

Florida firefighter back from Colorado

More resources being called to California

By PHIL ATTINGER
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — Josh Cameron, like his fellow Florida Wildland Firefighter Kari Sikio, has just returned from fighting a blaze out west.

Unlike Sikio, however, Cameron got the satisfaction of seeing his blaze contained. The Springs Creek Fire in Colorado, though it

grew from 40,000 acres to 108,000 acres in two weeks, has stabilized and was "about out" by the time he left, Cameron said.

The Ferguson Fire in and around Yosemite National Park has not subsided, he said.

If he stays available, Cameron may get called to go out there.

Cameron, one of dozens of Florida Forestry

personnel called to fight fires out west, said he arrived in the southern Colorado rolling foothills and plateaus on July 3.

"It's beautiful out there," Cameron said. "I got to see some beautiful country. Unfortunately, most of it was burning."

Wildland firefighters never look at nature the same after fighting wildfires, he said.

"When you start

working at this job a while, you see things as fuel," Cameron said.

The area's 6,000-7,000 feet above sea level, he said, put a bit of a strain on Florida lungs. Fortunately, slopes were not very steep, but they were steep enough to have an equipment boss like him rethink many of his firefighting tactics.



COURTESY PHOTO/JOSH CAMERON - FLORIDA FOREST SERVICE

Part of the Springs Creek Fire in Colorado burns up to a two-track road in this photo from Florida Fire Service Equipment Boss Josh Cameron. As an equipment boss dealing with new topography, he would defer to local bulldozer operators as to whether or not they could scale a slope safely to cut fire breaks.

FIRE | 3



"Life is disappointing, sad and lonely."

Norman Ross
Former stone mason who has been left homeless after a head injury

Norman Ross

The face of homelessness

By MELISSA MAIN

SEBRING — After a man repeatedly hit Norman Ross' head with a brick, he was hospitalized for one month. Since that injury, Ross has had trouble with headaches, walking and thinking clearly, making it difficult for him to hold a job and afford a place of his own. He is homeless.

"Everything went wrong after my head injury about four-and-a-half years ago," Ross said. Then he took the bandanna off and revealed a long indented scar on the right side of his head. "Someone went off on me and hit me with a brick."

"I was told to call an ambulance," he said. "They took me to the emergency room, and I was hospitalized for over a month. They put tubes in my head to give my brain some relief. It was swelling. The scars on my head are there from the tubes."

Since the brain injury, Ross has massive headaches, sometimes he falls down when he tries to walk and he can not think clearly. "I have problems trying to get a job because I can't remember what I have to do, and sometimes my head hurts so bad I can't go to work."

"When I was younger, I



MELISSA MAIN/STAFF

A man repeatedly hit Norman Ross in the head with a brick. He was hospitalized over a month, and he now suffers from massive headaches and trouble walking. He has difficulty thinking and remembering how to complete tasks.

was employed as a mason. I laid stone, brick, block and concrete," he said. "I can't do that type of work anymore. Once in a while, people allow me to mow their yard, but I have to use their lawnmower. I don't have nothing [sic]."

"I wish I could have some part-time work," Ross said. "It would be nice. Something not too complicated — like mowing grass or cleaning house."

Today, 64-year-old Norman sleeps in the woods in a sleeping bag. With the constant summer rains, the ground becomes wet, so he

puts palm leaves down to keep from sleeping in water.

When it rains at night, he gets up and searches for shelter at a nearby store. He stands under the overhang to protect himself from the downpour. However, he knows that store owners do not want him lingering around their stores for long. After the rain slacks, he searches for another store to provide him with temporary shelter.

"Life is disappointing, sad and lonely," Ross said. "People aren't friendly. I'm not involved with my family.

I haven't heard from nobody [sic]. I tried to call." (Ross gets a free basic cell phone with simple cell coverage from a government program.)

"I get lonely all the time," he said. "I don't have family around. I know a few homeless guys. My friend Johnny is looking for a place to live too."

Most mornings Ross does not eat breakfast. He often enters restaurants to get a glass of water or fills his water container at the New Testament Mission. The mission offers two meals a day — lunch and dinner. The only time he gets breakfast is once per week — on Thursday mornings when First Baptist Church in downtown Sebring provide the homeless with a meal.

Getting toilet paper is a real challenge. "I go to restaurants and ask them if I can use their restrooms."

Some places around town have outside showers. "I don't have soap, but at least I keep my body as clean as I can. I shower outside and wring my clothes out in the shower. I don't have a way to wash my clothes. I don't even have a way to brush my teeth."

"I hope someone can find me a place to stay," Ross said. "It's bad out there [living in the woods]."



MARC VALERO/STAFF

From left: Mark Kinsey, who will be teaching at Lake Placid Middle, is greeted Monday morning at the New Teacher Orientation by School Board of Highlands County Chairperson Jill Compton Twist.

New teachers get a warm welcome at orientation

By MARC VALERO
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — It was a warm welcome literally for the district's new teachers attending the first day of New Teacher Orientation at Hill-Gustat Middle on Monday with the air conditioning out from an apparent lightning hit.

School Board of Highlands County Deputy Superintendent Andrew Lethbridge said, "If you are new to Florida we have a thing called lightning here and lightning did attack our air-conditioning system."

While technicians worked on the system, large fans were used with some pulling cool air from the adjacent gym.

About 75 teachers were expected to attend the two-day orientation, which included new teachers for the upcoming year and those who were hired last year after the 2017 orientation.

Before the program started, Lethbridge said the air conditioning going out is representative of how teachers have to be prepared for challenges. "You have to take whatever happens and then be able to adjust and plan for it," he said.

The district currently has 63 teaching vacancies.

Human Resources Manager Jody Lee said some of those positions are being filled with long-term

TEACHERS | 3

Where the money could go

And what county commissioners can cut

By PHIL ATTINGER
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — As county commissioners debated their \$143 million 2018-19 budget Monday night, they hoped they wouldn't have to raise taxes, but knew they might.

Highlands County property values had given the county a 1.97 percent increase in

revenue, but that's not much. Some of those values dropped considerably from Hurricane Irma damage, especially agricultural operations.

As a result, many budget requests have outstripped that increase, and the County Commission might look at having to raise the 8.55 millage rate to 9.0.

The County Commission

certified that millage rate on July 17. They can't set it any higher than 9.0, but they don't want to set it any higher than 8.55.

They may have to raise the current rate, at least a little.

One of the biggest reasons comes from a mandate to provide safer schools. Under Gov. Rick Scott's \$450 million proposal to keep students safe

is a requirement to have school resource officers in every public school. Either sworn sheriff's deputies or police officers must be present during all hours students are on campus.

The size of the campus was a factor for staffing levels. Scott proposed at least one officer for every 1,000 students.

For Sheriff Paul Blackman, that means having new officers

at every elementary school in Highlands County as well as an extra officer at Avon Park High School.

The governor said this must be implemented by the start of the 2018 school year, a couple of weeks from now.

Beyond that, county sheriffs have authority to train

MONEY | 3



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Weather News Wire

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Lisa Sikio
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Floyd Theaters brings the golden age of cinema to Sebring and Avon Park

By **INGRID UTECH**
CORRESPONDENT

Carl Floyd was only 27 years old when he left his position as branch manager of Republic Motion Pictures in Tampa in order to become a movie exhibitor. His first acquisition was the Park Theatre in Avon Park, which he bought in 1935 and which he renamed the Hilans in 1950.

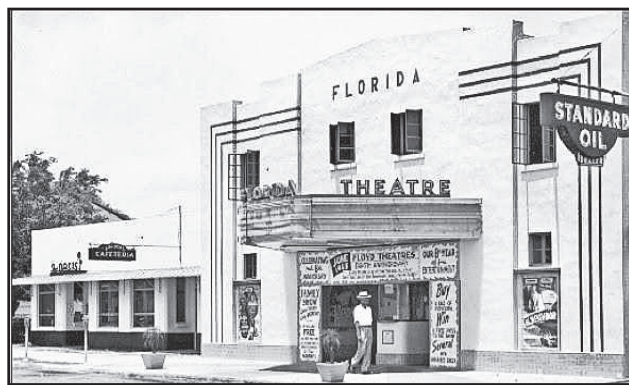
In his father's obituary, Tom Floyd recounted how hard his father worked to make the theater a success. "He did it all. He was no stranger to being on his hands and knees scrubbing floors and toilets." (Ref. Carl Floyd Obit., The Ledger, Nov. 3, 2002)

Although it was the Depression, it was an exciting time to enter the movie theater business. Silent movies were giving way to "talkies" and glamorous movie stars like Errol Flynn, Greta Garbo, Gary Cooper, and Mae West were filling the silver screen.

In 1940, Mr. Floyd commissioned Avon Park

architect William Heim to design a new theater for Sebring. Heim was no stranger to designing buildings for entertainment; he had been the architect of the Park Theatre and the Circle Theatre (1923). (Ref. William Heim, Sebring: City on the Circle, 84-85.) With its modernistic styling and state of the art equipment, the Florida Theatre opened on North Ridgewood Drive near Lime Street in 1941. Former Mayor Eugene "Gene" Sauls purchased the first ticket and won free admission for a year. (Ref. Images of America: Sebring, Arcadia Press, 34.) Meanwhile the Circle Theatre went into foreclosure, leaving the Florida Theatre as the only theater downtown.

Information is scanty, but around 1950, Mr. Floyd either built or acquired the Sevon Drive-In on State Road 17 between Sebring and Avon Park. Once again, Heim was the architect. (Ref. William Heim, Sebring: City on the Circle, 84-85.)



COURTESY OF SE BRING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Florida Theater opened on North Ridgewood Drive near Lime Street in Sebring in 1941.

Upcoming theater attractions listed in the Feb. 5, 1954 edition of the Sebring News included the following:

- At the Florida Theatre on Sun., Feb. 7: Exploding out of intrigue-torn Africa Flight to Tangier with Joan Fontaine and Jack Palance;
- At the Hilans Theatre on Sat., Feb. 6: Double! Randolph Scott with Gypsy Rose Lee and Dinah Shore in "Belle of the Yukon" followed by Hopalong Cassidy "Border Patrol";
- At the Sevon Drive-In on Tuesday, Feb. 9: First showing in Highlands

County — John Derek, Lee J. Cobb and Jody Lawrence in the unforgettable "Family Secret," plus Spencer Tracy, Katharine Hepburn and Aldo Ray in "Pat and Mike" with Babe Zaharias.

What caused more excitement than the movie shows that week was the live appearance of popular western movie star Lash LaRue, demonstrating his exceptional skill with the bullwhip, both at the Hilans Theatre and the Florida Theatre. Dressed in black and carrying a lariat, he kept the audience

spellbound with his rope tricks. (Ref. Allen Altvater, Sr., The Historian, Sebring Historical Society, Spring 1994). After the live entertainment, the audience was treated to Mr. LaRue on screen in Stage to Mesa City at the Hilans Theatre and Pioneer Justice at the Florida Theatre. (Ref. Advertisement, Florida Theatres, Feb. 5, 1954)

Another western movie celebrity who came to Sebring was Gene Autry. According to the Sebring American, July 1, 1943, Autry paid a visit to the military personnel at Hendricks Field and then thrilled Sebring residents with a visit to the city pier. Mayor Mac McGee was instrumental in bringing Autry to Sebring. (Ref. Allen Altvater, Sr., The Historian, Sebring Historical Society, Spring 1994).

Florida Theatre and Hilans Theatre closed in the 1960s. By that time, Mr. Floyd had built another theater in the new Southgate Shopping Center. In the early 1980s, that theatre was divided into two theaters and became Southgate Twin Theatres. (Ref. Audrey Vickers, Highlands History, News Sun, Aug. 17, 1986). While documentation regarding the closure of the Sevon Drive-In could not be found, the consensus among a few Sebring residents who grew up here was that it

closed sometime in the mid-1980s.

In 1986, competition came to Sebring when another theater owner, Norb Walz, opened a six-theater megaplex in the Fairmount Square Plaza on U.S. 27. (Ref. Audrey Vickers, Highlands History, News Sun, Aug. 17, 1986) That eventually led to the decline and death of the Southgate Twin Theatres. It also ended Floyd Theatres' involvement in Highlands County.

Mr. Floyd owned and operated Floyd Theaters from 1940 to 1969. During that time, he also was buying theaters outside Highlands County. Floyd Theatres became Floyd Enterprises in 1970, and Mr. Floyd became chairman of the board and chief executive officer until he retired in 1977. (Ref. Carl Floyd Obit, The Ledger, Nov. 3, 2002) While information was not available on how many theaters Mr. Floyd owned during his lifetime, the Highlands County News reported a total of 13 in a May 29, 1953 article. Eventually Harold Spears from Lakeland became president of Floyd Enterprises, a position that he held until a larger company purchased Floyd Enterprises in the 1990s. (Ref. "Longtime owner of Silver Moon Drive-In dies at 87," authored by Gary White, The Ledger, posted May 31, 2017)

Barber buys Soda Works Mitigates CRA, chamber connections

By **PHIL ATTINGER**
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — Tomorrow, officially, Sebring Soda and Ice Cream Works will have a new owner: Daniel Barber, who owns The Gun Rack on U.S. 27.

It's a familiar spot for him. The Gun Rack used to sit in the same storefront, 201 Circle Park Drive, and both he and his wife, Liz Barber, are big fans of the business.

Daniel Barber said purchasing the business "fell into his lap" after talking with business founders Jeff and Renee Kennedy, who started the business a couple of doors down on Ridgewood Drive and reopened it last October after a wayward driver ran into their old location and closed it for several months.

"This is a real staple business," said Daniel Barber about the niche shop.

A reopening is planned for Saturday, Aug. 25. Daniel Barber has some new ideas for the store, including candy and gift baskets. For now, he's

keeping the 500 varieties of soft drinks and selection of Working Cow ice cream flavors.

He and his wife have had to mitigate her connection to it, though.

Liz Barber, in addition to being executive director of the Greater Sebring Chamber of Commerce, has also recently been named to the Sebring Community Redevelopment Agency, which works to make infrastructure, safety and aesthetic improvements to the historic downtown area, where the store is located.

In addition, Liz Barber was a key organizer in the first Sebring Soda Festival this past April. It featured soft drinks — \$5,000 worth, she said — donated by Jeff Kennedy and his wife, then owners of

Sebring Soda Works.

However, she also said it was a "committee-run" event, with the owners of the store being only one member.

"It's not like I make decisions for the event," Liz Barber said.

The event is also organized and run, in partnership, by the chamber, CRA and Tourist Development Council, all of which have a say in the event, she said.

When her husband considered purchasing the store, Liz Barber said she brought the matter to the chamber board, and said she would recuse herself from discussion of future Soda Fest events, both for the chamber and CRA.

Technically, she said, she doesn't have to treat her involvement with the chamber the same as she would a tax-funded agency

like the CRA, because the chamber is a private partnership of area businesses, not a government agency.

Still, she wanted to handle it properly, she said.

"To be honest with you, I'm really not going to be part of the (soda) shop," Liz Barber said. "I'm not even part on paper."

Liz Barber said having some connection to Sebring Soda Works would also help the chamber have a better idea of the scope of the event.

"Jeff (Kennedy) was great about donations for the event," she said.

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Clarification

A story on the front page of the Monday, July 30 edition of the Highlands News-Sun should state that Kaytlyn Cooper was walking at dusk on the edge of a sparsely-traveled portion of Golfview Drive and that motorist Brian Smith was speeding in a 25 mph zone and did not initially stop after his car hit her.

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MONEY

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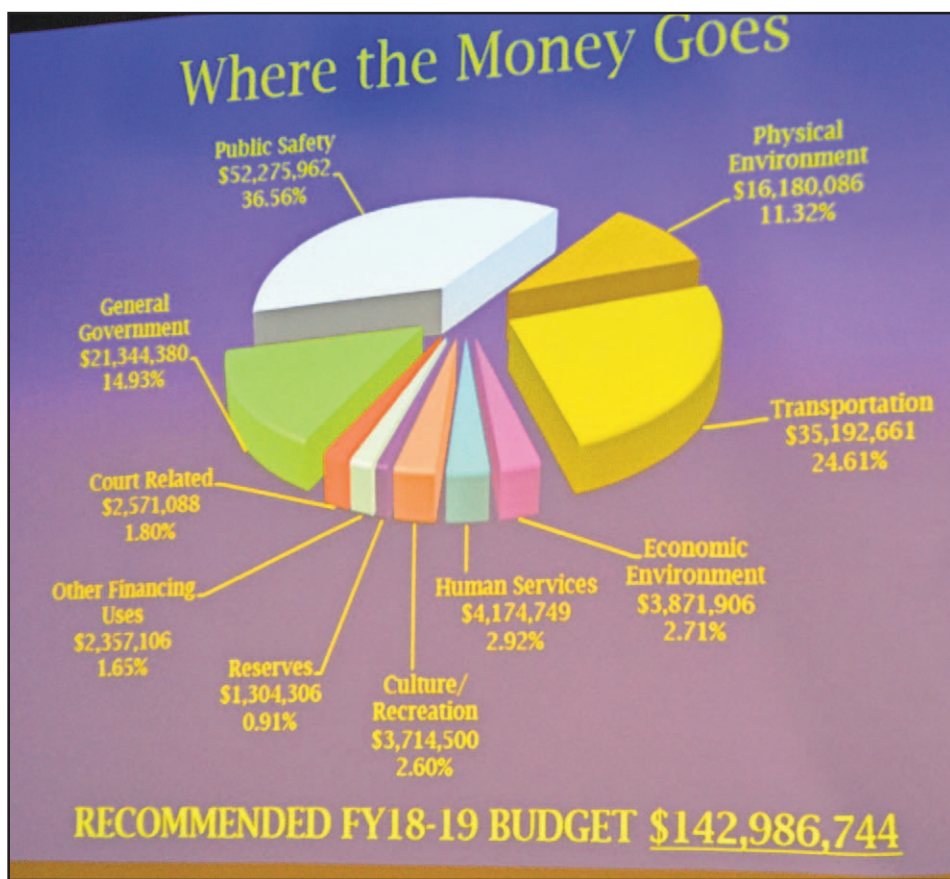
additional school personnel, if requested by the local school board. So far, Blackman has not had that request.

His advice has been to stick with well-trained, sworn officers.

Blackman has made some cost cuts, such as hiring retired law enforcement to work just during the school year. Even then, his request will add \$422,192 more to his budget request of \$28.6 million — which is already \$1 million more than this year's 1.97 percent increase in revenue, thanks to property value increases.

His isn't the only constitutional officer budget with a requested increase. What follows are numbers from a presentation by County Administrator Randy Vosburg and by David Nitz, manager of the county's Office of Management and Budget.

- Clerk of the Courts Bob Germaine has requested \$4.1 million, up \$183,833 from last year. He's willing to cut \$100,000 of that, which still leaves \$84,000 to fund.
- Property Appraiser



COURTESY GRAPHIC/HIGHLANDS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION

A graphic of Highlands County expenditures shows public safety, transportation and general government hold the top three costs, followed by physical environment (including solid waste and infrastructure). Most of the costs are fixed, state-mandated or restricted-use, and not very adjustable.

Raymond McIntyre has asked for \$3.01 million, about \$962 more than the increase in property tax revenue.

- Tax Collector Eric Zwayer has asked for \$1.74 million, which is \$50,236 more than the increase in tax revenue.
- Supervisor of Elections Penny Ogg, however, has requested

\$849,917. It's \$30,000 less than the 1.97 percent increase supported by increased property values.

The county's \$28.5 million General Fund has many portions the board cannot cut.

For 2018-19, that includes \$6 million of mandated funds, including \$960,460 for medical

care in the Highlands County Jail; \$1.62 million to support and assist the State Attorney's Office; \$667,624 to maintain the jail; \$1.14 million to the local community redevelopment agencies; \$500,834 to mental

health services; \$408,552 to a per-resident liability fund mandated under the Health Care Responsibility Act; \$392,479 to fund the District 10 Medical Examiner's Office, and other mandates totaling \$267,000.

Contributions to outside agencies from the General Fund include \$330,000 to support recreation facilities in the three municipalities. The county has proposed cutting each city's cut by \$50,000, but Lake Placid has balked at that, stating more county residents use their facilities than the 2,200 people inside town limits.

Other outside agency commitments include:

- \$243,000 for the Health Department.
- \$194,533 for the Transportation Disadvantaged program.
- \$42,045 for Nu-HOPE of Highlands County.
- \$31,350 for non-profit community agriculture.
- \$10,500 for Soil & Water Conservation District health insurance.
- \$1,500 for Historic Preservation.

The County Commission also transfers money to the following funds where

costs went up and fees are not enough to cover operations:

- \$628,588 for E911 operations.
- \$349,441 for court technology.
- \$314,829 for intergovernmental radio systems.
- \$32,250 for Legal Aid.

Reserves for contingency are a major concern for commissioners, as follows:

- \$450,000 for board departments.
- \$25,000 for the Highlands County Sheriff's Office law enforcement division.
- \$10,000 for the Sheriff's Office corrections division.
- \$10,000 for the Clerk of the Courts, which Germaine has said he can reduce to \$5,000.
- \$6,500 for the Supervisor of Elections.

As it stands, infrastructure improvements have already been cut, balanced out for the next five years, Vosburg said.

Beyond that, the amount of money the County Commission can control, without having to negotiate with an outside agency or constitutional officer, is \$19.9 million, said Vosburg, out of an overall \$143 million budget.

FIRE

FROM PAGE 1

know better what slopes they can't traverse, so he would defer to them.

If they said equipment wouldn't handle the terrain, he'd have to set the fire break somewhere further back.

In addition to bulldozers, operators have road graders to use, but they can only handle certain slopes. Bulldozers, in addition to having front blades acting as brakes, had "rock rippers" — rear-mounted deep blades designed to anchor the bulldozer from behind.

"There were a couple of spots where they could only go down, not back up," Cameron said.

Upslope and downslope winds also would drive the fire. Crews could get into a valley and have the fire jump over them to another ridge, effectively trapping them, Cameron said, if they couldn't follow the valley floor to safety.

Fortunately, near the end of his two-week stint, Cameron said, the area got rain, which



COURTESY PHOTO/JOSH CAMERON - FLORIDA FOREST SERVICE

A front-line firefighter sets a backburn during this month's fight against the Springs Creek Fire in Colorado. Josh Cameron, an equipment boss with the Florida Fire Service, said his usual plan to cut a fire break close to a fire doesn't work in Colorado's foothills. When bulldozers can't get in, or can't climb out, fire breaks have to go in far from the blaze.

helped cut down the fire. The operation sent a bunch of people home early.

He was sent home July 13.

On Saturday, Florida Commissioner of Agriculture Adam H. Putnam announced the Florida Forest Service would deploy a Type 6 Engine Strike Team to assist in California. Assembled from across North Florida, it consists of 10 wildland firefighters, a strike team leader and a mechanic.

Hauling five brush

trucks, they were to depart Sunday morning and report to assignment in California on Wednesday.

Last Wednesday, the Florida Forest Service deployed a Type 2 Initial Attack Hand-Crew of 20 firefighters to help suppress the Ferguson Fire on the Sierra National Forest in California.

With all the stuff going on in California, Cameron said he could get called up again soon, if he marks himself available, and Florida doesn't get any fires of its own.

TEACHERS

FROM PAGE 1

substitutes and the district is working to fill the rest of the openings.

The new teachers include Kelsey Rich from Ohio, who will be teaching art at Lake Placid High School.

It will be her first year teaching. She came to Florida because she has relatives in the state.

Nancy Nesenoff will be a pre-K teacher at Park Elementary School.

Originally from New York, she previously taught in the Palm Beach County School District and has been living in Sebring for almost two years.

"We fell in love with the area and fell in love with a house and we bought a house on a lake," Nesenoff said.

Kate Grizzell will be teaching history and government at Lake Placid High School after being a

substitute teacher for two and a half years, including being a long-term sub last year.

In her welcome to the new teachers, Superintendent Brenda Longshore said fewer and fewer people are

going into the field of education.

"I am so thankful that you chose Highlands County and that you said 'yes' I will serve the kids here," she said. "What a blessing you are to each of us."

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OBITUARIES

Theodore H. Budary

Theodore H. Budary, 67, of Sebring, Florida passed away on Thursday, July 26, 2018. He was born on April 12, 1951 in Garden City, Michigan to Theodore E. and Dorothy (Moody) Budary. Theodore moved to the area in 1985 from Washington State.

He leaves behind his wife, Jennifer Budary; a daughter, Terra Bootle and three grandchildren, Amber, Theodore and Clair.

Theodore liked to fish and camp and

work with his hands. He organized creek clean up on Arbuckle Creek.

There will be a visitation beginning at 3 p.m. Friday, Aug. 3, 2018 and a memorial service beginning at 4 p.m. with Larry Andrews to officiate. Memorial contributions can be made to Good Shepherd Hospice, the Moffitt Center or charity of your choice.

Arrangements entrusted to Stephenson-Nelson Funeral Home, 4001 Sebring Parkway, Sebring, FL 33870. Online condolences may be left at stephensonnelsonfh.com.

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Pencil	Erasers
Sharpener	

Suggested food items needed for distribution by New Journey Mobile Food Pantry:

Chicken Noodle Soup
Boxed Mac/Cheese
Canned Veggies
Canned Milk
Rice & Grits
Canned Fruit
Canned Meat
Ramen Noodles
Breakfast Bars
Oatmeal Packets
Chili/Pork & Beans

All Food & School Supplies collected will be distributed to families in need within Highlands county by the New Journey Team.

Monetary donations collected will be used to purchase additional school supplies and food.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!



VIEWPOINTS

HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN
YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1919

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ANOTHER VIEW

Vital economic interests need protected

The political cliché “It’s the economy, stupid,” comes to mind. In this case one might substitute: “beaches.”

Gov. Rick Scott managed to threaten the foundation of Florida’s economy by signing into law House Bill 631, limiting beach access, effective July 1.

Our “environmental governor” then compounded the error with his ham-handed July 19 executive order, trying to moonwalk away by basically telling local authorities not to enforce the property rights measure.

The result is confusion and frustration for residents from Palm Beach County to the Panhandle, and particularly the millions of economy boosting visitors, for whom the state’s prime attraction - 825 miles of Atlantic Ocean, Gulf of Mexico and Intracoastal Waterway sand and surf — is secondary only to its subtropical climate.

Imagine being a Florida native enjoying free access to this unique public asset all one’s life, now being told one is trespassing on it. Perhaps worse is to be a tourist, drawn specifically by the prospect of enjoying these much-marketed, world-renowned shores, now being told you can face arrest because what you thought was public beach is now somehow private.

This affront to Florida residents and tourists alike needs to be shelved, and then repealed.

It seems like forever, before Scott stepped in it, that this used to be simple: The Florida Constitution guarantees that every inch of Florida’s beaches is public land up to the average high water line, namely, the wet sand.

Comes now this new law, the first of its kind in the country, voiding the public’s traditional “customary use” of dry sand. Instead, it allows property owners to claim the dry sand — where the beach is narrow — in front of their homes as private property. And local officials cannot designate the area for public access without first holding public hearings and going before a judge.

The law has recklessly escalated tensions, especially in places such as the Panhandle, where property owners have called private security officers and sheriff deputies on beachgoers the owners claimed were trespassing on legally purchased land.

Credit the Walton County Commission for vowing in June “to fight the efforts to deprive the public of their long-held rights to the sandy portions of the beach.” But a recent viral video of sheriff’s deputies explaining that a man should leave part of a beach there illustrates the frustration wrought by the governor’s action. Some regular visitors already are saying they won’t return.

This bad law, and Scott’s further mishandling of the customary use issues, “is yet another example of how Rick Scott will do or say anything to get elected,” the Florida Democratic Party said in an easy yet apt criticism.

Well, he also had some Democratic help. Republican Sen. Kathleen Passidomo’s bill, SB 804, which merged with HB 631, did pass 29 to 7 in the Senate and 95 to 17 in the House. Still, rather than an appropriately thoughtful veto, Scott quickly signed it in March.

This is exactly the type of problem a governor should be expected to eliminate, rather than foster, for a state’s citizens and visitors from around the world.

Instead, Scott bowed to the interests that got the measure overwhelmingly passed, with the clearly intended consequence of allowing beachfront owners to kick people off sandy property contrary to customary use.

“I’m committed to keeping our beaches open to the public and this executive order makes this commitment clear,” the governor now says, telling counties “to protect public beach access” after the “considerable confusion” he caused. The state Department of Environmental Protection must create a website for reporting access problems, he says, and governments shouldn’t take any further steps to restrict it.

These steps, of course, should have happened first.

Says Passidomo: “This law is a process law that gives local governments the tools they need to expand public beach access where, before, it was the wild west, where lawsuits were flying. If the public wants to access a private beach, they can do so, as long as the court approves it.”

But in Florida, beach is life. This is the last state in the nation that should have produced such a measure. And when it passed, Scott should have protected the state’s vital economic interests, rather than injecting “considerable confusion” by signing it.

Instead, leadership from this governor again has proved as elusive and slippery as trying to hold onto a fistful of sand and water.

An editorial from *The Palm Beach Post*.



The conclusion of an incredible week

This is the culmination of a three-part series regarding my week-long excursion to the C.S. Lewis Center for Science and Culture, part of the Discovery Institute based in Seattle, Washington. By way of reminder, the mission of the C.S. Lewis Center for Science and Culture is to “advance the understanding that human beings and nature are the result of intelligent design rather than a blind and undirected process.” As I’ve mentioned before, I do not claim to be a science expert. My perspective is that of a novice.

You may be wondering, with good reason, why a life coach would take the time to write about what was essentially a week-long science camp. Well, let me try to explain. This institute is centered around the idea that scientific discoveries in the last fifty years have raised doubts about the Darwinian model of evolution. For decades, many have unquestionably, some might even say religiously, held steadfastly to this theory — many still do. It continues to be the prevailing theory among scientists in explaining the



NEVER A DULL MOMENT

Mike Lee

universe in which we live.

But, what if the theory of evolution is scientifically unsustainable? What if it’s not true? That’s impossible, right? Surely of all in our world, the science community is the one which deals strictly in research-proven facts, wholly absent of all political or personal beliefs or forces. Not so fast, my friend. Where there are people involved, the possibility of bias exists — the science community, included.

Many of the presenters at this conference, bona fide and highly credentialed scientists, have been removed from their positions as college professors, researchers, and lab assistants because

they dared question the veracity of the claims made by Darwin and his acolytes. These scientists, after conducting their own research, were unable to conclude that the scientific data fully substantiated the theory of evolution. So, in the land of “research and facts,” these scientists were criticized, reviled, and in many cases, relieved from their jobs for daring to oppose the Darwinian model.

Philosopher Howard Kainz readily admits agreement with the scientific consensus. However, he also observes, “... but the personal vehemence with which the mainstream treats dissenters — less as dissenters than as heretics — makes me more sympathetic to the doubters than I otherwise would be. Whenever people are so ferociously eager to extirpate dissent, I can’t help wondering if maybe the dissenters are trying to tell us something we need to hear.”

Dr. Kainz, while holding onto Darwinism, is open to the possibility that there may be some substance to this voice of opposition. He, unlike many others, is willing to

confront a long-held belief even though it could turn his world upside-down.

Why is this important and how is it relevant to you? The truth is that there are many beliefs and “facts” we hold on to for a myriad of reasons. They come in many forms and from many sources. I mean everyone knows that eating chocolate causes acne but eating carrots improves your vision, right?

This same type of logic are also applied to situations with potentially more serious consequences. For example, going into debt now because when you get that job you’ll easily be able to pay it all back. Holding onto unforgiveness or bitterness, you’ll just forgive them later. Or possibly, what some would consider the most important questions of our existence: How did we get here and what is our ultimate purpose? And, what are the implications of the answers to those questions?

Mike Lee is a teacher and coach. More information at www.simplelifecoach.com.

YOUR VIEW

The circus is coming to town

I love circuses — the ones that don’t have live animal acts, such as elephants and tigers. Being kept in confinement and isolation is a living death for the elephant, a socially dependent animal. In order to train a 10,000-pound animal to perform tricks, the fierce application of negative reinforcement is required. Elephants are beaten, shocked, and whipped in order for them to perform the routines of circus performance. Elephants spend most of their long lives in chains, under constant threat of the bull hook.

Performing tigers don’t have it any better. Many big cats are forced to eat, drink, sleep, defecate, and urinate in the same place. The only relief that many are given from this nearly perpetual confinement is during their brief performances, when they are

subjected to whippings and roaring crowds.

Mexico, Peru and several other Latin American countries have banned the use of animals in traveling circuses. Performing animals are even rarer in Europe. A bill has been proposed in Congress to prohibit wild animal performances in circuses. Many local communities have already banned circuses with live animals.

Taking children to a circus with wild animal acts sends the wrong message. It shows that animals are here for our whims, and it inhibits their ability to have empathy for animals and humans alike. By paying the fee to get into these acts, you are supporting the confinement and torture of wild animals. Take your children to animal-free acts that feature trapeze artists, jugglers, clowns, tightrope walkers, and acrobats, but leave animals in peace.

Pat Crowley
Sebring

Not impressed with Pigman

It is quite sad, but apparently Cary Pigman is running for Florida House of Representatives again. One would have thought that this man would have some decency and spare us further shame. But it is obvious that Pigman has no decency or he would have resigned after having been brought up on ethics charges.

Or, he could have resigned after having had an adulterous affair with his secretary. Or, he should have resigned after having spent time in jail. But no, so let us face it, Pigman is just an amoral reprobate.

But Pigman is a reprobate with money and he plans to buy his way to victory. He put out a campaign flier that is steeped in fantasy.

Pigman claims that: “I voted to make sure Florida’s young people have access to a world class education that will

prepare them for our 21st century economy.”

The reality is that Highlands County schools are in financial distress because of his votes against our children. We are having difficulty recruiting employees because of our low salaries. A study, paid for by the School Board, earlier this year, showed that our salaries are 8.8 percent less than comparable Florida counties.

The Florida Education Association was not impressed with Pigman’s votes. They reviewed his votes on 13 education bills from 2017 and seven education bills from 2018, bills that would have impacted Highlands County schools. In every case, Pigman voted against us. The teachers awarded him an “F.”

Cary Pigman is a man without shame. He is a detriment to our county. So, Lord help us, he is running again.

James Reid
Sebring

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

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

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

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

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

School Board budget hearing today

By **MARC VALERO**
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — The School Board of Highlands County will adopt its tentative budget and adopt its tentative millage rates for 2018-19 today at a public hearing at 5:05 p.m.

The total tentative millage of 6.322 is down .222 mills (3.36 percent) from the 2017-18 millage of 6.542.

Assistant Superintendent of Business Operations Mike Avery noted that the required local effort, which is set by the state, was down by about

5 percent from 4.294 in 2017-18 to 4.062 in 2018-19.

The millage rates includes a Prior Period Adjustment (.012 mills) that is new this year, he noted. "We had a Prior Period Adjustment millage in 2009-10."

The Prior Period Funding Adjustment Millage offsets the unrealized required local effort revenue resulting from a tax roll decrease that occurs when the certified final tax roll is less than the tax roll used in the state funding formulas.

The grand total 2018-19 budget is \$157,239,290

with a general fund of \$97.8 million.

The tentative budget's demographic information shows a total of 1,623 employees, enrollment of 12,239 students with 83 percent of the students qualifying for free or reduced priced lunch.

The teacher salary range is as follows: beginning, \$37,001; top, \$58,263 and average, \$44,856.

The School Board will have a regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday. The School Board of Highlands County meets in the Garland Boggus Board Room, 426 School St., Sebring.

SFSC receives donation from Florida Hospital to create nursing faculty position



MARC VALERO/STAFF

From left: Florida Hospital Heartland Medical Center CEO Randy Suber and Vice President Patient Care Services and Chief Nursing Officer Cathy Jaco and South Florida State College Director of Nursing Mary von Merveldt and President Thomas Leitzel at Florida Hospital Heartland Medical on Monday morning to announce that Florida Hospital Heartland Medical Center has donated \$75,000 to South Florida State College to fund additional nursing faculty and expand the program.

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

AVON PARK — Florida Hospital Heartland Medical Center donated \$75,000 to South Florida State College (SFSC) to fund additional nursing faculty and expand the program to meet a critical need for nurses in the region.

With the demand for nurses expected to rise by 20 percent over the next 10 years, those who obtain nursing degrees from SFSC have a 100 percent job placement rate. Many students obtain jobs before graduation day.

"We are extremely proud of the quality education delivered by our nursing faculty," said Dr. Thomas C. Leitzel, president of SFSC. "The partnership that SFSC enjoys with Florida Hospital Heartland Medical Center is outstanding for students and the community."

"The first-class clinical experience provided by Florida Hospital prepares our students with the practical education to complement the theoretical immersion they receive in their college courses."

Florida Hospital Heartland CEO and President Randy Surber said, "For many decades, SFSC and Florida Hospital have worked in tandem to improve the health and wellness of the Heartland community. SFSC's nursing curriculum provides

highly-knowledgeable nurses to care for our ever growing and aging population with compassion and kindness.

"Our partnership leads to improved patient safety and higher-quality care, which helps sustain and build our community. It also helps Florida Hospital to extend the healing ministry of Christ."

SFSC's associate degree program in nursing was ranked as tied for first among 1,247 programs in the nation by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, an independent, non-profit organization that is composed of boards of nursing who assure that safe and competent care is provided by licensed nurses.

For 2017, SFSC had a 100 percent passing rate for the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) for July through September, which directly influenced this ranking. The perfect score was significantly higher than the national average of 84.24 percent during this time period. The college also received the ranking of tied for first in its service area and among similar programs nationwide.

The NCLEX exam determines whether or not students are prepared for licensure in nursing.

"It is an honor to support SFSC with this donation. We have been repeatedly inspired by the outstanding nursing

programs overseen and led by Dr. Heston and the partnership between the College and Florida Hospital Heartland Medical Center," said Cathy Jaco, chief nursing officer and vice president of Patient Care Services for Florida Hospital Heartland.

SFSC Dean of Health Sciences Michele Heston said, "The demand for nurses is extremely high in our service district and to support this demand, Florida Hospital has generously provided funding."

"With the hospital's support, we can expand the capacity of our nursing programs at SFSC and create a mutually beneficial academic-practice partnership where we maximize our resources, maintain cost-effective education and health care, and develop a clear career pathway for our graduates."

SFSC currently offers an online Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN), an Associate of Science in Nursing to become a Registered Nurse (RN), an Associate of Science in Nursing to transition from Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) to RN, and an occupational certificate in practical nursing.

For more information about SFSC's nursing program, contact Sara McGann, health services specialist at SFSC, at 863-784-7027 or sara.mcgann@southflorida.edu.

Newsday Crossword

THREE-HANDED by Billie Truitt
Edited by Stanley Newman
www.stanxwords.com

ACROSS

1 Hoofbeat sound
5 ___ mater (one's former school)
9 Cakes of soap
13 Possess
14 Dog walker's strap
16 Vicinity
17 At any time
18 Electric car brand
19 Male deer
20 HAND that picks crops
22 Castaway's home
23 Batteries for some remotes
24 Biblical garden
26 Informal speaking
29 Pet protection org.
31 Tip of a sock
34 Clock readout
35 Opposite of post-
36 Little ___ Annie
38 HAND given to a performer
41 Arched part of the foot
42 Plaything
43 Stiffly formal
44 Winter L.A. clock setting
45 Make laugh
47 Fresh-mouthed
48 What "+" means
49 Balloon filler
50 Living room furniture
53 HAND, in some stud poker games
59 "Once ___ a time ..."

DOWN

1 Gourmet cook
2 Molten rock
3 More than
4 Long-lasting hairdo
5 Glee club women
6 Impolite look
7 Costume ball headwear
8 In dreamland
9 Washbowl
10 ___ and crafts
11 Authentic
12 Wise person
15 Computer printout
21 Dog's tail movement
25 ___ Grey tea
26 Piece of bacon
27 Roaring cats
28 "You have to see it!"
29 Dog's bark in the comics
30 Theater chairs
31 Day after Wed.
32 Spring in the desert

33 Adversary
35 Top 40 songs, for example
37 Celebrity photographers
39 Distribute the cards
40 "The Raven" writer
46 Functional
47 [Not my mistake]
48 Trousers
49 Peruvian peaks
50 "I'd be glad to!"
51 Unlock
52 ___ of (having affection for)
54 Cast a ballot
55 Yale students
56 Bridle strap
57 Facts and figures
58 Narrow opening

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CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2018 STANLEY NEWMAN STANXWORDS@AOL.COM 7/31/18

Look for a third crossword in the Sun Classified section.

Answer to previous puzzle

ADAM	THEM	SMOKE
COLA	RATE	MAXIM
EVER	ALAN	AGENT
SECT	COLD	DRINKS
HATS	ETC	
SAFARI	PAN	IOWA
CEO	DOORS	RANIN
AIRC	CONDITION	ING
MOTOR	ICONS	CDS
PUSS	FEE	VILEST
TRI	PEEL	
CEILING	FAN	ALUM
RADIO	LIST	MENU
ISLET	ALTO	ANDS
BEERS	DEAR	SOOT

7/31/18

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

1 Muslim veil
6 Behind us
10 Fashion's de la Renta
15 Self-___: personally mindful
16 Trade show
17 Eclipse shadow
18 Synagogue scroll
19 Paella morsel
20 In poor taste
21 *LeBron's sport
24 Cereal mix
27 NASDAQ locale
31 Play a part
32 *Insect used in genetic research
37 Hither partner
38 Plural medical suffix
40 NYC gallery district
41 Lewd material
42 Primary source of income ... and words that can precede the two parts, respectively, of the answers to starred clues
47 Part of town, in slang
48 Street
49 Branch of mechanics concerned with forces in equilibrium
52 Loving
55 Frying liquid
56 *Glazed morning snack
59 Watery expanse
60 Fracas
62 Hammer head
63 Blender selection
65 Diva's delivery
66 *Form a queue
68 Teen anti-DWI gp.
69 Didn't stay
70 Of a battery terminal
71 Small ocean landmass
72 Mid-month date
73 Pathetically tiny, as a sum of money
74 Tourney ranking

DOWN

1 Boater or bowler
2 "Letters From ___ Jima": 2006 film
3 Pickle container
4 Many Yemenis
5 On ___ of: for
6 Quarter of a bushel
7 Wheel connection
8 Squabble
9 Mausoleum
10 Expenditure
11 Word before fry or potatoes
12 Network with its HQ in Ottawa
13 18-Across holder
14 Bit of sunlight
22 Title of respect
23 Hole-making tool
24 Chinese chairman
25 State school near L.A.
26 Immortality
28 Tick-borne illness named for a Connecticut town
29 Mouth-puckering
30 Explosive for Wile E. Coyote
33 Springsteen's "Born in the ___"
34 Physicist's particle
35 Divinity sch. degree
36 Watch chain
39 Senate position
41 Lead actress

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By David Poole 7/31/18

Monday's Puzzle Solved

I	R	M	A		D	R	U	B		B	P	L	U	S		
M	E	A	N		S	I	T	U		R	A	I	M	I		
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T	I	M	E		L	A	G		O	T	H	E	L	L	O	
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B	U	N	D	T		E	A	S	E		E	W	E	S		

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LOCAL SPORTS

Sick Sideways with strong weekend

Sebring MX-5 Cup team takes 1st, 2nd at Mid-Ohio

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

It was a record-setting day at the Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course on Saturday as fans on site and on line were treated to yet another dynamic round of Battery Tender Global Mazda MX-5 Cup presented by BFGoodrich competition. The parity of the Global Mazda MX-5 Cup race car was demonstrated by close

battles throughout the field in which several drivers made significant forward progress through 45 minutes of racing.

At the age of 14, Robert Noaker won his first Mazda Global MX-5 Cup race after climbing from 15th on the grid to make a winning pass on the final lap, becoming the youngest winner in Global Mazda MX-5 Cup history. Hernan Palermo and Robert Stout completed

the podium after both drivers led the race at different stages.

Championship leader Nikko Reger in the No. 01 Slipstream Performance car looked to have a podium in his pocket on the final lap, but he caught the wrong end of the battle between Noaker and Palermo and was forced wide in the second-to-last corner. The lead pack streamed by and Reger, who is chasing

the \$200,000 Mazda Road to 24 Scholarship, had to settle for eighth.

Starting 15th on the 31-car grid, a win didn't feel like a possibility for Noaker in the No. 13 Sick Sideways Global Mazda MX-5 Cup, but the young driver used previous experience at the 2.258-mile Mid-Ohio track to manage his tires while picking his way through the field.



MAZDA MOTORSPORTS PHOTO

CUP | 7 Robert Noaker leads the field in his No. 13 Sick Sideways Mazda MX-5 Cup car at Mid-Ohio.

PWC to undergo some changes

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

Stephane Ratel, Founder and CEO of SRO Motorsports Group, has revealed plans for the on-going development of SRO Motorsport Group's global activities.



RATEL

SRO recently added the Pirelli World Challenge (PWC) to its portfolio of international series, reinforcing the company's significant global footprint in GT racing with a further 26 rounds over 11 events in North America.

This compliments an existing 41 rounds over 28 events in Europe, and a further 11 rounds over 10 events in Asia and Australia. In total, SRO's international GT racing programme will visit 20 countries on five continents, featuring 78 rounds, 49 events, and 48 test days.

An average of 47 cars are present at each event, comprising 22 GT3 machines, 27 GT4s, and 44 from the TC category. The current SRO platform includes 67 sprint races, ranging in length from 25 minutes to one hour. There are a pair of two-hour events, four endurance races of three hours, one six-hour contest, one eight-hour, one 10-hour, one 12-hour and the marquee Total 24 Hours of Spa.

Alongside the series and events directly promoted by or in close partnership with SRO, the organisation's network of GT4 and Balance of Performance franchise agreements cover an additional eight series and 69 events.

Securing a majority shareholding in WC Vision LLC has allowed SRO to acquire access to the valuable "World Challenge" registered trademark, which will be used to spearhead an ambitious programme of international and national restructuring.

The developments already set firmly in place for the 2019 season and beyond include the introduction of the new GT2 category. This will cater for powerful supercars developed in the spirit of the current GT4 regulations and with the long-term aim of reinforcing GT3 sprint grids in Britain, Europe, America and Asia.

On the world stage, the Kyalami 9 Hours will take the Intercontinental GT Challenge to South Africa as the fifth round of an expanded calendar. This will secure SRO's place on the African continent and confirm its status as a truly global promoter.

The GT4 European Series will expand to seven rounds in 2019 and include a number of new three-hour endurance events, while standalone GT4 series will be launched in Germany, following a franchise agreement with ADAC, and in Asia.

In the United States, the Pirelli World Challenge will be restructured to feature seven GT rounds, all using the two-driver Sprint X format and running at the country's premier road racing circuits.

PWC | 7

British teams ready for Silverstone



JOAO FELIPE PHOTO

The No. 95 Aston Martin Racing Aston Martin Vantage AMR competes in the 24 Hours of Le Mans.

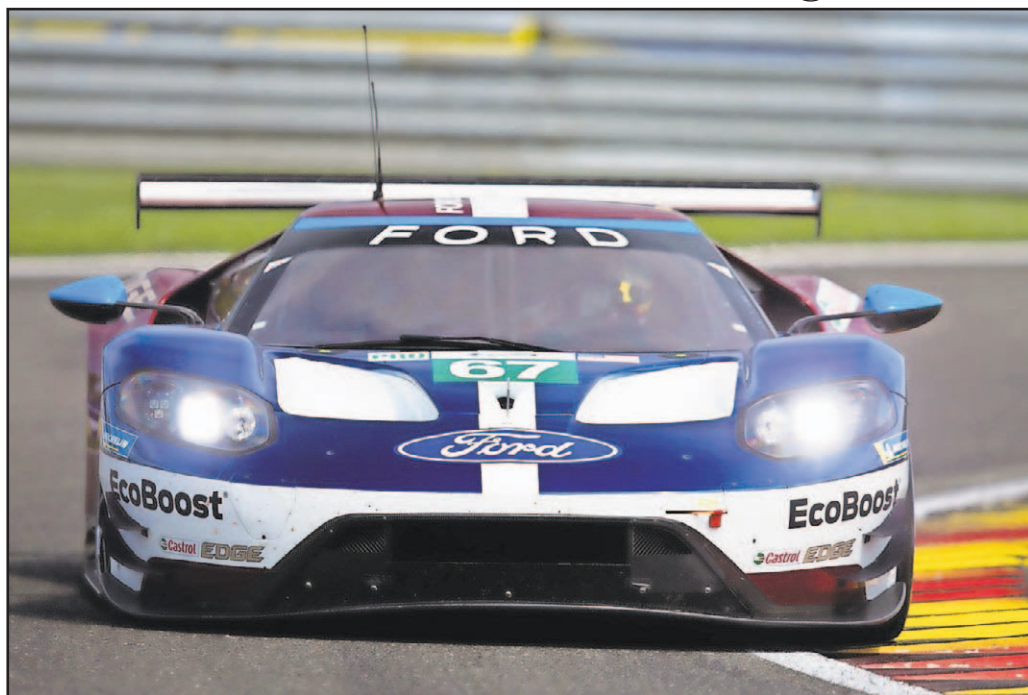
Trio of races before WEC makes Sebring return

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

With the FIA World Endurance Championship Super Season kicking back into life next month at Silverstone, there are plenty of British teams up and down the grid gearing up for their home race at the historic Northamptonshire track. After Silverstone, the WEC will stop in Fuji, Shanghai and then Sebring in March.

CEFC TRSM Racing may compete under the Chinese flag but the team is based out of Manor's base at Silverstone while partner Ginetta is situated in Leeds, some 140 miles to the north.

The team's pair of Mecachrome-powered G60-LT-P1s endured a tough race debut in the 24 Hours of Le Mans, but the higher downforce requirements of Silverstone should suit the car better and allow it to mount a more credible challenge within the LMP1 category. A driver line-up made up largely of Brits will also be hoping to impress



JOAO FELIPE PHOTO

The No. 67 Ford Chip Ganassi Team UK Ford GT races in the Total 6 hours of Spa Francorchamps.

their home crowd.

In the LMP2 division, there is likewise a Chinese-entered team run out of the UK: Jackie Chan DC Racing, operated by JOTA Sport. Its season couldn't have started better in Spa, as Ho-Pin

Tung, Gabriel Aubry and Stephane Richelmi garnered maximum class points, but a Le Mans to forget means they have ground to recover at Silverstone to catch up with the class leaders from Signatech Alpine.

Of the five LMGTE Pro class manufacturers, two can call Silverstone their home race: Ford Chip Ganassi Racing and Aston Martin Racing.

SEBRING | 7

Cobb looks for another top 10 finish

Forrest Wood Cup begins next week

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

With the regular season of the FLW Tour wrapped up for 2018, it's time to start looking ahead to the big show: the Forrest Wood Cup on Lake Ouachita Aug. 10-12. This

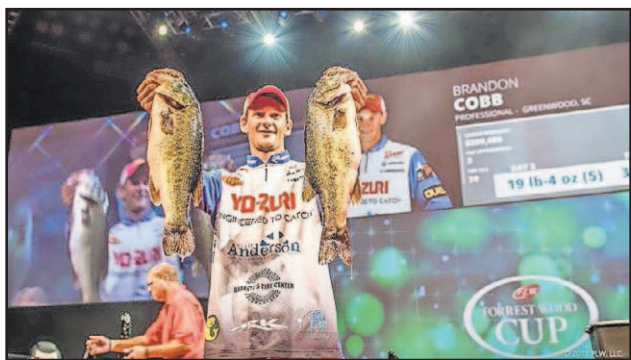
year's field sports 56 of the top pros in fishing, and one of the easy Cup favorites is South Carolina pro Brandon Cobb.

Cobb recently completed his fifth season as a Tour pro, and with another solid Tour campaign — 12th in the

points — he's on his way to a fourth Cup appearance. The first Cup Cobb competed in was the 2015 event on Ouachita, where he posted a third-place finish and essentially kick-started his career. He followed up with a ninth-place finish at the 2016

Cup on Wheeler Lake and another third-place finish last season at the Cup on Murray.

Cobb's on a Cup hot streak and has converted all that championship success into a stable pro



FLW PHOTO

Brandon Cobb.

FISH | 7

CUP

FROM PAGE 6

"I wasn't expecting to win today — but I was hoping I would have a chance this weekend," Noaker said. "I have done two weekends here at Mid-Ohio in Spec Miata. I was really trying to take care of my front tires because this track is really low grip, and a lot of the turns are downhill so you need to manage them."

Aiding Noaker's run to the front was a pair of full-course yellows that re-stacked the field as racing incidents eliminated championship contenders Bryan Ortiz, Todd Lamb and Sebring's John Dean II early on.

With 10 minutes remaining in the race, Noaker had raced his way up to second and was putting pressure on leader Palermo. Noaker briefly took the lead, but Palermo took it back on the final lap in the braking zone of turn four. Noaker stayed with him and was exactly where he needed to be when Palermo made a mistake.

"On the last lap, going down in to Turn Four, I was being really defensive to protect the lead and Hernan out-braked me on the outside," Noaker said. "From then on, I was asking myself if I should try a risky move, or if I should settle for second. But then

going through Turn 11, he got sideways and that's when I decided I needed to make my move."

Noaker went through to the lead and took the checkered flag 1.2264 seconds ahead of Palermo. Palermo, in the No. 20 Slipstream Performance Global Mazda MX-5 Cup, fought from ninth on the grid to the lead before his battle with Noaker. Second place is a career-best finish for Palermo who also took top honors in the Master's Class. The age difference between Noaker and Palermo: 30 years.

Ortiz didn't let an early exit in Saturday's Battery Tender Global Mazda MX-5 Cup presented by BFGoodrich race get him down, instead he made it his mission to get the win on Sunday, which he did with a last lap pass. For the second time in as many races,



MAZDA MOTORSPORTS PHOTO

Sick Sideways driver Nathaniel Sparks races at Circuit of the Americas. He placed second in Sunday's race at Mid-Ohio.

the Global Mazda MX-5 Cup race came down to a last lap pass for victory, with polesitter Nathaniel Sparks finishing second and Joey Bickers completing the podium in third.

Driver of the No. 8 Sick Sideways car, Sparks had plenty of kind words for Ortiz and their race-long fight, which was actually more like teamwork.

"I'm pretty sure some of that racing speaks for itself, but in the car, the amount of communication that we had as competitors and the respect we were giving each other the whole time — it was a lot of fun running with Bryan (Ortiz) there," Sparks said. "We were working together, you know? We both drove really hard. I made some mistakes, he picked me up, he made some mistakes and I picked him up and really in the end there it was like, lets make

this a one-two between us and he bested me in the last couple of laps."

On the final lap, Sparks followed Ortiz's lead around Bickers to finish second.

"All I could do is work with Bryan and see how far we could go,"

Sparks said. "I made some mistakes which slowed us down, but in the end it was such a solid race and I'm glad we ran so much better than yesterday. I have to thank my team Sick Sideways for putting us up there. Mazda, Battery

Tender, BFGoodrich and Andersen Promotions made me have such a good day today."

Next for the Battery Tender Mazda Global MX-5 Cup is a doubleheader at Portland International Raceway, Aug. 31 to Sept. 2.

FISH

FROM PAGE 6

fishing career.

"In my mind I think that first Cup really kicked off my professional career even though I had been fishing professionally for two years before that," Cobb says. "I don't really think that just because I did well there a few years ago means I'll do well again because Ouachita isn't an easy lake, but I am excited to fish it again."

While the 2015 Cup helped push Cobb into the spotlight, the reality is that his upbringing in South Carolina really set the stage for him to excel — especially in tough tournaments.

"My strength is catching fish no matter the conditions. August is always a tough time of the year, and that's why I do better then, because I like fishing for just a few bites.

"I grew up fishing a lot by myself in July, August and September, which in the South are extremely tough times of the year, and I've just always understood that time of year more and understand the fish a little better."

Hot days, a limited number of bites and scattered fish are ideal scenarios for Cobb, as he's shown over the last few years.

"My mentality when I fish is just to worry about where can I catch a bass,"



FLW PHOTO

The Forrest Wood Cup

he says. "Once I do that, I worry about No. 2. I just like to try and pick off individual fish, which is why I focus on just one bass at a time and usually why I don't do as well in the spring when guys can get on big groups of bass staging in one certain area."

Aside from Cobb being so in tune with summertime bass fishing, another reason he has such a great track record at the Cup is that he doesn't put a lot of pressure on himself.

"All season I'm worried about whether or not I'm going to make the Cup. But at the Cup, I don't really feel like there is any pressure on me," he says. "I enjoy the Cup because if I don't find anything in practice I can just go fishing and try new stuff in the tournament without worrying about cashing a check or not [since everyone is guaranteed a payday]. I can keep an open mind, and I like that."

At just 28 years old, Cobb is about as cool as

they come when handling the spotlight of major tournament bass fishing. And though he says he feels less pressure fishing in the Cup, don't think he doesn't replay some of his close calls, especially last time at Ouachita.

"That first Cup on Ouachita, I believe that if I was as experienced as I am now at dealing with the high level of stress and all the other things that go on during the Cup, I feel like I would've won that tournament. I was just inexperienced with the situation. I made mistakes at that one, and at Murray, to be honest. It's kind of frustrating.

"But this is a new year, and I'm ready to go out and see what happens. Who knows what could happen if I execute and learn from my past mistakes. I'm ready to get the tournament started, that's for sure."

The purse is worthy nearly \$1.1 million with the winner taking home \$300,000.

PWC

FROM PAGE 6

GTS will comprise eight rounds, retaining the DNA of the PWC with a single-driver format. Competitors ranging from professionals to amateurs will run at an impressive set of tracks, including spots on the IndyCar Series support bill at the Grand Prix of St.

Petersburg.

A seven-round TC calendar will allow this growing category to fully develop its own identity, while two new GT4 series — GT4 America East and GT4 America West — will adopt a two-driver format for Silver and Bronze-graded competitors.

Blancpain GT Series Asia will reinforce its

position as the first truly pan-Asian series by adding an event in Korea to its existing six-round calendar, while the presence of one Asian driver per car will become mandatory from 2019 onwards.

In Europe, the formats that have made the Blancpain GT Series a globally recognised success will be preserved.

SEBRING

FROM PAGE 6

Ford is based a stone's throw away in Greatworth, and even boasts an all-British line-up in one of its cars. After a crash at Spa and a post-race penalty at Le Mans,

Harry Tincknell and Andy Priaulx will be looking to replicate their Silverstone victory of 2017 to get back in the GTE Pro title fight.

Aston Martin continues to get to grips with its new-for-2018 Vantage GTE and they will be hoping to challenge at the front of the class on home turf.

The Prodrive-run Aston

Martin outfit also has a presence in the GTE Am category, courtesy of its 2017-spec Vantage that won the class at Spa, while Surrey-based outfit TF Sport — which came very close indeed to a fairy tale maiden victory in Belgium — will also be hoping its form in the curtain-raiser wasn't a one-off.

Gulf Racing is another team that won't have too far to travel come August, being based in Milton Keynes. The Porsche squad has shown flashes of potential so far but had its campaign so far disrupted by incidents, compromising its place in the standings — so a clean run for home drivers Michael Wainwright and Ben Barker at Silverstone will be essential.

The 6 Hours of Silverstone takes place on Sunday, Aug. 19.



JOAO FELIPE PHOTO

The No. 38 Jackie Chan DC Racing Oreca 07 - Gibson at Spa-Francochamps.

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DINNER DIVA

Leanne Ely

8 quick picks for your beach picnic

Oh lazy, hazy beach days. One of the most wonderful things about summer.

And what's a day at the beach without a cooler full of goodies?

But one must be strategic when it comes to packing food for the beach. Because at the beach, there is sand. And hot sun. And wind.

You want to make sure to bring along some protein that will hold up in the cooler and that everyone can eat with their hands.

You should also try to avoid taking too many salty foods because you'll already be dehydrated and salty from the sea. And chocolate and beaches do not go together because melty pile of goo.

It's best to pack healthy snacks to keep your energy up if you're in and out of the water. Even if you're just reading on the beach and not swimming, you don't want to feel bloated because of too many greasy treats.

So, what do you bring to eat at the beach?

Here are some great, simple, healthy ideas!

- Fresh fruit. Whole fruits are better than cut up fruit when it comes to sandy fingers. Apples, peaches, bananas (though they can get mushy in the heat so put them in the cooler) ... all good choices. A container of watermelon or cantaloupe slices you can pick up from the rind is also fabulous for the beach. These foods are all hydrating, too, which is a bonus!

- Nuts. A great quick source of protein. You can make up a little trail mix of dried fruit and nuts if you think you can eat this without crunching on sand (challenge!).

- Crackers. If you need to bring along some carbs, try crackers instead of chips. Less salty and better for you if you choose whole grain crackers.

- Wraps. Whether it's a tortilla or your favorite gluten-free leaf, a sandwich filling is more fun to eat when it's wrapped up in something, than when it's between two pieces of bread. Kids can also eat a wrap more easily with one hand, so their second is free for holding their juice box. Wraps are easier to ... well, wrap, too — place a cloth napkin or a paper towel on the bottom half, allowing sandy fingers to still hold onto the wrap without getting sand in the food itself.

- Fried chicken. Yum. Need I say more? Fried chicken is perfect for the

A doggone good career

Karen Catarelli has been with Sebring Animal Hospital for 36 years

By **DOROTHY HARRIS**
CORRESPONDENT

SEBRING — When Karen Catarelli became the receptionist of Sebring Animal Hospital in 1982, she had no idea she'd spend the rest of her adult life becoming a fixture of this care-focused family.

Employed with the practice for the past 36 years, she admitted she couldn't imagine working anywhere else.

She came to Sebring to care for elderly parents and helped operate a rolled fiberglass franchise formerly located in the industrial park at the Sebring Regional Airport. "After the gas crisis of the 1970s, we weren't able to get the materials or supplies we needed," said Catarelli. When the business failed, she found temporary work with the school board and then heard about the receptionist job.

Hired as the receptionist, she later became the kennel assistant and eventually the ward supervisor.

Over the decades, she has worked nearly every position and for the last 15 years, she has been the office manager. "It's part of my life. I never thought about doing anything different or if there was another career path. I've loved all of it."

Catarelli has also assisted the hospital's doctors during surgical and dental procedures and in office appointments. For the past few years she has handled inventory. "You've got to be able to do it all," she shrugged.

Receptionist Sue Pollen was quick to agree. "She's been here so long and knows so much." Pollen added Catarelli is always at the practice, typically working six days a week. The pets and the opportunity to learn so much over the years has kept Catarelli engaged in her work.

"You want to come in everyday and see who's got an appointment so you can say hello." In between furry friendships,



COURTESY PHOTO

Karen Catarelli, holding her dog Lilly, adores animals and loves her job at Sebring Animal Hospital where she has worked for 250 dog years.

Catarelli has learned all about ordering and tracking supplies while helping fellow staffers with product questions or needs. She schedules staff, communicates with various rescue groups and handles the collaborative efforts between Sebring Animal Hospital and Highlands County Animal

Control.

"Pending adoptions come to us for neutering or spaying. We also give them a nail trim and bath, apply flea control and do an exam," she said.

Together they are always

CAREER | 4



Karen Catarelli, seen here between Dr. Larry Jernigan and Dr. Andrew Altwater, shared the practice staff is genuinely her family and she couldn't imagine working anywhere else.



Karen Catarelli and daughter Angie both work at Sebring Animal Hospital and share a deep love of animals and their community.

40 years after IVF, researchers push boundaries to preserve fertility

By **MARIE MENKE**
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

(The Conversation is an independent and nonprofit source of news, analysis and commentary from academic experts.)

Tears are a regular occurrence in a fertility clinic. Tears of joy, tears of frustration, tears of loss happen almost daily. For some, those tears are the tears of "what if." What if I had tried to get pregnant sooner? What if I had known then what I know now?

Hope is the incredible gift that Robert Edwards and Patrick Steptoe, the pioneers who made in vitro fertilization (IVF) possible, gave to the generations that

followed them. They continued experiments, even though society feared that "test-tube babies" pushed past boundaries never meant to be crossed.

Now 40 years after Louise Brown, the first child born through IVF (where the egg is fertilized with sperm in the laboratory instead of the body), this gift affects millions.

The astonishing breakthrough has gone beyond initial, seemingly insurmountable steps and moved into realms that include routine egg and embryo freezing for patients uncertain if they are ready to pursue childbearing. Even further, we as a society are now entering frontiers that include

experimental fertility preservation for prepubescent girls and boys through freezing ovarian and testicular tissue.

These methods, like those of Edwards and Steptoe 40 years ago, hold a promise for generations for the future.

However, with this hope comes fear and anxiety. Patients may fear that this is the last time to try, that it will not work, or that someone or something will make a mistake or interfere at the last minute. For society, many wonder if new technologies are pushing us too far as we again explore how far people should push past our natural boundaries.

I am a reproductive endocrinologist at

UPMC Magee-Womens Hospital and the University of Pittsburgh. Here at our institution, we are dedicated to seeking innovative ways to preserve fertility.

Our patients range from those about to undergo cancer therapies that may harm their reproductive potential to transgender patients ambivalent regarding their desire to conceive with their own sperm and eggs. They are faced with this decision at far earlier age than most of us would ever contemplate.

The science, art of preserving fertility

My own research focus has been improvement



MISSION NUTRITION

Judy Buss

Drink to your health

The human body is composed of approximately 60 percent water (not soda!). Water is essential for all body functions; in organs, tissues, joints, spinal cord, eyes, digestion, and for maintaining body temperature.

Water also plays a major role in helping to detoxify our bodies, through a number of mechanisms, such as perspiration, intestinal and kidney waste removal, and exhalation.

The unfortunate result of decades-long marketing campaigns by commercial beverage manufacturers, has lead the public to believe that water is boring and can be replaced by their products. Not so fast! In order to maintain good health we must consume six to eight glasses of water daily.

Some can come in the form of additive-free beverages made of mostly water, including home-prepared herbal teas, for example. Eating water-rich fresh vegetables and fruit is also part of a wholesome hydration strategy. More about the best sources of clean water later.

Water-based drinks infused with herbs, vegetables and/or fruit are utterly delicious and refreshing. These easy-to-prepare thirst quenchers are awash with vitamins and minerals and attractive to boot. Because of a greater public awareness nowadays of the joys and benefits of a healthy lifestyle, your guests will, most likely, appreciate and enjoy sipping on chilled infused water.

When making these beverages, it is best to use organic fruit and vegetables, since we are not trying to make here pesticide-infused drinks, are we?

Ingredients particularly suited for making enhanced water drinks are: pineapple, peaches, mango, watermelon, orange, lemon, lime, strawberries, cucumber, mint, basil, rosemary, ginger root, and cinnamon.

After you have made a few of those liquid health-bombs you will, no doubt, be inspired to come up with "guzzelion" new combinations. Flavors can be intensified by adding a larger amount of the ingredients or letting the beverage steep longer before consuming.

If you desire a more delicate flavor, carefully add more water. For a variety of reasons, you are better off not depending on commercial (filtered) bottled water. Here is

WWII vet turns 100, recalls her years of service

By EMILY SULLIVAN
THE FLORIDA TIMES-UNION

JACKSONVILLE (AP) — A pioneering Women's Army Auxiliary Corps volunteer turned 100 on July 20, clinging to her bed railing as she recounted her time as a typist behind the American World War II effort.

Anne Butler, who grew up in America and Poland, has just her memory and several colorless portraits to remind her of the years she spent stationed in old New York City offices. She typed her way through World War II, donating her time to make some, any, helpful impact.

She joined the Army at the war's beginning and left after its violent end.

During WWII, over 150,000 American women joined the Women's Army Corps (WACs), initially formed as the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, according to a U.S. Army Center of Military History publication. Those women were the first, after nurses, to serve formally within U.S. Army ranks, and many took on repetitive, detailed tasks that freed up more men for combat.

Butler said she never desired to go to the front lines herself, because she didn't think that was her place.

Still, when war broke out and Butler inquired about volunteering to help in some capacity, she was told there was no position for her.

"They said no, no, you don't even belong in this," Butler recalled.

In her early 20s, wide-eyed and ready to work as hard as anyone else, she declared that, in fact, there would be a spot for her.

"I'll make one," she responded. "I came here to volunteer and, by golly, I'm gonna do it," she said.

Butler said she was finally stationed with a small group of a couple of blocks down from New York's Collingwood hotel, in what looked like an old post office.

WAC volunteers filled that hotel, four to a room. Men guarded the women, some of whom, including Butler, did "secret" work, she said.

Butler recalled few specifics about her "secret" work but said she took any assignment that crossed her path. Those mostly involved typing; she was high-school educated and studied business and secretarial work before the war began.

Although Butler was supposed to keep her work confidential, she said she "kind of told everybody." The caveat, she said, was that she



WILL DICKEY/THE FLORIDA TIMES-UNION via AP

Anne Butler served during World War II in the Women's Army Corps, and is photographed on her 100th birthday Friday, July 20 at her home in Jacksonville.

never really knew exactly she was doing.

When Butler first volunteered, she worried about that uncertainty. So, she moseyed across the street to Macy's and made a purchase.

"I didn't know what I was supposed to do," Butler said. "I decided that I better get a

nice-looking hat to wear."

She soon learned the Army-green hat she picked out was reserved for officers' use.

Butler said she never really knew what was expected of her. Before she joined the Army, she might have joined a convent, since she grew up

around nuns and went through the Catholic school system.

Her excitement about rallying around the flag and helping as much as she could overrode that.

There was another reason Butler said she joined the Army, which was to travel. Butler wanted to see India; she had not seen much of the world and had a schoolmate stationed there.

"That was so selfish, wasn't it?" Butler wondered. "I joined the service to go to India."

Butler didn't make it to India, bound to a woman's clerical assignments in the post-office-like building where she balanced higher-ups' instructions.

She remembered one sergeant whose commands resembled lectures as he urged the "girls" to stay true to their Army roots and stay out of trouble, mainly with men.

"Everything was secret those days," Butler said, "especially the men."

Men were not allowed in the women's metropolitan hotel, but Butler said they snuck them in anyway, hiding them on the second floor. They all were a "tight military squad," she said, playing tricks on guards and marching to and from work, all in good spirits.

"It was the funniest thing," she said, revealing

a rosy smile.

Butler said otherwise, there was little ruckus among her group, and that the only trouble came from traveling women who made military pay while she did not.

When the war ended and Butler left the Army, after rejecting a discharge deal to accompany war brides coming to America, she married Timothy Butler, an Army man coming back from Italy. They moved into a Jacksonville home in 1950.

She might have worked in a factory after leaving the Army, said her son, Larry Butler. He added she volunteered with a children's hospital about 20 years ago and was always active, doing yardwork and tending to her orchids.

Still holding onto her bed railing, Butler once more downplayed the feat of reaching her centennial after helping an American war effort, completing tasks higher-ups expected of her without relying on a surplus of remarkable skills.

"Anybody could be 100 years old," she said.

Butler said she's not sure what lies ahead for her as she marks her 100th year.

"I guess whatever's expected of me," she said, in her humble fashion.

The secret to an ultra-chill sorbet is all in the pectin

By america's test kitchen

Raspberry sorbet is refreshing—but it's often too icy to be worth eating. For smooth scoops, we froze a small portion of the base separately, adding it back to the rest before churning.

Because this small amount froze so rapidly, there wasn't enough time for large ice crystals to grow; mixing this super-chilled mixture into the larger base encouraged the growth of similarly small crystals, for a fine-textured result.

We also added pectin in addition to the berries' natural amount to give the sorbet stability in and out of the freezer. If using a canister-style ice cream machine, be sure to freeze the empty canister for at least 24 hours and preferably 48 hours before churning.

For self-refrigerating machines, pre-chill the canister by running the machine for 5 to 10 minutes before pouring in the sorbet mixture. Let the sorbet sit at room temperature for 5 minutes to soften before serving.

Fresh or frozen berries may be used. If using frozen berries, thaw them before proceeding.

RASPBERRY SORBET
Servings: 8
Start to finish: 6 1/2 hours

1 cup water
1 teaspoon powdered pectin such as sugar-less Sure-Jell
1/8 teaspoon salt
1 1/4 pounds (4 cups) raspberries
1/2 cup (3 1/2 ounces) plus 2 tablespoons organic sugar
1/4 cup light corn syrup

Heat water, pectin, and salt in medium saucepan over medium-high heat, stirring occasionally, until pectin is fully dissolved, about 5 minutes.



AMERICA'S TEST KITCHEN VIA AP

This undated photo provided by America's Test Kitchen in May 2018 shows raspberry sorbet in Brookline, Mass. This recipe appears in the cookbook "Vegan For Everybody."

Remove saucepan from heat and let cool slightly, about 10 minutes.

Process raspberries, sugar, corn syrup, and cooled water mixture in food processor

bowl in freezer and chill for at least 4 hours or up to 24 hours. (Small bowl will freeze solid.)

Remove puree from refrigerator and freezer. Using tines of fork, scrape frozen puree into large bowl with chilled puree. Stir occasionally until frozen puree has fully dissolved.

Transfer mixture to ice cream machine and churn until mixture resembles thick milkshake and lightens in color, 15 to 25 minutes. Transfer to airtight container and freeze until firm, at least 2 hours or up to 5 days. Serve.

Nutrition information per serving:
108 calories; 4 calories from fat; 0 g fat (0 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 0 mg cholesterol; 49 mg sodium; 28 g carbohydrate; 4 g fiber; 23 g sugar; 1 g protein.

For more recipes, cooking tips and ingredient and product reviews, visit <https://www.americastestkitchen.com>. Find more recipes like Raspberry Sorbet in "Vegan For Everybody."



This image provided by America's Test Kitchen in May 2018 shows the cover of the cookbook "Vegan For Everybody." It includes a recipe for raspberry sorbet.

until smooth, about 30 seconds. Strain puree through fine-mesh strainer into bowl, pressing on solids to remove seeds and pulp (you should have about 3 cups puree); discard solids. Transfer 1 cup puree to small bowl and place remaining puree in large bowl; cover both bowls with plastic wrap. Place large bowl in refrigerator and small

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Girl Scouts stress 'girl power' in new recruitment efforts

By DAVID CRARY
AP NATIONAL WRITER

As American women seek a larger role in politics, fairer wages and an end to sexual harassment, the Girl Scouts see an opportune time to show some swagger in promoting their core mission: girl empowerment.

They recruited Queen Latifah to narrate a video featuring famous former Girl Scouts — Venus Williams, Katie Couric and many more. And they indulged in a little bragging when Girl Scout alumna Meghan Markle married into Britain's royal family.

"Life is always better with a Girl Scout by your side, and Prince Harry truly hit the jackpot," enthused a post on Girl Scout Blog.

But the marketing campaign is about more than boasting. It's also an effort to confront several high-stakes challenges, including reversing a long slide in membership, making the case for all-girl scouting after the rival Boy Scouts included girls and updating the organization's curriculum for a new generation that expects more than

such as robotics and rock climbing, a strong emphasis on community service and the iconic cookie sales, which she depicted in a recent newspaper essay as "the largest girl-run business in the world."

The Boy Scouts decided last year to admit girls into all programs. But the Girl Scouts' parent organization, Girl Scouts of the USA, will not follow suit by admitting boys.

"I believe with full conviction that Girl Scouts is the best leadership organization in the world for girls, and that is because we are girl-led and girl-centric," said Violet Apple, CEO of Girl Scouts of Central Maryland.

The Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, as well as other youth organizations and sports leagues, have experienced membership declines in recent years, for reasons ranging from busy family schedules to the lure of online games and social media. The Girl Scouts say they now have about 1.76 million girls and 780,000 adult members — down from about 2.9 million girls and 900,000 adult volunteers in 2003. Some recruitment



AP PHOTO

A mural showing scouts stands behind bows at an archery course at a Girl Scout day camp in Carnation, Wash., on Tuesday, June 26. The Boy Scouts decided last year to admit girls into all programs. But the Girl Scouts' parent organization, Girl Scouts of the USA, will not follow suit by admitting boys.

on waiting lists.

"It's really sad," said Asha Menon, a troop leader for seven years in the Atlanta suburb of McDonough. "All these parents show up with kids who want to be in it — but they want another adult to take the lead."

In Chicago, TV producer Craig Harris has tried — with minimal success — to persuade other men to join him as Girl Scout leaders. Harris started as a volunteer 14 years ago when his eldest daughter — now a confident college student — joined the Girl Scouts as a shy 5-year-old.

Harris' 11-year-old daughter is active in the Girl Scouts, pursuing her interest in science.

"I lead a full career, but I've found ample time to be a volunteer," Harris said. "My oldest daughter went all the way through, and I was there at every stage. It was invaluable time building those memories with her."

Among the many mothers juggling work and Girl Scout duties is Audra Fordin, owner of an auto-repair business in New York City's Flushing neighborhood. She is founder of an education initiative called Women Auto Know and leader of her teenage daughter's troop.

Fordin is confident the Girl Scouts can maintain their stature as an all-girl institution even as the Boy Scouts make its programs available to boys and girls.

"Some girls may not feel as capable of doing the same things boys can do," she said. "But when we come together in a group, we can accomplish whatever we want to do."

Reeny Boutros, 18, of Wichita, Kansas, started Girl Scouts at age 5. She said the experience helped her develop the skills and confidence that recently earned her admission to Stanford University, with plans to major in computer science.

Boutros has received Girl Scouting's highest honors — first earning the elite Gold Award, then being selected as one of 10 National Young Women of Distinction. She's a technology whiz now, but recalled struggling with studies back in middle school.

"The badge work (with Girl Scouts) was one of the few academic recognitions I got," she said. "I got exposed to archaeology, photography. It was a great way to boost my self-esteem."



Girl Scouts Ket Davis, left, Em Kong, Lily Pogue and Rowan Rhoads laugh as they try to figure out a hand signal at a Girl Scout day camp in Carnation, Wash., on Tuesday, June 26. As American women seek a larger role in politics, fairer wages and an end to sexual harassment, the Girl Scouts see an opportune time to show some swagger in promoting their core mission: girl empowerment.

cookies and camping. "What's happening in society as a whole makes it all the more important for girls to have every possible opportunity to learn that their voice and opinion matter, and to have the courage and

efforts reflect the Girl Scouts' pride in the diversity of their membership. For example, the organization over the past two years has created more than 240 new troops in low-income Los Angeles



Girl Scouts of Western Washington CEO Megan Ferland, left, talks with Girl Scout Sierra Stauffer at a demonstration of some of their activities in Seattle on June 18. "What's happening in society as a whole makes it all the more important for girls to have every possible opportunity to learn that their voice and opinion matter, and to have the courage and confidence to become who they want to be," says Ferland.

confidence to become who they want to be," said Megan Ferland, CEO of the Seattle-based Girl Scouts of Western Washington.

One major challenge, she said, is to puncture some of the myths and stereotypes that affect public perceptions.

"People hear 'Girl Scouts' and think, 'Oh, those cute little girls that sell the cookies and make macaroni necklaces' and that's it," Ferland said. "It is so much more than that."

neighborhoods to serve several thousand girls from Hispanic, African-American, Korean and other communities.

Denise Nowack, who oversees the recruitment programs, said the Girl Scouts council in LA decided to cover basic first-year costs for the new troops, including membership fees and uniforms, to ease the financial burden.

Many other councils struggle to find enough adults to serve as volunteer troop leaders, leaving hundreds of girls



Girl Scouts Amelia Connolly, left, Ava Townsend and Maddie Hagenson start work on a project at a demonstration of some of their activities in Seattle on June 18. "People hear 'Girl Scouts' and think, 'Oh, those cute little girls that sell the cookies and make macaroni necklaces' and that's it," says Megan Ferland, CEO of the Seattle-based Girl Scouts of Western Washington. "It is so much more than that."

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Women

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CAREER

FROM PAGE 1

moving the pets through to try and ensure they don't reach the end of their time. In fact, Catarelli holds a space on the surgery schedule each week day for an Animal Control dog. Sick or injured dogs also come in for care. "New owners pick up the dog from the hospital or a rescue group from around the country arranges for a volunteer to come get them."

The Highlands County Sheriff's Department Canine Unit also brings in their dogs, according to Catarelli, who is thankful the community works together to care for animals. "I love getting to see them because I just love all of them." She admits it is difficult sometimes too.

There is sadness when a client's pet passes or is put to sleep. "It's so hard, because there's this bond from all the decades of them coming and going." For the practice's long term clients, Catarelli and staff have journeyed through several cycles of pets. Even so, it's always heart-breaking to lose one.

One of her special duties includes honoring client's pets via the Pet Memorial Program



COURTESY PHOTO

Karen Catarelli, right, brought her daughter to work as an infant and now a young woman, she too is employed at the practice.

from the University Of Florida College Of Veterinary Medicine. The doctors donate funds in memory of each of the beloved pets and clients receive a memorial card acknowledgment. "The emotional drain is tough because you get so close to the pets and to the clients," she said, tearing

up. "We walk through life together and it's hard when someone dies. It tears my heart out, but you just have to keep going."

In the process, she, her fellow staff and the five doctors have become like family. So much so, that Dr. Bill Jernigan stepped into the paternal

role at her wedding.

"He drove me to the church in his 1933 Packard and walked me down the aisle," she said. She also brought her daughter in each day from when she was eight weeks old. "She played in her crib in the treatment area and at age 14, started working

here too."

The ladies now enjoy each other's company 10 hours a day, six days a week. "Truly this is my family, or our family, because otherwise it is just the two of us."

The challenges and comfort she receives from both the clients and the animals they

entrust her with makes her job so rewarding. Despite it being over 250 dog years she has worked there, Catarelli doesn't see herself retiring anytime soon. "I won't until I can't get in the car and walk into the front door," she said. "I just wouldn't know what to do with myself."

IVF

FROM PAGE 1

of access to care for these patients, and I am humbled by the methods we have available and in development. As we continue to bridge the gap in experimental models, we are seeking to improve methods for ovarian transplant in patients who are ready to attempt pregnancy with previously preserved ovarian tissue.

At the Magee-Womens Research Institute, we have scientists and clinicians work relentlessly to improve access to ovarian transplant as well as develop ways for boys and men with frozen testicular tissue to achieve their reproductive potential. The world of reproduction is an exciting and ever growing field.

Fertility preservation is a powerful example of how hope does not have to be blind. Although made widely accessible through IVF technology, research in fertility preservation began early as the 1600s, when Dr. Harry Brown first placed a jar of vinegar eels outside his window and thawed them the next day only to discover they were still alive. In the 1940s, investigators discovered that compounds called cryoprotectants could be used to freeze sperm. In the 1950s, the first baby was born after conception with frozen sperm.

The reproductive field subsequently exploded. Babies were born after conception from sperm extraction from the human body and births following conception from frozen embryos and frozen eggs were reported in the 1980s, soon after Louise Brown. Now both men and women had options for preserving their fertility. The experimental label was removed from egg freezing in 2013 and now women routinely wonder, "Should I freeze my eggs?"

It's all about having the choice

The answer is deeply personal. Although no longer experimental, egg

freezing is not currently indicated for elective use. While some insurance companies or employers may cover the significant costs associated with the process, the likelihood is much less than that of, for example, in vitro fertilization for infertility. That said, age-associated fertility decline is a real phenomena and the number of women in the U.S. delaying the age of first birth is steadily increasing. Since women are born with all the eggs they will ever have, age-associated fertility decline is a steady process that accelerates in a woman's 30s. What should you do?

For those with a medical condition that will result in a high probability of loss of fertility, the answer is also not simple. Although males may produce a specimen, the urgency of that person's chemotherapy may still dictate the number of attempts.

Even without this urgency males facing therapy toxic to reproduction will still need to ask, "How many times should I try to freeze sperm before I start my chemotherapy?"

For women, the question includes the need to delay medical therapy, e.g. chemotherapy or surgery, by approximately two weeks for hormonal treatment and the possibility that the treatment itself may cause risk.

None of these decisions are easy, but all still give hope and choice. For some, this is all that is necessary. Women who I see at Magee-Womens Hospital do frequently elect not to preserve eggs or embryos, but most are glad for the opportunity to discuss the option. Males may freeze several samples, but then subsequently discard them when the post-therapy analysis shows no effect on their semen parameters. Fertility preservation through these methods, and the hope they bring, are now a common, accepted practice.

Preserving the fertility of sick children

We fertility researchers still have challenges in front of us. Experimental

options, such as ovarian tissue or testicular tissue preservation, are performed at academic centers such as Magee-Womens Hospital for those who can not use conventional technology. These are almost exclusively for patients with a medical reason to suspect their future fertility is in jeopardy. Pre-pubertal males who might face loss of future reproductive function due to planned chemotherapy might seek testicular tissue freezing as their only option.

For a 10-year-old child with lymphoma, the decision to freeze tissue for the possibility of future children of his or her own is almost inconceivable. Although no births have resulted from testicular cryopreservation, current research by pioneers such as Dr. Kyle Orwig at the Magee-Womens Research Institute works on multiple potential methods ranging from transplant to use of stem cells to restore a patient's fertility in the future.

For women who cannot go through the hormonal process to stimulate the production of eggs for freezing, freezing ovarian tissue is possible. Although ovarian tissue cryopreservation is still experimental, the first live birth from ovarian tissue transplant was reported in 2004. Once we see enough healthy children born after this procedure, the experimental label will likely be removed.

However, when women suffer from ovarian cancer or another cancer spreads to the ovaries, there are concerns that transplanting frozen tissue could reseed the malignancy back in the patient. Women with ovarian cancers are often not candidates for transplant. These patients still wait and hope that fertility preservation will overcome this next hurdle.

This article was originally published on *The Conversation*. Read the original article here: <http://theconversation.com/40-years-after-the-birth-of-ivf-researchers-push-boundaries-to-preserve-fertility-in-women-and-children-99485>.

BUSS

FROM PAGE 1

a healthier and more economical option: make your own, using one of several available brands of countertop water-purifying pitchers – Brita, for example.

A cartridge inserted into the pitcher lasts for about eight to 12 weeks, depending on the amount of water used per day. In my kitchen, I maintain three of those systems using the clean water for drinking and cooking exclusively. Most brands can be purchased in discount stores, and some supermarkets.

Save money and boost your health by cutting down and gradually eliminating health-busting commercial beverages, laden with sweeteners, artificial colors and flavors, corn syrup, and caffeine. These drinks are more expensive than you think when you add to their price the medical bills resulting from consuming them. Beware of loosely-defined and often misleading terms such as "Natural" on the labels of many of these commercial drinks. I raise a

glass to your health!

ORANGE-MINT SUNSHINE WATER

1 large orange, unpeeled
6 cups filtered water
10 fresh mint leaves, torn
1-1/2 teaspoons ginger root, peeled, finely grated
Scrub orange clean. With a serrated knife, thinly slice and place in large pitcher. Add the water, mint leaves, and ginger root. Mix gently. Cover and refrigerate at least 6 hours before serving, stirring occasionally. Before serving, strain into glasses, and garnish each with a sprig of mint, or a slice of orange placed on glass edge.

Tip: After 24 hours, strain remainder of beverage to prevent the produce from rotting in water.
Discard the produce. For a more delicate flavor, if desired, serve after six to four hours rather than six or carefully add more water.

LEMON-CUKE QUENCHER

1 large lemon, unpeeled
1 large cucumber, unpeeled
8 cups filtered water

15 fresh mint leaves, coarsely torn
2 teaspoons peeled, finely grated ginger root (about 1.5- inch piece)

Scrub lemon and cucumber clean. Thinly slice and place in a large pitcher. Add the water, mint leaves, and ginger. Mix gently. Cover and refrigerate at least six hours before serving, stirring occasionally. Before serving, strain into glasses, and garnish with slice of lemon placed on each glass edge. Tip: After 24 hours, strain the remainder of the beverage to prevent the produce from rotting in water. Discard the produce.

PINEAPPLE-BASIL QUENCHER

3 cups finely chopped pineapple
15 basil leaves, coarsely torn
6 cups water
Place all ingredients in a pitcher. Cover and refrigerate at least 6 hours, stirring occasionally. Strain into glass before serving.

Judy E. Buss is a nutritional cooking instructor, speaker, and a blogger for the American Holistic Health Association.

DIVA

FROM PAGE 1

beach because it will hold up in the cooler, and you can eat it with your hands. (But you can also pack paper plates and utensils, too, if you wish ...)

- Food on skewers. From boiled eggs and cheese to cured meats and veggies, kabobs are always a hit. Especially for the beach so you have no worries of sandy hands touching the foods.

- Salad wraps. Salad is not considered a fun food by many people. (I know.) But veggies are important. Instead of going through the effort of fixing a big Tupperware bowl full of salad that no-body will want to eat, wrap the salad toppings inside of lettuce leaves and fasten with toothpicks. Spread a little dressing inside with the cucumbers, tomatoes, carrots,



COURTESY PHOTO

A beach wrap of salad mixings and cold cuts makes a perfect treat to take for a day in the sun.

or whatever else you like in your salads, and you have handy little easy to eat salads disguised as lettuce wraps.

- Beef jerky. Another great source of protein, beef jerky doesn't spoil in a beach bag, and even if it falls in the sand, it can be easily wiped off. The perfect beach protein!
- Tradition. All of the above ideas are great, but there's a lot to be said for tradition. If your mother packed egg salad sandwiches and iced tea for the beach, and you can't eat an egg salad sandwich to this day

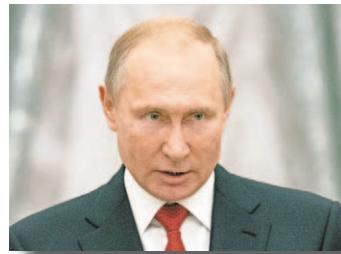
without thinking and smiling about the beach, then pack that. Even if it's not the most strategic of beach snacks, go for it. Sometimes memories have to be made, even if it means sand in your teeth.

(Just make sure to keep it stored in a cooler, for health reasons!)

Leanne Ely is a New York Times bestselling author and the creator of *SavingDinner.com*, the original menu planning website, bringing families back to the dinner table for over 15 years.



Congress is producing an unusual outpouring of bills, resolutions and new sanctions proposals to push back at President Donald Trump's approach to Vladimir Putin and prevent Russian interference in the midterm election. *See page 8.*



Trump would 'certainly meet' with Iran

By JILL COLVIN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump said Monday that he'd "certainly meet" with Iranian President Hassan Rouhani, and without preconditions, if the Iranian leader were willing.

Speaking during a joint news conference with Italy's premier, Trump said he would meet with the Iranians "anytime they want to."

"I'll meet with anybody," he said. "There's nothing wrong with meeting."

The overture comes as Trump and the Iranians

have been escalating their rhetoric after Trump's May withdrawal from the landmark nuclear accord. The United States has also vowed to boost sanctions until Iran changes its regional policies, including its support for regional militant groups.

It's unclear whether Rouhani has any interest in meeting with Trump. Rouhani's chief of staff claimed earlier this month in Iran's state-owned newspaper that Rouhani had rejected eight requests from Trump for one-on-one talks last year. Rouhani recently



AP PHOTO

President Donald Trump speaks during a news conference with Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte at the White House, Monday, in Washington.

warned the U.S. that "war

with Iran is the mother of all wars," prompting an all-caps retort

from Trump.

"To Iranian President Rouhani," he wrote on Twitter. "NEVER, EVER THREATEN THE UNITED STATES AGAIN OR YOU WILL SUFFER CONSEQUENCES THE LIKES OF WHICH FEW THROUGHOUT HISTORY HAVE EVER SUFFERED BEFORE. WE ARE NO LONGER A COUNTRY THAT WILL STAND FOR YOUR DEMENTED WORDS OF VIOLENCE & DEATH."

He ended the message with a warning: "BE CAUTIOUS!"

Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad

Javad Zarif fired back with his own message that began, "COLOR US UNIMPRESSED."

Trump tempered his threatening rhetoric two days later when he said his administration stands ready for Iran to come back to the negotiating table.

"We're ready to make a real deal, not the deal that was done by the previous administration, which was a disaster," he said.

Trump has long cast himself as a master negotiator who is most effective when he meets with his counterparts

IRAN | 8



AP PHOTOS

Firefighters with Cal Fire Mendocino Unit cover themselves from smoke and ash created by an advancing wildfire Monday in Lakeport, California.

Wildfires barrel toward Northern California lake towns

By MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ and
SUDHIN THANAWALA
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LAKEPORT, Calif. — A pair of wildfires that prompted evacuation orders for nearly 20,000 people barreled Monday toward small lake towns in Northern California, and authorities faced questions about how quickly they warned residents about the largest and deadliest blaze burning in the state.

Ed Bledsoe told CBS News he did not receive any warning to evacuate his home in the city of Redding before the flames came through last week and killed his wife, Melody, and his great-grandchildren, 5-year-old James Roberts and 4-year-old Emily Roberts.

"If I'd have any kind of warning, I'd have never, ever left my family in that house," Bledsoe said.



WILDFIRES | 8 An air tanker drops retardant on a wildfire burning near Lakeport, California, on Monday.



AP FILE PHOTO

In this Feb. 14 photo, Paul Manafort leaves the federal courthouse in Washington.

Manafort trial to focus on lavish lifestyle, not collusion

By ERIC TUCKER and CHAD DAY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The trial of President Donald Trump's onetime campaign chairman will open this week with tales of lavish spending, secret shell companies and millions of dollars of Ukrainian money flowing through offshore bank accounts and into the political consultant's pocket.

What's likely to be missing: answers about whether the Trump campaign coordinated with the Kremlin during the 2016 presidential election, or really any mention of Russia at all.

Paul Manafort's financial crimes trial, the first arising from special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation, will center on his Ukrainian consulting work and only briefly touch on his involvement with the president's campaign.

But the broader implications are unmistakable.

The trial, scheduled to begin Tuesday with jury selection in Alexandria, Virginia, will give the public its most detailed glimpse of evidence Mueller's team has spent the year accumulating. It will feature testimony about the business dealings and foreign ties of a defendant Trump entrusted to run his campaign during a critical stretch in 2016, including during the Republican convention. And it will unfold at a delicate time for the president as Mueller's team presses for an interview and as Trump escalates his attacks on an investigation he calls a "witch hunt."

Adding to the intrigue is the expected spectacle of Manafort's deputy, Rick Gates, testifying against him

MANAFORT | 8

Poll: Young people looking for younger leaders

By LAURIE KELLMAN
and HANNAH FINGERHUT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Young people are looking for a change this election season — a generational change.

A poll by the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research and MTV found that most Americans ages 15 to 34 think voting in the midterm elections gives

their generation some say about how the government is run, and 79 percent of this group say leaders from their generation would do a better job running the country.

The poll found young people eager to vote for someone who shared their political views on issues like health care and immigration policy. They expressed far less excitement about voting for a candidate described as a

lifelong politician.

"These older Congress people, they don't understand the internet and they don't know what they're talking about," said Greg Davis, a 29-year-old from Grandview, Ohio, who says he watched in exasperation last spring as Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg easily handled what was supposed to be a Senate grilling on privacy policy. "The questions that he was

getting asked about security and privacy were asinine. We need leadership that actually understands tech."

It's true that the current Congress is among the oldest in U.S. history. At the beginning of the 115th Congress in January 2017, the average age of House members was nearly 58. The average age of senators was nearly 62, among the oldest, according to the Congressional

Research Service.

Political change is in the air in 2018. A record number of women are running. Young Americans who don't remember a time without the internet are eligible to cast ballots. Some started paying attention in 2016, after Donald Trump upset Democrat Hillary Clinton and political tensions in the U.S. escalated.

YOUNG | 8

Trump reiterates willingness to shut down government

By **DARLENE SUPERVILLE** and **ZEKE MILLER**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump said Monday he would have “no problem” shutting down the federal government this year if Congress doesn’t agree to provide additional border security funding.

Trump’s declaration puts him at odds with members of his own party in Congress, where many Republicans are facing tough re-election fights this November.

Government funding expires at the end of September, just weeks before the midterm elections. A shutdown would be the second under unified Republican control of Washington, following an embarrassing weekend stoppage in January.

Asked about specific requirements, Trump said he had no “red line” for what must be approved, and he made no comment on timing — before or after the election.

“I’ll always leave room for negotiation,” he said.

“I would have no problem doing a shutdown,” Trump said during a joint press conference at the White House with Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte. “It’s time we had border security.”

His comments echoed his unexpected tweet a day earlier that “I would be willing to ‘shut down’ government if the Democrats do not give us the votes for Border Security, which includes the Wall!”

“Must get rid of Lottery, Catch & Release etc. and finally go to system of

Immigration based on MERIT!” he tweeted.

Trump returned to the idea after a meeting at the White House last week with House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., where they were said to have agreed on the way forward on government funding for the budget year that starts Oct. 1.

McConnell told a radio interviewer last week that a shutdown so close to the Nov. 6 midterm elections won’t happen. McConnell acknowledged, however,

that the border funding issue in particular was unlikely to be resolved before the balloting.

Ryan said on Capitol Hill after the meeting: “The president’s willing to be patient to make sure that we get what we need so that we can get that done.” He added that money for the wall was “not a question of if, it’s a question of when.”

The White House did not immediately respond to request for comment on what may have changed since the meeting.

Trump has pledged to campaign aggressively, starting after Labor Day, to help Republicans retain control of the House and Senate, but GOP lawmakers don’t appear to be rallying to his side on this not-so-new idea.

Sen. Ron Johnson, R-Wis., chairman of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, said Sunday on CBS’ “Face the Nation” that it would be unhelpful to shut down the government just before elections “so let’s try and avoid it.”

Another tech stock tumble pulls US indexes sharply lower

By **STAN CHOE** and **MARLEY JAY**
AP BUSINESS WRITERS

NEWYORK — Technology stocks tumbled for the third day in a row Monday as a sharp reversal for some of Wall Street’s recent favorites worsened. Major U.S. indexes skidded.

Technology companies have done far better than the rest of the market in recent years, but they’ve fallen after Facebook and Twitter both reported weak user growth in the second quarter. Microsoft and Alphabet slumped Monday and Facebook, Twitter and Netflix have all fallen at least 20 percent from their record highs earlier this month.

“Is the stock 20 percent less valuable, or was it misvalued to begin with?” said Mark Hackett, chief of investment research

at financial services firm Nationwide.

Still, Hackett says the drop for high-flying technology companies could become a good thing for the market if investors focus on companies with steadier revenue and more cash, including software makers, banks and industrial firms.

“It would be nice to see a broadening of the strength,” he said.

The S&P 500 lost 16.22 points, or 0.6 percent, at 2,802.60, and the Dow Jones Industrial Average fell 144.23 points, or 0.6 percent, to 25,306.83.

The Nasdaq composite has more technology stocks among its ranks, and it fell 107.41 points, or 1.4 percent, to 7,630. The Nasdaq has fallen at least 1 percent for three days in a row, which hadn’t happened in three years.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS FROM AROUND THE NATION

Lawsuit filed in fatal duck boat sinking seeks \$100 million

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — The owners and operators of a tourist boat that sank this month in Missouri, killing 17 people, put profits over people’s safety when they decided to put the Ride the Ducks boat on a lake despite design problems and warnings of severe weather, a lawsuit alleges.

The lawsuit filed Sunday in U.S. District Court in Kansas City seeks \$100 million in damages on behalf of two of nine members of an Indiana family who died when the tourist boat sank July 19 at Table Rock Lake near Branson. A second lawsuit was filed Monday in state court on behalf of three daughters of William and Michelle Bright, of Higginsville, Missouri, who died in the accident. The wrongful-death lawsuit seeks more than \$125,000 in damages.

Pediatrician accused of molesting more than 2 dozen children

(AP) — A Pennsylvania pediatrician faces dozens of child molestation charges after police say more victims have come forward to allege he sexually abused them, in some cases as their unaware parents were in the same room.

The attorney general’s office on Monday filed 69 new counts against Johnstown physician Johnnie Wilson Barto, whose license was suspended by the state Board of Medicine after his first arrest in January.

Charging documents allege Barto fondled the genitals of girls and boys, often under the guise of treatment and in some cases drawing heated complaints from their parents.

The 70-year-old Barto is in Cambria County Prison.

Kochs won’t help top GOP Senate candidate in key state

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (AP) — The conservative Koch brothers’ network declared Monday that it will not help elect the Republican Senate candidate in North Dakota, turning its back on the GOP in a marquee election — at least for now — after determining that the Republican challenger is no better than the Democratic incumbent.

The decision sends a strong message to Republican officials across the country that there may be real consequences for those unwilling to oppose the spending explosion and protectionist trade policies embraced by the Trump White House in recent weeks. And little more than three months before Election Day, it leaves a top-tier Republican Senate

campaign without the assistance of one of the conservative movement’s most powerful allies as their party fights to maintain control of Congress.

Robert Wilkie sworn in as Trump’s Veterans Affairs secretary

WASHINGTON (AP) — Robert Wilkie has been sworn in as the next secretary of Veterans Affairs.

President Donald Trump said Monday during an Oval Office ceremony that Wilkie will work day and night “to protect those who protect us.”

He also told Wilkie that hundreds of thousands of people are counting on him.

The former Pentagon official was selected to replace Secretary David Shulkin, who was fired amid ethics charges and internal rebellion at the department over the role of private care for veterans.

Wilkie says he is “humbled” by his selection.

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STOCKS LISTING CHANGE - REQUESTS WELCOME! Mutual funds listings will run on Saturdays.

The Sun Newspaper is tweaking the way stocks are listed in the daily paper. We will continue to run a wide range of stocks, but we're trying to eliminate stocks

our readers don't want. If you do not see your stock in the paper, please let us know and we will put it in the listings. Email the name of the company and the symbol to nlane@sun-herald.com, or call 941-206-1138. You can leave the stock name and symbol on voice mail. If you reach voice mail, please leave your contact information so your call can be returned.

Market summary table with columns: DOW (25,306.83 -144.23), NASDAQ (7,630.00 -107.42), S&P 500 (2,802.60 -16.22), 10-YR T-NOTE (2.97% +0.01), 30-YR T-BOND (3.11% +0.03), CRUDE OIL (\$70.13 +1.44), GOLD (\$1,221.30 -1.30), EURO (\$1.1710 +0.0054)

Money & Markets

Combined Stocks From the New York Stock Exchange and the Nasdaq.

Table of stock listings with columns: Div, Name, Last, Chg. Includes various stock symbols and their price changes.



Table of stock listings with columns: HIGH, LOW, CLOSE, CHG, %CHG, WK, MO, QTR, YTD. Includes various stock symbols and their performance metrics.

Stocks Recap

Table of stock listings with columns: NYSE, NASD, Vol. (in mil.), Pvs. Volume, Advanced, Declined, New Highs, New Lows. Includes various stock symbols and their trading volume.



Table of stock listings with columns: HIGH, LOW, CLOSE, CHG, %CHG, WK, MO, QTR, YTD. Includes various stock symbols and their performance metrics.

Table of stock listings with columns: HIGH, LOW, CLOSE, CHG, %CHG, WK, MO, QTR, YTD. Includes various stock symbols and their performance metrics.

Table of stock listings with columns: Name, Last, Chg. Includes various stock symbols and their price changes.

Interestrates advertisement featuring a logo and text about interest rates on mortgages and consumer loans.

Foreign Exchange advertisement with a logo and text about the dollar being unchanged against the yen.

Commodities advertisement with a logo and text about energy futures and natural gas prices.

Stock Footnotes advertisement with a logo and text explaining various stock symbols and abbreviations.

Treat the gout, do not focus on elevated uric acid level

DEAR DR. ROACH: I got a call from my internist that my blood test showed an elevated uric acid and I would need to start allopurinol for gout. I had been having big-toe pain at night. A nurse friend gave me some of her tart cherry extract pills to take until I started medication. Before picking up the medication, I read online about people who had affirmed time and time again that taking tart cherry, in almost any form, relieved their gout pain. I decided to continue it to see how long the relief would last.



Dr. Roach

ANSWER: I'm glad it worked for you, and it gives me a chance to talk about the difference between gout and having high uric acid levels.

Gout has been known since ancient times. The word gout comes from the Latin "gutta," meaning "drop." It reflects the theory of humors, which was thought to cause the disease. Actually, it is caused by the deposition of uric acid crystals into a joint, usually a single joint such as the big toe, where it has the lovely, old-fashioned name "podagra."

Most cases of gout are exquisitely painful, with intense redness and swelling. Many people cannot tolerate even a sheet on top of their foot, and I have seen people sleep with their foot in a shoebox. There are some people who have much more mild symptoms, but I wonder if the big-toe pain at night you are describing really was acute gout.

If it was gout, then treatment would be appropriate. There are several options, including allopurinol, the newer febuxostat (Uloric) and colchicine. However, if that big-toe pain were from a different cause, such as osteoarthritis, then the discussion is about whether to treat people who have asymptomatic high uric acid levels. Experts are divided about this, but many (including myself) do not treat a mildly high uric acid level by itself. Instead, it's appropriate to look for other drugs the person may be taking that can cause it (especially thiazide-type diuretics like HCTZ), and have the person avoid high uric acid foods like

shellfish and beer, and reduce sugar consumption. Tart cherries — as juice, extract or whole fruit — reduce uric acid levels and risk of gout flares in people with a history. However, any treatment to reduce uric acid levels can have the paradoxical effect of precipitating an attack in the short term.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I wonder why people, especially models or actors, don't remove their facial moles. I find them distracting. Is there a medical complication to having them removed? — R.W.

ANSWER: Removing a nevus (mole) will leave a scar, which will be more or less noticeable.

I would be very cautious about advising people to have cosmetic surgery. To you, moles are distracting, but others find that they add character. After all, they often are called "beauty marks." Marilyn Monroe and Cindy Crawford, among many others, have faces that are beautiful despite (or perhaps enhanced by) prominent nevi.

A baby in day care picks a favorite among the staff

DEAR ABBY: I am a child care provider working with infants. Two of us work in the nursery and share responsibilities.



Dear Abby

One baby has become extremely attached to me, to the point that I can't take a break or go to lunch without him screaming until I return. I feel guilty taking lunch breaks or even a vacation because I know that whoever substitutes for me will have to deal with the crying.

separation anxiety from you as others might get it when a parent drops them off at day care. It should not cause you distress since this is expected behavior.

Other teachers have tried to bond with him to make it easier on everyone, but it doesn't work. It has reached the point that I'm exhausted at the end of the day from the stress of having to be near him all day. Any suggestions? — Mothering In Missouri

Dr. Chawla kindly offered suggestions for coping with separation anxiety:

DEAR MOTHERING: Yes. You are a caring person who is doing more than your share of trying to make the baby feel secure, so stop feeling guilty. I consulted Faisal Chawla, M.D., a pediatrician in Los Angeles, who explained that separation anxiety normally occurs at around 6 to 9 months, so age may be a factor. The baby may be experiencing

Establish a goodbye ritual/routine that's consistent and quick. Comfort the infant and let him/her know you will be back after your break (just as parents would tell their little one they will be back after work). Some parents do a peek-a-boo ritual, which can reduce crying goodbyes to ones with much less drama.

Leave after you say your goodbye and DON'T come back repeatedly. Coming back is positive reinforcement for the crying ("If I cry harder, they will come back!").

Save on summer spending

Dear Readers: While there are still several weeks of summer left, let's look at a few end-of-season FINANCIAL FIXES:



Hints from Heloise

Summer travel expenses can add up quickly. Meals on the go, touristy souvenirs, hotel upgrades and daytrips can wring out the wallet. Set an amount that you're willing to spend, and stick to it.

depending on your state's sales tax.

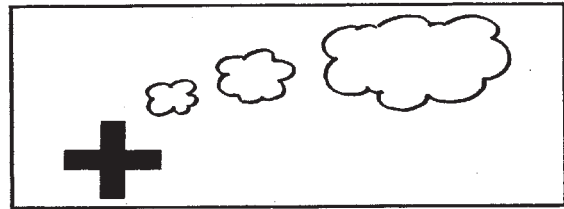
After vacation? It's back-to-school time! Many states offer a tax-free weekend in the first part of August — waived sales tax on most clothing, school necessities and other items. This can be an almost 10 percent savings,

A written budget is critical. If you don't write down and account for each dollar that you have, those dollars can slip through your fingers.

Enjoy the rest of the summer, and let's not "fall" into debt! — Heloise

WHATZIT?

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



SOLUTION: Positive thinking

JUMBLE

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

IGIRD
OOOO

RHHAS
OOOO

EOSLON
OOOO

TOSYTP
OOOO

OOOO

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

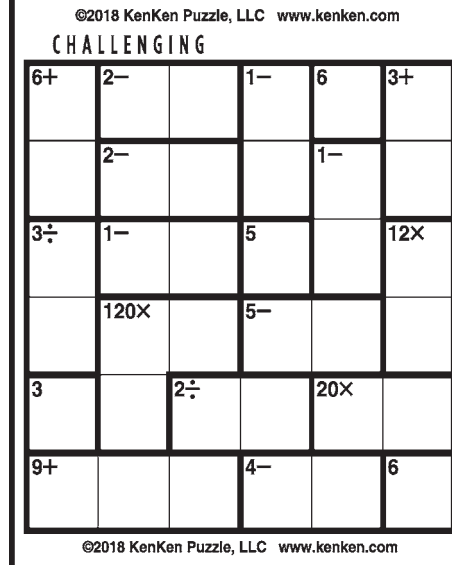
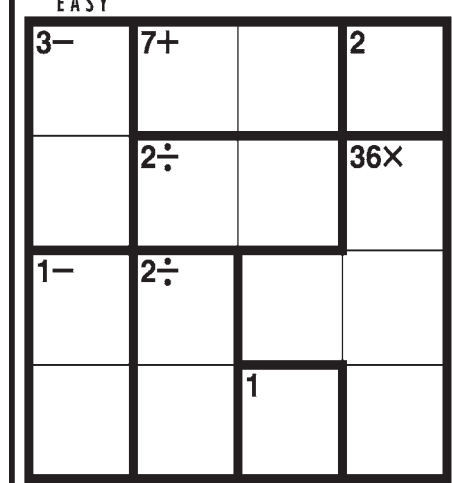


Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)
Yesterday's | Jumbles: ROVER SWIFT UNPACK PADDED
Answer: When the Jumble artist sketched his work area, it included a — DESK DRAWER

KEN KEN

THE LOGIC PUZZLE THAT MAKES YOU SMARTER.



RULES
① Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 4 (easy) or 1 through 6 (challenging) without repeating.
② 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.
③ Freebies: Fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.

PREVIOUS ANSWERS
7+ 3 1 4 2
6x 4 2 3 1
2- 1 3 2 4
2- 2 4 1 3

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 at the mercy of the current (6)	_____
2 South African singer Manfred (4)	_____
3 put in motion (11)	_____
4 full-size Nissan sedan (6)	_____
5 comes back from defeat (8)	_____
6 give a name to (7)	_____
7 where trees grow (9)	_____

TI	NN	AD	MEN	FT
MA	NDS	IM	MAX	OU
PLE	TLE	IMA	RI	DLA
WOO	NDS	EN	REB	TED

Monday's Answers: 1. BLINKING 2. TANYA 3. COMPETITIVE 4. ABSCONDS 5. STEALING 6. LOBSTERER 7. UNDERSHIRT 7/31

Challenger

DIRECTIONS:
Fill each square with a number, one through nine.
• Horizontal squares should add to the totals on right.
• Vertical squares should add to the totals on bottom.
• Diagonal squares through center should add to total in upper and lower right.

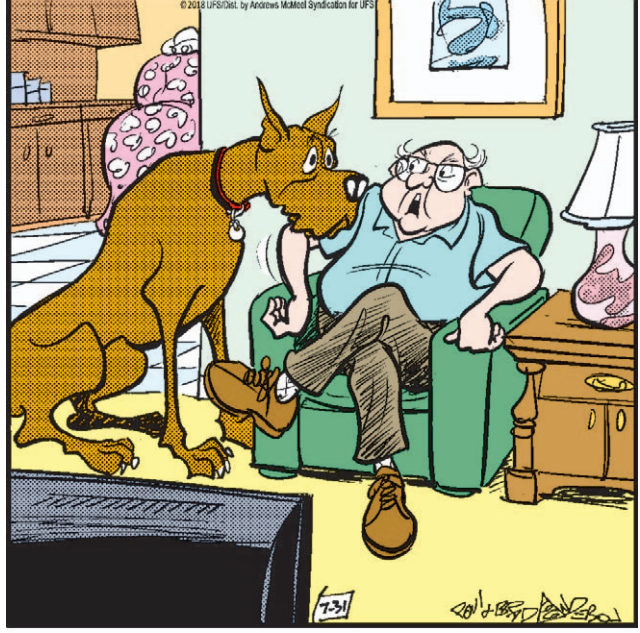
				8	26
	7				32
					29
9					34
		2			5
					24
23	24	29	24	24	

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	7-30	28		
9	8	7	27	
9	2	5	4	20
9	9	7	8	33
7	7	3	2	19
34	26	18	21	20

Yesterday's Challenger Answers

MARMADUKE By Brad Anderson



"Okay, I admit you're good at staring."

Cryptoquip

7-31

VWCS ZOFWS JDB ECQQ C
IATGDM VWD GSDLAG SWA
UBAQ GBIIQJ UDT C GSACZ

AMFOMA? SWA EDCQ-LAAIAT.
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: TASK FOR SOMEBODY WHO MUST GO AND SELECT A SUITABLE FORTIFIED SPANISH WINE: SHERRY-PICKING.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: G equals S

WORD SLEUTH • SO-SO

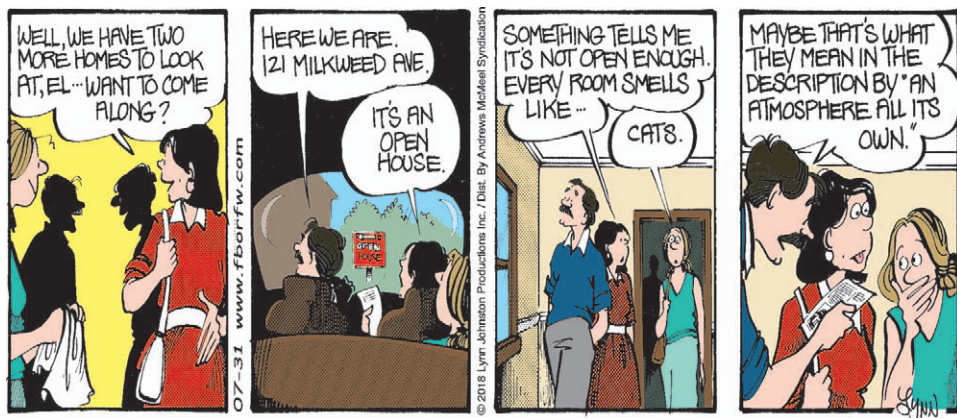


Monday's unlisted clue: WINK
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
Tuesday's unlisted clue hint: A FAREWELL REMARK

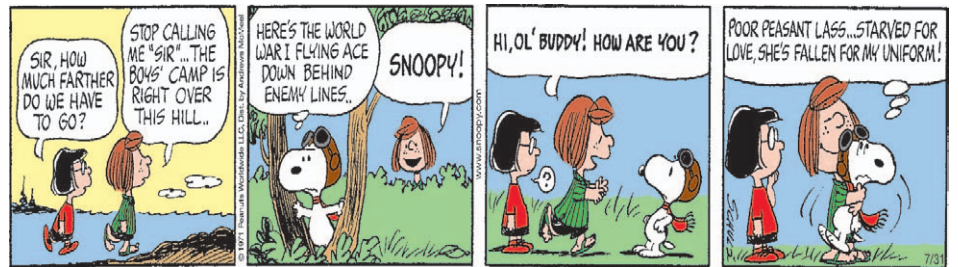
Even so	Make it so	So much so	So what
I believe so	Quite so	So soon	So-and-so
I don't think so	Say-so	So there	So-called
Just so	So forth	So to speak	

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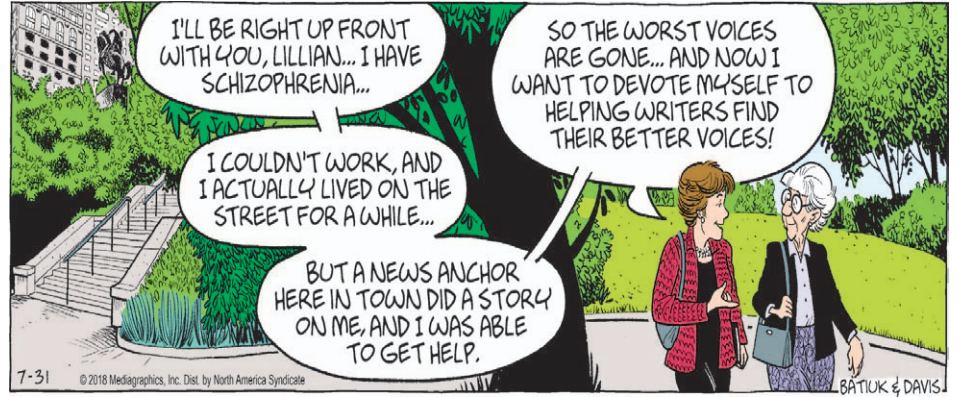
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE By Lynn Johnston



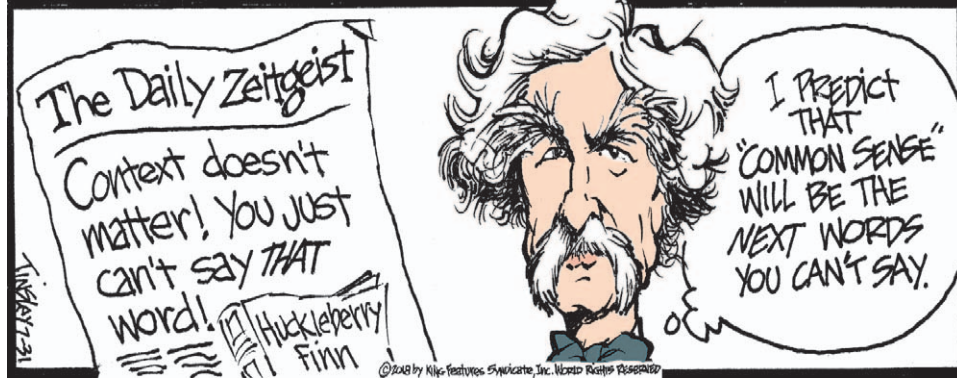
PEANUTS By Charles Schulz



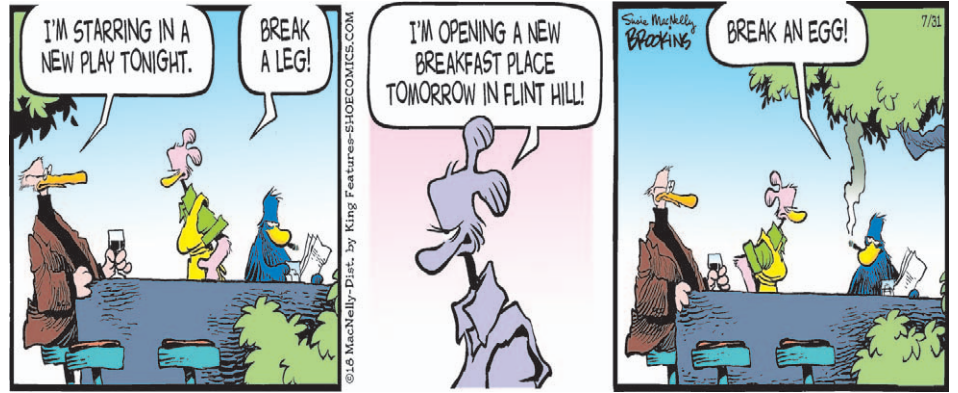
CRANKSHAFT By Tom Batiuk & Chuck Ayers



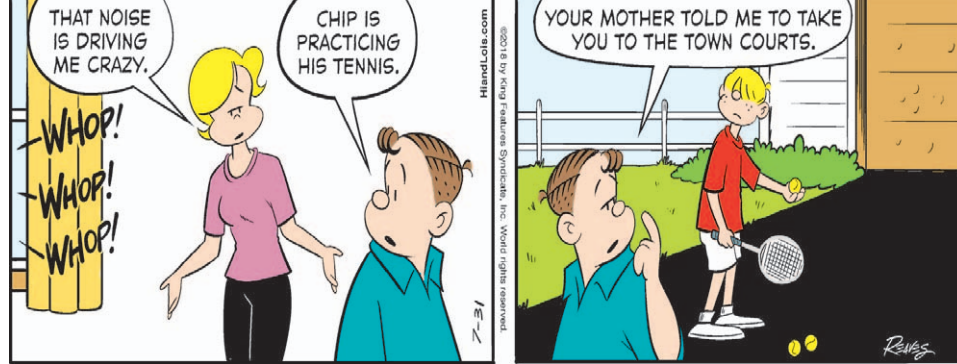
MALLARD FILLMORE By Bruce Tinsley



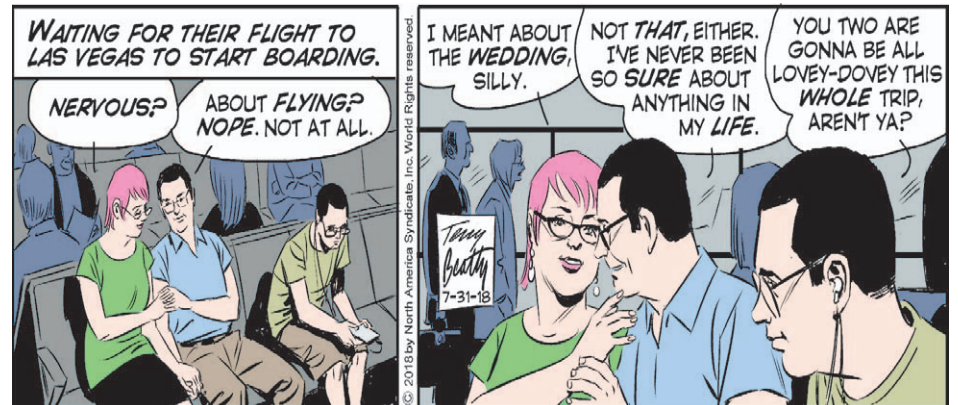
SHOE By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



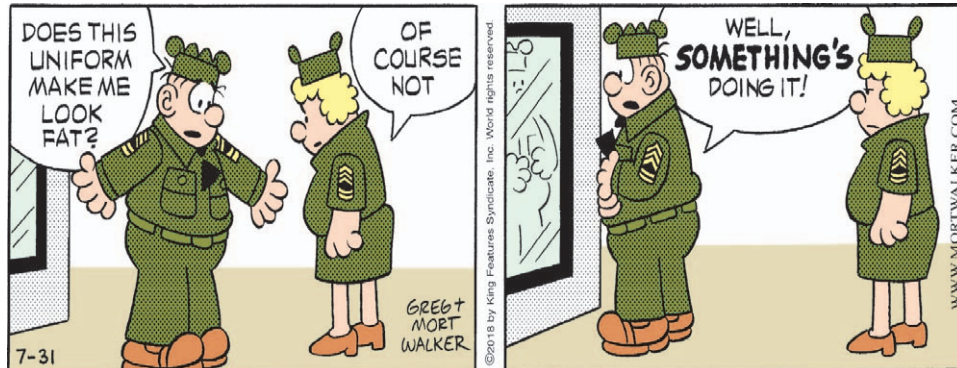
HI AND LOIS By Brian and Greg Walker



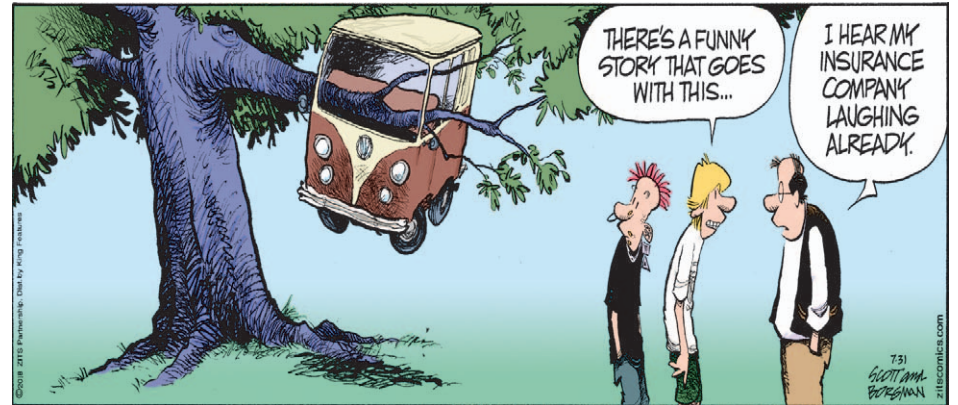
REX MORGAN By Terry Beatty



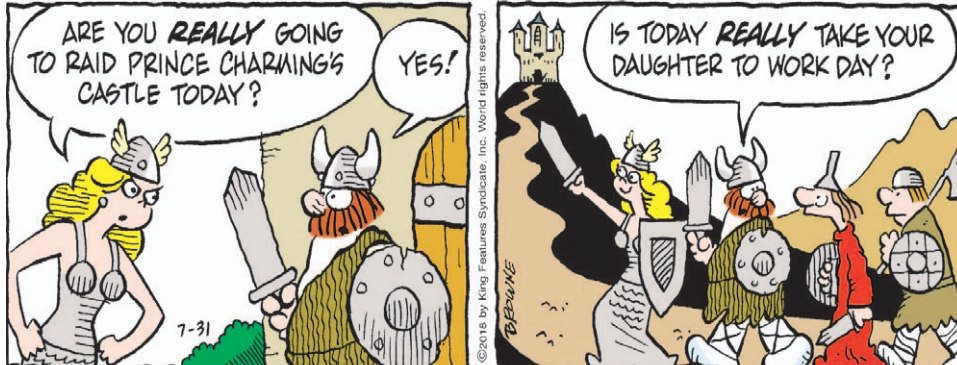
BETLE BAILEY By Mort Walker



ZITS By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman



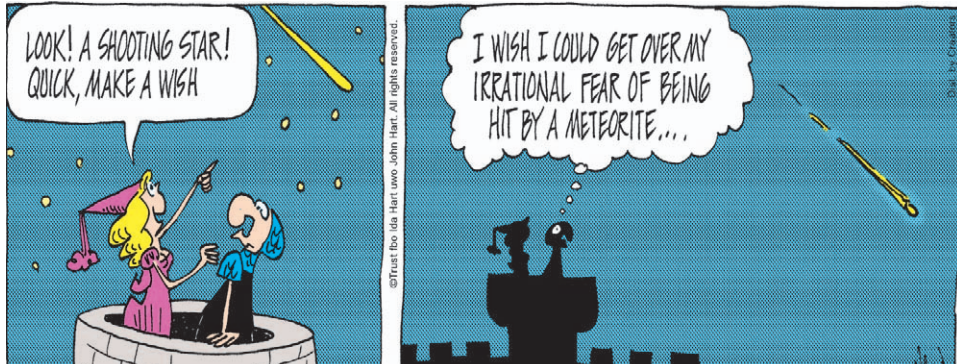
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE By Chris Browne



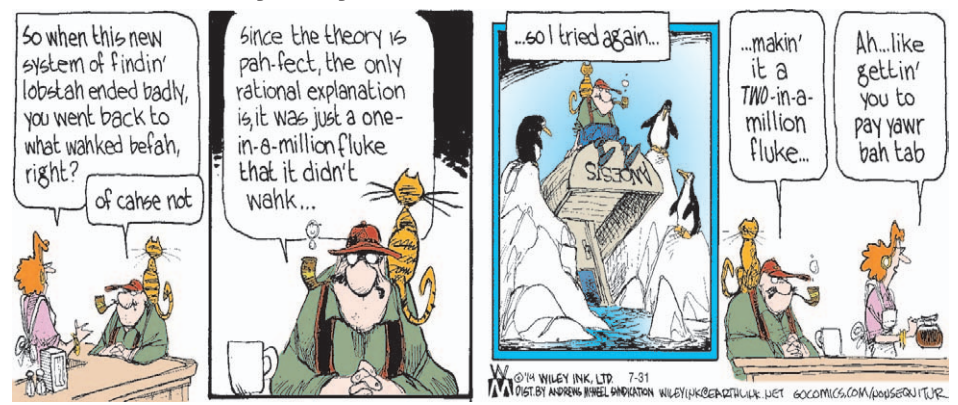
GARFIELD By Jim Davis



THE WIZARD OF ID By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



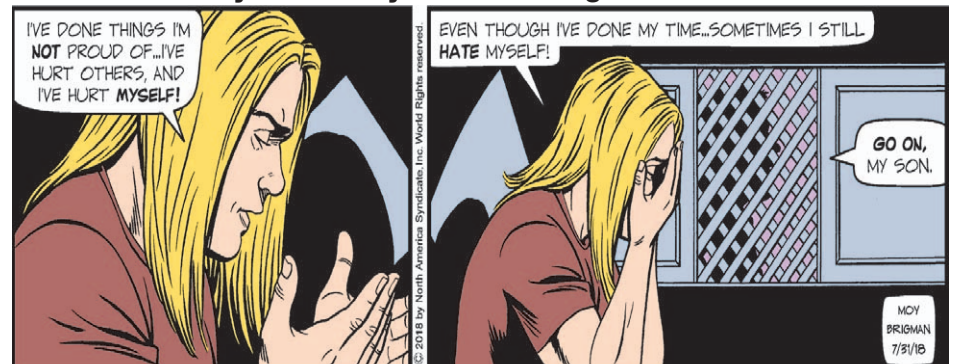
NON SEQUITUR By Wiley



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM By Mike Peters



MARY WORTH By Karen Moy and June Brigrman



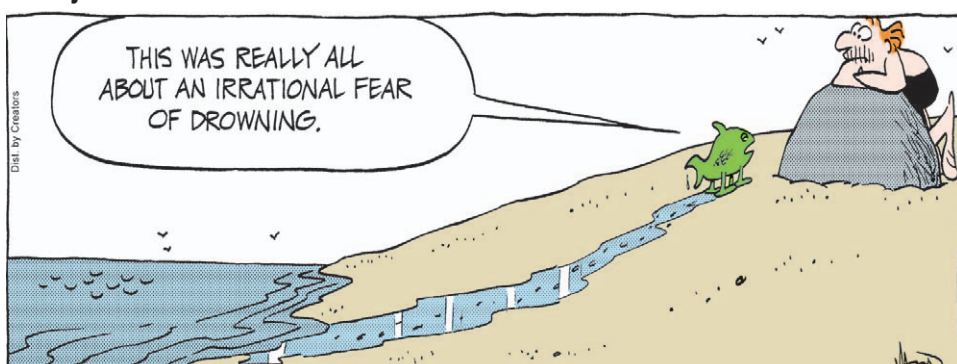
PICKLES By Brian Crane



DILBERT By Scott Adams



B.C. By Mastroianni & Hart





NBA: Lakers

LeBron won't rule out return to Cavs

By **TOM WITHERS**
Associated Press

AKRON, Ohio — LeBron James won't rule out a second homecoming in Cleveland.

The NBA superstar, who earlier this month ended his second stint with the Cavaliers by signing a four-year contract with the Los Angeles Lakers, told The Associated Press on Monday there could be a day when he plays in his home state again.

Asked if he could end his career in Cleveland, James says he doesn't "close the chapter on anything or close the book on anything."

When James announced he was leaving the Cavs, Cleveland owner Dan Gilbert said the team would retire "the famous #23 Cavs jersey one day down the line."

James says he didn't know about Gilbert's comment. But he says it's awesome.

James has opened a

public school for challenged children in his hometown.

The NBA great admitted to having "jitters" before the opening, an event he said is "going to be one of the greatest moments if not the greatest of my life."

The I Promise School initially will house 240 third- and fourth-graders. The Akron school will expand each year, adding second and fifth grades next year and will have students from grades 1-8 by 2022.

James was to be at the school Monday to welcome students and make his first public comments since deciding to join the Lakers.

James spent 11 seasons with the Cavs, winning a title in 2016 to end Cleveland's 52-year drought without a pro sports championship. His departure ended a four-year run with the Cavs after he returned in 2014 following four seasons with Miami.

SEE LEBRON, 3



LeBron James speaks at the opening ceremony for the I Promise School in Akron, Ohio on Monday. AP PHOTO

NFL: Bucs

'It motivates me'



CHRIS URSO | TIMES

Bucs defensive tackle Gerald McCoy (93) runs through drills during practice Thursday in Tampa.

McCoy wants to write his own Super Bowl story

By **GREG AUMAN**
Times Staff Writer

TAMPA — What stands out to defensive tackle Gerald McCoy about all the offseason additions to the Bucs' defensive line around him is the sheer amount of Super Bowl experience gained with Jason Pierre-Paul, Vinny Curry, Beau Allen and Mitch Unrein.

"We brought in four guys who have all played in the Super Bowl, and three of them have won it," McCoy said. "That's a lot of experience, guys who know what to do and how to do it, do it the right way."

New Bucs defensive line coach Brentson Buckner played in 15 playoff games in his career,

losing in Super Bowls with the Steelers and Panthers. Curry and Allen won with the Eagles last season, Pierre-Paul won with the Giants in 2011 and Unrein lost with the Broncos in 2013.

McCoy, entering his ninth NFL season, still hasn't played in a playoff game. Still, he said he isn't envious of what his new teammates have been able to do.

"If anything, it's motivation," McCoy said. "I want to be able to tell my story."

Curry had just one playoff game and no playoff wins in his first five years in the NFL, but helped the Eagles all the way to a championship. Philadelphia went 4-12 his rookie year,

then won a division title the next season. He's seen what momentum can do to a locker room.

"My biggest thing is I'm telling everyone: Winning is contagious," Curry said Sunday. "... If you go out there and put your heart on the line and everybody is on the same page, that's really where you get (clicking). That's really where you get 'Damn, that team is fun to watch.'"

Bucs coach Dirk Koetter said he sees how the influx of talent has created competition that raises the level of the returning players, especially on both lines.

SEE BUCS, 3

NFL: Pro Football Hall of Fame

Moss went deep to ignite Vikes, transform NFL

By **DAVE CAMPBELL**
Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — The ball was flying down the field often for Minnesota during that drizzly night in Green Bay, and Randy Moss kept going over and past the defense to get it.

Five games into his NFL career, Moss was a star. He was a revolutionary, too. There was no moment that better defined his arrival as the league's premier deep threat than that breakout prime-time performance against the two-time reigning NFC champion and bitter rival Packers.

"Seeing Randall Cunningham smile, seeing him energetic," Moss said, reflecting on his five-catch, 190-yard, two-touchdown connection with Cunningham that carried the Vikings to a 37-24 victory. "It was just a great feeling."

When the Vikings landed in Minnesota,

his half-brother, Eric Moss, who was briefly his teammate, wondered about the celebrating the big win.

"I said, 'Going out? No, I want to go home,'" Moss said.

Then defensive tackle John Randle tapped him on the shoulder.

"Man, we're going to party tonight!" Moss said, recalling Randle's pronouncement to the rookie. "That's when I finally understood what it really meant to the guys for us to go into Lambeau and win."

Twenty years later, with Moss set to enter the Pro Football Hall of Fame this weekend after being elected in his first year of eligibility, the swift, sleek and sometimes-sassy wide receiver has finally understood the depth of his impact on the game and the privilege of opportunity to serve as a celebrant of the sport.

SEE MOSS, 3



AP FILE PHOTO

Former Minnesota Vikings wide receiver Randy Moss reacts as he is inducted into the Vikings Ring of Honor in Minneapolis.

CYCLING: Tour de France

Team Sky's dominance set to continue

Associated Press

PARIS — The Tour de France has a new champion, but the narrative remains the same at cycling's biggest race: Team Sky's domination has no limits.

By placing Geraint Thomas on top of the podium on the Champs-Elysees on Sunday, the British outfit ended three weeks of racing which sadly lacked suspense with a sixth win in the past seven Tours.

Once again, Team Sky riders have been

untouchable on the roads of France, controlling the race with ease as Thomas became the third Briton to win the Tour after Bradley Wiggins and four-time champion Chris Froome.

Since Wiggins won in 2012 wearing a Team Sky jersey, the richest team in the peloton has claimed every edition of the race except one, in 2014 when Froome crashed out and Vincenzo Nibali of Italy emerged victorious.

SEE TOUR, 3



AP PHOTO

Britain's Geraint Thomas, wearing the overall leader's yellow jersey, second place Netherlands' Tom Dumoulin, left, and third place Britain's Chris Froome, right, celebrate on the podium after the final stage of the Tour de France Sunday in Paris, France.

NFL: Pro Football Hall of Fame

Hall of Fame to 'honor' absent Owens as part of 2018 class

By **BARRY WILNER**
Associated Press

Despite his decision to not attend Saturday's Pro Football Hall of Fame induction ceremonies, Terrell Owens will be "honored" by the hall for his NFL career.

Hall President David Baker tells The Associated Press on Monday that the Canton, Ohio, shrine's mission

statement begins with the goal "to honor the heroes of the game."

So Owens, who instead will be making an appearance at the University of Chattanooga, where he played college football, will be part of the 2018 class exhibit that includes a glass locker for each new member; their pictures

SEE OWENS, 3

BUGS

From Page 1

"I think all the guys we brought in ... Vinny and Beau and then JPP, I've been impressed with all three of those guys, how they're sharing, especially with the younger guys," Koetter said. "I

think it also creates good competition on both the o-line and the d-line. ... You've got Donovan Smith vs. JPP, and then over there you've got Gerald McCoy vs. Caleb Benenoch. We've got great competition on both lines, and that's going to make everybody better."

McCoy said he watches documentaries of Super Bowl teams every offseason, listening to players talk about what got them to the sport's pinnacle.

"It motivates me," he said. "It's like, 'Man, I want to experience that. That sounds great.' I'll ask Beau, ask Vinny, ask

JPP. 'How was it playing with (Justin) Tuck? How was the Super Bowl?' I love it. I'm still a fan. I love hearing these stories. I'm not envious at all. 'Since you've done it, I need you help me be able to do it. I need you to bring it, so now I can have a story to tell.' That's how I look at it."

OWENS

From Page 1

on the light standards of Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium; a role in opening videos shown within the stadium; and mention in any reference to the 2018 class.

Baker said NFL Network and ESPN, which both televise the inductions, will show a video of Owens' career to the audience at home. That video will not be shown in the stadium.

"It's difficult he will not be here to put on the jacket, unveil his bust, make a speech, and attend the parade," Baker says. "For those things, there's nothing we can do."

Owens has cited the fact it took three years of eligibility for him to make the hall, claiming there were false representations of him as a teammate during the voting process. He also noted that no former players vote, ignoring that Hall of Famers James Lofton and Dan Fouts are among those on the committee.

The 44-year-old



Former NFL player Terrell Owens arrives at the ESPY Awards in Los Angeles.

Owens had a mostly sensational 15-year career playing for San Francisco, Philadelphia, Dallas, Buffalo and Cincinnati. He is second to Jerry Rice in receiving yards and third in touchdown catches behind Rice and Randy Moss, who is entering the hall this week and will attend the festivities.

But he also eventually wore out his welcome in those cities, and now Canton probably can be

added to that list.

Though he will always be received properly at the hall, Baker says.

"I told him I am very disappointed, it is unprecedented, and we've certainly been trying to persuade him to come," Baker says. "He has a whole city here, with 4,800 volunteers who do everything to honor these guys. For him, this could be the opportunity to be

honored the way I believe he always felt he should be honored.

"We respect he has strong feelings of his own and I respect his right to make that decision. I invited him to the hall, even at the last moment he would be welcomed, and he is welcomed every day the rest of his life. Even though he is not here, we will honor him to the best of our ability."

MOSS

From Page 1

"I came into the league with, I guess, my head not really screwed on my shoulders properly," Moss said recently on a conference call with reporters.

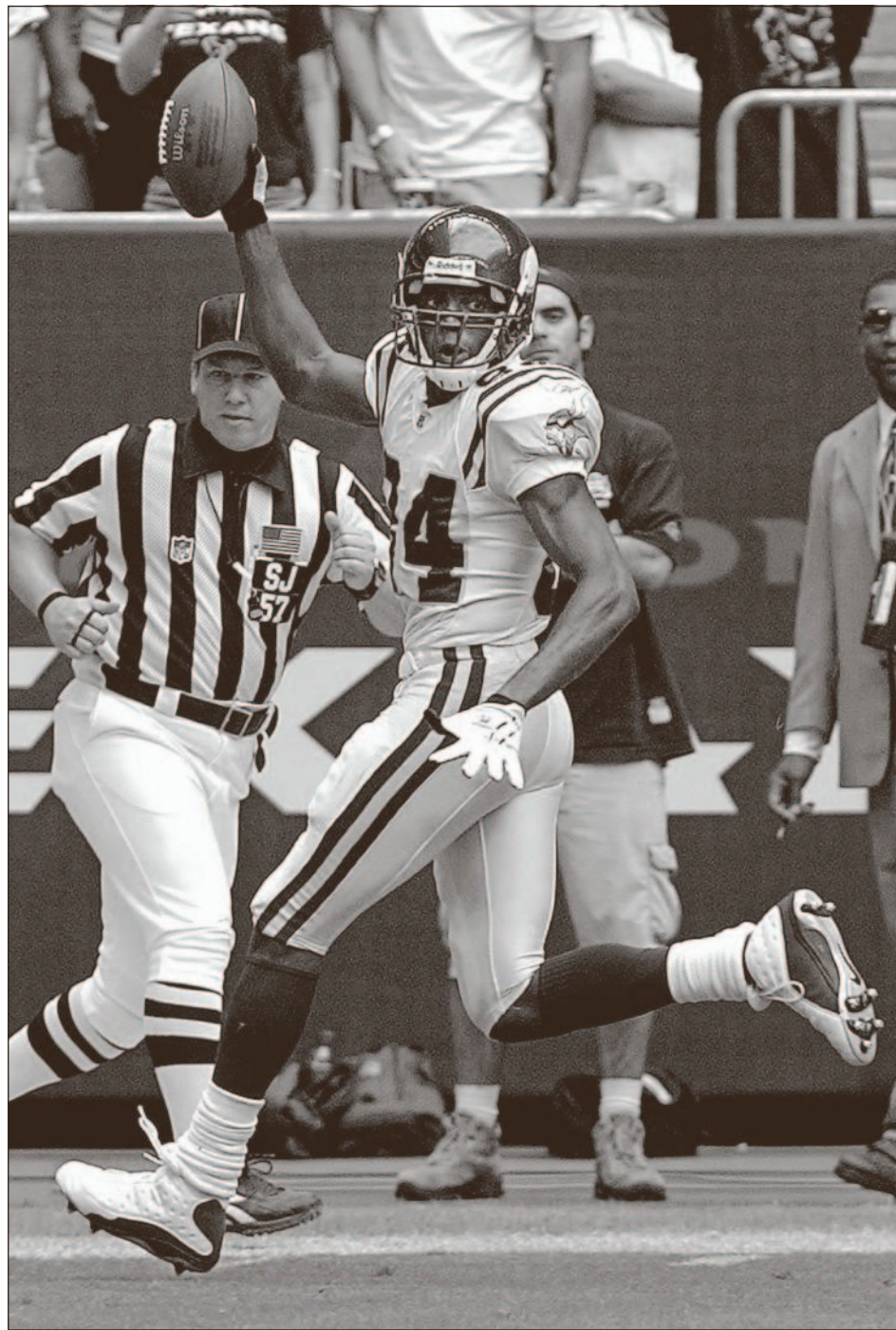
Over time, the "homebody-type guy" from tiny Rand, West Virginia, who ranks second in NFL history in touchdown receptions (156) and fourth in receiving yards (15,292), learned how to soften some of the edges he's carried since he was a kid.

"I've been able to open myself up and meet more people, be able to travel the world," said Moss, who's in his third season as an ESPN analyst. "Football here in America is a very powerful sport, and just being in that gold jacket, hopefully I can just be able to continue to reach people and continue to do great things."

Moss will become the 14th inductee from the Vikings, joining former teammates Cris Carter, Chris Doleman, Randall McDaniel and Randle. He'll be the 27th wide receiver enshrined at the museum in Canton, Ohio. That's a three-hour drive from his hometown, but it's sure a long way from poverty-ridden Rand where Moss and his sports-loving friends played football as frequently as they could in the heart of coal country next to the Allegheny Mountains just south of the capital city, Charleston.

"It was something that just felt good. I loved to compete. I just loved going out there just doing what kids do, just getting dirty," Moss said.

He landed at Marshall University after some off-the-field trouble kept him out of Florida State and Notre Dame, and he took the Thundering Herd to what was then the NCAA Division I-AA national championship in 1996. Several NFL teams remained wary of his past, but Vikings head coach Dennis Green didn't flinch when Moss



Minnesota Vikings' Randy Moss looks back after making a 50-yard reception for a touchdown in a 2014 game against the Houston Texans in Houston.

was still on the board in the 1998 draft with the 21st overall pick. Moss never forgot the teams that passed on him, with especially punishing performances against Dallas, Detroit and Green Bay.

"I just carried a certain chip on my shoulder because the way I grew up playing was just basically having a tough mentality," Moss said. "Crying, hurting, in pain? So what? Get up, and let's go."

The Vikings finished 15-1 in 1998, infamously missing the Super Bowl by a field goal. The next draft, the Packers took cornerbacks with their first three picks.

Moss never escaped his reputation as a moody

player whose behavior and effort were often questioned. That led to his first departure from Minnesota, via trade to Oakland in 2005.

The Raiders dealt him to New England in 2007, when the Patriots became the first 16-0 team before losing in the Super Bowl, to the New York Giants.

After a rocky 2010 for Moss, including being traded by the Patriots and released by the Vikings, he took a year off. He returned in 2012 to reach one more Super Bowl with the San Francisco 49ers.

Moss was not a particularly physical player, but for his lanky frame he had plenty of

strength. His combination of height and speed was exceptional, and his instincts for the game were too.

Carter taught him how to watch the video board at the Metrodome to find the ball in the air, and he had a knack for keeping his hands close enough to his body that if the defensive back in coverage had his back to the quarterback he couldn't tell when the ball was about to arrive.

In an NFL Films clip that captured a sideline conversation between him and Cunningham during one game, Moss yelled, "Throw it up above his head! They can't jump with me! Golly!"



LeBron James plays with his daughter Zhuri at the opening ceremony for the I Promise School in Akron, Ohio on Monday.

LEBRON

From Page 1

Following his eighth straight appearance in the NBA Finals, James said he was still in "championship mode" as he headed into free agency. But he's going to a Lakers team that missed the playoffs again last season and seems years away from competing for a title in the rugged Western Conference.

James was also drawn to Los Angeles by the appeal of playing for one of the league's most storied programs and the chance to work with Hall of Famer Magic Johnson, the Lakers' president and a player James idolized since he was a kid.

James also chose Los Angeles in part because it represents the next chapter in his life. He already owns homes there and he has a film production company in the city.

TOUR

From Page 1

Even the expulsion of Gianni Moscon for punching a rival during Stage 15 had no effect on Sky's well-oiled machine, as the team managed by Dave Brailsford completed a fourth consecutive Grand Tour win.

"We were well behind our goals the year we started, we did better the next year then we won the Tour with Bradley," said Brailsford, who has supervised the team since it was created in 2010. "Chris Froome learned a lot by riding alongside Bradley, he gained a lot of experience, then Geraint learned from Chris. It is passed on from a generation to the next. We are always thinking about the future."

Although Thomas has yet to extend his contract with Sky, both he and Froome are expected to be part of the team next season. At 32, Thomas is in the best form of his life while the 33-year-old Froome will try again to equal five-time Tour winners Jacques Anquetil, Eddy Merckx, Bernard Hinault and Miguel Indurain.

More talent is already emerging behind them in Egan Bernal, the 21-year-old Colombian rider who competed at his first Tour this summer. Bernal did amazing work for Thomas and Froome in the mountains, assisting both in the final Pyrenees stage. Despite his relentless efforts as a domestique, Bernal still managed a 15th-place finish overall.

In addition to Bernal, Brailsford has also recruited two of the brightest prospects in cycling, 21-year-old Pavel Sivakov and Tao Geoghegan Hart, who is 23-years-old.

"My job is to look three or four years ahead," Brailsford said. "Our riders in their 30's won't be there forever. Within the next two or three seasons, I will have the opportunity to add other youngsters in the group. This year, Egan has been looking very carefully at what Chris does, he kept asking questions, looked at everything we do to win the Tour. It was the best possible experience for the future."

Sky's rivals have often complained of a lack of means in attempting to dethrone the British giant at the Tour. Sky has an estimated budget of \$40 million, about double that of Tom Dumoulin's Sunweb team.

"Of course, they have more money to spend, it makes life easier sometimes," said Dumoulin, the runner-up to Thomas. "Of course, having a big budget matters. But it would be too easy to say that Geraint Thomas had a big advantage just with this team. He was the strongest rider."

Brailsford is adamant it's not just the money, but also Sky's expertise in developing talents that help him lure the best riders.

"Bernal has a very, very modest income," he said. "When compared to the average World Tour income, it's not much, most of the riders are making more money."



Tour de France winner Geraint Thomas celebrates with the flag of Wales on Sunday.

COMMENTARY: Auto Racing

NASCAR needs to change the tone starting at the top

By JENNA FRYER
Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — The sky is not falling on NASCAR, its top executives insist, and a cheerier disposition could go a long way in lifting the black clouds surrounding the series.

That is a paraphrase of the message NASCAR chief operating officer Steve Phelps delivered at Pocono Raceway during a weekend sponsorship celebration. Phelps was presenting good news — that Camping World will continue as sponsor of the Truck Series through 2022 under Gander Outdoors branding — but his singular announcement couldn't mask the larger issues facing NASCAR.

Phelps argued otherwise.

"I think this industry tends to focus on the negative," Phelps said. "I'm not really sure why."

Because television ratings continue to slide, and seven-time NASCAR champion Jimmie Johnson is seeking a new sponsor. Because the same three drivers have combined to win 16 of 21 Cup races this season, and the tracks and the schedule are stale. Because the France family is reportedly interested in selling NASCAR and Chairman Brian France has yet to address the report straight-on and has instead stated only that his family is committed to running the series.

Phelps' position mirrored the message France delivered last week when he called SiriusXM NASCAR Radio and was asked what he would tell fans about "the state of their NASCAR right now."

"Well, I think we are having a good year," France said. "Things are changing a lot in sports, and that's a given, with how things are being consumed. More digital, more this, more that, and we're trying to meet their



Kyle Busch celebrates after winning a NASCAR Cup Series race, Sunday, in Long Pond, Pa.

needs in terms of how they take in NASCAR and it is terrific. We've got unbelievable fans and we are very proud of that."

Perhaps a message with a little more meat to it would have raised the spirits of an aging fan-base that no longer hangs on every left turn.

Phelps is right: The vocal majority of NASCAR find fault in most everything. But that doesn't make them fools capable of believing France's proclamation that this is a "good year" for NASCAR.

For that, the blame is strictly on NASCAR and its own failure to fix the negative perceptions surrounding the series.

France could have addressed the sale rumors when Reuters first issued its report in May. But he didn't, and nearly three months later still has not stated whether NASCAR is or is not for sale. He doesn't publicly say much of anything anymore, which is his right. But someone needs to be leading the cheers and if the fans only focus on the negative it is because NASCAR isn't doing a good enough job to promote the positives.

There are some areas to crow about, too:

- Bubba Wallace was not injured Sunday in

a violent collision at Pocono that cracked a section of the energy-absorbing SAFER barrier. Upgrades to safety have been an ongoing process since Dale Earnhardt's 2001 fatal accident, and after Kyle Busch broke both his legs in a 2015 accident at Daytona, additional SAFER barriers have been built into almost every track on the circuit. Wrecks are one of the lures of NASCAR and because they are so frequent, it is easy to get desensitized to the danger. Wallace's wreck was a reminder that it is still a deadly sport, and NASCAR has worked diligently to lessen the risks.

- Three series champions are presently racing each other each week for the Cup title. Busch and Kevin Harvick have six wins each, while reigning NASCAR champion Martin Truex Jr. has four. Only four other drivers have been to victory lane this season, and the last three races have gone to Truex, Harvick and Busch, in that order. Some may argue the Big 3 winning each week is getting old, but is a chess match between a Ford and two Toyota teams unlike anything that's been seen since the so-called "good 'ol days" of NASCAR.

- Although they aren't racing for wins right now, younger drivers are in the playoff mix and seven drivers not considered veterans are currently in the top 16 in the standings. At Pocono, five "Young Guns" finished in the top seven, and that included Hendrick Motorsports' baby-faced trio of Alex Bowman, William Byron and Chase Elliott.

- NASCAR's experiment with "enhanced weekends" that cut the on-track portion of an event from three days to two has been a boon to teams and given the road warriors a breather from the grueling 38-race schedule. Pocono was a two-day event, which led to a lengthy post-qualifying inspection process in which many cars failed. The trade-off was worth it to those who put in double shifts at the track each weekend.

"Anything that keeps us home an extra day is good for me," said Busch crew chief Adam Stevens. "I have a family, most of us do, and if we can spend some extra time with them, it takes a little stress off the year. I think it's the right way to go."

Maybe the sky isn't falling the focus too often takes a sinister slant. But that's on NASCAR to clean up — and only NASCAR knows the size of the project.

SOCCER: MLS All-Star Game



Portuguese ace Ronaldo gives the thumbs-up sign as he arrives to undergo medical checks at the Juventus stadium in Turin, Italy.

Ibrahimovic joins Ronaldo in skipping MLS All-Star Game

By PAUL NEWBERRY
Associated Press

ATLANTA — The MLS All-Star Game will feature one of the world's most storied clubs.

Unfortunately for the more than 70,000 fans expected at Mercedes-Benz Stadium, Cristiano Ronaldo is not along for the ride.

After Portugal's elimination from the World Cup and his transfer from Real Madrid, the five-time FIFA Player of the Year took time off rather than accompany Juventus on its American preseason tour, which includes Wednesday night's game against top players from Major League Soccer.

The decision will surely be a disappointment to the big crowd that had hoped Ronaldo would make his unofficial debut with Italy's reigning Serie A champions while touring the United States.

Juventus acquired the 33-year-old from Real Madrid on July 10 in a deal the Serie A champion said was worth 112 million euros (\$131.5 million) — the largest for a player older than 30.

Also sitting out the U.S. tour, which includes three other exhibitions, is Argentine striker Gonzalo Higuain. He is coming off a scoreless World Cup in which he didn't statty in the round of 16 loss to eventual champion France.

"Obviously these guys are world-class players," said Atlanta United's Brad Guzan, a goalkeeper for the MLS team. "With or without them, it will be a difficult game. But their names alone bring a lot of attention. It's a shame for everybody on the outside. For me, personally, hopefully it makes for an easier night."

Most players take three weeks off after the World Cup. Juventus opens its Serie A schedule at Chievo Verona from Aug. 18-20.

"We are sorry not to have the Ronaldo, and Higuain as well," Juventus coach Massimiliano Allegri said through a translator. "Unfortunately, they played in the World Cup. They needed some days to rest."

Ronaldo and Higuain won't be the only big names missing from the game.

One of MLS' top new stars, LA Galaxy forward Zlatan Ibrahimovic, announced Monday that he's skipping the All-Star match rather than make a cross-country trip to Atlanta. The 36-year-old Swede cited the grind of playing three matches in an eight-day span, including Sunday night's 4-3 victory over Orlando City in which he scored his first MLS hat trick.

Ibrahimovic ranks second in MLS with 15 goals. He played with Juventus from 2004-06.

"I am disappointed to miss the 2018 All-Star game against Juventus, one of my former clubs," Ibrahimovic said in a statement. "I want to thank the fans for voting me to the team. My main focus is to score goals and help the LA Galaxy to the playoffs."

The Galaxy (10-7-5) are unbeaten in nine games and have climbed to third place in the Western Conference.

Per MLS rules, Ibrahimovic will also have to sit out LA's next match Saturday against Colorado, one of the league's worst teams.

New York City forward David Villa also will skip the All-Star Game after missing six matches with a knee injury. Ibrahimovic and Villa were replaced on the MLS roster by Minnesota forward Darwin Quintero and New York Red Bulls midfielder Tyler Adams.

Atlanta United coach Gerardo Martino, who will be guiding the MLS team, said the timing of the game does pose problems.

"In reality, I recognize it's a little bit of a challenge for coaches who have players participating," Martino said through an interpreter. "Some players are coming from teams where they've played three games (in the last week). Some had a long trip to get here, like from Vancouver. I understand it's a very beautiful spectacle for the league and the United States.

But I think what we have to look at in the future is to have it at a different time, either before or after the season.

"We have to make sure the players arriving here in good condition are also returning to their teams in good condition."

NFL: Concussion Settlement

NFL concussion claims hit \$500 million in less than 2 years

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — More than \$500 million in claims were approved as of Monday under the NFL's concussion settlement, nearly a decade earlier than league officials estimated they would reach that amount.

Claims administrators in the settlement released an updated report on the concussion settlement information website saying about \$502 million had been approved in less than two years of the settlement. The original actuarial estimates from the NFL estimated a little more than \$400 million

would be paid out in the first decade.

Attorneys for the retired players adjusted their estimates on the total payout of expected claims earlier this month, saying the settlement would likely reach \$1.4 billion — almost a half billion more than the NFL originally estimated.

"We encourage all eligible former players to immediately sign up for a baseline assessment, and they can take comfort in knowing that compensation will be available for more than 60 years if they develop a qualifying condition," said Christopher Seeger,

co-lead class counsel for the former NFL players. "The fact that \$500 million in claims have been approved in less than two years proves that this settlement is fulfilling its promise to former NFL players and their families."

Almost 2,000 claims have been filed in less than two years, according to the update filed Monday. Hundreds more of the nearly 20,500 retired players signed up to be prequalified to file claims than were expected, outpacing all previous projections.

As of Monday, the claims administrator

said 7,343 medical appointments to assess neurological baselines had been made and more than 6,000 had been attended.

The settlement, which took effect January 2017, resolved thousands of lawsuits that accused the NFL of hiding what it knew about the risks of repeated concussions.

It covers retired players who develop Lou Gehrig's disease, dementia or other neurological problems believed to be caused by concussions suffered during their pro careers, with awards as high as \$5 million for the most serious cases.

experts saying it had made the Paris Saint-Germain striker's image even worse.

Under the title 'A New Man Every Day,' Sunday's video was backed by personal care products maker Gillette and broadcast on several Brazilian networks.

"You may think I exaggerate. And sometimes I do exaggerate. But the truth is I suffer on the pitch," Neymar said in the advert, referring to the constant fouls he received at the World Cup.

"I took long to accept

your criticism. I took long to look at myself in the mirror and become a new man."

Marketing specialists said the advert damaged the 26-year-old player's brand as much as his histrionics did in Russia.

"The whole market waited 15 days since the end of the World Cup to hear from him," Amir Somoggi, a partner at marketing company Sports Value said.

"He gave some interviews, but did not admit

his exaggerations then. Now he has hidden behind a TV ad to do that. This was great for the sponsor, after all we are talking about the brand. But it was not good for Neymar, who now has an even bigger image crisis to handle."

SOCCER: Brazil

Neymar under fire after World Cup 'mea culpa' advertisement

Associated Press

SAO PAULO — Neymar's decision to use a sponsored advert to admit he sometimes overreacted to fouls at the World Cup has backfired, with Brazilian marketing

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Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like BkNYM pFC, BkNova g, BankUtd, etc.

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Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, 1000s, Last, YTD, %Chg. Includes entries like L Brands, L-3 Tech, LC3 Inds, etc.

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Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, 1000s, Last, YTD, %Chg. Includes entries like M&T Bk, M&T Bk wt, M&T Bk wt, etc.

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Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, 1000s, Last, YTD, %Chg. Includes entries like NCI BidSf, NCR Corp, NGL EnPt, etc.

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Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, 1000s, Last, YTD, %Chg. Includes entries like OCI Ptrs, OFG Bncp, OFG pfA, etc.

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P-Q

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like PBF Engy (PBF), PBF Log (PBF), and PGM Fund (PCM).

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Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like PenRe pE (PEIPe), PenRe pF (PEIPf), and PenRe pG (PEIPg).

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like PenRe pH (PEIPh), PenRe pI (PEIPi), and PenRe pJ (PEIPj).

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Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like PenRe pN (PEIPn), PenRe pO (PEIPO), and PenRe pP (PEIPP).

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Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like PSBMetDN (DBC), PSBMetDO (DBV), and PSBMetDP (DBE).

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like PSBMetDQ (DBP), PSBMetDR (DBS), and PSBMetDS (DBA).

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Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like PubSt pF (PSAPf), PubSt pG (PSAPg), and PubSt pH (PSAPh).

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Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like TCF Fw wt, TCF deo pIC, TCF pIC, etc.

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NYSE

Table of NYSE stock market data including columns for Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol, YTD %Chg, and columns for Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol, YTD %Chg.

Nasdaq

Table of Nasdaq stock market data including columns for Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol, YTD %Chg, and columns for Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol, YTD %Chg.

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Nasdaq

Main table containing Nasdaq stock listings with columns for Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD, and %Chg. Includes sub-sections for -B-, -C-, and -D-.

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Table with columns: Ticker Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol 1000s, YTD Last %Chg

E

Main table E containing various stock tickers and their financial data.

F

Main table F containing various stock tickers and their financial data.

Table with columns: Ticker Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol 1000s, YTD Last %Chg

G

Main table G containing various stock tickers and their financial data.

H

Main table H containing various stock tickers and their financial data.

Table with columns: Ticker Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol 1000s, YTD Last %Chg

I

Main table I containing various stock tickers and their financial data.

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Nasdaq

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Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like J&J Snack, J2Global, JD.com, etc.

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Nasdaq

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, YTD Last %Chg, Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, YTD Last %Chg, Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, YTD Last %Chg. Includes sections for O-Q, P-Q, R-R, and S-S.

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Nasdaq

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like TMUS, TATT, CGBD, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like TWLV, FOXA, TWNET, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like VERTX, VERU, VIAT, etc.

Money Market Funds

Large table listing Money Market Funds with columns: Fund, Avg Maturity, Avg Yield, Fund, Avg Maturity, Avg Yield, Fund, Avg Maturity, Avg Yield, Fund, Avg Maturity, Avg Yield. Includes entries like Cash Account Tr, Fidelity Government Port, etc.

X-Y-Z

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like XG Tech rs, XOMA rs, XTL Bio rs, etc.

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Top 20 Mutual Funds

By Year-to-Date Percent Return

Table with columns: Name, Obj, Pct Load, NAV, YTD, Phone Number. Lists top 20 mutual funds by year-to-date percent return.

By Total Net Assets

Table with columns: Name, Obj, Total Assets, Percent Return/Rank, YTD, 5-Yr, Pct Load. Lists top 20 mutual funds by total net assets.

By 4-Week Percent Return

Table with columns: Name, Obj, Pct Load, NAV, 4-Wk Rtn, YTD, Phone Number. Lists top 20 mutual funds by 4-week percent return.

Continued from previous page

Continuation of the Top 20 Mutual Funds table by Year-to-Date Percent Return, listing funds from Vala m to EqnGr m.

Mutual Funds

Main table of Mutual Funds with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD, 3-yr Rtn/Rk. Lists various mutual funds including Arbitrage, Ariel, Aristote, Artisan, Ashmore, Auxier, Ave Maria, BBH, BMO, BNY Mellon, Baird, Baron, Berkshire, Bernstein, Berwyn, Bishop Street, BlackRock, Barrett Associates, Bogle Investment Man, Boston Partners, Boston Trust, Bragg Capital Trust, Brandes, Bridges, Bridgeway, Brookfield Investors, Buecker, Bunker Advisory, Bruce, Buffalo, Brue, CIBC, CM, CDM, Calamos, CG Capital Markets, Conifer, CorFi, CorFin, Calvert, Cambiar.

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Continuation of the Mutual Funds table, listing funds from HYBdSv b to HYBdK.

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Mutual Funds

Table with 15 columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk, Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk, Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk, Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk. The table lists various mutual funds such as IntlEqInv, SmCpInvt, Carillon, Center Coast Capital, Champlain, City National Rochda, ClearBridge, Crossmark Steward, Cullen, Cutler, DFA, Clermont, Cohen & Steers, Colorado BondShares, Columbia, Eaton Vance, Fidelity, and Edgewood, among others.

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Mutual Funds

Table of mutual funds with columns for Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk, and 5-yr Rtn/Rk. Includes sub-sections like Fidelity Advisor, Fidelity Select, and Frost Funds.

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Table with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk. Lists various mutual funds such as BinRsrCorEqA, BinRsrCorEqL, CAMuniBdA, etc.

Mutual Funds

Table with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk. Lists various mutual funds such as SelEqOpporlts, SelEqOpporR5, SelEqOpporSvc, etc.

Mutual Funds

Table with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk. Lists various mutual funds such as 1919, FinclSvcsA, FinclSvcsC, etc.

Mutual Funds

Table with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk. Lists various mutual funds such as LdtTrmGvtY, LdtTrmAlcPa, LdtTrmAlcPc, etc.

Continued from previous page

Mutual Funds

Table with columns for Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk, Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk, Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk, Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk. Contains fund names like HYMndBdInst, HYSpectrumA m, HYSpectrumI2, HYSpectrumInstl, etc.

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Table of mutual funds with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk. Includes categories like Third Avenue, Thompson, Thorburn, Valinc Co I, Valinc Co II, Vanguard, Vericimetry, Westmark, Westcoast, Western Asset, Wills, Wilshire, and Wintgreen Fund.

Mutual Funds

Table of mutual funds with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk. Includes categories like Valinc Co I, Valinc Co II, Vanguard, Vericimetry, Westmark, Westcoast, Western Asset, Wills, Wilshire, and Wintgreen Fund.

Mutual Funds

Table of mutual funds with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk. Includes categories like Valinc Co I, Valinc Co II, Vanguard, Vericimetry, Westmark, Westcoast, Western Asset, Wills, Wilshire, and Wintgreen Fund.

Mutual Funds

Table of mutual funds with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk. Includes categories like Valinc Co I, Valinc Co II, Vanguard, Vericimetry, Westmark, Westcoast, Western Asset, Wills, Wilshire, and Wintgreen Fund.