

# HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

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YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1919

An Edition Of The Sun

## Two men die in separate crashes Saturday

### One in Sebring and one in Lake Placid

By PHIL ATTINGER  
STAFF WRITER

LAKE PLACID — Two men died Saturday in separate crashes on Highlands County roads.

An Immokalee man died Saturday morning in a single-vehicle crash on Placid Lake Boulevard.

Uriel Martinez, 22, died in the passenger seat of

a 2000 Ford F150 that was traveling north on Placid Lakes Boulevard at 10:48 a.m. Saturday, barely more than half a mile from State Road 70.

Florida Highway Patrol reports state that for unknown reasons, while negotiating a curve to the left, the truck ran off the road on the right — on the outside of the curve

— swerved back onto the roadway then went off the road again to the right.

At that point, FHP reports state the truck overturned and rolled, eventually coming to a rest on its wheels, facing southwest on the east side of Placid Lakes Boulevard.

The crash site was 0.6 miles from the state road,

reports said.

The driver, 16-year-old Abel Bernardo Cornejo of Labelle was listed by FHP with critical injuries.

Both were wearing seat belts, reports said.

Lloyd Wofford Jr., 49, of Sebring died when his 2008 Ford F150 traveled into a pasture next to Carroll Shelby Road and overturned multiple

times. He was the only occupant.

According to FHP reports, Wofford's truck was traveling north on Carroll Shelby Road at about 3:15 p.m. Saturday, approximately one mile east of Haywood Taylor Boulevard. For unknown reasons, Wofford lost control of the vehicle and ran off the roadway,

traveling onto the shoulder of the road where it collided with a wire fence and traveled into a pasture. At that point, the truck began to rotate and overturn multiple times.

The report states the truck came to a final rest in the pasture facing southeast.

WRECK | 8A



## Local hit and run cases part of bigger picture

By MELISSA MAIN  
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — Highlands County had 184 hit and run crashes in 2018, and one bicyclist died as a result of a hit and run crash. Eight people were seriously injured, and three of those with serious injuries were pedestrians.

On Feb. 11, 2018, Juan Hernandez-Martinez, 64, died from a hit and run crash. A vehicle struck his bicycle on County Road 621 near Victory Way in Placid Lakes. The Florida Highway Patrol doesn't have any additional information on this case.

In 2017, another life was lost in a hit and run crash, and the case remains unsolved. On Oct. 28, 2017, around 3 a.m., an unknown vehicle was traveling south on Lakeshore Drive and struck a pedestrian in the vicinity of the centerline on Lakeshore Drive. The vehicle fled the scene, the FHP reports. The pedestrian, Steven William Arnold, 20, of Lorida, died from sustained injuries.

In nearby Lake Wales, Leonard Wimberly Jr., 56, of Haines City, died on Nov. 4, 2017, when he was struck by a motorist while he was on his three-wheeled bike on Masterpiece Road. The FHP doesn't have any additional information

CASES | 8A

### Statewide statistics

In 1 out of 4 crashes, the driver leaves the scene when there is property damage or injury.

In 2018, 198 people died in Florida from hit and run crashes — 116 were pedestrians and 30 were bicyclists.

More than 84 percent of hit and run crashes involved property damage only. No injuries occurred.

The age group most likely to be involved in a hit and run crash is the 20-29 year old group.

Source: Florida Highway Patrol

## Senior Expo exceeds previous year attendance



A trio of helpers gather information for a guest at the AdventHealth Sebring booth at Saturday's Senior Expo and Family Extravaganza at Lakeshore Mall. From left: Lisa Cooper with the volunteer services department; Bennie Hicks, manager of the hospital's wound care center, and Carmen Rivera, Marketing Department coordinator.



PHIL ATTINGER/STAFF

Gina Lozada, left, tests blood pressure for Ventia Wagner at the Ridge Technical College booth at Saturday's Senior Expo and Family Extravaganza at Lakeshore Mall. Lozada, with the licensed practical nurse program, was trying out a new wrist-mounted blood pressure cuff, but found the old-fashioned way worked better.

## Highlands News-Sun hosts second Expo at Lakeshore Mall

By PHIL ATTINGER  
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — It might have been the well-stocked information booths by vendors throughout Lakeshore Mall. It might have been "Kid Zone!" with Tom's Laser Tag, Putt Putt Golf and a dance contest for kids.

It might also have been the live entertainment in the Lakeshore Mall parking lot, where at the end of one set by Raisin' Cain, audience members got up to dance to Led Zeppelin's "Rock 'n' Roll." Some even stayed until the very end to hear Hard Candy rock. For all those reasons and many others, Saturday's 2019 Highlands News-Sun Senior Expo and Family Extravaganza drew a bigger crowd than last year, with some vendors even running out of materials from the rush or visitors.

"We have determined we are coming back next year," said Mark Stewart of Stewart Construction. "We've got a lot of viable leads."

Stewart counted 1,500-2,000 people visiting his booth in the early part of the day. A fellow vendor, Jennifer Edwards of Family Elder Law, completely ran out of materials by noon during the 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. event indoors.

Edwards reportedly "sold out" of everything in the rush, and was



Highlands Little Theatre's 'Mad Hatters' perform a stage-read show — playing parts from a read script — on the main stage during Saturday's Senior Expo and Family Extravaganza at Lakeshore Mall.

"impressed."

Bobbie Clark with AdventHealth Sebring booth said after the rush visitors were "nice and steady" asking about providers and the hospital's primary care physicians.

Sara Rosenbaum, volunteer manager with AdventHealth, said during the lunch hour that they expected to run out of materials and giveaway bags, too.

Carmen Rivera, AdventHealth Sebring Marketing Department coordinator, said she enjoyed telling visitors about how interventional cardiologists at AdventHealth had found she had pericardium inflammation — the sack



CLIFF YEAZEL/STAFF

Sophie Rushing, 3, dances to the music of Hard Candy. Her grandpa said she loves the rock band and likes to go wherever they are playing.

around her heart had become swollen — and were able to fix the problem through catheterization.

Mostly, Rivera said, she and others at the hospital's booth had to tell people they were, in fact, Florida Hospital under a new name, not an entirely new hospital.

Although, Rosenbaum had to admit that once they add on enough new doctors and services, they would practically be a new facility.

One visitor, Ventia Wagner of Crown Point, Indiana, said she'd wintered in Lake Placid for 19 years, but hadn't

EXPO | 8A

## Klein/Rivera to perform Wednesday

### At South Florida State College

By MARC VALERO  
STAFF WRITER

AVON PARK — Broadway icon Chita Rivera and legendary funnyman Robert Klein will take the stage Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Alan Jay Wildstein Center for the Performing



Robert Klein

Chita Rivera will recreate signature moments from her legendary career

Arts at South Florida State College.

Tony Award winner

including numbers from "West Side Story," "Sweet Charity," "Chicago," "Kiss of the Spider Woman," "Bye, Bye, Birdie," "The Rink" and "The Visit."

Robert Klein is a pioneer in modern stand-up comedy who inspired heavyweights like

Jay Leno and Jerry Seinfeld. Klein regularly appears on talk shows, making more than 100 appearances on "The Tonight Show" and "The Late Show."

Born in the Bronx, he was a member of the famed "Second City" theatrical troupe in Chicago.

Klein spoke with Highlands News-Sun recently about his career and upcoming performance at SFSC.

Highlands News-Sun noted Klein's dentist office visit routine from the 1970s.

Klein said he

SFSC | 8A Chita Rivera



COURTESY PHOTOS



Classifieds..... B4  
Comics ..... News Wire  
Highlands Health..... B1

Local Sports..... A9  
Lottery ..... Sports Wire  
Viewpoints..... A5

Weather..... Sports Wire

Good morning To  
Richard McConnell  
Thanks for reading!



# “Wizard of Oz”

## Local play was 60 years ago

**BARBARA REED LANIER**  
SPECIAL TO  
HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

If you were there, you have never forgotten. Every time it comes up at a Sebring High School reunion, someone will say, “if only we had video then.”

It was the “The Wizard of Oz” performance at the Sebring High School Auditorium on Feb. 19-20, 1959 – 60 years ago.

The whole idea was that of James Thompson, a musical genius, a graduate of Juilliard, and the chorus director at Sebring High School. There had never been a musical play at SHS before, but Thompson knew he had the right talent at the right time to have a great production.

The main characters were played by Carol Lou Stubbs as Dorothy, Ronnie Sauls as the Scarecrow, Errol Lanier as the Tin Woodman, and Harold Jackson was absolutely perfect as the Cowardly Lion. Linda Piety played the Sorceress of the North (the good witch) and Helen Jane Longbottom was the Wicked Witch of the West. There were Munchkins and Jitterbugs, and the Wizard was played by Tony Cash.

More than 200 students were involved.

Most of the costumes were handmade. For instance, Errol Lanier made his Tin Woodman costume from a barrel, snake leggings, an oil funnel, welding gloves and blue jeans. He painted everything silver. Carol Lou Stubbs said they couldn’t find blue checked material like Dorothy wore in the movie, so they used red striped material. Harold Jackson’s Cowardly Lion costume was rented from someplace in New York.

The play was put on by members of the chorus, senior class and the band. Thompson was in charge of the voice and music. Tom Johnson, the senior class adviser, was in charge of the drama. Paul Gustat, the band director, put together a small group of band members to play all of the music.

Looking back now and realizing how small the stage was, it is amazing how great the sets were. All of the sets were built



The play was advertised in the Highlands County News.



A copy of the play's program.



COURTESY PHOTOS

Members of the chorus included, from left: Bonnie Fisher, Joy Martin, Harvey Piety, Mary Jane Hughes, Judy Childress, Glynis McHargue, Martha Savage. From the Highlands County News.



Carol Stubbs played Dorothy, while Errol Lanier played the Tin Woodman.

by students. There was a bridge that the characters went over and off the stage as they sang “We’re Off To See The Wizard.”

Carol Lou recalled, “I was very fortunate to be cast as Dorothy and the four of us worked well together. There was a lot of running as well as dancing. So when we needed to go from one ‘Oz’ area to another, we would leave through the auditorium and run as fast as we could with the guys helping me keep up. It seemed like we ran forever until we re-entered the auditorium and onto the stage. I remember laughing as we sprinted. Thank goodness the four of us didn’t have

to sing right away. The whole show was quite an experience.”

When singing “If I Only Had a Heart,” Errol Lanier remembers, “As I used my fist to beat where my heart should be, at the same time Steve Foster beat on the drum in the band. We had a great time.”

Ronnie Sauls has some of the same memories, “I was told I couldn’t try out because I was on the basketball team and it was felt that I wouldn’t be able to make the play practices. I showed up anyway and got the part of the Scarecrow. I had to learn to dance, that was a hoot. I missed a lot of practices and freaked out



Errol Lanier made his Tin Woodman costume out of a barrel, an oil funnel, welding gloves and snake leggings over his blue jeans — all painted silver.

over learning my lines on time.

“It was in 1959, the

same year that the Blue Streak athletics

accomplished something

that had never been done in the history of the school. We won the Ridge Conference titles in all three major sports (football, basketball and baseball). And to top off that fantastic year, we produced arguably the most memorable musical production Sebring ever saw.”

Hollywood is celebrating the 80th anniversary of the “Wizard of Oz” this month. It has been 60 years since our school made history. We are happy we were there and can share our memories of our “Wizard of Oz.”

### 5 THINGS That Will Make You SMARTER

1. Presidents Day is celebrated on the third Monday in February, thanks to the 1968 Uniform Monday Holiday Act.
2. It was established in 1885 in honor of President George Washington’s birthday.
3. Washington’s birthday was actually on Feb. 22, 1732 (this would be his 287th birthday).
4. Washington’s birthplace is a national monument and is located in Colonial Beach, Virginia.
5. There are 35 parks named American presidents, and one park that celebrates four of them (but it’s named after a New York attorney).  
- www.nationalparks.org

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# Paddles up for Humane Society annual auction

By **KIM LEATHERMAN**  
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — Going once, going twice, sold! The Humane Society of Highlands County will be hosting its annual auction at 5 p.m. Saturday, March 2 at the Jack Stroup Civic Center at 355 W. Center Ave. The fundraiser helps to cover the costs of taking care of the cats, dogs and other critters at the shelter. The night promises fun with friends, food, beer, wine and 20 bidding chips, which is included

in the price of the ticket. Tickets will be sold in advance for \$30 at the Humane Society at 7421 Haywood Taylor Blvd. If there are tickets left, they will be sold at the door. Fair warning: Last year's event sold out. A silent auction will be held, as well as a live auction and chip auction. The items to be auctioned will run the gamut from gift baskets to new household items, to wine baskets and golf packages. There should be something of interest for anyone. "We are still seeking

sponsors and for new donation items," said Judy Spiegel, president of the board of directors. Some donation items she suggested were gift cards, jewelry, art work, electronics, tools and household items. Donations can be dropped off at the shelter or call Spiegel to arrange a pick up. Gift baskets make great auction prizes and Spiegel said themes such as margarita baskets, movie ticket and candy or popcorn are popular, as well as cake pops and

chocolate baskets. Spiegel said besides Terror Tails, this is one of the larger fundraiser and always well attended. Sponsorship comes in three levels and vary in the amount of tickets and promotional items they come in. Of course, the different levels are named after animals; the highest sponsorship level is the Great Dane at \$1,000, the \$500 Labrador level and the \$250 Pit Bull. For tickets, sponsorship and other information, call 863-214-6508 or 863-243-3649.



COURTESY PHOTO

Rose is just one of the hundreds of animals at the Humane Society who is helped by the auction.

## Polk now has third rabies case 2018 total matched in just three weeks

By **PHIL ATTINGER**  
and **KIM LEATHERMAN**  
STAFF WRITERS

SEBRING — Polk County has now had its third confirmed case of rabies in the same number of weeks. Polk County Sheriff's Office Animal Control Section confirmed the case on Friday, which brings the total of rabies cases in the past month in Polk County to the same total for the entire year of 2018.

also killed by the dogs' owner. The dogs were not seriously injured. Rabies test results came back positive on Feb. 13, the day of the most recent raccoon/dog fight. These three cases should be seen as a heads-up for Highlands County, said Florida Department of Health Highlands County spokesperson Pamela Crain, even though there have been no reported cases of rabies so far this year in Highlands County. It is important to always have your pet vaccinated and remember to report animals behaving aggressively, said Sherrie Morgan, a Polk sheriff's public information officer, in an email Saturday. Rabies in humans and animals has significantly declined thanks to immunizations. However, rabies cases do happen annually and will kill most animals that contract the disease, so it's important to read up on the virus.

The Florida Health Department website, at <http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/rabies/>, says animals may be aggressive for no reason or in the case of wild animals, act especially tame. Difficulty swallowing may create drooling and an inability to eat. Since the virus affects the nervous system, animals "may stagger or become paralyzed."

### Response

Lt. Clay Kinslow, who is over Highlands County Sheriff's Office Animal Services, said calls of animals acting drunk or weird are made a priority. "Most of the time it is just distemper and the animal sometimes doesn't even make it to the facility," Kinslow said. "Whenever there is a suspected case of rabies, we call the Department of Health. If there is no bite, they may not want to spend the money to test for rabies. We would either euthanize the animal or quarantine it." Kinslow also said in any bite case, Animal Services does the paperwork for the Health Department, which then determines if treatment should be performed. "It's better to treat it if you don't have it than ignore it if you do have it," Kinslow said. "It is a death sentence."

### Prevent/treat

Kinslow said the best way to avoid rabies is to vaccinate your animals. It is a county ordinance that owners must vaccinate pets annually. It's also wise to not let pets run free and to prevent interaction with stray animals or wildlife.

### What it is

Rabies virus is a neurotropic virus, meaning it attacks the nervous system, and has a wide host range, meaning it can affect both humans and animals. Hosts include bobcats, raccoons, horses, foxes, ferrets, bats and even otters. Cats catch it more often than dogs. Pets like hamsters and mice can carry the virus but the Health Department said they do not transmit the virus to humans. Transmission occurs through saliva, most often animal saliva, and can get transmitted through a bite or scratch, or from saliva coming into contact with the eyes, nose or mouth of another animal or human.

### Symptoms

For many, the first cultural reference to rabies was in Stephen King's book "Cujo," which was released as a horror movie in 1983. The signs depicted in the movie do mirror those of actual infection.

### First case

The first confirmed case of rabies in Polk this year involved a pair of donkeys. Brian Buchey, a public information officer for the Polk County Sheriff's Office said that case was reported on Jan. 23 in Lakeland. A woman said she visited at a home on Hammock View Drive and noticed a donkey with an animal in its mouth. The homeowner and her guest saw it was a dead raccoon and called Animal Control. Rabies lab results were found to be positive on Jan. 25. Since the homeowner had two donkeys and could not tell which one was carrying the dead raccoon, both were put on a six-month quarantine.

### Second case

The second case was reported last Monday, regarding three German shepherd dogs in a fight with a raccoon in the Winter Ridge area of Auburndale. That raccoon was

## 2019 Junior Livestock Show winners

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>Commercial Heifers</b><br/>Grand Champion: Carli McWaters — showing her heifer for Parker Williams Memorial Fund<br/>Reserve Grand Champion: Baxley Hines<br/>Grand Champion Junior Showmanship: Stella Handley<br/>Reserve Grand Champion Junior Showmanship: Briley Pearce<br/>Grand Champion Intermediate Showmanship: Reagan Richards<br/>Reserve Grand Champion Intermediate Showmanship: Hannah Sheffield<br/>Grand Champion Senior Showmanship: Carli McWaters<br/>Reserve Grand Champion Senior Showmanship: Carmen Carlini (Graduating Senior)</p> <p><b>Market Steers</b><br/>Grand Champion: Reagan Richards<br/>Reserve Grand Champion: Jordan Frazier<br/>Grand Champion Junior Showmanship: Tera Lynn Price<br/>Reserve Grand Champion Junior Showmanship: Baxley Hines<br/>Grand Champion Intermediate Showmanship: Reagan Richards<br/>Reserve Grand Champion Intermediate Showmanship: Leah Addison<br/>Grand Champion Senior Showmanship: Kyle Pettis (Graduating Senior)<br/>Reserve Grand Champion Senior Showmanship: Lindsay Sapp</p> <p><b>Market Swine</b><br/>Grand Champion: Braci O'Berry<br/>Reserve Grand Champion: Cailyn McWaters<br/>Grand Champion Junior Showmanship: Reese Richards<br/>Reserve Grand Champion Junior Showmanship: Amber Young<br/>Grand Champion Intermediate Showmanship: Emma Welch<br/>Reserve Grand Champion Intermediate Showmanship: Dylan Eddington<br/>Grand Champion Senior Showmanship: Kinsey Bachman (Graduating Senior)<br/>Reserve Grand Champion Senior Showmanship: Lauren Swaine<br/>Division I Grand Champion: Amber Young<br/>Division I Reserve Champion: Jayla Cabrera<br/>Division II Grand Champion: Emma Mellow<br/>Division II Reserve Champion: Stella Handley<br/>Division III Grand Champion: Cailyn</p> | <p>McWaters<br/>Division III Reserve Champion: Rhett Whitehurst<br/>Division IV Grand Champion: Braci O'Berry<br/>Division IV Reserve Champion: Ryan Mellow</p> <p><b>Meat Goat</b><br/>Grand Champion: Cooper McWaters<br/>Reserve Grand Champion: Emily Bible (Graduating Senior)<br/>Grand Champion Junior Showmanship: Shelby Cruse<br/>Reserve Grand Champion Junior Showmanship: Cooper McWaters<br/>Grand Champion Intermediate Showmanship: Brooke Moon<br/>Reserve Grand Champion Intermediate Showmanship: Chloe LeBlanc<br/>Grand Champion Senior Showmanship: Aubrey Lanier (Graduating Senior)<br/>Reserve Grand Champion Senior Showmanship: Malakiah Ray showing Sebring FFA Chapter Goat</p> <p><b>Poultry</b><br/>Grand Champion Hen: Wyatt Lundy<br/>Reserve Grand Champion Hen: Cassidy Sears<br/>Grand Champion Rooster: Wyatt Lundy<br/>Grand Champion Trio (Two Hens and a Rooster): Wyatt Lundy<br/>Grand Champion Junior Showmanship: Cassidy Sears<br/>Grand Champion Intermediate Showmanship: William Barben<br/>Reserve Grand Champion Intermediate Showmanship: Wyatt Lundy<br/>(Other categories did not have participants)</p> <p><b>Rabbits</b><br/>Grand Champion Doe: Trace Lackey<br/>Reserve Grand Champion Doe: Scarlett Lackey<br/>Grand Champion Buck: William Rivera<br/>Reserve Grand Champion Buck: Adam Epps<br/>Grand Champion Junior Showmanship: Reese Richards<br/>Reserve Grand Champion Junior Showmanship: Scarlett Lackey<br/>Grand Champion Intermediate Showmanship: Jackie Lackey<br/>Reserve Grand Champion Intermediate Showmanship: Heather Stewart<br/>Grand Champion Senior Showmanship: Phoebe Lackey<br/>Reserve Grand Champion Senior</p> |
|--|---|

WINNERS | 7A

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# VIEWPOINTS

## HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1919

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SUN

### ANOTHER VIEW

## Human decency is just common sense

Florida legislators, no matter their party — and no matter their gender — have shown a heartening amount of empathy for incarcerated women on an issue that affects them, uniquely.

On Monday, the state Senate Criminal Justice Committee unanimously approved the Dignity for Incarcerated Women Act. The legislation would guarantee that women behind bars have free and unlimited access to hygiene products.

It's not an issue that makes the front pages.

However, prison beatings — and murders — sexual assaults and bribery are not the only indignities to which prisoners are subjected. Finding their voices in the era of #MeToo, advocates say that women in jail, prison, holding facilities and even juvenile detention, depend on the whims of prison guards who might withhold sanitary items, giving them a few tissues instead — or nothing at all. Often, the women are forced to buy such basic necessities in the prison store.

The Act would also prohibit male corrections officers from performing strip and cavity searches on women. It's already a Department of Corrections rule. However, it's not a law and, advocates say, it's not enforced.

It shouldn't take a law to force corrections employees and the administrators who should be holding them accountable to perform their jobs, however stressful and difficult, with a modicum of human decency. Since that seems to be the case, however, lawmakers in subsequent review committees should move this proposal on to the full Legislature where, it is hoped, it would be unanimously approved. This should not still be an issue.

Hopefully, it is just one step toward the criminal justice reforms that in Florida, and across the country, have gotten the attention of lawmakers, law enforcement officials and even President Trump.

In his Feb. 5 State of the Union address, for instance, Trump drew lawmakers' bipartisan applause when he mentioned the First Step Act, approved by Congress in December. The legislation, among other things, lets judges diverge from unyielding minimum mandatory sentences and allows those imprisoned for non-violent crimes to qualify for early release.

It is long overdue recognition of the costs — human and financial — of blind, mass incarceration in this country.

In Florida, the Dignity for Incarcerated Women Act, too, is considered a "first step."

*An editorial from the Miami Herald.*

## The right blend for our economy

Lucienne Pears has moved to the private sector from her job as Charlotte County's economic development director, but her strategic vision remains as cogent as ever.

We were particularly struck by a statement Pears made recently at Team Punta Gorda's annual meeting, where she was a guest speaker.

"Economic development is not Starbucks," she told the crowd.

Print it on a coffee mug.

The point, as we take it, was that people typically think public economic development means attracting new businesses to town: a coffee shop, grocery store or auto dealership.

That's fine. Given the right population and demographics, they'll come.

What matters most is creating the underlying foundation that supports new industry or the expansion of existing industry. And good jobs, here for the long term.

The "building blocks" noted by Pears and the person who replaced her in the county, Dave Gammon, included civic leadership, workforce development, appropriate infrastructure and an attractive quality of life. Create a healthy environment and the economy will grow.

Or, perhaps, start with great beans, add a good roast and bring home a double latte macchiato, extra shot.

*An editorial from the Charlotte Sun.*



## Where are our manners?



AT RANDOM

Romona Washington

One of my habits, possibly a bad one, is to start my day by reading news stories from across the globe. That comes after my morning devotion. Part of me wonders if I should reverse that because goodness knows there are plenty of things we should be praying for across this world, not to mention right here at home.

I end my day getting caught up on those things that I might have missed throughout the day.

Reading all of this from a computer screen or my phone may explain the occasional stiffness in my neck. I think I've heard it referred to as tech neck. With three monitors on my desk, who would have thought?!

One story that I read recently I read from Southern Living posed the question "Are 'Yes Ma'am' and 'No, Sir' things of the past?" Living

here in the South, my initial reaction was thinking it was a ridiculous question. However, I read beyond the headline (I know better than to read the headline only).

The writer, Elizabeth Passarella, tells about instructing her children to "turn on your Memphis manners." She said that's shorthand for remembering to say "please" and "thank you"; looking adults in the eye when they speak; and using a fork.

Passarella quizzed her friends (even online) about what manners they are teaching their children. Surprisingly, she discovered the responses were about half and half. Some still impress upon their children the respect given when answering "Ma'am" and "Sir." The other half said it's no big deal. She said one friend went so far as to say she found the manners to be oppressive as a kid. She felt there are enough people who are "polite and respectful" without using formalities that she wasn't going to raise her sons to use them.

So now we are calling manners "formalities." Am I the only one who

sees a problem with this? I don't make a habit of calling my parents "Ma'am" and "Sir," but I do give them the utmost respect and treat them with such. Others, even those who are younger than myself, will often be referred to with a "Ma'am" or "Sir." It's not that I'm trying to raise them to a higher level of class distinction or privilege, I'm simply showing respect.

If we adults fail to teach our children these signs of respect, what other manners are we failing to teach them. Is that why many young men wear their pants down around their butts and young ladies don't care how much of a cleavage, midsection or butt cheek they show? Is a lack of manners why so many fail to stand when the American flag passes by in a parade or why hats are not removed when walking inside a building? Is it why parents don't hesitate to scream at their children while shopping, or vice versa and allow the children to scream and throw fits in the grocery aisle?

I remember one Sunday when my children

were quite young, we were walking up the steps at the church and my mind must have been somewhere else when we got out of the car because my little boy darted ahead of me and stepped inside the church doors as I gasped. Before he could take another step, I snatched his ballcap off his head. He loved that hat and wore it everywhere. Why did I not notice it before we got to the building?

We had a long talk after church about why he shouldn't wear a hat inside a building, never, ever in a church building. He still likes to wear his hat and I don't mind it so much inside buildings, but he's never tried to wear one inside a church again.

I do see where we can become a little relaxed about some manners, I guess, but using "Sir" and "Ma'am" is a must-do as far as I'm concerned. What do you think?

*Romona Washington is executive editor of the Highlands News-Sun and Highlands Sun. Contact her by email at romona.washington@highlandsnewssun.com.*

### YOUR VIEW

#### Residents deserve better access

Highlands Park Estates homeowners, one year ago today I attempted to stop the construction of a \$500,000 clubhouse at Deerglen in HPE, by handing out a survey to anyone who was willing to listen to my plea.

The clubhouse is about to have a Certificate of Occupancy, and after no input from my survey, the association needs to be stopped by a community effort when they have their first meeting at the clubhouse. There are no recorded documents, if they exist, and by these individuals collecting money for dues and potluck dinners, they are breaking the law.

If a real estate lawyer is reading this, please contact me at my P.O. Box, which is public record.

By refusing to provide

association documents, they are in violation of Florida Statute 723.079, also 720.304(1) All common areas and recreational facilities serving any homeowners' association shall be available to parcel owners in the homeowners' association served thereby and their invited guests for the use intended for such common areas and recreational facilities. The entity or entities responsible for the operation of the common areas and recreational facilities may adopt reasonable rules and regulations pertaining to the use of such common areas and recreational facilities. No entity or entities shall unreasonably restrict any parcel owner's right to access.

The pedestrian gate needs to be unlocked for residents to access park.

Beth Degnan  
Lake Placid

#### It's hard to be fair in taxation

In regard to the national debt, it isn't hard to Google how much our debt was increased during the Obama Administration. It nearly doubled. Everyone wants free education, free health care, free everything.

The working people of this country cannot pay for all this free stuff and send billions of dollars to other countries while we have people here homeless and hungry. We need to find ways to help, not hinder, those unemployed, on welfare or drugs. Too many are abusing the system.

Kids aren't kids anymore thanks to computers and smartphones. The family life we once knew is almost gone. How many sit down to three meals a day with your children? Do you

communicate with them?

I pray for our country and leaders every day. This is the greatest and richest country in the world. We're proud of it. Foreigners are welcome to come here legally.

It's hard to be fair when taxing the rich and the common people of this country. One thing I know, you can't make everyone equal by taking from the rich and distributing it to the poor, or you become a Socialist, and you know the one in control of this will have his pockets full; he won't be distributing his wealth.

Everyone has choices and opportunities in this great country. Use the resources available to better yourself. Quote from President Reagan, "If we ever forget that we're one country under God, then we will be a nation gone under."

Darlene D. Foos  
Sebring

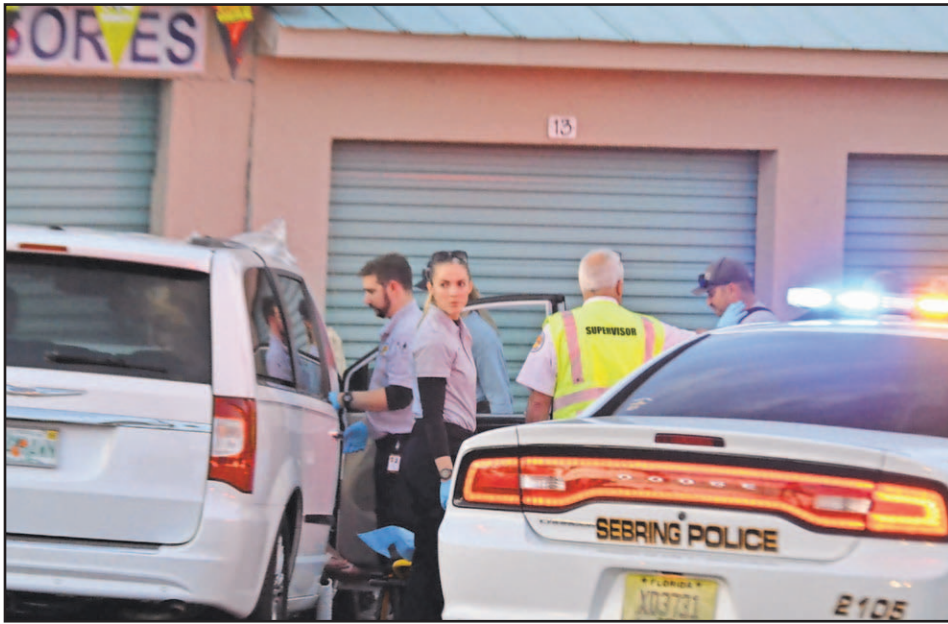
#### JOIN THE CONVERSATION

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.



PHIL ATTINGER/STAFF

Highlands County Emergency Medical Services on Friday evening tend to the passenger in a van that ran off U.S. 27 that night. The driver, 91-year-old Eugene Geringer of Sebring, was unresponsive and later pronounced dead at a nearby hospital, said Sebring Police Cmdr. Curtis Hart. His wife, as yet unnamed by police, was in the passenger seat.

## Driver collapses behind wheel, runs off U.S. 27 SPD: Could not be revived

By PHIL ATTINGER  
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — A 91-year-old Sebring man collapsed Friday evening behind the steering wheel while on U.S. 27, sending his minivan, with him and his wife inside, off the highway. Eugene Geringer was later pronounced dead at a nearby hospital, said Sebring Police Cmdr. Curtis Hart. His wife, as yet unnamed by police, survived the crash that followed and was also transported to a nearby hospital with non-life threatening injuries. Police and Florida state troopers investigated

the scene until "very late Friday night," Hart said. It started shortly before 6 p.m., Hart said, based on 911 calls. The couple was northbound on U.S. 27 in their white 2014 Chrysler Town & Country minivan. As they approached Northwood Boulevard, just north of Sebring Parkway, Geringer slumped over in the seat, unconscious and unresponsive, according to statements from his wife to police. The van veered off the road to the right approximately at Northwood; continued down Frontage Road; hit a couple of power poles, a culvert and

a mailbox, and came to a stop against a building at Christine's Golf Carts. The first officer on the scene was Sgt. Rick Little, Hart said. Little was able to pull Geringer from the van and start cardiopulmonary resuscitation until Highlands County Emergency Medical Services arrived and took over, Hart said. EMS crews then took him to a nearby hospital. AdventHealth Sebring was the closest. Emergency Room doctors also tried to revive Geringer. They officially declared him dead at 6:33 p.m., Hart said.

## POLICE BLOTTER

The following people were arrested on felony charges and booked into the Highlands County jail on Feb. 8:

Emilio Stephen Cardenas, 23, Lake Placid, on charges of smuggling contraband, two charges of drug possession and two charges of drug equipment possession. Victor Antonio Delagua, 27, Sebring, on charges of marijuana possession, drug possession, possession of a weapon by convicted felon, drug equipment possession and probation violation. Robert Eugene Griffith, 23, Sebring, charged with probation violation. Joseph William Pennington, 37, Naples, on charges of larceny and driving with suspended license. Christopher Martin Scroogs, 46, Avon Park, charged with driving on suspended license. Shannima Yuantrell Session, 41, Lake Placid, charged with probation violation. Victoria Ann Steward, 53, Lake Placid, on charges of drug equipment possession and two counts of drug possession. The following people were arrested on felony charges and booked into the Highlands County jail on Feb. 9:

Terrence Arnold Bell, 72, Lake Placid, charged with aggravated assault with deadly weapon without intent to kill. Ashley Michelle Cecil, 23, Lake Placid, charged with larceny. Elizabeth Natasha Collins, 18, Lake Placid, on charges of larceny, marijuana distribution and drug equipment possession. Jilmiere Espada, 26, Florida, on charges of marijuana possession, drug equipment possession and marijuana distribution. Steven Jean Miller, 42, Clewiston, charged with driving while license is

suspended.

The following people were arrested on felony charges and booked into the Highlands County jail on Feb. 10:

Joseph Angel Perez, 39, Sebring, charged with probation violation. Nicholas Garrett Smith, 22, Sebring, on charges of drug possession and drug equipment possession. The following people were arrested on felony charges and booked into the Highlands County jail on Feb. 11: Marquis Sharod Bellamy, 25, Lake Placid, on three charges of probation violation. Jamaal Joseph Corchado Santia, 32, Sebring, charged with fleeing/eluding police. Kevin Wayne Grice, 31, Avon Park, charged with probation violation. Itellus Junior Morency, 35, Avon Park, on charges of cocaine possession and drug equipment possession. Danielle Kimberly Tribbett, 18, Sebring, charged with aggravated assault with deadly weapon without intent to kill. Krista Lynn White, 43, Sebring, charged with battery. The following people were arrested on felony charges and booked into the Highlands County jail on Feb. 12:

Brechi Shanique Butler, 23, Tampa, charged with larceny. Jevonne Dwayne Claitt, 24, Avon Park, on two charges of probation violation. Elizabeth Evelyn Harris, 50, Sebring, on charges of contempt of court, drug possession and smuggling contraband. Michael Todd Heathcock, 52, Avon Park, on charges of probation violation, drug equipment possession and drug possession. Michael Dean Patton, 30, Sebring, charged with probation violation. Dawn Elizabeth Pelham, 37, Lake Wales,

charged with probation violation. Antonio Lenwood Washington, 52, Sebring, charged with crimes against a person. The following people were arrested on felony charges and booked into the Highlands County jail on Feb. 13:

Blake Vincent Arthurs, 31, Tampa, on charges of larceny and illegal use of credit cards. Shawn Matthew Edmondson, 34, Avon Park, on charges of drug equipment possession, possession of a weapon and drug possession. Claudia Magdalena Esparza, 41, Lake Placid, on two charges of probation violation. Daniel Garcia, 18, Avon Park, on charges of marijuana possession, burglary and smuggling contraband. William Thomas Hinton, 54, Sebring, charged with sexual predator violation. Jean Lee Houle, 18, Avon Park, charged with burglary. Cody Adam Nicholas, 27, Sebring, charged with probation violation. The following people were arrested on felony charges and booked into the Highlands County jail on Feb. 14:

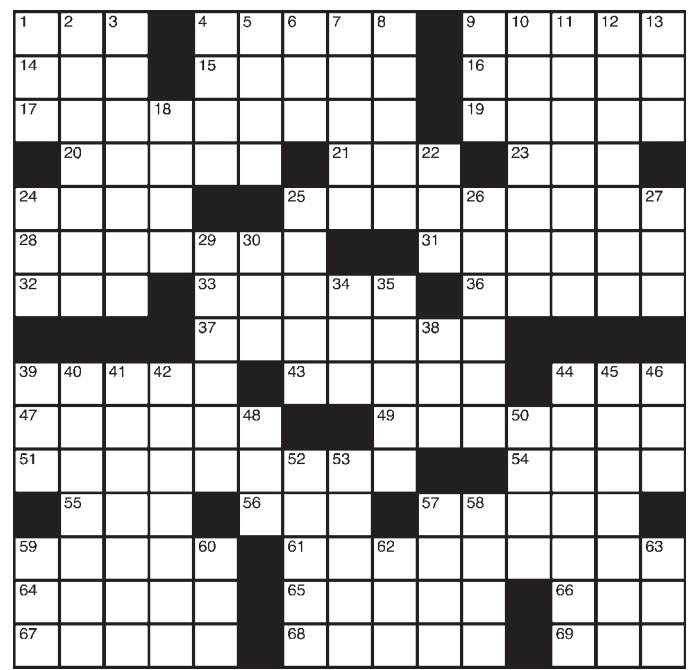
Danny Ray Austin, 44, Sebring, charged with battery. Nathaniel Caraballo, 59, Sebring, on charges of aggravated assault with deadly weapon and possession of a weapon by convicted felon. Troy Dillon Kline, 39, Sebring, charged with cruelty towards a child. Wayne Eugene Reed, 35, Sebring, on charges of opium possession, destroying evidence, resisting an officer, drug equipment possession and probation violation. Derrek Keshawn Riley, 42, Sebring, on charges of battery, drug equipment possession and marijuana possession.

## Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

### ACROSS

- 1 Class-conscious gp.
- 4 Big name in underwear
- 9 Near-sighted Mr.
- 14 \_\_\_-de-sac
- 15 Conical home
- 16 Do penance
- 17 Extreme-weather restriction, perhaps
- 19 Dwindled
- 20 Krispy \_\_\_ doughnuts
- 21 Chat room chuckle
- 23 Japanese computer giant
- 24 18-wheeler
- 25 Title bear of '60s TV
- 28 A flirt may bat one
- 31 Mount McKinley, now
- 32 '60s "acid"
- 33 Like baggy pants
- 36 Bewilder
- 37 Brit's trash can
- 39 Paris' river
- 43 Boxing's "Iron Mike"
- 44 Yahoo! rival
- 47 Obtain through intimidation, as money
- 49 Attached, as hotel rooms
- 51 Classic French song whose title means "It's so good"
- 54 Unexpected thing to hit
- 55 Cornfield sound
- 56 Suffix with iso- or poly-
- 57 Footnote abbr.
- 59 Sci-fi author Verne
- 61 Frank holder
- 64 Leaning
- 65 Battery post
- 66 Absorbed, as a loss
- 67 Fishing line holders
- 68 What a rooster rules
- 69 Like seven U.S. flag stripes



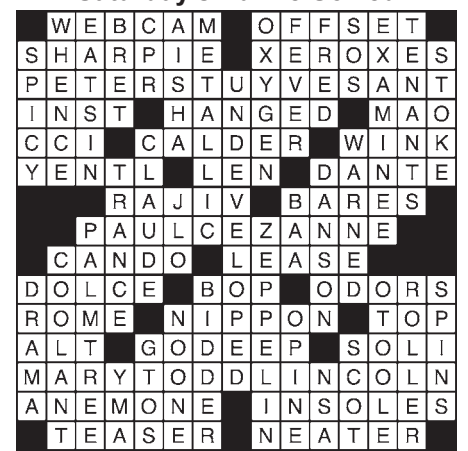
By Kurt Krauss

2/18/19

### DOWN

- 1 Cut for an agt.
- 2 Thanksgiving birds
- 3 Fearful
- 4 Flower part
- 5 Brazilian soccer legend
- 6 Msg. for a cop car
- 7 "Their Eyes Were Watching God" novelist Zora \_\_\_ Hurston
- 8 Arc lamp gas
- 9 Animal's gullet
- 10 Finished
- 11 (Having) spoiled
- 12 Like amoebas
- 13 Wordsmith's ref.
- 18 Wedding wear
- 22 Inc., in Toronto
- 24 French salt
- 25 White-sheet wearer, on Halloween
- 26 Singer Rimes and soaps actress Hunley
- 27 Never, in Neuss
- 29 Birch family trees
- 30 Not worth a \_\_\_
- 34 Hog's home
- 35 "Barnaby Jones" star Buddy
- 38 + or - particle

### Saturday's Puzzle Solved



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- 39 "Just a \_\_\_!"
- 40 Carry out, as a task
- 41 "Don't believe that!"
- 42 Ailing
- 44 Hotel room amenity
- 45 It's a law
- 46 Opposite of pos.
- 48 Comic Conway
- 50 Maritime safety gp.
- 52 Joy of "The View"
- 53 Maine college town
- 57 Sports betting numbers
- 58 Browning or Burns
- 59 Pickle container
- 60 Ave. crossers
- 62 As well
- 63 Beatty of "Deliverance"

### Answer to previous puzzle



2/18/19

## Newsday Crossword

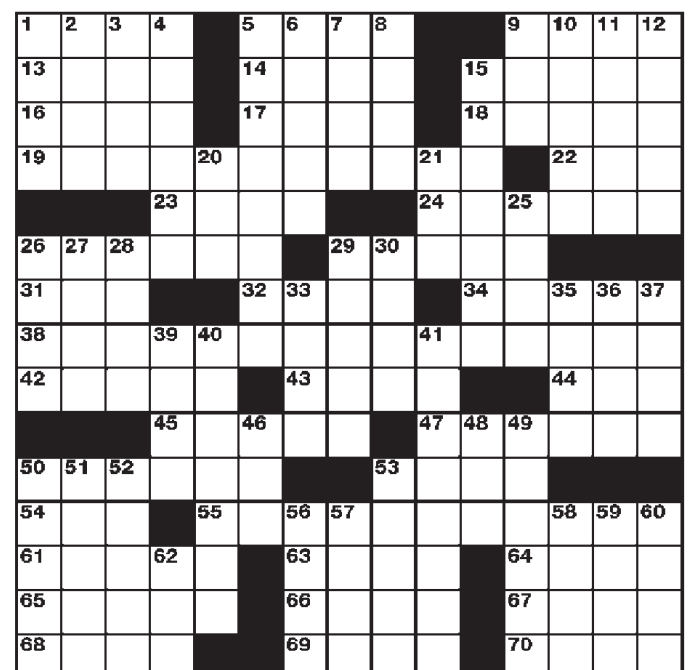
GETTING COLDER by Sandy Fein  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
www.stanxwords.com

### ACROSS

- 1 Arrests, infomally
- 5 Sleep in a tent
- 9 Police alerts, for short
- 13 Farmland measure
- 14 Black-and-white cookie
- 15 Freezing rain
- 16 Opposite of "Count me out!"
- 17 Christmas carol
- 18 Song from the '50s or '60s
- 19 Vent one's annoyance
- 22 Become more mature
- 23 Part for an actor
- 24 Bank person taking your deposit
- 26 African wildlife tour
- 29 New \_\_\_, India
- 31 Be in debt
- 32 Lower-left PC key
- 34 Nebraska city
- 38 Cannot be verified, as an excuse
- 42 Even if, for short
- 43 Valentine's Day flower
- 44 Prefix meaning "three"
- 45 Devoured
- 47 Called up
- 50 Garage for planes
- 53 Plaintiff in court
- 54 "Without further \_\_\_ . . ."
- 55 Start a conversation
- 61 Bottom-line figure

### DOWN

- 7 Be introduced to
- 8 Fishing rod
- 9 Everyone
- 10 Accelerator or brake
- 11 Light brown color
- 12 Take the wheel
- 15 One way or another
- 20 In favor of
- 21 Ocean east of the USA
- 25 Capital of Peru
- 26 Cola or root beer
- 27 Military no-show: Abbr.
- 28 12-inch lengths
- 29 Sag
- 30 Right-angle shapes
- 33 Drive-\_\_\_ window
- 35 Mail routing abbr.
- 36 In this very spot
- 37 Dry as a desert
- 39 Thick carpeting
- 40 Worthy of attention
- 41 Sheriffs' assistants
- 46 Make a mistake
- 48 Sly laugh sound
- 49 Ultimatum ender
- 50 Emerge from an egg
- 51 Like very much
- 52 Out of the office
- 53 Glide on a rink
- 56 Has dinner or lunch
- 57 Soothing lotion ingredient
- 58 "Promise to pay" notes
- 59 Find fault pettily
- 60 Adam and Eve's home
- 62 Before-noon times: Abbr.



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# County road work advisories issued

SPECIAL TO  
HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

Highlands County road projects for which the Florida Department of Transportation has issued a road advisory:

**US 98 at Garden Terrace in Spring Lake:** Maintenance permit project: Crews are constructing a new treatment plant including a new driveway connection to US 98. Watch for workers close to the roadway with shoulder closures. Watch for trucks and equipment entering and leaving the roadway.

**US 98 from Associates Drive to Lorida:** Maintenance contracts project: Crews will be removing and repairing drainage culverts along the corridor. Motorists should expect intermittent east and westbound shoulder closures on US 98 Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please use caution and watch for crews working close to the roadway.

**US 98 from Garden Terrace to Madrid in Spring Lake:** Utility permit project: Crews are

constructing a new treatment plant including a new force main parallel to US 98. Watch for workers close to the roadway with shoulder closures. Watch for trucks and equipment entering and leaving the roadway.

**US 27 from West Townsend Street to Batts Street and on SR 64 from US 27 to Self Avenue:** Construction project: Crews are replacing existing roadway with concrete pavement on US 27 southbound from West Pleasant Street to Paulk Street, US 27 northbound from Dyal Street to West Hill Street, and on SR 64 from Self Avenue to US 27. The contractor is also milling and resurfacing the existing roadway on US 27 from West Townsend Street to Batts Street and on SR 64 from Collier Avenue to Self Avenue, installing curb and gutter, installing traffic separators, sidewalks, traffic signals, street lights, and signing and pavement markers. A single continuous lane closure on US 27 will be in place during inter-section construction.

On SR 64 both east

bound and west bound, traffic has been switched to the north side of the road onto the newly constructed travel lanes.

On US 27 south bound, traffic has been switched to the right onto the newly constructed concrete travel lanes. US 27 north bound traffic should follow detour signage to accesses businesses on the west side of US 27.

Motorists should expect US 27 southbound and northbound lane closures from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m.

Motorists should expect east bound and west bound intermittent lane closures on SR 64 from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. Please follow flagger directions and use caution in this area.

Additional lane closures, single-lane flagging operations, and temporary lane shifts will occur during nighttime/overnight hours on US 27 and SR 64. The contractor is Concrete Services, LLC. Estimated project completion date is early 2020.

**US 17 (Lakeview Drive) between Mellow Lane and Kenilworth Boulevard:** Maintenance permit project: Watch for

southbound lane closures with traffic using the center turn lane as crews relocate existing cables and remove old power poles. Watch for trucks entering and exiting the site. Use caution and watch for crews working close to the roadway.

**SR 70 from US 27 to CR 721:** Maintenance project: Crews will perform weed control and tree trimming along the guardrail in this area. Motorists should use caution and expect intermittent lane closures eastbound and westbound from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

**SR 70 at Bony Lane:** Maintenance permit project: Crews are constructing a new driveway connection to SR 70. Watch for workers close to the roadway with shoulder closures. Watch for trucks and equipment entering and leaving the roadway.

**SR 70 near the DeSoto County line:** Maintenance permit project: Crews will be installing utility poles at the back of the right-of-way. Motorists should use

caution and watch for crews working on SR 70 from the DeSoto County line to US 27.

**SR 66 from US 27 to CR 635:** Maintenance project: Crews will be cleaning ditches along SR 66 from US 27 to CR 635. Motorists should expect intermittent east and westbound lane closures on SR 66 Monday through Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please use caution and watch for crews working close to the roadway.

**SR 66 at Orange Blossom Boulevard and SR 66 at Payne Road:** Construction Project: Watch for daytime lane closures as crews widen for turn lanes. This project consists of widening, base work, milling and resurfacing, drainage, and signing and pavement markings. The contractor is Lynch Paving and Construction Co. Inc. Expected completion is spring 2019.

**SR 17 from North of Arbuckle Creek Road to north of Rialto Avenue:** Construction project: Watch for daytime lane closures as crews continue laying sod and

stripping. This project includes widening to add a southbound left turn lane from SR 17 to Arbuckle Creek Road, milling and resurfacing from Arbuckle Creek Road to Rialto Avenue and 300 feet of Arbuckle Creek Road, shoulder work, curb and gutter and signing and pavement markings. The contractor is Lynch Paving and Construction Co. Expected completion is spring 2019.

**SR 17 (North Ridgewood Drive) at Wall Street:** Maintenance permit project: Crews will be replacing a roof using a crane to install trusses. The southbound travel lane on North Ridgewood Drive (SR 17) at Wall Street will be closed from Monday, Feb. 18 through Wednesday, Feb. 20. Travel lanes will be shifted to the northbound lane and parking areas. Two-way traffic will continue throughout the area. Motorists should use caution and watch for crews working close to the roadway.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Square dance club to meet

SEBRING — The Harmony Hoedowners Western/Modern Square Dance Club dances every Monday from 7-9 p.m. at First United Methodist Church in Avon Park, 200 S. Lake Ave. All square dancers are invited, regardless of skill level. For information, visit [samdunn.net/harmony-hoedowners](http://samdunn.net/harmony-hoedowners).

### Jimmy Travis live

SEBRING — Sebring Village welcomes singer, songwriter, musician and comedian Jimmy Travis at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 18 at 4343 Schumacher Road. Cost is \$10 per person. For tickets or information, call Glenda Gray at 863-471-0760 or Walt D'Alessandris at 863-273-0875.

### LaGrange, Indiana reunion

SARASOTA — Residents of LaGrange County, Indiana will have their Florida reunion at

11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 19 at the Der Dutchman Restaurant, 3713 Bahia Vista St. in Sarasota. 863-243-4011.

### S.A.L.T. Council to meet

SEBRING — The Highlands County Seniors and Law Enforcement Together (S.A.L.T.) Council will hold its next meeting at 9:15 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 19 at Homer's Restaurant, 1000 Sebring Square. Guest speakers are HCSO Victim's Advocate Liz Fisher and HCSO Chaplain Alan Altwater and their therapy dogs. The public is invited.

### Essential oils classes

SEBRING — A free-to-the-public Essential Oils Class will take place at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 19 at the Sebring Public Library, 319 W. Center Ave. A class will also be held at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 20 at the Lake Placid Memorial Library, 205 W. Interlake Blvd. For information or to register for either class, call or text

### NARFE to meet

SEBRING — The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE), Chapter 0288 of Highlands County, will meet at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 19 at Homer's Restaurant, 1000 Sebring Square, for lunch only. The guest speaker will be Cora Schwingel of Change of Pace. Open to all active and retired Federal employees and their spouses. For information, call President Laura Pletcher at 540-226-8754 or Mary Ellen Colvin at 863-735-1099.

### Iowa reunion

SEBRING — There will be an Iowa Reunion on Wednesday, Feb. 20 at Homer's Restaurant, 1000 Sebring Square. Registration is at 11 a.m. with lunch at 11:30 a.m. Fellowship starts at 1:30 p.m. Purchase required for buffet lunch. For information, call 563-581-8848. Annual Indiana Day

SEBRING — The Annual Indiana Carroll County Day will take place at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 20 at Homer's Restaurant, 1000 Sebring Square. Current and former residents are invited to attend. For information, call 863-382-1770.

### Virginia Days 2019

SEBRING — The 2019 Virginia Days will take place at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 20 at Homer's Restaurant, 1000 Sebring Square. For information, call 540-975-1980.

### Nights at the Museum

SEBRING — The Military Sea Services Museum presents "Vietnam — Containment or Catastrophe?" group discussion and analysis from 4-5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 20 at 1402 Roseland Ave. in Sebring (one mile east of Sebring High School). Coffee and light refreshments served. Free admission. Moderated by Fred Carino, curator.

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## WINNERS FROM PAGE 4A

Showmanship: Trace Lackey  
The following animals were entered into the 2019 Junior Livestock Show:

36 Market Steers, 31 Commercial Heifers, 12 Meat Goats, 124 Market Swine, 21 Rabbits, 6 poultry.

Clint McWaters taught a Livestock Judging Clinic on Friday and 96 exhibitors attended the training. They then competed in a livestock judging contest.

23 graduating seniors exhibited, and they are eligible to apply for the Junior Livestock Scholarship, which can be used for college or vocational education.

Information provided by the Junior Livestock Committee.

## RABIES FROM PAGE 4A

Proper treatment after an animal bite is imperative. The Health Department recommends washing the animal with soap and water while wearing gloves, then immediately seek help from a veterinarian.

### Local cases

Crain said Highlands County had no confirmed cases of rabies in 2018, although a bat bite resulted in death in 2017. Kinslow said bats are major carriers for rabies. "The woman was bitten

by a bat on her finger but didn't think much of it," Kinslow said. "It took about three weeks for her to not feel good and she blamed it on menopause. She eventually went to the hospital when she told somebody about the bat bite. They tested her for rabies and it was positive. It was too late. She passed away from the virus."

### Call for help

Humans with animal bites or scratches should get medical help immediately. Report a scratch or bite as soon as possible at 863-382-7224. Call Animal Services at 863-402-6730 so they can find the suspected animal for testing.

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# EXPO

FROM PAGE 1A

spent much time seeking out local doctors.

She got her blood pressure checked at the Ridge Technical College licensed practical nurse booth. She got a bit of a shock: No blood pressure. She was trying out a new wrist-mounted blood pressure cuff that apparently had some bugs, said Gina Lozada, the student who was working with her.

Wagner said she had also won a posy in a spin-the-wheel competition at another booth, and found a dentist.

Shortly after that, she consented to have Steve Reinshuttle, hearing aid specialist with America's Best Hearing, peer into her ear.

Jennifer Lewis-Gravelle, financial advisor, said it's the best event she attends all year.

"Everybody's in a good mood," Lewis-Gravelle said.

Sue Rosenberger, another winter resident from Grand Rapids, Michigan, stopped to talk with Miller's Central Air, since they installed her furnace/air-conditioner last spring.

She said Grand Rapids, right now, is a "great place to be from," given the snow storms. Her son, who salts parking lots for big retailers, used 15,000 pounds of salt in a month — 3,000 pounds in five applications.

Though the event slowed down a bit during the lunch hour, it picked back up during the afternoon and remained

steady. "We are pleasantly surprised at the turnout that happened earlier this morning. It's been getting stronger all day," said Tim Smolarick, publisher of Highlands News-Sun, which presented the event along with Lakeshore Mall. "We fully expect to surpass last year's attendance."

Cliff Yeazel, Highlands News-Sun advertising director, said he, too, was pleased with the steady flow of guests.

"The Kid Zone has been packed all day," Yeazel said.

Saturday was the fourth Senior Expo, which has grown from midday to an all-day event that started by connecting seniors to much-needed services and now provides something for the whole

family. The 2016 event had a live band in the Food Court. Every year since, live acts have been on a stage in the parking lot set between Belk, JCPenney and the mall's main entrance.

This year, Raisin' Cain played sets from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Hard Candy played from 3-8 p.m.

The indoor main stage hosted seminars by Reinshuttle; Nell Hays, crime prevention specialist with the Highlands County Sheriff's Office; the Mad Hatters of Highlands Little Theatre; Tiffany Werhner, licensed mental health counselor, on "Love Languages" for couples; Lampe & Kiefer Hearing Aid Center Inc.; singer/songwriter Tim Serdynski; Heartland Dog Club, and vocalist Erica White.

AdventHealth sponsored Medical Row, a collection of health care vendors located between the main stage atrium and the plaza outside JCPenney.

Lampe & Kiefer sponsored the event's Facebook live broadcasts.

The Home Depot sponsored Kid Zone! Food vendors included Popstarz Food Truck and 863 Bar, Grill & Banquet food vendor.

Media sponsors were Kiss 107.5 FM WFHT, 105.3 FM La Zeta and La Numero 1 (uno) 106.9 FM/1280 AM.

"We want to say 'thank you' to our vendors, sponsors and entertainers for a spectacular day," Smolarick said. "It is a good day for the community and for Lakeshore Mall."



PHIL ATTINGER/STAFF

Vicki Roberts, leaning over her table at the AmeriLife booth, signs up another visitor for information at Saturday's Senior Expo and Family Extravaganza at Lakeshore Mall.

# SFSC

FROM PAGE 1A

has performed many times on the "Tonight Show" and just did the show for the 87th time.

"I had to write stuff that was not risqué and was universal so I did a supermarket bit and the dentist bit," he said.

He likes to work and he is better at it than he ever was, Klein said of his busy schedule, which included just recently a one-night performance, for the actors' fund, of "They are Playing Our Song," with Lucy Arnaz. That was the Broadway musical he was in 40 years ago for which he was nominated for a Tony Award.

"I go out to California to do my turn on 'Will & Grace' [television show] and I did the narration for

a few documentaries in the past year," he noted.

Klein said all his life he wanted to be a doctor and he went to college with that in mind, but "a few things got in his way," he explained as a funnyman would — "calculus, physics, biology, organic chemistry, inorganic chemistry, reading, spelling, comprehension, behavior, aptitude, inclination and talent."

He became a history and political science major, which he still loves today, Klein said.

Along with comedy and acting, Klein is known for his music, which continues to be a part of his performances.

Klein said music director/musician Bob Stein will be accompanying him to SFSC. They have worked together for 36 years and they have been

nominated twice for "best song" at the Emmys.

"I may be not quite as physically agile, but I do patrol the stage like a cat and I am better at it than I ever was and I enjoy it," he said "I think I enjoy it more than anything — making people laugh."

Klein noted his double bill with Rivera stating she continues to be a wonderful talent.

Rivera is one of Broadway's greatest triple-threat talents — a versatile actress/singer/dancer who is one of the most nominated performers in Tony Award history, having earned 10 nominations, won twice and received the 2018 Special Tony Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Theatre.

Rivera's first appearance at age 17 was as a principal dancer in "Call

Me Madam." Her electric performance as Anita in the original Broadway premiere of "West Side Story" brought her stardom, which she repeated in London.

Highlands News-Sun asked Rivera about her experience in performing "West Side Story" in London.

"It was a huge, huge hit," she said. "Actually it got better reviews in England than it got in New York."

"The entire company went to England so everybody was represented and we were treated like a million bucks in Manchester and then in the West End theatre district in London," she said.

"It was a thrilling time for all of us and the English don't forget," Rivera said. "If they love

something, they remember it."

Rivera performed two concerts in London on Feb. 10.

Rivera's biography states she started training as a ballerina at age 9.

She was a tomboy walking on the back fences and jumping over furniture in the house, but didn't hit her jump right one time and her foot went through the coffee table, Rivera said.

"My mother, out of necessity, said she had to survive so she put me in ballet school," Rivera said.

When you were rehearsing for "West Side Story" did you believe it was going to be a big hit? Highlands News-Sun asked Rivera.

"I knew it was something very different ... and I knew the music was exciting and I knew

that Jerome Robbins, the great choreographer and director, was brilliant; I knew I was in a room with amazing creative people — Stephen Sondheim [lyricist] and Arthur Laurents [writer] and all the amazing dancers," Rivera said.

Along with "West Side Story" being a breakthrough role for her, it was the start of Sondheim's career, Rivera noted, "It is still paying off today. This is the 60th anniversary of 'West Side Story.'"

Tickets are available for the Chita Rivera/Robert Klein performance.

The SFSC box office is open 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday-Friday and one hour prior to performances. Call 863-784-7178 or email culturalperformances@southflorida.edu.

# WRECK

FROM PAGE 1A

Wofford was pronounced deceased at the scene from injuries sustained in the crash.

FHP said the crash is still under investigation at this time.

Martinez and Wofford are the third and fourth fatalities on Highlands County roads in 2019.

# CASES

FROM PAGE 1A

on this case.

If anyone has any information about these crashes, they are asked to contact FHP at 239-938-1800.

Of all the hit and run crashes in 2018, 161 caused property damage. Of all the hit and run crashes, only 58 citations

were issued. Some people may think that walking or driving away from the scene is a good idea, but it carries serious problems and penalties. People with injuries who are left unattended could die or have serious life-long injuries that could have been prevented with prompt medical treatment.

Besides harming others and their property, hit and run drivers can cause

problems for themselves. According to the Florida Highway Patrol, if the crash involves property damage, leaving the scene is classified as a second-degree misdemeanor, with penalties up to 60 days in jail and a \$500 fine.

Penalties increase for the driver when injuries are involved, and drivers can have a felony on their record. "Leaving the scene

of a crash with injuries is a third-degree felony and a driver, when convicted, will have their driver license revoked for at least three years and can be sentenced to five years in prison and/or a \$5,000 fine," the FHP states.

If someone is injured as a result of a crash, the driver is required to call 911 and offer aid to the victim. "Drivers leaving the scene of a crash

with a fatality could be sentenced up to 30 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine," the FHP stated in a recent press release.

FHP encourages all residents to report any information regarding hit and run crashes to Crime Stoppers at 1-800-226-TIPS(8477). People can remain anonymous and tips that result in an arrest may earn a cash reward.





# SPORTS

• LOCAL • STATE • NATIONAL

Monday, February 18, 2019

## Mah Jongg enjoyed by many

Competition part of Heartland Senior Games

By NEIL SIMPSON

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

He may not have been the last man standing, but Paul Hudnall was the only man sitting with 47 women in Lake Placid's Tropical Harbor clubhouse on Friday for the Heartland Senior Games mah jongg tournament. Hudnall mentioned that some places where he has played mah jongg, women saw him and refused to play with him saying "mah jongg is not

a man's game." The ladies at Tropical Harbor were delighted to have him join them for the day.

At last year's tournament, held at Tanglewood in Sebring, the ladies were asked if they would be willing to make the drive to Lake Placid if the mah jongg fanatics at Tropical Harbor would be willing to host this year's event. The players said, "Yes" to the drive and the Tropical Harbor ladies, led by Patty Lee said, "Sure thing" to hosting.

The change of venue

brought many new faces and a nice mixture with 11 players from Lake Placid, 6 representatives from Cross Creek RV Resort in Arcadia, 5 women from Highlands Ridge in Avon Park and the rest from Sebring.

Gold medals were won by Liz Strutt (Cross Creek), Susan Strobl (Buttonwood Bay), Sandy Haka (Tanglewood), Nancy Senior (Golf Hammock) and Claire Lensis (Highlands Ridge).

Silver medalists; Jean Brown (Buttonwood Bay),

Peggy Reichert (Highlands Ridge), Elyn Scholl-Losse (Golf Hammock), Janice Larsen (Cross Creek), Ann Holly (Golf Hammock) and Betty Seatter (Cross Creek).

Bronze medals were taken home by Patty Lee (Tropical Harbor), Cheryl Kiser (Cross Creek) and Beverly Smith (Pine and Lake Estates).

Next year, Theresa Mansfield and her fellow players from Cross Creek, Liz Strutt, Cheryl Kiser, Carol Polk, Janice Larsen and Betty Seatter,



PHOTO BY NEIL SIMPSON

Heartland Senior Games medal winners in Friday's mah jongg competition in the 65-69 age bracket were Silver, Jean Brown of Buttonwood Bay, Gold, Susan Strobl of Buttonwood Bay, Bronze, Patty Lee of Tropical Harbor.

have agreed to host the tournament.

One of the mah jongg players, Dottee Cohen, announced that the

Garden Club of Sebring is hosting a party day from 10:00 to 3:00 on March 7 at the Jack Shoup Civic

GAMES | 10A

## Offense rules in 70s senior softball action

By JOHN KLOET

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

The good weather returned and the games were played under warm and sunny skies in the 70s softball league.

The Feb. 5 games had VFW 4300 over Blazing Irrigation 11-3. VFW had a strong day from Chuck Detore (double) Jerry Kaufman and Lee Sonnenberg with 3 hits each. Ed Vignally and Chester Johnson had 2 key hits. John Kloet was the winning pitcher.

Blazing had a round tripper and single from Ted Griffith. Gallo Gonzalez, Sam Crouse, Ed Lindberg (double) and Bob Fahnstock all with 2 hits.

The other diamond had a real squeaker as Am-Vets Post 21 edged Buttonwood Bay 13-12. Am-Vets had Larry Oser lead the attack with a 4 for 4 day, Les Osbeck and Ken Elston had 3 singles each. Victor Rodriguez was the pitcher of record.

Buttonwood had 91 year old Tony Caristo, Dave Pohlman (double) John Degnen, Dick VanCurran, Fred Richardson and Boots Dasovic were the top hitters.

On Feb. 7, in one of best defensive games ever played in slow pitch softball, VFW 4300 moved into first place with an 11-5 win over Alan-Jay, but the score doesn't indicate how close the game was as it was VFW 6-5 after 6 innings.

The defense of Doug Ebling and Ken Lloyd kept the score close. VFW also had outstanding defense from Norm Grubbs and pitcher Chuck Detore. The hitting stars for VFW were Norm Grubbs (double) and John Kloet with 3 hits apiece. Dave La Hue had a key double that drove in 2 runs in the 7th. Ted Navarro (also great defense) had 2 key hits. Chuck Detore pitched a great game allowing 3 runs in the first and 2 the rest of the game.

Alan-Jay (6-2) batters where John Miller, Bill Destefano (double), Bill Cirillo and Rudy Pribble.

The other Diamond had Am-Vets (4-4) over Blazing Irrigation (3-5) 18-14. Am-Vets Post 21 stars were Larry Oser (double) Victor Rodriguez, Ross Anderson all with 4 hits. Les Osbeck (triple), Marv Knutilla, JC Brown and winning pitcher Charley Quinn had 3 hits each.

On the losing side, Todd Martin had 2 homers, one a grand slam. Bill Todd, Dave Reed and Ed Lindberg had 3 singles each.

The season is about 1/3 over, but there is plenty of softball left. Come out to Highland Sports Complex at 10 and noon on Tuesday and Thursday to see the action.

## Panthers earn split with Saints



PHOTOS BY JIM TAYLOR/CORRESPONDENT

South Florida State College third baseman Hannah Perez gets the force out during Saturday's doubleheader against Santa Fe State College. The Panthers won the first game and lost the second game against the Saints.

## South Florida, Santa Fe compete on the diamond

By JIM TAYLOR  
CORRESPONDENT

AVON PARK – The South Florida State College Panthers softball team split a pair of games with the Santa Fe Saints on Saturday.

South Florida held on to win the first game by a score of 6-5 but dropped the second game 10-5. With the split, the Panthers are 11-5 on the season.

"We take a lead, then

go in cruise control," said South Florida State College Head Softball Coach Carlos Falla. "Instead of putting the game away. We were able to come back in the first game, but not the second."

In the first game, the Panthers fell behind early as the Saints scored twice in the top of the first inning, both on errors by the Panthers to take a 2-0 lead.



South Florida State College's Raylee Coleman laces a triple in the sixth inning of Saturday's first game against Santa Fe.

SPLIT | 10A

## Tons of positives for Carbahn Motorsports

Will compete in Pilot Challenge Race at Sebring

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

DAYTONA BEACH — The intense, action-packed racing that fans witnessed in the IMSA MICHELIN Pilot Challenge season opener was a welcome return from the offseason and a thrilling way to kick off the series' 10-week calendar for 2019.

Nine of the 13 manufacturers competing in the Pilot Challenge led the race between the series' two classes – Grand Sport (GS) and TCR – and

the one manufacturer to lead laps in both categories was Audi.

Particularly in the GS class, if the racing at Daytona International Speedway three weeks ago was any indication, this season has the potential to be explosive for Audi and for the No. 39 Carbahn Motorsports Audi R8 GT4 of Tyler McQuarrie and Jeff Westphal.

"Coming into this year having Michelin on board, I think, was the perfect addition to our team and what our

car really needed," said McQuarrie. "We always struggled for rear grip last year, so it really livened up our car a lot. We've done a lot of work in the offseason to get our car working better."

It definitely showed at Daytona, with the No. 39 Audi in the top five for the majority of the race and even leading laps towards the end of the four-hour enduro. However, a fuel shortage in the closing laps would drop the car down the leaderboard, relegating the team to a 16th-place finish after a

promising start.

"There was a period in the middle of the race where we got off sequence with the rest of the group and we knew it was going to create an issue towards the end of the race," explained McQuarrie. "We were hoping for a caution right at the end and sure enough a caution came, but it was a short yellow. If that caution would've lasted one more lap, we would've been good."

Don't get them wrong,

RACE | 10A



IMSA PHOTO

The No. 39 Carbahn Motorsports Audi R8 GT4 will compete in the IMSA MICHELIN Pilot Challenge at Sebring International Raceway next month.

# SPLIT

FROM PAGE 9A

College answered in the bottom of the frame with a run as Jane'a Mobley doubled in April Alvarado to make the score 2-1.

Santa Fe extended its lead back to two in the third inning courtesy of a solo home run by Emily Yakel over the left-field fence to put the Saints up 3-1.

The Panthers quickly answered again with three runs in the bottom half of the inning to take a 4-3 lead over the Saints.

Sunni Beardon started the third inning with a single into centerfield, followed by a single by Payton Pilon into right field and a walk to Alvarado to load the bases. Beardon scored on a walk to Mobley that cut the Saints lead to one at 3-2.

Two fielder's choices at home plate left the bases loaded for the Panthers with two outs until a double by Raylee Coleman down the left-field line scored Mobley and Amanda Crisafulli,

who reached on a fielder's choice, to give the Panthers a 4-3 lead after three innings.

The Panthers added a run in the bottom of the fourth after Kaylee Frascatore led off the inning with a double into left-centerfield and later scored on a single by Pilon to make the score 5-3.

The Saints tied the game at 5 in the top of the fifth as they scored two runs on four hits.

South Florida State College took the lead in the bottom of the sixth. Pilon crushed a one-out triple over the Saints right fielder's head and cruised into third base standing up. She later scored on a ball four passed ball to Alvarado to give the Panthers a 6-5 lead.

Panther pitcher Baylee Haggard shut the Saints down in order in the seventh inning, finishing a complete game in which the Panthers won 6-5.

South Florida State College did not fare well in the second game despite having a 3-0 lead after the first inning and a 5-2 lead after the third.



South Florida's Raylee Coleman tracks down a ball to take away a hit in Saturday's first game against Santa Fe.

Santa Fe would score eight unanswered runs powered by four home runs, two by Yakel to give her three for the doubleheader.

The crushing blow came off the bat of Lake Placid High School

graduate Dontaysha Gobourne, who hit a grand slam in the sixth inning to put the Saints up 10-5.

"We left pitches up in the strike zone," said Falla. "They are a good hitting team with power,



PHOTOS BY JIM TAYLOR/CORRESPONDENT

South Florida State College's Baylee Haggard pitched a complete game against the Santa Fe Saints for the 6-5 win on Saturday.

we can't do that against them."

Gobourne also pitched the final four innings to earn the victory.

For the two game set, Pilon led the Panthers with four hits and Raylee

Coleman batted in five runs.

The Panthers are at Palm Beach State College on Thursday before playing again at home on Saturday against Indian River State College.

# RACE

FROM PAGE 9A

the result was disappointing. However, the team is choosing to focus on the positives as they prepare for the remainder of the year.

"It was defeating because we had such a good weekend," said McQuarrie. "Every practice we were up front, every qualifying we were up front, the race we were even better. To stumble on fuel on the last lap was just defeating."

"But there's tons of positives to take out of the weekend and I think our car is even better this year. Last year, our car was just good everywhere. We didn't have any bad tracks, but we didn't have any great tracks. I think this year with the work that we've done with the car and having Michelin on board, I think we're going to have some great tracks. We walked out of there feeling confident about the rest of the year."

Perhaps another source of confidence for the No.

39 crew is that it is one of only a handful of teams in the paddock to return unchanged from 2018. With the influx of new teams and drivers in the Pilot Challenge for 2019, familiarity and consistency will be an advantage to those who have it.

"We're pretty fortunate that we've worked with each other even prior to the last year," McQuarrie said. "Jeff and I have known each other a long time and raced with each other. We've both worked with (Team Owner) Steve Dinan in years past, so we're all familiar with each other, but the car was new to us. There were some crew members that were new to us, so last year was definitely a building year for what we kind of called a 'new team.'

"Any time you can come and not change any of those key variables is going to be an advantage. We're fortunate that we have team owners that believe in keeping all those variables in place and that was the only reason we were able to do it."



PHOTO BY NEIL SIMPSON

The Heartland Senior Games medal winners in Friday's mah jongg tournament in the 75-79 age bracket were Ellyn Scholl-Losse, Silver, of Golf Hammock, Gold went to Nancy Senior of Golf Hammock and Bronze went to Beverly Smith of Pine and Lake Estates.

# GAMES

FROM PAGE 9A

Center in downtown Sebring.

The \$10 entry fee includes lunch. Everyone is invited to come for a day of fun playing a game of their own choice be it mah jongg, euchre, bridge, tiddly winks or any other.

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## Overcoming Barriers to Disease Treatment

### FAMILY FEATURES

A diagnosis of a chronic condition such as Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, cancer, or diabetes can bring a swirl of thoughts and emotions. There may be relief at finding an explanation for bothersome symptoms, but that relief is often quickly overshadowed by insurance issues, financial concerns, and worry about the future.

If you've recently received a chronic diagnosis, take it one step at a time to navigate the road ahead.

#### Assemble a Team

Working to overcome the hurdles associated with a chronic condition diagnosis can be physically and emotionally draining. In addition to securing a doctor with expertise in treating your condition, you'll need a support team of family and friends who can serve as a sounding board for your questions and concerns, help with everyday tasks when you're feeling run down, provide transportation to appointments, and help keep your spirits up.

#### Understand Your Condition

Arming yourself with information is critical when you receive a life-altering diagnosis. It's important to understand everything you can about the condition, including known causes, symptoms you may experience, what you can expect as the disease progresses, and more.

If the volume of information is overwhelming, try to consume it a little at a time so you can retain more and give yourself time to process everything you're learning. As you read, be sure to make notes about things that are confusing or that you might want to discuss with your medical team.

#### Identify Treatment Options

A big part of your research will likely involve your treatment options. If your doctor has outlined multiple options for treatment, you'll want to investigate each one thoroughly so you can understand the benefits and risks, as well as deciding which option is the best fit for your particular circumstances. You'll also want to confirm that your treatment is covered by your health insurance and at what level.

#### Handle Insurance Issues

Most people assume that if they have health coverage, they can count on at least a portion of the treatments and medications their doctor recommends being covered. In many cases, that's true, although the exact coverages depend on variables like your plan, deductible, and more.

However, there are also some circumstances in which you may experience a delay before you're able to follow your doctor's treatment orders. One example is step therapy – a protocol sometimes used by health insurance companies that requires patients to try and fail on one or more lower cost medications before they will provide coverage for the medication originally prescribed by the patient's provider.

Step therapy is also known as "fail first" because it requires a patient to fail on an insurer-preferred drug first. For patients with inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD), like Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, this protocol may result in worsened health outcomes. A survey by the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation found that as many as 40 percent of IBD patients had been subject to step therapy, and 58 percent of those patients were required to fail two or more drugs before being granted access to the drug their doctor originally prescribed.

"During these delays in optimal treatment, patients are at risk, not only for their physical well-being, but also for their quality of life," said Dr. Ross Maltz, co-chair of the Government and Industry Affairs Committee of the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation's National Scientific Advisory Committee. "In some instances, insurance policies can impede patient access to the care they need and affect the patient and provider decision-making process."

Groups are working to change this process through legislative reform, but in the meantime, if you are subject to a step therapy requirement by your insurance provider, you can appeal. The best approach is to work with your doctor to prepare a written letter that contains:

- A clear statement that you are appealing a denial of coverage for your prescribed medication
- The name of the medication that was denied
- A detailed explanation of previous treatments or factors that led your doctor to prescribe the denied medication
- Any studies or evidence that support the use of the prescribed medication
- The specific health risks you experience now or may in the future without the medication that was originally prescribed
- A clearly stated request for approval of the specific prescription, including the medication name and dosage

Once your letter is finished, file it quickly and pay attention to dates. There can be time limits on how quickly you must file an appeal after a claim is denied. Make sure you keep copies of all correspondence from yourself, your provider, and your insurance company. Also keep a record of all names and titles of the individuals you speak to and any case or authorization numbers for reference in the future.

To find more information and resources, visit [crohnscolitisfoundation.org/steptherapy](http://crohnscolitisfoundation.org/steptherapy).

# Is this the breaking point?

By **ROBERT MILLER**  
NEWS CLERK

To say it's been a hard month is an understatement. From a change in eating habits to getting more physically active, new and sometimes painful trials keep presenting themselves.

But, this past week may be the most trying and the most painful week so far. Fresh off of a week where I was sick and didn't get much done in the way of working out, I hit the treadmill on Monday ready to get back on track, knowing it was going to be tough.

Tuesday's group workout saw us in the pool for another intense hour. For the rest of the group it was a workout they had already done one time before when I was sick. So for me, this was my first time. The workout was tough, as they tend to be, but this one was welcome in that it meant less impact on my joints.

This was a good thing. I left the pool with sore muscles, to be expected, but my knees and other joints didn't scream in agony. All in all I think it went rather well.

Then Wednesday happened.

If ever there was a



Robert Miller is feeling a little frustrated ... and hurt.

feeling that the universe was trying to tell me something, or it was just plain against me, Wednesday slammed that message home loud and clear.

I headed to the YMCA after work, just like every other day, and headed straight to the locker room to change and get ready for my time on the treadmill.

Twice before I even walked away from the locker where I was storing my gym bag, I realized I had forgotten something. First it was my water, then it was my phone. Both times I simply turned around, got them out of the locker then

locked it back up.

Now with my phone in hand (to listen to my music while I walk) I headed out of the locker room towards the gym. Just before I reached the gym doors I realized I had forgotten yet another important item. I was supposed to be returning my binder for Laura to review.

We keep a binder that keeps track of things like our weekly weight, daily intake of calories, protein and carbs as well as any other notes or journaling we do. I had added some stuff to it Tuesday night and had brought it back on Wednesday so that it would be back with the rest of the group's binders.

Unfortunately, I had left it locked up in the locker room. So, rather than get it after my workout when I knew I'd be tired, I wanted to put it away before I started. So I turned around and went back into the locker room.

I've gotten used to certain sections of the floor in there being wet. Usually it's around the sinks and the shower area, and this time was no exception. I walked around the visible puddles on the floor and walked carefully across

the room towards the lockers at the far end of the room.

About halfway there, as my left foot went down and touched the floor, I immediately felt my shoe sliding on the tile. By the time I realized what was happening it was too late to stop it. My left leg went backwards and my right leg went forwards and my body went down. It went down hard and I landed the brunt of my weight on my left knee.

This is the same leg that was already suffering from the iliotibial band issue, and it was the same knee that suffered a torn ligament back in 2009. I ended up on my back, cursing the pain and the fact that I fell. The only other person in the locker room at the time saw the whole thing happen and immediately offered assistance. Within a few minutes another gentleman arrived in the locker room and the two of them helped me to my feet.

I thanked them both then and I wanted to thank them again here. They helped me out when I was literally down and out and I appreciate their kindness and their help. I won't forget it.

The immediate

aftermath of the fall was that my knee was hurting and very red. I retrieved my binder and went into the gym and immediately looked for Laura to tell her what had happened. She had me sit and put ice on the knee right away. It helped ease the pain a bit and eventually, after a failed attempt to walk a bit, I headed back to the locker room to retrieve my belongings and go home.

The incident was reported to the YMCA and an incident report was filed. The next morning my hip on my left side was in pain, making it painful to stand and walk around. I returned to the YMCA early in the morning for a weigh-in and made the decision to see a doctor. I couldn't get an appointment until Friday, and by then the pain had made its way into my back, which was now much more painful than the hip, which was also still hurting.

As you read this on Monday I will be getting x-rays of my hip, back and knee. Fingers crossed that nothing is too terribly damaged.

And to top it all off, the results of my week four weigh-in were that I had gained weight.

Way to kick me when I'm literally down, Universe.

I know this sounds like I'm losing my positive outlook or something, but I find myself not just feeling broken, but also rather frustrated. The point of doing this program was to lose weight and feel better. But going into week five I have seen my doctor more and missed more time from work in this short window than I did in all of 2018.

That's a bit concerning to me.

Yes, I realize that I wasn't in great shape to start with and I'm a big guy, but should I be wrecking myself and feeling miserable in an effort to feel better?

I'm on board with a change in eating habits. I'm on board with walking on the treadmill (or working out in general) and I'm on board with more pool time. But I'm not on board with injuring myself and being miserable.

Hopefully, my doctor will get my x-ray results sooner rather than later and I can figure out what the next step is. Regardless, week five is shaping up to be another tough one, just as tough mentally as physically.

## Photoshop your face with collagen protein

For centuries, people, especially women, have been trying to solve the problem of looking youthful past middle age. It's very difficult because after four or five decades, our face, skin, hair and nails really show the signs of aging. Our skin feels dry, hair gets finer or falls out, and there's an obvious loss in firmness and elasticity of the skin. The laugh lines and crow's feet get deeper and deeper. Even the fingernails become weaker and break.

Of course, declining estrogen, progesterone and testosterone levels cause the signs of aging to become more noticeable, however, hormones aren't entirely it. The key to looking younger is having plump cells that retain moisture. Also, keeping the matrix underneath our skin intact rather than crumbling. You can do this if you have enough collagen, hyaluronic acid and elastin. Today my focus is collagen.

You're born with an abundance of collagen.



DEAR PHARMACIST  
Suzy Cohen

If you were to take of all your skin and weigh it, 80 percent of the weight would be collagen. That percentage declines by about 2 percent every year after 30 years of age.

Collagen 'photoshops' you! That's why when you were younger, you had lovely firm skin, soft hair and strong nails. Your face looked plump and vibrant. The most dramatic reduction of collagen happens in the first five years post-menopause, when women lose about 30 percent of our natural collagen stores. The decline continues over the years, although it's more gradual.

One day you look in the mirror and you look older than you thought. And then when you get

out of bed in the morning, you feel pain and stiffness in your joints. That's because collagen is in your cartilage, and when it's depleted you feel the pain.

There are hundreds of supplements of collagen in today's global market, but there are things you should know about first before trying it. You should be very cautious about the kind of collagen you buy because some aren't the correct type. I can send you a video about collagen if you're interested. Collagen can be sourced from cows, pigs, birds, fish scales and more.

Some brands don't get absorbed through your intestinal lining, and others don't have healthy ratios of the amino acids. Maybe they are low in hydroxyproline or they don't have vitamin C to activate it. To learn more you can watch my video here: [suzycohen.com/collagen-video](http://suzycohen.com/collagen-video).

When restoring collagen, keep in mind you want tiny particles so the little peptides can get into your cells. The

reason for this is so that you can produce the collagen intracellularly.

Collagen is a big protein like a long chain that consists of links. The links are amino acids.

There are five different types of collagen, named Type I, II, III, IV and V. Type II is what supports joint and cartilage health while Type I and III are beautifying for the hair, skin and nails. I have some videos about collagen, and how to choose the best kind for your needs. Nowadays, you can supplement with collagen shots, powders, drinks and facial serums. These products are available nationwide.

*Suzy Cohen is a registered pharmacist and the author of 'The 24-Hour Pharmacist' and 'Real Solutions.' For more information, visit [www.suzycohen.com](http://www.suzycohen.com). This information is not intended to prevent, treat, diagnose or cure your condition. Always check with your doctor before following any medical advice.*

## Follow by example

### Chef teaches others to lose weight

By **DOROTHY HARRIS**  
CORRESPONDENT

AVON PARK — Chef Mark Anthony was an executive chef in Las Vegas catering to rock bands and celebrities as he created culinary magic at the Sands and Tropicana casinos. He later joined Sodexo Healthcare, traveling to hospitals to set up culinary programs, create menus and train food service staff.

By this time, his weight had topped over 300 pounds and his cholesterol, when good, hovered over 260. Knowing he needed to do something different, Chef Mark shared how he completely transformed his life by adopting a plant strong lifestyle.

"It's been 10 years and I've lost over 70 pounds. Even better, my blood work was completely transformed and my



COURTESY PHOTO

**A former executive chef in Las Vegas, Nevada, Chef Mark Anthony embraced a plant strong lifestyle to better his own health and now teaches others.**

cholesterol remains steady at 118." Chef Mark now helps others reverse Type II diabetes with his tasty recipes and lifestyle tips.

His cooking programs can be viewed on three networks. "We can be

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# What about cognitive decline?



**HEARING MATTERS**  
Roseann Kiefer

Cognitive decline is a decrease in brain function. Perhaps your memory is not as sharp as it used to be. Maybe when people speak to you there is difficulty in putting the meaning together. Often, there is difficulty in how well you think and function.

Cognitive decline can also cause emotional problems as well as language impairment. People may lose interest in some of their most favorite activities. There is a definite change in energy level and personal motivation. People will withdraw.

Cognitive decline can lead to dementia. Alzheimer's disease is the most common form of dementia. There are several types of dementia and a person can also have more than one type of dementia. Alzheimer's disease makes up 50-70 percent of dementia cases. ("Dementia," MedicinePlus. U.S. National Library of Medicine 14 May 2015).

Cognitive decline makes you work harder to remember things. It makes doing routine daily tasks far more difficult. It is tiring.

So what can you do to help keep it away or at least slow it down? First of all, talk to your doctor if you are concerned that you may have some symptoms. Ask your friends or family if they notice anything abnormal about your memory. There are tests that can be done to figure out if indeed there is mental decline.

Like all things, a healthy diet is good for the body and the brain. Research has proven this. Alzheimer's & Dementia (September 2015) found

understand. It can be exhausting, especially in noisy places. Often their hearing impairment results in withdrawal from friends and activities. There will be excuses. There may be arguments. This withdrawal from "life" leads to inactivities and diminished functioning of the brain. It leads to reduced brain mass. Always straining to hear causes stress on the brain also. This is often referred to as "effortful listening." If someone tells you that you are mumbling, they are indeed having to "effortful listen."

John Hopkins and the National Institute on Aging conducted a study that revealed that there is a growing list of health consequences related with hearing loss. Hearing loss increases the risk of falling and dementia. These increases, thus, increase hospitalization. At the same time, hearing loss diminishes physical and mental health. Exercise is a key component to longevity. Good vascular health is good for the body and the brain. Group exercise helps even more because there is social activity to keep the brain stimulated and our spirits elevated.

Additional studies by John Hopkins and the National Institute on Aging "found that older adults with a hearing loss were far more likely to experience problems with thinking and memory than individuals with normal hearing. Hearing loss should not be considered a inconsequential part of aging. It may come with some long-term consequences to healthy brain functioning." In 2011, John Hopkins released a study that indeed proves that

hearing loss increases the risk of developing dementia. Depending upon the severity of the hearing loss, the risk of developing dementia may be increased from two to five times.

Correcting the hearing loss correctly is also very important. If you have a hearing loss that span throughout all the frequencies of the audiogram, then wearing a hearing instrument that will amplify as many of those frequencies as possible will provide your brain the best stimulus. The more stimulus you provide your brain, the longer your brain will remain healthy and reduce the risk of developing cognitive decline. Proper and in-depth audiometric test will provide specific information as to what type of hearing instrument is best for your hearing loss as well as the level of technology that is not just appropriate, but also necessary to ensure that your brain is getting enough stimulus to reduce the risk of brain shrinkage.

You can't just amplify sounds and expect a quick solution for your brain needs. You are unique and so is your brain and your cognitive needs. Life is short. Enjoy it as long as possible. To Hear Better Is To Live Better!

*Roseann B. Kiefer, B.A., BC-HIS, is owner of Lampe and Kiefer Hearing Aid Center. Sebring. This information is not intended to prevent, diagnose, treat or cure your condition. Always talk to your doctor before following any medical advice or starting a diet or exercise program.*

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# Enjoy more stress-free time with the kids

**By Metro Creative**  
Vacations are short, and parents need to make the most of this quality time with their kids. Thankfully, the following tips and tricks can help parents cut down on their stress so they can enjoy more quality time together as a family.

Create a schedule. Jot down family activities and commitments on a large calendar and keep it on the fridge so everyone can see what's coming up. This will help give the kids a sense of security and routine that's missing during extended vacations, such as summer or winter breaks from school. Just be flexible, and make sure to schedule plenty of free time to relax and have quiet time



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with a book. Cut down on kitchen time. Don't like having to choose between healthy and quick, easy meals? Look for simple, nutritious meal options that take much of the work out of cooking. For easy lunches and dinners you'll feel good

about serving the kids, try Mann's Nourish Bowls. Ready in just a couple of minutes in your microwave, the meals were developed by chefs and feature superfood veggies like broccoli, sweet potato and kale. They also

work as great side dishes to complete a fast and healthy meal.

Plan special dates. Getting out of the house regularly doesn't mean having to use up the family travel budget. Give the kids an excuse to use up their energy and get some fresh air by scheduling some fun and free activities. Try going to your local skating rink or spending some time in the public library. Keep the kids on top of chores and other duties by presenting these activities as rewards for a job well done.

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# Coping with age-related hair loss

**By Metro Creative**

Attitude goes a long way in regard to self-esteem. With a positive spin, it's possible to get through difficult situations and even have a favorable outlook on getting older. But even the most optimistic among us may at times worry about the physical signs of aging and wonder what can be done to make them feel and look their best.



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Wrinkles and a little extra weight around the middle certainly garner attention, but hair loss is another age-related concern. As people age, their hair changes in several ways. Graying through loss of melanin pigment is the most apparent. MedlinePlus, the health information resource from the U.S. National Library of Medicine, says that strands of hair also can become less dense and smaller through the years. Many follicles also may stop producing new hairs. Regardless of age, it is customary for a person to lose about 100 hairs a day. If those hairs are not replaced as readily as they once were, patches of thinning and balding hair may appear.

The rate at which hair falls out is largely determined by genetics, according to Headcovers Unlimited, a company that produces wigs, scarves and other headwraps. But nearly everyone will experience some sort of age-related hair loss. Hormonal changes during menopause can cause noticeable thinning and scalp exposure that may be mistaken for actual hair loss.

There are many ways

to mitigate hair loss. Here are some handy tips.

Try a new cut. Work with your stylist to determine a haircut that can suggest the appearance of thickness and camouflage the loss of density or bare spots. Graduated layers kept close to the face can help, as can pixie cuts. Men can choose to go entirely bald and bold.

Treat hair gently. Avoid harsh chemical processes and constant heat styling. Protect fragile hair from damage by pampering it.

Look for thickening formulas. Many shampoos, serums and conditioners tout volumizing or thickening properties. These can help plump up hair and make thinning less apparent.

Talk to your doctor. Hair loss may be a result of medication, a skin condition or aging. Doctors may suggest products, such as Minoxidil and Lipogaine formulas, that can be used on the scalp to reduce hair loss and help follicles produce new hair strands.

Hair thinning and hair loss can be a symptom of getting older. Knowledge is key to improve hair's appearance at any age.

**By Metro Creative**

Energy levels tend to ebb and flow throughout a typical workday. A cup of coffee may provide some caffeine-infused spark in the morning, but a big lunch can squash energy later in the afternoon.

Waning mental sharpness as the workday progresses can compromise productivity, making it more difficult for workers to complete projects on time. That, in turn, can contribute to stress. In fact, in its "2017 Stress in America" survey, the American Psychological Association found that 58 percent of Americans say work is a significant source of stress.

Staying mentally fresh during a workday can pay a host of benefits, and the following are just a few ways to maintain mental focus until quitting time.

Exercise regularly. The physical benefits of routine exercise are well documented. But even the most ardent fitness enthusiasts may not realize just how big an impact physical activity is having on their brains. The Harvard Medical School notes that exercise stimulates regions of the brain that release a chemical called brain-derived neurotrophic factor, or BDNF, which rewires memory circuits so they

# Stay mentally fresh during the workday



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can function better. A stronger memory can help workers recall project details and deadlines more easily, even as the workday draws to a close.

Avoid the "quick fix." Relying on a beverage or snack to provide a quick mental boost may end up compromising your mental sharpness. Foods and beverages that are high in sugar may provide an immediate energy boost, but that spike is almost instantly followed by a crash that can adversely affect your mental sharpness. Stick to healthy snacks, such as fruits and vegetables, and avoid late afternoon cups of coffee, which studies have shown make it harder to fall asleep at night, thereby compromising your energy levels the next day.

Take a walk outdoors. Spending some time

provide a break for the brain. That break can help the brain refocus, improving productivity as a result. One great way to get outdoors during busy workdays is to conduct meetings outside when the weather permits. This gives everyone a chance to recharge their brains in the great outdoors, and few people would prefer a dusty conference room to a nearby park or picnic area outdoors.

Various strategies can help working professionals maintain their mental sharpness throughout the workday.

outdoors during a lunch break, or even a quick, post-lunch stroll around the office grounds, can

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# Relax and renew

By **NANCY DALE**  
YOGA FOR LIFE

The most important pose in yoga is "Savasana," the final yoga posture in a daily practice. This pose is most everyone's favorite posture as it is a time to completely let go physically, mentally and emotionally. It is a quiet respite at the end of practice to release any tension from the body with an inventory from head to toe.

The first step is to lie down on the back and just breathe or extend both legs up the wall.

There are several ways to fall into Savasana simply by closing the eyes, letting them drop deep

into the eye socks, releasing the tongue from the roof of the mouth, widening the space between the eyes, loosening the scalp and sinking deep into the Earth as all thoughts are released with the only focus on deep breathing and letting go.

The world moves out of our mind for another time and we deepen and lengthen each inhale/exhale. We loosen the tension in the body through deep breathing.

If you have "legs up the wall" you can go through the same relaxation as you quiet the mind. Relax the neck and throat as you press the shoulder blades deep into the Earth. Bring the chin closer to the chest to release

the seven little vertebrae in the neck. Quiet the vibrations of the vocal cords. Release the arms and legs.

Quietly breathe deep breaths in through the nose and visualize the rich oxygenated blood carrying renewed oxygen throughout all the body parts. Observe the rise and fall of the front thoracic cavity and the spreading of the "wings" of the back. Take a calm journey throughout the body and let go of any tension in the mind by breathing it out.

We call it "mining" tension. Internally, feel the tight spots, inhale pure oxygenated blood into those spaces and deeply release and exhale. Relax



COURTESY PHOTO

Savasana Pose with Gold's Gym students. Pictured from left: Janet, Jane, Rachel, Bharti and Vicki.

and renew with every breath. If thoughts of the world creep into the mind, let those thoughts float through the mind like little butterflies. Bring your attention back to your deep breathing

and save the worldly thoughts for another time. Savasana is your time to let go.

Explore the replenished spaces in your physical/mental body and fall deeper into

relaxation. Remain still except for the rise and fall of the chest.

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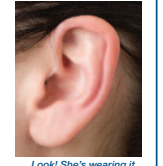
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### HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

# House looks for transparency in health care

By **CHRISTINE SEXTON**  
NEWS SERVICE OF FLORIDA

TALLAHASSEE — Patients admitted to Florida hospitals could get more paperwork in the future in the name of health care “transparency.”

A House panel on Wednesday approved a bill that would require hospitals to give patients written information about the facilities’ infection rates, 15-day readmission rates and overall ratings on a national health-system survey.

The information already is available to consumers on a state website, but bill sponsor Michael Grant, R-Port Charlotte, said it’s not being utilized.

“What we have found through research is few, if any, patients are actually accessing that information,” Grant told members of the House Health Market Reform Subcommittee. “What this bill would require is that hospitals provide that information to patients when they are in a non-emergency situation prior to treatment or upon admission.”

The proposal (HB 319) goes beyond providing the already-available information to consumers in a written form.

Grant’s bill also would require hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers to begin surveying their staffs about patient

safety, including inquiring whether staff members would be admitted for procedures at the facilities where they work. Hospitals and ambulatory surgical center would be required to submit the results to the state for publication.

“What you get is better quality care when the public has access to the information,” Grant said.

The surveys would be developed by the state Agency for Health Care Administration. The bill would require that the surveys be designed to measure a series of patient-safety issues such as frequency of adverse medical events; comfort in reporting potential problems or errors; the level of teamwork within hospital units and facilities as a whole; and staff compliance with patient-safety regulations and guidelines.

Grant said he is pushing the bill because hospitals will improve quality if they know members of the public will be aware of the type of care they will be receiving.

House leaders are pushing hospital and ambulatory surgical-center surveys as a health-care transparency tool, and it’s the third consecutive year the bill has been filed in the House.

The Health Market Reform Subcommittee agreed to pass the bill by an 11-2 vote, despite a recommendation

from a state advisory panel in December to the contrary.

The State Consumer Health Information and Policy Advisory Council was established in state law as an advisory body for the Agency for Health Care Administration. Its members come from a variety of sectors in the health-care industry, including HMOs, hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers.

The panel voted unanimously in December to advise the Agency for Health Care Administration to oppose the House measure.

David Shapiro, a medical doctor and a certified health-care risk manager and partner in an ambulatory surgical-care consulting company, said information collected in the surveys isn’t for public consumption.

“Putting these out in the public domain would diminish our ability to use them to create that really important culture of patient safety to ensure that we take care of the patients to the best of our ability,” Shapiro said in December.

Grant’s bill is scheduled to be heard next by the House Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee and the House Health & Human Services Committee. A Senate version has not been filed. The annual legislative session starts March 5.

# How to hone your time management skills

By **Metro Creative**

Ours is a busy society where everyone is moving from place to place quite rapidly, whether at school, home or work. As a result, many people may feel that there simply are not enough hours in the day to get it all done.

Quite often people delay certain tasks until the late hours of the night as a way to catch up. But that can be detrimental to health. The National Institute of Health warns that lack of adequate sleep can affect mood, adversely affect relationships, increase anxiety, and possibly contribute to depression. Inadequate sleep is also associated with increased risk of high blood pressure, obesity and heart disease.

Rather than tapping into precious hours of shut-eye, men and women can learn how to manage their time better so they complete more tasks during the day, leaving more time to relax and sleep at night. Effective time management begins with these strategies.

Set priorities. Begin by setting priorities. This involves making a list of all the tasks that need to be completed, and then putting them in order of most essential to least essential. Once you understand where to first devote your attention, address items on the list in order of their priority.

Develop goals. Goals do not have to be far-off ideas for the future. They



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can be easily reached today. Simple goals such as, “I want to remove all nonessential paperwork from my desk” can be tackled quickly and without much effort. Goals give a person something to work toward and are important ways to steer you in the right direction. Without goals, you may wander aimlessly. Accomplishing goals of all shapes and sizes gives a feeling of accomplishment.

Avoid distractions. Distractions can pull attention away from important tasks at hand. Distractions can be phone calls, text alerts, personal issues, people in the room, and many other things. Figure out how you work best and minimize distractions so that you can fully focus on your priorities.

Stop multitasking. Unfortunately, multitasking is not the key to getting more things done.

In fact, it could actually be hurting performance. Research conducted at Stanford University discovered that multi-tasking is less productive than doing a single thing at a time. You simply cannot put full effort into multiple things at once – and something will be short-changed if you try.

Write things down. Keeping information floating around your mind is ineffective and can lead to stress. Put things down on paper or make digital notes to keep track of what needs to get done. Set your targets and break each task down to manageable pieces. Physically cross items off your list as they are completed.

Time management is a skill that can be learned with practice and focusing on elements of success.



## CHEF

FROM PAGE 2B

viewed at Smart Lifestyle TV, Better Health TV and Good News TV. I’ve also done many segments on a dozen other networks.”

Helping people learn to eat better while still enjoying life, Chef Mark urged, “Getting off all fats and oils really helps because you need to understand about caloric density.” Anthony explained how even vegetarians can be unhealthy. “We should be eating the coconut, not pouring on coconut oil. Eating the olive rather than using olive oil.”

He also helps viewers understand how to set up their fridge as a salad bar and their pantry for an oatmeal station. “My shows are fun, exciting and motivating. I offer strategies to design your kitchen for healthy success.”

Anthony knows people need to have more conviction about improving their health. “You have to keep



COURTESY PHOTO

**Chef Mark Anthony takes common potatoes and turns them into a vegan cheese dip that is significantly better for your biometrics.**

taking steps. It requires consistency. You can make the changes and do this,” he insisted.

He has presented his live cooking shows in every state across the United States. “We have performed over 1500 shows in the past decade and are booked solid in 2019 with shows in Africa and Iceland too.”

Chef Mark has a passion to share his life transforming information. “We have seen hundreds of people lose weight, reverse heart

disease, diabetes and more. Come learn how to lower your cholesterol and increase your energy while having a really fun time.”

On Sunday, Feb. 24 and Monday, Feb. 25, he will host a free live show with dinner and a message at the Walker Memorial Academy, 1525 W. Avon Blvd. in Avon Park. Seating is limited so arrive early. The presentation is free. For more information, call 863-453-6641 or visit AvonParkChurch.Eventbright.com.

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See page 4



## Rubio warns Venezuelan soldiers to let aid enter



AP PHOTOS

U.S. Senator Marco Rubio, R-Fla., greets Venezuelan migrants near the Simon Bolivar International Bridge, which connects Colombia with Venezuela, where one holds up Venezuelan flag in La Parada, near Cucuta, Colombia, Sunday.

### Maduro using troops to block aid from entering Venezuela out of fear it is a plan to overthrow him

CUCUTA, Colombia (AP) — U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio on Sunday visited a border staging point for U.S. aid to Venezuela and warned soldiers loyal to socialist President Nicolas Maduro that would commit a “crime against humanity” if they block entry of the packages that are being channeled through Maduro’s rivals.

An enthusiastic throng of Venezuelan migrants, some chanting “Rubio! Liberty!” met the Florida Republican as he visited Cucuta and held a news conference in sight of a border bridge that has been flooded in recent months by Venezuelans fleeing hardship in their own country.

The U.S. has used

military and civilian aircraft to fly in food and personal care aid — an effort that is meant to undermine Maduro and dramatize his government’s inability to overcome shortages of food and medicine.

The aid is supposed to be distributed in Venezuela on Feb. 23 by supporters of congressional leader Juan Guaido, who is recognized the U.S. and dozens of other countries as Venezuela’s legitimate president.

Maduro is using troops to block aid from entering, saying it’s unnecessary and part of coup to overthrow him.

Rubio warned those soldiers that blocking aid would be an international “crime against humanity.”



Venezuelan migrant Yanela Aleman cries as she sings her national anthem in La Parada, near Cucuta, Colombia, on the border with Venezuela, Sunday.

He said in Spanish that soldiers who block aid from entering would spend “the rest of their lives hiding from justice.”

But those who renounce Maduro have been promised amnesty by Guaido and the opposition-dominated congress. Few soldiers have accepted that promise.

Rubio, who has been an influential voice in advocating U.S. measures against Maduro, noted that about 50 nations have declared Guaido the constitutional president of Venezuela, based on arguments that Maduro’s re-election last year was fraudulent, and that other

AID | 4

## Last stand: IS hides among civilians

By SARAH EL DEEB  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHOUZ, Syria — From a self-proclaimed caliphate that once spread across much of Syria and Iraq, the Islamic State group has been knocked back to a speck of land on the countries’ shared border. In that tiny patch on the banks of the Euphrates River, hundreds of militants are hiding among civilians under the shadow of a small hill — encircled by forces waiting to declare the territorial defeat of the extremist group.

A spokesman for the U.S.-backed Syrian Democratic Forces fighting the militants said Sunday that the group is preventing civilians from leaving the area, closing a corridor from which nearly 40,000 residents have managed to escape since December.

“They are taking their last breath,” said Dino, an SDF fighter deployed at a base near the front line in the village of Baghouz, about 1¼ miles from the militants’ last spot.

An Associated Press team visited the base Sunday, escorted by the SDF, driving past mostly one-story rural houses that were destroyed, a reminder of the cost of the battle. Occasional airstrikes and artillery rounds by the U.S.-led coalition supporting the SDF, meant to clear land mines for the advance, could be seen in the distance.

The road to the base passes through a number of villages and towns from which IS were uprooted in recent weeks.

In Hajin, a major center for the militants that fell to the SDF in December, some residents have begun to return but the town remains battered by the fighting and airstrikes. Small shops selling tools and construction material have sprung up.

For weeks, the militants fought desperately for their shrinking territory. Once in control of about a third of Syria and Iraq, they now are down to what SDF officials describe as a small tented village atop a network of tunnels and caves. But they are holding on to hundreds of civilians — some of them possibly hostages — taking cover among them at the edge of Baghouz, the village in eastern Deir el-Zour province.

“Regrettably, Daesh have closed all the roads,” preventing civilians from leaving, said Mustafa Bali, a spokesman for the Kurdish-led SDF, referring to IS by its Arabic acronym.

The extremists may include high-level commanders, and the presence of possible captives could explain the slow final push, they added.

As civilians trickled out of the enclave in recent weeks, the SDF and coalition officials screened them. Women and children were transferred to camps miles away; men suspected of links to the militant group were taken into custody at other facilities.

SDF commanders said some of the hostages taken from their force have been freed in recent

CIVILIANS | 4

## Lawmakers expect vote to block emergency order, and then face a veto

By MARK NIQUETTE and  
CHRISTOPHER CONDON  
BLOOMBERG NEWS

WASHINGTON — U.S. lawmakers said Sunday that there may be support in Congress to disapprove Donald Trump’s order declaring an emergency to secure funding for a border wall, but not enough votes to overturn an expected veto.

Trump issued the order Friday to divert certain military funding for wall construction,

after Congress approved only \$1.375 billion of the \$5.7 billion he sought in a bipartisan budget bill to avoid a second partial government shutdown.

House Democrats may soon pass a resolution opposing the declaration, and Democrats in the Senate, while in the minority, could force a vote on it.

Sen. Tammy Duckworth, D-Ill., and Rep. Jim Jordan, R-Ohio, both said on ABC’s “This Week” Sunday that they expect a resolution in Congress

opposing Trump’s order to have enough votes to pass their respective chambers by simple majorities.

White House aide Stephen Miller suggested on “Fox News Sunday” that Trump would then issue the first veto of his presidency.

“He is going to protect his national emergency declaration, guaranteed,” said Miller, one Trump’s most hawkish advisers on immigration. He said U.S. law gives Trump the

power to make the declaration.

Jordan said on ABC’s “This Week” that while he thinks the resolutions will pass, “when the president will veto them, I don’t think there’s any chance that the veto will be overridden.” Duckworth also questioned whether a Trump veto could be challenged.

“Now, whether we have enough for an override and veto, that’s a different story,” Duckworth said. “But frankly, I think there’s enough people in

the Senate who are concerned that what he’s doing is robbing from the military.”

At least three lawsuits have already been filed to block Trump from diverting funds previously approved by Congress. California Attorney General Xavier Becerra said on ABC’s “This Week” Sunday that his state “definitely and imminently” will be suing to challenge the emergency

VETO | 4

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# Family: UK teen who joined IS has baby in Syria

## The family of a British teenager who ran away wants her to return to UK

By SYLVIA HUI  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON — The family of a British teenager who ran away to join the Islamic State group and now wants to return to the U.K. said Sunday she has given birth to a baby boy. The family's lawyer said 19-year-old Shamima Begum and the baby are in good health. In a recent interview with The Times newspaper, Begum said she had previously lost two babies to illness and malnutrition.

News about Begum and her desire to go back to Britain have ignited a debate in the U.K. about how to deal with citizens who joined IS and want to leave Syria now that the extremist group is on the verge of collapse.

Begum was one of a group of schoolgirls from London's Bethnal Green neighborhood who went to Syria to marry IS fighters in 2015 at a time when the group's online recruitment program lured many impressionable young people to its self-proclaimed caliphate.

Speaking to Britain's Sky News from Syria, where she has been living in a refugee camp, Begum said she didn't know what she was getting into when she left and wants to bring her baby back to Britain with her.

"I think a lot of people should have sympathy towards me for everything I've been through," she

said in an interview broadcast Sunday.

"I just was hoping that maybe for me, for the sake of me and my child, they let me come back," the young woman said. "Because I can't live in this camp forever. It's not really possible."

"I don't want to take care of my child in this camp because I'm afraid he might even die in this camp," she said.

Begum said she had been only a "housewife" during her time with IS militants.

"I never did anything dangerous. I never made propaganda. I never encouraged people to come to Syria. So they'd only have proof I didn't do anything that is dangerous," she said.

She added she had been "OK with" beheadings carried out by Islamic State adherents because she had heard it was allowed under Islamic law.

While it is unclear whether Begum committed any crimes and her legal status is uncertain, it's possible Begum could face charges for supporting IS if she returns to Britain. Some people in her native country have focused on her apparent lack of remorse and argue she would be a security threat to Britain.

Home Secretary Sajid Javid, who oversees immigration, wrote in the Sunday Times he would "not hesitate" to prevent the return of Britons who



PHOTO BY METROPOLITAN POLICE VIA AP

This undated photo issued by the Metropolitan Police shows Shamima Begum.

traveled abroad to join IS.

"If you do manage to return, you should be ready to be questioned, investigated and potentially prosecuted," Javid said.

Asked during the Sky interview if she felt she made a mistake going to Syria, Begum said: "In a way, yes. But I don't regret it because it's changed me as a person. It's made me stronger, tougher, you know."

Two days before the baby's birth was announced, Begum's relatives in Britain said they were "shocked" by her comments but thought she should be brought back and dealt with by the British justice system.

"The welfare of Shamima's unborn baby is of paramount concern to our family, and we will do everything within our power to protect that baby, who is entirely blameless in these events," the family had said.

The family said it is concerned about Begum's mental health and characterizes her as having been groomed by Islamic State fighters.

# Haitian prime minister breaks silence on violent protests

By JACQUELINE CHARLES  
MIAMI HERALD

Haiti's prime minister, Jean Henry Ceant, reiterated an appeal for dialogue with the country's opposition and promised an investigation into the alleged misspending of nearly \$2 billion from the Venezuela PetroCaribe discount oil program that was supposed to be invested in programs for the poor.

The alleged corruption surrounding the fund and the government's mismanagement of the economy have been at the heart of violent demonstrations in Haiti since Feb. 7.

The violence has led many foreign diplomats, visitors and even Haitians with means to flee the country over the past 10 days. The Canadian government and U.S. State Department have raised their travel warnings for Haiti, warning citizens to avoid travel to the country.

Ceant, like Haiti President Jovenel Moise who finally broke his silence Thursday, had been quiet during most of the protests.

A lawyer and notary, Ceant was named by Moise five months ago to lead the government. The president noted his

dissatisfaction with his prime minister during his own address to the country, saying that since Ceant became prime minister, the situation has worsened.

Ceant did not address the president's concerns and instead focused on the impact of the last 10 days, and the need for Haitians to come together to discuss the country's problems.

In his speech Saturday, Ceant condemned the acts of violence including the burning of an American flag during one of the protests, and the trashing of the embassies of Peru and Italy.

## HEADLINES AROUND THE WORLD

### Netanyahu gives up Israeli foreign-minister job

TEL AVIV, Israel — Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has given up the post of foreign minister for the first time since he took office almost four years ago, appointing Transportation Minister Israel Katz in his place Sunday.

Netanyahu has faced criticism over the fact that he keeps major ministerial roles to himself, a criticism that intensified when he added the role of defense minister to his responsibilities after Avigdor Liberman resigned from the post in November.

In addition, Netanyahu also holds the health portfolio.

His decision to relinquish the Foreign Ministry comes after a Jerusalem-based nongovernmental organization, the Movement for Quality Government in Israel, petitioned the High Court of Justice over the number of portfolios he holds, Israeli media reported.

Katz also is intelligence minister and a lawmaker from Netanyahu's right-wing Likud party. Israel is to hold general elections April 9.

Katz is behind a plan to connect Israel and Gulf states via railway.

This year, Katz has pushed for a proposal to improve the humanitarian crisis

in the Gaza Strip by building an artificial island off its coast.

### Holocaust comments spur Polish leaders to cancel trip to Jerusalem

WARSAW, Poland — Poland's prime minister canceled a visit to Jerusalem after comments by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu about the role of Polish people in the Holocaust.

Mateusz Morawiecki had been due to visit the city Monday to participate in the first meeting of the Visegrad Group of eastern European nations to be held outside the continent.

Poland had however been seeking clarification of comments reportedly made by Netanyahu that "the Polish nation" cooperated with Nazi occupiers during World War II, Polsat News reported, citing an aide to the Morawiecki. Israel said Netanyahu had been talking about "individuals, and not the whole nation," Polsat reported. Morawiecki nevertheless informed Netanyahu Sunday of his decision to skip the visit.

Morawiecki "remains very sensitive to false accusations against the Polish nation when it comes to the Second World War," aide Michal Dworczyk said in an interview with Polsat.

## HEADLINES AROUND THE STATE

### Work-release inmates help rescue baby locked in SUV

NEW PORT RICHEY (AP) — Some work-release inmates made a Valentine's Day rescue when a Florida couple accidentally locked their baby inside their SUV. Pasco County Sheriff's Office spokesman Kevin Doll told WFLA-TV the parents could not afford a locksmith, and the father intended to break a window.

That's when a crew of trustees working nearby in their black-and-white striped uniforms offered to help.

They helped pry open the front door just enough for one inmate to use a coat hanger to push a button that unlocked the SUV.

The baby's mother, Shadow Lantry, told WPEC-TV the infant was "just sitting there happy" throughout Thursday's ordeal.

### 7 right whale calves spotted in Florida's Atlantic waters

DAYTONA BEACH (AP) — Seven rare right whale calves have been spotted so far this winter off Florida's Atlantic coast.

Researchers say each new calf spotted this year is an encouraging sign for the critically endangered whales. No newborns were spotted during the last calving season, and just five calves were counted during the previous year.

But Katie Jackson of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission tells The Daytona Beach News-Journal that seven calves "still isn't enough." The wildlife biologist

says right whales need to deliver 16 to 18 calves a year just to maintain their current population.

Scientists estimate only about 450 North Atlantic right whales remain.

Right whales typically migrate from the North Atlantic to give birth off the coasts of Georgia and Florida from December through March.

### Police employee charged with selling department-owned guns

HALLEDALE BEACH (AP) — Authorities say a Florida police employee sold department-owned guns and other equipment to a pawn shop.

Broward County jail records show that 33-year-old Yan Kleyman was arrested Friday and charged with dealing in stolen property.

Hallendale Beach Police Chief Sonia Quinones said in a video posted to Facebook that the theft had been discovered during an internal equipment audit and that Kleyman has been fired. Officials didn't say what his job was.

A complaint affidavit says Kleyman conducted 15 pawnbroker transactions between March 2017 and August 2018. The report says the stolen items included a rifle, a handgun and several laser sights.

### 1 man arrested after security incident at airport

ORLANDO (AP) — Authorities say a man was arrested after he attempted to breach a security checkpoint at a Florida airport.

In a tweet, Orlando Police said that as authorities attempted to arrest the man Saturday at Orlando

International Airport, he reached into his pocket, prompting "unknown persons" nearby to yell that he had a gun.

Police said panic ensued, though there was no gun.

Sgt. Eduardo Bernal told the Orlando Sentinel the 37-year-old man was detained under a Florida law that allows for people to be involuntarily committed if deemed dangerous.

Charges of disorderly conduct and resisting an officer without violence are pending.

Panic also ensued Feb. 2 when a Transportation Security Administration officer jumped to his death inside the airport.

### Firefighter blames coca tea for failing drug test

ORLANDO (AP) — A Florida firefighter fired for a positive drug test got his job back after arguing the cocaine in his system was from a tea made with coca leaves.

The Orlando Sentinel reports that public records show firefighter Kevin Reynolds told investigators he brought a box of coca tea home after hiking Machu Picchu in Peru. The tea is used in South America to fight off altitude sickness.

The Orlando Fire Department fired Reynolds in early 2018 after he tested positive for drugs during an annual physical exam.

Reynolds and the union representing Orlando's firefighters argued the department did not follow its testing procedures.

The city and Reynolds settled the case last week, agreeing to drop arbitration proceedings and rescinding Reynolds' termination.

# New Broward sheriff's staff purge isn't over yet

By CHARLES RABIN  
MIAMI HERALD

Since Broward County Sheriff Scott Israel was suspended last month by Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis for his agency's response to the Marjory Stoneman Douglas mass shooting, most of his command staff has either been forced out, resigned or been demoted.

Yet this much is clear: Newly appointed Sheriff Gregory Tony is not done with his housecleaning.

The latest to leave is Capt. Ira Goldberg, a tough-talking former Broward corrections officer who was criticized for an anti-gay Facebook post he made last year.

It was directed at the leader of the Broward County Log Cabin Republicans, an organization that works within the Republican Party in support of LGBT rights.

In May, Goldberg suspected that Log Cabin Republican Gilberto Montalvo hired protesters to face off against Israel at a political event. In a Facebook comment directed at Montalvo, Goldberg wrote: "I hope you offered them money instead of sexual favors. Those men deserve better."

Criticized at the time, Goldberg said he had no intention of taking down the post and invited Montalvo to complain to the news media, which he did. A sheriff's office internal affairs investigation criticized Goldberg, finding that he had violated the department's social media policy. He was docked a day's pay,

according police records.

Goldberg couldn't be reached for comment this week. Asked about his departure, sheriff's office public information officer Veda Coleman-Wright forwarded a form showing that Goldberg left on his own accord last Tuesday.

Also removed from their posts, according to a memo obtained by the Miami Herald, are seven members of a civilian community outreach group created by Israel, each of whom had take-home vehicles. Some are expected to get other positions with the county; others may be let go.

The outreach group was formed to be the eyes and ears of the sheriff's office at events like homeowner gatherings or town-hall meetings. But, according to Jeff Bell, president of the Broward Sheriff's Office Deputy Association, it shifted into the political realm, often showing up at fund-raising events to promote Israel.

"It's a political arm of the sheriff's office at the expense of the taxpayers," Bell said.

The political fallout at the sheriff's office since Nikolas Cruz killed 17 students and staff members and wounded 17 others on Feb. 14, 2018, has been extensive.

On Jan. 11, DeSantis suspended Israel, calling the sheriff negligent and incompetent and claiming that he "egregiously" failed in training his deputies to respond to the attack on Stoneman Douglas. Deputies took

cover behind their cars rather than enter the freshman building to confront the shooter, which has become the standard response to a school shooting.

Israel said he was devastated at what happened in Parkland and that he is fully responsible for the actions of his officers. But he wasn't willing to take the blame for the students and teachers who were killed or injured.

"Like any good sheriff, I'm responsible for anything that goes on in BSO, good or bad," Israel said. "But no one, not you, not me, is responsible for the deaths of these 17 people and 17 others shot, but this evil, evil person."

After DeSantis stepped in, more dominoes fell immediately, with five command staffers resigning the day Israel was removed.

Israel has been raising money to fight for his job before the state Senate, which has the power to reinstate him but is unlikely to do so. He said that if the Senate or the courts don't restore him to office, he has every intention of running for the sheriff again next year. He said the governor's decision to suspend him was nothing more than keeping a campaign promise.

"I don't know what the Senate or state or the federal court will do. I can't see into the future," Israel said. "But I've done absolutely nothing to warrant a suspension. And whether I get reinstated or not, I will run again."

# Potential privacy lapse found in 2010 census data

Top Census official says personal info from more than 100 million Americans could be vulnerable to hacking

By **SETH BORENSTEIN**  
AP SCIENCE WRITER

WASHINGTON — An internal team at the Census Bureau found that basic personal information collected from more than 100 million Americans during the 2010 head count could be reconstructed from obscured data, but with lots of mistakes, a top agency official disclosed Saturday.

The age, gender, location, race and ethnicity for 138 million people were potentially vulnerable. So far, however, only internal hacking teams have discovered such details at possible risk, and no outside groups are known to have grabbed data intended to remain private for 72 years, chief scientist John Abowd told a scientific conference.

The Census Bureau is now scrapping its old data shielding technique for a state-of-the-art method that Abowd claimed is far better than Google's or Apple's.

Some former agency chiefs fear the potential privacy problem will add to the worries that people will avoid answering or lie on the once-every-10-year survey because of the Trump administration's attempt to add a much-debated citizenship question.

The Supreme Court on Friday announced that it would rule on that proposed question, which has been criticized for being political and not properly tested in the field. The census count

is hugely important, helping with the allocation of seats in the House of Representatives and distribution of billions of dollars in federal money.

The 8 billion pieces of statistics in census data are supposed to be jumbled in a way so what is released publicly for research cannot identify individuals for more than seven decades. In 2010, the Census Bureau did this by swapping similar household information from one city to another, according to Duke University statistics professor Jerome Reiter.

In the internal tests, Abowd said, officials were able to match of 45 percent of the people who answered the 2010 census with information from public and commercial data sets such as Facebook. But errors in this technique meant that only data for 52 million people would be completely correct — little more than 1-in-6 of the U.S. population.

He said the 2010 census used the best possible privacy protection available, but hackers since then have become more skilled in reconstructing data. To counter their growing abilities, the agency has completely changed the system for 2020 and will offer the "gold standard" of privacy regardless of the fate of the citizenship question, Abowd said.

People "want to know that statistical tables aren't going to come back and haunt them," Abowd said at the American



SHUTTERSTOCK PHOTO

The Supreme Court will decide whether the 2020 census can include a question about citizenship that could affect the allocation of seats in the House of Representatives and the distribution of billions of dollars in federal money.

Association for the Advancement of Science's annual meeting. "I promise the American people they will have the privacy that they deserve."

Georgetown University provost Robert Groves, who headed the 2010 census, said the count had the proper privacy and that every census improves. He lauded the new steps.

Former agency chief Kenneth Prewitt, a professor of policy at Columbia University, said the basic information such as age and ethnicity, even if publicly revealed, isn't as big a deal as other data breaches.

"There is a widespread privacy anxiety out there that is very much related to Facebook and Google and so forth," Prewitt said. "I'm much more worried about the fact that my iPhone follows me around every day."

In a statement, Apple's

Fred Sainz took issue with such privacy concerns:

"The iPhone doesn't follow you around all day long — Apple has no idea where you are nor do we care. And Apple does not sell information to companies." He noted, however, that consumers can choose apps that know their location.

Abowd said "the 2020 census will be the safest and best protected ever. And this is not as easy as it sounds."

The new system involves complex mathematical algorithms that inject "noise" into the data, making it harder to get accurate information and providing "a very strong guarantee" of privacy, said Duke University computer sciences professor Ashwin Machanavajhala.

This increases privacy while lowering the accuracy for researchers who use the statistics. Think

of it as one set of knobs being dialed up while a second is dialed down at the same time.

The decision on the official privacy/accuracy setting for 2020 hasn't been set. Abowd said policy officials, not engineers or scientists, will make that call.

The Census Bureau tried this system in a 2018 survey using an ultra-strict privacy setting that, while not directly comparable to Google or Apple, is hundreds if not thousands of times more secure for privacy than what's now being used on data from searches using Google Chrome or Apple's iPhone, Duke's Reiter said.

Prewitt suggested the public might not understand the extra efforts underway for the 2020 count but would be spooked by the disclosure about the privacy vulnerability, making people

more reluctant to comply with the next census.

If the administration succeeds in adding the citizenship question, "there will be a huge evasion of it (the census) and some selective misuse of it," Prewitt said.

Whether some avoid the survey because of it or lie, neither is a good outcome, making the data less usable, Prewitt said.

Groves said technical experts have serious problems with the citizenship question because it hasn't been tested in the field, as all census questions usually are. He compared it to putting a new drug on the market before the necessary testing.

"Very subtle wording and positional changes in a thing like the Census can have enormous impact way beyond what we as humans can predict," Groves said

## Aurora shooter's permit was revoked but gun wasn't seized

By **DON BABWIN and JULIE WATSON**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AURORA, Ill. — An initial background check failed to detect a felony conviction that should have barred the man who killed five co-workers and wounded six others at a suburban Chicago manufacturing plant from buying the gun.

Months later, a second background check of Gary Martin found his 1995 aggravated assault conviction in Mississippi involving the stabbing of an ex-girlfriend. But it prompted only a letter stating his gun permit had been revoked and ordering him to turn over his firearm to police — raising questions about the state's enforcement to ensure those who lose their permits also turn over their weapons.

Martin, 45, was killed in a shootout with officers Friday, ending his deadly rampage at the Henry Pratt Co. in Aurora. His state gun license permit was revoked in 2014, Aurora Police Chief Kristen Ziman said.

But he never gave up the .40-caliber Smith & Wesson handgun he used in the attack.

Illinois lawmakers who support more gun control measures said Martin was able to keep the gun because of a flaw in the 1968 law that requires residents to get a Firearm Owner's Identification card, or FOID card, to purchase firearms or ammunition. They must pass a background check, but the law does not mandate that police ensure weapons have been removed if a red flag is raised later.

Legislation was introduced in 2016 to require police go to the homes of gun owners who have their FOID cards revoked and search for the weapons, but it failed over concerns it would overtax police departments, said Democratic Rep. Kathleen Willis.

"Let's use some common sense. If you have someone with a felony, obviously they are not the best



AP PHOTO

A woman places flowers at a makeshift memorial Sunday, near Henry Pratt Co. manufacturing company where several were killed on Friday.

law-abiding citizens who are going to follow through when they get the letter and go, 'oh yeah, here's my gun, no problem,'" Willis said.

Last year, Illinois joined other states like California in passing a law that allows a family member to petition to have a gun removed from a home and a person's permit revoked if they believe they might use it to harm themselves or others.

Lawmakers are also working to add teeth to restrictions on the transfers of gun ownership from a person whose permit has been revoked, Willis said. The change follows a 2018 shooting at a Tennessee Waffle House involving a man who had to give his guns to his father after his Illinois FOID card was revoked, but his father later gave them back to him.

Martin was no stranger to police in Aurora, where he had been arrested six times over the years.

After an initial background check failed to detect his felony conviction, Martin was issued his FOID card and bought the Smith & Wesson handgun on March 11, 2014. Five days after that, he applied for a concealed carry permit. That background check did flag his Mississippi felony conviction and led the Illinois State Police to revoke his permit.

Records stemming from his 1995 conviction in Mississippi described

an extremely violent man who abused a former girlfriend, at one point hitting her with a baseball bat and stabbing her, the Washington Post reported Saturday.

After serving less than three years, he moved to Illinois and landed a job at Henry Pratt. The conviction was not detected in a company background check.

Authorities said Saturday that Martin pulled out the gun and began shooting right after hearing he was being fired from his job of 15 years at the industrial valve manufacturer for various workplace violations. The company has not given further details on what they were.

Martin killed three people in the room with him and two others just outside, Ziman said. Martin also wounded a sixth worker, who is expected to survive.

After wounding five officers, Martin hid in the back of the building, where officers found him about an hour later and killed him during an exchange of gunfire, police said. All of the wounded officers are expected to live.

Police identified the slain workers as Clayton Parks, Josh Pinkard, Russell Beyer, Vicente Juarez, and Trevor Wehner, the new intern.

A vigil for the victims was scheduled for Sunday in Aurora.

## Disgraced ex-Congressman Anthony Weiner released from prison

AYER, Mass. (AP) — Disgraced former Congressman Anthony Weiner has been released from federal prison after being convicted of having illicit online contact with a 15-year-old girl in 2017.

The Federal Bureau of Prisons website shows the 54-year-old New York Democrat is currently in the custody of its Residential Re-entry Management office in Brooklyn, New York.

It's not immediately clear when Weiner was transferred and where he's staying now, but Weiner will have to



WEINER

register as a sex-offender and spend three years on supervised release under the terms of his sentence. The prison bureau, federal prosecutors in New York and Weiner's lawyer didn't respond to emails seeking comment Sunday.

Weiner began serving a 21-month prison sentence at the Federal Medical Center Devens, in Ayer, Massachusetts, in November 2017.

The bureau website shows Weiner is slated to complete his sentence May 14, a few months earlier than scheduled because of good conduct in prison.

A once-rising star in the Democratic Party who served nearly 12 years in Congress, Weiner had a

dramatic and sordid fall from grace after he sent a lewd picture of himself to a college student over Twitter in 2011.

Weiner initially claimed his account had been hacked, then admitted he'd had inappropriate online interactions with at least six other women while married to top Hillary Clinton aide Huma Abedin.

Weiner resigned from Congress that year but mounted a campaign for New York City mayor in 2013.

But his personal behavior was again his undoing after it was disclosed he sent explicit photos under the alias "Carlos Danger" to at least one woman after resigning from Congress.

His final fall came in 2017 after prosecutors say he sent a series of sexually explicit messages to a North Carolina high school student. Weiner pleaded guilty to transferring obscene material to a minor.

Weiner's attorney said the ex-lawmaker likely exchanged thousands of messages with hundreds of women over the years and was communicating with up to 19 women when he encountered the teenager.

Abedin also filed for divorce from Weiner in 2017. But the two, who have a young son together, later agreed to discontinue the case in order to negotiate their separation privately.





# Daily Splenda use won't set up a consumer for diabetes

**DEAR DR. ROACH:** I'm a 75-year-old man in good health and not obese (my BMI is around 20-21). I like coffee, and drink four or five cups a day. But I like it with a packet of Splenda, and the same thing goes for my breakfast cereal. Am I setting myself up for diabetes? — D.G.D.

**ANSWER:** Splenda is made from sucralose, a poorly absorbable artificial sweetener. Sucralose does not raise blood sugars or insulin levels, so it will not increase your risk for diabetes.

However, powdered Splenda, like many artificial sweeteners, is mixed with the sugars maltodextrin or dextrose, both of which are absorbed and do affect insulin levels. A packet of Splenda contains about 1 gram of these sugars. Two packets a day is then the equivalent of a little over a tablespoon of a typical soda, which I still see people consuming liters or more of at a time. You may have your Splenda without worry.

**DEAR DR. ROACH:** I was scheduled for an MRI due to



**Dr. Roach**

sciatica/disk issues two years ago. When I mentioned I had eyeliner tattooed on over 20 years ago, the technician said I should not get an MRI because the ink contained metal particles. The people who do MRI at the hospital told me that they would put a wet washcloth over my eyes so I could still get an MRI. But I didn't want to take a chance on hurting my eyesight, so I backed out the day before. I'm not sure if any of the tattoo is still there. Can you please discuss this? I'm having more health issues that require an MRI.

**ANSWER:** Some permanent eyeliner are tattoos made with iron-based ink. Under the powerful magnetic field of an MRI, these can heat up. It's not common: Less than 2 percent of people with permanent cosmetics noted any symptoms, such as tingling and burning. Loss of vision has never been reported as far as I could find. An ice pack or cold washcloth over the eye is a reasonable precaution.

**DEAR DR. ROACH:** In response to K.M.'s question about having a reaction to a tetanus shot, you should consider it might've been a reaction to the thimerosal preservative that was probably in the vaccine. Forty years ago, I had a similar reaction that was so severe that I was hospitalized for three days. My arm swelled so bad that my arm was bigger around than my waist and I had a high fever up to 104 F along with body aches. The doctors suggested that I get no more vaccinations, as they did not know what caused the reaction. However, a few years ago, my PCP said the thimerosal might

have caused the reaction. He gave me a Tdap shot with no preservative, and I had no reaction. I now avoid thimerosal and have had the shingles shots, flu shots, etc., without problems. The vaccinations prepared as individual doses have no preservative, but those prepared in a bottle from which the vaccination is withdrawn typically contain thimerosal. I hope this helps her. — S.R.

**ANSWER:** Reactions to thimerosal, a preservative containing ethyl mercury, are uncommon but have been reported. Most vaccines now are made thimerosal-free. As you indicated, it's multidose bottles, e.g., seasonal flu shots, that contain preservatives such as thimerosal. People with a history of a reaction suspected to be due to thimerosal can request a preservative-free vaccine.

I am glad your current doctor continues to give you your recommended vaccines. The risk of a reaction is almost always outweighed by the benefits of the vaccination.

# 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 ice hockey venue (5)	_____
2 Colorado skiing hotspot (4)	_____
3 boots (5)	_____
4 small fruits (7)	_____
5 willing to work together (11)	_____
6 what pendants hang from (9)	_____
7 motorcycle, in brief slang (4)	_____

NA	ARE	IL	RR	KS
KIC	IES	NE	LAC	ERA
BI	ES	VA	CO	TI
KE	VE	CK	OP	BE

Saturday's Answers: 1. SPREADABLE 2. HUSQVARNA 3. SCHOONER 4. TUBULAR 5. DAIS 6. PLANETS 7. DUCTING 2/18

# New mother can't let go of true story of baby's death

**DEAR ABBY:** I recently had a baby, and I have been diagnosed as having postpartum depression. I have tried all of the prescribed medications but took myself off them because of the side effects.



**Dear Abby**

The issue I'm having is I read a news story about a tiny baby who was scalded to death years ago by his mother. I think about that precious baby all day long. I cry, I scream and I have anxiety about hot water.

I started following the case closely (it's in another state) and have been spending my hard-earned vacation money ordering depositions and other documents from the case. I want some kind of closure on this, but I can't seem to let this poor baby go. My money is limited, which is why I can't/don't see a therapist. Any advice? — Overwhelmed In Georgia

**DEAR OVER-WHELMED:** Have you informed the doctor who prescribed those medications that you stopped taking them, and why?

It is important that you talk with a mental health professional about your obsession over the death of that baby and how it is

affecting your life. Because money is limited, contact your county department of mental health and ask what services are available on a sliding financial scale.

**DEAR ABBY:** What is the best way to approach a co-worker regarding body odor? A number of people in my office have noticed it, and it's creating a problem when someone has to sit near him during a meeting. We don't want to cause hurt feelings, but we really need him to be aware. — Keeping Our Distance In Pennsylvania

**DEAR KEEPING:** This could be a medical problem rather than poor hygiene. Because it's a delicate subject, one that could be embarrassing for everyone concerned, this should be discussed with HR, the person's supervisor or the boss — depending upon the size of the company.

# Stop waiting to be asked

**Dear Readers:** Today's SOUND OFF is about offering help without being asked. — Heloise

"Dear Heloise: Why do friends and relatives who know they have a sick or elderly friend or family member wait to be asked before they agree to help? They offer thoughts and prayers.

"While that is very much appreciated, they seem to forget that there are regular chores that a relative needs help with.

"The relative may be too proud for his or her own good and might feel that asking is admitting weakness.



**Hints from Heloise**

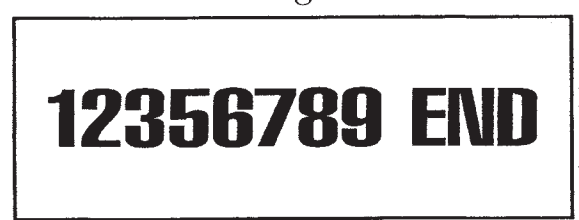
"Sometimes the person wants someone to say: 'I see your yard needs to be mowed.

"Would you let me do that for you?"

"Just open your eyes, folks, look around and see where there's a need, and offer to help." — Karol K., Troy, Ohio

# WHATZIT?

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



**SOLUTION:** Forgone conclusion

# JUMBLE

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

VOREG

RHEBT

SRLIPA

RANWID

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# 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)

Saturday's Jumbles: SEIZE BRAND SCORCH PLAQUE  
Answer: The flight attendants were under a lot of stress and were feeling the — CABIN PRESSURE

# KEN KEN

THE LOGIC PUZZLE THAT MAKES YOU SMARTER.

**EASY**

2-		3+	7+
32X			
2÷		9+	1
	3		

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**CHALLENGING**

3-	4	3÷	30X
2	5-	360X	
2-		3+	2÷
3-	3		5-
	3-	20X	1-
10+	10X	1	

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**RULES**

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

**PREVIOUS ANSWERS**

6X	3-	4	2÷
3	1	4	2
2-	2	3	1
4	4	2	3
2÷	4	2	3
4	2	3	1

# MARMADUKE By Brad Anderson



"It looks like we have a winner!"

# Cryptoquip

2-18

KNWA G ZGBUAD JMTORW  
WRMOW BM DWB HGPPUWZ,  
KMTRZ VMT IGV BNWV GPW  
TAUBUAD TAJWPWHMAUMTIRV?  
**Saturday's Cryptoquip:** WHEN A MAIN ROAD SEEMS ODDLY ELASTIC AND SPRINGY, HOW COULD YOU DESCRIBE IT? HIGHWAY RUBBERY.  
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals W

**WORD SLEUTH • BRITISH SWEETS**

ODAXVTQOMJHYFCY  
AYWURPNLJHSLFST  
DBGOBSTOPPERZEN  
XVTRQEOMOKIUIIU  
TWIRLCERHFZWDTO  
BZYBWIDVAMZYTBR  
RQAOKNNPALAKAA  
ITHRACSHFDJRCMD  
AZOPXIWINEGUMSB  
WYVUWPVYROTCIVI  
SRQREKCEDELBUOD

Saturday's unlisted clue: ISTANBUL

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.  
Monday's unlisted clue hint: MUTINY ON THE —

Curly Wurly	Jazzies	Tablet	Wine Gums
Dib Dab	Pan Drops	Twirl	Wispa
Double Decker	Picnic	Victory V	Yorkie
Gobstopper	Smarties	Wham	

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**HOROSCOPE**

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). You respond to realness and are hypersensitive today to anything not in the category, especially when it's coming from a familiar source. Anything that seems out of character will be taken as a red flag.  
**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). With your keen sense of direction, you're unlikely to get lost in the city or the woods, but you might feel lost in cultural conditioning, an invisible maze best navigated with your spiritual true north.  
**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). Expectations cannot always be managed. Sometimes imagination grabs the hand of passion and runs away before any reasonable limits can be communicated. Look for the wisdom in naive flights of fancy. It's there somewhere.  
**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). In every interaction, the first step is to set the scene. It will be set anyway, but maybe not in the way that puts you in the best light. So be deliberate. What's the impression that will set you up for success?  
**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). You're not new to the situation. You've had time to assess

the limits and risks. You've learned what's necessary and what you can do without. You've earned the right to use shortcuts of familiarity.  
**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Try a different role, even if it's not the one you feel destined for. You do your job better once you've seen it from the position of the boss, the customer, the competitor and more.  
**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You're so cooperative by nature that you may assume others share your amenability. But many people have to be reminded. The best way to do this is to ask for help.  
**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). If asked, say yes. If not asked, volunteer — because today the job at hand is sure to tap a well of your unused potential, awakening you to something new inside you.  
**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Being in a crowd gets easier the more crowds you're in. It's one way to get in touch with your humanity, a connection that's readily lost in the modern age. Get your ticket to go mix with the masses.  
**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Your whispering mind, the word on the street, the experts and prognosticators — all go

spinning tales about the latest outcomes, though no one knows for sure. All the stories have one thing in common: They are stories.  
**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You are whole. So give your attention, because it feels good to give and because it's your nature to love. You don't need to trade your attention for partnership or validation, because you're already definitely whole.  
**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). When you set out to contribute the best inside you, the world can't help but open up to you. People might be skeptical at first. But once they figure out your genuine intent, they'll change their tune.  
**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (Feb. 18). Out of respect for the people you're with, you've definitely been reluctant to focus on yourself. But there's a way to fulfill your role and still give consistent high-level attention to what you want. You tap into that, as well as a new way to hone and apply your talent to lucrative effect, and you make a lifestyle shift that gives you more time for fitness. Libra and Gemini adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 1, 11, 4 and 26.

Monday, February 18, 2019

**GOREN BRIDGE**

WITH BOB JONES  
 ©2019 Tribune Content Agency, LLC

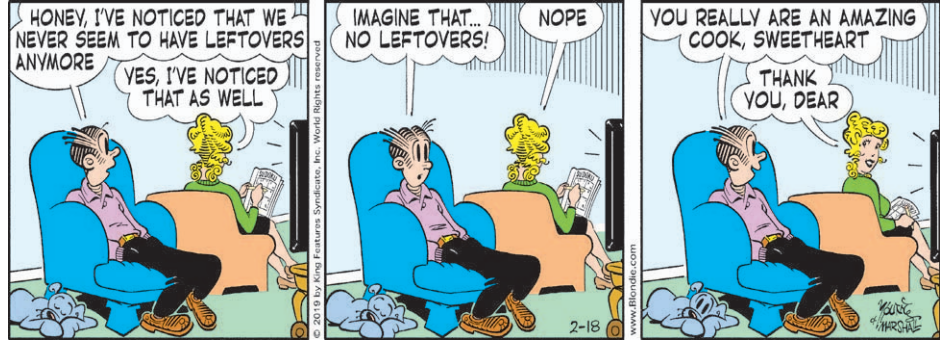
**WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ ANSWERS**

**Q 1** - Neither vulnerable, as South, you hold:  
 ♠ 9 5 ♥ J 10 4 ♦ 7 3 2 ♣ A K J 7 5  
**NORTH** EAST SOUTH WEST  
 1♠ Pass 1NT Pass  
 2♦ Pass ?  
 What call would you make?  
**A** - It's tempting to bid 2NT, but you are not quite good enough. Bid 2S.  
**Q 2** - North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold:  
 ♠ A 6 4 ♥ Q 10 3 ♦ 10 5 3 ♣ A Q 9 4  
**Right-hand opponent opens 1D. What call would you make?**  
**A** - You do have support for all unbid suits, but 4-3-3-3 hands should almost always be bid conservatively, and it is not mandatory to bid with 12-14 points when they open. Pass.  
**Q 3** - East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:  
 ♠ Q 3 2 ♥ A K Q 7 ♦ K 8 5 ♣ 9 8 3  
**NORTH** EAST SOUTH WEST  
 1♣ Pass 1♥ Pass  
 2NT Pass ?  
 What call would you make?  
**A** - Partner has 18-19, so you have a combined 32 or 33. Bid 4NT, quantitative, asking him to go on with a maximum.  
**Q 4** - Both vulnerable, as South, you hold:  
 ♠ Q 6 ♥ A Q 8 ♦ A 4 3 2 ♣ 8 6 5 4  
**NORTH** EAST SOUTH WEST  
 1♣ Pass 1♦ Pass  
 2NT Pass ?  
 What call would you make?  
**A** - It may seem cowardly, but you are not worth a move toward slam. Bid 3NT.  
**Q 5** - North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold:  
 ♠ K Q 10 ♥ 10 8 ♦ 10 6 5 3 ♣ K 9 6 5  
**NORTH** EAST SOUTH WEST  
 2♣ Pass 2♦ Pass  
 3♦ Pass ?  
 What call would you make?  
**A** - The first thing to do is set the trump suit. 4D here is stronger than 5D, so bid 4D.  
**Q 6** - East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:  
 ♠ K J 10 9 7 5 4 3 ♥ 8 4 2 ♦ A ♣ 10  
**Partner opens 1S and right-hand opponent passes. What call would you make?**  
**A** - A real hand from last month. Whether you open or respond with this hand, it's just a guess as to how many spades to bid. At the table, 6S was the winner. Seems OK to us.

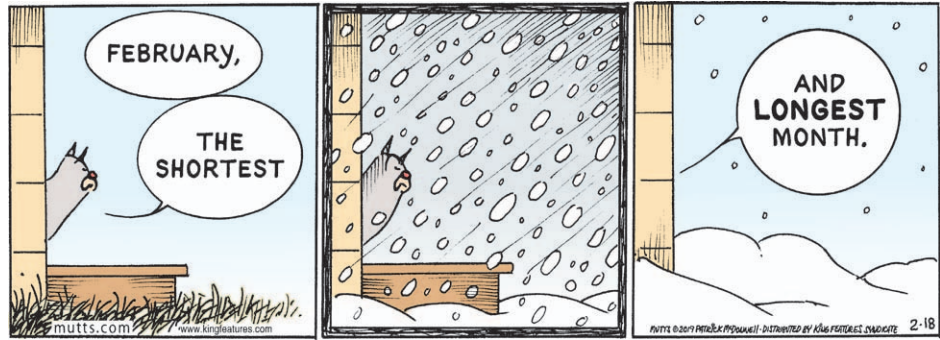
**BORN LOSER** By Art and Chip Sansom



**BLONDIE** By Dean Young and John Marshall



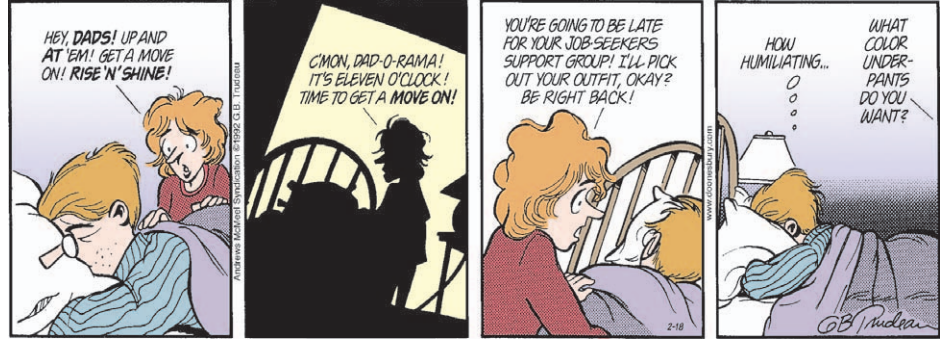
**MUTTS** By Patrick McDonnell



**BABY BLUES** By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott



**DOONSBURY** By Garry Trudeau



**TODAY'S CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

**JANRIC CLASSIC SUDOKU**  
 Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and 3x3 block. Use logic and process elimination to solve the puzzle. The difficulty level ranges from Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest).  
 Rating: BRONZE  
 Solution to 2/16/19

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

**WORDY GURDY**® BY TRICKY RICKY KANE  
 Every answer is a rhyming pair of words (like FAT CAT and DOUBLE TROUBLE), and they will fit in the letter squares. The number after the definition tells you how many syllables in each word.  
 © 2019 UFS, Dist. by Andrews McMeel for UFS

1. "That belongs to Sen. Romney!" (1)
2. Made-in-imitation winter flakes (1)
3. Discards smartphone downloads (1)
4. Cheerless Great Lake (2)
5. Pirate's bird's orange veggie sticks (2)
6. More concise and clear soft utterance (2)
7. Boggling prize-ticket drawing at a gala (2)

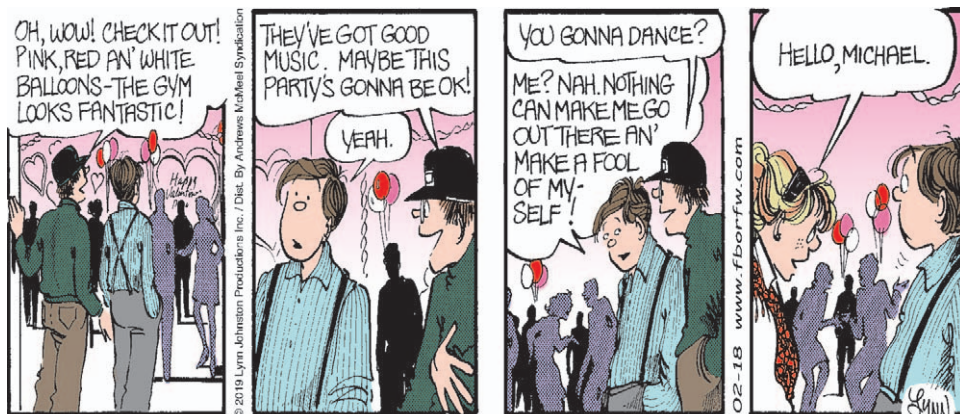
ANSWERS: 1. ITS MITTS 2. FAUX SNOW 3. SCRAPS APPS 4. DREARY ERIE 5. PARROTS CARROTS 6. CRISPER WHISPER 7. BAFFLING RAFFLING

**PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED**

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

Want more puzzles?  
 Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at [QuillDriverBooks.com](http://QuillDriverBooks.com)

FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE By Lynn Johnston



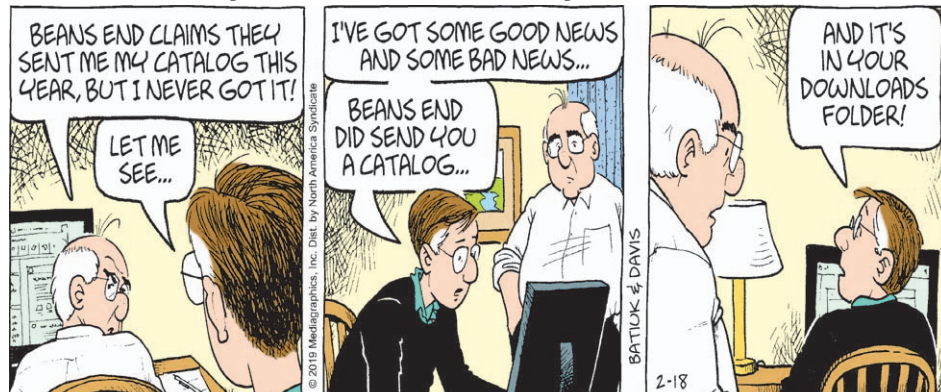
PEANUTS By Charles Schulz



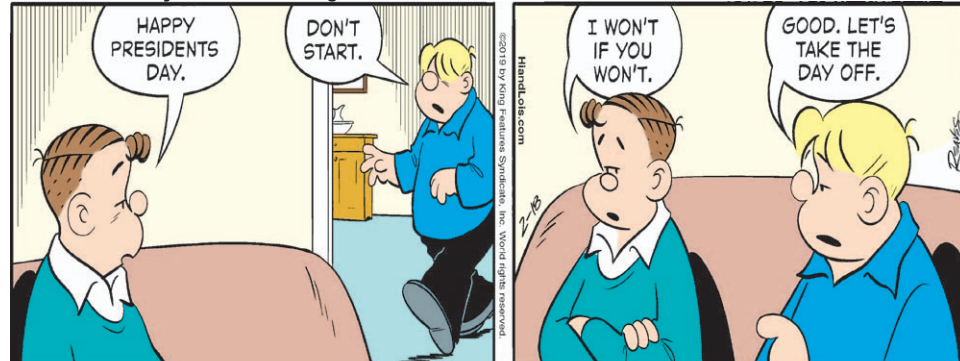
MALLARD FILLMORE By Bruce Tinsley



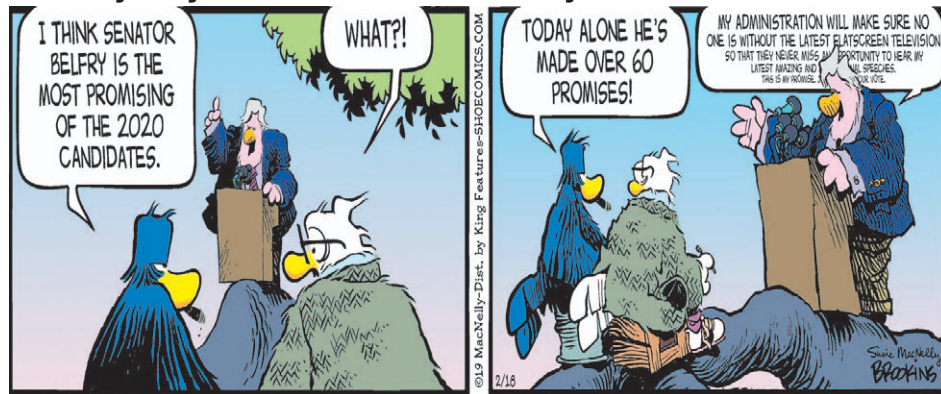
CRANKSHAFT By Tom Batiuk & Chuck Ayers



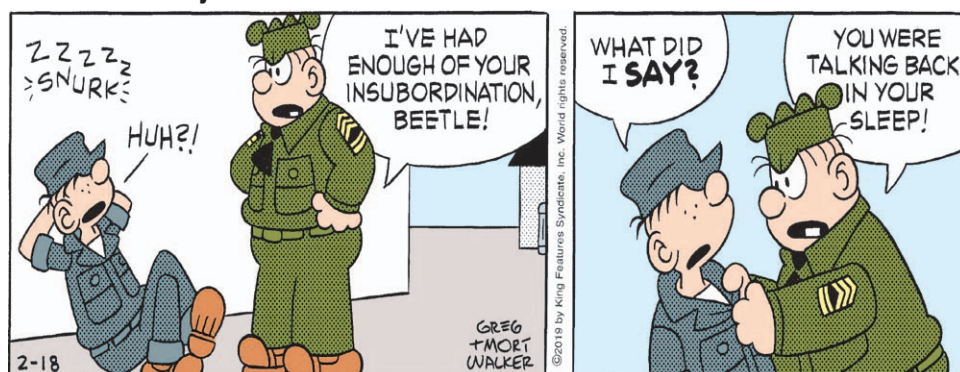
HI AND LOIS By Brian and Greg Walker



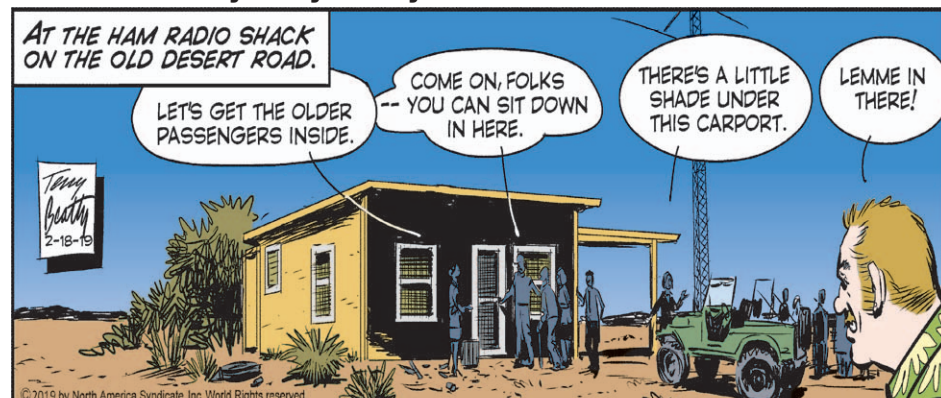
SHOE By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



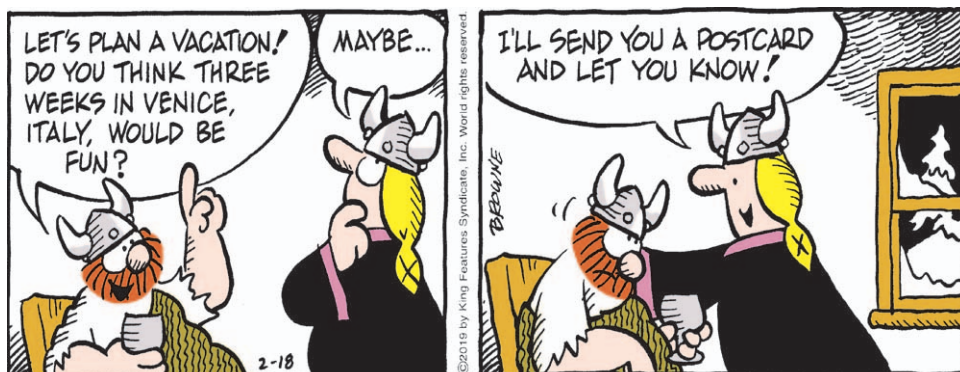
BEEBLE BAILEY By Mort Walker



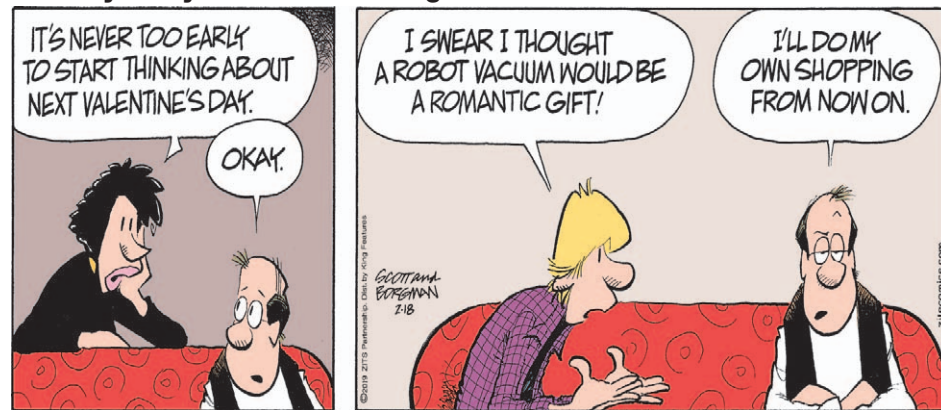
REX MORGAN By Terry Beatty



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE By Chris Browne



ZITS By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman



THE WIZARD OF ID By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



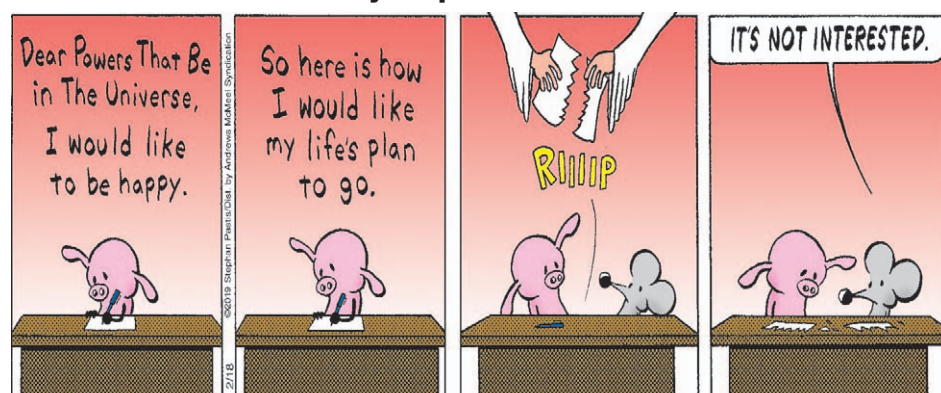
GARFIELD By Jim Davis



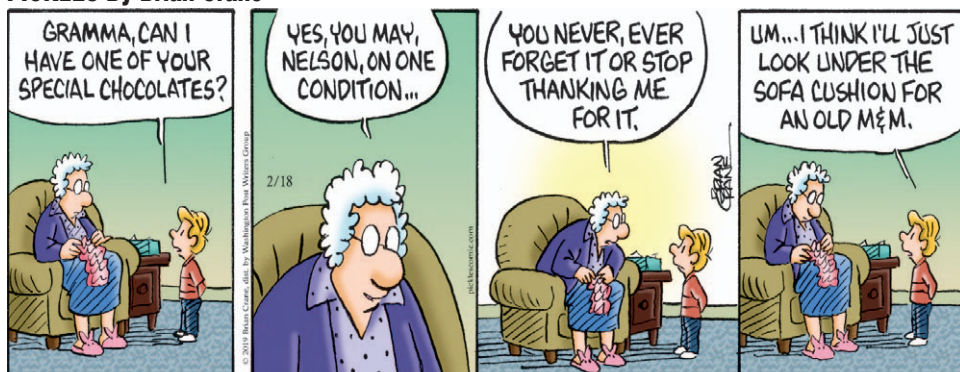
MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM By Mike Peters



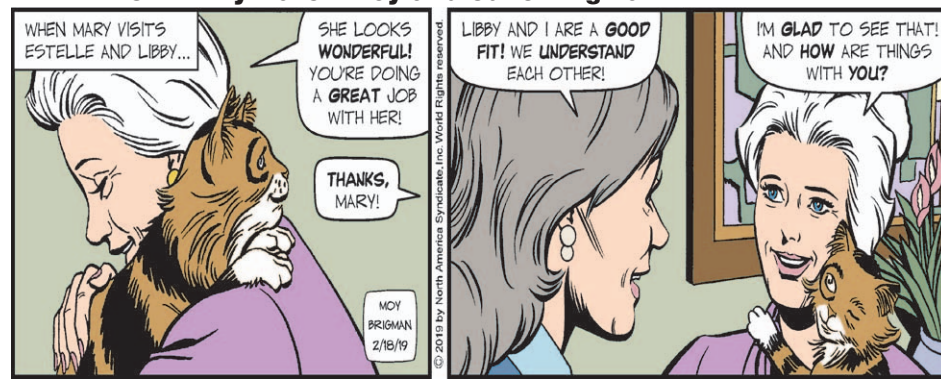
PEARLS BEFORE SWINE By Stephan Pastis



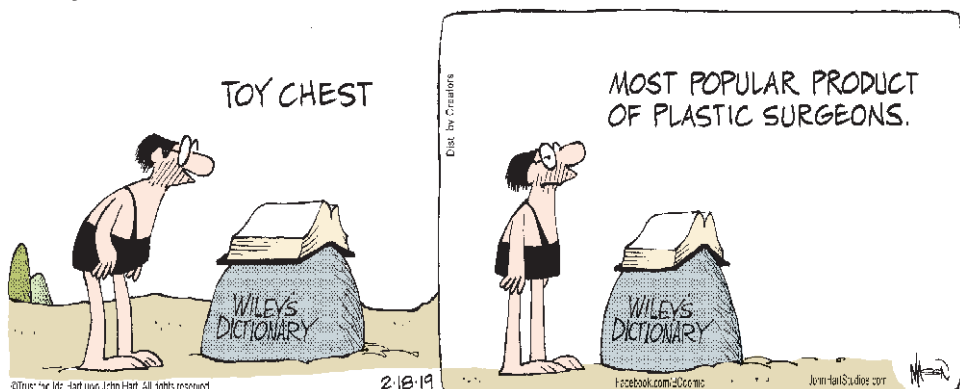
PICKLES By Brian Crane



MARY WORTH By Karen Moy and June Brigman



B.C. By Mastroianni & Hart



DILBERT By Scott Adams



# ENTERTAINMENT NEWS

## Academy reverses plans, will air all awards live at Oscars

Following outcry, the Oscars have scuttled a plan to show 4 awards during commercial breaks

By **JAKE COYLE**  
AP FILM WRITER

NEW YORK — Bowing to a backlash that had threatened to engulf an already blunder-plagued Academy Awards, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences on Friday reversed its decision to present four awards during the commercial breaks of this year's Oscar broadcast.

All 24 categories will be shown live, after all, at the 91st Academy Awards on February 24, the academy announced in a statement. On Monday, the academy had said that the winning speeches for cinematography, film editing, makeup and hairstyling and live-action short would be aired in a shortened, taped segment during the broadcast.

"Nine days until the showtime, still tweaking the script" the Academy tweeted Friday.

The academy did not address whether the change meant extending the show's length, which organizers have said would be reduced to

three hours.

The academy's move to strike awards from the live broadcast was fiercely contested by many of this year's Oscar nominees, including "Roma" director Alfonso Cuarón and "BlacKkKlansman" filmmaker Spike Lee. The American Society of Cinematographers on Wednesday issued an open-letter to the academy, signed by Martin Scorsese, Brad Pitt and others, calling the plans an insult to the cinematic arts.

"When the recognition of those responsible for the creation of outstanding cinema is being diminished by the very institution whose purpose it is to protect it, then we are no longer upholding the spirit of the academy's promise to celebrate film as a collaborative art form," the letter read.

The academy on Wednesday defended the decision and blamed "a chain of misinformation" on the backlash. Following record-low ratings to last year's



PHOTO VIA INVISION/AP

An Oscar statue is pictured at the press preview for the 91st Academy Awards Governors Ball, Friday, in Los Angeles. The 91st Academy Awards will be held on Sunday, Feb. 24, at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles.

broadcast, the academy has made a swifter, three-hour telecast a priority. ABC, which airs the Oscars, is planning to premiere a sneak-peak of a new drama series after the Oscar telecast, which regularly ranks as the most-watched non-NFL broadcast of the year.

This is just the latest flip-flop by the academy in its attempts to tweak the Oscars.

The academy's

headaches began after it last summer trotted out the induction of a "popular film Oscar." The plan sparked such outrage (Rob Lowe pronounced the film industry dead, "survived by sequels, tent-poles and vertical integration") that the new award was scuttled within a month.

Kevin Hart was announced as this year's Oscar host only to withdraw days later

when many took issue with his old homophobic tweets and the comedian initially "chose to pass on the apology." Hart finally apologized as he resigned, leaving the Oscars host-less for only the fifth time in its 91-year history.

And after first planning to limit the best song nominee performances, the academy confirmed that all songs will indeed be performed.

## Fox renews 'The Simpsons' for two more seasons

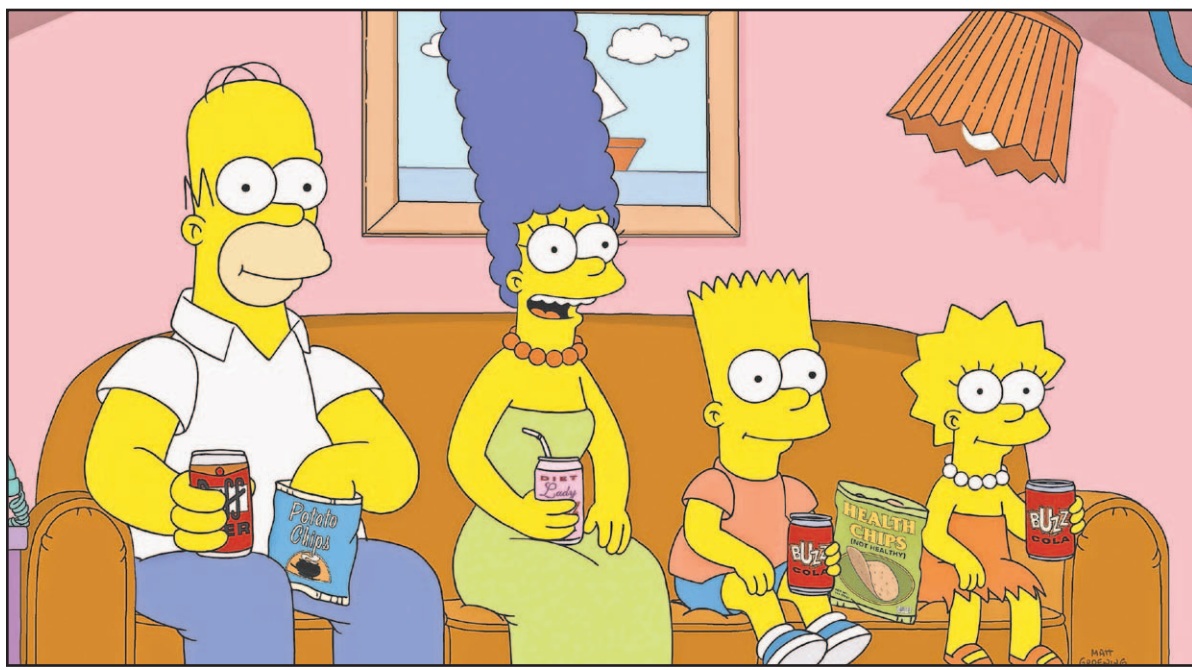
By **CHRIS BARTON**  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

The sun rises, the sun sets, and "The Simpsons" remains on TV.

The adventures of Homer, Marge, Bart, Lisa, Maggie and the rest of Springfield will continue an unprecedented run as part of the longest-running scripted television series in history as Fox has renewed the animated comedy for its 31st and 32nd seasons. Once those have aired, "The Simpsons" will have produced a remarkable 713 episodes.

"Watch your back 'Meet the Press,'" said Homer Simpson of TV's longest-running TV program ever, in a statement released by Fox on Wednesday morning. The announcement coincides with the network's day at the Television Critics Assn. presentations in Pasadena.

The renewal comes as the Fox broadcasting network plots its post-Disney merger future. "The Simpsons" is one of the properties that will not move to Disney as part of the deal, which is expected to close in the coming months. Many questions still surround the programming strategy of "New Fox," as the network has been dubbed by



PROVIDED BY FOX

A scene from 'The Simpsons.'

many in the media.

"The Simpsons" reached a milestone in 2018 with its 636th episode, which pushed the show past "Gunsmoke" as the longest-running prime time series. Over its run, the show has earned 33 Emmys, a Peabody Award and expanded onto the big screen in 2012 with "The Simpsons Movie."

However, the series also was the subject of controversy the same year after the release of comic Hari Kondabolu's documentary, "The Problem With Apu," which examined the impact of the racial stereotypes depicted in the show's convenience store manager.

The series initially dismissed

the criticism, which only served to fuel the controversy, Hank Azaria (who provides the voice of Apu) stated he would be willing to step aside from his role. Last fall, rumors circulated about the show's plans to drop the character that have yet to be confirmed.

"The Simpsons" airs Sundays at 8 p.m./7 p.m. Central.

LOS ANGELES TIMES

Ratings by the Motion Picture Association of America are: (G) for general audiences; (PG) parental guidance urged because of material possibly unsuitable for children; (PG-13) parents are strongly cautioned to give guidance for attendance of children younger than 13; \* restricted, younger than 17 admitted only with parent or adult guardian; (NC-17) no one 17 and younger admitted.

### OPENING THIS WEEK

**"Alita: Battle Angel"** — A cyborg fights to unlock the secrets of her past. With Rosa Salazar, Christoph Waltz, Jennifer Connelly, Michelle Rodriguez, Jeff Fahey, Mahershala Ali, Ed Skrein, Jackie Earle Haley. Written by James Cameron, Laeta Kalogridis, Robert Rodriguez; based on a graphic novel by Yukito Kishiro. Directed by Robert Rodriguez. (2:02) PG-13.

**"The Bellwether"** — A woman is held captive by an all-knowing conspiracy in this thriller. With Alex Reid. Written and

directed by Christopher Morrison. NR.

**"Birds of Passage"** — An indigenous family in Colombia becomes involved in the marijuana trade. With Carmina Martinez, Jose Acosta, Natalia Reyes. Written by Maria Camila Arias, Jacques Toulemonde Vidal; based on an idea by and directed by Cristina Gallego, Ciro Guerra. In Wayuu, Spanish and English with English subtitles. (2:05) NR.

**"Donnybrook"** — Desperate brawlers compete in an underground tournament. With Jamie Bell, Frank Grillo, Margaret Qualley, James Badge Dale. Written and directed by Tim Sutton; based on a novel by Frank Bill. (1:41) R.

**"Fighting With My Family"** — British siblings try to break into the world of professional wrestling. With Florence Pugh, Lena Headey, Nick Frost, Jack Lowden, Vince Vaughn, Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson.

Written and directed by Stephen Merchant. (1:48) R.

**"Happy Death Day 2U"** — Sequel to the 2017 horror thriller about a college coed reliving the day of her own murder. With Jessica Rothe, Israel Broussard, Ruby Modine. Written by Christopher Landon; based on characters created by Scott Lobdell. Directed by Landon. (1:40) PG-13.

**"The Image Book"** — Jean-Luc Godard examines iconic images in film, photography, art and culture in this visual essay. (1:24) NR.

**"Isn't It Romantic"** — A cynical woman gets knocked unconscious then wakes up in the world of a romantic comedy. With Rebel Wilson, Liam Hemsworth, Adam Devine, Priyanka Chopra. Written by Erin Cardillo, Dana Fox, Katie Silberman; story by Cardillo. Directed by Todd Strauss-Schulson. (1:28) PG-13.

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**"Lords of Chaos"** — Fact-based drama about violence and vandalism in Norway's black-metal music scene. With Rory Culkin, Emory Cohen, Sky Ferreira. Written by Dennis Magnusson, Jonas Akerlund; based on the book by Michael Moynihan, Didrik Soderlund. Directed by Akerlund. (1:58) R.

**"The Maestro"** — Biographical drama about unsung movie composer Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco. With Xander Berkeley, Sarah Clarke, Leo Marks, Jon Polito. Written by C.V. Herst. Directed by Adam Cushman. (1:34) NR.

**"Parkland: Inside Building 12"** — Documentary by Charlie Minn tells the stories of survivors of last year's mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Florida. (1:59) NR.

**"Patrick"** — A young woman whose

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**"To Dust"** — A Hasidic cantor seeks solace in science after his wife's untimely demise. With Geza Rohrig, Matthew Broderick. Written by Jason Begue, Shawn Snyder. Directed by Snyder. (1:45) R.

**"A Tuba to Cuba"** — New Orleans' venerable Preservation Hall Jazz Band visits the island nation in this music doc. Directed by T.G. Herrington, Danny Clinch (1:22) NR.

**"Virginia Minnesota"** — Two young women revisit a shared tragedy from their childhood. With Aurora Perrineau, Rachel Hendrix, Susan Walters, Harold Perrineau. Written and directed by Daniel Stine. (1:38) NR.

### PUBLISHER'S WEEKLY BEST-SELLERS

Here are the best-sellers for the week that ended Saturday, Feb. 9.

#### HARDCOVER FICTION

1. Connections in Death. J.D. Robb. St. Martin's
2. Where the Crawdads Sing. Delia Owens. Putnam
3. Black Leopard, Red Wolf. Marlon James. Riverhead
4. The Silent Patient. Alex Michaelides. Celadon
5. Liar Liar. Patterson/Fox. Little, Brown
6. The Wedding Guest. Jonathan Kellerman. Ballantine
7. The Reckoning. John Grisham. Doubleday
8. Turning Point. Danielle Steel Delacorte
9. Fire & Blood. George R.R. Martin. Bantam
10. Crucible. James Rollins. Morrow

#### HARDCOVER NONFICTION

1. Becoming. Michelle Obama. Crown
2. Girl, Wash Your Face. Rachel Hollis. Nelson
3. Educated. Tara Westover. Random House
4. From the Ground Up. Howard Schultz. Random House
5. It's Not Supposed to Be This Way. Lysa TerKeurst. Nelson
6. Leadershift. John C. Maxwell. HarperCollins Leadership
7. 31-Day Food Revolution. Ocean Robbins. Grand Central
8. Brave, Not Perfect. Reshma Saujani. Currency
9. Digital Minimalism. Cal Newport. Portfolio
10. The Theft of America's Soul. Phil Robertson. Nelson

#### MASS MARKET

1. The Cast. Danielle Steel. Dell
2. Fifty Fifty. Patterson/Fox. Vision
3. Vengeance Road. Christine Feehan. Berkley
4. The Jackals. William W. Johnstone. Pinnacle
5. The Wrong Highlander. Lynsay Sands. Avon
6. The Disappeared. C.J. Box. Putnam
7. Without Mercy. Lisa Jackson. Zebra
8. This Matter of Marriage. Debbie Macomber. Mira
9. Lilac Lane. Sherryl Woods. Mira
10. Secrets of the Tulip Sisters. Susan Mallery. HQN

#### TRADE PAPERBACK

1. The Tattooist of Auschwitz. Heather Morris. Harper
2. The Lost Girls of Paris. Pam Jenoff. Park Row
3. Total Control. David Baldacci. Grand Central
4. My Hero Academia, Vol. 17. Kohei Horikoshi. Viz
5. An American Marriage. Tayari Jones. Algonquin
6. The House Next Door. James Patterson. Grand Central
7. Empty Bottles Full of Stories. Sin/Drake. Andrews McMeel
8. Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine. Gail Honeyman. Penguin Books
9. Tailspin. Sandra Brown. Grand Central
10. The Proposal. Jasmine Guillory. Berkley

## Movie guide: Capsule listings

directed by Christopher Morrison. NR.

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## I still can

Baseball legend Albert Pujols believes he can play 162 games this season. See the story on page 4.

Monday, February 18, 2019

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■ **NASCAR: DAYTONA 500**

# Hamlin pulls through the fire

Joe Gibbs Racing driver nabs second Daytona, leads team sweep amid flurry of wrecks

By **JENNA FRYER**

AP AUTO RACING WRITER

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Denny Hamlin came to the Daytona 500 determined to honor his late car owner with a victory.

He delivered with a story-book tribute for Joe Gibbs Racing.

Hamlin won NASCAR's biggest race for the second time in four years Sunday, leading JGR in a 1-2-3 sweep of the podium in overtime. The race and the season have been dedicated to J.D. Gibbs, Joe Gibbs' eldest son who died last month after battling a degenerative neurological disease.

J.D. Gibbs helped his father start the race team, ran it while Joe Gibbs was coaching the Washington Redskins, was a tire changer on the team's first Daytona 500 victory and the one who discovered Hamlin during a test session at Hickory Motor Speedway in North Carolina. Hamlin was hired to drive the No. 11 — the number J.D. Gibbs used when he played football — and J.D. Gibbs' name is on the Toyota.

When Hamlin stopped his car along the frontstretch



AP PHOTO

**DAYTONA | 6** Ryan Blaney (12), Aric Almirola (10), Paul Menard (21), David Ragan (38) and Matt DiBenedetto (95) start a multi-car wreck between Turns 3 and 4 during the late stages of the Daytona 500 at Daytona International Speedway. The crash was one of five that occurred in the last 20 laps of regulation.

■ **GOLF**

# SKYiGOLF Championship to kick off at Charlotte Harbor

By **BEN BAUGH**  
STAFF WRITER

NORTH PORT--It's a showcase for the future stars of the LPGA Tour.

The Symetra Tour, the qualifying tour for the LPGA, makes its first stop of the year at Charlotte Harbor National Golf Club with the inaugural SKYiGOLF Championship, March 7-10. The tournament has the second highest purse on the Symetra Tour, offering \$250,000 in prize money.

The four day, 72-hole event, SKYiGOLF Championship is the first of 24 events on the Symetra Tour. A deep field is expected to compete on the course designed by Bob Tway, winner of the 1986 PGA Championship, and

architect Lee Singletary. The Symetra Tour is in its 39th year of existence and more than 600 alumnae have gone onto play on the LPGA tour.

At year's end, the top 10 money earners from the Symetra Tour will graduate to the LPGA Tour, and additionally several other players will come through the qualifying process, said Mike Nichols, Symetra Tour chief business officer.

"There's a good chance that fans who come out for the tournament will be seeing at least 15 players who will be playing the following year on the LPGA Tour," said Nichols. "It's a great opportunity to get up close and personal and see some world class golf. We have players from 45 different countries. It's really an



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**Madison Pressel will be among the golfers playing in the SKYiGOLF Championship at Charlotte Harbor National Golf Club, March 7-10. The championship is part of the Symetra Tour.**

international sporting event."

Madison Pressel, whose older sister Morgan Pressel is a two-time winner on the LPGA Tour, will be in the field for next month's tournament.

Madison Pressel

played collegiately at the University of Texas, and owns a win on the Symetra Tour.

"It's our first tournament so people are eager to get back out to play," said Pressel. "And with

**SKYIGOLF | 3**

■ **GOLF**

# Holmes rallies as Thomas falters



AP PHOTO

**J.B. Holmes tees off on the 18th hole on his way to winning in the final round of the Genesis Open at Riviera Country Club on Sunday, in the Pacific Palisades area of Los Angeles.**

LOS ANGELES (AP) — J.B. Holmes rallied from a four-shot deficit in the final round and won a marathon finish Sunday in the Genesis Open for his first victory in three years and a trip back to the Masters.

Holmes closed with a 1-under 70, and that was enough to overcome Justin Thomas, who took 19 putts on the back nine at Riviera — three of them from 8 feet when he lost the lead for good — and shot 75.

"I knew it was going to be very difficult to shoot a low score," Holmes said. "I needed some

help from Justin."

They played 34 holes because of a seven-hour rain delay at the start of the tournament Thursday, and that wasn't even the worst of it. The final day featured a wild shift in weather, from sunshine in the morning to complete 16 holes of the third round, brief rain when they teed off in the final round and wicked wind that made it tough to hole putts.

There were three two-shot swings on the back nine, all because of putting.

**HOLMES | 1**

■ **MLB**



AP PHOTO

**New York Mets minor league outfielder Tim Tebow signs autographs at spring training Saturday, in Port St. Lucie. Tebow is hoping for a call up to the big leagues this year.**

# Tebow enters camp 'all in' on Mets, baseball

PORT ST. LUCIE, Fla. — By now, Tim Tebow has shown he belongs in professional baseball. He's fully committed to the game and much more comfortable on the field.

Sometimes, though, he still sounds like a football player.

On his first day at spring training with the New York Mets, the former NFL quarterback was reflecting on last year, when he injured his ankle stepping on a sprinkler head at the beginning of camp.

"I didn't run or I didn't play one snap of outfield," Tebow said Saturday, eliciting big laughs while catching his own slip-up.

Nevertheless, the 2007 Heisman Trophy winner is

**TEBOW | 6**

**LOTTERY CHANGE**

**Tuesday, January 29,** was the final drawing for the **Lucky Money** lottery game. As of Friday, **February 1,** it has been replaced with the Florida Lottery's newest game, **Jackpot Triple Play**, which will draw on Tuesday and Friday nights.

**Florida Lottery**

www.flalottery.com

**PICK 2**

Feb. 17N.....	7-1
Feb. 17D.....	3-2
Feb. 16N.....	4-0
Feb. 16D.....	3-1
Feb. 15N.....	0-9
Feb. 15D.....	5-3
D-Day, N-Night	

**PICK 3**

Feb. 17N.....	1-0-4
Feb. 17D.....	9-4-2
Feb. 16N.....	3-0-1
Feb. 16D.....	2-0-1
Feb. 15N.....	2-5-0
Feb. 15D.....	8-3-2
D-Day, N-Night	

**PICK 4**

Feb. 17N.....	5-8-2-5
Feb. 17D.....	9-3-9-8
Feb. 16N.....	7-9-6-7
Feb. 16D.....	9-5-5-7
Feb. 15N.....	1-9-7-1
Feb. 15D.....	9-5-5-4
D-Day, N-Night	

**PICK 5**

Feb. 17N.....	4-5-7-4-5
Feb. 17D.....	2-8-9-7-2
Feb. 16N.....	5-6-4-1-9
Feb. 16D.....	8-6-1-2-7
Feb. 15N.....	5-6-7-2-5
Feb. 15D.....	5-1-1-4-4
D-Day, N-Night	

**FANTASY 5**

Feb. 17.....	Late
Feb. 16.....	11-12-16-26-36
Feb. 15.....	4-11-13-21-34
<b>PAYOFF FOR FEB. 16</b>	
4 5-digit winners.....	\$56,422.24
351 4-digit winners.....	\$103.00
10,843 3-digit winners.....	\$9.00

**CASH FOR LIFE**

Feb. 14.....	7-10-21-33-48
Cash Ball.....	2
...	
Feb. 11.....	1-2-39-50-60
Cash Ball.....	4
<b>PAYOFF FOR FEB. 14</b>	
0 5-5 CB.....	\$1,000/Day
0 5-5.....	\$1,000/Week
4 4-5 CB.....	\$2,500
8 4-5.....	\$500

**JACKPOT TRIPLE PLAY**

Feb. 15.....	8-11-19-35-36-41
Feb. 12.....	17-19-38-40-43-46
Feb. 8.....	9-14-15-21-33-39
<b>PAYOFF FOR FEB. 15</b>	
0 6-of-6.....	\$1,100,000
52 5-of-6.....	\$416.50
2,224 4-of-6.....	\$23.50
37,734 3-of-6.....	\$1
<b>ESTIMATED JACKPOT</b>	
	\$1,300,000

**LOTTO**

Feb. 16.....	2-12-16-29-43-52
Feb. 13.....	9-27-31-37-41-44
Feb. 9.....	2-12-40-44-47-49
<b>PAYOFF FOR FEB. 16</b>	
0 6-digit winners.....	\$3 million
19 5-digit winners.....	\$4,382.50
867 4-digit winners.....	\$78.50
<b>ESTIMATED JACKPOT</b>	
	\$3.5 million

**POWERBALL**

Feb. 16.....	29-30-41-48-64
Powerball.....	1
...	
Feb. 13.....	2-8-14-24-69
Powerball.....	26
<b>PAYOFF FOR FEB. 16</b>	
0 5-5 + PB.....	\$260 million
0 5-5.....	\$1 million
0 4-5 + PB.....	\$50,000
35 4-5.....	\$100
<b>ESTIMATED JACKPOT</b>	
	\$282 million

**MEGA MILLIONS**

Feb. 15.....	10-38-40-43-65
Mega Ball.....	13
...	
Feb. 12.....	15-32-39-50-65
Mega Ball.....	7
<b>PAYOFF FOR FEB. 15</b>	
0 5 of 5 + MB.....	\$173 million
0 5 of 5.....	\$1 million
0 4 of 5 + MB.....	\$10,000
17 4 of 5.....	\$500
<b>ESTIMATED JACKPOT</b>	
	\$206 million

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**NHL: Roundup**



AP PHOTO

**Pittsburgh Penguins' Sidney Crosby (87) is unable to get a shot past New York Rangers goaltender Alexandar Georgiev with Rangers' Marc Staal (18) defending during the second period in Pittsburgh on Sunday. Crosby had three assists in the game.**

# Malkin, Letang score twice, Penguins beat Rangers 6-5



AP PHOTO

**Pittsburgh Penguins' Evgeni Malkin is upended by New York Rangers' Adam McQuaid during the first period.**

**SPORTS ON TV**

<b>MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL</b>	
7 p.m.	CBSSN — Boston University at Holy Cross
	ESPN — Virginia at Virginia Tech
	ESPN — Alcorn State at Arkansas Pine-Bluff
8 p.m.	FS1 — Illinois at Wisconsin
9 p.m.	ESPN — Kansas State at West Virginia
	ESPN — TCU at Oklahoma State
<b>WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL</b>	
7 p.m.	BTN — Rutgers at Indiana
	ESPN2 — Notre Dame at North Carolina State
	SEC — Ole Miss at Georgia
9 p.m.	ESPN2 — Oregon at Oregon State
<b>NHL</b>	
7:30 p.m.	NBCSN — Tampa Bay at Columbus
10 p.m.	NBCSN — Boston at San Jose
<b>SOCCER</b>	
2:30 p.m.	FS1 — Bundesliga: FC Nürnberg vs. Borussia Dortmund —

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by missing five games with an upper-body injury and the one game because of suspension.

Letang opened the scoring 16:11 into the game. He has 15 goals, one off his career high set in 2015-16.

It was the first time all season the Penguins got four goals from defensemen.

Zuccarello's goals were his 10th and 11th, each tying the game. Ryan Strome also scored for New York, which had won three of its previous five.

**Blues 4, Wild 0**

The hottest team in the NHL keeps on winning — with a rookie goaltender helping to make history along the way.

Jordan Binnington made 31 saves and the St. Louis Blues posted their third straight shutout, beating the Minnesota Wild 4-0 on Sunday for their 10th straight win.

Binnington made 21 saves to blank Arizona on Thursday, and Jake Allen stopped 32 shots in a 3-0 win against Colorado on Saturday. St. Louis hasn't allowed a goal in 187:16, since late in an 8-3 win over New Jersey on Tuesday.

Vladimir Tarasenko had a goal and two assists and Ryan O'Reilly, Vince Dunn and Brayden Schenn also scored to help St. Louis match the best winning streak in franchise history, completed in January 2002. The run also ties the Blues for the longest streak in the NHL this season. The Blues have won eight straight on the road, their best such run since taking 10 straight in 2000.

Alex Stalock stopped 26 shots for Minnesota in his first action since Feb. 2.

Binnington improved to 12-1-1 since making his first NHL start on Jan. 7 with four shutouts on the road.

A wide-open Tarasenko scored the first goal 5:08 into the first period. The power-play tally extended Tarasenko's career-high points streak to 12 games. He has 11 goals and 11 assists during the streak.

Tarasenko also had an assist on O'Reilly's goal later in the first that made it 2-0. The assist was Tarasenko's 400th point. He later picked up the assist on Schenn's second-period goal that put St. Louis up 4-0. Schenn finished the puck off Wild defenseman Nick Seeler, who slid into the net and took the puck with him.

St. Louis' power play was 3 for 30 in its previous 13 games heading into Sunday

but converted twice in the first period. The Blues finished 2 for 6 with the man advantage.

Minnesota was 0 for 5 on the power play. The Wild are 1-5-3 in their last nine games and heard boos from the home crowd during Sunday's loss.

Despite its current four-game losing streak, Minnesota remains in playoff position with the eighth-most points in the Western Conference.

Dunn scored his eighth goal of the year to give the Blues a 3-0 lead in the second. Dunn's one-timer on a 3-on-1 rush came just after St. Louis successfully killed off a penalty.

**Flyers 3, Red Wings 1**

Ivan Provorov scored a tie-breaking goal early in the third period and Oskar Lindblom had two goals, lifting the surging Philadelphia Flyers to a 3-1 win over the Detroit Red Wings on Sunday night.

The Flyers have won 12 of their last 14 games, moving into contention for a wild card in the Eastern Conference playoffs or perhaps for one of the three guaranteed postseason spots available in the Metropolitan Division.

Lindblom scored early in the game and had an empty-net goal with 1:26 left. Rookie Carter Hart finished with 37 saves.

Darren Helm tied the game early in the second period and on a night the Red Wings failed to score despite a lot of shots.

Jonathan Bernier started and stopped 10 shots in the first period for the Red Wings before leaving the game with an upper-body injury. He was replaced by Jimmy Howard.

The Red Wings have lost five of seven, moving closer to being eliminated from postseason race for a third straight year.

**Devils 4, Sabres 1**

Kyle Palmieri had a goal and two assists, and Cory Schneider made 34 saves to lead the New Jersey Devils to a 4-1 victory over the Buffalo Sabres on Sunday night.

Miles Wood, Jesper Bratt and Joey Anderson also scored as the Devils won consecutive games for the second time since the start of the year.

Sam Reinhart scored for the Sabres, whose wild-card playoff chances took a hit with a second loss in three days. Carter Hutton made 20 saves as Buffalo fell six points behind Pittsburgh in the race for the final wild-card spot.

COLLEGE BASEBALL

# Snowbird Baseball Classic Schedule

**Friday, Feb. 22**  
South Dakota State vs. Florida International, North Charlotte Recreation Park, 2 p.m.

**Saturday, Feb. 23**  
Florida International vs. South Dakota State, North Charlotte Recreation Park, 12 p.m.

Northeastern University vs. South Dakota State, North Charlotte Recreation Park, 3:30 p.m.

**Sunday, Feb. 24**  
South Dakota State vs. Northeastern University, North Charlotte Recreation Park, 10 a.m.

**Friday, March 1**  
Mitchell College vs. Heidelberg University, North County Recreation Park, 12 p.m.

Villanova University vs. Chicago State University, North County Recreation Park, 4 p.m.

**Saturday, March 2**  
Misericordia University vs. Heidelberg University, North County Recreation Center, 10:30 a.m.

Villanova University vs. St. Bonaventure University, North County Recreation Center, 12 p.m.

Otterbein University vs. Misericordia University, North County Recreation Center, 2 p.m.

Chicago State University vs. Mount St. Mary's University, North County Recreation Center, 4 p.m.

Otterbein University vs. Mitchell College, North County Recreation Center, 5:30 p.m.

**Sunday, March 3**  
Heidelberg University vs. Moravian College, North County Recreation Center, 11 a.m.

Chicago State University vs. Villanova University, North County Recreation Center, 12 p.m.

Misericordia University vs. Otterbein University, North County Recreation Center, 3 p.m.

Mount St. Mary's University vs. Villanova University, North County Recreation Center, 3:30 p.m.

Heidelberg University (JV) vs. Otterbein University (JV), North County Recreation Center, 6 p.m.

**Monday, March 4**  
Heidelberg University vs. Mitchell College, North County Recreation Park, 10 p.m.

St. Bonaventure University

Mount St. Mary's University, North County Recreation Park, 10:30 p.m.

Heidelberg University (JV) vs. Mitchell College (JV), North County Recreation Park, 1:30 p.m.

Moravian College vs. Bluffton University, North County Recreation Park, 2 p.m.

Baldwin Wallace University vs. Misericordia University, North County Recreation Park, 4 p.m.

Bluffton University vs. Otterbein University, North County Recreation Park, 5:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, March 5**  
Western Michigan vs. St. Bonaventure University, North County Recreation Park, 10 a.m.

Misericordia University vs. Moravian College, North County Recreation Park, 12 p.m.

Villanova University vs. Western Michigan, North County Recreation Park, 1:30 p.m.

Moravian College vs. Baldwin Wallace University, North County Recreation Park, 4 p.m.

Mount St. Mary's University vs. Georgetown University, North County Recreation Park, 5 p.m.

**Wednesday, March 6**  
Moravian College vs. Heidelberg University, North County Recreation Park, 11 a.m.

Georgetown University vs. Western Michigan, North County Recreation Park, 12 p.m.

Misericordia University vs. Baldwin Wallace University, North County Recreation, 3 p.m.

Northeastern University vs. Villanova University, North County Recreation Park, 4 p.m.

**Thursday, March 7**  
Mount St. Mary's University vs. St. Bonaventure University, North County Recreation Park, 11 a.m.

Heidelberg University vs. Misericordia University, North County Recreation Park, 3 p.m.

Heidelberg University-JV vs. Misericordia University-JV, North County Recreation Park, 6 p.m.

**Friday, March 8, 2019**  
Saint Joseph's vs. University Kansas, North County Recreation Park, 10 a.m.

Moravian College vs. Misericordia University, South County Recreation Park, 5:30 p.m.

10 a.m.

Central Connecticut State vs. St. Bonaventure University, North County Recreation Park, 11 a.m.

Georgetown University vs. Ball State University, North County Recreation Park, 1:30 p.m.

Baldwin Wallace University vs. Moravian College, South County Recreation Park, 1:30 p.m.

Kean University vs. Heidelberg University, North County Recreation Park, 3 p.m.

Mount St. Mary's University vs. Central Michigan, North County Recreation Park, 5 p.m.

**Saturday, March 9**  
Ball State vs. Saint Joseph's University, North County Recreation Park, 10 a.m.

Heidelberg University vs. Swarthmore College, South County Recreation Park, 10 a.m.

St. Bonaventure University vs. Central Connecticut State, North County Recreation Park, 11 a.m.

Baldwin Wallace University vs. Kean University, Charlotte High School, 1 p.m.

Swarthmore College vs. University of Scranton, South County Recreation Park, 1:30 p.m.

Ball State vs. Mount St. Mary's University, North County Recreation Park, 1:30 p.m.

Bridgewater State University vs. Susquehanna University, North County Recreation Park, 3 p.m.

University of Scranton vs. Marietta College, South County Recreation Park, 5 p.m.

Georgetown University vs. Kansas, North County Recreation Park, 5 p.m.

LaRoche University vs. Susquehanna University, North County Recreation Park, 6 p.m.

**Sunday, March 10**  
Kansas vs. Ball State University, North County Recreation Park, 9:30 a.m.

Saint Joseph's University vs. Georgetown University, North County Recreation Park, 10 a.m.

Central Connecticut State vs. St. Bonaventure University, South County Recreation Park, 10 a.m.

Bridgewater State University vs. University of Scranton, Charlotte High School, 12 p.m.

Marietta College vs. Arcadia University, North County Recreation Park, 1 p.m.

Kean University vs. Swarthmore College, North County Recreation Park, 1:30 p.m.

Susquehanna University vs. LaRoche University, South County Recreation Park, 2 p.m.

Swarthmore College vs. Marietta College, North County Recreation Park, 4:30 p.m.

Arcadia University vs. Kean University, North County Recreation Park, 5 p.m.

Susquehanna University (JV) vs. SUNY Canton (JV), South County Recreation Park, 6 p.m.

**Monday, March 11**  
Susquehanna University vs. Marietta College, North County Recreation Park, 11 a.m.

Eastern Connecticut State University vs. LaRoche University, North County Recreation Park, 12 p.m.

SUNY Canton vs. Bridgewater State University, South County Recreation Park, 12 p.m.

Arcadia University vs. Susquehanna University, North County Recreation Park, 2:30 p.m.

Eastern Connecticut State University vs. LaRoche University, North County Recreation Park, 3 p.m.

Ohio Wesleyan University vs. SUNY Canton, South County Recreation Park, 3 p.m.

Swarthmore College vs. College of Wooster, North County Recreation Park, 6 p.m.

**Tuesday, March 12**  
Ohio Wesleyan University vs. Arcadia University, Charlotte High School, 10 a.m.

Central Connecticut State vs. Kansas, North County Recreation Park, 10 a.m.

SUNY Canton vs. Swarthmore College, South County Recreation Park, 10 a.m.

Saint Joseph's University vs. Bucknell University, North County Recreation Park, 11 a.m.

SUNY Canton (JV) vs. Arcadia University (JV), Charlotte High School, 1 p.m.

Eastern Connecticut State University vs. Marietta College, North County Recreation Park, 1:30 p.m.

Susquehanna University vs. Swarthmore College, South County Recreation Park, 1:30 p.m.

Bucknell University vs. Seton Hall, North County Recreation Park, 2:30 p.m.

Kean University vs. LaRoche University, North County

Recreation Park, 5:30 p.m.

Bridgewater State University vs. College of Wooster, North County Recreation Park, 6 p.m.

Ohio Wesleyan University vs. University of Scranton, South County Recreation Park, 6 p.m.

**Wednesday, March 13**  
Marietta College vs. Kean University, North County Recreation Park, 10:30 a.m.

Seton Hall vs. Kansas, North County Recreation Park, 10 a.m.

Central Connecticut State vs. Saint Joseph's University, South County Recreation Park, 12 p.m.

Swarthmore College vs. LaRoche University, North County Recreation Park, 2 p.m.

University of Scranton vs. Eastern Connecticut State University, North County Recreation Park, 3 p.m.

LaRoche University vs. Ohio Wesleyan University, North County Recreation Park, 5 p.m.

**Thursday, March 14**  
Swarthmore College vs. Arcadia University, North County Recreation Park, 10 a.m.

LaRoche University vs. Bridgewater State University, North County Recreation Park, 11 a.m.

Ohio Wesleyan University vs. Swarthmore College, North County Recreation park, 1:30 p.m.

SUNY Canton vs. North Central College, North County Recreation Park, 6 p.m.

SUNY Canton (JV) vs. Susquehanna University (JV), North County Recreation Park, 6 p.m.

**Friday, March 15**  
Saint Joseph's University vs. Seton Hall, North County Recreation Park, 10 a.m.

Babson College vs. Ohio Wesleyan University, North County Recreation Park, 11 a.m.

University of Scranton vs. Susquehanna University, South County Recreation Park, 1 p.m.

Harvard vs. Seton Hall, North County Recreation Park, 1:30 p.m.

Bridgewater State University vs. SUNY Canton, North County Recreation Park, 2 p.m.

University of Scranton vs. Susquehanna University, South County Recreation Park, 4 p.m.

SUNY Canton vs. Bridgewater

## PREP SPORTS CALENDAR

### MONDAY

Softball

DeSoto Softball at Port Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.

### TUESDAY

Softball

Venice at Riverview, 7 p.m.  
Lemon Bay at Port Charlotte, 6 p.m.  
Charlotte Softball at Mariner, 7 p.m.  
North Port Softball at DeSoto, 7:30 p.m.

Tennis

Venice Boys and Girls home vs. ODA, 3 p.m.  
Charlotte Girls Tennis at Port Charlotte, 3:00  
DeSoto Boys Tennis vs. Booker, home, 4 p.m.  
DeSoto Girls tennis vs. Booker, home, 4 p.m.

Baseball

Charlotte Baseball at Canterbury, Preseason Classic, 4:30 p.m.  
North Port Baseball at DeSoto, DeSoto Preseason Classic, 7 p.m.

Weightlifting

DeSoto boys weightlifting at Lake Placid, 5 p.m.  
DeSoto Girls tennis vs. Booker, home, 4 p.m.

Basketball

Charlotte Girls regional semifinals, Home vs. Clearwater, 7 p.m.

## LOCAL PREP BRIEFS

### SNOWBIRD

### BASEBALL CLASSIC

#### Ohio State 5, Seton Hall 3

The Ohio State Buckeyes raised their overall record in the Snowbird Baseball Classic to 24-10, by sweeping the Seton Hall Pirates, 5-3 Sunday afternoon at the North County Recreation Park in Port Charlotte.

Buckeyes starter Jake Vance recorded the win, striking out six in five innings of work.

Ohio State scored three runs in the first inning, with first baseman Conner Pohl doubling to the gap in left field to plate a run.

Third baseman Zach Dezenzo's

first collegiate hit proved to be propitious, driving in the Buckeyes second run. Noah West's sacrifice fly in the opening inning gave Ohio State a three-run lead.

However, the Buckeyes weren't done as right fielder Dominic Canzone, who had homered earlier in the series, struck again with his second round-tripper against the Pirates in the second inning, plating second baseman Kobie Foppe.

The Pirates would score in the fourth, fifth and eighth innings. Designated hitter Sebastia Santorelli, second baseman Connor Hood and third baseman Casey Dana drove in the Pirates' runs.

The Pirates outhit their opponent 10-8.

Fifth-year senior reliever, Thomas Waning, preserved the victory for the Buckeyes, recording the save.

## SKYIGOLF

### FROM PAGE 1

it being our second biggest purse of the year, and having our money list determine who makes it onto the LPGA, it's a huge factor (in terms) of people deciding who wants to play in this tournament."

The top 60 players and ties, who make the cut after Friday's round, March 8, will continue their play the last two days of the tournament. There will be practice rounds Monday and Tuesday. The Pro-am will be on March 6, providing local corporate sponsors and individuals the opportunity to play

alongside the Symetra Tour players before the tournament begins.

"It's really a week long experience," said Nichols. "It goes back to the fact of the guys at SKYIGOLF, and they came to us and said, 'we want to make an impact in the world of golf, supporting the young ladies and their dream of joining the LPGA Tour.'"

When the initial announcement was made that the SKYIGOLF Championship would be the first stop on the tour, it's purse offering of \$250,000 was the highest purse in the history of the tour, it has since been eclipsed, but it's significant in that it's offering the second highest purse in

tour history, said Nichols.

"It's going to give some of these ladies a leg up with finances for the rest of the year, which is what SKYIGOLF wanted to do, given the sort of the relationship with the founder of SKYIGOLF, who's also the owner of a golf course in Port Charlotte.

It made sense since it's the flagship facility for the SKYIGOLF platforms."

The tournament lends itself to spectators who will have the unique experience of seeing an outstanding field, on a challenging course, without the huge galleries obstructing their line of vision.

"Women's golf is so relatable for most amateurs," said

Pressel. "We all love to watch Tiger's swing at 100-plus MPH... most of the people that are playing can't quite do that.

But they can relate to our game, which I think makes it a little bit more fun for them. They feel like, 'Maybe I can try something like that. We're also very approachable. You don't have to look over people's heads to see us. You're going to be close to the action, hole-by-hole. I think this will be a great experience for North Port. I'm really excited to get back and start competing there.'"

Charlotte Harbor National Golf Club was selected as a venue because it fit the criteria of the Symetra Tour, and that it was of high enough quality to

host an LPGA Tour event, said Nichols.

"We play on first class golf courses that will be of LPGA Tour caliber because as we're graduating these players to the next level on the LPGA Tour, we want them to have a season under their belt, even though it might not be on the LPGA tour," said Nichols. "They want to have a season on the Symetra Tour where they've had the opportunity to play at first class venues around the country, get used to the idea of travel, working out when they're not playing their tournament round and getting used to life on tour, so when they graduate to the LPGA tour they'll be successful golfers."

## ■ MLB

# Pujols predicts he'll be everyday player at age 39



AP PHOTO

Los Angeles Angels' Albert Pujols watches his three-run home run in front of Seattle Mariners catcher Chris Herrmann this past season. Pujols, who hit 19 homers in 117 games last year, said he wants to play 162 games this season.

By CARRIE MUSKAT  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TEMPE, Ariz. — Albert Pujols has a bold if unrealistic prediction for his 2019 season.

"I'm expecting to play 162 games," the Los Angeles Angels first baseman said Sunday. "One hundred ninety games I'm going to play this year, including spring training."

A month past his 39th birthday, Pujols is an 18-year big league veteran, 10-time All-Star and three-time MVP.

"He will not be playing 190, I promise you that," new Angels manager Brad Ausmus said.

Pujols had knee surgery last August. He appeared in 117 games and had 465 at-bats, his fewest since 2013, while hitting .245 with 19 home runs and 64 RBIs.

Because the surgery was in the summer, he was able to have a normal offseason.

"If he's playing well, he's going to play, it's as simple as that," Ausmus said. "The

important thing about spring training is making sure he's healthy going into the season. We certainly don't want to overload him here and have an issue in April and May. It's going to evolve as we go. We'll certainly be cautious out of the gate."

Pujols is expected to play first base and see time at designated hitter until two-way player Shohei Ohtani is given the go-ahead to hit in games following Tommy John surgery.

After batting .328 and hitting 445 home runs over 11 seasons with the St. Louis Cardinals, Pujols has a .260 average and 188 homers in seven years with the Angels.

"My job is to be healthy and help this ballclub to win a championship," Pujols said. "I don't think I need to show anybody. I know what I can do when I'm healthy and that's what I try to do. My main focus is to help this ballclub win a championship. This is not about me."

## Cano says he feels like he's 25

By BILL WHITEHEAD  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PORT ST. LUCIE, Fla. — New York Mets infielder Robinson Cano had a youthful perspective after reporting to spring training with the New York Mets.

"I feel like I'm 25," the 36-year-old All-Star second baseman said Sunday, a day ahead of the team's first full-squad workout.

Cano took a physical and held a news conference. He took over the spot in the clubhouse that used to belong to Mets captain David Wright, who retired because of neck and back injuries.

"First of all, nobody's going to replace David Wright," Cano said. "David Wright is the organization. We all know what he did through the years. I feel special that I get to have his locker. This is a game that you play as a team. I'm going to go out and do my best and give it everything I've got, yes I will. But I don't like to pressure myself

and go out and be that guy."

Cano was acquired Dec. 3 from Seattle along with All-Star closer Edwin Diaz, the first big move made by new general manager Brodie Van Wagenen — Cano's former agent.

"He said he was going to go out and build a team that could go out and compete. He has a lot of good pieces, and this team looks really good," Cano said.

Cano hit .303 with 10 home runs and an .845 OPS last season, though he was banned for 80 games for violating baseball's drug agreement. Cano tested positive for Furosemide, a diuretic that can be used to mask performance-enhancing drugs.

The eight-time All-Star is expected to be the regular second baseman, causing the Mets to shift 26-year-old Jeff McNeil to a utility role that could include time in left field. McNeil hit .329 in 63 games for the Mets last season.

Cano has played 14 games at first base during



AP PHOTO

Robinson Cano (left) and Edwin Diaz participate in a news conference at CitiField, in New York, following their trade from the Mariners to the Mets. Cano says he feels like he is 25.

his 14-year big league career.

"I haven't thought about that yet," Cano said of possible time at first.

Having spent nine years in New York with the Yankees, Cano had some advice for the 24-year-old Diaz about playing in the Big Apple and tuning out media and talk-radio.

"He's a young kid. It's different, especially when you come through the system with Seattle — you don't deal with a lot of media," Cano said. "I told him just to go out and don't let the big city

get into your head. Go out, compete, and have fun . knowing you're human and not perfect. It's the same game in a different city. Don't focus on the city."

Cano left the Yankees after the 2013 season to sign a \$240 million, 10-year contract with the Mariners that pays \$24 million annually.

As part of the trade, Seattle sent the Mets \$5 million on Dec. 21 and will send New York \$3.75 million on Dec. 1 in each of the next four years.

## Angels' Ohtani hopes to hit off tee next week

By CARRIE MUSKAT  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TEMPE, Ariz. — Shohei Ohtani hopes to hit off a tee next week for the first time since Tommy John surgery.

"That's the thought, but I'm not trying to rush myself," the two-way Los Angeles Angels star said through an interpreter Sunday.

The AL Rookie of the Year had surgery Oct. 1 to repair a torn ulnar collateral ligament, and the Angels think the earliest he could be ready to hit in games is in May. The 24-year-old hopes to start the pitching phase of his rehabilitation at the end of spring training.

"So far, things are going as planned," Ohtani said. "No problems at all. But maybe once I start throwing, maybe I'll start having some issues. But as of now, everything has been going well."

Ohtani went 4-2 with a 3.31 ERA in 10 starts as a pitcher. He played 104 games overall as a rookie, hitting .285 with 22 homers and 61 RBIs.

"Physically, he's a once in a lifetime type talent," new Angels manager Brad Ausmus said. "Now if we can get him back to where he was at the start of last year, it'd be perfect. The fans love to watch him, we love to have him in a uniform."

What has Ausmus learned about Ohtani? "I can say this, he's intense for sure," Ausmus said. "He seems to have a good sense of humor but when it comes to baseball, it's almost as if he's on a mission."

The Angels have another two-way player on their roster in Jared Walsh, who is a left-handed reliever and plays first base and the outfield. Ohtani has said hello but hasn't talked much to Walsh.

## At 45, Ichiro looks to make the team with Mariners

By RYAN DIVISH  
THE SEATTLE TIMES

PEORIA, Ariz. — At a distance, he looked like just like anyone else in a Mariners' uniform in the Saturday afternoon sunshine.

In fact, he moved better than the average player, running a little bit harder and faster than most. The arm produced throws that maybe aren't quite "something out of Star Wars" but are just as crisp and often more accurate than those around him.

And the swing? Well the technique has remained the same through all these years — the upright stance, the head perfectly still while the body is moving, the bat head staying impossibly long through the strike zone.

He seemed able to compete in a young man's game, even though he stopped being one about 20 years ago.

It isn't until you see him up close that you are really reminded he's a 45-year-old man who has been running around with a bunch of guys in their mid-20s without somehow looking out of place. His brush cut

and stubble that were once jet black now have almost too much gray to be considered "salt and pepper."

This isn't revelatory, but Ichiro isn't just anyone else.

A player of similar skill set and age wouldn't be in any team's MLB spring training unless he was serving as a coach. But the circumstances around this particular organization and this legendary player, whose best years came in Seattle, have allowed it to happen.

It's fair to be critical of the situation, of the reasons and of the Mariners for bringing back Ichiro once again after last year's dalliance resulted in a forgettable 15 games of baseball where he hit .205 with a .460 on-base plus slugging percentage. It was followed by an odd conversion to a "front office" role that allowed him to wear a uniform, travel with the team and participate in a pregame workout every day. Most front office jobs aren't quite like that.

And now he returns for another season, not as the special assistant to the chairman, but as an

outfielder, who signed a split minor league/major league contract with an invite to spring training.

"Ichi is in and ready to go," manager Scott Servais said. "He takes it as serious as anybody in that room. That's what has allowed him to keep playing all these years. He'll be out there running around and have as much energy, if not more, than the rest of the guys. It's just how he's wired."

Following his first workout, Ichiro was philosophical about the situation and how long he wants to continue to play.

"I think a 45-year-old baseball player really shouldn't be thinking about the future," Ichiro said through interpreter Allen Turner. "It's about today. I'm very satisfied with today and how it went. I'm just going to take it day by day."

In any other year, the odds of making the Opening Day roster, even with Ichiro's past glory, would seem unlikely. But the Mariners are in the midst of a step-back plan where the focus is to build a roster for 2020 and 2021. The 2019 season isn't a throwaway,

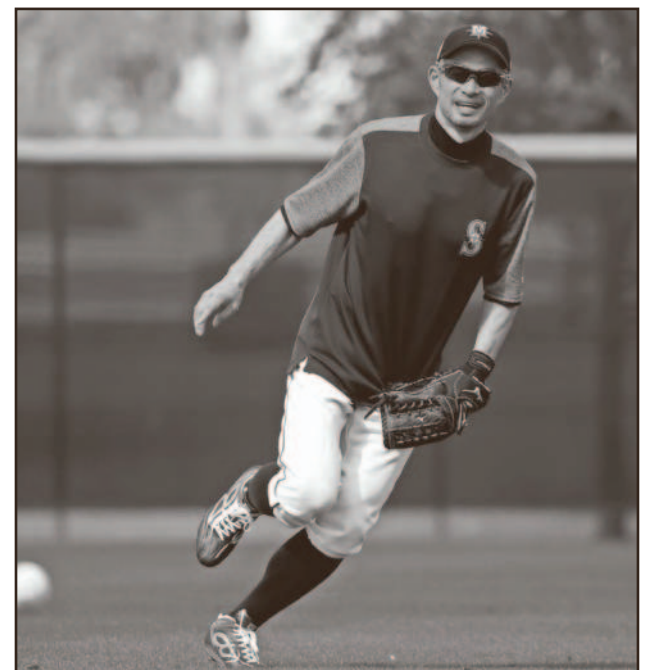
but it also isn't go-for-it situation.

They also open the 2019 season in Japan in mid-March with two exhibition games vs. the Yomiuri Giants followed by two regular-season games against the Oakland A's. Because of the early start and the travel, the Mariners can carry 28 players on the active roster for those two regular season games. General manager Jerry Dipoto said on multiple occasions that Ichiro will travel with the team to Japan and could likely be on the active roster vs. the A's.

In the twilight of his career, returning to his home country and playing one last time for the team that helped him reach superstardom in Major League Baseball would be a fitting tribute to his career. But he wouldn't speculate on such a narrative.

"Of course, that is one of the goals, to be there," he said. "But right now, it's not that time to think about. I'm just focused on today and what I can do to get better."

Last season when Ichiro was asked to transition



AP PHOTO

Seattle Mariners' Ichiro Suzuki takes the field in Peoria, Ariz. Ichiro, 45, signed a split minor league/major league contract.

to his front office role, Dipoto dangled a return as a player and the trip to Japan as a strong possibility.

"At that point there was talk of the possibility of an opportunity being there," Ichiro said. "Nothing finalized or set in stone. Just that there was a possibility that would happen. That was a big thing for me, to be

able to continue to work. That was a huge part of why I was able to continue to work and do what I did, because I had that opportunity."

The real question will be what happens when the Mariners return from Japan on March 22 and restart the regular season on March 28 at Safeco Field against the World Series champion Red Sox.





## ■ NBA

# Curry family celebrates All-Star weekend

By STEVE REED

AP SPORTS WRITER

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Sonya Curry hasn't stopped smiling all weekend.

She has had quality time with her grandchildren with the entire family in town for All-Star Weekend festivities. She even hit a half-court shot at a community center her family helped refurbish.

On Saturday night, she emerged from Suite 21 at the Spectrum Center beaming after spending the evening with family and watching sons Stephen and Seth and husband Dell participate in the NBA All-Star 3-point contest.

"It's been everything that I hoped it would be," she said of her sons' return to their hometown for All-Star weekend. "Seeing Dell out there on the court being able to share that moment with the boys was awesome. And having the family all here to watch — that's hard to beat."

With remnants of half-eaten appetizers and drinks still sitting on the counter, some of the young ones were starting to fuss having grown restless after being up well past their bedtimes.

Still, Sonya didn't want the night to end.

Neither did her husband.

Dell had changed into a suit and tie after shooting a few balls alongside former NBA players Glen Rice, Mark Price and Ray Allen to raise money for charity before the main 3-point event began.

It didn't come close to the most fun he had on Saturday.

"Look around, all of our family was in here," he said pointing to a crowded suite as Stephen's wife Ayesha put their 19-month old son Canon into a stroller. "They had a great time, you could tell. That's what it is all about — to give our family a chance to experience this and be a part of it."

Seth fulfilled a lifelong dream of participating in his first All-Star 3-point contest and his girlfriend Callie Rivers, son of NBA coach Doc Rivers, has been wearing a large diamond ring on her left hand — though Seth has declined to publicly comment on their reported engagement.

Stephen got to cross off a bucket list item when he leaped into the student section at his alma mater Davidson College Friday night after the Wildcats rallied to beat St. Joseph's. He posed for pictures with Davidson students who were wearing only Speedos and smiles, saying "I didn't get to do that when I was playing



AP PHOTO

North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper, second from left, and Charlotte Vi Lyles and members of the Curry family gathered at the Carol Hoefener Community Center in Charlotte, N.C. Friday, where the Currys refurbished the center, including the basketball court.

there, so I wanted to get that experience."

Dell was honored at the NBA Legends brunch Sunday after spending 16 seasons in the league and retiring as the Hornets all-time leading scorer, a mark that has since been broken by All-Star Kemba Walker.

And Sonya, well she made the biggest shot of the weekend, draining an underhand toss from half-court on Friday — and then launched into a wild celebration — after beating her three children's teams at a Charlotte community

center that the Curry family helped to refurbish.

And while Stephen may not have gotten the "fairytale ending" he wanted after finishing second to Joe Harris in the 3-point contest, he did beat younger brother Seth to win a friendly wager.

Sonya said she wanted Seth to win in his first ever appearance as an NBA player in Charlotte, but joked the family tried to "keep it on the DL."

"It's rare that we all get in the same place at the same time," said Seth,

"but to have my dad recognized by the NBA in a city where he played for the Hornets and where us kids grew up in is pretty special. It's been one of the best All-Star weekends I have been a part of."

The only thing left now in this Curry family All-Star weekend is Stephen competing in his sixth All-Star game on Sunday night.

For Dell and Sonya, the All-Star Weekend has taken them full circle.

It was 27 years ago when Dell competed in the All-Star 3-point

contest in Orlando, Florida — with 3-year-old Stephen at courtside with him.

On Saturday night, Stephen simulated that moment by wearing the same multi-colored warmup jacket that he wore in 1992 sitting on his dad's lap.

"The league did a really nice thing with incorporating us with our kids being here," said Dell, who moved his family to Charlotte in 1988 and never left. "We are blessed to be a part of this with our sons in the NBA."

## DAYTONA

FROM PAGE 1

to collect the checkered flag, he immediately credited J.D. Gibbs.

"The whole family, they did so much for me over the course of my career, and this one is for J.D.," Hamlin said. "We are desperately going to miss him the rest of our lives. His legacy still lives on through Joe Gibbs Racing and proud to do this for them."

Hamlin was met in victory lane by the entire Gibbs family, including J.D.'s widow and four sons.

"He meant a lot to me and it's hard for me not getting choked up because I've been choked up about 100 times about it," Hamlin said. "Just to have Melissa (Gibbs) and all the kids here, it's just crazy."

Joe Gibbs, the Hall of Fame NFL coach with three Super Bowl victories, ranked the tribute win to his son first in his career accomplishments.

"It is the most emotional and biggest win I've ever had in my life, in anything," Gibbs said. "It was the most important night in my occupational life. I know J.D. and everybody in my family was emotional."

Kyle Busch and Erik Jones finished second and third as

JGR became the second team in NASCAR history to sweep the Daytona 500 podium. Hendrick Motorsports did it in 1997 with Jeff Gordon, Terry Labonte and Ricky Craven.

Busch, now winless in 14 Daytona 500s, was initially openly disappointed in falling short.

"He's got two, I've got none, and that's just the way it goes sometimes," Busch said.

But he reiterated the JGR and Toyota goal of working together to win the race and noted he didn't have much of a shot at beating Hamlin because the field had been decimated by a flurry of late accidents.

"Was trying to make sure one of us gets to victory lane, first and foremost," Busch said. "There wasn't enough cars out there running at the end. I don't know how it would have played out."

There was an accident on pit road, a 21-car crash, 12 cautions and five wrecks in the final 20 laps of regulation.

The race was stopped twice for cleanup totaling nearly 40 minutes in the final stretch. During the second red-flag, one of NASCAR's track-drying trucks broke down while cleaning oil off the racing surface.

Hamlin and Busch alternated as the leaders during the handful of

late restarts, and the final rush to the checkered flag was a push to hold off Ford driver and reigning NASCAR champion Joey Logano. The Ford camp went 1-2-3 in both of Thursday's qualifying races and was favored to win the Daytona 500.

Logano, who started his career at JGR, settled for fourth and also took a moment to honor J.D. Gibbs.

"I'm not a Gibbs driver but for what J.D. has done for my career is the reason why I'm sitting here today," Logano said. "As bad as I want to win it, it is pretty cool to think that the first race after his passing, to see those guys one, two, three, it just says he's up there watching and maybe gave (those) guys a little extra boost there at the end."

Michael McDowell was fifth in a Ford but aggravated Logano by not working with him in the two-lap overtime sprint to the finish.

"I just told him that my team doesn't pay me to push Joey Logano to a win," McDowell said.

Ty Dillon was sixth in the highest-finishing Chevrolet.

The race featured eight drivers making their Daytona 500 debuts and rookie Ryan Preece, a short track racer from New England, was best in class with an eighth-place finish.

## ■ GOLF

## Miguel Angel Jimenez wins Chubb Classic

NAPLES, Fla. (AP) — Miguel Angel Jimenez won the Chubb Classic on Sunday for his seventh PGA Tour Champions title, beating Bernhard Langer and Olin Browne with a 5-foot par putt on the first hole of a playoff.

Jimenez closed with a 5-under 66 at The Classics at Lely Resort to match Langer and Browne at 13-under 200.

"I'm working hard and I practice and go to the gym, apart from smoking and drinking," Jimenez said. "This is what I love to do. I love to play golf. To me, competing is my life. I go to any competition, I want to win. I working

for that."

Jimenez has won in each of his six seasons on the 50-and-over tour. The 55-year-old Spaniard won the major Regions Tradition and Senior British Open last season.

"It's the beginning of the season," Jimenez said. "We are on the third tournament of the season and all the season in front of us. This gives you the energy and the confidence coming up."

Langer shot 68, and Browne had a double bogey on the par-4 18th in regulation for a 66.

"I didn't hit a very good tee shot in regulation and I had a lot of club in," Browne said.

## TEBOW

FROM PAGE 1

no fish out of shoulder pads anymore. He's not on the 40-man major league roster, but he's in big league camp for the second consecutive year and ticketed for Triple-A Syracuse in April.

One step away.

"This will be like, sort of the biggest spring training for me," the 31-year-old Tebow said. "This journey isn't defined by just getting there. I think, shoot, I've already enjoyed it enough to say it's worth it. The whole process. Would that be awesome? Of course it would. It would be such an amazing thing and it would be so enjoyable, but at the same time, regardless of what happens, I know that I'll enjoy it every day and I think that's the biggest thing for me."

In his second full season of minor league baseball, Tebow batted a respectable .273 with

six home runs, 14 doubles and 36 RBIs in 84 games for Double-A Binghamton last year. The left fielder socked a three-run homer on the first pitch he saw, then hit .301 in June and .340 in 15 games during July. He even doubled in the Eastern League All-Star Game on July 11.

Eight days later, however, he broke the hamate bone in his right hand while taking a swing. Season-ending surgery squashed any hope of a fast promotion to the majors.

"He did a tremendous job last year," Mets manager Mickey Callaway said. "You have to give him credit for the strides he made."

They were evident Saturday during batting practice in a group that included top prospect Peter Alonso, a brawny slugger and fellow Florida Gators product.

"Means he's pretty awesome," said a smiling Tebow, who won two national football championships in college.

Tebow's thick arms and

muscular frame helped him launch several balls over the fence on a back field. He's been working with personal hitting coach Jay Gibbons, an ex-major leaguer who traveled with Tebow throughout the offseason while he worked his other job as a college football television analyst.

Tebow said he took batting practice on countless college ballfields all over the country.

"It's hard contact. I think I need to have a talk with him about his conditioning. He's probably not strong enough," Callaway cracked. "So yeah, it's raw power, it's real, and the bat moves through the zone pretty swiftly."

"This kid has confidence, because he works. And I definitely see a baseball player out of Tim Tebow. Not just because he's in a uniform, but because he wants it so bad," the manager added.

At the souvenir stand between Tom Seaver Curve and Willie Mays Drive, No. 15 Tebow T-shirts were on sale for

\$32 along with those of several other players. Tebow's shirt was gray, while the big leaguers were in blue.

"We're just going to get him out there as much as possible," Callaway said. "We want to get him out there and see major league pitching. And I know he's going to continue to improve because that's who he is."

Regardless of whether he ever makes it to the majors, Tebow has come a long way in a short time on the diamond after spending 2010-12 in the NFL with the Denver Broncos and New York Jets. Remember, it was just a few years ago that he picked up baseball again for the first time since high school.

A national celebrity also popular for his charity work and outspoken faith, Tebow was laughed at and criticized when he embarked on his new career. Last spring, limited to at-bats as the designated hitter because of an ankle he said was broken, Tebow went 1 for 18 (.056) in seven games with the

Mets before returning to minor league camp. He said the pain caused bad mechanics.

"It's kind of hard to put into words how much more comfortable I feel, to be honest with you. Just in the little things. Shoot, in knowing what I'm going to grab to bring out there with me for practice, you know?" Tebow said. "Just playing catch, going through the motions, balls off the bat, off the wall, all of those things."

And while some players bemoan the monotony of spring training, Tebow enjoys the workouts under the sun and inside the cage, always trying to improve.

"I love the grind of it. I love the challenge," he said. "Even like for football with training camp, I loved it. I think I was kind of weird that way, but I embraced it. I kind of think I'm the same way with baseball."

So even with revered ex-Florida coach Steve Spurrier pitching him a spot in the new Alliance of American Football, Tebow wasn't interested.

■ MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

# Figueroa lifts St. John's to win over No. 13 Villanova

NEW YORK (AP) — A 70-foot shot just before halftime gave St. John's momentum, and LJ Figueroa and the Red Storm used a strong defensive effort in the second half to surprise No. 13 Villanova.

Figueroa scored 22 points and St. John's rallied to beat the Wildcats 71-65 on Sunday night. It was the first win for the Red Storm at Madison Square Garden against Villanova in 17 years, and they accomplished the feat in front of an energetic sellout crowd of nearly 20,000 fans.

"It was as loud as I can remember, maybe louder," St. John's coach Chris Mullin said. "I'm happy for them they got to experience that too. There's nothing like that. There are some great places to play college basketball, but when you get a full Madison Square Garden against a championship team like Villanova there's nothing like that. It's awesome. It helped us. It kept us in the game and took us to another level."

Trailing by 17 late in the first half, the Red Storm scored the final six points, including Justin Simon's shot from the opposite 3-point line that banked in just before the buzzer and made it 37-26.

"We were screaming the whole way into the locker room," said Mustapha Heron, who added 19 points. "We had to do it on the defensive end (in the second half)."

The Red Storm (19-7, 7-6 Big East) were down 48-34 with 12:30 left. They scored 20 of the next 25 points to take their first lead on Figueroa's 3-pointer from the corner.



AP PHOTO

St. John's guard LJ Figueroa reacts after making a three-point basket against Villanova during the second half of an NCAA college basketball game Sunday, Feb. 17, 2019, in New York.

During that run, Villanova coach Jay Wright was hit with a technical foul for arguing a call.

"Their half-court defense went to another level after they pressed us and the crowd got going," Wright said. "We had it to 11-12 in the second half there and they started pressing us. They got that turnover at half court and we got the technical that really got them going. That was the turning point in the game."

## NO. 11 MICHIGAN ST. 62, OHIO ST. 44

EAST LANSING, Mich. (AP) — Michigan State shut down Ohio State in the second half despite an

injury to Nick Ward.

Now the Spartans may be without their standout big man for a while.

Ward left in the second half with a broken left hand, but No. 11 Michigan State still rolled to a 62-44 victory over Ohio State on Sunday. The Spartans held the Buckeyes to only 13 points in the second half. Coach Tom Izzo initially said Ward might have dislocated a finger, but the school announced that the 6-foot-9 junior has a hairline fracture.

Michigan State hopes Ward will be able to return before the end of the season. Next weekend, the Spartans play the first of two big games against rival

Michigan.

Michigan State (21-5, 12-3) pulled into a first-place tie with Michigan atop the Big Ten. Ohio State (16-9, 6-8) led by six at halftime but shot 4 of 21 from the field the rest of the way.

"Defense not only travels — sometimes it works at home too," Izzo said.

Kenny Goins had 10 points and 10 rebounds for Michigan State, which finished the game with a 20-2 run. Matt McQuaid scored 14 points for the Spartans and Cassius Winston added 13.

"It was all on defense," McQuaid said. "We weren't getting clean rebounds in the first half. We did a better job in the second

of securing the ball and running."

## CINCINNATI 72, WICHITA ST. 62

CINCINNATI (AP) — Jarron Cumberland is carrying Cincinnati's offense as February starts to wind down.

The junior guard scored 27 points, matching his career high with six 3-pointers, and the Bearcats swept their season series with Wichita State, beating the Shockers 72-62 on Sunday.

They're already looking ahead to March as the American Athletic regular season winds down.

"This team, we can be way better than we are

right now," Cumberland said. "We've still got a lot of stuff to get better at before March. We can be really good."

They've gotten this far by leaning on Cumberland.

The Bearcats (21-4, 10-2) took control with a late first-half run led by Cumberland, who scored 14 in the opening half. He hit the big baskets as Cincinnati stayed ahead the rest of the way.

Wichita State (12-12, 5-7) had its winning streak snapped at a season-high four games. Dexter Dennis led the Shockers with 14 points and a career-high 13 rebounds.

The Shockers outrebounded the Bearcats 51-42, one of their bright spots.

## NO. 9 HOUSTON 85, TULANE 50

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Corey Davis Jr. made eight 3-pointers and scored 26 points to help No. 9 Houston beat Tulane 85-50 on Sunday for its 10th straight victory.

Armoni Brooks made six 3s on his way to 24 points, and Houston (25-1, 12-1 American Athletic) went 17 for 35 from long range.

The Cougars opened with a 22-5 run. The Green Wave twice got within eight early in the second half, but Davis made three 3-pointers during a 17-0 run that made it 58-33 lead.

Caleb Daniels scored 13 points for Tulane (4-20, 0-12). The Green Wave have lost 14 consecutive games, their longest losing streak in 55 years.

■ WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

# No. 20 Miami women rally to beat No. 2 Louisville 79-73

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Emese Hof scored 25 points and No. 20 Miami rallied to beat No. 2 Louisville 79-73 on Sunday.

Miami (22-5, 10-2 Atlantic Coast Conference) trailed by as many as 14 in the second quarter. The Hurricanes' fifth — and biggest — win over a ranked foe in six games this season also gave coach Katie Meier her 350th win in her 18-year career.

Laura Cornelius added 16 points and six assists, and Mykea Gray had 10 points.

Asia Durr led Louisville (23-2, 10-2) with 16 points on 5-for-17 shooting.

## NO. 4 UCONN 78, UCF 41

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Naphessa Collier had 18 points, 11 rebounds, five assists and four steals for UConn.

Christyn Williams scored all 12 of her points in the second half for UConn (23-2, 11-0 American). The Huskies forced 23 turnovers and jumped out to a 23-4 lead.

Kay Kay Wright scored 17 points for UCF (20-5, 9-3).

## NO. 5 MISSISSIPPI STATE 92, TEXAS A&M 64

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — Andra Espinoza-Hunter set career highs with seven 3-pointers and 24 points and Mississippi State bounced back to beat Texas A&M.

Mississippi State (23-2, 11-1 Southeastern Conference) used a big third-quarter run to get back on track after a loss to Missouri on Thursday night snapped a 12-game winning streak.

Anriel Howard, who played her first three seasons at Texas A&M, added 19 points and tied a season

high with 13 rebounds for the Bulldogs.

Chennedy Carter had 28 points for Texas A&M (19-6, 8-4) before fouling out with about 5 1/2 minutes left.

## NO. 14 IOWA 86, NO. 7 MARYLAND 73

IOWA CITY, Iowa (AP) — Megan Gustafson scored 24 of her 31 points in the second half and Iowa beat Maryland to tie the Terrapins for the Big Ten lead.

Gustafson also had 17 rebounds, and Tania Davis scored 13 points. The Hawkeyes (21-5, 12-3) have won 10 of 11. Stephanie Jones led Maryland (23-3, 12-3) with 21 points.

## NO. 8 MARQUETTE 109, SETON HALL 63

SOUTH ORANGE, N.J. (AP) — Natisha Hiedeman scored a career-high 34 points and Danielle King added 20 to lead Marquette past Seton Hall.

Marquette (22-4, 13-1 Big East) bounced back from a loss to St. John's on Friday night that ended a 12-game winning streak. Desiree Elmore scored 21 points for Seton Hall (14-12, 6-9).

## NO. 10 STANFORD 69, SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA 67

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Alanna Smith made a layup with three seconds left to lift Stanford past USC.

Despite losing a fingernail in the first quarter, Smith had 23 points and 12 rebounds to help the Cardinal (21-4, 11-3 Pac-12) rally after trailing for most of the game. Dijonai Carrington added 18 points and 12 rebounds.

Minyon Moore had 18 points, 10 rebounds and

eight assists for the Trojans (15-10, 5-9).

## NO. 11 SOUTH CAROLINA 96, FLORIDA 77

GAINESVILLE, Fla. (AP) — Alexis Jennings scored a season-high 22 points, Bianca Cuevas-Moore added 19 and Destanni Henderson had 18 for South Carolina.

Tyasha Harris added 11 points and 10 assists to help the Gamecocks (19-6, 11-1) stay tied atop the Southeastern Conference with Mississippi State. South Carolina shot 59 percent.

Funda Nakkasoglu led the Gators (6-19, 2-10) with 19 points.

## KANSAS STATE 69, NO. 15 TEXAS 60

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Kayla Goth scored 15 points, Peyton Williams had 13 points and 14 rebounds and Kansas State overcame a 14-point second-half deficit to beat Texas.

Jasauen Beard and Rachel Ranke each scored 11 points for the Wildcats (16-10, 7-7 Big 12).

Destiny Littlejohn had 16 points for Texas (20-6, 10-4).

## NO. 16 SYRACUSE 77, WAKE FOREST 57

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (AP) — Miranda Drummond had 17 points and six rebounds and Tiana Mangakahia added 15 points, six rebounds and nine assists for Syracuse.

Digna Strautmene and Maeva Djaldi-Tabdi added 10 points each for the Orange (19-6, 8-4 Atlantic Coast Conference). Alex Sharp had 17 points for the Demon Deacons (10-15, 1-11).



AP PHOTO

Louisville guard Asia Durr attempts to strip the ball from Miami guard Mykea Gray during the first half of Sunday's game.

## NO. 17 KENTUCKY 61, ARKANSAS 59

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) — Rhyne Howard hit a pull-up jumper from the foul line with 1.3 seconds left and scored 18 points in Kentucky's victory over Arkansas.

Taylor Murray added 16 points for the Wildcats (21-5, 8-3 Southeastern Conference).

Chelsea Dundee led the Razorbacks (16-10, 5-7) with 20 points.

## NO. 19 ARIZONA STATE 60, UTAH 58

TEMPE, Ariz. (AP) — Courtney Ekmark made two free throws with under

a second remaining to cap Arizona State's closing 20-0 run.

Ekmark finished with 15 points for the Sun Devils (18-6, 9-4 Pac-12).

Megan Huff scored 15 points for Utah (18-7, 7-7).

## NO. 21 FLORIDA STATE 78, PITTSBURGH 46

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — Kiah Gillespie had 18 points, 10 rebounds, six assists and two steals and Florida State spoiling Pittsburgh coach Lance White's homecoming.

Nicki Ekhomu added 15 points for the Seminoles (21-5, 9-4 Atlantic Coast Conference).

Danielle Garven had 14 points for Pittsburgh (10-17, 1-12). White spent the previous 15 years as an assistant and associated head coach at Florida State.

## NEBRASKA 82, NO. 24 MICHIGAN STATE 71

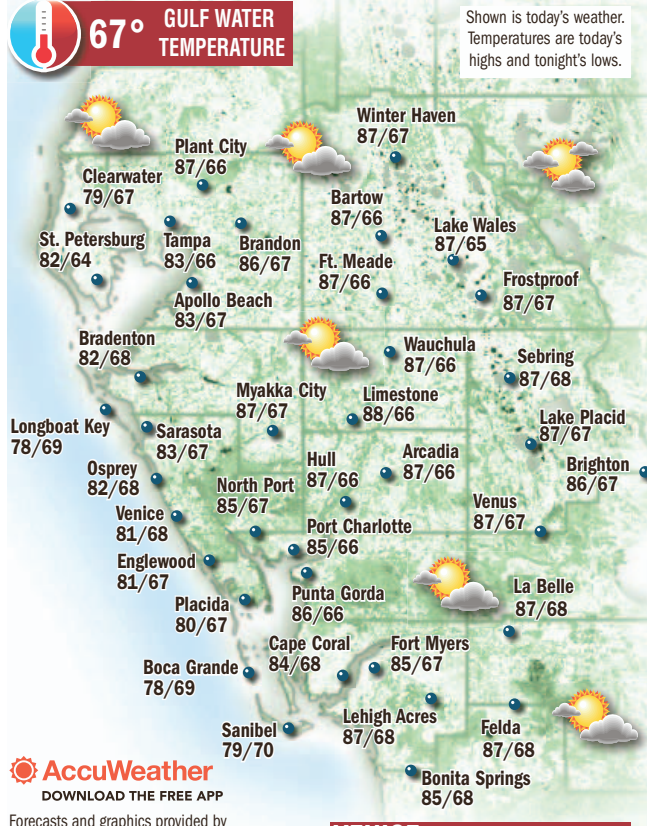
LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Hannah Whitish scored 16 points and Nebraska held off Michigan State.

Leigha Brown added 14 points, making 4 of 5 3-pointers for the Cornhuskers (12-14, 7-8 Big Ten).

Shay Colley had 17 points for the Spartans (17-8, 7-7).

Advertisement for StormSmart weather service. Text: "You don't use these anymore." "Protect your home and enjoy the outdoor lifestyle with today's technology." "LIVE IN THE NOW! STORM SMART" "888-962-7283 StormSmart.com"

Weather forecast for the week: TODAY/TONIGHT, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY. Includes icons for partial sunshine, high/low temperatures, and chance of rain.



FLORIDA CITIES table with columns for City, Today, and Tue. weather conditions (Hi, Lo, W, Hi, Lo, W).

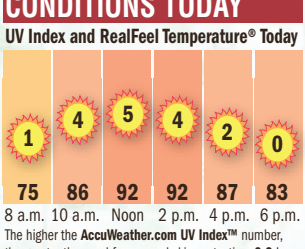
TIDES table for Punta Gorda and Englewood, showing High and Low tide times.

MARINE table showing Wind, Speed, Seas, and Bay/Inland direction.

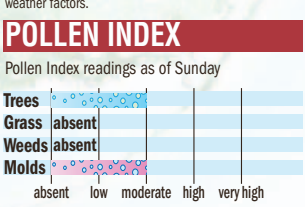
SUN AND MOON table showing rise and set times for the Sun and Moon.

PORT CHARLOTTE weather summary including temperatures, precipitation, and monthly rainfall.

VENICE weather summary including temperatures, precipitation, and monthly rainfall.



UV Index and RealFeel Temperature table with values for different times of day.

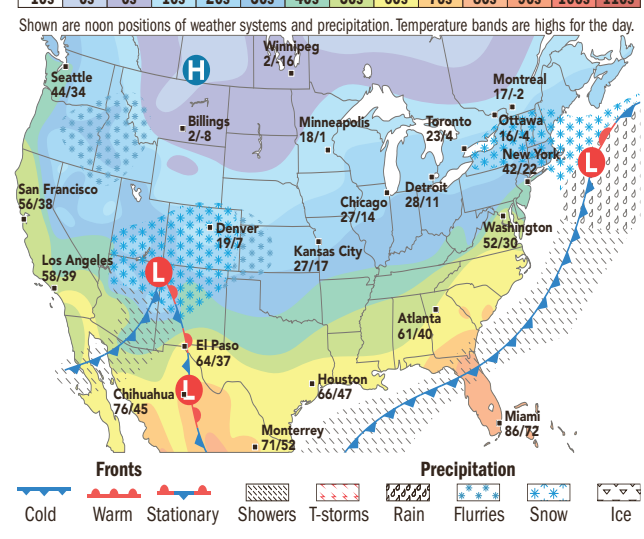


MONTHLY RAINFALL table with columns for Month, 2019, 2018, Avg. Record/Year.

SEBRING weather summary including temperatures, precipitation, and monthly rainfall.

AIRPORT weather summary including temperatures, precipitation, and delays.

THE NATION



U.S. EXTREMES table showing high and low temperatures for the 48 contiguous states yesterday.

WORLD CITIES table with columns for City, Today, and Tue. weather conditions.

WEATHER HISTORY and WEATHER TRIVIA sections.

NBA: Slam Dunk Contest

Diallo clears Shaq



AP PHOTO

Oklahoma City Thunder guard Hamidou Diallo leaps over 7'1 Hall of Fame center Shaquille O'Neal en route to winning the NBA All-Star Slam Dunk contest, Saturday, in Charlotte, N.C.

HEAT

Wade gets red carpet treatment from Riley

By ANTHONY CHIANG MIAMI HERALD
CHARLOTTE, N.C. — When Dwyane Wade arrived at dinner Thursday to kick off All-Star Weekend in Charlotte, he knew there would be surprises in store.

like expects things," Wade said of the support he's received from Heat brass during the weekend. "When things happen, like (Thursday's dinner) when I walked on the red carpet and saw Pat there — I didn't expect Pat to be there because I didn't know a lot about the dinner.

you're going to have some not-so-amazing moments," Wade said. "As I said (at Thursday's dinner) in my speech, we've had way more amazing moments than we've had not. We're two guys who at times can be very stubborn, both of us. That's been a part of our greatness and it's been a part of other decisions and things we've done in life that later we probably would be like, 'Oh, maybe we should have done it different.'