City awarded the 2024 Summer Olympic Games
7 Donor drive target
8 Sylvester's problem
9 Fill completely
10 Palatable
11 Well-coordinated
12 Super Bowl XXXIV champs
13 24 horas
14 On trial
15 Fifth-century Roman Empire foe
16 Revolution prefix
17 'Seriously?'
18 They're often cooped up
24 Pub round
26 Separately
29 Mumbai melody
32 Altar sacrifice, at times?
34 Enjoyed some courses
35 Initial stages
36 College offering
37 Struggling student's option
38 Freed, in a way
39 iTunes Store category
40 Mil. authority
41 Intangible quality
42 Game player's purchase
43 Suit
44 Part of a plan
47 '\_\_\_ Mio'
48 2002 Nobel Peace Prize laureate
49 View from much of U.S. Highway 101
52 Samaritan's offering
55 Can't get out of it
58 Like many soup veggies

- 61 Performer's place
62 Keep the beat?
63 Use, as one's resources
66 Last Supper question
67 Meditative discipline
68 Long, thin mushroom
70 Awful
71 Barbecue fare
73 Water-absorbing plant part
76 Tube top
77 Kitchen job
78 Cast assignment
79 Protection from the elements
80 Short orders?
81 'Mayor' author
85 Prefix with ware
89 'C'est magnifique!'
90 Big name in casual garb
91 Air out
93 Predatory fish with an acute sense of smell
96 Former car-financing org.
98 Green word?
99 Glowing piece
100 Beat around the bush, e.g.
101 'Get real!'
102 Response to un capitán
103 Administrative hub
104 Wallop
105 Just shy of shut
106 Trojan Horse, for one
107 Rick's 'kid'
109 Drug bust unit
110 Some annexes
111 1944 turning point
113 Rip off
115 Coolers, briefly, that span two words in the nine longest answers

Los Angeles Times Sunday Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis



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7/1/18

GOREN BRIDGE

BOLD BIDDING, SOLID PLAY

North-South vulnerable, South deals

NORTH
♠ 10 6 5
♥ A J 6 5
♦ 10 7 4
♣ K 5 2

WEST
♠ 4
♥ Q 2
♦ K Q 8 6 5 2
♣ J 8 6 4

EAST
♠ Q J 9 8
♥ K 7 4 3
♦ J 9 3
♣ Q 9

SOUTH
♠ A K 7 3 2
♥ 10 9 8
♦ A
♣ A 10 7 3

The bidding:

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
1♠ 2♦ 2♠ Pass
4♠ All pass

Opening lead: King of ♦

South's jump to game was probably too bold, but North would have accepted an invitation, so the final contract was normal. It would have sailed home on a 3-2 trump split, but it required good play on this layout.

South won the opening diamond lead in hand, perforce, and led the

eight of hearts, ducked to East's king. East shifted to the tricky nine of clubs, which declarer won in hand with the ace. He cashed his two high spades, learning the bad news, and led the 10 of hearts to the queen and ace. South ruffed a diamond, cashed the nine of hearts, and crossed back to dummy with the king of clubs. The jack of hearts was cashed and dummy's last diamond was ruffed by declarer.

That did it! Four spades, three hearts, one diamond and two clubs gave South his contract. Declarer timed this hand perfectly, making good use of his limited entries to dummy. Had he won the club shift with dummy's king, for example, the contract would have failed.

It seems that the unlikely opening lead of the queen of hearts would have defeated the contract, denying South an important entry before it was needed. West, of course, cannot be faulted for his diamond lead. Well played!

(Bob Jones welcomes readers' responses sent in care of this newspaper or to Tribune Content Agency, LLC., 16650 Westgrove Dr., Suite 175, Addison, TX 75001. E-mail: tcaeditors@tribpub.com)

CRYPTOGRAMS

CRYPTOGRAMS MUSIC TO MY EARS by Myles Mellor

- 1. S LDXO IXRUQA BEDXS GRLS GRGK' A
HRND QDX CRKURKU ESXAKDX CB
IBWUQA QDXCDHV S GWDA OBWXCDHV
NRA.
2. ZEAY F QIIW TFHFITA DUYYCAH ZFD
FHHADOAL FYL QEFHCAL ZUOE EAH
SFYL, DEATYAZ DEAZFD UYOHASWA.
3. KND UZUUQI ZPXDGKX BDYD
GNMMXZPU KNDZY ADXK XZPUYD. KND
ADXK GNMZGD BRX GQDRYQI
ADD - IMPGD.
4. EBP ENMVH BXR - BNR UQ RNRMVOL
OSOYOAXVP TBLXGSAOG? UQTOMGQ
SBQLQ OLQ OVNS NY ELORRQLG
RMS SXZK SBXZKG MZHQL SBQ SLQQ.

PUZZLE ANSWERS

(Puzzles on previous pages)



JUMBLE

Answer :

KITTEN DECODE WINERY
GRAVEL STITCH BEMOAN

The giraffe didn't like working for the other giraffe. He felt his boss was always —

BREATHING DOWN HIS NECK

- 1. A very bright opera diva didn't like her singing partner so bought herself a duet yourself kit.
2. When a cool karaoke singer was arrested and charged with her band, she knew she was in treble.
3. The giggly insects were choosing their best singer. The best choice was clearly Beyerly.
4. Why would hip-hop be popular at a family Christmas? Because there are a lot of wrappers putting things under the tree.

HOLIDAY MATHIS HOROSCOPES

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It's not finding answers that matters most today; it's the searching. While searching, you embody your essence and feel connected to all that makes you human.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Here's a way to reduce worry and anxiety while helping you solve the problems that pepper this spicy day: Make a decision. Once you decide, life falls right into place.
GEMINI (May 21-June 21). If you're having trouble fitting in, that is probably a good thing, unless you're selling something. When you're selling something, fitting in is totally essential.
CANCER (June 22-July 22). The act of choice. If you have a choice, you're probably taking it for granted. Many don't. This is the day to recognize your freedoms and privileges. Get out of your bubble.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Some people are more able to compartmentalize than others. It's a skill to work on. Because life is messy. Being able to organize it will be crucial to the plays of the day.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). This is brain science. When people have to work for something, they work for it harder and derive more pleasure from the experience. Don't make it too easy for people you love. Devotion grows with effort.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Think about investment. If you want to know what's inside, you have to walk through the door. It's a risk. You don't just choose the things you like; you like the things you choose.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Which way is best? Well, that's a question that could very well waste your day away. Try this one instead: Which way is

fine? Then do it. Moments later, you'll definitely be a mile down the lane instead of stuck at the crossroads.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The value of touch cannot be underrated today. To connect with loved ones on a physical level is to fulfill a very basic human need. Just a pat on the back or a shake of the hand will be immeasurable bonding.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The work you've done will be obsolete one day, and then much later, it will be historical instead. So commit as though this is the most important moment. In many ways, it is.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). The support you give others in the form of kind words, eye contact, touch, sharing food, space and every signal that they belong in your group — that's something precious, especially to the lonely. Extend these kindnesses.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Whatever goal you make for the day, even if it's solely a personal goal, it's important. It's sacred. Your intentions and your words are as important as anyone's in this whole world, especially when directed toward you.
TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 1). You make many people's lives better, and if you let them, they will heap tons of love on you this year. You're not in competition with anyone but yourself, yet you'll push hard to make something happen before the end of the year. You'll deliver something precious in January. March and June bring group wins. Taurus and Capricorn adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 18, 1, 22, 38 and 14.

# 7 LITTLE WORDS

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

CLUES	SOLUTIONS
1 sleeping (6)	_____
2 Andean roamer (5)	_____
3 energy (5)	_____
4 infamous duelist Burr (5)	_____
5 ribbon-like marine plant (8)	_____
6 nocturnal insect eaters (9)	_____
7 most hair-raising (7)	_____

ZI	AMA	AAR	LL	MPH
OO	RA	LG	AAR	RIE
OO	DV	SS	KS	EE
NG	EE	ST	ON	AR

Today's Answers: 1. OOSING 2. LLAMA 3. OOMPH 4. AARON 5. EELGRASS 6. AARDVARKS 7. EERIEST

# JANRIC CLASSIC SUDOKU

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and 3x3 block. Use logic and process elimination to solve the puzzle. The difficulty level ranges from Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest).

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

Rating: SILVER

Solution to 7/1/18

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

## DEAR ABBY

# Passion for fast food slows down man's effort to lose some weight

**DEAR ABBY:** My husband has become very overweight, which has caused his sex drive — as well as his health — to suffer. I worry about him constantly, and I miss the intimacy we used to have. He is aware of how I feel and started trying to eat healthier. He also tries to exercise at least a little bit every day.



Dear Abby

The problem is he constantly falls off the wagon. Sometimes he says he's too tired to exercise, or he reverts back to his old habits and ends up eating fast food. He always tries again the next day, but he won't make much progress at the rate he's going.

What can I say that will make him take this more seriously? — ALL ABOUT HEALTH IN ALABAMA

**DEAR ALL ABOUT HEALTH:** Tell your husband how much you love him, and you're afraid "until death do us part" will happen prematurely if he continues killing himself with his fork and his sedentary ways. You might also recite the names of the various diseases that accompany obesity in most people.

But if your husband's doctor hasn't been able to get the message through to him, there isn't much more you can do besides love him for the wonderful husband he is and keep your fingers crossed. I say this because the only person who can "make" your husband commit to a diet and exercise program is himself, with the recognition that changing his unhealthy patterns won't be easy and WILL take time.

**DEAR ABBY:** Recently, my wife took two of our granddaughters (ages 9 and 15) and a friend (age 15) to the movies. As usual, the next day I found trash had been left in the car, which triggered the following text exchange.

I sent both granddaughters a picture of a garbage can and my car and asked: "Please

advise which one is used to throw away trash? If you need help, ask your mom. I'm not accusing anyone of anything. Also, if one of your friends was to throw trash on your Poppy's car floor, what should you do? Would you ask them to pick it up — yes or no?"

The only response I received was from their mom, who said, "Amber' (granddaughter) did not leave trash in your car!" Things have gone downhill from there.

I replied that I expected an answer to my questions, and that I hadn't accused anybody of anything. Many tears have been shed, and my wife has threatened to divorce me for standing my ground. We have agreed to have you settle this. What say you? — TALKING TRASH IN SOUTH CAROLINA

**DEAR TALKING TRASH:** You are the injured party. You did nothing wrong. You are owed an apology from all concerned — the kid who left the trash in your car, and your wife and daughter for overreacting.

**DEAR ABBY:** My older sister was born on July 4. She's now in her 60s and refuses

to celebrate the holiday. She also doesn't want the family to celebrate it either. We have tried to be supportive in years past, but we miss having our Fourth of July holiday. What do you suggest? — WANTS TO CELEBRATE

**DEAR WANTS TO CELEBRATE:** I suggest that before July 4, you declare YOUR independence by asking your older sister what other day she would like to celebrate her birthday. Then celebrate the Fourth of July as you would like — without her.

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

*Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)*

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EASY

1-		2÷	4
12X			2÷
4	4+		
3+		7+	

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CHALLENGING

3÷	4	11+	2÷
6+	1-		6
3÷	4	3-	2-
	11+	16X	90X
5	24X	10+	
		2÷	

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**RULES**

- Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 4 (easy) or 1 through 6 (challenging) without repeating.
- The numbers within the heavily outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners.
- Freebies: Fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.

7-1-18

TODAY'S ANSWERS

1	2	3	4
4	3	2	1
2	1	4	3
3	4	1	2
4	3	2	1
1	2	3	4

## HELOISE

**Dear Readers:** A morning cup of java is a big part of getting the day started. And making a satisfying pot of coffee is essential for many of my readers. Here's how to make that pot a good one:



Hints from Heloise

—Always begin with fresh, clean, cold water.

—Select the correct amount of coffee, which usually is 1 tablespoon per 6 ounces, but, of course, varies according to your taste. Pick the proper grind for the method you are using for brewing.

—Clean the coffeepot thoroughly. Don't just give the pot a fast rinse with water after use because the oils will build up over time. Wash the pot with soap and water often, at least every third or fourth time. Many pots, filter baskets and lids can be cleaned well in the dishwasher.

—For many coffee makers (check the directions), you can run full-strength vinegar through a brew cycle and follow with several brew cycles

of plain water to remove heavy deposits. — Heloise

**Dear Readers:** Be sure to be prepared to take care of your high-tech devices, which will undoubtedly come on board along with your children and pets.

Safety on all levels should be your top priority. Put your smartphones, cameras or other high-tech equipment into heavy-duty zippered plastic bags to protect them in case they get sprayed or fall into the water.

Also make certain that everyone on board has a life vest. And that includes your dog! — Heloise

**Dear Heloise:** When we have company, we always

serve pancakes, a family tradition. For less stress in the morning, I make the batter the night before and pour it into a clean, plastic squeeze bottle. In the morning, I just squirt the batter into the pan. This gives me more time to chat with my guests and less mess to clean up! — Becky from North Carolina

**Dear Readers:** Here are two quick and easy recipes to use with your favorite honey:

—Blend honey with apple cider and rub over a leg of lamb and then cook.

—Spread lightly buttered toast with fresh ricotta cheese and spoon a bit of honey on top for a sweet breakfast treat.

—If your honey has crystallized, just zap it uncovered in the microwave on high for a few seconds. To prevent this problem, do not store honey in the refrigerator. Instead, keep it on a shelf. — Heloise

**Dear Heloise:** My kids and our family love to go

to the beach, which involves hauling a lot of stuff. To lessen this task, I give each one of my children a large mesh tote bag. They can take their favorite beach toys and are responsible for them.

At the day of the day, they just put them all back into their bag. Then they dunk the bag into the water to remove the sand before they bring it back to the car. — Valerie from Maryland

**Dear Readers:** The brass objects we have in our homes are lovely, but they need to be cleaned and polished. First, check the brass to see if it's lacquered or non-lacquered because a different cleaning method is used for each surface.

For lacquered brass, wipe it off with a soft, clean, damp cloth. Do not put any cleaner on this type of surface.

For nonlacquered brass, pour a bit of ketchup onto a cloth, rub over it, rinse and dry. — Heloise

## JUMBLE

# JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these six Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form six ordinary words.

TNIKET
RALGVE
CDDOEE
TTHISC
NRIYEW
OMEBAN

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Check out the new, free JUST JUMBLE app

Yeah, I'm going to need those reports now.

THE GIRAFFE DIDN'T LIKE WORKING FOR THE OTHER GIRAFFE. HE FELT HIS BOSS WAS ALWAYS ---

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW

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# BALLOTS PUBLISHED SUNDAY JUNE 24<sup>TH</sup>



## Two homes on Lake Placid

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

This home is at 3389 Placid View Drive in Lake Placid. It is priced for \$439,000 and is listed with Carol Edwards with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Properties Group.

Looking for the perfect lake house, here it is! This unique and immaculate six-bedroom, four-bath property on beautiful Lake Placid offers two complete residences. This custom-built property offers a total of 5,472 square feet.

Each side is identical with three bedrooms and two baths, which totals 2,736 square feet each. The south side offers a tiled entry to the open floor plan.

The large kitchen has lots of cabinets and a huge breakfast bar and a large pantry offers lots of storage. The combined living and dining room is perfect for entertaining. The main floor has a spacious bedroom and bath.

Each side has its own washer and dryer. Skylights provide natural light. The upper level offers a 17 by 24

**EDWARDS | 2**



COURTESY PHOTO

This home is at 3389 Placid View Drive in Lake Placid. It is priced for \$439,000 and is listed with Carol Edwards with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Properties Group.

### DIRECTIONS

#### 3389 Placid View Drive, Lake Placid

From U.S. 27 in Lake Placid, turn onto Lake Mirror Drive. Bear left onto Placid View Drive. The home is on the left.

## Spacious home on almost an acre

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

This home is at 1905 Bignonia Drive in Sebring. It is priced for \$249,500 and is listed with Dawn Dell with Heartland Real Estate Corp.

Welcome to Sebring Heights, a neighborhood that is in Sebring city limits but has large lots and is located in one the highest points of Sebring. This property welcomes you with an oversized yard that it enhanced with lots of scrub oak trees, native plants and a large fence around the backyard.

You will enjoy the fact this home features over 2,100 living square feet and a total of almost 3,000 under roof square feet.

When you walk in the door you will see the home has an open inviting floor plan with the kitchen opening to dining room and living room. The home has three oversized spacious bedrooms and two bathrooms. No carpet in this home makes for easy clean up.

There is an in house laundry room and

**DELL | 2**



COURTESY PHOTO

This home is at 1905 Bignonia Drive in Sebring. It is priced for \$249,500 and is listed with Dawn Dell with Heartland Real Estate Corp.

### DIRECTIONS

#### 1905 Bignonia Drive, Sebring

From U.S. 27 in Sebring, turn onto Lakeview Drive. Turn left onto Hiawatha Avenue. Turn left onto Bignonia Drive. The home is on the left.

## Amazing home in Cormorant Point

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

This home is at 3220 Waterwood Drive in Sebring. It is priced for \$169,900 and is listed with Lisa Terrell with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Properties Group.

This meticulously maintained home was built in 2007 in one of the most desirable location to live in Comorant Point in Golf Hammock. The freshly painted, spacious home has 1,648 living square feet, two bedrooms, two baths, a two-car garage, bonus room and many upgrades.

The eat-in kitchen has new wood laminate flooring, white, soft-close cabinets, pass through bar to the dining area and a sliding glass door that leads to the open patio.

The master bedroom has a huge walk-in closet, dual vanity in the master bath, large walk-in shower, newer glass shower door. A beautiful block glass window provides natural light and a spacious linen closet provides excellent storage.

The open living room and dining area

**TERRELL | 2**



COURTESY PHOTO

This home is at 3220 Waterwood Drive in Sebring. It is priced for \$169,900 and is listed with Lisa Terrell with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Properties Group.

### DIRECTIONS

#### 3220 Waterwood Drive, Sebring

From U.S. 27 in Sebring, turn on to Hammock Road. Turn right onto Golf Hammock Drive. Turn right onto Par Road. Turn right onto Cormorant Point Drive. Turn right onto Waterwood Drive. The home is on the left.

# EDWARDS

FROM PAGE 1

master bedroom, which includes a lovely sitting area with huge windows offering a panoramic view of the lake. It also has an oversized master bathroom with double vanities.

The north side has an identical floor plan with wood flooring.

Each side offers large sliding glass doors to a huge 34 by 47 screened porch that wraps around the rear of the house. Sink your toes in the white sandy beach that is just steps away from the beautiful sand bottom lake with more than 3,300 acres suitable for



COURTESY PHOTO

**This unique and immaculate six-bedroom, four-bath property on beautiful Lake Placid offers two complete residences.**

all recreational fun and fishing. Relax and enjoy the fire pit on the beach.

This property is perfect for two families who like to enjoy the lake but yet have their own space and privacy. The roof was installed in 2018 and the property has central

water. Parking boats and cars is no problem here as there is plenty of room.

For more information, call Edwards at 863-441-2994. For more information and photos, visit csedwards.net and search for MLS 244148.

# PEOPLE IN REAL ESTATE



Dawn Dell is with Heartland Real Estate Corp. Call 863-381-0400.



Carol Edwards is with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Properties Group. Call 863-441-2994.



Lisa Terrell is with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Properties Group. Call 863-414-0358.

## 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.

# DELL

FROM PAGE 1

a 31 by 17 family room with a Mitsubishi 20-year ductless air conditioner.

Upgrades to this property include a whole home generator with an in-ground propane gas tank, double hung

impact resistance windows, all the plumbing has been redone and electrical service expanded for 200 amp., gas on demand hot water heater, propane dryer, newer air conditioner, solar heated pool and metal roof.

The property has central water and well for irrigation with a 4-inch

well and 2 hp motor. Irrigation has six zones. There is a sump pump for sewer.

The location of this property is outstanding, it is close to everything, yet you feel very private in your almost acre setting. Enjoy the solar heated pool with a newer cage enclosure. The pool's surface was redone

a couple of years ago.

This property is virtually move-in ready. Enjoy the energy-efficient matching appliances and other modifications to the home to help maintain efficiency.

For more information, call Dell at 863-381-0400 or view more photos at homesforsaleinsebring.com. Look for MLS 247463.



COURTESY PHOTO

The home has a solar heated pool with a newer cage enclosure. The pool's surface was redone a couple of years ago.

# TERRELL

FROM PAGE 1

has a cathedral ceiling and is a great location for entertaining. French doors and a pocket door to the bonus room adds additional privacy.

The laundry room has a washtub sink, built-in cabinets and shelving above the washer and dryer. A new air conditioner was installed in 2017.

The home has custom window treatments

throughout and a lot of storage and closet space. It is one of the newer, more well-appointed homes in Comorant Point.

For more information

or to schedule a viewing, call Terrell at 863-414-0358, email lterrell@bhhsflpg.com or visit lterrell.bhhsfloridaproperties.com and search for MLS 248076.

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# Berkshire Hathaway unveils A.S.A.P.

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

TAMPA — Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Properties Group recently launched its Armed Services Appreciation Program, also known as A.S.A.P. The program offers cash rebates to active duty armed services military personnel and veterans on the purchase or sale of their home.

"We want to thank all those who have provided valiant service to our nation with our A.S.A.P. program," Allen Crumbley, Broker/Owner of Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Properties Group, said. "The best way we can show our appreciation is provide cash rebates on the purchase or sale of a home."

To qualify for the free, no obligation program, register with A.S.A.P. and then preview real estate with the agent assigned through the program. To obtain benefits, close on a home (or if selling, list your home) with the assigned agent referred by the A.S.A.P. coordinator.

In most states, individuals may combine the rebates if they complete both a purchase and sale of a home. Rebates are based on the contracted closed price of the home. A.S.A.P.'s experienced consultants will assist with relocation

needs anywhere in the United States. A.S.A.P. can provide additional benefits to those moving house goods. Its preferred carriers are committed to customer service, performance and dependability.

"We are proud to offer this program to show our appreciation to all who currently serve and veterans," Dewey Mitchell, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Properties Group Broker/Owner, said. "Whether you are ready to buy, or ready to list a property for sale, A.S.A.P. is the best program to save you money."

To register, call 727-484-6496 or complete the registration form at <http://asap.bhhsfp.info>.

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Properties Group has 22 offices throughout the Tampa Bay area. Highlands County has four Berkshire Hathaway offices:

- 4800 Haw Branch Road, Sebring; 863-314-9641
- 1 Hammock Falls Circle, Sebring; 863-382-6575
- 211 U.S. 27 North, Sebring; 863-402-5700
- 15 N. Main Ave., Lake Placid; 863-699-0404

For more information about Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Properties Group, call 888-778-8258 or visit [bhhsfloridaproperties.com](http://bhhsfloridaproperties.com).

# Q&A: My new house has a sinkhole. Is the seller liable?

By GARY M. SINGER  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Question:** We bought a house with a major problem, a covered-over sinkhole, that was not disclosed to us. No one wants to help us with it — our agent, the seller, everyone has turned his or her back. The house is so torn up to fix the problem that we have been staying in a hotel. Is there anything we can do? — Edythe

**Answer:** Most people have heard the Latin term "caveat emptor" (let the buyer beware) and think that it is up to the buyer to find all the problems with a new home. In reality, this is only partly true.

Buyers are responsible for inspecting their prospective new home and

finding all of the problems that can reasonably be found. However, some problems cannot be found with the normal inspections done when buying a house because they are hidden. These are known as "latent defects" and can include cracked foundations, leaky pipes inside walls, sinkholes — or even the fact that someone was murdered in the home.

If sellers know of any such latent defects, they are legally required to disclose them to prospective buyers, and if they do not, they can be held liable to pay for fixing the problem.

It is important to note that sellers are only liable for latent defects if they actually knew of the problem. So, for example, if this is the first occurrence of a sinkhole

in the area, the seller may not have known of the issue and won't be held responsible for not disclosing it. It just makes sense that someone cannot be liable for not disclosing a fact he or she did not know.

You should first look to your homeowner's insurance coverage to get help repairing your home. Unfortunately, if your policy is like many, sinkholes may not be covered. If this is the case, and if you believe that your seller hid the issue from you, then you should consider a lawsuit to hold that person liable for the damage.

*Gary M. Singer is a Florida attorney and board-certified as an expert in real estate law by the Florida Bar. He practices real estate, business litigation and contract law from his office in Sunrise. He is the chairman of the Real Estate Section of the Broward County Bar Association and is a co-host of the weekly radio show Legal News and Review. He frequently consults on general real estate matters and trends in Florida with various companies across the nation. Send him questions online at [sunsentinel.com/askpro](http://sunsentinel.com/askpro) or follow him on Twitter @GarySingerLaw.*

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# Let nature guide your next color choice

By **SHELLY SAPP**  
CONTRIBUTED COLUMN

Want an easy formula for the perfect color scheme in your home? Let nature guide your hand.

Mother nature is the master of color theory and she does not make mistakes. So when a client is having trouble articulating their ideas about color for a space, I usually ask if they have a favorite flower or remember an amazing outdoor experience? Those colors will be the ones we are subconsciously drawn to.

Lets look outside to get started!

Think about an outdoor place or photo you love. It could be your favorite golf course, looking out from the sun room at a neighbor's finely manicured garden, or the sunset while fishing off the Florida Keys. It's your "happy place."

For me, I had the love-liest afternoon walk a few years ago at Highlands Hammock State Park. I took a picture of how

peaceful the reflection of the canopy above fell upon the waterway as I strolled across the boardwalk. There were many greens, deep reds, burnt oranges and warm browns, with a peak of light blue sky in between. It was an incredibly soothing combination on blistering summer day.

I was so excited last year when a client shared she needed help with a "mother-in-law" suite. She wanted to include some traditional

heirloom pieces but was worried they were too dark and formal for the space.

I immediately thought back to the experience I had in the park and was inspired to use mother nature's palette. For the entry we included her dark bow front chest in a time worn quarter-sawn oak framed with "Inverness" paint by Sherwin Williams.

The adjacent kitchen was built in a rustic alder with a deep whiskey

orange finish. The apartment included iron accents throughout in contrast to the many pieces of bright white and blue-silver toned serving displays.

All the colors inspired by a bit of standing water below the hammock. It works beautifully, and Mother Nature deserves all the credit!

Try it then share your inspiration from nature on my blog at shellysappinteriors.com/blog/.

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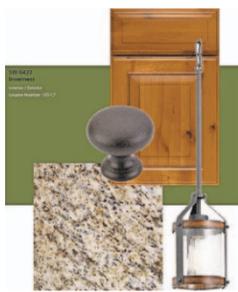


Use of the dark bow front chest painted in the color "Inverness" by Sherwin Williams was inspired by local nature.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Colors in nature can be inspiring. The greens, deep reds, burnt oranges, warm browns, and light blues found in Highlands Hammock State Park can be brought inside to your decor.



A recent mother-in-law suite project saw the kitchen include a rustic alder with a deep whiskey orange finish. All the colors were inspired by a bit of standing water below the hammock.

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# Tips for buying a foreclosed home

By **HOLDEN LEWIS**  
BANKRATE.COM

Buying a foreclosed home is not like the typical home purchase. In many cases:

Only one real estate agent is involved.

The seller wants a preapproval letter from a lender before accepting an offer.

There is little, if any, room for negotiation.

The home is sold as-is, and it's up to the buyer to pay for repairs.

On the upside, most bank-owned homes are vacant, which can speed up the process of moving in.

"Buying a foreclosure is definitely a bit of a grind. It's not easy," says Robert Jensen, broker and president of the Rob Jensen Co. in Las Vegas. "You're getting fantastic pricing, but sometimes it takes going through a lot of houses and writing a lot of offers to get the home you want."

— Find a real estate broker and a lender.

The first two steps for buying a foreclosure should be taken at the same time. While you're looking for a real estate broker who works directly with banks that own foreclosed homes, get a preapproval letter from a lender.

Elaine Zimmerman, a real estate investor and author, recommends that shoppers first visit any site with a database of foreclosed homes. You also could look at a local real estate website that lets you filter the results

to see only foreclosures.

You might find the acronym REO, which means "real estate owned." This signifies that the property has been foreclosed on and the lender now owns it and is selling it.

— Get a broker on your side.

The goal of combing through foreclosure listings is not to find a house; it's to find an agent. Banks usually hire real estate brokers to handle their REO properties. In many cases, the buyer works directly with the bank's broker instead of using a buyer's agent. That way, the commission doesn't have to be split between two brokers.

"A lot of these Realtors have a long-term relationship with these banks, and they know of listings that haven't even come on the list yet," Zimmerman says. "Call them about the listings that you're interested in, but also ask them about listings that may be coming up because sometimes it may take a day or two or even a week before a listing actually comes onto the database."

In places where thousands of foreclosed properties are for sale, you might not get much attention from overloaded agents. To prove that you're serious about buying, says Jensen, "Right before or after you meet with the agent, meet with the lender."

— Get a preapproval letter



METRO CREATIVE IMAGES

**The first two steps for buying a foreclosure should be taken at the same time. While you're looking for a real estate broker who works directly with banks that own foreclosed homes, get a preapproval letter from a lender.**

Unless you plan to pay cash, you'll need a recent preapproval letter from a lender. The letter will detail how much money you can borrow, based on the lender's assessment of your credit score and income.

"The problem is, buyers want to find the house first, and then they think they'll work out the financing," Jensen says. "But the problem is, the really good deals on these bank-owned, they go quick — and the buyer doesn't necessarily have time to try to work out the financing afterward. They need to work that out first."

Zimmerman says some first-time buyers make the mistake of assuming that the bank selling the home will also finance the mortgage as part of the deal. "Don't expect to get financing from the bank that foreclosed on

it," she says. "That's a totally separate transaction, and they view it that way. The people in the (bank's) REO department are not loan officers. They are getting rid of bad assets."

— Look at 'comps' before making an offer.

There's no rule of thumb on what the bank's bottom line is on price. Just as with any other real estate purchase, you have to look at the recent sales prices of comparable properties, or "comps."

"You really have to look at the comps in today's current market conditions and write a competitive offer based on that," says Jensen. "Sometimes the bank prices the homes really low, and the home will have multiple offers over list price within hours."

"Sometimes it's priced too high, and you can

come in lower. A lot of times, buyers will come to me and say, 'We want to write offers for half price.' It just doesn't work that way."

— Bid the higher price if homes are selling quickly.

Keep in mind that foreclosed houses generally are sold as-is. That means that you shouldn't expect to get a discount to compensate for repairs.

Jensen says: "Let's say the house is listed for \$200,000, all the comps are \$200,000, and so the client comes in and says, 'Hey, look, I want to buy this house but I've got to do paint, carpet and fix some mold damage, so I want to take \$15,000 off the price.' You know what? All the other ones were in the same condition, and they sold for \$200,000."

Jensen further advises

finding out how quickly comparable houses are selling. With foreclosures, a 3,500-square-foot house with a pool in a gated community might sell within days or hours, but more modest homes might sit on the market for weeks. Or vice versa, depending on market conditions.

If the foreclosed homes you're looking at are selling swiftly, "the best advice on a bank-owned property is to come in at your highest and best, unless the property has been sitting on the market forever with no activity," Jensen says.

"If you're going to be upset because you would have gone \$5,000 more but you lost the property, just bid the higher price in the first place."

— Find tradespeople who can assess, repair damage.

Because repairs are almost inevitable with foreclosed houses, Jensen and Zimmerman recommend getting to know tradespeople who can assess and repair damage from pests, mold and leaks. Zimmerman says you should assume that the air conditioning needs to be fixed, and possibly the heating system, too.

It all sounds daunting. But at least you don't have to wait for the owner to move out of the house.

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# Refinancing in a time of rising rates and property values, part 3

**MORTGAGE PROFESSOR**  
Jack Guttentag

While rising interest rates have sharply reduced the number of mortgage borrowers who can refinance into a lower rate, rising home prices create opportunities for some borrowers to refinance into mortgages that are less costly in other respects. Previous articles looked at refinancing a mortgage that is burdened by mortgage insurance, or by a second ("piggyback") mortgage, into a new mortgage that has neither. This article considers a third option, which is to refinance in order to consolidate short-term debts.

This appears to be one of the most attractive options a mortgage borrower may have. Yet of the three approaches to refinancing considered in this series of articles, this is the trickiest and the easiest to get wrong.

Homeowners with one mortgage and high-cost, short-term debt can refinance that mortgage with cash-out in an amount sufficient to pay off the short-term debt. (Note: "cash-out" means that the new mortgage amount will be larger than the outstanding balance of the old one). Alternatively, they can take out a new second mortgage to pay off the short-term debt, and leave the first mortgage alone.

Homeowners who already have two mortgages along with short-term debt also have two options:

—They can refinance the second mortgage with cash out to consolidate the short-term debt, leaving the first mortgage alone.

—They can refinance both mortgages into a new first mortgage that also includes the short-term debt.

Note that refinancing the first mortgage alone

is not a good option because the first mortgage lender requires the borrower to obtain permission of the second mortgage lender, without which the second mortgage becomes the first mortgage. Getting permission can be a hassle.

I have two calculators on my web site designed to deal with these two situations. These are:

Calculator 1b: Debt Consolidation Calculator for Home Owners With One Mortgage.

Calculator 1c: Debt Consolidation Calculator for Home Owners With Two Mortgages.

The calculators provide the information about each option that is needed to make the correct decision. This includes the total monthly payment, which consists of mortgage payments, mortgage insurance premiums (if any) and non-mortgage debt payments (if any). Borrowers on tight budgets must be concerned about the monthly payment affordability, but it should not be the major determinant of their choice.

The second type of information the calculators provide about all the options is their total cost over a period specified by the user. If the user's time horizon is, say, 10 years, the total cost of each option is the sum of the monthly payments over 10 years including lost interest, less the tax savings and reduction in total debt over that period.

Minimizing total cost should be the borrower's major objective because cost minimization is the path to early debt retirement. This measure should be used both to determine whether to refinance and, if so, which of the options to adopt.

A single-minded focus on the monthly payment can lead borrowers to a bad decision. As an example, Marie has a

\$358,788 balance on her 3.5 percent first mortgage secured by a home now worth \$600,000, but she owes \$50,000 on credit cards with an average interest charge of 24 percent. Marie wants to rid herself of the high-cost credit card debt, the question being how best to do it.

With recent appreciation, she now has enough equity in her house to refinance her mortgage with sufficient cash out to pay off the credit cards, paying 4.5 percent and 2 points on the new first mortgage. The alternative is a new second mortgage for \$50,000 at 7.5 percent and 2 points, leaving the first mortgage as it is.

From a monthly payment perspective, consolidating the short-term debt by refinancing is more attractive, reducing her total monthly payment from \$2,796 to \$2,113. Consolidating in a new second mortgage would result in a total payment of \$2,153.

From a cost perspective, however, taking a new second mortgage is the better deal. Over the next 10 years, total cost would be \$144,000 in the refinance case compared to \$117,000 in the second mortgage case. At the end of the 10 years, Marie would owe \$38,000 less if she took the second mortgage rather than refinancing the first.

Concluding comment: The reason that refinancing is not the best solution in this case is that the interest rate on a new first mortgage is higher than the rate on the existing mortgage. As a result, in order to reduce the rate on \$50,000 of debt by refinancing, Marie would be obliged to increase the rate on \$358,788 of debt.

*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.*



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this March photo, a sold sign is shown outside a single-family home on the market in Denver. On Wednesday, June 20, the National Association of Realtors reports on sales of existing homes in May.

## US home sales fell in May amid inventory crunch

By **JOSH BOAK**  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — U.S. existing home sales slipped 0.4 percent in May, as the prolonged shortage of properties on the market is deterring home-buying.

The National Association of Realtors said Wednesday that homes sold at a seasonally adjusted annual pace of 5.43 million in May, the second straight monthly decline. Sales have tumbled 3 percent over the past year, despite steady job growth that has boosted demand from would-be homebuyers as the unemployment rate has fallen to a multi-decade low of 3.8 percent.

The housing market is caught in a vice grip

of fewer sales listings and rising mortgage rates, both of which have made home ownership less affordable for many Americans.

The number of sales listings has dropped 6.1 percent over the past year to 1.85 million. That forced would-be buyers to act quickly and sign contracts on average in just 26 days. It also pushed up home values as the median sales price in May rose 4.9 percent from a year ago to \$264,800.

Because of declining inventories, sales of homes worth less than \$250,000 have declined over the past year. But in a sign of greater income inequality, sales of homes worth more than \$1 million have surged 14.4 percent

this year.

Adding to the pressure are rising mortgage rates. The average interest charged on a 30-year, fixed rate mortgage was 4.62 percent last week, up from 3.91 percent a year ago, according to mortgage buyer Freddie Mac.

Higher mortgage rates have the risk of further suppressing sales listings, even if the higher home values encourage some people to list their properties.

The Realtors found that 15 percent of homeowners wouldn't list their properties for sale due to the increased mortgage costs, up from 11 percent in April.

Sales rose in the Northeast in May. But sales fell in the Midwest, South and West.

## US home prices march upward as buyers fight over low supply

By **CHRISTOPHER RUGABER**  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — U.S. home prices rose in April from a year earlier, lifted by bidding wars in many cities where would-be buyers fought over a sparse supply of homes.

The S&P CoreLogic Case-Shiller 20-city home price index moved up 6.6 percent from a year earlier, led by outsize gains in Seattle, Las Vegas and San Francisco. All three cities showed double-digit increases.

Prices rose even as home sales fell and mortgage rates climbed. Sales of existing homes dropped in April and

May and are now running 3 percent below their year-ago level.

Fewer homes are available — the supply has fallen 6.1 percent in the past year — and they are selling quickly. The average house for sale remained on the market for just 26 days in April, down from 39 a year ago.

Mortgage rates reached a seven-year high of 4.77 percent in late May before declining this month. Last week, the 30-year fixed mortgage rate averaged 4.57

percent, according to Freddie Mac. That is still much higher than a year ago, when it was 3.9 percent.

The economy is growing and the unemployment rate is at an 18-year low, which typically would point to stronger home sales. Americans are increasingly turning to newly-built homes, where sales jumped 6.7 percent in May. But higher prices and fewer existing homes to choose from are cutting many Americans out of the housing market.

The Case-Shiller index covers roughly half of U.S. homes. The index measures prices compared with those in January 2000 and creates a three-month moving average. The April figures are the latest available.

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# Landscape inspections vital tool in home buying process



**TODAY'S REAL ESTATE**  
JULIO SEDA

One type of inspection is often overlooked and is not considered important when either selling, buying or renting a home — a landscape inspection.

A well maintained landscape in the immediate area of the property is a good first impression on a buyer, triggering a sense of trust when previewing the interior of the home. Frequently sellers prefer to invest in the interior of a home, based on the concept that today's families spend their time inside, instead of outside.

The first impression of the daily traffic is the exterior of the property, for which an attractive simple landscape can attract a potential buyer. Remember when you are listing your property for sale or rent prepare it to attract the interest of your tenant or buyer to be, not yours.

A landscape inspection is not always considered a priority by either party in a real estate transaction. After the transfer of title and financing are in place it becomes the buyer's burden to deal



METRO CREATIVE IMAGES

**A landscape inspection can be a vital tool when buying a home and it is the buyer's due diligence to have any inspection he or she finds necessary.**

with issues, if any. A few of the possible surprises are plants or tree around the perimeter of the house, which can cause expensive damage to the foundation of your new home.

In my 27 plus years in real estate, I have being approached by buyers because no disclosure on the landscape was given by the seller through the transaction. It is the buyer's due diligence to have any inspection he or she finds necessary.

A landscape inspection will clarify the type of plant or tree, if the location will or will not harm the structure. It

will show unhealthy conditions of trees and plants. Inspecting the irrigation system, soil, grading, decks and patios is important to a prudent buyer for better understanding of the actual conditions and the maintenance required.

Some additional findings when you have a thorough landscape inspection are over saturation of soil, tree branches hanging over the home, which may cause roof damage and invite unwanted guest such as rats, raccoon, snake, ants and roaches to share your home.

This inspection can

discover if the sprinkler system is unaligned leading to dry rot or termites. Another forgotten item is the rain gutters; are they efficient or inefficient, causing drainage clogging, creating strong odors inside the home and interior stains? The lawn slopes can be draining towards the house rather than away setting up a flooding issue that will bring mosquitoes and strong odors due the constant accumulation of water for an indefinite period of time.

Let's remember we live in Florida, a climate with year round humidity. Buyers need to ask about

the components covered by a landscape inspection and research the experience and knowledge of the inspector and the inspection company's reputation.

The investment of a home is worth the cost to have all types of inspection done by a reputable, professional company with certified inspectors who are up to date with the neighborhood trend. If you are buying either for investment or for your family to enjoy, it is best to prevent mayor expenses in repairs due to lack of knowledge or awareness on damages caused by poor

maintenance from a previous owner.

Your Realtor can assist you in selecting a reputable inspection professional.

The prices varies on inspections, starting at \$75-120 for termites and pest report, from \$150-350 on an arborist review and \$350-450 for a septic system inspection, and last but certainly not least important, the removal of a tree can be in the \$1,500.

Some companies offer a free quote or a reduction on the inspection, so be aware on those deals. When a company does inspection and repairs they might have a consideration on the inspection cost if you give them the work to repair when needed. Confirm if it is a certified firm with a certified inspector and they are current on the type of inspection you need in the area where the property is located.

Here is a brief landscape inspection check list to assist you:

- 1) Patios and deck
- 2) Fence conditions
- 3) Waters features
- 4) Soil composition and grading
- 5) Trees, plants and grass
- 6) Retaining walls
- 7) Irrigation system
- 8) Pools
- 9) Outdoors kitchens or fireplaces
- 10) Drainage and erosion

To submit questions, comments or topics, call Julio Seda at 786-991-8235 or email 0532315@gmail.com.

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# How to use unusual color combos to make your rooms pop

**DESIGN RECIPES**  
CATHY HOBBS

When it comes to color combinations, you may ask yourself, what's in and what's out? Which colors can I put together? And which ones may be taboo or clash? Here are some general guidelines you can follow that can help improve the likelihood of color combination success.

## Turquoise and orange

Turquoise and orange may sound like an odd pairing, but the color combo can be quite inviting, especially for those looking for a modern, if not hip decor. The blend of turquoise, viewed as a warm season color, and a more traditional orange, can appear timeless and modern.

## Black, white and red

Black and White is one of the most popular color combinations in both fashion and home decor. Add a pop of red, and you have the recipe for color success. Fun, crisp and clean, this color combo can be used in living spaces or kitchen.

## Yellow and charcoal

Whether it is mustard, lemon yellow or chartreuse, yellow is

an innovative, modern and creatively dynamic color when paired with cool colors such as gray, whether it is a light gray or a deeper shade such as a charcoal.

## Charcoal and dark blue

This is an instance in which two cool colors work well together. With the shade of blue, don't be afraid to go with rich and bright tones, as these shades will create an inviting contrast when paired with gray.

## Cool vs. warm colors

A traditional color wheel can be a wonderful guide and tool if you are confused about which potential colors could blend well when placed near each other. As a general rule of thumb, colors next to each other on the wheel work well together, as do colors that are opposite each other on the wheel.

Don't be afraid to blend colors together, either by pairing warm colors with other warm colors, or by pairing cool and warm colors. Have a special outfit or garment pairing you simply love? Consider trying that same color combination in your home. Often, colors that work in fashion can easily translate into fabrics and wall colors that will work well

together in the realm of home decor.

## Dark blue and black

A few years back, there was a bit of a fashion controversy surrounding this particular color combination, asking the question, can you wear blue with black? The answer according to many fashionistas is yes, and this is a color combination that also often works extremely well when it comes to home decor.

*Cathy Hobbs, based in New York City, is an Emmy Award-winning television host and a nationally known interior design and home staging*



METRO CREATIVE IMAGES

Turquoise and orange may sound like an odd pairing, but the color combination can be quite inviting.

expert with offices in New York City, Boston and

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<p><b>NICE HOME ON QUIET CUL DE SAC</b> 2/2 home w/many features. Master Suite w/low step shower in bathroom 1-year old A/C Large carport plus 42 FT driveway, Ceiling fans throughout. Great landscaping, Shed w/shelving &amp; work bench. Galley Style kitchen, breakfast nook. SB2257 The Hammond Team (863) 450-3339 <b>\$29,900</b></p>	<p><b>HOME ON QUIET CUL DE SAC IN GOLF COMMUNITY</b> 2/2 home with open floor plan, features large Living &amp; Dining room, Kitchen, Master Suite w/low step up Shower in bath, Utility room w/lots of storage cabinets, FL Room, Guest Bedroom. Covered Patio &amp; storage shed at the end of 49 FT Covered Carport. All of this plus a golf cart. SB2261 The Hammond Team (863) 450-3339 <b>\$29,000</b></p>
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<p><b>AWESOME PARK MODEL!</b> 1/1 park model in 55+ park has it all, new AC 2018, Stack laundry inside, plenty of storage, light &amp; bright, carport is converted into 1 car garage with screen door, perfect for snowbirds, and a great way to entertain or relax and enjoy. Stop by and check out this home features for yourself. SB2245 Kim Strasser (863) 279-3387 <b>\$29,900</b></p>	<p><b>LIGHT-BRIGHT &amp; READY FOR YOUR FINISHING TOUCH</b> 2/2 home in 55+ park has an extended carport, full front lanai with Chattahoochee river rock flooring a perfect place to enjoy and relax and enjoy the park amenities. Breakfast bar in kitchen, lots of light &amp; bright, large rooms, inside laundry. Park is close to many of the areas featured actions. SB2221 Kim Strasser (863) 279-3387 <b>\$18,500</b></p>
<p><b>YOU'LL LOVE THE LAMINATE FLOORS THROUGHOUT!</b> SELLER PAYS LOT RENT THRU OCTOBER 31, 2018! 2/2 is furnished and turn key. Just bring clothes and toothbrush. Large master bedroom w/huge walk in closet and French doors to bath suite. Newer life time rubber roof, newer extra-large capacity Trane AC, Heat pump, newer refrigerator, newer floors and more. SB2192 Orla Or Don Cox (863) 658-3955 <b>\$36,900</b></p>	<p><b>FABULOUS FORMER MODEL HOME</b> 2/2 with many upgrades large office grants spacious living. Craftsmanship is evident by features like the double tray living room ceiling, built nose corners and extended foundation base. New AC, Heating in 2015. New roof with architectural shingles in 2017. Double painted driveway to your large garage. SB2209 Orla Or Don Cox (863) 658-3955 <b>\$75,900</b></p>
<p><b>GREAT VALUE ON 2 BEDROOM 2 BATH</b> Cozy 2 bedroom, 2 bath home is fully furnished, newer wood floors and roof. Open floor plan, open front porch, carport and oversized golf cart shed. SB2241 Donald Larriviere (863) 450-3340 <b>\$24,900</b></p>	<p><b>THIS HOME HAS IT ALL!</b> 2/2 home. This home is being sold furnished with new refrigerator, garbage disposal and microwave. Engineered Wood Floors Throughout. Large kitchen with extra skylights, large master suite. Relax on your 12 X 27 lanai. Home has 2 car garage double driveway and carport. New Roof in 2017. SB2225 Donald Larriviere (863) 450-3340 <b>\$92,500</b></p>
<p><b>MUST SEE! BEAUTIFUL &amp; READY TO MOVE IN!</b> 2015 home has 2 BR/2 BA &amp; 2 car driveway! Bright &amp; immaculate! Remodeled in 2014. Partially furnished. Laminate floors in Dining, living room &amp; bedrooms. New roof in 2014, new AC, over range microwave. Open space living room, large kitchen w/wrap around cabinets. Golf cart garage w/luft door opener. SB2250 Jack Walden (239) 825-8401 <b>\$49,500</b></p>	<p><b>LARGE AND LOTS OF SPACE!</b> 3/2 split floor plan home. Extended carport with large lanai is perfect for entertaining or relaxing outdoors, golf cart shed, new landscaping, fresh paint, ready for you to add your personal style and touch, inside laundry, spacious master with on suite and more. SB2163 Jack Walden (239) 825-8401 <b>\$32,500</b></p>

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## NHL FREE AGENCY

On the eve of free agency, John Tavares is leaving the NHL guessing about his destination. **Page 3**

MLB: Rays

# Kiermaier's glove was missed

By **RODNEY PAGE**  
Tampa Bay Times

ST. PETERSBURG – The Rays certainly missed CF Kevin Kiermaier when he was forced to the disabled list in mid-April with a right thumb injury. His bat at the top of the lineup is one reason, but even bigger is his play in the outfield.

One example came in the ninth inning of Thursday's game against the Astros. With the Rays

down 1-0, Kiermaier made a running catch in left-centerfield with one out and a runner on second. The Rays eventually got out of the inning and at least had a chance down by a run in the bottom of the ninth.

"It was kind of a nothing KK play but he is one of three or four center fielders who can actually go get that ball," Rays manager Kevin Cash said. "As a third base coach you have to be aware of where he is

standing because he can beat you with his legs and with his arm."

Kiermaier did try to beat the Astros on Thursday with his legs when he laid down a bunt base hit in the eighth that put runners on the corners with no outs. He got doubled off first when Matt Duffy lined out to shortstop, but he still tried to make something happen.

Cash said that was Kiermaier's call. And he's not going to expect

him to bunt often in the future.

"I would never ask a guy to sit there and bunt," Cash said. "KK can do so many powerful things with the bat. He can hit the ball in the gap, hit it out of the ball park. There are times in a game where it's nice to drop it down. But KK has to be comfortable doing that. We don't want to be in a position to tell him to bunt. More often than



AP PHOTO

Tampa Bay Rays' Kevin Kiermaier, right, hugs Jesus Sucre as teammates celebrate in the dugout after Kiermaier's grand slam off Washington Nationals' Gio Gonzalez, Monday, in St. Petersburg.

SEE RAYS, 2

## WORLD CUP

# Women make World Cup telecast history in US, UK, Germany

By **RONALD BLUM**  
Associated Press

MOSCOW – The men's World Cup is notable for women.

Fox's Aly Wagner and Telemundo's Viviana Vila are the first in-match analysts on U.S. television for soccer's showcase. BBC's Vicki Sparks is making a similar breakthrough in Britain and ZDF's Claudia Neumann in

Germany.

"It took me 10 years. It was very disappointing that it took so much time," Vila said of her advance. "It truly was draining, unfair and ungrateful. It shouldn't be that way. But it made me stronger, to keep learning and improving in my work. I'm better now to face whatever comes my way."

SEE HISTORY, 6

## WORLD CUP: Uruguay 2, Portugal 1

# Cavani scores twice, Uruguay ousts Ronaldo and Portugal

By **TIM BOOTH**  
Associated Press

SOCHI, Russia – Edinson Cavani upstaged Cristiano Ronaldo, first with his head and then with his right foot, and sent Uruguay to the World Cup quarterfinals.

Cavani scored twice Saturday to give Uruguay a 2-1 victory over Portugal.

On the same day Lionel Messi was sent

home in Argentina's loss, the other "GOAT" at this tournament was also eliminated. It was two weeks ago that Ronaldo scored a hat trick in the same stadium against Spain, stroking his chin after the first goal to imply he was the "greatest of all time."

There was no goal from Ronaldo this time. Everywhere he went, the Portugal great was

SEE URUGUAY, 6



AP PHOTO

Uruguay's Edinson Cavani celebrates after scoring his side's 2nd goal at the Fisht Stadium in Sochi, Russia, Saturday.

## NCAA FOOTBALL: University of South Florida

# 'Smooth operator'



AP PHOTO

University of South Florida president Judy Genshaft, right, and the school's new athletic director Michael Kelly gesture during a press conference introducing Kelly on Friday at the Yuengling Center in Tampa.

## Getting to know USF's new athletic director, Michael Kelly

By **JOEY KNIGHT**  
Tampa Bay Times

TAMPA – Odds are, USF's new athletic director can intelligently discuss Tupac and tariff acts with equal zeal. His thesis at Wake Forest: Rap Music as a Political Communicator.

"I'll let him get into the music with you," former colleague Reid Sigmon, now chief operating officer for University of Tennessee athletics, said with a chuckle. "And it's evolved over time."

These days, Kelly's downloads may include anything from

classic rock to U2 to '80s and '90s hip-hop. Pop-jazz siren Sade (of the '80s hit Smooth Operator) remains a guilty pleasure; friends say he can recite the lyrics to darn near all her songs.

SEE USF, 3

## NFL: Buccaneers

# Lifelong fan mails back jersey to the team

By **GREG AUMAN**  
Tampa Bay Times

John Schuzer has been a Bucs fan since their first season in 1976, when he decided he liked the new team from Florida much better than his father's Cardinals or his grandfather's Lions.

Despite living in Illinois, he's had season tickets since 2007, and when the 2015 NFL draft was held in Chicago, the Bucs gave him VIP passes so he could be there in person when quarterback Jameis Winston's name was announced as the No. 1 overall pick.

He grew to like Winston enough that two years ago, in Tampa to see a Thursday night game, he bought a red No. 3 Winston jersey at Raymond James Stadium, proudly rotating that with a No. 93 Gerald McCoy jersey.

But when news came

out Thursday that Winston was being suspended three games for violating the league's personal conduct policy, when he read Winston's apology, he decided it was enough. He neatly folded up the jersey,

SEE BUCS, 3

INDEX | Lottery 2 | MiLB 2 | MLB 2, 4 | Golf 2 | NHL 3 | NBA 3 | Scoreboard 5 | World Cup 6 | Tennis 6

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## Florida Lottery

www.flalottery.com

### PICK 2

June 30N ..... 3-4  
June 30D ..... 0-3  
June 29N ..... 3-0  
June 29D ..... 9-5  
June 28N ..... 3-9  
June 28D ..... 7-0

### PICK 3

June 30N ..... 9-8-5  
June 30D ..... 4-4-4  
June 29N ..... 1-7-9  
June 29D ..... 2-0-4  
June 28N ..... 1-7-9  
June 28D ..... 3-5-5

### PICK 4

June 30N ..... 3-7-3-3  
June 30D ..... 7-8-2-8  
June 29N ..... 7-7-0-1  
June 29D ..... 7-6-9-3  
June 28N ..... 7-7-0-1  
June 28D ..... 2-5-6-1

### PICK 5

June 30N ..... 5-9-9-9-1  
June 30D ..... 9-7-9-1-2  
June 29N ..... 1-1-3-4-4  
June 29D ..... 7-3-7-1-2  
June 28N ..... 1-1-3-4-4  
June 28D ..... 4-5-1-5-1  
D-Day, N-Night

### FANTASY 5

June 30..... 5-11-17-35-30  
June 29..... 9-10-18-22-30  
June 28..... 2-11-19-25-26

PAYOFF for June 29  
3 5-digit winners \$70,897.93  
313. 4-digit winners \$109.50  
9,825.... 3-digit winners 9.50

### CASH FOR LIFE

June 28..... 4-13-17-34-49  
Cash Ball ..... 1

## SPORTS ON TV

### AUTO RACING

9:05 a.m.  
ESPN2 — Formula One, Austrian Grand Prix, at Spielberg, Austria  
9:30 a.m.  
FS1 — IMSA, WeatherTech SportsCar Championship, Sahlen's Six Hours of The Glen, at Watkins Glen, N.Y.  
2:30 p.m.  
NBCSN — NASCAR, Monster Energy Cup Series, Overton's 400, at Joliet, Ill.

### GOLF

7:30 a.m.  
GOLF — European PGA Tour, HNA Open de France, final round, at Paris  
1 p.m.  
GOLF — PGA Tour, Quicken Loans National, final round, at Potomac, Md.  
3 p.m.  
CBS — PGA Tour, Quicken Loans National, final round, at Potomac, Md.  
NBC — LPGA Tour/PGA of America, KPMG Women's PGA Championship, final round, at Kildeer, Ill.  
4 p.m.

## RAYS

From Page 1

not, the fielders are down his throat even though he doesn't bunt a ton.

"I don't think that's necessarily part of his game."

### Archer still on track

RHP Chris Archer, who has been out since June 3 with an abdominal strain, cleared another hurdle in his quest to return to the mound. He said he felt "great" on Friday, a day after throwing 46 pitches in a simulated game in Port Charlotte.

He is scheduled to throw a bullpen session on Saturday. The next big test will be Tuesday, when he pitches in a game at Class A Port Charlotte. He will throw either four innings or 65 pitches.

"He's on his way back," Cash said. "This is probably the most encouraging I've heard him talk about how he's felt. The arm feels pretty fresh."

Before the injury, Archer was 3-4 with a 4.24 ERA in 13 starts.

### Font leaves early

Rays starting pitcher Wilmer Font looked

PAYOFF FOR June 28  
0..... 5-5 CB \$1,000/Day  
0..... 5-5 \$1,000/Week  
1..... 4-5 CB \$2,500  
13..... 4-5 \$500

### LUCKY MONEY

June 29..... 1-36-37-47  
Lucky Ball ..... 4

PAYOFF FOR June 26  
0..... 4-of-4 LB \$1 Million  
4..... 4-of-4 \$1,297.50  
39..... 3-of-4 LB \$291.50  
523..... 3-of-4 \$64.00  
Estimated Jackpot \$1.3 million

### LOTTO

June 30.... 13-24-28-32-37-47

PAYOFF FOR June 27  
0.. 6-digit winners \$2.5 million  
13 5-digit winners \$4,713.00  
756... 4-digit winners \$75.00  
ESTIMATED JACKPOT \$3 million

### POWERBALL

June 30..... 3-9-20-42-61  
Powerball ..... 24

PAYOFF FOR June 27  
0..... 5-5 + PB \$50 Million  
0..... 5-5 \$1 Million  
1..... 4-5 + PB \$50,000  
19..... 4-5 \$100  
ESTIMATED JACKPOT \$60 Million

### MEGA MILLIONS

June 29..... 3-32-47-49-68  
Mega Ball ..... 23

PAYOFF FOR June 29  
0.. 5 of 5 + MB \$ 192 Million  
0..... 5 of 5 \$1 Million  
0..... 4 of 5 + MB \$10,000  
17..... 4 of 5 \$500  
ESTIMATED JACKPOT \$256 million

FS1 — USGA, U.S. Senior Open, final round, at Colorado Springs, Colo.

### MLB BASEBALL

1:10 p.m.  
SUN — Houston at Tampa Bay  
2 p.m.  
MLB — Regional coverage, Atlanta at St. Louis OR Minnesota at Chicago Cubs  
8 p.m.  
ESPN — Boston at N.Y. Yankees  
SOCCER  
10 a.m.  
FOX — FIFA World Cup, Second round, Spain vs. Russia, at Moscow  
2 p.m.  
FOX — FIFA World Cup, Second round, Croatia vs. Denmark, at Nizhny Novgorod, Russia  
4:30 p.m.  
FOX — MLS, N.Y. Red Bulls at Toronto  
SPECIAL OLYMPICS  
3:30 p.m.  
ABC — 2018 Special Olympics USA Games, opening ceremony, at Seattle

awfully good in his first five innings against the Astros Friday night. He allowed only one hit and had a 3-0 lead. Then in the sixth, he gave up a leadoff walk to Jake Marisnick. With a 3-and-1 count to Alex Bregman, Cash and trainer Mike Sandoval came to the mound and Font was replaced due to a right lat strain.

RHP Diego Castillo entered and gave up a two-run homer to Bregman.

### Atop the Trop

AT&T SportsNet reporter Julia Morales tries to find unusual places for a weekly Friday interview segment with Astros manager A.J. Hinch.

And Friday that took them nearly 200 feet above the Tropicana Field playing surface to the A-ring of the catwalk. "It wasn't that bad," Hinch said, though noting how the stairs and catwalk shifted as they walked. "It was well worth it."

Morales and Hinch were joined by a cameraman and two Rays officials. The Friday afternoon climb up, interview and descent took under an hour.

## MILB: Tarpons 6, Stone Crabs 5

# Stone Crabs blow 9th-inning lead

By BRYAN LEVINE  
Sports Writer

PORT CHARLOTTE — Leading by one run entering the ninth inning, the Charlotte Stone Crabs were three outs away from their first winning streak of the second half.

Stone Crabs reliever Hunter Schryver managed to record just one out before allowing four batters to reach base on the way to a 6-5 victory for the Tampa Tarpons.

Schryver allowed two runs in the ninth inning — one of which came while Zack Mozingo was on the mound — but both were unearned after a fielding error by Miles Mastrobuoni helped spark the Tarpons' rally.

Charlotte trailed for nearly the entirety of the game, but managed to take a 5-4 lead in the eighth inning. After Kevin Padlo walked and Jesus Sanchez reached on an error, Josh Lowe cleared the bases for a game-tying two-run double. Lowe later scored on a wild pitch by Tarpons' reliever Matt Wivins.

The Stone Crabs once again went with



PHOTO BY TOM O'NEILL

Charlotte Stone Crabs relief pitcher Brock Burke (23) faces the Tampa Tarpons during the third inning Saturday at Charlotte Sports Park.

the Tampa Bay Rays' "opener" strategy of beginning the game with a reliever. Saturday's starting reliever was J.D. Busfield, and the strategy didn't go as planned.

Busfield, pitching for the first two innings of the game, allowed three runs on three hits and a walk. He also gave up a pair of solo home runs to Steven Sensley and Alexander Palma.

Typical starting pitcher Brock Burke took over for Busfield in the third inning and continued the strong streak he's put together over his last eight outings — where he's allowed more than two earned runs just twice in that span.

Burke gave up just one run on three hits and two walks over six strong innings while striking out six batters.

The lone run Burke surrendered came on a passed ball with a runner on third base, which probably should've been controlled by catcher Zac Law.

Lucius Fox and Josh Lowe each had two hits in the loss. Fox scored a pair of runs. Lowe had two RBI. Tristan Gray hit his league-leading 22nd double of the season.

## MLB: Rays 5, Astros 2

# Ramos has 4 RBIs as Rays beat Astros

By DICK SCANLON  
Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG — Justin Verlander's worst start with the Houston Astros might have been OK if not for Wilson Ramos.

Ramos drove in four runs in the first two innings against Verlander and the Tampa Bay Rays went on to a 5-2 win over the Astros on Saturday.

"I wasn't sharp, but also I didn't have luck on my side," Verlander said. "I made an adjustment during the third inning that I thought was good, but it was too little too late."

Verlander (9-4) gave up the most runs (5) and hits (9) of any of his 23 starts since his trade to Houston late last summer. He struck out eight in a season-low five innings after coming in with a major league-leading 1.82 ERA — though it was 4.34 in six June starts. The Astros have lost his last three starts.

Matt Duffy finished with three hits, including two in the first two innings, to help the Rays win for the seventh time in eight games to move



AP PHOTO

Tampa Bay Rays' Matt Duffy (5), C.J. Cron (44) and Kevin Kiermaier celebrate the win over the Astros yesterday in St. Petersburg.

to .500 (41-41) for the first time since June 1.

"I gave up three hard-hit balls, all to the same guy. The rest of 'em, nobody hit the ball hard," Verlander said.

Ramos got the Rays on the scoreboard with a two-run double in the first, and made it 5-0 with a two-run single in the second. Those two at bats summarized Verlander's day.

"The first at bat, I put him in a 3-1 situation where, bases loaded, he knows a heater's coming, and he hit it off the wall. So that's my fault," Verlander said. "His next bat I got a ground ball up the middle on a slider,

which is kind of what you're looking for. But it found a hole."

Tampa Bay has held opponents to two runs or fewer in five straight games for only the second time in franchise history.

"The way these guys are throwing right now, we're tough to beat," said Kevin Kiermaier, who scored in each of the first two innings.

Alex Bregman got the Astros on the board with a two-run homer in the sixth off Vidal Nuno. It was Bregman's 16th home run and his fifth in six games.

"They've been throwing the ball well over there, and we haven't

really been able to put anything together," Bregman said. "Verlander was a little unfortunate today with some of the weak contact that went for hits, but we've got to do a better job of putting up runs for him.

Nuno (2-0) got the win after pitching 4 2/3 innings of relief, giving up two runs and four hits while striking out four. Sergio Romo pitched ninth for his seventh save in 11 opportunities.

Ryne Stanek pitched the first inning for Tampa Bay, giving up a single to Jose Altuve, Houston's only hit in the first four innings.

### RARE ERROR

Adeiny Hechavarria made a fielding error on George Springer's grounder in the top of the sixth just before Bregman's homer. It ended a streak of 94 games and 319 chances in which the Rays' shortstop had not committed a miscue. It was the longest errorless streak in franchise history for a shortstop. Hechavarria's last error had come on July 30, 2017 at Yankee Stadium.

## GOLF: PGA Tour

# Ancer, Molinari share lead at National, Tiger stalls

By DOUG FERGUSON  
Associated Press

POTOMAC, Md. — Tiger Woods ran off four straight birdies and finished the front nine with seven consecutive one-putt greens. Unlike Francesco Molinari and Abraham Ancer, he couldn't keep it going Saturday in the Quicken Loans National.

Ancer and Molinari each handled the scorching heat on the TPC Potomac at Avenel Farm and shared the lead going into the final round.

Ancer birdied two of his last three holes for the lowest score of his career, an 8-under 62, giving the 27-year-old Mexican his best shot at a first PGA Tour victory. Ancer has never been in the top 10 going into the

final round in 22 previous starts.

Molinari also is going for his first official PGA Tour victory, though that comes with an asterisk. He won a World Golf Championship in Shanghai in 2010, though the PGA Tour did not recognize the HSBC Champions as an official win until a year later.

They were at 13-under 197, two shots clear of Ryan Armour (68) and Zac Blair (66).

Woods was six shots behind, the seventh straight tournament he has been at least five shots behind going into the final round. It sure didn't sound that way, and for most of the round, it didn't look that way.

With his fifth birdie of the front nine, Woods was two shots out of the

lead. And then he opened the back nine with a pair of birdie chances just inside 10 feet and missed the both. He never really regained his momentum, finished with another bogey and shot 68.

Considering the scoring average was 69.6 in the third round, he wound up losing two shots to the lead.

"It was frustrating because I played better than what my score indicates," Woods said. "I thought that 10 under would have been a good score for me to end up at for the day, and I could have easily gotten that today on the back nine."

He didn't, and now has more ground to make up.

The nine players ahead of him have combined for just five (official) PGA Tour victories.

Molinari has five

European Tour victories, has played on two Ryder Cup teams and is No. 17 in the world.

The Italian is playing at the National and plans to be at the John Deere Classic in two weeks, even though the European Tour is in the meat of its summer schedule with national opens in France, Ireland and Scotland leading up to the British Open. Molinari is currently among qualifiers for the Ryder Cup team, but his FedEx Cup standing is at No. 123.

He's making the most of his first trip to the TPC Potomac. Even though he missed a few short putts on the front nine, he closed with a 30-foot birdie putt on the par-3 17th and hit wedge into 5 feet for birdie at the 18th.

## NHL

# League awaits John Tavares' decision on eve of free agency

By **STEPHEN WHYNO** and  
**JOHN WAWROW**  
Associated Press

On the eve of free agency, John Tavares is leaving the NHL guessing about his destination.

Roughly 18 hours until the market opens, the elite center had not chosen between six suitors, with the San Jose Sharks, hometown Toronto Maple Leafs and incumbent New York Islanders considered the most likely options. Tavares could only get an eight-year deal by re-signing with the Islanders, but would have to do so before midnight when that advantage expires.

If the Tavares sweepstakes drag on into Sunday, it would seem to favor San Jose and Toronto, either of which could sign the 27-year-old to a seven-year deal worth \$70 million or more. He met this week with the Sharks, Maple Leafs, Islanders, Boston Bruins, Dallas Stars and



New York Islanders center John Tavares skates against the New Jersey Devils during the first period of an NHL hockey game on March 31, in Newark, N.J.

Tampa Bay Lightning, and his decision could drastically affect the plans of those teams and others.

"I think other teams have admitted, we would have to make moves (to clear salary-cap space)," Bruins general manager Don Sweeney told reporters in Boston on Friday. "Pretty confident we'd be able to do that."

As hockey waited for the Tavares watch to

end, several teams made moves Saturday ahead of the frenzy.

The Sharks agreed to terms on a \$64 million, eight-year extension with forward Logan Couture, according to a person familiar with the deal who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the deal hasn't been announced. It can't become official until after noon Sunday

because it doesn't begin until the 2019-20 season — the same as long-term deals the Los Angeles Kings have with Drew Doughty and Arizona Coyotes have with Oliver Ekman-Larsson and Niklas Hjalmarsson.

Detroit got its own defenseman under contract for the next two seasons by agreeing to deal with Mike Green that pays him \$5.375 million annually.

Signing Green could be just the start of the action for the Red Wings, who have been linked to unrestricted free agent goaltender Jonathan Bernier and winger Thomas Vanek.

New Jersey also shored up its goaltending situation by re-signing Eddie Lack to a \$650,000, one-year deal. The Devils also have Cory Schneider and Keith Kinkaid, who split time last season and in the playoffs.

A person with direct knowledge of discussions said the Buffalo Sabres are expected to sign goalie Carter Hutton, who had been the St. Louis Blues' backup to Jake Allen. The person spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because agreements cannot be announced until the signing period begins.

Hutton and others seem to already be ticketed for certain places, but many big-name players are still up for grabs.

Maple Leafs winger

James van Riemsdyk, who tied Tavares with 36 goals last season, has been drawing significant interest and, at 29, could easily command a seven-year contract at a substantial raise over his previous \$4.25 million salary. The Western Conference-champion Vegas Golden Knights have cap space but might lose wingers David Perron and James Neal, who combined for 110 points last season.

The Winnipeg Jets are doing their best to try to bring back center Paul Stastny after he was so instrumental in their playoff run. They cleared about \$5.5 million in cap space by trading goaltender Steve Mason and Finnish forward Joel Armia to Montreal on Saturday but may still need more room to bring back the 32-year-old.

The Canadiens are set to buy out Mason, putting him on unconditional waivers as the Minnesota Wild did with forward Tyler Ennis to clear cap space.

## NHL

## Taking over Stanley Cup champ is not an easy task for a coach

By **STEPHEN WHYNO**  
Associated Press

For Colin Campbell, going from Mike Keenan's top assistant to head coach of the New York Rangers wasn't a big move.

"I just had to move 10 feet to another office," Campbell said.

Logistically it was simple, but in every other way it was an almost-impossible task. Campbell took over the Rangers after they ended a 54-year drought and paraded the Stanley Cup down Broadway because Keenan left in a contract dispute.

It's a similar situation to the one Todd Reirden is walking into after the Washington Capitals promoted him from associate to head coach to replace Barry Trotz mere weeks after winning the Cup. Reirden

is just the fourth new coach in the past 30 years to assume control of a Stanley Cup champion, a unique opportunity that presents problems Campbell, Scotty Bowman and Dave Lewis know well from their experiences.

Lewis succeeded Bowman after being his associate coach with the champion 2002 Detroit Red Wings, and Bowman stepped in for "Badger" Bob Johnson after he led the Pittsburgh Penguins to the Cup in 1991 and had to take a leave of absence to fight cancer. All three had to balance the opportunity of taking over with the expectation of following a Cup-winning coach and the ensuing pressure.

"Besides replacing a legend, to be equal, you have to win the Stanley Cup, so it was a big

challenge," Lewis said. "I was looking forward to the challenge, actually, of taking over a team, taking over a team that won a Stanley Cup and try to accomplish the same thing. I knew it would be very difficult."

Or as Campbell pointed out: "You can only tie. You can't do better. Tying's pretty good. You have to win a Cup just tie your performance from a year before."

No pressure, Todd. Only Bowman — who already had five Cup rings from the Montreal Canadiens' 1970s dynasty — pulled it off and repeated. And even that was a different set of circumstances because as director of player development, Bowman only agreed to coach the Penguins until Johnson was able to resume coaching or succumbed to cancer.

## USF

From Page 1

He's equally well-versed on current events.

"He's a junkie for what happens in the world," said College Football Playoff executive director Bill Hancock, Kelly's boss the past 5-½ years. "He keeps up with the news — all the news — very closely."

Toss in a passion for pizza, a good burger (no cheese), movies, daily walks and Washington, D.C., sports teams (he was raised in Gaithersburg, Md., and went to high school in D.C.), and you've got the nuances in the portrait of USF's new vice president of athletics.

But the broad strokes are what compelled the school to bring Kelly back to Tampa. Peers and former bosses insist this 47-year-old married dad of two girls — who helped run a bay area Super Bowl and Final Four — warrants a sequence of titles befitting a college leader. Consensus builder. Devoted husband and father. Visionary. Listener. Organizer.

Not to mention proprietor of a most coveted cell-phone directory.

"No one has more extensive, positive contacts than Michael," said former Bulls AD Paul Griffin, who hired Kelly as a USF associate AD in 2001.

"If those (Power Five) opportunities don't provide themselves in the industry, it won't be because of a lack of his ability to network with the decision makers."

The ability to pick up his iPhone and scroll through a directory of names such as Saban, Swinney and Swofford was a huge reason Kelly found himself grinning for cameras — in dark suit, dark-green tie and

small Bulls logo pinned on his left lapel — Friday afternoon.

From the outset of its AD search, USF made no secret it wanted someone with the clout and contacts to help the school get into a Power Five league when the next wave of conference realignment arrives.

"We were looking for a high level of integrity and strong moral character," Dr. Judy Genshaft said Friday. "For us, these qualities were non-negotiable."

Unlike other names mentioned for the USF job, Kelly's figurative closet appears empty. A routine Tampa Bay Times background search uncovered only three traffic/driving tickets, all more than a decade old.

The only potential source of embarrassment upon his return Friday to Tampa was from the shameless plaudits heaped upon him by colleagues.

"The two words I think for me that come to mind are organization and relationships," said Sigmon, who worked for Kelly in Wake Forest's athletic department in the late 1990s.

"He has great ability from a vision standpoint of how things should be organized, and the process that you need to go through to be ready and to accomplish whatever the goal is."

That quarter-century administrative odyssey included stints in athletic departments at Wake Forest (where he met wife Lisa, and where Maya Angelou was among their professors) and USF, where he served as Lee Roy Selmon's associate AD for external affairs from 2001-02.

It extended to three Super Bowls and a Final Four (where Kelly presided over local organizing committees),

to the ACC (an associate commissioner overseeing football and broadcasting), to the College Football Playoff, where he spent five years as COO.

Kelly first appeared on Hancock's radar while he was helping run an NCAA Tournament first- and second-round weekend in Winston-Salem in the 1990s. When St. Petersburg was considering people to head its local organizing committee for the 1999 Final Four at Tropicana Field, Kelly's name was floated to Hancock, then Final Four director.

"And I thought, wow, that's a home run," Hancock said.

Hancock watched Kelly spend the better part of a year efficiently juggle the nuts and bolts of the operation: transportation planning, mobilizing community volunteers, handling the logistics of the massive coaches convention (which coincides with the Final Four), and game management.

"And then he and I just stayed in touch," Hancock said. "And when it was time to hire our COO here (at the College Football Playoff), Michael was No. 1 on my list."

Now comes perhaps his most challenging operation: to try and usher the Bulls into a place at the Power Five table.

It will call for organization, networking, engagement, creativity, and perhaps even some smooth operating. Soundtrack optional.

"We're in a great league (American Athletic Conference) right now. How do we dominate that league to the best of our ability?" Kelly said. "That's got to be our goal right now. And when we do that... we'll be the best-positioned school of anyone in the country for if anything else happens."

## NBA

## LeBron returns to LA to plot next move as free agency nears

By **TOM WITHERS**  
Associated Press

CLEVELAND — LeBron James flew back to Los Angeles from a family vacation in the Caribbean. He could be there longer than usual.

Hours before NBA free agency opened with the three-time champion as its most coveted prize, James returned Saturday to Southern California, where he has two homes and a film production company. The Lakers are hoping they can persuade him to sign with

them and return them to glory.

Los Angeles is among the teams in the mix to land James after his agent told the Cleveland Cavaliers on Friday that he will not exercise his \$35.6 million contract option for next season. At 12:01 a.m. Sunday, James will be an unrestricted free agent, and agent Rich Paul is expected to contact several teams with the Lakers and Cavs atop his list.

By declining his option, James positioned himself to be able

to choose where he'll play next, and Cleveland, just up the road from his home near Akron, remains a strong possibility. But there are at least three other teams — and maybe an outsider or two — with legitimate shots at landing James, who made it clear following this year's NBA Finals that he's still driven to win championships.

While every team dreams of being ruled by King James, only a few have a legit chance of signing him.

& disappointed by this scandal. Go Bucs in 2018!"

Schuzer, 50, said he had long defended Winston, even since November, when a female Uber driver in Arizona accused him of putting his hand on her crotch during a 2 a.m. ride in March 2016.

"I was actually quite an advocate, saying if there's no evidence, I really didn't support how the NFL suspends people without tangible evidence or proof," said Schuzer, who works in research

with CAT scan and X-ray machines. "I was in his corner, supporting him. Without evidence, how can you suspend someone?"

But on Thursday, he read the statements from the NFL, finding the driver's account "consistent and credible" and determining that Winston had touched her "in an inappropriate and sexual manner without her consent." Then he read Winston's apology: "I'm sorry to the Uber driver

for the position I put you in."

"That was the breaking point. I just didn't find it sincere," Schuzer said. "He was just covering his own (butt). To me, I didn't think there was anything tangible in there in terms of owning up to what he did. It was the final straw. You create more chaos by giving a half-hearted apology than by giving none at all."

Schuzer said he had supported the Bucs drafting Winston in

2015, preferring him to Oregon's Marcus Mariota, who would be taken No. 2 by the Titans.

This was a careful, measured response by Schuzer. "(I) didn't want to burn it on video or cut it up," he wrote on Twitter, happy to see the jersey go to a Bucs fan who is more comfortable putting Winston's name on his or her back. "They can donate it or whatever they want. But I won't wear it anymore."

To be clear, Schuzer

says this doesn't make him any less of a Bucs fan. He's keeping his season tickets, hopes to get to as many games as he can, and he'll pay a steep price to see the Bucs play the Bears in Chicago as well.

"I'm going to support this team 110 percent," he said. "But it's going to be hard for me to cheer him, to have that on my shoulders. It doesn't feel right. If that was my sister or mother in that car, it's just a bad message we're sending."

## BUCS

From Page 1

took it to the post office and spent \$24 to mail it, Priority Mail Express, to the team at 1 Buccaneer Place.

"In good conscience I can no longer wear my @Jaboowins @Buccaneers jersey," he wrote on Twitter. "I'm sending it back for you to donate or whatever you want. As a season ticket holder since 2007, I'm embarrassed

# MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

## AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION	TEAM	W	L	PCT.	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
	New York	53	26	.671	—	—	6-4	W-1	30-11	23-15
	Boston	55	28	.663	—	—	6-4	L-1	28-12	27-16
	Tampa Bay	41	41	.500	13½	10½	8-2	W-2	22-17	19-24
	Toronto	39	43	.476	15½	12½	6-4	W-2	22-20	17-23
	Baltimore	23	59	.280	31½	28½	2-8	L-7	11-29	12-30

CENTRAL DIVISION	TEAM	W	L	PCT.	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
	Cleveland	44	37	.543	—	—	6-4	L-2	27-13	17-24
	Minnesota	35	44	.443	8	15	—	L-2	20-20	15-24
	Detroit	36	48	.429	9½	16½	0-10	L-11	23-21	13-27
	Chicago	28	53	.346	16	23	4-6	L-2	16-27	12-26
	Kansas City	25	56	.309	19	26	3-7	L-1	11-29	14-27

WEST DIVISION	TEAM	W	L	PCT.	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
	Houston	55	30	.647	—	—	6-4	L-2	25-17	30-13
	Seattle	52	31	.627	2	—	6-4	W-5	26-14	26-17
	Oakland	46	38	.548	8½	6½	8-2	W-6	22-20	24-18
	Los Angeles	43	41	.512	11½	9½	4-6	W-2	20-21	23-20
	Texas	37	46	.446	17	15	8-2	W-2	18-25	19-21

## NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION	TEAM	W	L	PCT.	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
	Atlanta	46	34	.575	—	—	5-5	W-1	23-17	23-17
	Philadelphia	44	37	.543	2½	—	6-4	W-1	27-16	17-21
	Washington	42	39	.519	4½	2	3-7	L-1	19-20	23-19
	St. Louis	34	50	.405	14	11½	5-5	W-2	17-24	17-26
	New York	32	48	.400	14	11½	1-9	L-3	14-26	18-22

CENTRAL DIVISION	TEAM	W	L	PCT.	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
	Milwaukee	48	34	.585	—	—	6-4	L-1	24-17	24-17
	Chicago	46	35	.568	1½	—	4-6	W-3	23-14	23-21
	St. Louis	42	38	.525	5	1½	5-5	L-2	23-20	19-18
	Pittsburgh	39	42	.481	8½	5	4-6	W-2	21-21	18-21
	Cincinnati	35	48	.422	13½	10	7-3	W-1	18-25	17-23

WEST DIVISION	TEAM	W	L	PCT.	GB	WCGB	L10	STR	HOME	AWAY
	Arizona	47	35	.573	—	—	7-3	L-1	23-17	24-18
	Los Angeles	43	39	.524	4	1½	5-5	L-3	22-23	21-16
	San Francisco	40	40	.500	4½	2	8-2	W-1	26-14	17-26
	Colorado	41	42	.494	6½	4	6-4	W-3	15-22	26-20
	San Diego	36	48	.429	12	9½	2-8	L-2	18-24	18-24

## ROUNDUP/MATCHUPS

**Cubs 14, Twins 9:** Jason Heyward had four of the Cubs' 20 hits. Ben Zobrist had three RBIs and Chicago had a pair of five-run innings. **Rays 5, Astros 2:** Wilson Ramos drove in four runs in the first two innings against Justin Verlander. **Blue Jays 4, Tigers 3:** Justin Smoak led off the bottom of the ninth with a home run and the Toronto Blue Jays beat Detroit, handing the Tigers their 11th straight loss. **Marlins 5, Mets 2:** Brian Anderson hit a two-run homer off Jacob deGrom and the Miami Marlins climbed out of last place in the NL East by rallying past the New York Mets. **Athletics 7, Indians 2:** Journeyman Edwin Jackson earned his first win with Oakland. **Angels 6, Orioles 2:** Albert Pujols' RBI double highlighted a five-run eighth inning and the Los Angeles Angels

extended Baltimore's latest losing streak to seven games. **Reds 12, Brewers 3:** Reliever Michael Lorenzen hit the second grand slam by a Reds pitcher in a week, and Cincinnati pulled away to a victory that ended its seven-game losing streak against the Milwaukee Brewers. **Phillies 3, Nationals 2:** The Phillies lost Vince Velazquez after just two innings, but the bullpen stymied the Nationals. **Rockies 3, Dodgers 1:** German Marquez held the Dodgers to one run on two hits while striking out nine. **LATE** Atlanta at St. Louis Boston at N.Y. Yankees Chicago White Sox at Texas Pittsburgh at San Diego San Francisco at Arizona Kansas City at Seattle

## BOX SCORES

**MARLINS 5, METS 2**

NEW YORK	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG.
Nimmo cf	4	0	0	0	0	2	.270
Bautista rf	4	1	1	1	0	2	.228
Cabrera 2b	4	0	0	0	0	1	.225
Comforto lf	4	0	1	0	0	0	.259
Flores 1b	4	0	1	0	0	0	.220
Frazier 3b	4	1	1	1	0	1	.252
Mesoraco c	4	0	1	0	0	1	.223
Rosario ss	2	0	1	0	0	0	.246
deGrom p	1	0	0	0	0	0	.088
b-Reyes ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.183
Gsellman p	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Swarzak p	0	0	0	0	0	0	---
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>	

**MIAMI** AB R H BI BB SO AVG. Dietch lf 3 2 1 0 0 0 1 .292 Rojas 1b 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 .245 Anderson rf 4 2 1 2 0 0 0 .292 Realuto c 4 0 1 2 0 1 0 .306 Bour 1b 3 1 0 0 1 1 .237 Steckenrider p 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 --- Barraclough p 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 --- Castro 2b 4 0 3 0 0 0 .282 Riddle ss 4 0 1 1 0 2 .260 Brinson cf 4 0 1 0 0 2 .188 Rivera 3b 3 0 0 0 0 1 .193 Lopez p 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 .000 a-Shuck ph 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 .195 Conley p 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 --- c-Maybin ph-lf 1 0 1 0 0 0 .230 **TOTALS** **32** **5** **9** **5** **1** **10**

**NEW YORK** IP H R ER BB SO NP ERA deGrom, L, 5-4 6 6 3 3 1 8 84 1.84 Gsellman 1 2 2 0 0 1 27 4.28 Swarzak 1 1 0 0 0 1 12 4.50 **MIAMI** IP H R ER BB SO NP ERA Lopez, W, 1-0 6 6 2 2 1 5 97 3.00 Conley, H, 5 1 0 0 0 0 12 1.56 Stckrider, H, 111 0 0 0 0 2 14 3.28 Barrclgh, S, 8-101 0 0 0 2 10 0.99 HBP--deGrom (Dietrich). Umpires--Home, Eric Cooper First, Gary Cederstrom Second, Cory Blaser Third, Stu Scheurwater. T--2:23. A--10,523 (36,742).

**CUBS 14, TWINS 9**

MINNESOTA	AB	R	H	BI	BB	SO	AVG.
Mauer 1b	5	0	2	3	0	1	.267
Escobar 3b	3	1	0	1	1	1	.276
Rosario lf	3	1	2	2	0	0	.315
Astudillo lf-cf	2	0	1	1	0	0	.500
Dozier 2b	3	1	0	0	2	2	.217
Kepner rf	4	1	1	0	0	0	.221
Morrison lf	1	0	0	0	0	1	.190
Adriana ss	5	1	2	2	0	1	.262
Cave cf	3	1	1	0	0	1	.206
Reed p	0	0	0	0	0	0	---
Duke p	1	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Hildenberger p	0	0	0	0	0	0	---
Belisle p	0	0	0	0	0	0	---
d-Odorizzi ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.000
B.Wilson c	1	2	0	2	0	0	.132
Garver c	1	0	0	0	0	0	.250
Mejia p	1	0	0	0	0	0	.000
a-Grossman ph-rf	3	1	2	0	0	0	.230
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	

**CHICAGO** AB R H BI BB SO AVG. Almora cf 3 1 3 2 0 0 .332 1-Montgomery pr 0 0 0 0 0 0 .067 Duensing p 0 0 0 0 0 0 .000 J.Wilson p 0 0 0 0 0 0 .000 c-Schwarber ph 0 1 0 0 1 0 .239 Bass p 0 0 0 0 0 0 --- La Stella 3b-2b-3b 1 0 1 0 0 0 .273 Heyward rf 6 2 4 2 0 0 .291 Baez 2b-3b-2b 6 2 2 2 0 2 .285 Rizzo 1b 5 1 2 1 1 0 .249 Contreras c 3 1 1 1 1 0 .269 Zobrist lf 2 0 2 3 2 0 .297 Russell ss 5 1 2 1 0 0 .285 Bote 3b 3 3 1 1 2 1 .241 Strop p 0 0 0 0 0 0 .000 Chatwood p 1 0 0 0 0 1 .158 b-Happ ph-cf 3 2 2 1 0 1 .248 **TOTALS** **38** **14** **20** **14** **7** **5**

**MINNESOTA** 030 042 000 -- 9 11 0 **CHICAGO** 003 150 50X -- 14 20 0 a-grounded out for Mejia in the 5th. b-singled for Chatwood in the 5th. c-pinch hit for J.Wilson in the 7th. d-grounded out for Belisle in the 9th. 1-run for Almora in the 5th. LOB--Minnesota 7, Chicago 11. 2B--Mauer (11), Baez (19), Happ (10), La Stella (3). HR--Rosario (18), off Chatwood. RBIs--Mauer 3 (21), Escobar (49), Rosario 2 (52), Adrianza 2 (19), Astudillo (1), Almora 2 (26), Heyward 2 (37), Baez 2 (59), Rizzo (55), Contreras (30), Zobrist 3 (32), Russell (26), Bote (6), Happ (22), SB--Keppler (3). SF--Escobar, Almora, Contreras, Zobrist. S--Chatwood. Runners left in scoring position--Minnesota 3 (Escobar, Dozier, Kepler) Chicago 6 (Baez, Rizzo, Chatwood 2, Happ 2). RISP--Minnesota 3 for Chicago 11 for 22. Runners moved up--Mauer, Baez, Bote. LIDP--Russell. GIDP--Rizzo.

**MINNESOTA** IP H R ER BB SO NP ERA deGrom, L, 5-4 6 6 3 3 1 8 84 1.84 Gsellman 1 2 2 0 0 1 27 4.28 Swarzak 1 1 0 0 0 1 12 4.50 **MIAMI** IP H R ER BB SO NP ERA Lopez, W, 1-0 6 6 2 2 1 5 97 3.00 Conley, H, 5 1 0 0 0 0 12 1.56 Stckrider, H, 111 0 0 0 0 2 14 3.28 Barrclgh, S, 8-101 0 0 0 2 10 0.99 HBP--deGrom (Dietrich). Umpires--Home, Eric Cooper First, Gary Cederstrom Second, Cory Blaser Third, Stu Scheurwater. T--2:23. A--10,523 (36,742).

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Rosario lf	3	1	2	2	0	0	.315
Astudillo lf-cf	2	0	1	1	0	0	.500
Dozier 2b	3	1	0	0	2	2	.217
Kepner rf	4	1	1	0	0	0	.221
Morrison lf	1	0	0	0	0	1	.190
Adriana ss	5	1	2	2	0	1	.262
Cave cf	3	1	1	0	0	1	.206
Reed p	0	0	0	0	0	0	---
Duke p	1	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Hildenberger p	0	0	0	0	0	0	---
Belisle p	0	0	0	0	0	0	---
d-Odorizzi ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	.000
B.Wilson c	1	2	0	2	0	0	.132
Garver c	1	0	0	0	0	0	.250
Mejia p	1	0	0	0	0	0	.000
a-Grossman ph-rf	3	1	2	0	0	0	.230
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	

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**MILWAUKEE** AB R H BI BB SO AVG. Lindor ss 4 1 1 1 0 1 .290 Brach, H, 2 1 0 0 0 1 .306 Ramirez 3b 3 1 1 1 0 0 .291 Encarnacion dh 3 0 0 0 1 1 .229 Alonso 1b 4 0 0 0 0 1 .247 Chisenhall rf 2 0 0 0 0 0 .304 a-Guery ph-rf 1 0 0 0 0 1 .156 Kipnis 2b 2 0 0 0 1 2 .217 Gomes c 3 0 0 0 0 1 .249 Nunez cf 3 0 0 0 0 2 .277 **TOTALS** **29** **2** **3** **2** **2** **10**

**OAKLAND** AB R H BI BB SO AVG. Fowler cf 4 2 2 1 0 1 .252 Canha lf 3 1 1 1 1 0 .254 Lowrie 3b 2 1 0 0 2 0 .291 Davis dh 3 0 1 1 0 0 .231 Olson 1b 4 1 1 2 0 0 .239 Piscotty rf 4 0 1 0 0 1 .253 Semien ss 4 0 0 0 0 1 .249 Barreto 2b 3 1 1 0 0 2 .216 Phegley c 3 1 1 2 0 1 .259 **TOTALS** **30** **7** **8** **7** **3** **6**

**CLEVELAND** AB R H BI BB SO AVG. Plutko, L, 4-2 5.2 5 3 3 1 3 90 4.66 Perez 1.0 0 0 0 0 3 0.90 Otero 1.1 1 1 1 0 3 21 6.07 Tomlin 1.2 3 3 2 2 0 22 6.00 Kontos 1.0 0 0 0 0 7 4.88 **OAKLAND** IP H R ER BB SO NP ERA Jackson, W, 1-0 6.2 2 2 0 0 6 86 2.13 Buchter,

# SCOREBOARD

## BASEBALL

FLORIDA STATE LEAGUE			
North Division			
W	L	Pct.	GB
Lakeland (Tigers)	7	1.875	—
Clearwater (Phillies)	6	3.667	½
Daytona (Reds)	4	3.571	2½
Dunedin (Blue Jays)	4	4.500	3
Tampa (Yankees)	4	4.500	3
Florida (Braves)	1	6.143	5½

South Division			
W	L	Pct.	GB
Fort Myers (Twins)	6	3.667	—
Palm Beach (Cardinals)	5	3.625	½
Charlotte (Rays)	3	5.375	2½
Jupiter (Marlins)	3	5.375	2½
St. Lucie (Mets)	3	5.375	2½
Bradenton (Pirates)	2	6.250	3½

**Saturday's Games**  
 Daytona at Florida, p.p.d.  
 Daytona at Florida, p.p.d.  
 Palm Beach at Jupiter, p.p.d.  
 Lakeland 3, Fort Myers 1  
 Tampa at Charlotte, 6:05 p.m.  
 St. Lucie 3, Clearwater 2  
 Bradenton at Dunedin, 6:30 p.m.

**Sunday's Games**  
 Daytona at Florida, 11 a.m.  
 Tampa at Charlotte, 12:35 p.m.  
 Bradenton at Dunedin, 1 p.m.  
 Palm Beach at Jupiter, 1 p.m.  
 St. Lucie at Clearwater, 1 p.m.  
 Lakeland at Fort Myers, 4 p.m.

**Monday's Games**  
 Florida at Jupiter, 6:30 p.m.  
 Tampa at Dunedin, 6:30 p.m.  
 Palm Beach at Bradenton, 6:30 p.m.  
 Fort Myers at Charlotte, 6:35 p.m.  
 Lakeland at Clearwater, 7 p.m.  
 St. Lucie at Daytona, 7:05 p.m.

## ODDS

**PREGAME.COM LINE MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL**

**Today National League**

FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG	LINE
New York	-109	at Miami	+101
Milwaukee	-125	at Cincinnati	+115
Washington	-108	at Philadelphia	-102
at St. Louis	-110	Atlanta	+100
at Arizona	-130	San Francisco	+120
at San Diego	-105	Pittsburgh	+105
at Los Angeles	-200	Colorado	+180

**American League**

at Texas	-160	Chicago	+150
at Baltimore	-115	Los Angeles	+105
at Toronto	-185	Detroit	+170
Houston	-137	at Tampa Bay	+127
Cleveland	-132	at Oakland	+112
at Seattle	-249	Kansas City	+229
at New York	-192	Boston	+177

**Interleague**  
 at Chi. Cubs -172 Minnesota +160  
 Updated Odds Available at Pregame.com

## TRANSACTIONS

**BASEBALL**  
**American League**  
**BOSTON RED SOX** — Sent RHP Tyler Thornburg to Pawtucket (IL) for a rehab assignment.  
**HOUSTON ASTROS** — Sent RHP Joe Smith to Corpus Christi (TL) for a rehab assignment. **KANSAS CITY ROYALS** — Sent 3B Cheslor Cuthbert to Omaha (PCL) for a rehab assignment.  
**LOS ANGELES ANGELS** — Optioned OF Michael Hermosillo to Salt Lake (PCL). Recalled UT Kaleb Cowart from Salt Lake. Sent RHP Garrett Richards and 1B Jeffrey Marte to Inland Empire (Cal) for rehab assignments. **MINNESOTA TWINS** — Optioned RHP Alan Benesitz to Rochester (IL). Recalled LHP Adalberto Mejia from Rochester.  
**TAMPA BAY RAYS** — Placed RHP Wilmer Font on the 10-day DL. Recalled RHP Hunter Wood from Durham (IL).  
**TORONTO BLUE JAYS** — Placed RHP Ryan Tepera on the 10-day DL, retroactive to Thursday. Recalled RHP Jake Petricka from Buffalo. Selected the contract of OF Darnell Sweeney from Buffalo.  
**National League**  
**ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS** — Optioned RHP Jimmie Sherry to Reno (PCL). Recalled 1B Christian Walker from Reno. Sent OF Steven Souza Jr. and A.J. Pollock to Reno for rehab assignments.  
**CHICAGO CUBS** — Sent RHP Carl Edwards Jr. to Iowa (PCL) for a rehab assignment.  
**COLORADO ROCKIES** — Optioned RHP Jon Gray to Albuquerque (PCL). Recalled OF Raimel Tapia from Albuquerque.  
**LOS ANGELES DODGERS** — Optioned RHP Walker Buehler to Rancho Cucamonga (Cal). Recalled RHP J.T. Chargois from Oklahoma City (PCL).  
**MIAMI MARLINES** — Optioned RHP Ben Meyer to New Orleans (PCL). Recalled RHP Pablo Lopez from New Orleans. Signed LHP Alex Vesia to a minor league contract.  
**MILWAUKEE BREWERS** — Sent RHP Zach Davies to Wisconsin (MWL) for a rehab assignment.  
**NEW YORK METS** — Optioned RHP Gerson Bautista to Las Vegas (PCL). Recalled RHP Corey Oswalt from Las Vegas.  
**PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES** — Signed LHP Keylan Kilgore to a minor league contract.  
**PITTSBURGH PIRATES** — Placed RHP Chad Kuhl on the 10-day DL, retroactive to Wednesday. Recalled 2B Max Moroff from Indianapolis (IL).  
**ST. LOUIS CARDINALS** — Claimed LHP Tyler Webb off waivers from San Diego and optioned him to Memphis (PCL). Transferred RHP Alex Reyes to the 60-day DL. Sent SS Paul DeJong and RHP Matt Bowman to Memphis for rehab assignments. Signed SS Zach Gahagan to a minor league contract.  
**WASHINGTON NATIONALS** — Optioned LHP Sammy Solis to Syracuse (IL). Reinstated RHP Jeremy Hellickson from the 10-day DL. Transferred 1B Ryan Zimmerman to the 60-day DL. Signed RHPs Chandler Day and Reid Schaller to minor league contracts.  
**American Association**  
**FARGO-MOORHEAD REDHAWKS** — Released C Quinn Irey.  
**TEXAS AIRHOGS** — Signed LHP Sean Stutzman.  
**WINNIPEG GOLDEYES** — Claimed RHP John Straka off waivers from St. Paul. Announced INF Eric Aguilera signed with Algodoneros de Union (Mexican League).

**Can-Am League**  
**OTTAWA CHAMPIONS** — Released INF Ryan Wolfshagen. Signed RHP Edison Alvarez. **QUEBEC CAPITALES** — Released RHP Mark Vasquez and INF Jordan Serena. Signed RHP Dany Paradis-Giroux.  
**ROCKLAND BOULDERERS** — Released LHP Ari Kaufman. Signed LHP Danny Diaz.

**BASKETBALL**  
**National Basketball Association**  
**ATLANTA HAWKS** — Waived G Isaiah Taylor. **LOS ANGELES LAKERS** — Waived C Thomas Bryant.

**HOCKEY**  
**National Hockey League**  
**ANAHEIM DUCKS** — Traded LW Nic Kerdiles to Winnipeg for C Chase De Leo. **MONTREAL CANADIENS** — Traded D Simon Bourque to Winnipeg for RW Joel Armia. G Steve Mason, 2019 seventh-round and 2020 fourth-round draft picks.  
**NEW JERSEY DEVILS** — Re-signed G Eddie Lack to a one-year, one-way contract.  
**ECHL**  
**WORCESTER RAILERS** — Signed D Kyle McKenzie to a one-year contract.

## SOCCER

**Major League Soccer**  
**ORLANDO CITY** — Named James O'Connor coach.  
**SEATTLE SOUNDERS** — Acquired G Zac Lubin on loan from Phoenix Rising (USL).

## GOLF

**PGA TOUR**  
**QUICKEN LOANS NATIONAL**  
 Saturday's leaders at TPC Potomac at Avenel Farm, Potomac, Md.  
**Purse: \$7.1 million. Yardage: 7,107; Par: 70 (35-35)**

**Third Round**

Abraham Ancer	65-70-62	-197
Francesco Molinari	67-65-65	-197
Zac Blair	67-66-66	-199
Ryan Armour	66-65-68	-199

Andrew Landry	63-72-65	-200
Kevin Streelman	72-62-67	-201
Troy Merritt	68-68-66	-202
C.T. Pan	67-67-68	-202
Beau Hossler	65-66-71	-202
Ryan Blum	67-72-64	-203
Bronson Burgoon	68-70-65	-203
Tiger Woods	70-65-68	-203
Bill Breen	71-64-68	-203
Chesson Hadley	67-67-69	-203
Mark Leishman	67-64-72	-203
Brian Gay	71-67-66	-204
Kyle Stanley	70-68-66	-204
Ben Crane	70-67-67	-204
Ryan Palmer	72-64-68	-204
Sung Kang	66-69-69	-204
Joel Dahmen	64-71-69	-204
Adam Putnam	67-73-65	-205
Stephan Jaeger	70-66-69	-205
Rickie Fowler	70-64-71	-205
John Huh	67-74-65	-206
Anirban Lahiri	69-70-67	-206
Byeong Hun An	69-69-68	-206
Tyler Duncan	69-69-68	-206
Ethan Tracy	72-66-68	-206
DePotter, Jr.	68-69-69	-206
Stewart Cink	68-68-70	-206
Roberto Diaz	68-68-70	-206
Ollie Schniederjans	67-68-71	-206
Sam Ryder	73-68-66	-207
Brandon Harkins	70-69-68	-207
Robert Garrigus	70-69-68	-207
Kiradech Aphibarnrat	71-68-68	-207
Alex Cejka	70-67-70	-207
Dylan Meyer	70-67-70	-207
Charles Howell III	69-68-70	-207
Cameron Percy	70-65-72	-207
Johnson Wagner	64-68-75	-207
Billy Horschel	70-70-68	-208
Blayne Barber	71-68-69	-208
J.T. Poston	69-68-71	-208
Derek Fathauer	68-69-72	-208
Fabian Gómez	69-67-72	-208
Adam Schenk	66-70-72	-208
Seamus Power	68-72-69	-209
Lanto Griffin	69-72-68	-209
Adam Hadwin	68-71-70	-209
Patrick Rodgers	69-70-70	-209
Corey Conners	73-65-71	-209
Harold Varner III	71-66-72	-209
Jonas Blizt	63-73-73	-209
J.J. Spaun	68-67-74	-209
Joaquin Niemann	71-69-70	-210
Chris Stroud	69-70-71	-210
James Hahn	68-70-72	-210
Janie Lovemark	69-72-70	-211
Nick Watney	72-68-71	-211
Martin Flores	68-71-72	-211
David Lingmerth	71-68-72	-211
Tom Lovelady	69-69-73	-211
Gary Woodland	74-67-71	-212
Jimmy Walker	73-68-71	-212
Doug Ghim	70-70-72	-212
Kevin Na	71-69-72	-212
David Hearn	70-70-73	-212
Dominic Bozzelli	70-70-73	-213
Scott Brown	70-69-74	-213
Doc Redman	71-70-73	-214
Xinjun Zhang	72-69-74	-215
Bill Haas	70-71-77	-218
Kevin Tway		

## LPGA TOUR KPMG WOMEN'S PGA CHAMPIONSHIP

Saturday's leaders at Kemper Lakes GC, Kildeer, Ill.  
**Purse: \$3.65 million. Yardage: 6,741; Par: 72 (36-36)**

**Third Round**

Su Yeon Ryu	69-69-67	-205
Brooke M. Henderson	67-71-70	-208
Sung Hyun Park	66-72-71	-209
Angel Yin	73-69-68	-210
Bronte Law	72-70-69	-210
In-Kyung Kim	70-72-70	-212
Hyo Jo Kim	70-71-71	-212
Carli Holmquist	70-69-73	-212
Daniela Ciganda	74-72-67	-213
Lindy Duncan	74-71-68	-213
Shanshan Feng	73-72-68	-213
Lindsay Zhang	73-72-68	-213
Li Yongju K	70-74-69	-213
Amey Zhang	70-74-69	-213
Lizette Salas	70-74-69	-213
Lyana Mejia	70-74-69	-213
Ryan O'Toole	71-71-71	-213
Sei Young Kim	67-75-71	-213
Jessica Korda	72-70-71	-213
Ashleigh Buda	71-69-73	-213
Annie Park	74-66-73	-213
Lydia Ko	68-72-73	-213
Moriya Jutanugarn	73-72-69	-214
Marina Alex	69-74-71	-214
Amy Olson	69-72-73	-214
Nasa Hataoka	70-75-70	-215
Nelly Korda	73-73-68	-215
Eun-Hee Ji	70-75-70	-215
Mo Martin	71-73-71	-215
Charley Hull	68-75-72	-215
Jaye Marie Green	67-74-74	-215
Stacy Lewis	70-76-70	-216
Jacqui Colnoco	70-73-73	-216
Cristie Kerr	75-68-73	-216
Sandra Gal	72-74-71	-217
Minjee Lee	69-76-72	-217
Jodi Ewart Shadoff	70-75-72	-217
Lexi Thompson	72-73-72	-217
Michelle Wie	71-74-72	-217
Danielle Kang	73-69-75	-217
Brittany Altomare	67-75-75	-217
Angela Stanford	70-75-73	-218
Ariya Jutanugarn	72-73-73	-218
Maupe-Aimee Leblanc	68-77-73	-218
Med Reid	71-74-73	-218
Jane Park	73-72-73	-218
Sandra Changkija	72-72-74	-218
Miriam Lee	70-74-74	-218
Robynn Ree	70-73-75	-218
Hee Young Park	71-71-76	-218
Wichanee Meechai	71-70-77	-218
Pannarat Thanapalboonyaras	72-75-72	-219
Pemilla Lindberg	71-76-72	-219
Georgia Hall	72-74-73	-219
Jackie Stoetting	70-75-74	-219
Chella Choi	71-74-74	-219
Jeong Eun Lee	70-74-75	-219
Brittany Lincicome	71-75-74	-220
Karrie Webb	70-76-74	-220
Sophia Popov	75-71-74	-220
Gaby Lopez	71-74-75	-220
Emma Talley	71-72-77	-220
Caroline Masson	71-76-74	-221
Cheyenne Woods	75-72-75	-222
Paula Creamer	72-74-76	-222
Cindy LaCrosse	72-73-77	-222
Brittany Marchand	71-76-76	-223
Sakura Yokomine	73-74-76	-223
Perrine Delacour	74-73-77	-224
Arako Uehara	72-74-78	-224
Aditi Ashok	70-73-81	-224
Laelitia Beck	68-78-79	-225
Lauren Kim	71-76-79	-226
Alena Sharp	69-78-80	-227

## EUROPEAN TOUR FRENCH OPEN

Saturday's leaders at Le National Golf, Paris  
**Purse: \$7 million. Yardage: 7,247; Par: 71**

**Third Round**

Marcus Kinhult, Sweden	71-65-67	-203
Chris Wood, England	70-68-67	-205
Sergio Garcia, Spain	72-70-64	-206
Jon Rahm, Spain	70-69-68	-207
Justin Suri, United States	70-70-69	-209
Julian Stricker, United States	70-70-69	-209
Alex Noren, Sweden	73-72-65	-210
Adrian Otaegui, Spain	74-70-66	-210
Alexander Bjork, Sweden	73-69-68	-210
Pedro Oriol, Spain	71-70-70	-211
Shane Lowry, Ireland	70-75-67	-212
Thomas Detry, Belgium	74-69-69	-212
Jordan Smith, England	71-70-71	-212
Tyrell Hatton, England	72-71-71	-212
Mikko Ilonen, Finland	72-69-71	-212
Paul Dunne, Ireland	74-67-71	-212
Matthew Fitzpatrick, England	71-69-72	-212
Wyde Ormsby, Australia	73-71-69	-213
Dylan Frittelli, South Africa	71-71-71	-213
Russell Knox, Scotland	71-70-72	-213

## WEB.COM TOUR LINCOLN LAB CHAMPIONSHIP

Saturday's leaders at Panther Creek Country Club, Springfield, Ill.  
**Purse: \$550,000. Yardage: 7,228; Par: 71 (35-36)**

**Third Round**

Kramer Hickok	66-63-65	-194
Rhein Gibson	62-67-65	-194
Ben Kohles	67-67-62	-196
Wes Roach	67-65-64	-196
Anders Albertson	66-66-64	-196
Carlos Ortiz	62-66-68	-196
Wyndham Clark	70-65-62	-197
Adam Svensson	67-68-62	-197
Cameron Champ	64-67-66	-197
James Arnold	64-66-67	-197
Scott Langley	65-65-67	-197
Rick Lamb	65-65-67	-197
Joseph Bramlett	67-67-64	-198
Willy Wilcox	69-64-65	-198
Chase Wright	69-61-68	-198
Adam Long	65-64-69	-198
Brandon Crick	66-69-64	-199
Kyung-hoon Lee	69-66-65	-199
Michael Arnaut	68-67-64	-199
Sam Burns	63-67-69	-199
Michael Hebert	69-66-65	-200
Rico Hoey	66-67-67	-200
Sebastian Cappelen	66-67-67	-200
Hank Lebioda	67-66-67	-200
Adam Kaula, Russia	64-69-67	-200
Sweden-Switzerland winner vs. Colombia-England winner, 10 a.m.		
64-67-69	-200	
67-68-66	-201	
65-69-67	-201	
67-67-67	-201	
67-69-65	-201	
67-69-65	-201	
67-66-67	-202	
67-65-70	-202	
64-68-70	-202	

## TENNIS: Wimbledon

## So much is different for Andy Murray this time

By HOWARD FENDRICH  
Associated Press

LONDON — Everything's changed for Andy Murray at Wimbledon this time.

A two-time champion at the All England Club, he's not really considered a serious title contender — by himself or by anyone else, for that matter.

He is not as prepared as usual as the grass-court Grand Slam tournament's Monday start approaches, having played a total of three matches all year after recently returning from hip surgery.

He is not seeded, because his ranking is outside the top 150.

Murray is, however, thrilled to be playing, provided nothing crops up before he's scheduled to face Benoit Paire of France in the first round



Andy Murray practices ahead of the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London Saturday.

AP PHOTO

Tuesday.

"I always want to be here competing. It feels a little bit odd coming into the tournament this year," Murray said Saturday after practicing

at the All England Club. "Normally, like, at this stage, I feel really nervous, lots of pressure, and I expect a lot of myself around this time of year. I've always loved

that and enjoyed that in a way. It has been difficult, but enjoyed it. Whereas this year, it feels very, very different."

The first British man in 77 years to win a

Wimbledon singles title when he did so in 2013, before adding another in 2016, Murray lost in the quarterfinals in 2017 to Sam Querrey, clearly hampered by his hip.

Murray wound up not playing another match last season, then had his operation in January. Nearly 12 full months had passed by the time he ventured back into competition at the Queen's Club grass-court event less than two weeks ago. Still with a hitch in his gait, Murray played more than 2½ hours before losing to Nick Kyrgios in three sets.

This week, again on grass, Murray beat fellow three-time major champion Stan Wawrinka, before losing to countryman Kyle Edmund.

"I'm pumped obviously because, I mean, four or five weeks ago, I didn't know whether I'd

be capable of competing at a level I'd be happy with. I think the last couple of weeks has been beneficial," said Murray, a two-time Olympic singles gold medalist whose first Grand Slam championship came at the 2012 U.S. Open. "I don't think I played amazing in the matches, but I think I've done well, considering the opponents."

Now comes Paire, a former member of the top 20 who is currently ranked 48th.

Murray has won both of their two previous matchups, including in the fourth round at Wimbledon a year ago.

"He's a tricky guy to play against, because of his style," Murray said. "He does hit a lot of drop shots, he serve-volleys. He's unorthodox with his shot selection and stuff. He can be quite up and down, too, at times."

## WORLD CUP: France 4, Argentina 3

## Mbappe, France beat Argentina

By PAN PYLAS  
Associated Press

KAZAN, Russia — What Lionel Messi has never done, 19-year-old Kylian Mbappe did twice.

The quick-footed French teenager scored two goals in a five-minute span of the second half to help his team rally for a 4-3 victory over Argentina. Saturday's victory gave France a spot in the World Cup quarterfinals.

Messi, who turned 31 during his fourth and possibly final World Cup, set up a pair of goals but again failed to score in a knockout match at the biggest event in soccer.

Mbappe got his two in his first attempt.

"Of course, as I've already and always said, in the World Cup you have all the top level players so it is an opportunity to show what

you can do and what your abilities are," said Mbappe, who now has three goals in Russia. "There is no better place than a World Cup."

Mbappe was a constant threat to Argentina's creaking defense with his speed and skill and was at the heart of France's often-breath-taking display, particularly in the middle of the second half.

He became the second teenager to score multiple goals in a knockout match at the World Cup. Pele was the other, doing it twice at 17 at the 1958 tournament in Sweden.

"It is flattering to be the second one after Pele but let's put things in context. Pele is another category," Mbappe said. "But it's good to be among the players to score in knockout matches."

With the score 2-2, Mbappe got his first

goal with a cool finish from a tight angle in the 64th minute, his low shot going under Argentina goalkeeper Franco Armani. Four minutes later, he slotted past Armani again after he was put through on goal by a deft pass from Oliver Giroud.

Mbappe also helped France to its first goal. Following a sustained period of early pressure, he won a penalty after a 40-meter burst of speed that ended with him being brought down by Marcos Rojo. Antoine Griezmann then scored from the spot in the 13th minute, sending Armani the wrong way.

"Our team is much younger, but we are there. We answered the call," France coach Didier Deschamps said. "It was not easy because we were leading and then there was an equalizer.

Then they led 2-1, but we kept fighting. There is an excellent mentality in this group and we did everything to go further. We couldn't miss it and we did win it."

Mbappe was born a few months after France won the 1998 World Cup at home, its only title at the tournament. Deschamps was the captain of that team and Zinedine Zidane scored two goals in the final.

"People remember more the World Cup victory than the year I was born," Mbappe said. "It is normal (because) it was the time we were World Cup winners, so that is obviously what they remember."

France will next face Uruguay in the quarterfinals on Friday in Nizhny Novgorod. Blaise Matuidi will miss the match after receiving a second yellow card of the tournament.

## HISTORY

From Page 1

Former England captain John Terry caused a flap during Sparks' call of the Portugal-Morocco game when he posted a video of a TV screen to Instagram and added the words: "Having to watch this game with no volume." Terry deleted the post and wrote he meant there was no audio in his house when he returned from the Maldives.

No matter the interpretation, it is clear women have had a difficult path gaining roles in sports broadcasts beyond studio hosts and sideline reporters. Play-by-play and color jobs remain nearly universally the domain of men.

"Women traditionally have kind of been accepted into their hosting role, whether or not they were the strongest candidate, because for a long period of time there was just simply the idea that it was enough to look good on television.

It didn't necessarily imply somebody being an expert," said Kate Abdo, Fox's start-of-the-day studio show anchor in Red Square. "For women to break into that domain, which traditionally has been very, very male, has been more difficult."

Wagner, a national team midfielder from 1998-2008, was a game analyst for Fox at the 2015 Women's World Cup and called 10 of Fox's 48 group-stage telecasts this year from the network's Los Angeles studios, paired with Scottish broadcaster Derek Rae.

"It wasn't that I set out to end up calling a men's World Cup match, but my path has led me here now and I'll be extremely proud doing it," Wagner said. "Hopefully I can prove it's about my effort and my work and my passion and my commitment and my love for the game that comes through when I call the match as opposed to it having anything to do with being the first female."

## WORLD CUP

## Fans rev up revenues for sanctions-hobbled Russia

By ANGELA CHARLTON  
Associated Press

MOSCOW — Moscow's beer kegs are emptying fast and demand for Vladimir Putin T-shirts is overwhelming St. Petersburg street vendors as the World Cup sends business surging across the 11 Russian cities hosting soccer's biggest show.

The Russian president was counting on just such a boost after U.S. and European sanctions and low oil prices sank the country into recession, and after Russia's government spent 800 billion rubles (\$12.7 billion) to ready for the

World Cup. But experts warn the boon won't last long without deeper change to the oil-reliant, corruption-tainted Russian economy.

Among the big winners: freelance taxi drivers, dating apps and bars where fans gather to watch matches or celebrate their teams' victory.

"We are so far off the chart on this, we order as much beer in one night as we would order in a month," said Doug Steele, owner of Papa's Bar & Grill on Nikolskaya Street just off Red Square. He dragged a keg on a dolly as he talked, too busy to stop.

This neighborhood has become the place to party since the World Cup opened June 14. The block-long GUM shopping mall that faces the Kremlin has seen traffic climb 80 percent compared to the same period last year, according to its manager, Teymuraz Guguberidze.

"The effect is much higher than our expectation," he said. "It makes us very happy."

The lift has reached retailers far beyond the Russian capital, helping other host cities far off the tourist path.

The lowest-profile of the bunch, Saransk, spent

hundreds of millions of dollars to build a stadium, high-rises and transport to accommodate tens of thousands of visitors who descended in recent weeks. Proud residents rented out their apartments and kept businesses open extra late to host fans after night games. High demand at restaurants so frequently caused shortages that patrons had to make a list of menu items they liked before ordering.

Mexican fans revved up business in the Ural Mountains city of Yekaterinburg, overwhelming vendors at a sports store as they bought up any available souvenirs.

## URUGUAY

From Page 1

hounded by two or three Uruguayan defenders.

It was Cavani who instead took the spotlight. He combined with Luis Suarez to compete a series of precision passes to give Uruguay the early advantage with a header in the seventh minute. And after Portugal equalized on Pepe's header in the 55th minute, it was Cavani again finishing a perfect Uruguay counter in the 62nd with a shot from just inside the penalty area that caught Portugal

goalkeeper Rui Patricio slightly out of position and curled inside the far post.

"The truth is, it was really exciting," Cavani said. "There aren't words to describe this."

Cavani now has three goals at the World Cup, but limped off in the 70th minute with an apparent injury and had to be replaced. He was helped to the sideline with his arm around Ronaldo's back.

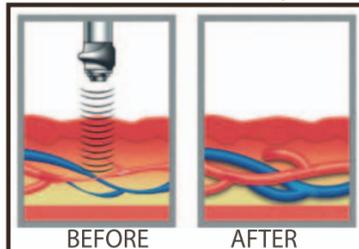
Uruguay, a two-time champion that reached the semifinals at the 2010 World Cup, will next face France on Friday in Nizhny Novgorod.

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## Say Goodbye to Erectile Dysfunction

The #1 cause of Erectile Dysfunction is poor blood flow due to blocked or hardened blood vessels. Unlike pills, needles and creams that **DO NOT** treat ED, only the symptoms, Acoustic Wave Therapy is a "treatment" that will **OPEN** existing blood vessels and **STIMULATE** the growth of new blood vessels, making it possible to achieve a full and rigid erection.

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## Refunds available for Florida businesses deceived by scam

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

TALLAHASSEE — Attorney General Pam Bondi today announced that eligible Florida businesses that sent payments to Florida Corporate Filing Services, LLC for certificates of status may now apply for refunds. This settlement fund comes as a result of a consent judgment entered into by the Attorney General's Office Bondi with Florida Corporate Filings Services, LLC providing for up to \$64,000 in consumer restitution. The deadline to request a refund is August 1.

### TO REQUEST A REFUND

Contact the Attorney General's office at 866-966-7226 or submit a written request by completing a complaint form at [MyFloridaLegal.com](http://MyFloridaLegal.com)

Florida Corporate Filing Services charged businesses approximately \$45 for so-called certificates of status which are optional certificates that can be displayed to show that the business is registered with the Florida Secretary of State. The Attorney General's lawsuit alleged that Florida Corporate Filing

Services deceived Florida businesses into believing that their solicitations were from the Secretary of State and that buying a certificate at the inflated price was a necessary step for legally operating as a business in Florida. Certificates of status can be obtained directly from the Secretary of State for just \$8.75 for corporations and \$5 for LLCs—and are not a requirement to legally operate in Florida.

Businesses that responded to the misleading solicitations and sent payments to Florida Corporate Filings Services between March 1, 2013 and

March 4, 2015, may be eligible to receive compensation through the settlement.

If you believe your business is eligible, to request a refund, please contact the Attorney General's office by phone at 866-966-7226 or submit a written request by completing a complaint form at [MyFloridaLegal.com](http://MyFloridaLegal.com).

Proof of payment to Florida Corporate Filing Services should be provided if it is available. If documentation is not provided, the claim will be further investigated to determine if a refund is warranted.

## BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS

### Trump softens trade stance toward China and raises optimism

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration has de-escalated a confrontation with China, dropping plans to impose strict limits on Chinese investment in U.S. technology companies and instead urging Congress to strengthen existing laws that apply to all foreign countries. The administration's more conciliatory stance raises at least the possibility that the two sides can work toward a negotiated end to the punishing tariffs that they are set to impose on each other's goods beginning July 6.

### Trump warns Harley-Davidson: 'We won't forget'

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump is warning Harley-Davidson that "we won't forget" about its decision to shift some motorcycle production overseas and is suggesting the company will lose out to competitors. Harley-Davidson said Monday it was moving production of motorcycles sold in Europe from U.S. factories to facilities overseas because of retaliatory it faces as a result of Trump's trade policies. The president tweets: "I've done so much for you, and then this."

### Supreme Court deals big setback to labor unions

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court says government workers can't be forced to contribute to labor unions that represent them in collective bargaining, dealing a serious financial blow to organized labor. The justices are scrapping a 41-year-old decision that had allowed states to require that public employees pay some fees to unions that represent them, even if the workers choose not to join.

### Disney's bid for Fox clears US antitrust hurdle

NEW YORK — The Walt Disney Co. has won U.S. antitrust approval for its \$71.3 billion bid for Twenty-First Century Fox's entertainment assets. The Department of Justice said Wednesday Disney must first sell its 22 regional sports networks. Disney has 90 days to sell the networks, with an option to extend for another 90 days.

### California pot shops offer discounts as new standards near

LOS ANGELES — Bargain basement bud is on the menu in California as pot shops seek to unload untested weed ahead of strict quality and safety standards that take effect Sunday. The new rules require testing of marijuana for pesticides and contaminants such as heavy metals, solvents and mold. The tests also will determine concentrations and potency of the ingredient that gives users a buzz. Under California law, anything untested that isn't sold by Sunday must be destroyed.

### Google prepping its Duplex bot for a summer rollout

HIGHLIGHTS | 2

## Visit the 9th annual Polk County Business Expo

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

LAKELAND — Every year, Vendor's Day attracts large crowds from across Central Florida. It is an event where vendors come together to promote their products in a trade show, preceded by business seminars and breakfast. Now in its 9th year and renamed the Polk County Business Expo, it has continued to give vendors a place to showcase their product as well as giving attendees a chance to attend free business seminars.

The event begins with registration and breakfast at 7:30 a.m. After that, participants may attend a business seminar of their choice. Lunch is provided after the seminars for all attendees. Most importantly, at the end there is a trade show event with tables set up by the registered vendors. The trade show allows participants to scout for services they may need and allows vendors to market to a large amount of business-minded people.

Cedric Joseph, Director of the Office of Supplier Diversity for Polk County, organizes this event every year with the hopes of bringing small businesses together. This year's free seminars being offered are titled, "Anything is Possible, Raise the Standards," "Navigating the Tax Minefield," and "Five Secrets of doing Business with Polk County and the State of Florida."

Attending the Expo is free, but registration is required to attend. If you would like to attend as a vendor, vendor



COURTESY PHOTO

The 9th Annual Polk County Business Expo will take place July 27 at Polk State College Lakeland Campus.

### TO REGISTER:

visit [eventbrite.com/e/2018-polk-county-business-expo-tickets-46153218519](http://eventbrite.com/e/2018-polk-county-business-expo-tickets-46153218519).

registration is \$100 for a table at the trade show. Register quickly, as registration for vendors is filling up quickly.

The event is being held at the Polk State College Lakeland Campus in Room 1100 on July 27. To register, visit [eventbrite.com/e/2018-polk-county-business-expo-tickets-46153218519](http://eventbrite.com/e/2018-polk-county-business-expo-tickets-46153218519). If you are a small business looking to make contacts with companies throughout Central Florida, there is no better place to do it than the 9th Annual Polk County Business Expo.



## SMALL TALK

# Small business lessons from Red Hen's Sanders ouster

By MAE ANDERSON

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Taking a political stand — like asking a White House press secretary to leave your restaurant — can be polarizing and risky. So experts say an owner who decides to act should do so with forethought and civility.

The Red Hen in Lexington, Virginia, has become internationally famous since ousting Sarah Huckabee Sanders over the weekend. The owner had consulted with employees, who said Sanders made them feel uncomfortable. It was an on-the-spot decision, and led to condemnation by President Donald Trump, an onslaught of negative Yelp reviews and global media coverage.

Under federal law, restaurants and other businesses can not discriminate based on age, race, national origin,



DANIEL LIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this June 23, 2018, file photo, passersby gather to take photos in front of the Red Hen Restaurant in Lexington, Va. The restaurant has become internationally famous since ousting Sarah Huckabee Sanders over the weekend.

religious beliefs, gender, disability, pregnancy or veteran status. But other issues are fair game (thus the sign "No shoes, no shirt, no

service"). Whether it's worth it is another matter.

"Any time a restaurant company or a brand takes a political stand these days,

the country is so polarized they run the risk of losing as many customers as they can gain," said Allen Adamson, co-founder of branding firm Metaforce.

The Red Hen's co-owner Stephanie Wilkinson told The Washington Post that her staff had called her to report Sanders was in the restaurant. She cited several reasons, including the concerns of several restaurant employees who were gay and knew Sanders had defended Trump's desire to bar transgender people from the military.

It's a risk to act out on political beliefs based on what your staff thinks — but it's a gamble to ignore them, too.

Small businesses must ensure they're paying attention to their customers and employees and making

# 5 ways your friendships can blossom on a budget

You do not have to spend your Saturday nights alone as penance for racking up debt or having paltry savings.

You have one life, and you don't know how long it will be. Seeking joy should be a priority on par with eliminating debt or buying a house. Research has shown that putting energy into your friendships — and simply appreciating your friends at all — improves your life. And you don't have to spend a lot to do it.

Those who treasure their family and friends are happier and healthier than those who don't, a 2017 study from Michigan State University found. Even more striking: Valuing friendships is a bigger indicator of health and happiness at older ages than valuing family relationships.



## ASK BRIANNA

Brianna Mcgurran

Set that foundation now, and what you do — and how much you spend — won't matter. Who you're with and whether you cherish that time together will. So don't worry if you can't shell out for a big group vacation, or even a friend's fancy birthday dinner. Here's how to cultivate long friendships when you're short on cash.

### 1. Volunteer together

Pick something you both care about, like animal welfare, the environment or veterans' issues, and research local organizations that focus on them. Sign up for an opportunity that takes place every week or month to keep you engaged in the organization, and to give you and your friends a hangout to look forward to. Bonus: It just feels nice to help people.

If you're politically minded, you can also register voters together or attend local City Council meetings or town hall meetings for your congressional representatives. Find your representatives at GovTrack.us and check the schedule of events on their websites. Feeling engaged in your

community is also a contributor to a long, happy life.

### 2. Join the club

You may not be in college anymore, rehearsing with your a cappella group or playing team sports. But you can start a monthly book club, wine club, hiking club, group playdate for your friends' dogs — you name it. All it takes is a leader willing to send out a reminder email and gather everyone's availability through a method like Doodle.

My book club has been going strong for almost four years, and the "club" part has turned out to be way more important to me than the "book" part.

### 3. Nab discounts for young people

Many cultural institutions want young people in the audience — they're hoping you'll buy tickets for years to come. Look into under-30 or under-35 discount ticket

programs where you live, particularly at dance or theater performances. Some might require a small yearly membership fee, but if you like to see shows often, the fee will pay for itself.

### 4. Cook when solo

In a way, paying for a meal or drinks out with friends is an investment in your long-term happiness. But that doesn't justify overspending. Budget for fun the way you would for groceries, and you can spend it without guilt.

If you simply must meet friends for dinner four times a week, look at your spending holistically — a budgeting app can help — and make cuts elsewhere. Bring lunch to work every day. Or, when you're home alone, commit to making your own meals and avoiding takeout.

### 5. Get crafty

If you know how to knit or crochet, no one is stopping you from doing

it with a friend while watching a film adaptation of a Jane Austen novel (I have done this).

You can get a group together and sketch while listening to music, or spend a night repurposing old clothes you don't wear so they're summer-ready: a T-shirt into a tank top, or old jeans into cut-off shorts. There are tons of craft ideas on Pinterest. You can even schedule a clothing swap, which will let you freshen up your wardrobe for free.

Saving money usually requires forethought and ingenuity. The same goes for suggesting an activity beyond the easy, and pricey, "let's get drinks."

*"Ask Brianna" is a column from NerdWallet for 20-somethings or anyone else starting out. I'm here to help you manage your money, find a job and pay off student loans — all the real-world stuff no one taught us how to do in college. Send your questions about postgrad life to askbrianna@nerdwallet.com.*

## HEN

FROM PAGE 1

sure their message stays on brand, said Andrew Park, vice president at customer experience management company InMoment.

"If you're in touch with customers and understand what your employees think, you have a shared group of values and you're in a better situation to make the right call when you need to," he said.

A restaurant in a "blue state bubble," might gain from a move such as Red Hen's, he said, but many

people on both sides of the spectrum also thought the restaurant "shouldn't punish people for their political views."

While the Red Hen incident happened in the moment, a small business making a foray into politics works best when there's a game plan, said Tina Cassidy, executive vice president and chief content officer of public relations firm Inhouse.

"What we would recommend from a PR perspective is if you're going to be a business and take a stand on an issue, that you have thought through the next steps attached to it," she said. The Red Hen owner,

she said, could have used the limelight as an opportunity to talk in greater depth about how she wants the nation to behave, or hopes for employees, or how policies the Trump administration put in place affect the workforce.

"You want to tie it to a higher cause, bigger meaning or specific outcome you want to see in the world," she said. "Without that, it's just a one-off protest."

In the end, the best strategy is to be considerate, Cassidy said.

"It's hard to lose when you lead with kindness in terms of how you're communicating."

## HIGHLIGHTS

FROM PAGE 1

MOUNTAIN VIEW, Calif. — Google is prepping for a summer rollout of Duplex, a new voice-powered digital concierge that can call businesses with simple requests. That has meant addressing criticism that it sometimes sounds too human. The company explains that

adding spoken fillers like "um" and "ah" improved Duplex's ability to book appointments because it was able to interact more naturally with humans. Duplex will also identify itself as an automated assistant upfront and will disclose that it's recording calls.

**US pending home sales fell 0.5 percent in May**

WASHINGTON — Fewer Americans signed contracts to purchase homes in May, as sales are being stifled by a shortage of properties on the market. The National Association of Realtors said Wednesday that its pending home sales index slipped 0.5 percent last month to 105.9, the second straight monthly decline. On a yearly basis, pending home sales have fallen 2.2 percent.

**With so many new Foster Care Classes starting, it's easier than ever to find one that fits YOUR schedule!**

**7/5 - Foster Care Info Night | Bartow**  
(Learn what it takes to be a foster parent. 1239 E. Main St. 33830 - 6pm)

**7/26 - New 6wk Class Start | Sebring**

**7/28 - New 3wk Class Start | Bartow**

**8/2 - Foster Care Info Night | Bartow**  
(Learn what it takes to be a foster parent. 1239 E. Main St. 33830 - 6pm)

**Call: 863-519-8900 x289**  
to register for our next info night or class.

**Heartland for Children**  
www.heartlandforchildren.org

**FREE ADMISSION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**VET JAM**

**SUMMER FEST**

**SATURDAY, JULY 14TH, 2018**  
**FROM 12NOON UNIL 8PM**  
**OPENING CEREMONY 11:30AM**  
**LOYAL ORDER OF THE MOOSE #2259**  
**11675 US 98, SEBRING, FL 33876**

**LIVE MUSIC by:**

**VET JAM CAR & BIKE SHOW FROM 4-7PM**

**THE DYLAN JOHNSON EXPERIENCE**

**JEFFERSON PARKER**

**THE JOE LEONERD EXPERIENCE**

**& THE FIRST EVER THE VET JAM ALLSTAR JAM!!!**

**RAFFLES & 50/50!**

**GREAT FOOD! \$7.00 A PLATE!**

**Car & Bike Freedom Run Sign Up @ Moose Lodge #2259 from 9-10am Kickstands Up @ 10:15am**

**HOSTED BY: THE BATTLE OF THE BANDS, INC.**  
A 501C3 NON-PROFIT BENEFITING LOCAL VETERANS PROJECTS & CHARITIES  
CALL 863-440-4554 FOR MORE INFO

# Call to Place Your Ad TODAY 863-385-6155

# CLASSIFIEDS

Garage Sales: 1-3 days, only \$22  
 1 week: \$35  
 2 weeks: \$49  
 4 weeks: \$79

**Reach Over**  
**65,000**  
**Readers**  
**EVERY DAY!**

## LEGAL NOTICES



### Classified Deadlines

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**1pm Tuesday July 3** for Fri. July 6 edition.

★ The *Highlands News-Sun* office will be **CLOSED** on **Wednesday, July 4**. Normal business hours will resume on **Thursday, July 5**.

## INVITATION TO BID 14

**INVITATION TO BID ("ITB")**  
 The Highlands County Board of County Commissioners, Highlands County, Florida will receive sealed Bids in the Highlands County Purchasing Division ("Purchasing Division") for:

**ITB NO. 18-045 Sale of Surplus County Owned Properties**

Specifications may be obtained by downloading from our website: [www.hcbcc.net](http://www.hcbcc.net), or by contacting: Tasha Morgan, Asst County Administrator; 600 S. Commerce Ave, Sebring, Florida 33870-3809, Phone: 863-402-6834; Fax: 863-402-6735; or E Mail: [tmorgan@hcbcc.org](mailto:tmorgan@hcbcc.org).

A PRE-BID meeting will not be held for this solicitation. Each submittal shall include one (1) original and (1) exact copy of the BID submission packet. BIDS MUST BE DELIVERED to the Purchasing Division, 600 S. Commerce Ave, Sebring, Florida 33870-3809 so as to reach said office no later than **3:00 P.M., Monday, July 16, 2018**, at which time they will be opened. The Public is invited to attend this meeting. The Board's Local Preference Policy ("Local Preference Policy") and Women/Minority Business Enterprise Preference Policy (W/MBE) will NOT apply to the award of this ITB.

The Board, 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 Mrs. Pamela Rogers, ADA Coordinator at: 863-402-6509 (Voice), or via Florida Relay Service 711, or by e-mail: [progers@hcbcc.org](mailto:progers@hcbcc.org). Requests for CART or interpreter services should be made at least 24 hours in advance to permit coordination of the service.

Board of County Commissioners, Highlands County, FL  
 June 24; July 1, 2018

GET RESULTS USE CLASSIFIED!

## 2000



## EMPLOYMENT

## HELP WANTED 2001

**Class A CDL/Excavator & Loader - Exp'd; Demo work; Mechanical Skills & Dump Truck Exp. 863-382-1228**

## HELP WANTED 2001

**Bucket Operator/ Groundsman**  
 Experience Preferred. Clean CDL and Pre-Employment Drug Screen. **Benefits & Paid Time Off provided!** Pay based on experience. **Call 863-453-9787**

**HARVESTERS NEEDED**  
 Harvester needs 56 temporary workers to cultivate and harvest various crops, 08-20-18 to 04-15-19. The employer is **Citrus 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. Worksites are located in Manatee, Polk, Hardee, Highlands, Sarasota, Charlotte, and DeSoto Counties, Florida. Employer will guarantee the opportunity for work for the hourly equivalent of 3/4th of the days 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 324 6th Avenue, North, Wauchula, FL 33873 (863)-773-3474 using job listing number FL10722086.

**Employ Classified!**

## DATA ENTRY PERSON WANTED

**JOIN OUR TEAM**  
*Highlands News-Sun* is looking for a dependable Data Entry person to support our Advertising and Circulation teams. This full-time position requires excellent organizational skills and experience with Microsoft Excel.

★ **Responsibilities include but are not limited to:**

- ~Enter data from paper documents provided by advertising reps into Brainworks database system;
- ~Verify data entered is correct;
- ~Ensure that date sensitive ad orders are prioritized and entered based on date.

★ **Requirements:**

- ~Proven experience in data entry, proficient in Microsoft Excel - A Microsoft Excel test will be required;
- ~Accurate typing skills;
- ~Excellent communication skills;
- ~Great attention to detail;
- ~High school degree or equivalent.

We are a drug and tobacco free workplace. Pre-employment drug/nicotine screening required.

**Send Resume to: Donna Scherlacher Multi Media / Production Director 315 US Hwy 27 N., Sebring, FL 33870**

**Davey Expert Tree Company**  
 Tree Trimming positions avail. (with CDL Lic.) 1 yr. exp. pref. but will train. **Call Gary at 863-221-7939.**

**Learn to Drive a Truck**  
 Get your Commercial Driver's License today at South Florida State College. Scholarships are available to eligible participants. **863-784-7033**



**Lake Placid Roofing Company**  
 ★ Seeking Roofers FT or PT  
 ★ Sales Associate  
**Call 863-202-1495**

**EQUIPMENT OPERATOR** for grove equip. Clean Florida Driver License required. Pay based on experience. Drug-free workplace. Apply in person 8am - 11am & 1pm - 4pm Monday - Friday @ 109 Arron Dr., Lake Placid, FL 863-465-2821 or office@lpclp.com

## HELP WANTED 2001

**HARVESTERS NEEDED**  
 Farmer needs 30 temporary workers to cultivate and harvest blueberries and strawberries, 08-27-18 to 06-10-19. The employer is **Dunson Harvesting, Inc.** and \$11.29 per hour is guaranteed, however, during the harvest and pre-harvest, workers may be paid various piece rates depending upon crop activity and variety, but will be guaranteed \$11.29 per hour. Worksite is located in Floral City, Florida. One month agricultural harvesting experience is required. 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 work tools, supplies and equipment at no cost 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 683 South Adolph Point Lecanto, FL 34461 - (352) 249-3278 using job listing number FL10723001.



**Maintenance Technician**  
 Flynn Management Corporation has an excellent opportunity at our Thornbury Apartment community for a PT Maintenance person 25 hrs. per week. Apply in person at 31 Chelsea St. Lake Placid, call 863-465-4526 or send resume to [jobs@flynnmanagement.com](mailto:jobs@flynnmanagement.com)

**POSITION VACANCIES: Revenues and Receivables Specialist (FT) Food Service Workers (PT)**  
 For application deadlines and to apply visit <http://sfsc.interviewexchange.com> 863-784-7132. EA/EO VET'S PREF. **SOUTH FLORIDA State College**

**WRITING LAB SPECIALIST (PT)**  
 Application deadline: 7/29/18. For details and to apply visit <http://sfsc.interviewexchange.com> 863-784-7132. EA/EO VET'S PREF. **SOUTH FLORIDA State College**

**Pressing Help Wanted**  
 Apply in person: Feathers' Dry Cleaners, 161 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring.

**FT Truck Driver - Avon Park**  
 HS Diploma or GED; 1 yr verifiable experience & CDL "A" current DOT certificate required. \$16/hr Must pass background check. **Call 800-929-2715** ask for Mike Solis or Rob Dague

## Find the perfect companion in the Classifieds!

**CENTRAL FLORIDA TIRE TERMINAL, INC., Avon Park**  
 Seeks a **Tire Section Repair Specialist** to inspect damaged tires; diagnose reparability; and perform repair procedure. Must have 1 yr. of exp. as Tire Repair Specialist or related. **Send resumes to Robert Reising at: [tirebob@digital.net](mailto:tirebob@digital.net)**

## PROFESSIONAL 2010



**Home Design Draftsman**  
 Wanted - Experience in Chief Architect Software preferred but not required. **Submit resumes: [eric@needplans.com](mailto:eric@needplans.com) or [tim@needplans.com](mailto:tim@needplans.com)**

**Sebring Insurance Agency**  
 ★ Opening for a 220 or 440  
 ★ Monday-Friday 8:30-5:30 Bilingual preferred. Must have transportation. Email resume: [sebringinsurance@gmail.com](mailto:sebringinsurance@gmail.com) or drop off at: 3019 US Hwy 27 N., Sebring.

## PROFESSIONAL 2010



### HUMAN RESOURCES COORDINATOR

The Human Resource Coordinator supports the HR Director and Ranch management by performing multiple responsibilities such as hiring, recruiting, training, development and maintenance of personnel records as well as ensuring all Ranch employees and contractors are paid accurately and on time. This position handles Ranch Division timekeeping and payroll. The Human Resources Coordinator is responsible for benefits administration to include enrollments, changes, terminations with carriers and carrier invoice reconciliation.

★ **Education/Experience Requirements:**  
 Associate or Bachelor's degree preferable; Minimum of 3 yrs of Human Resource exp. in similar roll; Experience in Benefits and Payroll Administration; Proficient computer skills and in-depth knowledge of relevant software such as Microsoft Office Suite. **To review the job description and apply online visit [www.lykesranch.com](http://www.lykesranch.com) and click the careers tab.**

Affirmative Action Employer/ Drug-Smoke Free Workplace/ M/F/D/V Equal Employment Opportunity Employer



### Vocational Instructor

For HBI's program in Avon Park, FL. HS diploma or equiv. req.; 5yrs general trades exp. & ability to work w/youth aged 16-24. **Competitive salary & paid leave offered. View full job description & apply at [www.hbi.org](http://www.hbi.org) EOE/AA/M/F/D/V**

## MEDICAL 2030



### Residential Assistants Needed

★ **No Experience Necessary**

☛ **We will Train**

**All Shifts Available** In Sebring and Avon Park

**Apply at 4352 Independence St. Avon Park** EOE/Drug Free Workplace

## Find it in the Classifieds!

### CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANTS

We currently have three (3) Full Time positions working 12 hour shifts, that is three days per week, gives you more time to spend with your families. We have **Excellent Benefits, Medical, ST, LTD, Dental, Free Life Ins., PTO, Holidays and 401K.** Come and apply in person at Royal Care of Avon Park, 1213 W Stratford Rd., Avon Park. (863) 453-6674. EOE/MF/DFWP.

**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**



## MEDICAL 2030



### NEW Hourly Rate for C.N.A.s !!

★ **NEW Week-end Differential Rate!**

★ **Employees Celebrated for Years of Service**

★ **Medical, Dental, Vision and Life Insurance Benefits Available**

★ **Annual Employee Picnics**

★ **Annual Celebration of Seniors & Staff**

★ **Payroll deductions for onsite Employee Cafe**

★ **Payroll deduction for shoes and uniforms**

★ **FREE CEU's & CPR Classes**

**Apply Online at [www.palmsofsebring.com](http://www.palmsofsebring.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**  
 Is Hiring CNA's Full/Part-Time, all shifts. Apply at 1010 Hwy 27N Avon Park or fax resume to Tammy Padilla at 863-453-5308.



## CLASSIFIED WORKS!

### ★ NURSES ★

We are accepting applications for nurses for the 7p-7a shift at **Royal Care of Avon Park**. Prefer at least one year of experience in a long-term care facility or other related health care facility. We offer competitive salary, full range of benefits including PTO and free life policy & shift differentials. **Apply in person at Royal Care of Avon Park, 1213 W Stratford Rd., Avon Park. 863-453-6674 EOE/MF/DFWP.**



**RNs & LPNs Wanted**  
 Experience pref., but will train. **Apply in Person:** 5030 US 27 N., Sebring **863-385-1074**  
**Email: [gtobey@eyesfl.com](mailto:gtobey@eyesfl.com)**

## RESTAURANT/ HOTEL 2040



### Now Hiring:

- ★ Experienced Servers
- ★ Bartenders
- ★ Line Cooks
- ★ Night Porters

**Apply in Person between 2-4 pm Only at 3101 Golfview Rd., Sebring.**  
 Or Email Resume to: [jobs.chicanes@gmail.com](mailto:jobs.chicanes@gmail.com)

## SKILLED TRADES 2050

**Journeyman Electrician Wanted**-Min. 3 yrs exp. Residential, Commercial, Govt. rate work. Call Amy **863-386-0491**

**EXPERIENCED MECHANIC** to work on farm equipment, diesel & gasoline engines, fabrication & electrical. Clean Florida Driver License required. Drug free workplace. **Apply in Person** 8am - 11am & 1pm - 4pm Monday - Friday @ 109 Arron Dr., Lake Placid, FL 863-465-2821 or office@lpclp.com

**Service Technician Wanted**  
 Small engine repair; lawn & garden, full-time. Lake Placid **863-465-9641**



## NOTICES

## ANNOUNCEMENTS 3010

**Clubhouse Rentals:** For Parties, Meetings etc! Wkday discounts! **Sebring Hills Assoc.** 863-253-9142 or 863-458-0867



## Do You Need More Business?

**Reach out to all of Highlands County with 2 publications plus 2 websites to Advertise Your Business!!**

**Let customers Find You by advertising your business on the Business & Services Page!**

**Mention this ad and Call Today !! 863-658-0307**



## PUT CLASSIFIEDS TO WORK FOR YOU!

**FIND A JOB! BUY A HOME! BUY A CAR!**

## PERSONALS 3020

Tall, slim, nice looking & healthy **senior male** seeking to meet a nice lady. PO Box 1653 Lake Placid FL 33862

**LOST & FOUND**  
**3090**



**LOST-Dashand**, long red hair, her name is Sheba, 3 yrs old, last seen going into the orange groves on Desoto Rd. missing since May 24th, 863-382-9183 or 863-414-6584

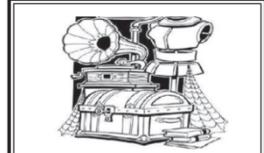


**Reward !!! Lost Boston Terrier**-Last seen 6/12 on US Hwy 27 near Palmdale. **309-238-7982**

**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**



**JULY 4th**

**Classified Deadlines**

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**GARAGE SALES**  
**6014**

**Church of the Redeemer Christmas In July**  
8a-2p every Sat in July at 910 W. Martin Rd., Avon Park

GET RESULTS USE CLASSIFIED!

Get **BIGGER RESULTS** with a **Highlands News-Sun Garage Sale Ad- ONLY \$22 for 4 lines.....!**  
Call **863-385-6155** in Highlands County

**HOUSEHOLD GOODS**  
**6030**

**Meat Grinder**, vintage, \$10.00 949-413-3706

**Wall Clock**, vintage, starburst 24" diameter, \$30.00, 949-413-3706

**FURNITURE**  
**6035**

**Bookcase**, 4 shelves, 6' x 30", \$30.00 - 949-413-3706

**Dining Room Table**, dark wood, round, 6 padded chairs light beige cushions, 42" leaf, \$150.00, 949-413-3706



**"NEW" DOWNTOWN MALL OPEN THU-SAT 9a-5p Best Prices on New & Used Furniture and Antiques!!**

- ★ Leather recliner \$49
- ★ 6 sofas from \$77-\$177
- ★ Wood desks from \$45
- ★ Dbl. dresser & mirror \$69
- ★ Walnut 5pc dining set \$49

**231 S. Ridgewood Dr. 2 blocks from Circle. 863-212-9576**



**We Buy/Sell Clean Used Furniture. Best Prices in Town! Sebring Furniture 1542 Lakeview Dr. (next to Save-a-Lot) 863-386-1119**

**King Mattress set**- used, excellent cond. Posturpedic foam. \$100. **863-414-2511**

**Kitchen Utility Cabinet** 2 shelves, bottom storage, on rollers, 26 x 31x 20, \$40.00 - 949-413-3706

Nursing rocking chair \$45. Roching chair w/cushion \$40. Beveled glass top sofa table \$40. Solid wood entertainment console, low in height, \$45. All new condition. 863-273-2260.

**Office Furniture**- chair w/swivel wheels, like new, \$35; 2 drawer oak file cabinet, \$15. **863-273-5018**

**ANTIQUES COLLECTIBLES**  
**6070**

**Private Buyer for Disabled Vets** paying highest prices for metals coin/stamp collections, die cast & hot wheels & any collectibles **954-234-3028**

**Sebring Antiques Close Out Drastic reductions** on merch **Going out of business!** 6205 US 27 S. **863-991-4667**

**MUSICAL**  
**6090**

**Guitar**-Yamaha Acoustic, 6 string solid wood top, \$145, **863-385-3433**

**BICYCLES/ TRICYCLES**  
**6135**

**Ladies' Cruiser 26", white, \$35. 10-speed universal 26", \$35. 414-2345**

**TOYS/GAMES**  
**6138**

**Pool table**, slate, full size, 56x100, excellent condition, \$300, 863-446-0957.

**LAWN & GARDEN**  
**6160**

**16" Rotary Scott Spreader \$10 863-402-5677**

**Lawn Spreader**, fertilizer, \$30.00 - 949-413-3706

**TOOLS/ MACHINERY**  
**6190**

**12" Delta Drill Press**-on stand w/clamp; multi speed. \$70. **863-402-5677**

**14" Delta Wood Cutting Band Saw**-on metal stand. \$265. **863-402-5677**

**Craftsman Combo Disc & Belt Sander**-\$25. **863-402-5677**

**DOGS**  
**6233**

**White German Shepherd Puppies**- 2 wks old. AKC reg., vet cert. Male & female. \$950 each. **305-527-9762**

**Yorkie Puppies**- 3(M), chocolate & "chocolate party" CKC reg w/full reg & FL health cert., vet checked & microchip. \$1,200 & up **863-243-0902**

**PET ADOPTION**  
**6238**

**Kittens**-(4) black, 7 wks old. Free to good home. **863-465-0558**

**APPLIANCES**  
**6250**

26 cu ft refrigerator, side-by-side, water ice in-door, \$400. GE flat top self-cleaning stove, \$150. Whirlpool over stove microwave, \$100. All almond color & exc cond, 863-382-6285.

**4 cu ft GE Fridge-Ideal for Dorm room! \$45. 863-402-5677**



**★ Used Appliances ★**  
Up to 90 day warranty.  
**Call 863-655-4995**

**Help Wanted**

**Kitchen Appliances**-glass top stove, \$150; dishwasher, microwave, \$50 ea. All for \$200 All off white. **863-658-2303**

**MISCELLANEOUS**  
**6260**



**TROPICAL FRUIT TREES**  
Avocados Bananas Citrus trees Mango Peach Longan Starfruit Sourp Figs Jujubee Lychee Mulberry Papaya Sugarapple Jackfruit Tamarind Coconut trees Miracle Fruit Blueberries Jabatocaba Sapote & Guava

★ **PURE RAW HONEY** ★  
**91 Carefree Ct., or 744 US Hwy 27 N., Venus, FL 33960. 305-216-8452**

**Sontera Hunter fan**, 52", new in box, lights & remote control, white, \$100, 863-471-1042.

**WANTED TO BUY/TRADE**  
**6270**

**Wanted to Buy Mid '60s Volkswagen Beetle. 814-282-9217**

**7000**



**TRANSPORTATION**  
**AUTOMOTIVE**  
**7005**



**AUTO DEALS & STEALS**

**Sell Your New or Used Auto Easy Advertise in the Classifieds!**

**Only \$27.50 for 7 days (4 lines) Add a photo for only \$10 more!**



**AUTOS WANTED**  
**7260**

**Cars ★ Trucks ★ SUVs etc From \$1000-\$100k-NO JUNK! I come to you! Call Sam 239-595-4021**

**GOLF CARTS**  
**7327**

**2007 CLUB CAR**  
With rear dump bed, **heavy duty**, good cond, \$2500. 863-273-2417

**TRAILER & ACCESSORIES**  
**7341**

**Jet Ski Trailer w/FREE Jet Ski !! (For Parts). \$95. 863-414-2345**

✓✓✓✓✓✓✓

**IN THE CLASSIFIED YOU CAN.....**

- ✓Find a Pet
- ✓Find a Car
- ✓Find a Job
- ✓Find Garage Sales
- ✓Find A New Employee
- ✓Sell Your Home
- ✓Sell Your Unwanted Merchandise
- ✓Advertise Your Business or Service

**Classified - it's the reliable source for the right results**

**CYCLES/MOPEDS/ SCOOTERS**  
**7360**

2005 Suzuki Boulevard 800, 21,000 mi., good shape, new windshield/battery, accessories, \$2500 OBO, 616-890-9930.

**Turn your trash into cash! Advertise your yard sale!**

**PUT CLASSIFIEDS TO WORK FOR YOU!**

**FIND A JOB!**

**BUY A HOME!**

**BUY A CAR!**

# How to be a happy timeshare owner

Many people are desperate to shed their timeshares. That provides bargains for timeshare enthusiasts like Angie and Mike McCaffery of Los Angeles.

The retired couple has paid as little as 50 cents for "used" timeshares. They've parlayed their timeshare weeks at four mainland U.S. resorts into affordable stays in England, Spain, Costa Rica, Hawaii, Mexico and the Caribbean.

"You hear all the nightmare stories, but if you know how to work it and you can plan ahead, it's the best thing ever," says Angie McCaffery, 71.

Timeshares are a way to use vacation property, typically resort condominiums with bedrooms and kitchens, for a week each year. In addition to the upfront cost of buying, owners must pay annual maintenance fees, which currently average about \$900 but can total \$3,000 or more for higher-end properties.

Timeshares may be a specific week each year, or "floating weeks" that can change from year to year, or "points" that can be converted into reservations for days or weeks at timeshare resorts. Most timeshares offer exchange opportunities that allow owners to stay at other resorts if they plan well in advance.

The details can vary quite a bit, but people who are satisfied with their timeshares tend to have several things in common, says Brian Rogers, owner of Timeshare Users Group, one of the oldest forums for timeshare owners.

Happy timeshare owners:

**Understand that timeshares aren't a financial investment**

The average cost of timeshares sold by resort developers has risen over time and now tops \$20,000, according to the American Resort Development Association, an industry trade group. Unethical salespeople use that fact to imply, or even assert, that the timeshare you buy will increase in value. That's not true. On the resale market, the typical timeshare sells for 10 percent or less of what the original owner paid, Rogers says. TUG, eBay and other sites are full of "for sale" ads from owners willing to sell for just a penny.

**Don't buy a timeshare on vacation**

Timeshare salespeople are often much better at selling than you are at resisting — especially when you're relaxed and having a great time. That's no state of mind to be in when you need to scan the details of a contract, assess potential exchange options and uncover things that can go wrong, such as rising annual maintenance fees or problems trading your share.

If you're interested in a property, Rogers recommends renting from an existing timeshare owner to see how much you like it. But don't sign up on the



**LIZ WESTON**  
Nerd Wallet

spot. "I tell my friends, 'Don't ever go to a presentation.' They've gotten very hard-sell," Angie McCaffery says.

**Don't pay retail**

The McCafferys bought their first timeshare in 1994 from a developer, paying \$15,000 for a two-bedroom condo in Palm Desert, California. Later they learned they could save thousands buying directly from other timeshare owners who no longer wanted to pay their annual maintenance fees. (People who simply stop paying their fees risk having the debts turned over to collection agencies, which can sue them and trash their credit.)

In 2006, the McCafferys bought a one-bedroom timeshare in Park City, Utah, for \$100 on eBay. Four years later, they paid \$1 total for two timeshares, a one-bedroom unit in New Orleans and a two-bedroom unit in Ruidoso, New Mexico.

Developers often offer incentives for buying retail, such as frequent traveler points or VIP treatment, but "those are almost never worth paying \$19,000 or \$20,000 extra for," Rogers says. "For that money, I'll get my own limo from the airport."

**Buy in attractive locations**

Don't buy a timeshare in an undesirable location on the promise you can trade it to stay in more desirable ones. If you don't want to vacation there, chances are potential exchange partners won't, either.

The McCafferys prefer buying fixed-week timeshares. That way, if they don't want to trade for another property, they're guaranteed access to their properties each year without having to make advance reservations. Floating-week and point systems typically require more planning, since desirable weeks are snapped up early or require more points the longer people delay.

**Enjoy research and planning**

Learning the ins and outs of each timeshare system takes effort. While point systems are often touted as a way for people to vacation at the last minute, the reality is that the best deals have to be secured nine to 12 months in advance, Rogers says.

That's actually a plus for people like Angie McCaffery, who typically starts researching the couple's vacation options a year or more ahead. "Half the fun of it is planning it," she says.

# Independence Day

*Freedom has its life in the hearts, the actions, the spirit of men and so it must be daily earned and refreshed else like a flower cut from its life-giving roots, it will wither and die.*

*– Dwight D. Eisenhower*



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# The FUNNIES

**PEANUTS**  
featuring  
"Good ol'  
Charlie Brown"  
by SCHULZ

"Our love is different," she cried. "It will endure forever."

AH! MY SECRETARY WITH THE MORNING MAIL...

Dear Contributor,  
Thank you for submitting your manuscript. We regret that it does not suit our present needs.

ANOTHER REJECTION SLIP...  
RATS!

OH, WELL, TAKE IT AND FILE IT WITH THE OTHERS...

**THE LOCKHORNS**  
BY BUNNY HOEST AND JOHN REINER

"IF ONLY LEROY WORKED THIS HARD AT HIS JOB..."

"LEROY'S SO HARD TO PLEASE... THE ONLY THING HE'D SWIPE RIGHT ON IS BACON!"

"THE FOLLOWING STORY IS TRUE... ONLY THE NAMES HAVE BEEN CHANGED TO PROTECT THE INNOCENT."

"THAT'S MY WIFE... BACK WHEN SHE WAS EASIER ON THE CLOTHES BUDGET."

"I'VE CHANGED MY MIND, LORETTA... YOU SEEM A BIT TOO EAGER TO BURY ME IN THE SAND."

**Hi and Lois**  
by BRIAN and GREG WALKER

I AM READY.

LET'S GET THIS PARTY STARTED!

ARE WE GOING TO THE HIGH SCHOOL TO WATCH THE FIREWORKS AGAIN THIS YEAR?  
WHY NOT?

THEY CHARGE \$25 FOR PARKING...

WE HAVE TO WALK HALF A MILE...

AND THERE'S ALWAYS A BIG TRAFFIC JAM GETTING OUT.

WHAT OTHER CHOICE DO WE HAVE?

AND DON'T SAY WATCHING THEM ON TV!

**MARY WORTH**  
"THE SIMPLE ACT OF CARING IS HEROIC."  
- EDWARD ALBERT

MY SON IS IN LOVE...  
WITH A GIRL HE MET AT HIS NEW JOB!

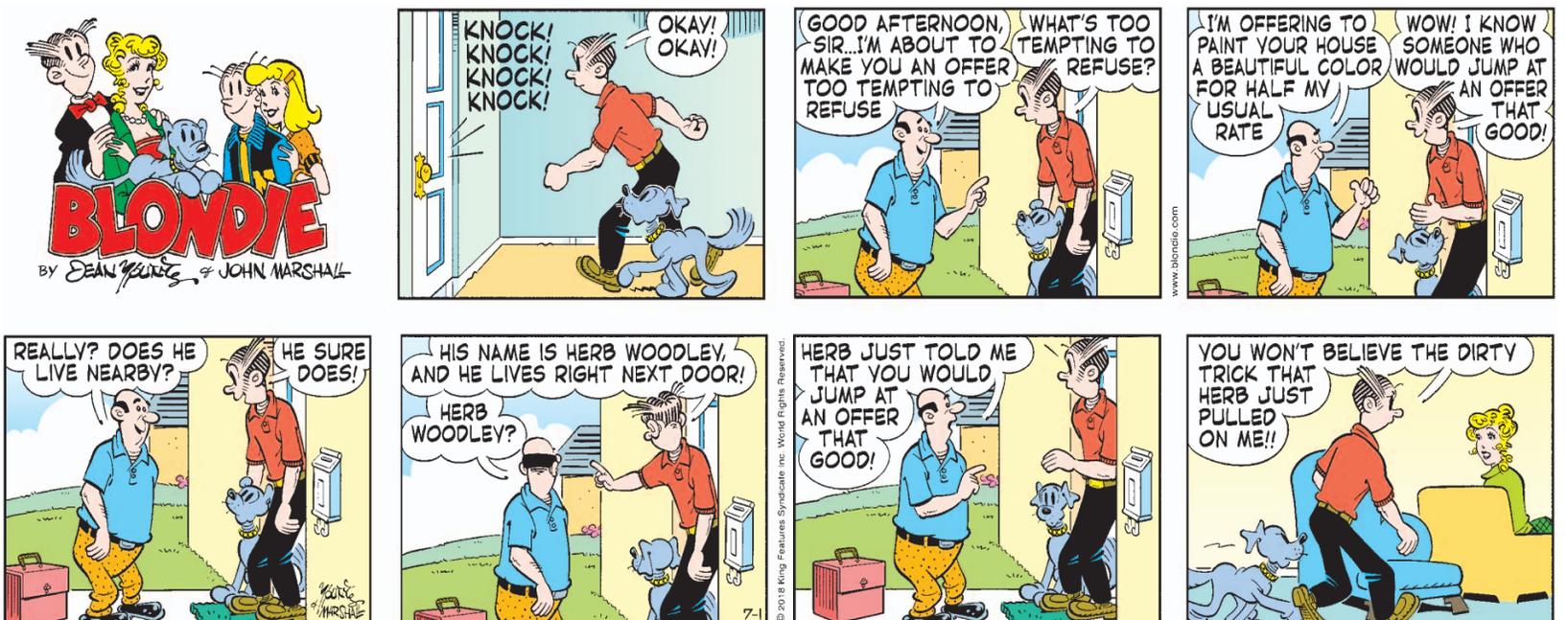
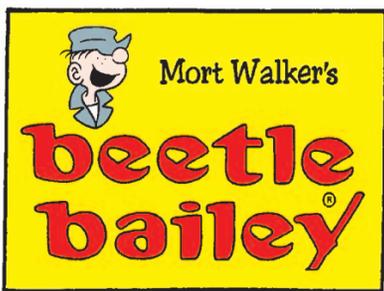
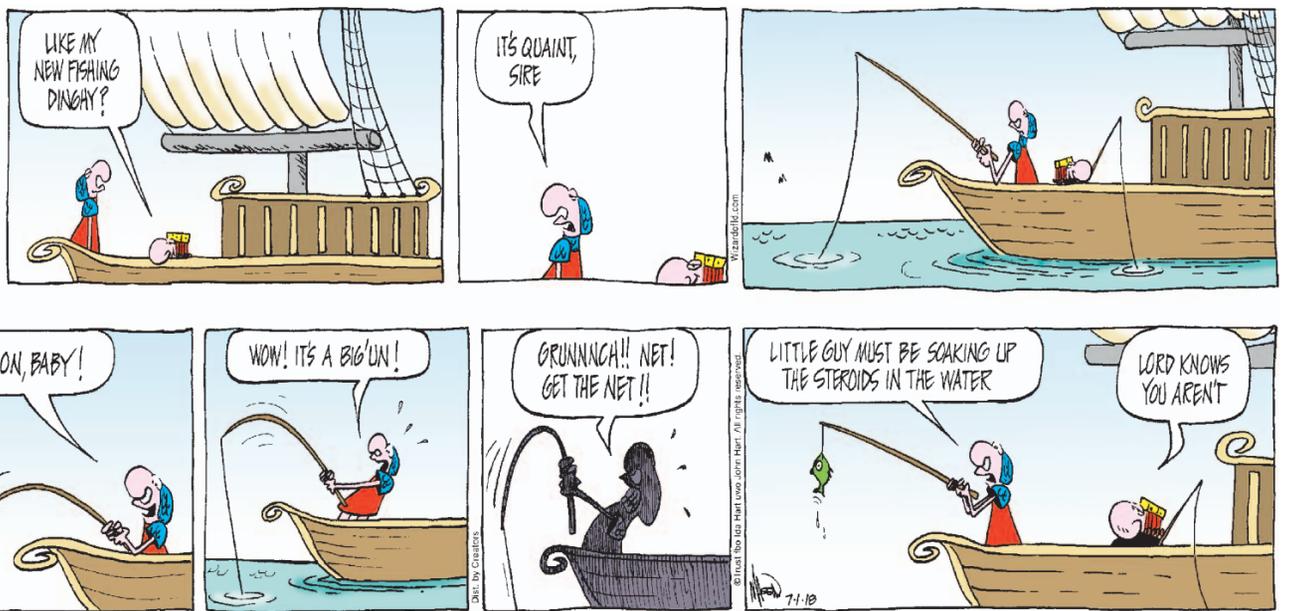
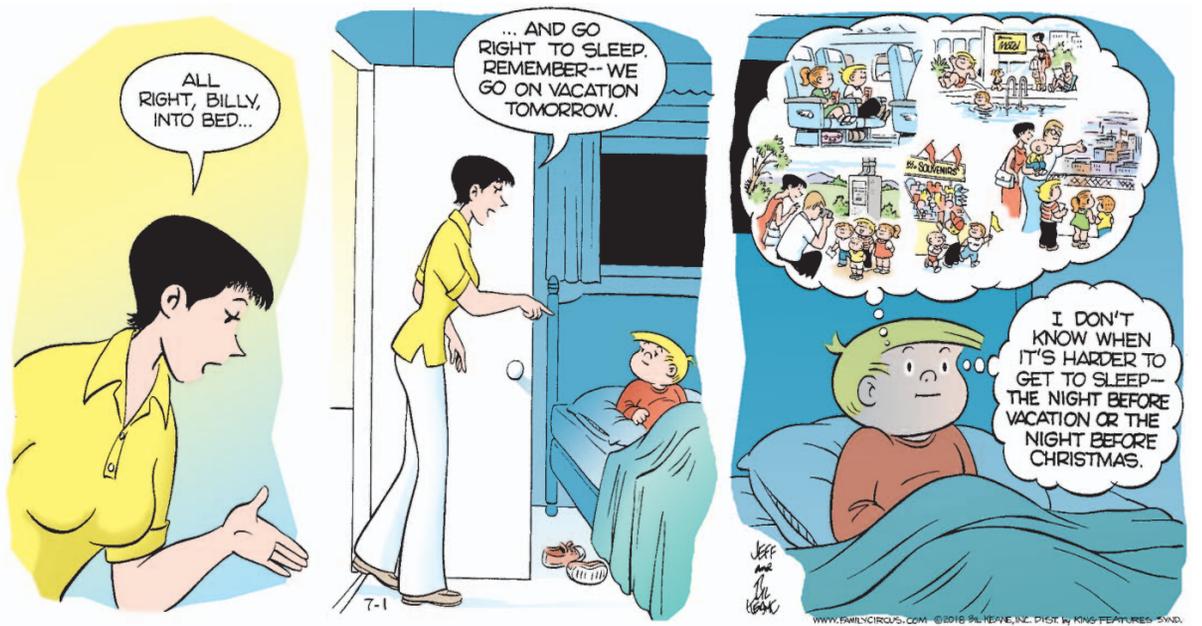
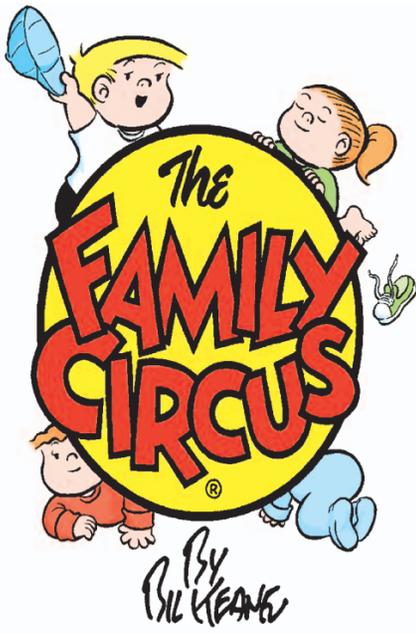
MARY AND IRIS CATCH UP OVER LUNCH...  
I HATE TO SAY IT, BUT TOMMY DOESN'T HAVE THE BEST TRACK RECORD WITH GIRLS OR JOBS!  
HE MAY HAVE TURNED A CORNER, IRIS. YOU SAID IN THE PAST YEAR...

HE'S BEEN CLEAN AND SOBER.  
HE TURNED TO HIS FAITH, AND THAT SAVED HIM.

YOU HELPED TO SAVE HIM, TOO.

I TRIED, I'M STILL TRYING. I'M HIS MOTHER. THAT'S MY JOB!

MEANWHILE...





### FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE

By Lynn Johnston

BLEAH! THIS GRAPE JUICE TASTES AWFUL!

I KNOW.

...IT'S MY PAINT WATER.

WHAT ARE YOU PAINTING, DAWN?

A LANDSCAPE.

THERE'S NO M-BIRDS!

WHAT?

M-BIRDS! M-BIRDS! YOU KNOW!

HERE, I'LL SHOW YOU.

THERE, SEE?

OH.

...YOU CAN'T HAVE A LANDSCAPE WITHOUT M-BIRDS!

### GARFIELD

garfield.com

UMMM...LIZ?

YES?

DO YOU THINK I'M A GOOD KISSER?

THE TRUTH?

WELL, YEAH...

I THINK YOU'RE A GREAT KISSER

SMOOOCH

GUESS WHAT LIZ SAID?

THERE'S GOING TO BE NO LIVING WITH HIM

### HAL FOSTER'S Prince Valiant

BY SCHULTZ AND YEATES

ZULFA PASSES ANTERO'S WORDS TO ALETA, AND THE QUEEN CALLS FOR COUNCIL: "TOMORROW, THE SENATE VOTES ON KRIOS' DEMAND FOR A TRADE ZONE - AND IT APPEARS AS THOUGH ENOUGH ARE COWED BY HIM, BUT NOW WE HAVE A CHANCE TO REVEAL KRIOS..."

HOURS LATER, ONCE NIGHT HAS SETTLED, A FLEET DEPARTS THE HARBOR - THESE ARE THE FISHERMEN WHO HUNT THE NOCTURNAL SQUID.

BUT ONCE IN OPEN WATER, ONE OF THE RAGTAG FLOTILLA BREAKS FROM THE OTHERS AND TURNS TOWARD A SMALL ISLAND JUST OFF THE COAST.

"AND I KNOW THIS PLACE WHERE HE GOES TONIGHT," INTERJECTS VALETA. "KAREN AND I SAILED THERE OFTEN AS CHILDREN. TRUST ME, MOTHER - I KNOW WHAT MUST BE DONE."

THE LONE VESSEL SLIPS QUIETLY ALONGSIDE A NEGLECTED WHARF ON THE ISLAND'S FAR SIDE - AND KRIOS STEPS ONTO KYTHRA, HIS PROPOSED RESTRICTED TRADE ZONE!

NEXT: The appointment

SLYLOCK FOX and COMICS FOR KIDS

BY BOB WEBER JR.

Mrs. Rabbit claims Shady Shrew stole her son's cherry Jell-O. Shady insists he's innocent. He says he decided to make and eat Jell-O because his refrigerator is broken and all of his other food is spoiled. Why does Slylock Fox think Shady Shrew is lying?

BOB WEBER JR and SR 7-1

TV DINNER

Spot six differences between these panels.

www.facebook.com/SlylockFox

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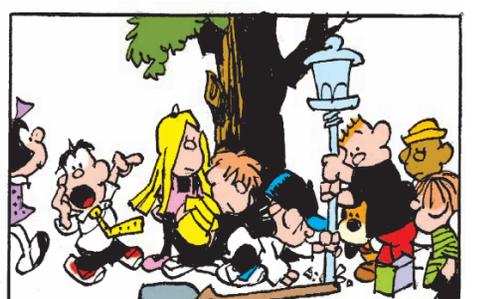
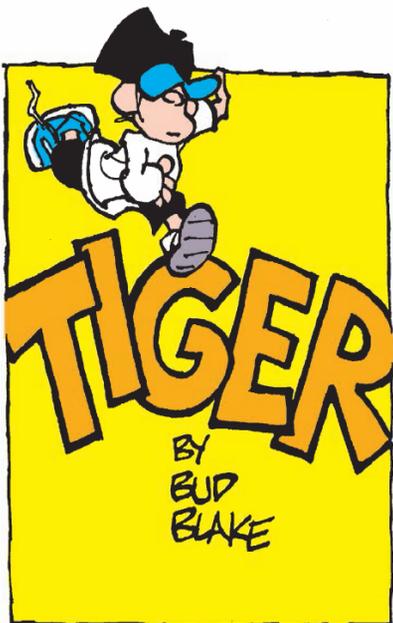
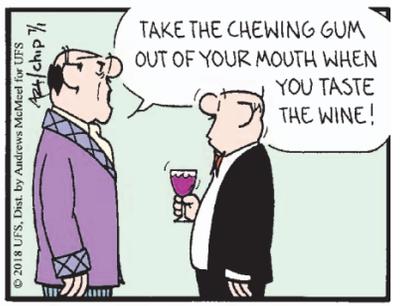
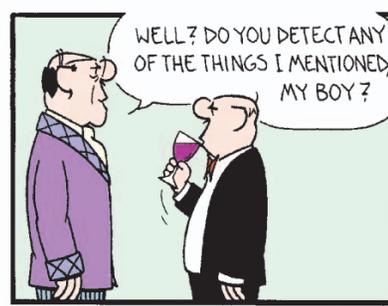
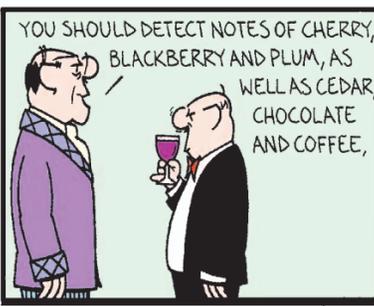
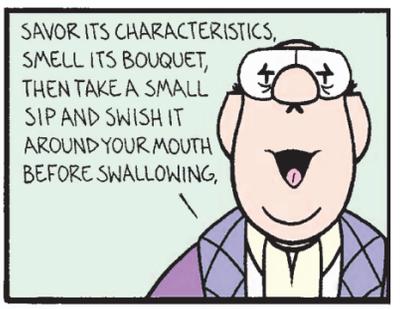
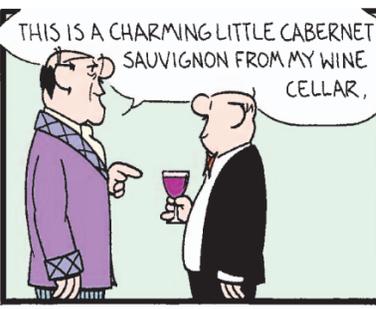
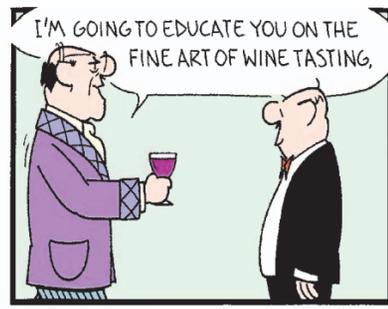
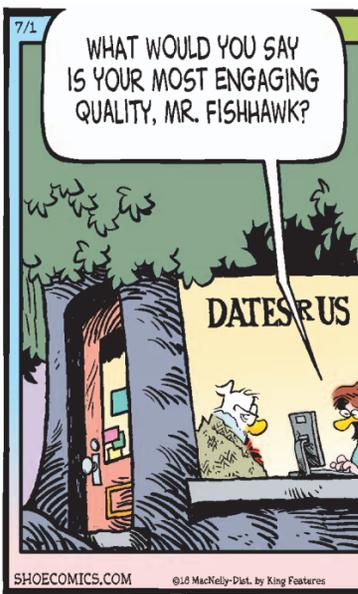
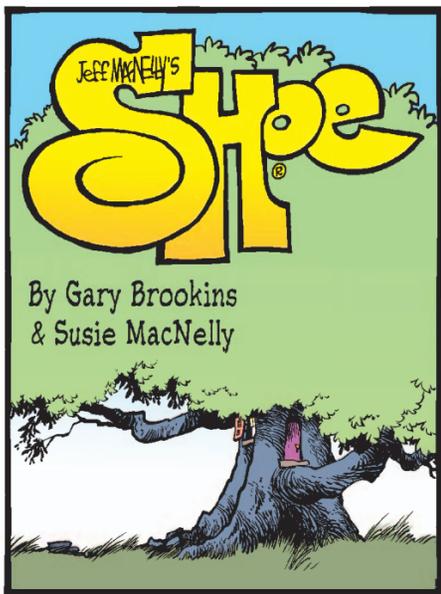
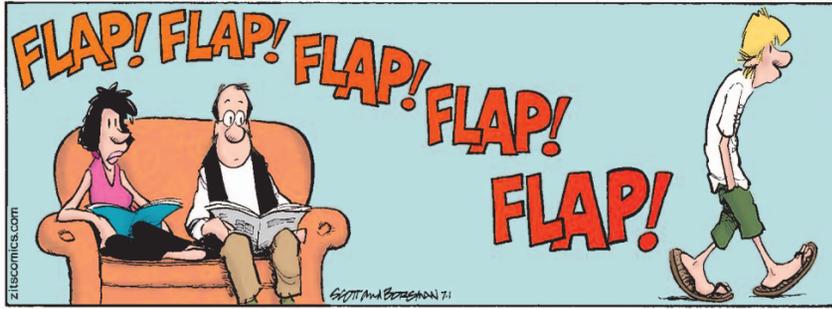
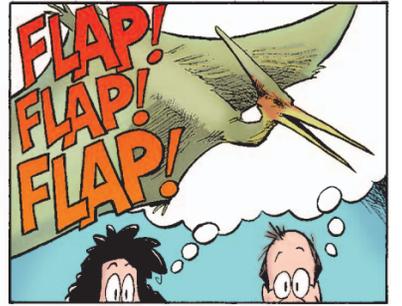
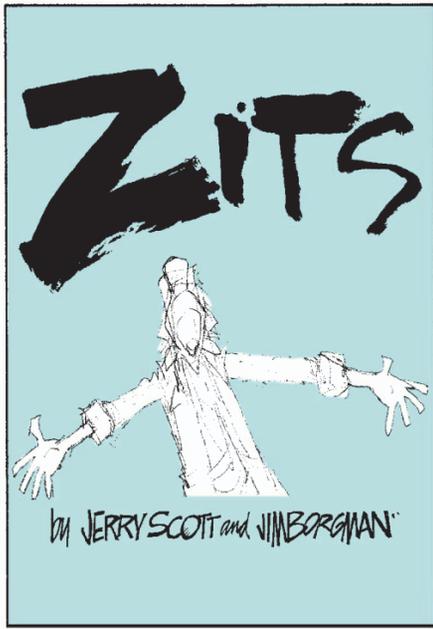
The scrambled words are things found at the beach. How many can you unscramble?

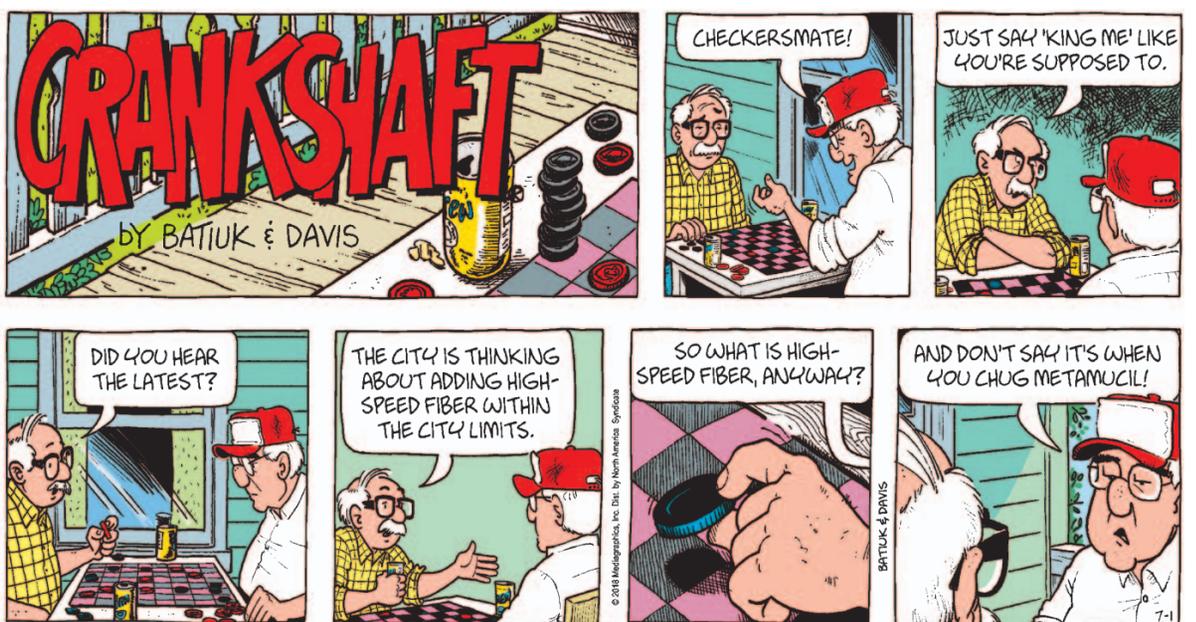
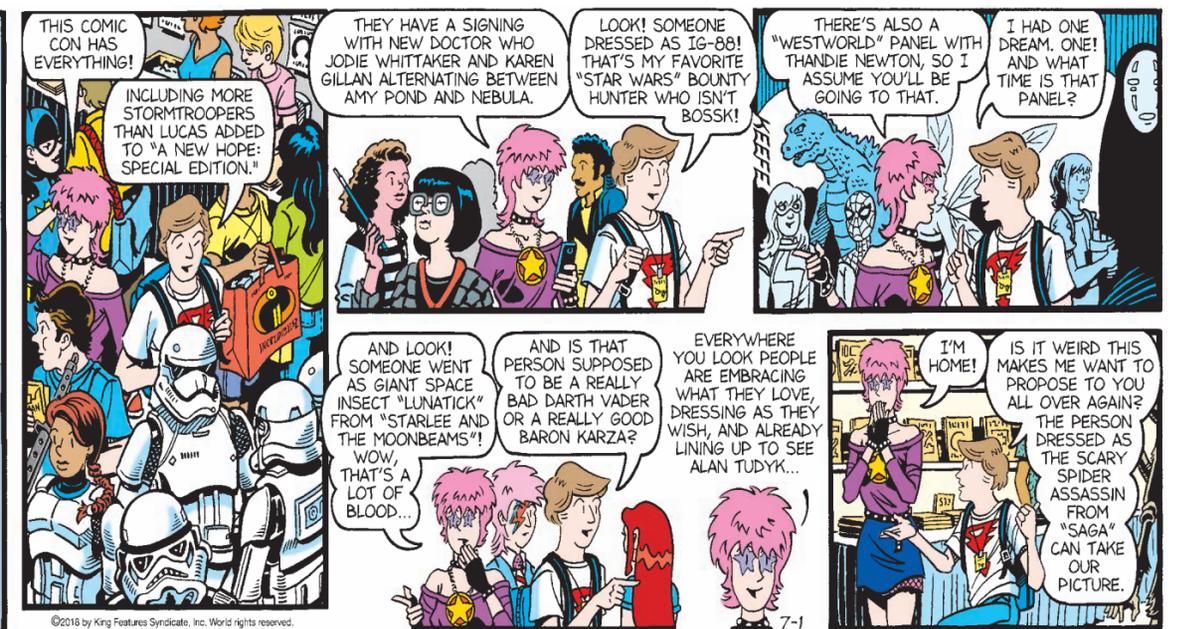
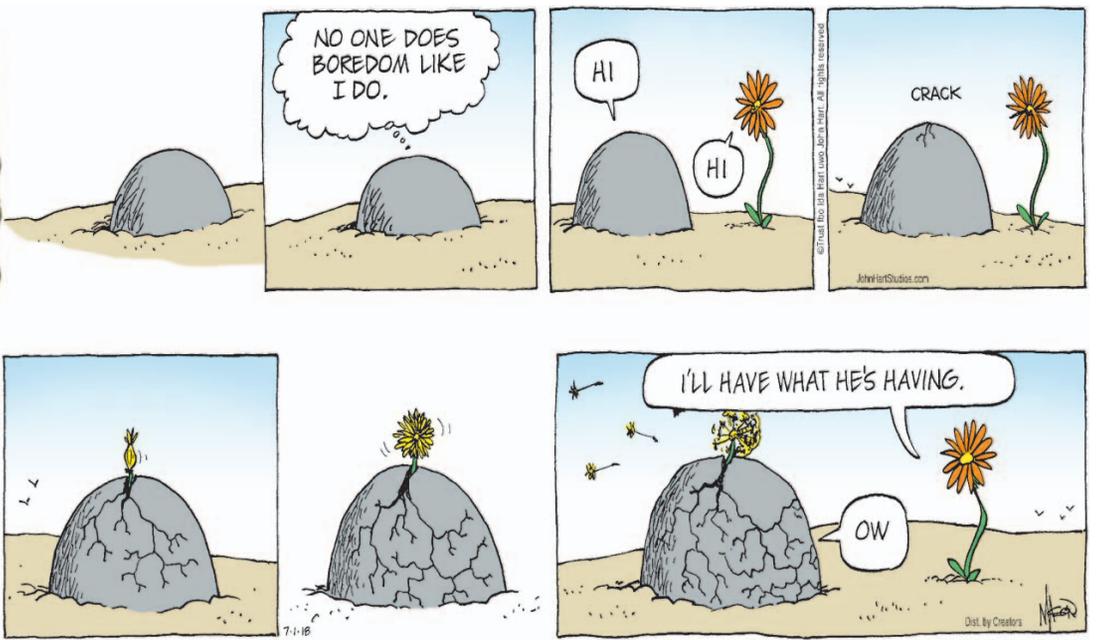
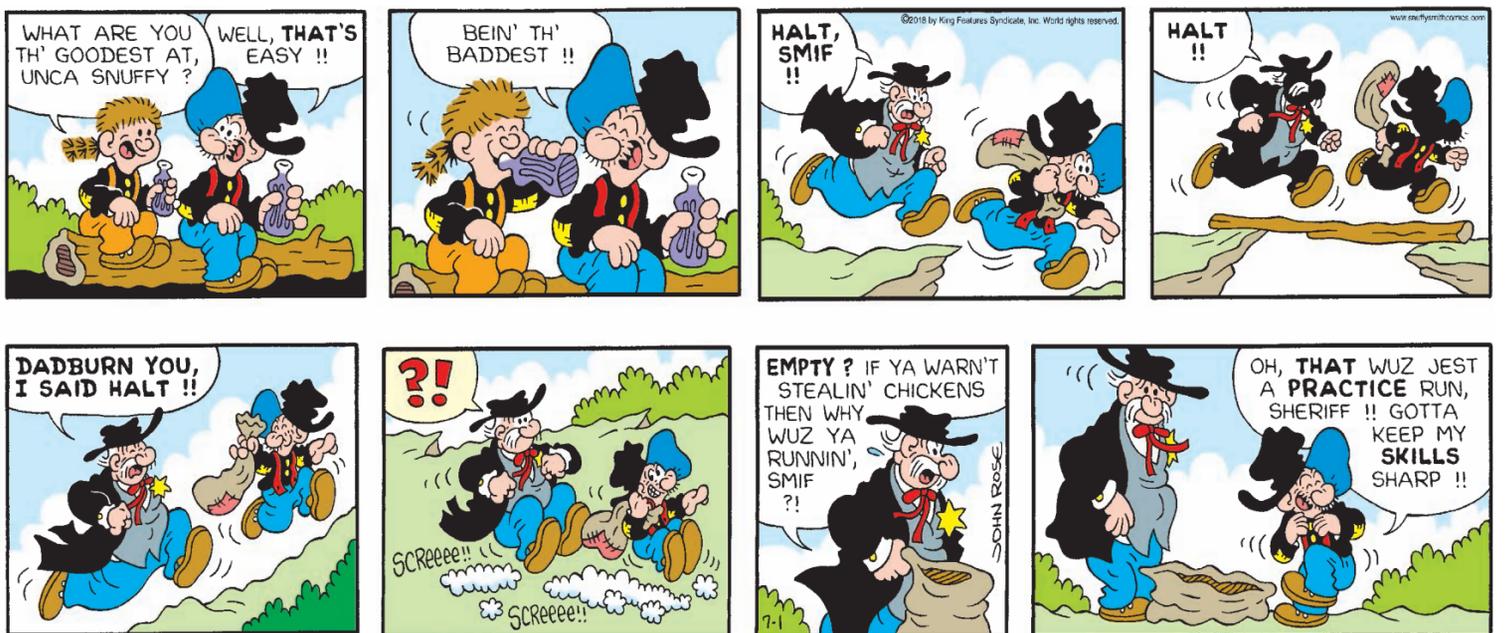
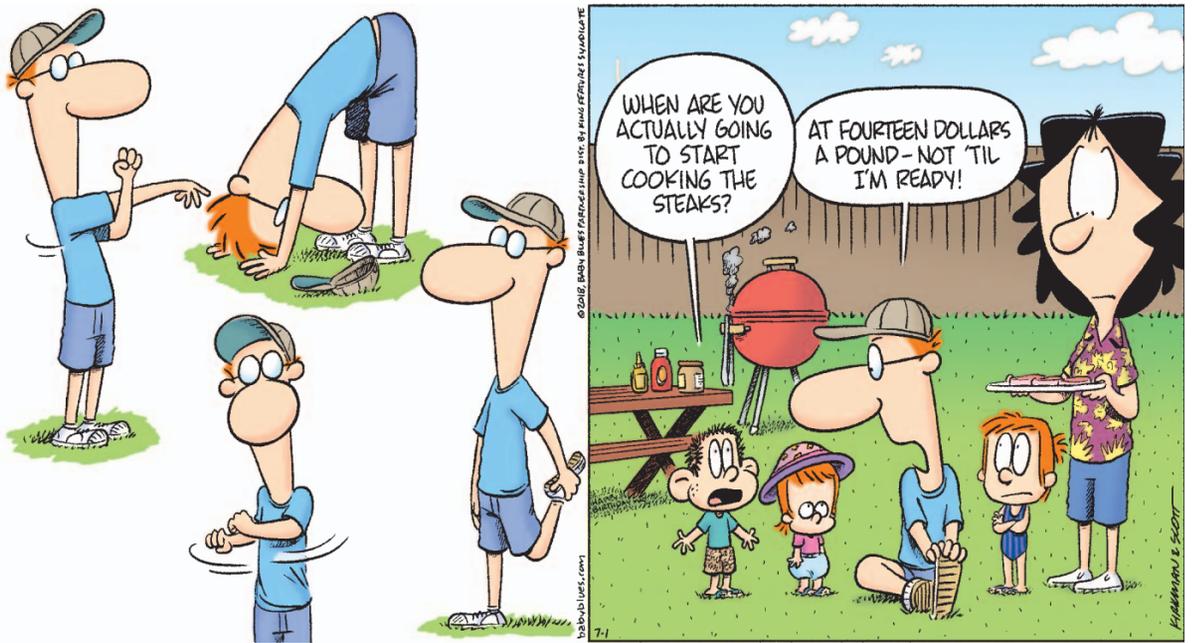
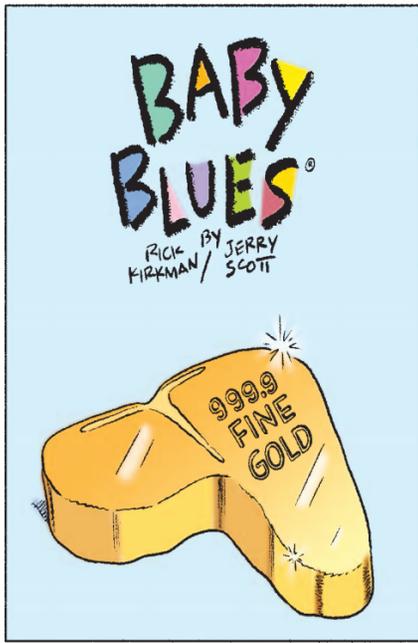
- 1) NSDA
- 2) EWSAV
- 3) ORFDIOWDT
- 4) LSHSEL

Answer -- 1) Sand  
2) Shells  
3) Driftwood  
4) Waves

Answer -- Lightbulb, ball, newspaper, bird, dog's ear and cat's tail.

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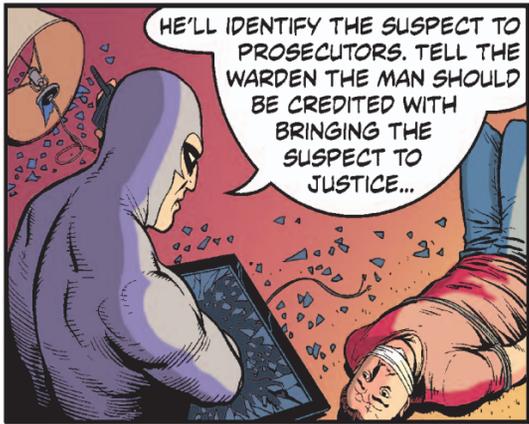
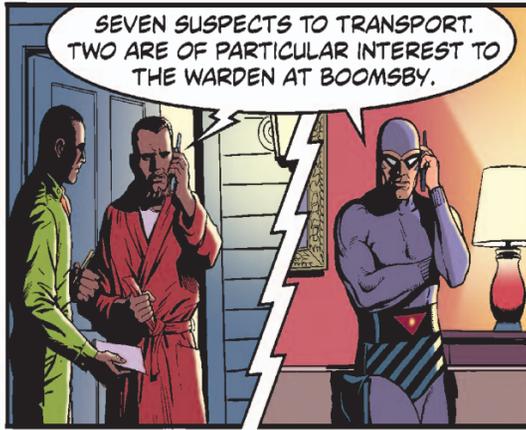
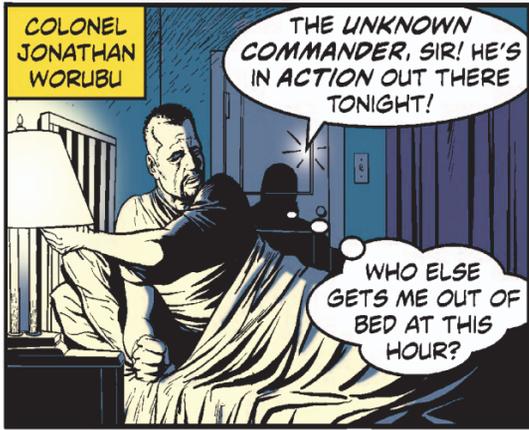






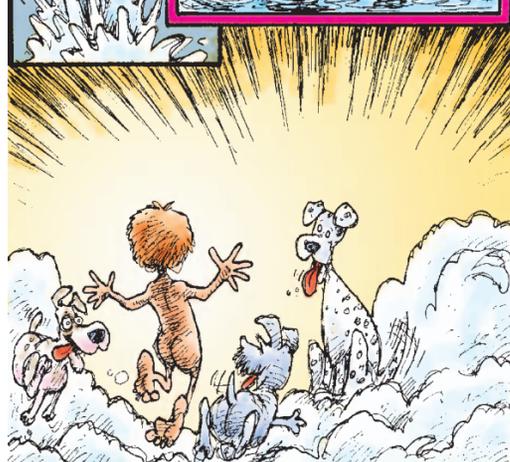
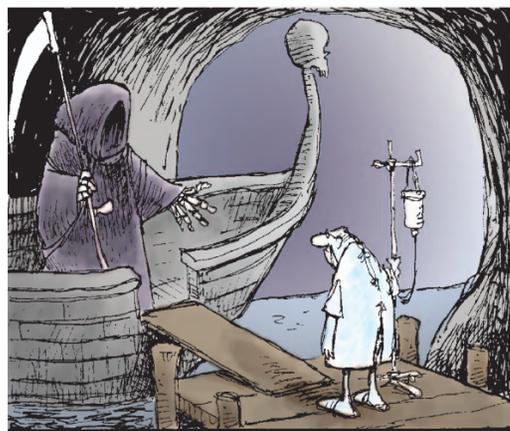
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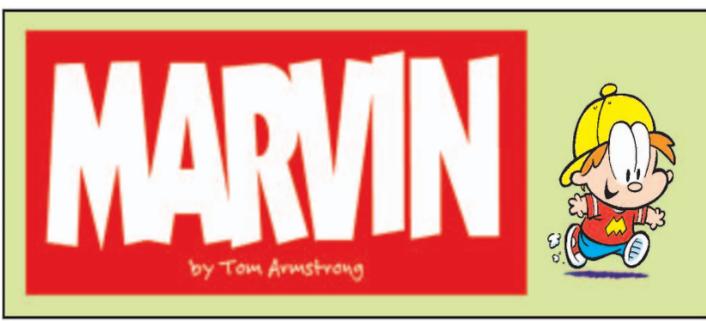
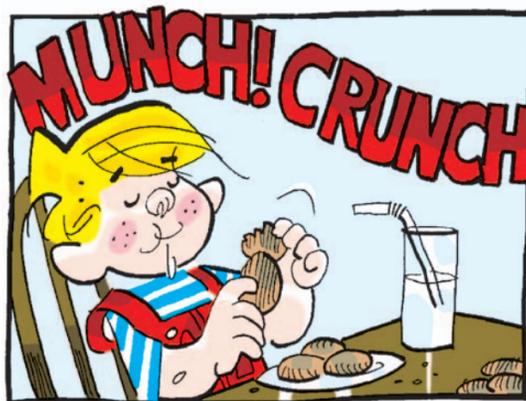
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BY HANK KETCHAM



# How to Choose



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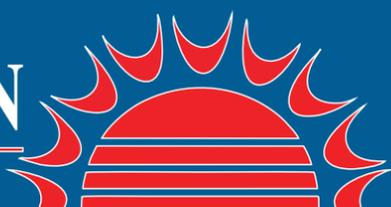
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# *How to choose* A Dentist



**G**oing to the dentist is something you and your family will be doing for years to come. So it stands to reason that finding the right dentist can save you time and money.

Picking the right dentist — even for the most routine dental needs — is vital for your ongoing health, and for maintaining your appearance. If you're unfortunate enough to encounter a dentist who is reckless or incompetent, it can affect your health, your comfort and your finances.

Poor quality work should never be the reason you have to repeat a dental procedure.

You will want to select a dentist who's able to put you at ease. Find a dentist who makes you feel comfortable. Your dentist should be focused on helping you to improve your dental health in a peaceful and hygienic environment.

Convenience can also play a role. If you are able to visit a dentist near your home or workplace,

it can help you show up to your appointments on time. As you look for a dentist, check their regular office hours. Do the hours work for your schedule? How about your family members?

The first thing to do when beginning your search is to consult with family and people in your social network. Friends, family and colleagues may have good recommendations, and can be a great first resource for information.

It can also be helpful to search the Internet for information about dental offices in your area. Professional dental practices often have their own websites, which offer information about the backgrounds of those who work there. The website may also tell you about how they handle procedures and appointments, as well as specialized services they offer.

Your local newspaper will likely have advertisements from local dentists. Oftentimes you can find specials and discounts.

Once you have gathered a list,

begin calling each prospective dentist. You can talk to a receptionist or other staff person if the dentist is unavailable.

Check to make sure the dentist earned the necessary degree from a reputable school and is current on all licensing and continuing educational requirements. Ideally, he will be familiar with the latest dental technologies and trends.

Ask if the dental office provides emergency services. If you break a tooth or need to have a root canal done right away, you will want to use your chosen dentist. You don't want to have to search for a dentist when you are in pain.

Lead time for appointments is another consideration. Some offices might be able to see you right away, while others may have a three-week wait time.

Your prospective dentist may or may not accept your dental insurance. If you don't have dental insurance, inquire about payment plans. The office should give you an estimate before performing any

work.

When someone meets all of your requirements, visit the office. The staff should be professional and friendly. Every dentist should be willing to answer all of your questions.

Some people are afraid of dentists or of pain. If you have any concerns, communicate with the staff and dentist. Many professionals are willing to go above and beyond to help you work through these issues.

A basic oral health history should be taken by the dentist or staff. They should tell you about future treatment and prevention options. A quality dentist will help you feel comfortable during your visit.

The best dentists offer friendly, happy dental experiences.

Teeth are extremely important to your overall health. They can also help or hinder your appearance. Finding a good dentist is like finding a friend who consistently brings out your best smile.



## Gratitude. A powerful element in fighting cancer.

Dave Norris was a healthy 65-year-old, until one day he had trouble swallowing. His doctor discovered a malignant tumor in his stomach and Dave sought treatment at a large cancer center in another city. There, they saw him as patient number 1125157, not Dave Norris. Every other week, Dave flew across the country for treatment until he discovered a Florida Cancer Specialists clinic only minutes from his home. Here, Dave was given a successful knockout round of treatment, all while being treated like Dave Norris, not just another number. The care and compassion Dave received inspired him so much that he has dedicated the next chapter of his life to helping other Florida Cancer Specialists patients.

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-Dave Norris, Cancer Fighter

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# How to choose A Cancer Treatment Center



**C**ancer doesn't discriminate. A deadly disease that afflicts tens of millions from every walk of life, it's not picky: it strikes with equal opportunity.

It's also pervasive. Chance are, even if you're fortunate never to have had cancer, you probably know someone who has.

One of the most frustrating challenges in defeating cancer is its complexity. An unforgiving disease that's difficult to manage and nearly impossible to cure, cancer is constantly in motion. It can often seem to be one step ahead of even the most aggressive efforts to defeat it.

For those who face a cancer diagnosis, it may be difficult to sift through the many different kinds of available treatment, especially without the proper guidance. Cancer patients need skilled, expert care and committed, unwavering support. A patient's treatment needs can be as complex as the disease itself, so it stands to reason that selecting the right place to seek treatment is crucial. But it can be a daunting task.

If you need the services offered by a cancer treatment center, consider these tips.

## Doctor

One of the most significant steps in facing cancer head on is to

adhere to a doctor's plan for treatment and following their advice.

You will first need to select a doctor who will administer treatment. Typically, a patient diagnosed with a specific kind of cancer will choose a doctor based on whether that doctor specializes in that specific form of the disease. A reputable, qualified specialist is one who will walk you through the process, while patiently and accurately addressing your questions and concerns.

In general, it will be to your advantage to receive treatment at the center where your specialist practices. Why? Your doctor will already have working relationships with other skilled staff members; people who will be assisting you on your road to recovery.

Whether you have insurance, and knowing what your insurance covers, is another important consideration. Go over your health care policy to verify that your selected doctor and treatment center are covered by your insurer. Understand the deductibles, co-pays and coverage limits that are already in place. This information will also assist you in the decision-making process.

## Location

Convenience can be a big factor in easing your path through the recovery process. If you're able, try to find a qualified cancer treatment

center near your location.

The overall program of care may require lengthy and repetitive chemotherapy or radiation treatments, so traveling for long periods of time can rapidly exhaust your bank account and your body.

While many people tend to believe that big cancer facilities located in large cities offer better treatment, that's not always the case. Depending on your diagnosis and recommended treatment, you may be able to find comparable treatment close to home.

## Personal referrals

Cancer touches the lives of so many people that it's relatively easy to get first-person recommendations for the best treatment centers.

Talk to people you know. Ask your network of friends and family: people who have faced a cancer diagnosis, or supported a loved one through the process. They may have wise advice and detailed impressions about the cancer treatment centers they used. You will be able to get an idea about what to expect and the quality of care you will receive.

Researching the internet can also help you find local centers, as well as read reviews from patients and loved ones. Check your local newspaper for centers in your area. Sometimes you may be able to find a promotion or other discount.

## Support services

Many cancer treatment centers offer plenty of support services for their patients.

Connecting you with nonprofit groups and community health resources will inspire you on the road to recovery. Centers will also set up counseling sessions for caregivers and people going through similar situations. This help goes beyond medicine for the body. It will assist you emotionally and mentally. Most cancer patients and loved ones find these services invaluable.

## Specialty treatments

Some cancer treatment centers offer specialized care.

Many centers are on the leading edge of medical research. Depending on your diagnosis and doctor's recommendation, you may be a candidate for clinical trials or experimental treatments.

Ask your doctor what trials or treatments might be effective for your particular type of cancer. If necessary, you can allow this information to guide your decision.

Find a cancer treatment center where you and your loved one will feel comfortable. Not all centers are hospital-themed. Many provide a peaceful and tranquil atmosphere to make the experience a little easier.



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# *How to choose* A Continuing Care Retirement Community



**S**o what is a CCRC? CCRC stands for continuing care retirement community. Some advantages to a CCRC are having the opportunity to plan in advance and the ability to age in place.

The various levels of care offered are independent living, assisted living, skilled nursing care and long-term nursing care. This enables residents to remain within the same community as their care needs fluctuate.

Being a part of a CCRC can keep loved ones together whether they have the same needs and the support system lends to preserving the health of the independent caregiver.

### How to find the right CCRC

The best way to evaluate a community is to tour, meet the staff and have a meal in the dining room. Important questions to consider include:

Is it necessary to enter into a life care contract (a buy in, paying a significant fee up front)

in addition to the monthly rate?

Are amenities like housekeeping, transportation and meals included or are the rates à la carte?

What is the food quality, variety and availability?

Are there dedicated drivers for transportation or is the transportation limited to the availability of multi-purpose staff?

Is the transportation available for social engagements or strictly medical appointments?

What are the transportation hours of operation and policies? It's always beneficial to compare the details.

How many vehicles and drivers are there?

Are there full time staff members solely dedicated to planning and coordinating activities for residents and if so, how many?

Are all levels of care available in close proximity? This matters when you have family or friends within the community that want to remain close and visit routinely.

Are there any safety features in place such as

life-alert type pendants for use in emergency situations?

Are there phones within each room at every level of care?

Which care providers (physicians) round at the facility?

### Levels of care and the differences

Independent living is for someone who does not require assistance but enjoys the support system offered by the community. Assisted living facilities can vary significantly depending on the type of license they hold.

It's always important to gather details about the hours of operation and availability of nursing staff on site. Admission criteria will depend on their licensing and staffing.

Skilled nursing facilities should be Medicare certified and offer physical, occupational and speech therapy as well as offer IV therapy and wound care services.



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# *How to choose* An Audiologist



**A** sizable portion of the U.S. population lives with some type of hearing impairment. And the gradual onset of hearing loss means many of the nearly 40 million Americans who experience it may not even be aware of their condition. Research has shown that it takes about seven years before people with a hearing impairment seek treatment.

It's not all bad news, though. In the majority of cases, hearing problems aren't difficult to treat. And medical innovation is continually improving the scope and quality of treatment.

If you or someone close to you is suffering hearing loss, it may be time to turn to an audiologist for help.

The first step in seeking treatment for hearing loss is to make an appointment with your primary care doctor, who can rule out physical causes for your problem,

such as excessive earwax or infection. If it turns out your problem has a cause that isn't so easily treated, your primary care doctor will likely refer you to an ear, nose and throat specialist, or to an audiologist. Audiologists provide diagnostic evaluations, which is vital for accurate diagnosis and appropriate rehabilitation.

With extensive experience and training and a doctorate level of education, an audiologist is the professional best equipped to treat a hearing loss. In addition, an audiologist will evaluate you for related conditions, such as tinnitus and equilibrium issues.

Audiologists specialize in different areas of hearing loss and treatment. Some may specialize according to a particular skill area, like cochlear implants. Others, though, may treat older patients with age-related hearing problems, while their colleagues treat younger patients.

If you already have a friend or

family member suffering from hearing loss, encourage them to make an appointment with a local audiologist sooner rather than later. The more quickly their issue is addressed, the higher the likelihood of finding a successful solution for improving their quality of life.

Once you've narrowed your list down to two or three choices, call their offices and conduct a preliminary interview. Before anything else, make sure they accept new patients as well as your insurance.

The office staff should inform you about the audiologist's background and specialization, along with the wait time for new patients.

Ensure that the professional has the proper license and reliable references to patients he has treated.

Before making an appointment, consider your goals. You might want a complete hearing evaluation. Perhaps you need a fitting

for a new hearing aid or a replacement. Or maybe you need more information about ear care and preventing hearing loss.

It is usually impossible to resolve an issue with one appointment. Follow up visits for tests, consultations and fittings, will likely be necessary.

If you have experienced hearing loss, then your relationship with your audiologist should be ongoing. Make sure you are comfortable with this person.

While you're at it, it is never too early to have a child's ears checked by a qualified practitioner. Children who have a hard time hearing will have a difficult time in school, and the sooner the condition is treated, the better off the child will be.

There is no shame in getting help for hearing impairment. These problems do not go away by themselves. Visiting an audiologist can improve the quality of your life.

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# *How to choose* An Emergency Room



**I**f an injury or illness threatens the safety and well-being of a loved one, it isn't difficult to make the decision to seek emergency help.

But it can sometimes be difficult to assess the medical urgency of a problem, especially in moments of stress when quick thinking is required. Knowing where to go to seek the right treatment can be difficult when the clock's ticking.

That's why it's important to know ahead of time the difference between the type of care provided by emergency rooms and urgent care centers. Knowing in advance can help you save time, money and potentially even a life.

The National Institutes of Health estimated in 2012 that more than one-fourth of visits to the emergency room could instead have been addressed by the medical staff at urgent care center. Patients who choose urgent care centers over the emergency room, when appropriate, help lower the overall costs incurred within the health-care system by approximately \$4.4 billion each year.

What's the goal of urgent care, and when is it the right choice?

Urgent care addresses the type of emergent situation that lies somewhere between waiting until Monday to see your primary doctor, and rushing straight to the emergency room. Acute care centers began opening across the country in the late 1980s, leading to a dramatic drop in the number of annual emergency room visits. In short, urgent care fills a gap.

The American Journal of Medicine reports more than 9,000 urgent care centers currently operate in the United States. Urgent care centers' walk-in convenience and affordable services help treat more than 70 million patients annually.

Most urgent care centers are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week — including holidays. That's a valuable service if you sprain an ankle on Christmas Day. They are fully staffed to ensure that patients are treated quickly.

One of the greatest benefits of urgent care is its affordability. The cost of urgent care is usually one-third that of an ER, and most facilities accept insurance. ERs, though, are required by federal law to provide a free medical exam to

anyone who can't afford to pay.

Doctors in acute care must be competent in all areas of medicine. Their training and experience is extensive, and the quality of care is about what you'd expect in an ER. One critical aspect of urgent caregivers' jobs is knowing when to direct patients to the ER.

Urgent care is appropriate for high fevers, cuts requiring stitches, mild allergic reactions, insect or snake bites, minor fractures that do not break the skin, minor back or neck injuries, heatstroke, frostbite and other problems that are not quite emergencies.

ERs are better equipped for problems requiring immediate life-saving measures, the attention of a specialist, surgery or hospitalization. Their diagnostic capabilities are superior. Urgent care centers offer X-rays, urinalysis and other simple tools, but they cannot provide involved lab testing or advanced imaging like MRI.

The American Heart Association urges you to call 9-1-1 if you exhibit signs of heart attack or stroke. It lists the following as possible warning signs of heart attack: pain or pressure in the chest and upper

body, shortness of breath, clammy skin, jaw pain and nausea.

The acronym FACT is used by the AHA to educate people about stroke: facial drooping, arm weakness, speech difficulty and time that symptoms appeared. The last is crucial because clot-destroying drugs are ineffective if too much time has passed. Additional symptoms of stroke include leg numbness, confusion, blurred vision and dizziness.

Other valid reasons to seek emergency care include serious breathing difficulties, loss of consciousness, chemical poisoning, heavy bleeding, severe burns, traumatic head injuries, gunshot wounds and sexual assault. Problems that call for psychiatric intervention, such as suicidal thoughts or drug overdose, are also best handled in the ER.

Any illness or injury can be life-threatening if left untreated. The distinction between deeply cutting a finger and wounding a major artery is an important one.

Educating yourself beforehand will help you choose the best treatment when you have little time to weigh your options.



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# *How to choose* A Hospital



**I**t's important to select a hospital in your area that will suit your needs — well before you ever suffer an injury or become ill. Assessing a hospital's services in advance will allow you to make an informed decision, so that an emergency will never catch you unprepared.

Consider these points as you look for the best hospital:

## Quality and safety ratings

Hospitals report their patients' outcomes to state and federal government agencies, who then compile the data and rank them in important safety and quality categories. Research has proven that highly-rated hospitals offer skilled health care teams that focus on reducing infection rates, preventing mistakes and ensuring strong lines of communication. But some hospitals trail behind and are ranked lower. That means

that it's critically important that you choose a hospital with a good track record in providing high-quality care and keeping patients safe from harm.

These websites can offer valuable information to help guide your decision: [jointcommission.org](http://jointcommission.org), [leapfroggroup.org](http://leapfroggroup.org), and the Hospital Compare tool through [medicare.gov](http://medicare.gov).

## Doctor's recommendation

Ask your doctor about where they can work, or which specialist they would recommend. Your primary care doctor or specialist should have privileges at the facility you choose. Physicians send patients to specific hospitals because it is convenient for them, they are familiar with the campus and can use the equipment there. If your primary care physician does not have hospital privileges,

then check with the hospital to see if they have a Hospitalist Program. A hospitalist is a doctor that works inside a hospital, only caring for patients who have been admitted. This specialist works closely with your primary care physician, continually discussing your condition and determining the best treatment options for the quickest recovery. When you go home from the hospital, your hospitalist will then send your medical records to your primary care doctor for continuation of your care.

## Insurance coverage

Insurance carriers will pay some of the cost of services. Verify which hospitals are within your carrier's network, also known as "in network." If you choose a facility that is not covered by your policy or "out of network," you may incur higher charges. You can ask the

hospital for a cost estimate in advance, based on your insurance coverage and co-pays.

## Experience with your condition

Hospitals often have several areas in which they specialize. Choosing the right hospital for your procedure will ensure you receive the highest level of care. The previously listed websites offer insight into which hospitals specialize in your condition.

Determining the highest quality hospital for your condition will help you achieve the best outcome during instances of illness or injury. Since hospitals offer a variety of care and service types, be sure to analyze all the options before you decide. By knowing the facts and keeping your own priorities in mind, you will make a wise choice when selecting the hospital that is best for you.



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# How to choose An Ophthalmologist



**M**illions of people are affected by cataracts, which Prevent Blindness America says is the most common cause of vision loss for individuals over the age of 40. In the United States, there are more cases of cataracts than glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy and macular degeneration combined.

If cloudy vision from cataracts is making your daily activities more difficult, it is time to consult your optometrist and see about having cataract surgery. Unless a certified ophthalmologist, he or she will not be able to perform the surgery, but they can certainly recommend you to a specialist, who can remove your eye's cloudy natural lens and replace it with an artificial lens, restoring clear vision.

The American Academy of Ophthalmology recommends that you also talk with family and friends who have had cataract surgery, and go online to find eye surgeons in the area. You can do that by using the AAO's Find an Ophthalmologist tool at [www.aaopt.org](http://www.aaopt.org).

You will want to make sure that you're comfortable with the ophthalmologist and office staff. Were you treated professionally and politely? Was the whole procedure explained in detail, including its benefits and risks? Did they answer all of your questions? Did they tell you who will see you the day after surgery to make sure you are healing properly?

According to AAO, in some cases, you may be told that you need a follow-up surgery. That procedure should be explained, as well as the

extra costs for the enhancement surgery.

Don't be afraid to ask if the surgical center has ever had an outbreak of eye infections affecting multiple patients. If so, how many times?

An ophthalmologist should never guarantee perfect vision from surgery. You should be told that you may still need eyeglasses under certain conditions.

The prevalence of cataracts makes some wonder if they can be prevented. According to The Mayo Clinic, studies have yet to determine a way to prevent cataracts or even slow their progression. However, eye doctors and other experts say that certain strategies can help keep the eyes and the body healthy, which may keep cataracts at bay.

## Regular eye examinations

Visiting the eye doctor on an annual basis, or as recommended by an optician or ophthalmologist, can help detect cataracts and eye problems early on. This helps prevent vision loss and enables patients to take proactive steps to treat their cataracts. Cataract surgery, which is now a common procedure and can usually be done with local anesthesia on an outpatient basis, is a common way to treat cataracts. During cataract surgery, the lens inside the eye that has become cloudy from cataract formation is removed and replaced with an artificial lens called an intraocular lens, or IOL, to restore clear vision.

## Quit smoking

Smoking affects eyesight and eye health. Research suggests that smoking increases a person's chances of developing cataracts. The lenses of the eyes are mostly made up of arranged proteins, and sometimes these proteins stick together, breaking their careful formation and affecting the transparency of the lens. Cigarette smoke can damage the proteins in the lenses, causing them to stick together more readily, increasing the chance that cataracts develop.

## Protect the eyes

Always wear sunglasses with UV protection, particularly glasses that block UVB rays, when spending time outdoors. Ultraviolet light from the sun may contribute to the development of cataracts. Remember, ultraviolet rays can be present even when it is cloudy outdoors, so make it a point to don your sunglasses before stepping outside.

## Manage diabetes

Although the reasons why are still not fully understood, individuals with diabetes mellitus face a greater risk of developing cataracts. That risk may be elevated by as much as 60 percent. When increased blood sugar enters the lenses of the eyes, sorbitol forms, and both this and fructose can build up in the lenses. Increased sugar causes water to be absorbed inside the lens, resulting in swelling and increased cloudiness. By treating

high blood-glucose levels, those with diabetes may be able to keep cataracts from forming.

## Improve the diet

A healthy diet should be a priority for everyone, including people at a greater risk for cataracts. Eating foods high in antioxidants like beta-carotene, selenium and vitamins C and E may help prevent cataracts. That's because antioxidants help the body to fight free radicals, which can contribute to cataracts later in life.

A 2000 article published in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition highlighted two Harvard University studies that noted the role of lutein and zeaxanthin in the development of cataracts. The studies noted that individuals whose diets were high in lutein and zeaxanthin-rich foods had a 19 to 22 percent lesser chance of developing age-related cataracts than those who do not incorporate these foods into their diets in high quantities. Foods that are high in lutein and zeaxanthin include green vegetables, such as spinach, broccoli, collard greens, kale, mustard greens and peppers, winter squash and eggs.

Cataracts tend to be most noticeable when vision begins to grow cloudy. However, cataracts also can cause glares and halos; a myopic shift, in which a person who was once nearsighted becomes farsighted, and vice versa; drop in color vision; lens discoloration; and poor night vision. Those experiencing these symptoms should have an eye examination to confirm or rule out cataracts.

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*How  
to choose*

# A Hearing Health Care Provider



**W**hat is a hearing instrument specialist? Quite simply, it's the company that provides hearing aids to the hearing impaired, and follows up with any needed service and repair.

For those who suffer from hearing loss, selecting the right hearing aid can make a huge difference in quality of life. But the process of choosing the right hearing aid begins with the important first step of choosing the right hearing aid dispenser.

The right hearing aid dispenser is vital for equipping you to get the best performance from your assistive device. A dispenser's experienced staff is trained to help you select the appropriate device, and to teach you how to use it. And a reputable dispenser will stand behind their sale, assisting you with any issues you may encounter once you've begun wearing the device.

Consider the following points when choosing the right hearing aid dispenser.

## Certification

There are different processes in each state for the licensing and certification of hearing instrument specialists. Your doctor can refer you to a qualified hearing health care provider near you. You can

also verify that the hearing instrument specialist or audiologist is board certified to operate in your state by checking with your state government.

Remember, though, that certification is a minimum standard. To be sure you're selecting the right hearing health care provider, talk to your friends, family and neighbors to get advice about which providers they've used and how happy they were with the experience. Just like hiring any professional, the more you know about their reputation, the better a decision you can make.

## Product line

Hearing aid dispensers usually offer products from several brands at a variety of price points. You'll want to ask which brands the dispenser carries and also inquire about their price range.

With good quality hearing aids often costing several thousand dollars, you'll want to make sure you have several to pick from that can meet your needs without wasting money on features or performance you don't need.

## Product knowledge

The right hearing instrument specialist will share their expert knowledge and make it easy for you

to understand. Since most of us aren't experts on hearing aids, you need to look for a provider who is. Not only should they have an understanding of the medical reasons behind hearing loss — since every hearing situation is different — but they should have in-depth knowledge of their hearing aid products.

Hearing aids can be complex devices, especially when you're looking at high-end models that can be customized extensively to match your hearing needs. A good hearing instrument specialist can take those technical terms and make them easy for you to understand.

## Trial and warranty

Some companies offer a 30-day return policy so you can make sure the product works exactly as you expect. Ask if the provider offers a trial period for their hearing aids.

You should also ask about what kind of warranty the hearing aid comes with. Many hearing aids are available with coverage for loss or damage, almost like an insurance policy, which can be very important down the road. Make sure you understand what the warranty covers, how much it costs and whether there will be any fees if your hearing aid needs to be replaced or repaired during the warranty period.

## Follow-up service

When you buy a hearing aid from a hearing instrument specialist, one of the things you're paying for is good service. And that includes service after the sale.

This is especially true when it comes time to have your hearing aid adjusted or repaired. It's common for hearing aids to require several follow-up visits to make sure they are fitted and adjusted correctly for your ear, so you should look for a practice that is both technically proficient and good at listening to your concerns. They should be able to understand your hearing needs and make any changes necessary to fix any problems you find.

You should also ask about loaner devices if your hearing aid needs a repair. Most hearing centers will be able to do some repairs in-house quickly, but major repairs may require your hearing aid to be mailed off. This is when it's good to know their policy about loaner devices. Ask if the hearing center has an in-house lab for repairs.

In the end, if you shop carefully and investigate their reputation, you can find a hearing health care provider that will help you find the right aid at the right price. And when you do, you'll be much more likely to be happy with the results from your hearing aid.



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# How to choose A Financial Planner



**E**veryone can benefit from the services of a financial adviser. It's not just for the wealthy. Whether your assets are modest or are valued in the millions, a good financial adviser can help you achieve your financial goals.

A good financial planner will listen to you and develop a plan tailored to your particular needs. They can teach you to take charge of your household expenses, help you plan for retirement, and give you tips on reducing your tax burden.

They can also educate you on strategies for handling your investments, and serve as great advisors to help steer your finances when the larger economy takes a downturn.

If you want to become rich, or simply get on track to use your money wisely, a financial advisor is there to help. Not everyone has the same financial goals, and a good adviser will recognize your unique goals and help you plan for the future.

A good place to start when you're ready to find a financial advisor is by talking to the people you know and trust. As you set out, keep in mind that the right advisor is one who will understand your unique situation and goals. Look within your social network. Colleagues, family and friends can be invaluable resources for finding the right fit.

Go online and begin doing some research on financial advisers in your area. The local newspaper also can be a good resource. Many local financial advisers advertise

their services in local media.

Narrow your choices down to three or four options. Then start taking a closer look at each of your choices.

As you continue narrowing down your options, consider going with a financial advisor who is a certified financial planner. These professionals will have received additional training, and passed rigorous standard examinations leading to their certification.

When you have learned about each advisor's qualifications, the next step is to contact the certifying organizations to discover whether there have been any complaints made against each advisor you're considering. If that's the case, be sure to find out how those complaints were resolved.

You also can ask for a list of satisfied clients; people whose financial goals are similar to your own. Contact them and find out how they feel about their collaboration with the advisor they used.

## Areas of expertise

Financial products can contribute to your well-being and peace of mind. Some common investing tools include bonds, mutual funds, stocks and commodities.

Weighing risk is essential. Some products will undoubtedly be better for your portfolio than others. An experienced financial advisor can customize a portfolio especially for you.

You can also do some research to find a segment of the market that might be a good fit for your

situation. Then look for an advisor who specializes in that investment. For example, if you want to invest in commodities, your potential advisor should have some experience in that market.

## Rate of success

Success rate will also play a prominent role in your decision. Look at the rate of success for each advisor. Has the rate of return on his recommendations outpaced the average market rate of return over time?

An advisor with a solid rate of return conducts research to strengthen his clients' portfolios.

During tough or stagnant economic times, experience will play a vital role. Has your advisor weathered previous economic slowdowns? Do clients thrive in bleak environments? Or have clients taken multiple hits to their portfolios?

You should be wary if clients appear to be doing too good during tough times. Someone with an extraordinary success rate might be too good to be true.

## Fees or commissions

Inquire about how your advisor is paid for services. Most offer fee-based or commission-based services. It will greatly influence your selection.

A commission-based advisor is prone to suggesting financial products that offer a professional commission. It could needlessly increase your exposure to risk. Only use a commission-based

advisor if he or she has a proven track record of success and also has your best interest in mind.

When you need someone who puts your best interests first, go with a fee-based advisor. He or she will be compensated only for the time spent on serving your portfolio.

## Interview

Once you have narrowed your prospects to two or three possibilities, schedule a meeting with each professional. During this consultation, communicate your goals honestly and clearly. A financial planner should be someone who will guide and inform you. He or she will continually increase your knowledge about your current financial situation and how to improve it.

## Put it in writing

Once you have narrowed your list to one or two advisors; ask each to write a plan for moving you from where you are to where you want to be. Get a written copy of this proposal.

This document should have your short-term and long-term goals, and also state who else will profit from the proposal.

This plan should be written clearly so you completely understand it.

Once everything has been completed to your satisfaction, you can choose a financial advisor. Then you can comfortably relax and know that your money and future are in good hands.

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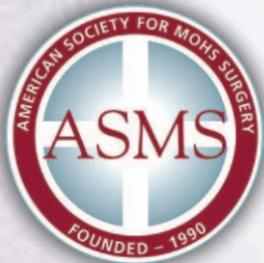
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*How  
to choose*

# A Dermatologist



**I**f something is happening with your skin, hair or nails, dermatology is the only specialist for you to visit. The highly specialized training allows the diagnosis, management and treatment of disease and cancer of the skin.

Common conditions can affect all ages; a few illnesses are acne, warts, psoriasis, and atopic dermatitis. Skin cancer in the United States kills 32 people a day, yet, most are preventable with a screening.

Choosing a dermatologist should be done carefully. The important considerations should be training, experience, reputation, recommendations, and your comfort level with the provider. The length of time the practice is in a given community is often a factor to consider. Another is to use [www.aad.org](http://www.aad.org) on the Internet to locate a dermatologist.

## What to look for

Training in dermatology is performed as a separate residency. A person should inquire if the physician is board-certified in dermatology and accept nothing less. Physician assistants (PA) and nurse practitioners (NP) are trained by the doctor and therefore can be highly qualified to give expert care in this field. Asking your PA or NP how often they interact with the physician is an excellent screening tool.

When selecting a dermatology practice, asking for recommendations in the community regarding all critical aspects from health care to simple caring is a potent indicator. Remember that each medical provider will have his/her own personality and bedside manner and that a friend's or colleague's comfort can offer support in this important decision.

## What should be offered

Since dermatology is diverse, a provider may choose a specialty within dermatology. Although training includes all facets of skin care, a provider may specialize in children, general all-ages dermatology, surgery for cancer or cosmetic elective procedures. Dermatology covers hair loss, nails, inside the mouth, rashes, growths, cancers, sexually transmitted diseases, as well as beautifying the skin and reducing wrinkles.

A dermatology practice should offer a full skin exam every visit since disease and cancer of the skin may have no symptoms or obvious identifying features. The provider should listen to concerns and offer clear and concise explanations. The examination should be complete, with close observation and examination. Across the room is not where your doctor should be. Asking and receiving answers to all questions should be comfortable and to your satisfaction. If a feeling is apparent these services were not delivered, there should be a structured manner to handle feedback.

# *Comfort & Compassion in your time of need*

The loss of a loved one can leave you with a lot of unanswered questions, feelings of stress and anxiety and grief that make events difficult to handle. The experienced funeral director at Fountain Funeral Home will guide you through the various aspects of the funeral service with compassion, dignity and respect. Our staff of dedicated professionals are available to assist you in making burial and cremation arrangements. From casket choices to funeral flowers, the funeral director at Fountain Funeral Home helps provide individualized services designed to meet the needs of each family.



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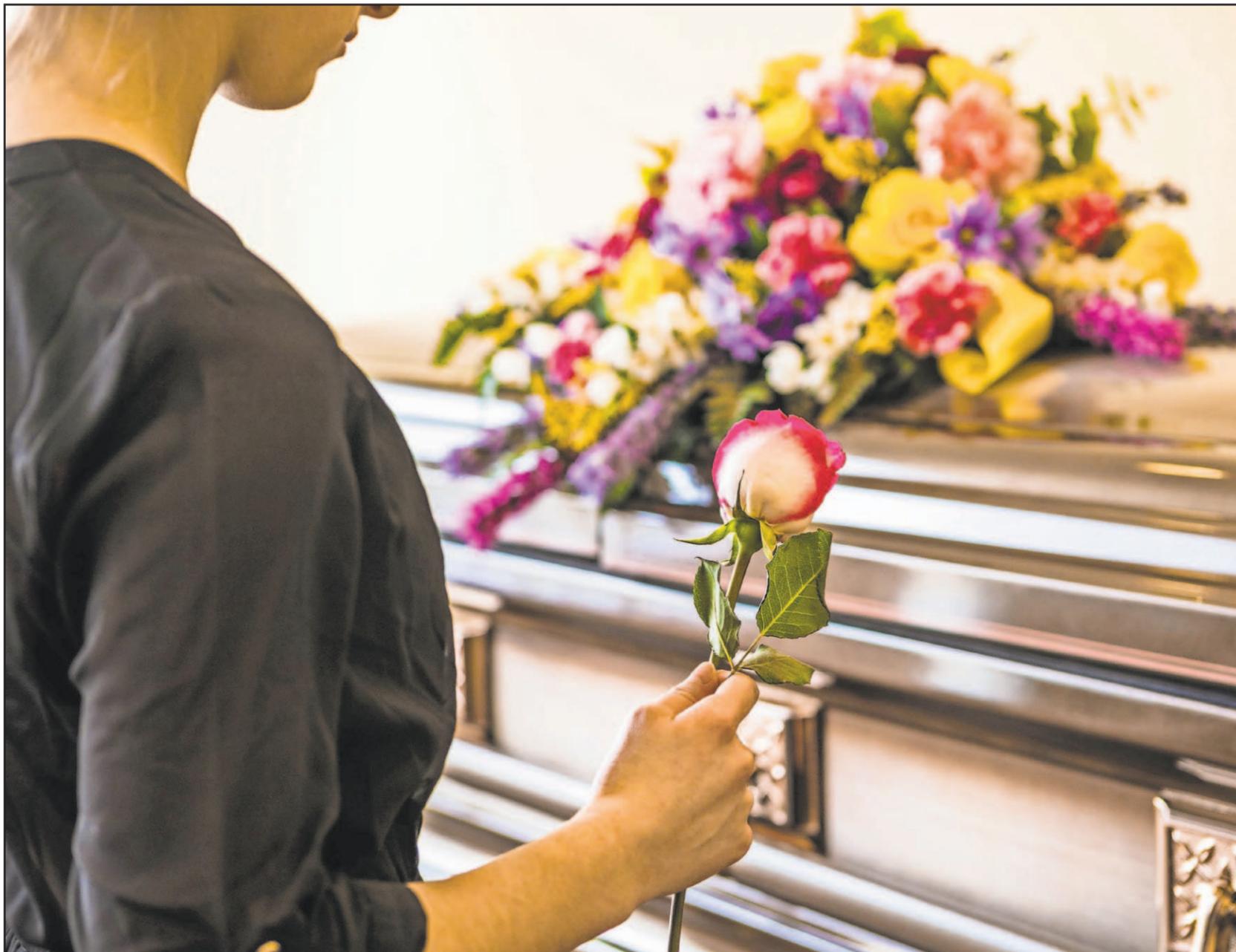
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# How to choose

# A Funeral Home



**W**hen a loved one passes away, it is a difficult and emotional time for family and friends alike.

For family, everyone must deal with the sense of loss — the emotional pain and suffering that accompanies the death of a loved one. Yet someone in the family will also have the difficult task of handling the practical side of things.

Handling funeral arrangements is one such task. Often, the biggest part of that task is choosing the right funeral home.

It's never easy to take on the burden of selecting a funeral home for a loved one. But there are some ways to make the process easier for yourself, as well as for your family and loved ones.

If you are in need of finding the best funeral home for a family member, take these tips into consideration. They can help make the burden of choosing the right funeral home a little less stressful during a difficult time for any family.

## Compare prices

Convenience and familiarity play a role for many when it comes to choosing a funeral home. And, if you've been involved in the process before, it might be tempting simply to opt for the funeral home that's most familiar to you. In some cases, this is a fine approach, but for many, it's not the best option.

It is always wise to consider the financial cost of a funeral, and to investigate different options. Depending on how much time has passed since you last made funeral arrangements for a family member, the cost of the funeral home you've used may have increased.

So it's vital that you shop around, and be willing to compare the prices of the various funeral homes in your community.

## Ask for references from friends

Everyone, at some point, comes into contact with a funeral home. And even if you've never been in

that position yourself, it's likely that you have a friend or two who has. Talk to the people you know. Ask your friends if they would recommend the services provided at the funeral homes they have used.

They may be able to share valuable information about the staff, facility and prices of a specific funeral home.

## Ask about packages

It is important that you ask a potential funeral home what types of packages they offer. This applies whether your deceased loved one had a specific list for their final wishes, or you have to make these decisions for yourself.

You will find that not all funeral homes are created equal, and each offers their own different ways of handling a service. No matter what type of requirements you have, it is best to choose a funeral home that will cater to your specific needs in order to make this difficult situation a little less daunting.

## Caring staff

When visiting a potential funeral home, the funeral director can be a major deciding factor when you choose whether or not to use this particular company to handle the funeral of your loved one.

A caring and professional funeral director and staff will take the time to explain all your options in an empathetic way so you can make a better choice when choosing a funeral home.

If the director seems short or uninterested in your needs or makes you feel like you and your deceased loved one aren't important, you won't want to choose this facility to handle the funeral of your loved one.

While dealing with the death of a loved one is hard, choosing the right funeral home can help relieve you of some stress.

If you want your loved one to receive the proper funeral he or she deserves, following the above listed tips should help you make the right choice.

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# How to choose A Car Dealer



**B**uying a new car can be exciting, but with that excitement comes significant stress. You can ease the stress that comes with making such a big decision by choosing a trustworthy and reputable car dealer.

Finding a dealer you can trust is a great way to keep your anxiety to a minimum when it's time to buy a new car. With the right dealership, the whole experience can become a simple, low-pressure transaction. It might even actually be pleasant and enjoyable.

If the experience is a positive one, you'll feel a lot better as you drive off the lot.

Professional and customer-focused car dealers make the entire process of buying a car straightforward and simple. Keep these thoughts in mind as you look for a good automobile dealer.

## Choose the right car

Selecting a great car dealer is vital, but before you can do that,

you have to select the right kind of car — the one that fits your personal style and your needs.

Selecting the right automobile for your needs and lifestyle is essential.

Large families may need an SUV or van to fit everyone into the vehicle. But college students buying their first car would probably be happy with a compact car, such as a coupe. The savings on gas will help ease your finances while you are in school.

Along with the car model, there are numerous options to consider. You might get a car with a navigation system, moonroof, GPS and satellite radio, just to name a few.

If you have to commute long distances, think about purchasing a smaller car with a good miles per gallon rating. Hybrid cars can help you save money on gas. Anyone in a cold climate might look at various vehicles with either all-wheel or front-wheel drive.

A great way to search for the right vehicle is to compare them online. If you have internet access,

go to the different manufacturer websites, plus third-party sites like Cars.com, Edmunds.com, Kbb.com to name just a few. There, you can see competing models and compare the different specifications that are important to you — legroom, cargo space, fuel economy, and more.

## Choose the dealer

Once you have settled on a car model, check into area car dealers. Finding several dealers who sell the brand of car you want is usually best. The competition for your business will help you negotiate the total cost of your car.

Similar to searching for the car, you can look online to search reviews on dealers to see what previous customers have said. If there are many reviews either positive or negative, that can help guide your decision as to which ones you want to contact, and even the names of some salespeople or managers that others have written about.

Make sure to look for current discounts on the car you want. During specific times of the year, you might be able to get a great deal on a new car. It is particularly true during model year-end sales. Of course, you should test-drive a car before purchasing it.

When you begin your negotiations, remember that price isn't everything. Service should play a role as well. You are building a long-term relationship with this dealer and manufacturer. It is not worth getting a less-than-satisfactory experience just to save a few dollars.

Make sure that you feel comfortable with the dealership. Buying a car is an expensive, long-term commitment. It is always better to find a car salesperson who is informative and friendly, and a dealership team that really works to make the customer's experience a good one.

It will make your transaction simple and pleasant, and your future enjoyment high for as long as you own that vehicle.

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# How to choose A Realtor



**T**he true value of a good Realtor is evident to anyone who's been through the process of buying or selling a home.

A good Realtor will become a true asset to people who want to get the very best from their transaction. Not only can a Realtor help you find or sell a home, these professionals are also trained to assist you with every step — no matter how tedious.

But, as with any profession, some Realtors are better than others. Be sure you make the right choice when selecting a Realtor. The sale of a home is too momentous a decision to get wrong.

Here are some tips that can help.

## Real Estate agent vs. Realtor

Realtors have solid knowledge of the real estate business and must follow a strict code of ethics.

While a real estate agent may or may not also be a Realtor, all Realtors are required to be licensed real estate agents.

To become a Realtor, a real estate agent has to join the National Association of Realtors. This allows

him or her to attend industry meetings, get newsletters, and access software and educational tools.

With their licensure and training comes an assurance that Realtors are well trained professionals, and that they will provide you with the best possible service.

## Where to start looking

Talk to people in your social network for referrals to find out the good real estate professionals in your market. Recommendations are one of the best ways to find a qualified real estate agent or Realtor.

In some cases, agents are good at helping clients to purchase homes, but they may not be as skilled at selling them. Remember this as you search for the right professional for your situation.

Also consider getting in touch with local brokers or searching the NAR directory online.

And no matter how you find them, always work with credible, responsible agents. It's a waste of time to settle for anything less.

## Comfort level

When you have your first

consultation with a prospective real estate professional, focus on your comfort level while interacting with them.

Do you get the feeling they are genuinely concerned about your needs? Or are they focused on their commission? Do they know the current housing market? Can they negotiate a contract?

It is important that you feel comfortable with the agent. You must trust that this person can behave ethically and help you secure a good deal.

## Communication and planning

Your agent should be an effective communicator. If you are selling your home, your agent should develop an effective marketing plan, explain it to you, and respond to any questions or concerns you have.

The marketing plan will probably involve placing advertisements and conducting open houses to invite the public for home viewings.

If you are purchasing a home, the agent should listen to your guidelines and price ranges.

Above all, your real estate agent

needs to provide updates on progress.

Do not work with someone who does not return phone calls or emails.

## More resources

To get a better idea about the process of buying and selling a home, conduct some research on your own. Real estate magazines contain good information and can be a great way to start your research.

There are also a lot of good resources on the internet, such as [www.Realtor.com](http://www.Realtor.com), which is associated with NAR and also contains free, useful information.

You may find housing statistics, market forecasts and tips, but nothing beats the power of networking. You need to find people with similar interests who will help you in your endeavor.

Upon successfully buying or selling your home, keep your real estate agent's contact information on hand.

You may want to refer other people to him or her. On the other hand, you may also need their services again someday.



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# How to choose An Estate Planner



**Y**ou don't have to own a big mansion or manage multiple properties before thinking about how you'll plan for its future. Despite popular opinion, estate planning is for everyone.

Unfortunately, most people think you have to be wealthy in order to concern yourself with estate planning. But that's a mistake. Think about what you own and how it will be protected in the future, and don't wait to start making provisions for your estate — regardless of its size or value.

Estate planning is not only for the rich. In fact, the best thing any property owner can do for their family and loved ones is to make a plan for how their possessions will one day be disposed. It's a truth that applies no matter how great, or small, your net worth.

It's ideal that you plan and document ahead of time how you wish for your property and assets to be handled in the event that you die. Many families have learned the hard way that those who fail to do this often leave their heirs with an immense and confusing legal burden. Failing to document your intentions can saddle your heirs with inconvenience, unnecessary taxation and, worst of all, family

strife.

But a consultation with an estate planning professional can have the opposite effect, and it can leave a lasting positive impact on your legacy.

Remember: estate planning is about more than simply safeguarding your valuables and heirlooms. It's also about providing security for your family, and achieving peace of mind.

Resolve to establish a sound and logical estate plan, and use these tips to get started.

### Seek legal counsel

Some people use online forms to draft their will. But most will likely benefit from seeking the advice of an estate planning attorney. This trained, licensed and experienced professional can create legal documents with your specific needs and circumstances in mind.

It's true everyone should have a will, regardless of age. But that is only the first step in developing a solid estate plan. You should also create a living will, power of attorney and possibly a trust.

Consult an attorney who has experience in developing estate plans for those whose situations are similar to yours. Do not try to

do it alone.

### Life insurance policies

In the event of your death, a life insurance policy can provide for your family and loved ones.

There are a wide range of options, and only a few will make sense for your situation. A professional can guide you through the possibilities and help you make appropriate choices.

Term life insurance policies are generally less expensive than other types of coverage. But whole life policies, annuities and other insurance products may be more appropriate for your circumstances.

Understand what you might be buying. In some cases, a policy may benefit the salesperson more than it does the customer.

It is essential you take all the time you need to learn about a particular policy before purchasing it. If you have any hesitation or confusion, ask another professional or keep researching. You should feel certain that you are choosing the best policy for your needs.

### Funeral expenses

Funeral costs have a way of making a difficult time even more

difficult. Funerals are very expensive, sometimes up to \$10,000. You don't want to leave your family with large bills. That's why you should plan ahead to cover the cost of your own funeral.

Pre-paid funeral plans are a popular option, or you can simply buy a burial plot in advance so that one major task will be handled before your death.

It may be uncomfortable and even frightening to consider, but it is something that must be addressed as part of a solid estate plan. Visit funeral homes in your area to discuss prepayment options.

### Communication is key

Communicate with your family in general terms about your estate plan. Talking to them about what they can expect could head off estate disputes and heartache.

A good estate planner can help you navigate complicated family dynamics and concerns that may accompany this process. The right estate plan and experienced professionals can make your legacy a blessing that your heirs will treasure for the rest of their lives.

It is better to plan ahead than to be a burden on loved ones.



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# *How to choose* An Elder Law Attorney



**I**t's a fact: older Americans who have the proper health care coverage, along with a secure financial picture, enjoy a much better opportunity to live comfortably as they age.

But with age comes the potential for a host of new legal issues. Seniors can face an array of age-related concerns including estate planning, wealth management, nursing care, and a number of probate issues.

It's an unfortunate fact that seniors, owing to their advancing age, are often the targets of scam artists and predators. There are always would-be thieves looking for a way to take advantage of people who are vulnerable. That's another reason why it's important to find and retain competent legal counsel.

Having the right legal representation can be essential for helping senior citizens navigate some complicated affairs.

And, as with many legal matters, don't risk doing it on your own. The stakes are too high.

Planning ahead and taking steps to secure their legal affairs arms seniors with a fantastic way of preserving their wealth. It also ensures lasting benefits that extend to their families.

## Medicare benefits

Medicare has been around since the 1960s, and it remains one of several federal programs whose main purpose is to help America's senior population. The goal of Medicare is to ensure that Americans older than 65 years of age will continue to receive health care coverage.

Under certain conditions, people younger than 65 also can receive benefits. Hospitalization, prescription drugs, visits to the doctor and home nursing assistance expenses are covered by this program.

If you want to learn more about Medicare benefits, consult an elder law attorney. Qualified lawyers with experience in this area can provide information about program eligibility. They can also tell seniors how to maximize their benefits.

## Medicaid benefits

Medicaid and Medicare may have similar names, but the two programs have different missions and accomplish different aims. Medicaid offers medical coverage for low-income citizens, regardless of age. It will help pay expenses of prescription drugs, home health care, doctor visits and more.

Lawyers who specialize in Medicaid guide clients through the application process. These attorneys will instruct clients about getting the maximum level of assistance possible.

## Disability legal assistance

Attorneys who specialize in disability issues provide clients with information about health care resources, financial assistance and even educational benefits.

Consulting with these professionals ensures that anyone suffering from a disability has access to available resources to help them fulfill their potential.

## Veterans' aid

Eligible veterans have many benefits available for their use. Seniors who may be entitled to receive these benefits should always consult with an attorney to make sure they receive everything they are due. Attorneys specializing in veterans' affairs have a firm understanding of the different benefits and the procedures for claiming them.

Spouses of veterans may also be eligible for certain benefits. An experienced lawyer can help them

navigate the system.

## Asset management and protection

Wealth management strategy is one of the most critical aspects of estate planning. No senior should ignore it. Having a deliberate, tactical strategy is a strategic way to safeguard wealth for future generations.

Failing to draft a thorough estate plan can be expensive. It can be devastating to decedents who may not have the financial resources to work through legalities.

Estate planning lawyers will craft documents that detail their client's true intent regarding asset distribution. Wills and trusts are two common ways of smoothly transitioning assets from one family member to another.

Attorneys can also craft strategies to minimize the estate tax liabilities that heirs may face.

Skilled estate planning lawyers will offer creative solutions for protecting assets from the negative effects of the probate process.

Getting proper and professional elder care and legal advice not only protects you and your loved ones; it also provides peace of mind.

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# *How to choose* An Eye Care Specialist



**E**very year, millions of people will seek out an eye doctor to get some kind of help with their vision. Progressive nearsightedness and farsightedness are both common. They're typically tied to the aging process, driving people back to the eye doctor over time to obtain stronger contacts or glasses to keep up with the changes.

If you're straining your eyes to read, or squinting just to see across the room, you're probably among the many Americans who need some form of corrective lenses.

Routine eye examinations are essential not only for your eyes, but also for your long-term health and happiness. They can detect problems other than those that are vision-related, so they're important even if you don't have any noticeable trouble with your vision.

Having your eyes examined frequently allows an optometrist to detect early vision problems. Identifying those issues as early as possible makes their treatment easier and more effective. The earlier, the better: catching and correcting vision problems early boosts your chances for a better outcome.

There are challenges, though, to selecting the right optometrist

or ophthalmologist. When you're ready to get started, consider these tips.

## Insurance

If your eye care is covered under an insurance policy, check the list of doctors your plan covers. Insurers negotiate agreements with eye care specialists and doctors in order to establish a consistent price at which they provide standard services. Selecting a doctor who's in your insurance "network" will save you considerably on your co-pay and out-of-pocket costs, and can even deliver you savings and discounts on some types of corrective lenses.

## Types of doctors

Optometrists do not have medical degrees, but they do undergo highly specialized training to diagnose and treat vision problems and deliver treatments related to the health of the eyes. Optometrists are professionals who obtain bachelor's degrees before completing an additional four-year training program. They can identify and diagnose a variety of eye disorders, including cataracts, glaucoma and retinal

disease. They also have the ability to write prescriptions to treat these conditions.

Ophthalmologists are medical doctors who treat eye diseases. They have medical degrees along with their specialized training for eye treatment. Their extensive background typically includes four years of pre-med school, four years of medical school, at least one year of an internship and three years of residency before receiving their ophthalmology license. Along with treating vision problems, they provide medical and surgical care, and even plastic surgery.

## Training

Some eye doctors operate a general practice, while others often specialize in certain diseases or treatments. If you have been diagnosed with glaucoma, for instance, you can find a doctor who has experience specifically treating that disease. Be sure to ask eye doctors about their experiences treating specific diseases and conditions.

## References

Your family doctor or general practitioner may know the good

eye doctors in your area. Doctors often refer patients to an eye care specialist that has the most experience treating specific needs.

Friends and family can also provide helpful advice. They can tell you who they used for their previous eye exams. They can also provide insight about any issues and tell you who works well with children.

## Selection

Some people are particular about their eyeglass frames, lenses or contacts. If you already know what you need — such as glasses from a particular designer — look for an eye doctor who has access to that brand. You can also see their stock of eyeglass frames to make sure they carry the style you desire.

When purchasing glasses, you will want to have a wide range of products to view. Lenses and frames can vary in terms of comfort, appearance, price and quality. The better the selection, the more likely you will find that perfect pair of glasses.

Don't let yourself miss out on all of the beauty and fun in the world. See your local eye doctor now and start enjoying life again.

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# How to choose

# A Pest Control Company



**N**o one likes to think about it, but little pests can cause big problems.

An invasion of ants, roaches, termites or spiders can be the stuff of nightmares. Left untreated, a pest infestation can even threaten the structural integrity of your home.

Of course, everyone has problems with pests from time to time. Most times, it's an easy problem to fix. Taking out trash or securing screens on windows often removes the source of the problem.

For those times when a pest problem has gotten out of control, you will need the help of a reliable and knowledgeable pest control professional.

Choose the right pest company, and your problems can soon be a distant memory.

Consider these suggestions to help you find the right pest control company near you.

## A list of companies

There are likely several options in your area, so your first step is

to make a list of local companies that provide the services you need. Look on the Internet, in a phone book and even the advertising section of your local newspaper.

You may also ask friends, family and businesses in the area who they use to keep pests away.

Next, research each company's background. Look at customer service reviews.

Shorten the list of possible providers and then contact the Better Business Bureau by phone or email. Ask if the companies have any complaints filed against them. You might also note if the Better Business Bureau has granted accreditation to any companies.

## Types of treatments

Narrow your list further by contacting the companies directly. Ask them what kind of chemicals they use when treating a residence. Powders, sprays and other forms vary dramatically in effectiveness as well as toxicity.

If you have children or pets, this issue is an urgent concern.

Many treatments are toxic to people and animals. Poisoned bait, for instance, is a method that homeowners with children or pets should avoid.

Companies should have solutions for these situations. Some companies offer environmentally friendly, non-toxic alternatives, such as naturally based compounds that will not harm children or pets. These treatments might include environmentally-friendly products and trap-based rodent control.

## Research

Prior to contacting anyone, educate yourself about common pests in your area. Check to see if these pests are on your property. You might find evidence such as droppings or other indications that they are in your yard or home.

Look on the Internet to discover which solutions are used to control these pests. Some cities or communities have laws regarding pesticide applications.

There might be regulations concerning licensing and insurance for pest control companies.

## Other tips

Now, contact area service providers for more detailed information about prices, processes and other information. The company you choose should do a free, full inspection of the property before providing services. Accompany the workers as they check your property — both inside and outside.

Listen to their sales pitch and ask questions. Reliable, reputable businesses should always answer your questions honestly.

Finally, trust your instincts. If the workers seem inexperienced or you don't trust their information, look elsewhere.

A quality pest control company will not only help you with your current situation, it will also prevent future flare-ups. You can take comfort knowing that this is one problem someone else has under control.

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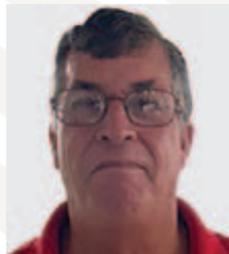
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# *How to choose* An Auto Repair Shop



**C**ar repairs are among the most disruptive intrusions into a busy person's schedule. That's why it's important to catch small problems early, before they balloon into bigger, more expensive ones.

If you're looking to keep your car running great and avoid large repair bills, the solution is simple: regular maintenance for your vehicle.

As an automobile owner, you should consider building a good relationship with a local, high-quality auto repair shop. That relationship can make a huge difference when you find yourself facing unexpected repairs.

No matter your car's age, maintaining a relationship with a repair shop is crucial. Cars always need tires, oil changes or even major maintenance, like an engine or transmission replacement. A standing relationship with a reputable auto repair shop makes it much easier to address repairs and other maintenance issues.

What if you don't have a relationship with a good mechanic? Locate a shop and take your car in for its scheduled tune-up and maintenance work.

Regard this as an audition for the shop you've chosen: your car needs the preventive maintenance work anyway, and taking it in for an oil change or air-conditioning service is a great way to try out a mechanic and find out whether they're equipped to meet your needs.

Consider these additional things to bear in mind when you're looking for an auto repair shop:

- Most people choose an auto repair shop based on a referral from friends, family or coworkers. Fewer than 40 percent of new customers are walk-ins.
- The Better Business Bureau can inform you about the repair shop's performance and reliability.
- People who travel often usually work with shops that offer a national warranty. For instance,

a warranty of 12,000 miles or 12 months is handy for issues that keep cropping up, particularly in older cars.

- Ask about the shop's range of services. They will need the latest technology to diagnose problems with newer cars. For example, can your prospective shop handle brake systems, electrical components and warranty repairs? Does the shop provide a loaner, rental car, or shuttle service while your car is being repaired?

- Inquire about their customer satisfaction policy. Look around the shop. Is the equipment in good condition? Is it clean, well-lit and organized? These factors all contribute to a level of professionalism.

- Look for brand names and proper certification. Does the auto repair shop use brand-name parts? These parts are engineered to meet the manufacturer's specifications and will likely come with a warranty. Shops may use

remade or generic brands, which your insurance policy may not cover, so be sure to check.

- Are the auto technicians certified by a specific car manufacturer, the National Institute for Automotive Services or Automotive Science Excellence? Is the shop approved by the American Automobile Association? If so, this indicates a customer approval rating of 90 percent or higher and the ability to adequately perform the services advertised.

- Compare the services and fees of each shop in the area to find out the average price ranges.

Don't pick a shop based on cost; poor repair work will mean higher costs in the long run.

Once you have found a shop you trust, establish a good working relationship with your mechanic. When you have great communication, getting repair work completed will be less painful.

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# How to choose An Air-Conditioning Specialist



**C**hoosing a good contractor to install a new central air conditioner can be as important as the equipment you choose, because proper installment and maintenance is needed for the equipment to operate safely, reliably, and at maximum efficiency. Here are some suggestions for selecting a contractor, adapted in part from Contracting Business magazine.

If you already know a reputable heating and air-conditioning contractor, that is a good place to start. If you don't, friends and relatives in the area can often you recommendations.

## What to look for

Most leading residential contractors belong to the Air Conditioning Contractors of America ([acca.org](http://acca.org)) or the Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors' National Association ([smacna.org](http://smacna.org)).

Both websites provide listings of heating, cooling, ventilation and refrigeration contractors in your area. Look for contractors whose technicians are certified by North American Technician Excellence ([natex.org](http://natex.org)) and/or partnered with ENERGY STAR.

Do not give your business to a company offering to give you an estimate over the phone without ever looking at the job to be done.

A well-trained, up-to-date contractor will not try to discourage you from purchasing high-efficiency equipment.

Less-qualified companies may not keep their employees current with the latest technology, and therefore they may discourage you from new and better designs.

A good estimator will do a survey of your home and base his or her proposal on a cooling-load calculation for air conditioning.

## Coming up with solutions

Many central air conditioners are not properly sized for the homes they serve, because of improper sizing years ago and/or

energy efficiency improvements to the building since the old equipment was installed. Better contractors will not use your existing equipment to size your new heating or cooling system.

A good estimator should also ask about any heating or cooling problems you have had with your old equipment, and offer understandable explanations or solutions.

Using their heat-load and/or cooling-load calculations, good contractors should be able to estimate the annual operating costs (energy bills) for the equipment they are proposing for your home.

## Lowest prices not always key

A good company will give you a written bid (or proposal) outlining the equipment to be installed, the work to be done, and the price, including labor costs.

Get estimates from multiple contractors, but try not to let the lowest price be the main reason for selecting a contractor.

Better contractors may charge more, but they probably offer greater value.

Be skeptical of extremely low bids; those contractors may not be including all routine services and customary warranties, or he or she may be trying to unload outdated or unreliable equipment.

Reliable contractors are professional. Their people are prompt and courteous. How a contractor treats you now reflects how they will treat you if there is a problem.

They should have an office or shop facility, and they should not be unwilling to have you visit them. An office or shop is an indication that the company has been in business and intends to remain in business.

Also, consider the company's reputation for customer satisfaction within the community.

If you don't know a reputable contractor, ask around.

Information from American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy, visit [aceee.org/consumerguide](http://aceee.org/consumerguide) or [smarterhouse.org](http://smarterhouse.org).

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