

# HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

Sunday, February 24, 2019



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YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1919

An Edition Of The Sun

## Xaver arraignment slated for Monday



FILE PHOTO

The Sebring courthouse where Xaver will be arraigned on Monday.

By **KIM LEATHERMAN**  
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — Zephen Xaver, 21 of Sebring, has an arraignment scheduled Monday for the shooting and killing of four SunTrust Bank employees and one SunTrust customer on Jan. 23.

On Wednesday, in advance of the

arraignment, Assistant Public Defender Blair Allen filed a plea of not guilty on all five counts of premeditated, first-degree murder. Public court documents show Xaver wants a trial.

However, Xaver's lawyer has filed a waiver for his appearance on Monday.

Furthermore, Allen has reserved the right to

“file defensive motion challenging the legality of sufficiency” of the grand jury's indictment earlier this month.

According to Assistant State Attorney Steve Houchin, the motion to challenge is common when a not guilty plea is involved.

State Attorney Brian Haas announced Feb. 7 during a press

conference in front of the Highlands County Courthouse that he plans to seek the death penalty in the case.

The women killed in the shooting were Debra Cook, Marisol Lopez, Jessica Montague, Ana Maria Piñon-Williams, and Cynthia Watson.

Assistant State

**XAVER | 2A**



COURTESY PHOTO

Service dog 'Tanner' takes a break.

## Service dogs and emotional support animals

By **KIM LEATHERMAN**  
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — Most people love their animals and would like to take them everywhere they go — there are exceptions such as owning an axolotl or porcupine. Animal lovers will only go on vacation where their animals are welcome or visit beaches where their dogs are free to roam. Dog parks are dedicated to the species.

However, service dogs are technically the only animals to have full access with their owners to public spaces, including schools, restaurants, theaters and in a work environment. Service dogs are covered under the Americans with Disability Act and are defined in Article II and III. The ADA defines service dogs as: “Service animals are defined as dogs that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities.”

Service dogs are highly trained and are not considered pets. They have been trained to perform specific acts for their owners or detect certain changes in their handlers. Some of the duties service dogs perform are being the eyes for the blind and alerting an owner when they will have a seizure. There are psychiatric service dogs that aid people suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder or dissociative identity disorders and many more.

The ADA only covers dogs as service animals. The ADA does recognize miniature horses in a few select cases. Service dogs must be leashed or harnessed unless it would interfere with its duties. They must be under the control of the handler.

There are two major laws that affect service dogs and their handlers; the Air Carrier Access Act and the Fair Housing Act.

The Air Carrier Access Act gives permission for a service dog to sit in the

**DOGS | 2A**

## Back to the drawing board



MELISSA MAIN/STAFF

The Sebring Community Redevelopment Agency began work on a downtown beautification project without getting bids for the work. However, after realizing their error, the CRA will be getting bids on the work that will be done on West Center Street.

## Sebring CRA fails to get bids on downtown beautification project

By **MELISSA MAIN**  
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — The Sebring Community Redevelopment Agency failed to get bids for a downtown beautification project that it began earlier this month.

When the Sebring CRA decided that the downtown needed renovation, the agency was legally required to get bids for the project, but the agency did not meet this obligation, according to Sebring City Attorney Bob Swaine.

The project, which comes with a \$300,000 price tag, will focus on the Circle and the spoke streets. Extensive changes will be made to enhance the appearance of Circle Park, North and South Ridgewood Drive, East and West Center Avenue, and North and South Commerce Avenue.

The landscaping, mulch and curbing will be updated on Circle Park. The Veterans Monument will be enhanced by adding granite slabs around the structure.

“The Sebring Community Redevelopment Agency has undertaken several



The Sebring CRA authorized work to begin on a downtown beautification project, but the agency did get bids on the work. This picture shows work being completed on Circle Park.

beautification projects in the downtown area,” Swaine said. “The CRA did not initially bid out the projects, because the CRA believed that it could let that work under an existing contract that the city has with Polston Engineering.

“The issue was raised to city staff's attention last week and now the West Center Street projects will be

**CRA | 2A**



Circle Park is being renovated as part of a downtown renovation project sponsored by the CRA. However, the CRA failed to get bids on the project. The work that will be done on West Center Street will go



Business..... D1  
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# DOGS

FROM PAGE 1A

cabin of the plane instead of with the baggage at no charge. Individual airlines have created their own rules on emotional support animals because of abuse. The airline personnel can ask the handler what tasks the dog performs and what he has been trained to do and give a description of what the dog does for the owner.

The Fair Housing Act mandates that a person with disabilities and has a service dog are not discriminated against, even in a "no animal" complex. According to the ADA, the owner cannot be charged with a security deposit for the animal. The landlord can collect money if there is damage from the animal.

The Highlands News-Sun asked readers if emotional support animals should have the same access as service dogs. The majority said no. Bob Chubb said yes, if certain prerequisites were made such as being trained and having documentation for the animal when flying. He suggested a rider on the handler's driver's license.

The Department of Justice does give the owners an identification card with the dog's picture and information.

Additional comments are a concern for a misuse of assistance. "Unfortunately, people everywhere will manipulate if they are able," Chubb said. "I think people do abuse the use of emotional support. I worry that the very people emotional support animals are to help would be harmed if not available to them."

Emotional support



METROCREATIVE CONNECTIONS PHOTO

**A cat purse for carrying your favorite feline.**



PHOTO PROVIDED BY WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

**A blind person learns to use a guide dog.**

animals are not covered by the ADA. A valid support animal must have documentation by a licensed mental health professional. A handler may have to show this documentation to the airline before the flight. Individual airlines have the right to exclude an animal based on the size and species of an emotional support animal. Many people were trying

to bring some untrained animals and exotics on the planes such as peacocks and snakes.

A letter of documentation can be purchased online for \$59 and a service dog logo can be purchased online for \$39.

Many readers felt that there has been abuse with emotional support animals. They stated that emotional support animals should not be allowed in public grocery stores or restaurants. In general, the readers did not want to see anyone uncomfortable without their animals, but felt people were abusing the system.

President of the Humane Society of Highlands County Board of Directors Judy Spiegel said she has a different view.

"Maybe it's because I see so much animal abuse, but I like to see people enjoying their animals, she said. "I take my dog everywhere even to the grocery store. It's clean and I don't put him down and let him run. He brings smiles to a lot of people. I don't understand the problem. Why is it their business?"

For a complete run down on ADA laws on service animals visit [ada.gov/service](http://ada.gov/service).



PAWSITIVITYSERVICEDOGS.COM PHOTO

**A service dog at a bank.**

# CRA

FROM PAGE 1A

put out to bid as a whole," Swaine said. "The West Center Street projects are the bulk of the overall beautification efforts. I would characterize this as an innocent mistake that is being fixed."

Swaine explained his role with the CRA. "Earlier [Friday] on the phone, you

asked if I represent the Sebring Community Redevelopment Agency and if I had reviewed the beautification projects procurement issue prior to the start of the work," Swaine said.

"Yes, I represent the CRA on an as-needed basis, but I was not asked to provide input on this procurement issue prior to the start of the work," he said.

# XAVER

FROM PAGE 1A

Attorney Jake Orr said an arraignment is a normal part of the pretrial process. In an arraignment, formal charge(s) against the defendant are read, then the defendant enters a plea.

Orr also said that a not guilty plea is the most common in a criminal trial.

The next step in the trial process, Orr said, involves a series of pretrial conferences that could potentially drag the case on for years before getting to trial.

Meanwhile, Sebring Police Cmdr. Curtis Hart said Friday that detectives are getting everything together for the State Attorney's Office.

"It's a daunting task with a big case," Hart said.

When asked if he had comment about Xaver's plea, Hart said, "Not really."

"It'll work its way through the system," Hart said.

Scott Dressel, public information officer for the Highlands County



FILE PHOTO

**Sebring Police Chief Karl Hoglund talks to the media about Xaver on the lawn of the courthouse in a press conference.**

Sheriff's Office, said his agency also had no comment on the plea.

"It's out of our hands now," Dressel said. "It's

up to the State Attorney."

*Highlands News-Sun Staff Writer Phil Attinger contributed to this report.*



FILE PHOTO

**State Attorney Brian Haas told the media that he would seek the death penalty for Zephen Xaver.**

## 5 THINGS

That Will Make You

SMARTER



1. While you can find axolotls in aquariums and laboratories all over the world, it's much harder to find them in the wild. The animals can only be found in the lakes and canals of Xochimilco, Mexico.

2. As a result of habitat loss, pollution, and the introduction of invasive species like tilapia and carp, the axolotl is being pushed closer and closer

to extinction.

3. Phonetically, it's "ax-oh-lot-ul." Atl means "water" and xolotl means "dog," after the Xolotl, the canine Aztec deity, who was god of all things grim and would lead the souls of the dead to the underworld.

4. It's not unusual for amphibians to be able to regenerate, but axolotls take it to the next level. On top of being able to

regenerate limbs, the animal can also rebuild their jaws, spines, and even brains without any scarring.

5. The impossibly silly branches that grow from the axolotl's head might not seem practical, but they're actually the salamander's gills. The filaments attached to the long gills increase surface area for gas exchange.

Source: [mentalfloss.com](http://mentalfloss.com)

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**OFFICE**  
Location: 315 U.S. 27 North Sebring, FL 33870  
Hours: 8 a.m.-5 p.m.  
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Phone: 863-385-6155  
Main Fax: 863-385-1954

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### EDITORIAL

Karen Clogston, Managing Editor  
Special Sections Editor  
863-386-5835  
karen.clogston@highlandsnewssun.com

Allen Moody, Highlands Sun Editor  
Weekend Editor  
863-386-5841  
allen.moody@highlandsnewssun.com

### PUBLISHER

Tim Smolarick  
863-386-5624  
tim.smolarick@highlandsnewssun.com

### EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Romona Washington  
863-386-5634  
romona.washington@highlandsnewssun.com

### RETAIL ADVERTISING

Cliff Yeazel, Advertising Director  
863-386-5844  
cliff.yeazel@highlandsnewssun.com

### CIRCULATION

Rob Kearley, Circulation Director  
863-386-6155  
rob.kearley@highlandsnewssun.com

### PRODUCTION

Donna Scherlacher,  
MultiMedia/Production Director  
863-386-5847  
donna.scherlacher@highlandsnewssun.com



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# 24th Annual AdventHealth Foundation Gala

## Thank You Hardee and Highlands Community Members



Country music star Scotty McCreery was the headline entertainer for the Foundation Gala. The concert hosted 500 gala dinner guests and an additional 800 community members at South Florida State College's Performing Arts Center.



More than 350 community members participated in this year's Jarrett Family Foundation 5k/10k Run and Walk on Sunday, Feb. 10.



Randy Surber shares more information about the recent transformation from Florida Hospital to AdventHealth.



(L to R) AdventHealth Vice President of Physician Enterprises, Nancy Christensen, AdventHealth board member, Bill Jarrett, and Vice President of Administration at AdventHealth Wauchula, Denise Grimsley, celebrate Bill's second placing for his age group in the 10K run.



Wauchula local, Kenny Sanders, sunk a 50ft putt to win a brand new Indian Motorcycle at the AdventHealth Foundation Golf Tournament at Sun 'N Lake Golf Club on Friday, Feb. 8.



Community members and AdventHealth staff pose for a quick photo between holes on Deer Run at Sun 'N Lake Golf Club.



AdventHealth Lake Placid and Sebring and AdventHealth Wauchula CEO and President, Randy Surber and his wife, Jo Surber, at the 24th Annual AdventHealth Gala dinner.

Thank you volunteers, sponsors, guests and community members for supporting the 24th Annual AdventHealth Foundation Gala, chaired by Traci Smith!

Your generosity and dedication to the AdventHealth mission help us deliver exceptional care – provided with uncommon compassion – to our Highlands and Hardee County communities.

2018 was a big year for us as we transitioned from Florida Hospital to AdventHealth. With a sacred mission of Extending the Healing Ministry of Christ, and more than 80,000 employees and 50 hospitals, AdventHealth is a connected system of care for every stage of life and health.

Your support of the Foundation Gala helps us bring world-class healthcare right here to our community! Because of you we can build new facilities, fund leading-edge technology, and develop groundbreaking ways of treating illness and disease. Your generous spirit helps us deliver whole-person care to help heal your body, ease your mind, and lift your spirit.

Thank you for changing lives in our community. We look forward to a wonderful 2019 with you all!

**Randy Surber**  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
AdventHealth Sebring & Lake Placid and AdventHealth Wauchula





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# VIEWPOINTS

## HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1919

**Tim Smolarick**  
Publisher

tim.smolarick@highlandnewsun.com

**Romona Washington**  
Executive Editor

romona.washington@highlandnewsun.com

**Cliff Yeazel**  
Advertising Director

cliff.yeazel@highlandnewsun.com

**Rob Kearley**  
Circulation Director

rob.kearley@highlandnewsun.com

**Donna Scherlacher**  
Multi-Media/Production Director  
donna.scherlacher@highlandnewsun.com

**SUN**

### ANOTHER VIEW

## Hit-and-run crashes can result in stiff penalties

The weather has been perfect with cooler evening temperatures for people to get out and enjoy a walk after work. The exercise and fresh air are good for us. Despite the benefits, there are also hazards and more often than not those hazards come with four wheels that don't always stop.

Pedestrians and bicyclists are involved in a small percentage of all crashes, but they make up a large percentage of hit-and-run fatalities. According to Florida Highway Patrol statistics, the state had 90,000 hit-and-run crashes in 2018. Of that number, 59 percent of the hit-and-run fatalities were pedestrians, and 15 percent were bicyclists.

One of those bicyclists killed in a hit-and-run last year happened in Lake Placid. A man was hit while riding along County Road 621. Lake Placid Police Chief James Fansler said the driver of the automobile has never been identified.

Every year in Florida, the number of automobile hit-and-run crashes have remained around 25 percent of all crashes. According to Florida Highway Patrol reports, the majority of crashes only result in property destruction, but they can also be deadly.

In 2018, FHP adopted a Stay at the Scene campaign. This campaign reminds drivers involved in accidents that penalties hit and run drivers changed on July 1, 2014 when the Aaron Cohen Life Protection Act was signed into law. The statute (section 316.027, Florida Statutes) is named after Aaron Cohen, a 31-year-old avid cyclist and father of two that was fatally struck by an alcohol impaired driver that fled the crash scene in February 2012 in central Florida. The hit-and-run driver found, went to court, convicted and was sentenced to two years in prison, a lesser sentence than what the motorist would have served had he been sentenced on a DUI manslaughter charge.

As a result, the Aaron Cohen Life Protection Act imposes a mandatory minimum of four years for a driver convicted of leaving the scene of a crash resulting in a fatality. The driver in this situation will also have his license revoked for at least three years and can face up to 30 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

If the hit-and-run crash causes injuries, but not death, the driver will have his license revoked for three years and faces up to five years in prison and a \$5,000 fine.

If property damage is the only result of a hit-and-run crash, a convicted driver faces up to 60 days in jail and a \$500 fine.

Whether it is a bicycle, a motorcycle, a golf cart, a vehicle or a pedestrian, if you are involved in a crash, stay at the scene, unless medically necessary, and call for help. Staying at the scene and immediately calling for help could possibly save someone's life.

If you have any information concerning any hit-and-run accidents, especially where a life was taken, please call the Florida Highway Patrol at 239-938-1800 or the Heartland Crime Stoppers at 800-226-8477, or report your information via www.heartlandcrimestoppers.com.

Justice should be properly served.

### 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@newsun.com.



"OF COURSE, THERE'S A 75% CHANCE WE COULD BE WRONG."

## Politicians are running for TV jobs

The snide old saw in college used to be: If you can't make it in business, teach it. In media today, it's become: If you can't make it in politics, preach it.

Republican Jeff Flake, who declined to seek re-election as a senator from Arizona and recently abandoned the notion of challenging Donald Trump for the presidency, turned up recently in his new post as contributor at CBS News. Meanwhile, Democrat Andrew Gillum, the former Tallahassee mayor who narrowly lost his bid to become Florida's governor, took a seat as a commentator at CNN.

Back in the day vanquished politicians retired to a cabin by the lake to think deep thoughts and write a memoir. But for the new crop of articulate, photogenic and somewhat younger also-rans, the path of least resistance – and a guaranteed paycheck – often leads to the TV studio.

Utah's renegade Republican Mia Love, who lost her House seat, ran over to CNN last month, tweeting that she will offer an "unleashed perspective." Another Utah Republican, former Rep. Jason Chaffetz,



**COLUMNIST**  
Peter Funt

took a gig at Fox News. He was joined at Fox last month by retired South Carolina congressman Trey Gowdy.

When Love arrived at CNN she sat alongside Democrat Louis Guterrez of Illinois who retired from Congress. Missouri Democrat Claire McCaskill, defeated in her Senate re-election bid, signed on at NBC News.

Clearly, for many politicians the road to the news desk is proving less difficult to travel than the road to the White House or to Capitol Hill.

Networks are staffing up for what will be roughly 600 straight days of analysis about the 2020 election. Cable channels in particular need articulate commentators, since the big three – Fox, CNN and MSNBC – all fill vast amounts of airtime with talking heads.

What they learned in the

2016 campaign was that finding a mix of compelling opinions was difficult. On CNN, for example, Kayleigh McEnany, who had held a few minor, non-elected political jobs and was still in her 20s, was called upon to represent the conservative side in heated debates with a panel of largely liberal pundits. McEnany was out of her depth and resigned after the election.

CNN fared much better by hiring a polished pol, former Pennsylvania Senator Rick Santorum in 2017. Santorum has provided calm, reasoned analysis on the panel – the very thing CNN is now seeking by opening its door to other former office-holders.

Of course, politicians taking TV posts isn't new: Sarah Palin tried it on Fox and failed, while Joe Scarborough did it on MSNBC and has been quite successful.

But never in political or broadcasting history have so many former elected officials signed up for TV duty. For one thing, the leap to television isn't as difficult as it used to be. Nowadays, slapping on make-up, finding the red light on your camera, and speaking in

manageable sound bites is routine.

Moderate Republican John Kasich, the former Ohio governor, probably knows as much about shuttling between politics and media as anyone. After serving 18 years in Congress, Kasich flirted with running for president in 2000, but decided against it and went to work for Fox News as a commentator and fill-in host.

He stepped away from that gig in 2009 to run for governor and served two terms, the second of which ended just last month. A few days later Kasich reported for work as a commentator at CNN.

Unlike most in TV's new crop of pundits, however, Kasich says he hasn't ruled out running for president in 2020. His agency, UTA, issued a statement saying that Kasich's CNN post would "help him navigate the next phase of his public and private life."

Really? A TV performer running for president? What are the odds of that?

*Peter Funt is a writer and speaker. His book, "Cautiously Optimistic," is available at Amazon.com and CandidCamera.com.*

## The Supreme Court can undo past confusion with its ruling on this WWI memorial

WASHINGTON — For decades the Supreme Court has entangled itself in Establishment Clause decisions that have been, in the words of Alice in Wonderland, curiously and curiously. On Wednesday, it can leaven with clarity the confusion it has sown.

The First Amendment's first words say, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion." The court conducts its business after a chant that includes "God save the United States and this honorable court" and both houses of Congress have taxpayer-paid chaplains who pray for divine guidance. The court has, however, held that any policy or practice by a public entity that touches religion, however marginally, violates the Establishment Clause unless (a) it has a secular purpose and (b) its primary effect neither advances nor inhibits religion and © it does not foster excessive government entanglement with religion. In 1983, the court held, rudely but prudently, that Nebraska's Legislature could continue being prayed over by its paid chaplain, thereby implying that the chaplain negligibly advanced religion. (The First Congress hired a chaplain, but James Madison, principle progenitor of the First Amendment, later said tersely that this "was not with my

**WASHINGTON POST**  
George F. Will

approval.")

The court has refereed controversies involving, among many other things, the permissible quantity of religious symbols in Christmas displays on public property, where and what kind of displays of the Ten Commandments are constitutional, and what cannot be said to "solemnize" a high school football game in Texas, where football hardly needs solemnity infusions. The court has held that books but not maps can be provided by public funds to parochial schools, causing the late Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan to wonder: What about atlases, which are books of maps?

Come Wednesday, the court will worry about a war memorial 4.8 miles away in Bladensburg, Maryland. In 1925, the Peace Cross, privately built on land given by the town to an American Legion post, was dedicated to 49 local men killed in World War I, over crosses marked most overseas graves of U.S. dead, regardless of their religious affiliations. Time passed, the population grew, a local government commission acquired the land, which is now in a traffic roundabout. A commemoration event occurs there each Veterans Day. There is no record that a religious event has ever

been held at the cross in 94 years.

But a few cranky, persnickety, hairsplitting secularists say, with religious zeal, that the cross is now on public land so the Establishment Clause is violated. A district court affirmed the obvious: Honoring the war dead is a secular purpose. But a divided three-judge circuit court panel reversed. Engaging in something akin to Jesuitical casuistry, two judges said a cross must everywhere and always be a primarily symbol of Jesus' death, and because government provides maintenance for the plot in the roundabout, this cross excessively entangles government with religion.

In 1984, the court added an "endorsement" consideration: Would a commonsensical observer of a government display that includes a symbol with religious overtones — an observer knowing how the display came about — think the government is using it to "endorse" religion? In 1989 the court sidled even closer to wisdom, with a "coercion" criterion. Rather than ignite tens of thousands of skirmishes aimed at scrubbing all visual religious references to religion from this nation's public spaces (including the names of Corpus Christi, Texas, and Las Cruces, New Mexico), let's say this: Religion is not "established" when a passive monument

on government property in no way coerces reasonable, informed passersby to believe, practice or support religion.

It was for reasons of traffic safety that the government in 1961 acquired the ground on which the Bladensburg cross sits. If, 58 years later, a few people in this age of hair-trigger rage choose to be offended by a long-standing monument reflecting the nation's culture and traditions, those people, not the First Amendment, need help. The court should so rule when, sometime before this term ends in June, it announces its decision in this case, as the nine justices sit beneath a frieze that includes a symbol of religion: Moses with the Ten Commandments.

Bladensburg last had the nation's attention because of the shambolic events of Aug. 24, 1814. President James Madison fled from there, where feeble American resistance enabled British soldiers to proceed to torch the president's house and the Capitol. At Wednesday's oral argument, the court, sitting across the street from the Capitol, can begin to tidy up its Establishment Clause jurisprudence that Justice Clarence Thomas correctly says is "in shambles."

*George Will's email address is georgewill@washpost.com.*



# LP Arts & Crafts Country Fair seeks volunteers

By **KIM LEATHERMAN**  
STAFF WRITER

LAKE PLACID – After another successful Arts & Crafts Country Fair this month, fair officials are seeking new volunteers to ensure the continuance of the annual event. The town celebrated the 53rd year of the popular tradition. The fair is so popular there is a mural on the south side of MidFlorida Credit Union depicting the event in its earlier years.



COURTESY PHOTO

Thousands of residents and tourists visit the Lake Placid Country Fair every year.

Some 40 to 50 volunteers are the backbone of the country fair. Except for the two new volunteers this year, most of the volunteers have been working behind the scenes diligently for decades, such as Helen Obenchain, exhibits chair. Obenchain has been volunteering with the fair for about 30 years.

Most of the volunteers are in their 80s and one is in their 90s, according to Obenchain.

They are seeking volunteers now to train for future fairs. Looking at the math, it is easy to see the need for volunteers; no volunteers equals no fair.

"It's a training process," Obenchain said. "You just can't walk in and start doing a job. We need people to come in and learn how to do the jobs. We cannot do the

long hours anymore. We need to start training new people if the fair is going to keep going."

There is a job for everyone. All ages can help out. There are 10 different divisions of artwork that include photography, yarn and cord art, cooking, poetry, quilts, sewing and much more. Obenchain said they will talk to the new recruits and find out where they would feel comfortable.

"We will train people and it will take them a couple of years to learn the process," Obenchain said. "I will stay on and help, but the older folks don't want the full responsibility. We are looking for people who will work for several years on the fair and help it to continue. It's not just a one-time thing. It is a long-term commitment."

When illness strikes any of the volunteers,

they find themselves very short-handed. They need help from set up, and tear down to artistic division chairs. Youth from school clubs and organizations can get volunteer hours.

"We are looking for people who are genuinely interested. They should have some organizational skills, too. There is a job for everyone. No one can use being a snowbird as an excuse. I'm one. We welcome snowbirds," she said.

The fair has an inside section for the exhibits and the area around DeVane Park with vendors.

There is an initial meeting in November for volunteers, then the planning meetings start in January.

To volunteer or receive more information on volunteering for the fair, call Obenchain at 269-932-8934.

## OBITUARIES

### Dorothy Metzger

Dorothy Metzger died on Feb. 12, 2019 at the age of 94. Born in Miami, Florida on Sept. 21, 1924, she was the younger of the two children of Albert Lawrence Shroads, Jr. and Ethel Agnes Landfear Shroads.

Dorothy (also known as "Dottie") graduated from Miami's Edison High School, class of 1941. Even in high school she was noted for her skill at bowling, and she continued to successfully compete in bowling tournaments for many years. In competition in 1952, she was the first woman to bowl a 700 series game in Florida, and was nominated for National Bowler of the Year.

She competed individually and on several teams, as well as on an all-star team that played exhibition matches internationally. Dorothy was inducted to the Greater Miami Women's Bowling Association Hall of Fame in 1968, and in 1974 was voted into the Florida State Women's Bowling Association Hall of Fame.

Dorothy and John Metzger, Jr. were married in Miami on July 3, 1952 where they lived and worked for over twenty years before moving to Lakeland, and then ultimately moved to and retired in Sebring

in 1986. They supported and cared for each other through 66 years of marriage.

John Metzger, Jr., died on November 17, 2018, at age 96, and Dorothy died 87 days later.

Memorials in honor of John and Dorothy may be made to Christ Lutheran Church of Avon Park, Florida. Burial is in Lakeview Memorial Gardens in Avon Park, Florida.

### Mary E. Adams



Mary Ellen (Bulander) Adams was born July 18, 1926 in Winamac, Indiana to the late

Albert and Theodosia (Back) Bulander. After high school, she studied at the Augustana Hospital School of Nursing in Chicago, Illinois, graduating as an RN in 1948.

She graduated from Moody Bible Institute in 1956 before embarking on her journey as a Missionary nurse and Bible teacher with SIM to Nigeria, Africa where she worked and raised her family for 26 years. In 1987, she moved to the SIM Retirement Village in Sebring, Florida where she retired in 1991.

She continued her ministry as a Sunday

School teacher at the First Baptist Church. In November 2018, Mary Ellen moved to Charlotte, North Carolina to be closer to family. Following a short illness, she passed away on Saturday, Feb. 16, 2019.

She was preceded into heaven by her husband, Winston Gould Adams (1978) and is survived by her children, Cynthia (Mike) Carlin, Doug Adams, and Brenda (Scott) Sheppard, seven grandchildren and three great-granddaughters, two nephews and three nieces.

A Celebration of Life Service will take place at 10 a.m. on Friday, March 8, 2019 at the SIM Chapel, 900 Andes Drive in Sebring, Florida. In lieu of flowers, Mary Ellen requested Contributions be made to the Egbe Hospital Benevolent Fund Project 96210 (Mary Ellen's first missionary assignment with SIM). <https://www.simusa.org/get-involved/give/?id=096210-091&ds-g=Project for US residents, and https://www.sim.ca/egbe-hospital-benevolent-f Residents>.

Arrangements entrusted to Stephenson-Nelson Funeral Home, 4001 Sebring Parkway, Sebring, Florida 33870. Online condolences may be left at [www.stephensonnelsonfh.com](http://www.stephensonnelsonfh.com).

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COURTESY PHOTO

The Island View Lakefront Restaurant & Pub will undergo a \$205,764 lanai renovation, which will enclose the lanai in glass and provide additional air conditioned seating space.

## Island View to receive major renovation

By **MELISSA MAIN**  
STAFF WRITER

SEBRING — Island View Lakefront Restaurant & Pub will soon begin construction to expand its kitchen and renovate its lanai.

A total of \$750,000 for restaurant renovation was approved at the Friday meeting with another \$71,600 for contingency. Marmar Construction, Inc. provided the lowest bid and was approved to perform the work.

The restaurant will also receive new kitchen equipment. According to the agenda, "The sole bidder for the kitchen equipment is Beltram Restaurant Equipment for \$324,625.20. Management is recommending only the necessary kitchen items listed in the spreadsheet for \$185,513."

The debate about renovations for Island View Restaurant has been discussed for the past three years by the Board of Supervisors. Even after all the discussion, there was still controversy concerning the decision.

Supervisor Mike Gilpin said, "I don't see the club getting bigger or better without expanding it. I've struggled over it, but I

think we need to expand the kitchen and lanai. We have to spend money and do better for our community."

Supervisor Ray Brooks strongly opposed the proposed renovations. He said, "It doesn't make sense to spend one million dollars on something that doesn't make money."

Brooks felt that it was appropriate to spend money on the kitchen to improve it but not as much as was proposed.

Several residents spoke during the time for public comments, and they were divided on the issue.

Despite the lack of consensus, the district approved the kitchen expansion with a 3-2 vote, with Brooks and Neal Hotelling casting dissenting votes.

The Board of Supervisors also voted 3-2 to

approve a lanai expansion. Supervisors Brooks and Hotelling cast the dissenting votes on this issue as well.

Marmar Construction will also be completing the work on the lanai for \$205,764. The lanai area will be enclosed under glass, instead of open air screen. In addition, it will be an air conditioned space once the renovations are completed. This type of seating is preferred by customers during the hot summer months.

The district has also budgeted \$30,000 for new lanai furniture, Tanya Cannady, general manager of Sun 'n Lake, said.

When asked about the start date of construction, Cannady said, "We will need to meet with Marmar Construction first and determine the contract terms/timing."

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## Bridge attracts top competitors

### Card game a part of Heartland Senior Games

By NEIL SIMPSON  
SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS  
NEWS-SUN

When South Florida State College established the Heartland Senior Games to give residents of DeSoto, Hardee and Highlands Counties a chance to compete locally, they didn't expect an outing like that on Thursday when all but

one of the players in the bridge tournament came from Sebring.

Fortunately, Susie Buelow of Avon Park showed up to add a little variety to the group.

Before play got started, Clayton Farrar, one of the competitors, asked to speak to the group about the Sebring Bridge Club which meets Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays

at noon at 347 Fernleaf Ave. in downtown Sebring.

Farrar invited everyone present to join him for a complimentary lunch, a chance to meet some very nice bridge players and an afternoon set aside for social bridge players who would like to see what Duplicate Bridge is all about.

All interested players

are invited to meet, eat and play on Tuesday, March 5th. Please call 863-385-8118 and leave a message to let them know you are coming or send an email to sebring-bridgeclub@gmail.com.

Four men and twenty women, ranging in age from 65 to 97, took part in the Heartland



PHOTO BY NEIL SIMPSON

From left, Marg Strong and 97-year-old Marjorie Schoofs competed in Thursday's bridge tournament that was part of the Heartland Senior Games.

BRIDGE | 6B



HIGHLANDS BASS ANGLER  
Dave Douglass

## Good weather improves fishing

The Freshwater Fishing Forecast for the last five days of February gives anglers the last quarter moon phase and an ideal fishing weather forecast for causing 'fish adjustment' to occur at above average levels.

All fishing factors considered; anglers should focus on the sunset period today through Tuesday evening as the prime period of the day. However the arrival of a very weak cold front will trigger above average feeding activity during the sunrise period due to an abnormal spike in atmospheric pressure Monday morning.

Water temperatures are currently ideal for all freshwater fish species to feed-at-will. This is the time of year when all freshwater species pack on the majority of their annual weight gain. Therefore any baits which simulate fast action will attract attention. And the fatter the bait, the greater the vibration, which causes the larger predators to attack.

Bait colors in black, blue, green, red, brown and gold, or any combination of those colors are working very well. Bait-fish body types also will 'match the hatch' and naturally attract strikes. Also this is the time of year for slow rolling spinnerbaits and swimbaits.

Overall this week would normally not be too good for catching fish. However ideal weather for creating 'fish adjustment' activity will improve fishing above normal last quarter moon fishing day ratings.

**Best Fishing Days:** A minor cold front of 7-10 degree will occur tonight but will not affect water temperatures enough to alter the current feeding migrations patterns. So Monday morning the weather forecast is predicting a barometric pressure rise of 30.03 to 30.28 In Hg from 5-11 a.m.

I am predicting excellent fishing results as this occurs Monday morning. This atmospheric pressure spike event also is in alignment with the current feeding migration pattern of above-average fish-feeding activity every third day. So if you have the time tomorrow morning, you should be on your favorite lake as fish adjust upward into the shallows in huge numbers.

**Major Fishing Period:** Today the moon underfoot period occurs at 5:13 p.m. and the sunset at 6:23 p.m. and will create a feed intensity rating of 4 from

FISHING | 4B



## Setting a torrid pace

PHOTO BY RUTH ANNE LAWSON/STAFF

Lake Placid's Peyton Ming broke the school and county record in the 100 butterfly and the 100 backstroke to help the Green Dragons win the district championship. For his ability and accomplishments, Ming has been selected as the Highlands News-Sun 2018 All-Highlands Boys Swimmer of the Year.

### Lake Placid's Ming tops All-Highlands Boys Swim Team

By MARK PINSON  
SPORTS EDITOR

Lake Placid's Peyton Ming played a key role in the highly successful swim season the Green Dragon boys enjoyed.

Ming, in his second year of varsity competition, broke is own school and county record seven times this season in the 100 butterfly. The versatile sophomore also set the school record in the 100 individual medley, and the school and county record in the 100 backstroke.

Ming was a member of the 200 medley relay team that set a school record, and the district-winning 400 freestyle relay squad. He was district champion in the 100 butterfly and the 100 backstroke as well. At regionals, Ming was third in the 100 butterfly, runner-up in the 100 backstroke and was part or the third-place medley relay, and the fourth-place 400 freestyle squad.

Ming capped his great season with a 24th-place finish at state in the 100 backstroke.

"Peyton is one of the hardest working swimmers that I have coached and gives his very best every day to improve," said Lake Placid swimming coach Tom Creel. "He is a



FILE PHOTO

Avon Park sophomore Josh Farless advanced to regionals in four events for the Red Devils.

pleasure to coach and his next two years are sure to bring historic results to the Heartland."

For his ability and many accomplishments, Ming has been selected as the Highlands News-Sun 2018 All-Highlands Boys Swimmer of the Year.

"Winning this award tells me all of the hard work that I've been doing is paying off," Ming said. "I like the mental aspect of the sport and I've been swimming competitively since I was ten. My parents have supported me, and coach Marvin Wolfe has

helped me a lot."

**The Team**  
**Joshua Farless, sophomore, Avon Park** — Farless advanced to regionals in four events, two individual and two relays. He was sixth at regionals in the 100 butterfly and sixth in the 100 backstroke. He was also a part of the 400 freestyle relay team that advanced to regionals. In the 200 medley relay, Farless swam the 50 backstroke to help set the school record. He broke several school records including the 200 freestyle, the 100 butterfly four times, and

the 100 backstroke. "Josh is an athlete that has a work ethic and determination that few teenagers practice and the sky is the limit for this amazing swimmer," said Avon Park swim coach Tracy Lee. "We are excited to see where the next two years will take Joshua."

**James Branca, sophomore, Sebring** — Branca was a two-year swimmer and placed 22nd at regionals in the 200 IM, 16th in the 100 backstroke, eighth in the 200 free relay and 10th in the 200 medley

SWIM | 2B

## Wayne Taylor bestowed great honor

### Will be inducted into South African Hall of Fame

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS  
NEWS-SUN

What do Nelson Mandela, Gary Player and Wayne Taylor have in common?

At first glance, a revolutionary political leader, a nine-time major golf champion and a wildly successful IMSA driver and team owner may not offer up many similarities beyond significant

accomplishments in their respective fields, but today Taylor joins the other two, and other previously enshrined inductees, into the South African Hall of Fame.

Taylor's accomplishments, honors and victories as an IMSA driver and team owner will be celebrated today as the Hall's sole 2019 inductee. The South African Hall of Fame was established

in 2016 to enshrine forever those natives of the country who have accomplished greatness in sports, entertainment and in one special case, politics.

During his racing career, Taylor was a three-time IMSA champion and won 21 races. As a team owner, he has added 30 victories, with two Rolex 24 At Daytona wins, including last month,

two Motul Petit Le Mans victories and a win at Sebring.

Those are Hall of Fame worthy credentials, and in fact, Taylor also was inducted into the Sebring Hall of Fame back in 2014. He's one of 56 inductees since that Hall of Fame was formed in 2002.

"As you know, I was



IMSA PHOTO

Wayne Taylor will be inducted into the South African Hall of Fame today.

FAME | 3B



# SWIM

FROM PAGE 1B

relay. "James is another of our super hardworking sophomores and is always looking to get better," said Sebring coach Pat Caton. "He and Mason Griffin are good friends and very competitive with each other. This competitive nature pushes them both to be better."

**Jack Arseneau, senior, Lake Placid** — Arseneau was third at district diving and ninth at regionals with limited experience. "Jack had never dived before and for him to learn 11 dives and move on to regionals is quite an accomplishment to be proud of," coach Creel said.

**Kevin Myers, junior, Avon Park** — Myers has been swimming with Avon Park for three years and advanced to regionals in four events, two individual events and two relays. In the 200 Individual Medley he placed 14th, and 13th in the 100 backstroke. He swam butterfly in the 200 medley relay that



FILE PHOTO

Sebring's Devin Brubaker placed 15th in the 100 backstroke, 11th in the 400 free relay, and 10th in the medley relay at regionals.

broke the school record at regionals as well as a member of the 400 freestyle relay. "Kevin had a great season and having talked to him after the regional meet he is already thinking about his goals for his senior year," coach Lee said.

**Mason Griffin, sophomore, Sebring** — At regionals, Griffin was 15th in the 200 free, 14th in the 500 free, 8th in the 200 free relay, and 11th in the

400 free relay. "If Mason continues to work hard, swimming in college will be in his future," coach Caton said.

**Seth Moon, senior, Lake Placid** — Moon, who was a four-year swimmer and Co-Captain, was part of the 200 medley relay team that were district champions and the 400 freestyle relay. He was runner-up in the 50 freestyle and runner-up in the 100 breaststroke.

**Finn Losa, senior, Avon Park** — Losa is a fourth-year swimmer and diver and capped a remarkable career with a 7th-place finish at the Class 2A state diving finals with a score of 326.25 points that set a school record. Losa was selected as the Highlands News-Sun All-Highlands Boys Diver of the Year. "Finn came out four years ago with a dream of being a diver and has advanced to regionals all four years and state two years in the diving competition," coach Lee said. "Not only is Finn an outstanding diver, he excels in swimming as well. He liked to swim the breaststroke as well as the freestyle events. He was part of the 400 freestyle relay that advanced to regionals. Finn is planning to continue his diving career in college and we are excited to see where the future will lead him."



FILE PHOTO

Avon Park's Cole Losa had a great season and capped it by finishing 12th at the Class 2A state diving finals.



FILE PHOTO

Lake Placid's Seth Moon was part of the 200 medley relay team that were district champions and the 400 freestyle relay. He was runner-up in the 50 freestyle and runner-up in the 100 breaststroke.

and the 400 freestyle relay. District champion in the 200 freestyle, district champion in the 500 freestyle. "Devon is a hard worker and we look forward to his swimming next year," Coach Creel said.

**Joshua Brown, senior, Avon Park** — Brown is a four-year swimmer who flourished this year and advanced to regionals as part of the 200 freestyle relay team. "Joshua's focus and determination in the breaststroke events were amazing," said Coach Lee. "It has been a pleasure watching Josh continue to drop time this year."

**Devin Brubaker, senior, Sebring** — Brubaker placed 15th in 100 backstroke, 11th in the 400 free relay, and 10th in the medley relay at regionals.

**James Baker, freshman, Lake Placid** — At districts, Baker was 4th in the 200 Individual medley, runner-up in the 500 freestyle, and was part of the runner-up 200 freestyle relay. "Tyler will be a very powerful swimmer over his next three years with the Dragons and is someone to watch," Coach Creel said.

**Nathan Ahrens, junior, Avon Park** — Ahrens is a third-year swimmer and was a member of the 200 medley relay that broke the school record at regionals. "Nathan is a stick of dynamite in the water with an explosive attitude," Coach Lee said. "Nathan is one of the hardest working athletes on the team and we are looking forward to a great senior year."

**Devin Farrow, senior, Sebring** — At regionals, Farrow placed 9th in 100

SWIM | 3B

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# FAME

FROM PAGE 1B

inducted into the Sebring Hall of Fame, which I could understand, because it was racing, and maybe the results," Taylor said. "But to be inducted into the entire South African Hall of Fame is pretty overwhelming and almost intimidating, to be honest, because when I asked them who's been inducted in the past, they talked about Jody Scheckter, Nelson Mandela and Gary Player. "And then when I asked how many people were being inducted on the same evening, they said only me. Then, the guy said, 'This is a real big deal.'"

Such a big deal, that Taylor struggles to even fathom what it means.

"Quite honestly, for the first time, I don't have the words to describe this, and I know I'm going to have to stand up on stage," he said. "Normally, I can stand anywhere and talk about racing, but this is bigger than anything else that I've ever got."

"Obviously, South Africa was my roots, although I'm now living in America. I've been told there's about 300 people coming to this function, which will be held at Sun City, which is about 90 miles north of Johannesburg. It's a spectacular place."

Among the attendees will be his wife, Shelly, as well as his sons Ricky and Jordan, and several others.

"I've got my parents and family flying in from all over the country," Wayne said. "I've even got one of my mechanics that ran my car when I won the South African championships in 1986, so I haven't seen him for almost 30 years. He's

coming. There are a lot of people putting in a lot of effort to be there."

The Hall of Fame induction ceremony comes less than a month after Taylor's team won its second Rolex 24 with co-drivers Jordan Taylor, Renger van der Zande, Kamui Kobayashi and two-time Formula 1 World Champion Fernando Alonso in the No. 10 Cadillac DPi. In fact, the team has won each of the past two WeatherTech Championship races, as Jordan, van der Zande and past IndyCar and Indianapolis 500 champion Ryan Hunter-Reay won the 2018 season-ending Motul Petit Le Mans at Michelin Raceway Road Atlanta.

"It's going to be nice, because we're coming from a high," Wayne said. "It's going to be really nice for my family, especially my mom and my aunt, and it'll be nice for Ricky and Jordan."

Taylor will be the fourth racing driver – joining 1984 Rolex 24 At Daytona winner Sarel van der Merwe and F1 racers Ian Scheckter and Jody Scheckter – to be inducted into the South African Hall of Fame. He's the fifth motorsports personality, alongside the three previously mentioned drivers and F1 car designer Rory Byrne.

His racing accomplishments are nothing short of impressive as he co-drove to victory twice in the Rolex 24 At Daytona, and also was a winning driver at the 24 Hours of Le Mans, the Mobil 1 Twelve Hours of Sebring Presented by Advance Auto Parts and the Motul Petit Le Mans. His sports car racing career began in 1987, on the heels of taking the open-wheel South African National Drivers Championship a

year earlier.

Taylor's team won the 2013 GRAND-AM Daytona Prototype title with Max Angelelli and his son, Jordan. They also won the 2017 IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship Prototype title, with Jordan and his brother Ricky, as co-drivers of the team's No. 10 Konica Minolta Cadillac DPi-V.R.

"I got invited to South Africa at the end of last year to meet with all the motorsport people, and they were talking about who was the most successful racing driver that had left the country," Wayne said. "I didn't think anything of it, but I was the person they claimed."

"But that was a private function and a private home. Literally, the same week, I got called by the Hall of Fame to say they'd like to induct me. They said, 'It's not just your race driving, it's owning your own team and building a business out of this.' Really, the fact is that this whole 'living the dream' my entire life, it all started in South Africa."

The induction ceremony will be emceed by Graham Duxbury, who was one of van der Merwe's co-drivers in that 1984 Rolex 24 victory. It will include a four-minute video chronicling Taylor's racing career, as well as remarks from both Jordan and Ricky.

"Then, I'll just get up and say what I have to say," Wayne said. "I'm not sure what I'm going to say after that because I'll say that everything has been said already."

"It's pretty exciting and overwhelming for me, to be honest. I've never in my life in racing ever even thought about being inducted into a Hall of Fame. It was never part of what I thought of. I guess I just don't feel worthy of such an honor."

Taylor's record as a driver and team owner, however, suggests otherwise.

# SWIM

FROM PAGE 2B

free, 8th in 200 free relay, and 11th in the 200 free relay. Devin was the 2018 Most Outstanding Male Swimmer recipient," Coach Caton said. "He has an amazing work ethic and is powerful."

**Reese Robinson, junior, Avon Park** — Robinson has been a member of the swim and dive team for three years. Robinson advanced to regionals in the 200 and 500 freestyle and the freestyle relay. "We are looking forward to seeing Reese meet his goals his senior year," Coach Lee said.

**Seth Hagen, sophomore, Sebring** — Hagen placed 22nd in the 500 free at regionals. "Seth was the 2018 — Most Improved Male Swimmer," Coach Caton said.

**Tanner Bolley, senior, Lake Placid** — At districts, Bolley was third in the 50 freestyle, fourth in the 100 freestyle, and was part of the runner-up 200 freestyle relay. At

regionals, he was 21st in the 50 freestyle, 20th in the 100 freestyle, and part of the 9th-place finish in the 200 freestyle relay. "Tanner was a dedicated and strong swimmer for the Dragons over his four-year career," Coach Creel said.

**Jacob Sutermeister, senior, Sebring** — A four-year swimmer. At regionals Sutermeister was 10th in 200 medley relay, 8th in 50 free, and 8th in 200 free relay.

**Chase LeBlanc, senior, Lake Placid** — A four-year swimmer who placed 8th in the 200 freestyle at districts. "Chase is number four in a family line of swimmers," Coach Creel said. "Kyle, Clair and Katie swam four years with the Dragons. We are very proud of Chase and his part of the continuing legacy of LeBlanc swimmers for the Dragon team."

**Lukas Kromholz, junior, Sebring** — Kromholz was 8th in the 200 free relay and 11th in the 400 free relay at regionals.

**Hunter Costello, sophomore, Lake Placid**

— Costello was ninth at districts in the 50 freestyle and was a member of the 200 freestyle relay. "Hunter had no swim experience at all and worked very hard to earn his spot on this team," Coach Creel said. "It is quite the accomplishment to get this far with his experience level hats off to his hard work and so looking forward to the next two years."

**Zack Price, senior, Sebring** — A first year swimmer and diver. Price placed 22nd at regional diving. "Zack is fearless when it comes to the diving board," Coach Caton said.

**Nathan Feagley, freshman, Lake Placid** — Feagley swam the 100 backstroke for a 9th Place at districts and finished 19th at regionals.

**Coach Of The Year** For guiding their teams to outstanding seasons, Avon Park's **Tracy Lee**, Lake Placid's **Tom Creel** and Sebring's **Pat Caton** have been selected as the Highlands News-Sun 2018 All-Highlands Swim Coach of the Year.



FILE PHOTO

Sebring's Hans Giller was 10th in the 200 medley relay and 10th in the 100 breaststroke at regionals.

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# FISHING

FROM PAGE 1B

4:30-7:30 p.m. Daily this period moves later by an hour.

**Minor Fishing Period:** Today the moon-set occurs at 10:35 a.m. and solar noon at 12:38 p.m. and will create a feed intensity rating of 2-4 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Daily this period moves later by 45 minutes.

By the midweek the early morning feeding activity will develop as the last quarter moon phase arrives Tuesday night. Therefore both the sunrise and sunset period will be the major fishing periods of the day. During the hours of 6-9 a 4-rating can be expected.

The minor period will occur centered on solar noon at 12:38 p.m. as the moon-set occurs at the same time Wednesday. So Tuesday through Thursday from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. should be fairly good, perhaps a 4-rating.

**Prime Monthly Periods:** March 3-7 new moon, and 18-23 full moon, April 2-8 new moon, and 16-21 full moon.

Highlands Bass Angler Bass Guide Specials: A 6-hour winter charter for \$250.00 for one or two anglers, all gear, artificial bait and tackle included. Cold water and raingear provided. Custom bass fishing charter package options available. Call 863-381-8474 to plan and book your bass fishing experience today.

**Istokpoga.info News:** The lake level is at 39.20 feet above sea level, which is below the current high-level of 39.50". The minimum low-level



FILE PHOTO

**Highlands Bass Angler Dave Douglass holds up a recent bass he caught.**

currently is 38.50'.  
**S68 Spillway Status:** (Tuesday 4 a.m.) Two gates are open 0.20 feet and flowing 220 cubic feet per second to meet agricultural water permit agreements and to stay on the seasonal water management schedule.

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

Access this article online at [BassFishingForecast.com](http://BassFishingForecast.com), or [HighlandsBassAngler.com](http://HighlandsBassAngler.com)

**Fishing from Shorelines:** Learn where the deeper water comes closest to shorelines by

consulting a lake contour map. There are forty-five Highlands County lake maps published online at [FloridaLakesMaps.com](http://FloridaLakesMaps.com). Each map is edited to include boat ramp locations and have been enlarged for easy reading. You'll discover that the majority of the lakes' public boat ramps and docks are located within the better shoreline fishing areas.

[HighlandsBassAngler.com](http://HighlandsBassAngler.com) offers bass fishing guide-trip options, 72 lake-contour maps and additional map sources, and fishing philosophy. Personalized custom fishing package options for beginners to professional anglers are available upon request.

Dave Douglass is a bass fishing guide and teacher on twenty-five lakes, from the towns Kissimmee to Clewiston. Visit [HighlandsBassAngler.com](http://HighlandsBassAngler.com) for complete details. Phone: 863-381-8474. Email: [DavidPDouglass@hotmail.com](mailto:DavidPDouglass@hotmail.com).

# After School Tennis Classes

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

After school tennis classes are being offered at the Thakkar Tennis Center at the Country Club of Sebring. The classes run through March 29, and are for youngsters ages 4-18 and are run by USPTA certified professional Horace Watkis.

The four-week sessions which include one session a week, are for any skill level. Tiny Tots, ages 4-6, are on Tuesday's from 3:15 to 4 p.m. and the cost is \$37. Future Champs, ages 6-12, are any day of the week from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. and the cost is \$45.

Pre-Tournament Academy is Wednesday's from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. and the cost is \$60. High School Team level is Thursday's from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. and the cost is \$60.

For more information, call Watkis at 863-414-2164 or 863-386-4282. Email is [horacewatkis@hotmail.com](mailto:horacewatkis@hotmail.com).

## Pickleball Tournament

The Dink Into Spring mixed doubles tournament to benefit the Boys and Girls Club of Highlands County will be held at the Sun 'n Lake Racquet Club on March 2. The organizer is Dhruv Manik, a grade 11 student in the International Baccalaureate program at Sebring High School.

The tournament is Dhruv's CAS (Creativity, Action, Service) project for school. The CAS project is to get the

students involved in giving back to the community. Dhruv loves pickleball, a sport played by seniors but not by many younger folk, so organizing a tournament was a perfect fit.

Once he had decided to run the tournament as his project, he looked around to see how he could best use any profits generated by the event. He heard of the Boys and Girls Club's need for funding and when he visited the club found that their funds are low and their needs are many. The club provides after school meals and tutoring for youth and he saw this as the perfect fit to meet the objectives of his project.

Manik has found great support for his tournament and any of the sporting goods donated will be turned over to the Boys and Girls Club.

Information can be found by contacting Dhruv at [dhruvmanik23@gmail.com](mailto:dhruvmanik23@gmail.com). Players of all ages are encouraged to come out to support this worthwhile endeavor.

## Samaritan's Touch Golf Tournament

The 7th annual Samaritan's Touch Care Center Benefit Golf tournament will be held on Saturday, March 2 at Sun 'n Lake Golf Club. Registration is at 7:30 and a shotgun start is at 8 a.m. This is a four-person scramble format with a cost of \$260 per team. Checks should be made payable to Samaritan's Touch Care Center, and mailed to 3015 Herring Ave, Sebring, FL 33870.

For more information, please contact Abigail Doucet at [communityEngagement@samaritanstouch.org](mailto:communityEngagement@samaritanstouch.org) or (863) 471-1870 ext. 102.

## Lady Of Grace Golf Tournament

The annual Our Lady of Grace Scholarship Golf Tournament will be held on March 2 at the newly renovated Pinecrest Golf Club in Avon Park. The format will be a four — person scramble with prizes galore for both men and women. Tee time is 8 a.m., but players are advised to sign in before 7:30. The fee is \$65 per person, or \$260 for a foursome. Fees include golf, a golf cart, refreshments, lunch and prizes.

Entry forms are available online at [ologap.org](http://ologap.org) and may be submitted to Pinecrest GC (tel. 453-7555), Our Lady of Grace Church (tel. 453-4757), or to Dennis Kellner at Warren's Auto Sales, 811 Hwy 27 S, Avon Park, 33825 (tel.449-2135). The Pinecrest course, a Donald Ross original design with new greens, is reported to be in its finest condition since the 1950s when it hosted the first televised PGA tournament. Be sure to get your entry in as soon as possible.



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# Big change in bass fishing tournaments

By **DON NORTON**  
SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS  
NEWS-SUN

I love to fish and I love to read. So if I'm not fishing, reading about fishing is the next best thing.

Occasionally my fishing magazines pile up because I'm too busy fishing to read them, but this morning, over a bowl of Sugar Crisp, I happened to turn the pages on the February issue of Ohio Game and Fish. Although I've been in Florida since 1988, I'm originally from northern Ohio and I enjoy reading about the many lakes and rivers I used to fish.

On page 45, a two-page picture of KEVIN VANDAM caught my eye. Anyone who fishes for largemouth bass or is a tournament bass fisherman knows he's one of, if not the best, bass fisherman in the country.

The article was entitled "Insight Into Changes At MLF" and written by Todd Ceisner. To quote from the article, here's what happened:

• Major League Fishing, a collaborative enterprise between the Professional Bass Tour Anglers Association and Outdoor Sportsman Group, announced an expansion last September and launched the Bass Pro Tour.

• The Bass Pro Tour attracted 80 of the world's best anglers from other leagues, and in the process turned the whole sport on its ear.

• Bass Pro Shops threw its support behind the new events, and the Bass Pro Tour created a buzz never before seen in the sport. The sea change it represents on the tournament landscape cannot be overstated.

• Fans of the cast-for-cash game will have more events – at least 30 total in the MLF umbrella – to follow. And recreational anglers will have more opportunities – on TV, live streaming and in magazines.

So, what's the big deal? CULLING is history. For those of you who are not familiar with the term "culling", it represents the catching and continuing to catch, and replace fish that you catch and keep in your live well, until the end of the tournament in order to end up with your five biggest bass.

Culling dates all the way back to the early 70's and the beginning of organized bass fishing tournaments. The goal of every tournament angler was to attempt to catch a total of five bass with the heaviest weight. Culling allowed an angler to replace a smaller fish – by releasing them – and keeping a larger fish. This process would continue all day long until the tournament ended. An

angler might catch and release 25 bass in order to keep their 5 biggest fish. They may also have only caught 5 fish, and as a result, were not able to cull any bass.

Big fish were always the target. Quite often, the angler catching the biggest, or in some cases a number of big bass would generally win the tournament. Catching a lot of bass, particularly a lot of small bass was never the game plan. The key was typically "quality over quantity".

But not anymore. The biggest change the MLF is proposing is to allow anglers to catch and weigh every fish over 1 pound. Actually, their job will be to catch the fish, since each boat will have an in-boat official who will be responsible to weight and record every fish.

This is actually a pretty novel approach. All bass tournaments stress the importance of proper fish handling and care, as well as live release. This type of catch, weigh and release is even better for the fish than having them in your live well awaiting a larger fish that might provide them with their freedom.

Although modern bass boats are typically equipped with insulated, aerated live wells, the water can and often does heat up or become overcrowded in a days' worth of fishing. This system would virtually guarantee almost 100% live release with only minimal time out of the water.

So the new game plan will be to what? Forget about catching big, quality fish and go after small, more eager and readily available bass? In some ways it kind of sounds like more of a "numbers" game.

Ceisner even says in his article, "some critics of MLF's format fear fans will tune in only to see many of the top anglers reel in 1-pounder after 1-pounder, a "dinkfest," as someone commented on Facebook."

Like a lot of guys, I've fished a lot of tournaments. I've had tournaments where I've caught 20, 30 or even 40 bass and not won. I've also had tournaments where I couldn't catch a 5 fish limit, but I managed to catch one or two really big fish and ended up winning or at least taking home a check.

I think most anglers would agree, small, yearling or "buck bass" seem to be easier to catch. They're certainly more plentiful in most of our lakes. Larger bass, particularly "trophy" fish are almost rare, and many would argue, much tougher to catch. You never hear anglers talk about the fight and losing

a 1 or 2 pound bass, but every fisherman has a story about the "big one that got away."

Obviously there are other changes but to me and lots of other tournament anglers, it raises an interesting question. What takes more skill? Catching one huge, 10 pound largemouth bass, or catching five 2-pounders, or 10 1-pounders? An interesting question and one I'm sure most anglers would love to debate.

Awarding tournament anglers cash and trophies for catching the biggest bass will now, potentially go in the opposite

direction and provide those same incentives to the angler who can catch the "most" fish. It might also make live wells in future bass boats a new storage locker.

One of the area's top bass fishermen, Geoff Balog runs weekly tournaments where the anglers fish on an "honor system." Rather than catch a bass and put it in their live well, they weigh and measure the fish (or take a picture of it) and immediately release the fish. Sounds like a sensible approach to preserving our limited bass for future generations,

and I thank Geoff and the guys who fish with him. But, and I stress I'm only speaking for myself, I like to see the fish at the weigh in. I know, I know, I've seen hundreds or more likely thousands of bass weighed in but I never get tired of seeing them, so for me, this system just doesn't work. And I wonder how the MLF will deal with people and audiences who are accustomed to coming to the weigh in to see the fish being weighed?

Last year I fished a tournament with the Highlands Bass Club and one of the members,

Tony Stoner, weighed in only one fish, a real wall hanger (I've forgotten the actual weight), and won the tournament.

It was a tough day on Lake Walk-in-Water, with very few fish brought in so everybody was in awe of Tony's fish. When he was asked how he caught the bass, with a straight face he said "I just dropped the jig in front of her and she opened her big jaws to yawn and sucked the bait right in." (You had to be there to see Tony's facial impression of the bass). The whole club broke out in laughter.

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**HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN**  
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# BRIDGE

FROM PAGE 1B

Senior Games bridge tournament. The eldest of the group was Marjorie Schoofs, a native of Illinois who lived many places in the country before settling in Sun n Lake 28 years ago. Mother of 2, grandmother to 7, great grandmother of 8 and great great grandma to a dozen, Schoofs doesn't look or act her age.

She has traveled extensively, visiting every state and many other countries. A highlight of her travels happened when she was living in Washington state and took a trip to Victoria, British Columbia. While at lunch, none other than Queen Elizabeth came by Schoof's table, just inches away. The Queen was preoccupied and didn't find time to speak with her elder.

Schoofs loves the people in Sun n Lake and



From left, Wilma Pilkington, Geraldine Fabb, Marg Strong and George Vermette enjoyed a full day of bridge at Tanglewood on Thursday.

keeps busy at the bead studio where she makes jewelry, most of which is given to friends and relatives. Twice a week she can be found playing bridge, a game she took

up 75 years ago with three friends. She thinks her longevity is partly in the genes as well as keeping active and indulging in chocolate.

Schoofs was just one

of 10 gold medal winners, sharing the honor with fellow Sun n Lake residents Marg Strong, Mary Ann Wright, Mary Hanegraaf and Don Horn. Other gold medalists were Susan Roberts from

Francis I, Shirley Whidden plus Tanglewood's Sue Kirby, Mike Sharkey and George Vermette.

Taking home silver medals were Susie Buelow from Avon Park, Wilma Pilkington of

Francis II, Beverly Phillips and Mary Gillis from Sun n Lake and Tanglewood's Nancy Cook and Clayton Farrar.

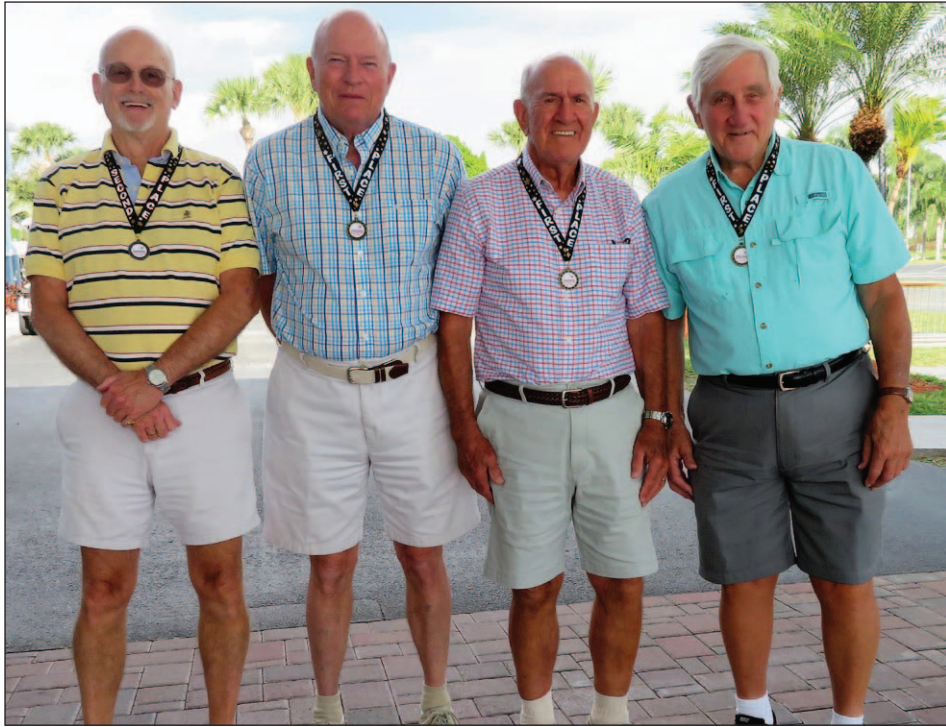
Geraldine Fabb from the Bluff's of Sebring, Kathy Keller of Tanglewood and Martha Steineke of Woody's all walked away with bronze medals.

The highest scores of the day were chalked up by Susan Roberts with a total of 7,850 points followed by Mary Ann Wright with 7,740.

Coffee and donuts awaited the card players upon their arrival, courtesy of Hometown America. Lunch was enjoyed thanks to the Heartland Senior Games gold sponsors; Drs. Avalaos, Patel and Thakkar, Newsom Eye and Edward Jones/ Alan Holmes.

The tournament director, Pat Reich, has agreed to chair the event in 2020 when bridge players are invited back to Tanglewood on Friday, February 28.

PHOTO BY NEIL SIMPSON



Male medal winners in Thursday's bridge tournament: Silver — Clayton Farrar, Gold — Mike Sharkey, George Vermette, Don Horn.



These ladies all went home to brag to their grandchildren about the gold medals won in bridge on Thursday. From left, Susan Roberts, Marg Strong, Sue Kirby, Mary Ann Wright, Shirley Whidden, Marjorie Schoofs.

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IMSA PHOTO

Hurley Haywood has been named Grand Marshal of the 2019 Rolex Monterey Motorsports Reunion at WeatherTech Raceway Laguna Seca on August 15-18.

# Haywood is named Grand Marshal for Rolex Reunion

## Race to be held at Laguna Seca in August

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

Hurley Haywood has been named Grand Marshal of the 2019 Rolex Monterey Motorsports Reunion at WeatherTech Raceway Laguna Seca on August 15-18. Considered among the greatest drivers in endurance racing history, Haywood is a major part of the 50th anniversary celebration of the International Motor Sports Association (IMSA), which is the featured marquee at this year's Rolex Monterey Motorsports Reunion.

Haywood has won the 24 Hours of Le Mans three times, the Rolex 24 at Daytona five times and Twelve Hours of Sebring two times. Haywood earned five major season championships, with virtually all of his success while driving Porsches.

"It is always an honor to be asked to be the Grand Marshal," said Haywood. "This year, we celebrate IMSA's 50th anniversary. My involvement with IMSA starting in 1971 makes me one of their most longstanding members. Laguna Seca is one of my favorite tracks - I have raced here since 1971 with many wins. I look forward to being part of an historic weekend."

Plans for the Rolex Monterey Motorsports Reunion are in high gear as the seven-person selection committee has been evaluating entries for the 14 run groups.

The entry requests received for the limited 550 grid positions are discerned by the selection committee taking on the formidable task of evaluating each car for its documented race history, authentic livery and mechanical presentation to the day it raced.

The run groups evolved slightly for 2019 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of IMSA. It is the first time a racing series has been so honored and will provide a dynamic atmosphere in the paddock with an unprecedented variety of cars with past and present racing personalities from throughout IMSA's rich history.

The Rolex Monterey Motorsports Reunion is the largest event of the famed Monterey Classic Car Week held each August, which transforms scenic Monterey into the worldwide epicenter for automobile and classic car enthusiasts, as well as for automobile manufacturers looking to engage customers.

There will be a week full of events for entire families, such as autograph sessions, book signings, stage interviews, pit tours and so much more. The

Hagerty Marketplace will also be brimming with activities to complement the paddock and on-track racing.

Monterey Classic Car Week officially begins August 10 and 11 with the Monterey Pre-Reunion at WeatherTech Raceway Laguna Seca where 300-plus race cars in 10

groups will be competing and tuning up for the big week that follows.

VIP hospitality packages, multi-day and individual day tickets, and preferred parking are on sale by visiting [www.WeatherTechRaceway.com](http://www.WeatherTechRaceway.com) or by calling 831-242-8200.

# NFL offseason will be interesting

## Stars are available for the right price

By BRAD BIGGS  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Steelers made official this week what had been long rumored when they hung a sign: Elite playmaker available. Inquire within.

After owner Art Rooney met with disgruntled wide receiver Antonio Brown, the club announced it would seek a trade for the dangerous threat. Face-to-face trade conversations are certain to happen when the league descends on Indianapolis for the scouting combine beginning Tuesday. The list of teams that couldn't use Brown is much shorter than the list of teams that could.

The combine is a breeding ground for deals galore. The Steelers might not reach an agreement during a week that is scheduled around the pre-draft process, and a trade cannot officially happen until the first day of the new league year March 13. Still, it puts general manager Kevin Colbert in position to spark

trade talks and generate a market with multiple bidders.

Brown, a sixth-round pick in 2010 who turns 31 in July, hasn't slowed down on the field but has made a heck of a lot of noise off it. He harshly criticized quarterback Ben Roethlisberger on social media after the season, and Brown missed meetings and practices during the season. He was found guilty of driving his Porsche 100 mph just hours before a home game. He has been involved in multiple legal incidents in Florida, where he was accused of pushing the mother of his daughter to the ground and of throwing items including furniture from a 14th-floor apartment balcony.

All of that will factor in what the Steelers can get in return for Brown, who likely will seek a renegotiated contract from a new team, but Brown is a supreme talent who has been productive without being problematic in the past.

"I can only speak for while I was with Antonio,

but he was arguably the hardest worker I have ever been around," said former Steelers offensive coordinator Todd Haley, who coached Brown from 2012 to '17. "Almost never missed time. The couple times he missed, they were legit injuries. He was always available come practice time, game time, and he was 100 percent in and did some incredible things that have never been done. Whoever is getting him is getting a heck of a player that wants to be the best of all time."

"He was great, very coachable, listened, would do whatever was asked of him. I love the kid and talk to him still. I would never put a bar on what he is capable of achieving on the field. When I first saw him, he didn't look like the great receivers I have been around, the big 6-2, 6-3 Larry Fitzgeralds and Keyshawn Johnsons. He's broken so many records and done so many things, Antonio is capable of doing anything. The numbers, they speak for themselves."



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# Padres ready to follow Machado

## San Diego hopes to surprise this season

By KEVIN ACEE  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PEORIA, Ariz. — Since the Manny Machado news broke Tuesday, Padres players have had the wide eyes and giddy hop-steps of kids told on Christmas Eve that Santa and his reindeer were spotted flying low over the rooftops.

And these Padres kids are ready to become men.

This rite of passage has been long envisioned inside the organization, and the anticipation is that Manny Machado's presence will accelerate its implementation.

"We need a little fire in the clubhouse," outfielder Travis Jankowski said.

And on the field, where losses have piled up and the Padres feel they have too often gone down meekly.

"We could use some edge and start bullying some people around — as we've been bullied for a long time," Austin Hedges said. "... You can feel it when you face teams that have an edge. We haven't had it, but I think now we just might."

What the Padres acknowledge they might have characterized as "dirty" before this week is viewed as "edge" now. Pure blood-pumping edge.

This altered view is not a surprise. Happens all the time.

Machado is among the game's best players and its most controversial — the kind of player that, in Jankowski's words, "you hate playing against but you absolutely love him when he's on your team. A lot of great players are like that."

The Padres not only have been absent a great player for a long time, they haven't had the kind of player at which the Red Sox throw six pitches in a week.

Truth be told, the Padres have known for a couple years that they are too nice.

That they have lost a bunch of games is mostly because they've lacked enough talent. But it is something else they felt they lacked that would make it difficult to stop the losing.

On the topic of Machado coming in with a reputation in the minds of some for being a dirty player, one uniformed member of the organization said, "We needed a little more '(expletive) you' on the team. The whole vibe of San Diego, laid back. When is the last time



PHOTO BY CHARLIE RIEDEL/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Manny Machado talks to the media during a news conference at San Diego Padres spring training baseball camp on Friday.

we had a little of that '(expletive) you' on the team?"

The acquisition of Eric Hosmer last spring, which Padres brass acknowledged came at least a year before they expected to be truly competitive, was about a World Series champion and natural leader helping lay the foundation of a winning culture.

Signing 13-year veteran Ian Kinsler this offseason was as much about allowing his intensity to seep into the fabric of the clubhouse and blood flow of his new young teammates as it was acquiring his still-Gold Glove at second base.

In his strongest comments to date on the topic, even as he continued to dodge questions about the then-still-not-officially signed Machado, manager Andy Green on Thursday addressed what was clearly a question about Machado's perceived style of play.

"Everybody sees the game a little differently," Green said. "We're going to play with edge. If people look at us and think we play dirty because we play with edge, I really don't care. We need more edge in the clubhouse. We brought it in. We brought in Ian Kinsler this year. That doesn't mean he's a dirty player. He just plays with edge. He plays with intensity. I think our team can really grow from having more edge on the baseball field."

Kinsler and Hosmer are the only Padres players with World Series rings. Between them and Machado, they have six World Series appearances.

And yes, Hosmer agreed, having an intensity that some might deem a bad attitude is requisite.

He often recalls for teammates facets of the growing process for the Royals, as they grew from a young, perennial also-ran to a team that

won the second of its two successive World Series appearances.

Among his recollections was that they weren't the most popular team.

"A lot of teams didn't like how the Royals handled their business," he said. "But we're trying to make a statement we're here and we're for real."

Hosmer, like Machado, is from the Miami area and has known Machado for more than a decade. As he did to Padres management when they sought his feedback, Hosmer has defended Machado this week when asked about the "dirty" label.

Hosmer has explained the passion with which players from Miami tend to play and suggested there might be back stories to some of the incidents in which Machado has been singled out.

The list of ways Machado has upset the sensibilities of fans and opponents includes his clipping the foot of Brewers first baseman Jesus Aguilar in the NLCS in October, several aggressive slides into second base, a shouting match with Josh Donaldson after the then-Oakland third baseman tagged him and multiple bench-clearing brawls after Machado was thrown at and/or hit by a pitch.

Asked Friday at his introductory press conference what type of player he was, Machado said: "I'm a winner. I'm a gamer. I like to play the game. Since I was a little boy, that's all I've done. I love every time I put on the uniform and go out on the field. ... Just go out there and have fun. Have a smile on my face every day. That will be there."

And right behind him, no matter what, will be his new teammates.

"He's a Padre now," Hedges said. "And whatever he ends up doing, if it pisses off the other team, we've got his back."

# Bird looks to regain form

## Yankees first baseman has battled injuries

By MARK DITLER  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

TAMPA — Greg Bird is stronger, healthier and ready to challenge Luke Voit for the New York Yankees' first-base job.

After three injury-marred seasons, the 26-year old Bird reported to the Yankees' spring training complex in early January and checked into camp at 230 pounds, up about 20 from the end of last season.

"I was able to start over and get to where I needed to be, and work from the ground up," Bird said Thursday after homering off Masahiro Tanaka in a simulated game and adding a single against left-hander James Paxton. "I didn't change anything. I just got back to where I needed to be."

Bird made his big league debut in August 2015 and hit 11 homers with 31 RBIs in 46 games. He missed 2016 after surgery to repair a torn labrum in his

right shoulder, then hit .451 with eight homers during spring training in 2017 but fouled a ball off his right ankle March 30.

He started the season 6 for 60 and went on the disabled list May 2. Bird had surgery July 18 to remove a bone in the ankle. He returned Aug. 26 and hit .253 with eight homers and 25 RBIs in 29 games, then batted .241 three homers and six RBIs in 13 playoff games.

But he hit poorly in spring training last year and had surgery March 27 to remove a broken spur on the outside of his right ankle. He did not play for the Yankees until May 26 and wound up with a .199 average, 11 homers and 38 RBIs over 82 games.

Voit, acquired from St. Louis on July 28, displaced Bird and hit .333 with 14 homers and 33 RBIs in 39 games with the Yankees. General manager Brian Cashman said the job was Voit's to

lose this spring training.

"The one thing about Greg, even last year when he was struggling at its most, he controls the strike zone," Yankees manager Aaron Boone said. "His first at-bats today, that was apparent and then we saw him impact the ball as well."

Bird's drive off Tanaka produced a loud bang after nailing the right-center field scoreboard on a back field at Steinbrenner Field. In his next at-bat, he lined an opposite-field to left hit off Paxton. He also took a called third strike against Chad Green.

"It's step in the right direction," Bird said. "I just want to play. That's one step closer to playing."

Voit had three at-bats Thursday, including a single to left against Paxton.

Bird's homer was the lone hit off Tanaka, who struck out Miguel Andujar, Gleyber Torres and Tyler Wade over 1 2/3 innings.



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Severely ill children left in limbo by Venezuela-US crisis

See page 2



## Maduro's opponents brave tear gas in push to deliver aid



AP PHOTOS

Demonstrators stand next to a torched bus during clashes with the Bolivarian National Guard in Urena, Venezuela, near the border with Colombia, Saturday, Feb. 23, 2019. Venezuela's National Guard fired tear gas on residents clearing a barricaded border bridge between Venezuela and Colombia on Saturday, heightening tensions over blocked humanitarian aid that opposition leader Juan Guaido has vowed to bring into the country over objections from President Nicolas Maduro.

### They rescued boxes of emergency food from burning trucks during violent clashes on the Colombian border

By **CHRISTINE ARMARIO and LUIS ANDRES HENAO**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CUCUTA, Colombia — Opponents of Venezuela President Nicolas Maduro braved tear gas as they rescued boxes of emergency food and medicine from burning trucks during violent clashes on the Colombian border with security forces blocking the entry of U.S.-supplied humanitarian aid.

The panicked scene Saturday on the binational Santander bridge was the dramatic high point of a day that also saw two people killed in unrest near Brazil, at least 23 soldiers switch loyalties to opposition leader Juan

Guaido, and Maduro break off diplomatic relations with Colombia amid an increasingly unpredictable and unruly fight for power in the oil-rich South American nation.

For weeks, the opposition has been amassing aid on three of Venezuela's borders with the aim of launching a "humanitarian avalanche" exactly one month after Guaido declared himself interim president at an outdoor rally in a direct challenge to Maduro's rule.

Even as the 35-year-old lawmaker has won the backing of more than 50 governments around the world, he's so far been unable to cause a major rift inside the military — the

socialist leader's last-remaining plank of support in a country ravaged by hyperinflation and widespread shortages.

"Our call to the armed forces couldn't be clearer: put yourself on the right side of history," Guaido said in an appeal to troops as he pulled himself onto a truck and shook hands with its driver during a ceremonial send-off of the aid convoy from the Colombian city of Cucuta.

But almost as soon as the aid convoy departed, the limitations of Guaido's high-stakes gamble became clear.

At the Santander bridge, a group of activists led by exiled lawmakers managed to escort three

flatbed trucks of aid past the halfway point into Venezuela when they were repelled by security forces firing tear gas and buckshot. In a flash the cargo caught fire, with some eyewitnesses claiming the National Guardsmen doused a tarp covering the boxes with gas before setting it on fire. With a black cloud rising above, the activists — protecting themselves from the fumes with vinegar-soaked cloths — unloaded the boxes by hand in a human chain stretching back to the Colombian side of the bridge.

"They burned the aid and fired on their own people," said 39-year-old David Hernandez, who was hit in the forehead with a tear gas canister that left a bloody wound and growing welt. "That's the definition of dictatorship."

He said he decided to join Saturday's protest thinking of his father, who is dying from advanced bone cancer they can't treat because of Venezuela's shortages.

Amid the aid push, Maduro struck back, breaking diplomatic relations with Colombia, whose government he accuses of serving as a staging ground for a U.S.-led effort to oust him from power.

"My patience has run out," Maduro said,

## Prosecutors paint dark portrait of manipulative R. Kelly

His bond set at \$1 million

By **MICHAEL TARM**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO — Prosecutors on Saturday painted a dark portrait of a manipulative and sometimes violent R. Kelly, describing how he repeatedly sought out underage girls for sex, including one he encountered at her 16th birthday party and another who met the R&B star while he was on trial for child pornography.

The accounts emerged as Kelly made his first court appearance since being accused of sexually abusing four people in a case that could produce another #MeToo reckoning for a celebrity.

A judge gave Kelly a chance to go free while awaiting trial, setting bond at \$1 million. That means the 52-year-old Grammy winner must post \$100,000 to be released or remain



R. KELLY

behind bars until he is tried on the allegations that date back as far as 1998 and span more than a decade.

The prosecution released four documents — one for each accuser — outlining the basis for the charges.

A 16-year-old girl reported meeting Kelly in 1998 at a restaurant where she was having a birthday party. Kelly's manager gave her the

KELLY | 4

## NKorea confirms leader Kim Jong Un on train to summit



PHOTO PROVIDED BY KOREAN CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY/KOREA NEWS SERVICE VIA AP

In this Saturday, photo provided by the North Korean government, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un waves from a train before leaving Pyongyang Station, North Korea, for Vietnam. The content of this image is as provided and cannot be independently verified.

## 2nd summit with Trump set for Wednesday

By **DAKE KANG**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DANDONG, China — North Korean leader Kim Jong Un was on a train Sunday to Vietnam for his second summit with President Donald Trump, state media confirmed.

Kim was accompanied by Kim Yong Chol, who has been a key negotiator in talks with the U.S., and Kim Yo Jong, the leader's sister, the North's official Korean Central News

Agency reported. TV footage and photos distributed by the North's state-run news agency showed Kim inspecting a guard of honor at the Pyongyang station before waving from the train.

Late Saturday, an Associated Press reporter saw a green-and-yellow train similar to one used in the past by Kim cross into the Chinese border city of Dandong via a bridge.

SUMMIT | 4



A man is detained during clashes with the Bolivarian National Guard in Urena, Venezuela, near the border with Colombia, Saturday.

AID | 4

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# Smile: Some airliners have cameras on seat-back screens

Airlines say cameras are not being used currently

By DAVID KOENIG  
AP AIRLINES WRITER

Now there is one more place where cameras could start watching you — from 30,000 feet.

Newer seat-back entertainment systems on some airplanes operated by American Airlines, Delta Air Lines, United Airlines and Singapore Airlines have cameras, and it's likely they are also on planes used by other carriers.

All four airlines said that they have never activated the cameras and have no plans to use them.

However, companies that make the entertainment systems are installing cameras to offer future options such as seat-to-seat video conferencing, according to an American Airlines spokesman.

A passenger on a Singapore flight posted a photo of the seat-back display last week, and the tweet was shared several hundred times and drew media notice. BuzzFeed first reported that the cameras are also on some American planes.

A United spokeswoman repeatedly told a reporter Friday that none of its entertainment systems had cameras before apologizing and saying that some did. On Saturday, Delta also said some of its in-flight entertainment screens have the cameras.

The airlines stressed that they didn't add the cameras — manufacturers embedded them in the entertainment systems. American's systems are made by Panasonic,



AP FILE PHOTO

**Newer seat-back entertainment systems on some airplanes operated by American Airlines and Singapore Airlines have cameras, and it's likely they are also on planes used by other carriers. American and Singapore both said Friday, that they have never activated the cameras and have no plans to use them.**

while Singapore uses Panasonic and Thales, according to airline representatives. Neither Panasonic nor Thales responded immediately for comment.

As they shrink, cameras are being built into more devices, including laptops and smartphones. The presence of cameras in aircraft entertainment systems was known in aviation circles at least two years ago, although not among the traveling public.

Seth Miller, a journalist who wrote about the issue in 2017, thinks that equipment makers didn't consider the privacy implications. There were already cameras on planes — although not so intrusive — and the companies assumed that passengers would trade their images for convenience, as they do with facial-recognition technology at immigration

checkpoints, he said.

American Airlines spokesman Ross Feinstein said cameras are in "premium economy" seats on 82 Boeing 777 and Airbus A330-200 jets. American has nearly 1,000 planes.

"Cameras are a standard feature on many in-flight entertainment systems used by multiple airlines," he said.

Singapore spokesman James Boyd said cameras are on 84 Airbus A350s, Airbus A380s and Boeing 777s and 787s. The carrier has 117 planes.

While the airlines say they have no plans to use the cameras, a Twitter user named Vitaly Kamluk, who snapped the photo of the camera on his Singapore flight, suggested that just to be sure the carriers should slap stickers over the lenses.

# Mueller: Manafort 'brazenly violated the law' for years

By CHAD DAY and ERIC TUCKER  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort committed crimes that cut to "the heart of the criminal justice system" and over the years deceived everyone from bookkeepers and banks to federal prosecutors and his own lawyers, according to a sentencing memo filed Saturday by special counsel Robert Mueller's office.

In the memo, submitted in one of two criminal cases Manafort faces, prosecutors do not yet take a position on how much prison time he should serve or whether to stack the punishment on top of a separate sentence he will soon receive in a Virginia prosecution. But they do depict Manafort as a longtime and unrepentant criminal who committed "bold" crimes, including under the spotlight of his role as campaign chairman and later while on bail, and who does not deserve any leniency.

"For over a decade, Manafort repeatedly and brazenly violated the law," prosecutors wrote.

Citing Manafort's lies to the FBI, several government agencies and his own lawyer, prosecutors said that "upon release from jail, Manafort presents a grave risk of recidivism."

The 25-page memo, filed in federal court in Washington, is likely the last major filing by prosecutors as Manafort heads into his sentencing hearings next month and as Mueller's investigation approaches a conclusion. Manafort, who has been jailed for months and turns 70 in April, will have a chance to file his own

sentencing recommendation next week. He and his longtime business partner, Rick Gates, were the first two people indicted in the special counsel's investigation. Overall, Mueller has produced charges against 34 individuals, including six former Trump aides, and three companies.

Manafort pleaded guilty to two counts of conspiracy arising from his Ukrainian political consulting work and his efforts to tamper with witnesses. As part of that plea, he agreed to cooperate with Mueller's team, a move that could have helped him avoid a longer prison sentence. But within weeks, prosecutors say he repeatedly lied to investigators, including about his interactions with Konstantin Kilimnik, a business associate who the U.S. says has ties to Russian intelligence. That deception voided the plea deal.

The sentencing memo comes as Manafort, who led Donald Trump's 2016 campaign for several critical months, is already facing the possibility of spending the rest of his life in prison in a separate tax and bank fraud case in Virginia. Mueller's team endorsed a sentence of between 19.5 and 24.5 years in prison in that case.

Prosecutors note that the federal guidelines recommend a sentence of more than 17 years, but Manafort pleaded guilty last year to two felony counts that carry maximum sentences of five years each.

Prosecutors originally filed a sealed sentencing memo on Friday, but the document was made public on Saturday with certain information still redacted, or blacked out.

# Amazon cargo plane crashes; 3 believed dead

By MARC FREEMAN  
SUN SENTINEL

An Amazon Prime cargo plane originating from Miami crashed into a bay east of Houston early Saturday afternoon, killing three people on board, local officials said.

"Knowing what I saw I don't believe anyone could

have survived," Chambers County Sheriff Brian Hawthorne said, describing floating debris.

The plane, a twin-engine Boeing 767 cargo jetliner operated by Atlas Air, crashed into Trinity Bay near Anahuac, Texas, shortly before 12:45 p.m., according to the Federal Aviation Administration.

Atlas Air Flight 3591, flying from Miami to Houston, lost radar and radio contact about 30 miles southeast of Houston George Bush Intercontinental Airport.

Purchase, N.Y.-based Atlas Air Worldwide, which has an office in Miami, said in a statement that the company is fully

cooperating with investigators and confirmed there were three people on the plane when it went down.

According to the website Flight Aware, the plane left Miami at 11:33 a.m. and its last reported altitude was about 3,000 feet, when it appeared the aircraft was descending toward Houston.

# Invacare is an exception, and not in a good way

**Dear Mr. Berko:** About six years ago, you wrote that medical stocks and defense stocks are not so affected by the changes in our country's economy as mining, beverage, hotel and retail stocks are. So I bought 100 shares of Lockheed

Martin at \$73 and 200 shares of Invacare a few months later at \$28. I have a good profit in Lockheed Martin, which is now about \$300, but I'm down \$24 with Invacare, which is in the medical equipment business. Should I buy more shares of Invacare at \$5 or take my loss and sell

my shares? And should I take my profit on Lockheed Martin, which traded at over \$360 last year? — LG, Akron, Ohio

Dear LG: Indeed, I did say that, and I'd say it again if you hadn't already done so. But that axiom doesn't apply to every company in the defense and medical businesses, and it's apparent that Invacare (IVC-\$5.10) was one of last year's 273 (more or less) exceptions that imploded.

IVC's revenues came in at less than \$1 billion in 2018, much less than the \$1.4 billion it brought in the year you purchased the stock. The company's president, CEO and chairman, Matthew Monaghan, has been able to consistently lose money every year since you bought the stock,

and I can't figure out how he does it. The few observers I talked with believe that IVC will lose money in the next year. However, there's a 72 percent degree of probability IVC will earn 40 cents a share by 2020.

IVC, with its various subsidiaries, designs, manufactures and sells medical equipment and supplies for the home health care and extended care markets around the globe. It makes custom manual wheelchairs and power wheelchairs. All sops are generously paid for by Medicare and Medicaid. IVC also markets, designs and sells such lifestyle products as pressure-relieving overlays and mattress replacement systems. Again, generous commissions are paid by Medicare and Medicaid.

IVC designs, manufactures and distributes home care beds and accessories and numerous personal care products. In addition, IVC sells respiratory therapy products, such as stationary oxygen concentrators. And Medicaid and Medicare don't give a hoot in hell what they shell out.

CEO Monaghan owns 207,000 shares of IVC, while its largest shareholders — Vanguard, BlackRock and Dimensional Fund Advisors — own 11 million shares. One of the few positives that might make IVC attractive to some investors is IVC's \$11.30 book value — meaning that if IVC decided to close its business, liquidate every asset at an almost fair price and eliminate its \$240 million debt with the

proceeds, there'd be about \$11.30 in cash remaining per share to pay off all the shareholders. Ergo, if you bought 1,000 shares of IVC today at \$5.10 and management liquidated the company, you'd get back about \$11,300. In 2017, the book value was \$12.89.

Management tells us that IVC's poor performance has been caused by high material costs, soft demand overseas (especially in Asia), President Donald Trump's tariffs, changes in development and consent decrees issued by the Food and Drug Administration. Those reasons for IVC's failures over the past six years are valid, but IVC's statements have failed to tell us the primary reason: management. The bumbling bipeds in

management stink at what they do. Furthermore, the feeble-minded board of directors has failed to protect the shareholders. Those wankers ought to be tarred and feathered, be sent to the gulag and have their board attendance fees clawed back. Shareholders should consult a law firm about suing the board for failing to protect investors.

IVC is untimely, and I doubt the shares have any recovery potential for at least a year. Sell IVC and take a loss. However, hold on to Lockheed Martin (LMT-\$299.33) for a recovery back to the mid-\$300s. Peace isn't about to break out. War is wonderfully profitable.

Email Malcolm Berko at [mjberko@yahoo.com](mailto:mjberko@yahoo.com).



Malcolm BERKO  
COLUMNIST

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## AID

FROM PAGE 1

speaking at a massive rally of red-shirted supporters in Caracas and giving Colombian diplomats 24 hours to leave the country.

The clashes started at dawn in the Venezuelan border town of Urena, when residents began removing yellow metal barricades and barbed wire blocking the Santander bridge. Some of the protesters were masked youth who threw rocks and later commandeered a city bus and set it afire. At least two dozen people were injured in the disturbances, according to local health officials.

At the Simon Bolivar bridge, a group of aid volunteers in blue vests calmly walked up to a police line and shook officers' hands, appealing for them to join their fight.

But the goodwill was fleeting and a few hours later the volunteers were driven back with tear gas, triggering a chaotic stampede.

At least 23 members of the National Guard deserted the force and took refuge inside Colombia, according to migration officials.

A video provided by Colombian authorities shows three soldiers at the Simon Bolivar bridge wading through a crowd with their assault rifles and pistols held above their heads in a sign of surrender. The young soldiers were then ordered to lie face down on the ground as migration officials urged angry onlookers to keep a safe distance.

"I've spent days thinking about this," said one of the soldiers, whose identity was not immediately known. He called on his comrades to join him: "There is a lot of discontent inside the forces, but



AP PHOTO

**A woman moves away from the flames of a burning bus after it was pushed away during clashes with the Bolivarian National Guard in Urena, Venezuela, near the border with Colombia, Saturday.**

also lots of fear."

Guido, who has offered amnesty to soldiers who join the opposition's fight, applauded their bravery, saying it was a sign that support for Maduro was crumbling. Later, he greeted five of the military members, who in turn offered a salute, calling the opposition leader Venezuela's "constitutional president" and their commander in chief.

"They aren't deserters," Guido said. "They've decided to put themselves on the side of the people and the constitution ..."

International leaders including U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres are appealing for the sides to avoid violence.

But at least two people were killed and another 18 injured in the town of Santa Elena de Uairen, near the border with Brazil, according to local

health officials. The town was also the site of deadly disturbances a day earlier when members of the indigenous Pemon tribe clashed with security forces.

The push comes on the heels of a giant concert organized by British billionaire Richard Branson aimed at pressuring Maduro to accept the aid. Tens of thousands of Venezuelans gathered in a field to hear pop stars like Juanes sing beneath a scorching sun. Guido made a surprise appearance toward the end.

The opposition planned to hold three simultaneous aid pushes on Saturday. Aside from the events in Colombia, they also hope to get humanitarian assistance delivered by sea and through Venezuela's remote border with Brazil, which the government of Maduro has ordered closed.

Amid the sometimes-chaotic and hard-to-verify flow of information, opposition lawmakers and Guido said the first shipment of humanitarian aid had crossed into Venezuela from Brazil — although reports from the ground revealed that two trucks carrying the aid had only inched up to the border itself.

Dueling demonstrations also took place in the capital. Government opponents, one of them dressed like Captain America in a nod to the administration of U.S. President Donald Trump's prominent role cornering Maduro, headed toward an air base. With the opposition mostly mobilized along the border, a much larger mass of red-shirted government supporters, some of them on motorcycles, filed downtown toward the

presidential palace.

Venezuela's military has served as the traditional arbiter of political disputes in the South American country, and in recent weeks, top leaders have pledged their unwavering loyalty to Maduro. However, many believe that lower-ranking troops who suffer from the same hardships as many other Venezuelans may be more inclined to now let the aid enter.

Opposition leaders are pushing forward in belief that whether Maduro lets the aid in or not, he will come out weakened. They also contend that if the military does allow the food and medical gear to pass, it will signify troops are now loyal to Guido.

Analysts warn that there may be no clear victor and humanitarian groups have criticized the opposition as using the aid as a political weapon.

## KELLY

FROM PAGE 1

singer's business card and suggested she call Kelly. The girl's mother heard the exchange, took the card and told the manager her daughter was 16. But her daughter later retrieved the card from her purse. She contacted Kelly, who gave her instructions and taxi fare to his studio, where they had sex periodically for a year, the documents said.

Another accuser, also 16, met Kelly at his 2008 trial, where he gave her an autograph. He later invited her to his home in the Chicago suburb of Olympia Fields, where they had sex multiple times, according to the documents, which said he also slapped, choked and spit on her.

In early 2003, a Chicago hairdresser told prosecutors that she thought she was going to braid Kelly's hair, but he pulled down

his pants and instead tried to force her to give him oral sex. The woman, who was 24, was able to pull away, but Kelly ejaculated on her and spit in her face, the documents said.

Prosecutors also described a witness who had access to videotapes showing Kelly having sex with a 14-year-old girl. The witness turned the tape over to authorities and identified the girl, who repeatedly states her age on the footage, according to the documents.

Kelly's DNA was found in semen on one of the accuser's shirts, and semen found on a shirt worn by another was submitted for DNA testing, Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx said. It was not clear when the accusers turned the shirts over to authorities, whether it was shortly after the abuse or more recently.

At the bond hearing,

Kelly's attorney, Steve Greenberg, said his client is not a flight risk. He told the judge, "Contrary to the song, Mr. Kelly doesn't like to fly." One of Kelly's best-known hits is "I Believe I Can Fly."

The judge called the allegations "disturbing." The singer-songwriter looked down at the floor as the judge spoke.

After the hearing, Greenberg told reporters that Kelly did not force anyone to have sex.

"He's a rock star. He doesn't have to have nonconsensual sex," Greenberg said.

The judge ordered Kelly to surrender his passport, ending his hopes of doing a tour of Europe in April. Kelly defiantly scheduled concerts in Germany and the Netherlands despite the cloud of legal issues looming over him. Greenberg denied that any tour was planned.

The recording artist, whose legal name is Robert Kelly, has been

trailed for decades by allegations that he violated underage girls and women and held some as virtual slaves. He was charged with 10 counts of aggravated sexual abuse.

Kelly, who was acquitted of child pornography charges in 2008, has consistently denied any sexual misconduct.

The jury in 2008 acquitted Kelly of child pornography charges that centered on a graphic video that prosecutors said showed him having sex with a girl as young as 13. He and the young woman allegedly seen with him denied they were in the 27-minute video, even though the picture quality was good and witnesses testified it was them, and she did not take the stand. Kelly could have gotten 15 years in prison.

Charging Kelly now for actions that occurred in the same time frame as the allegations from the 2008 trial suggests the

accusers are cooperating this time and willing to testify.

Because the alleged victim 10 years ago denied that she was on the video and did not testify, the state's attorney office had little recourse except to charge the lesser offense under Illinois law, child pornography, which required a lower standard of evidence.

Each count of the new charges carries up to seven years in prison, and the sentences could be served consecutively, making it possible for him to receive up to 70 years. Probation is also an option.

The walls began closing in on Kelly after the release of a BBC documentary about him last year and the multipart Lifetime documentary "Surviving R. Kelly," which aired last month. Together they detailed allegations he was holding women against their will and running a "sex cult."

## SUMMIT

FROM PAGE 1

The Trump-Kim meeting is slated for Wednesday and Thursday in Hanoi.

Their first summit last June in Singapore ended without substantive agreements on the North's nuclear disarmament and triggered a months-long stalemate in negotiations as Washington and Pyongyang struggled with the sequencing of North Korea's nuclear disarmament and the removal of U.S.-led sanctions against the North.

Kim's overseas travel plans are routinely kept secret. It could take more than two days for the train to travel thousands of kilometers (miles) through

China to Vietnam.

Vietnam's Foreign Ministry announced Saturday that Kim would pay an official goodwill visit to the country "in the coming days" in response to an invitation by President Nguyen Phu Trong, who is also the general secretary of Vietnam's ruling Communist Party.

In his upcoming meeting with Trump, experts say Kim will seek a U.S. commitment for improved bilateral relations and partial sanctions relief while trying to minimize any concessions on his nuclear facilities and weapons.

While Kim wants to leverage his nuclear and missile program for economic and security benefits, there continue

to be doubts on whether he's ready to fully deal away an arsenal that he may see as his strongest guarantee of survival.

Last year, North Korea suspended its nuclear and long-range missile tests and unilaterally dismantled its nuclear testing ground and parts of a rocket launch facility without the presence of outside experts, but none of those steps were seen as meaningful cutbacks to the North's weapons capability.

While North Korea has repeatedly demanded that the United States take corresponding measures, including sanctions relief, Washington has called for more concrete steps from Pyongyang toward denuclearization.

Hanoi has been gearing

up for the summit with beefed-up security. Officials say the colonial-era Government Guest House in central Hanoi is expected to be the venue for the Trump-Kim meeting, with the nearby Metropole Hotel as a backup. Streets around the two places have been beautified with flowers and the flags of North Korea, the U.S. and Vietnam.

Workers were also putting final touches on the International Media Center. Vietnam's Foreign Ministry says some 2,600 members of the foreign press have registered for the event.

Meanwhile, Vietnam has announced a traffic ban along Kim's possible arrival route.

The Communist Party's

mouthpiece Nhan Dan newspaper quoted the Department of Roads as saying the ban will first apply to trucks 10 tons or bigger, and vehicles with nine seats or more on the 105-mile stretch of Highway One from Dong Dang, the border town with China, to Hanoi from 7 p.m. Monday to 2 p.m. Tuesday, followed by a complete ban Tuesday on all vehicles from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The People's Committee in Lang Son province, where the Dong Dang railway station is located, issued a statement Friday instructing the road operator to clean the highway stretch and suspend road works, among other things, on Feb. 24-28 as "a political task."

## ALMANAC

Today is **Sunday, Feb. 24**, the 55th day of 2019. There are 310 days left in the year.

### Today in history

On **Feb. 24, 1942**, the SS Struma, a charter ship attempting to carry nearly 800 Jewish refugees from Romania to British-mandated Palestine, was torpedoed by a Soviet submarine in the Black Sea; all but one of the refugees perished.

### On this date

In **1761**, Boston lawyer James Otis Jr. went to court to argue against "writs of assistance" that allowed British customs officers to arbitrarily search people's premises, declaring: "A man's house is his castle." (Although Otis lost the case, his statement provided early inspiration for American independence.)

In **1920**, the German Workers Party, which later became the Nazi Party, met in Munich to adopt its platform.

In **1961**, the Federal Communications Commission authorized the nation's first full-scale trial of pay television in Hartford, Connecticut.

In **1983**, a congressional commission released a report condemning the internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II as a "grave injustice."

In **1988**, in a ruling that expanded legal protections for parody and satire, the Supreme Court unanimously overturned a \$150,000 award that the Rev. Jerry Falwell had won against Hustler magazine and its publisher, Larry Flynt.

### Today's birthdays

Actor-singer Dominic Chianese Singer Joanie Sommers is 78. Actress Jenny O'Hara is 77. Actor Barry Bostwick is 74. Actor Edward James Olmos is 72. Rock singer-musician George Thorogood is 69. Actress Debra Jo Rupp is 68. Actress Helen Shaver is 68. News anchor Paula Zahn is 63. Baseball Hall of Famer Eddie Murray is 63. Country singer Sammy Kershaw is 61. Actor Mark Moses is 61. Actress Beth Broderick is 60. Actor Emilio Rivera is 58. Singer Michelle Shocked is 57. Movie director Todd Field is 55. Actor Billy Zane is 53. Actress Bonnie Somerville is 45. Jazz musician Jimmy Greene is 44. Boxer Floyd Mayweather Jr. is 42. Rhythm-and-blues singer Brandon Brown (Mista) is 36. Rock musician Matt McGinley (Gym Class Heroes) is 36. Actor Wilson Bethel is 35. Actor Alexander Koch is 31. Actor Daniel Kaluuya (Film: "Get Out") is 30. Rapper-actor O'Shea Jackson Jr. is 28.

### Bible verse

"But Jesus said unto them, they need not depart: give ye them to eat." — Matthew 14:16.

This is not a call to compromise but to complete surrender of the church that Christ may be made irresistible to the soul who tends to wonder.

## ODD NEWS

### Turtle disaster? 100-pound tortoise missing

ROSWELL, N.M. (AP) — A New Mexico woman is on a desperate hunt for her disappearing pet that can't run fast and can't be missed — a 100-pound tortoise.

KOB-TV reports Dusty the Turtle went missing earlier this month in Roswell, New Mexico after strong winds knocked open a gate that housed him.

Shana Emmert, who was pet sitting Dusty for her niece, says she believes the turtle strolled away from the backyard and into the desert during the wind storm.

According to Emmert's neighbors, the 100-pound Dusty was last spotted near Berrendo Creek in Roswell and hasn't been seen since.

The family is offering a \$500 reward for the turtle's safe return.



NEW YORK TIMES SUNDAY CROSSWORD

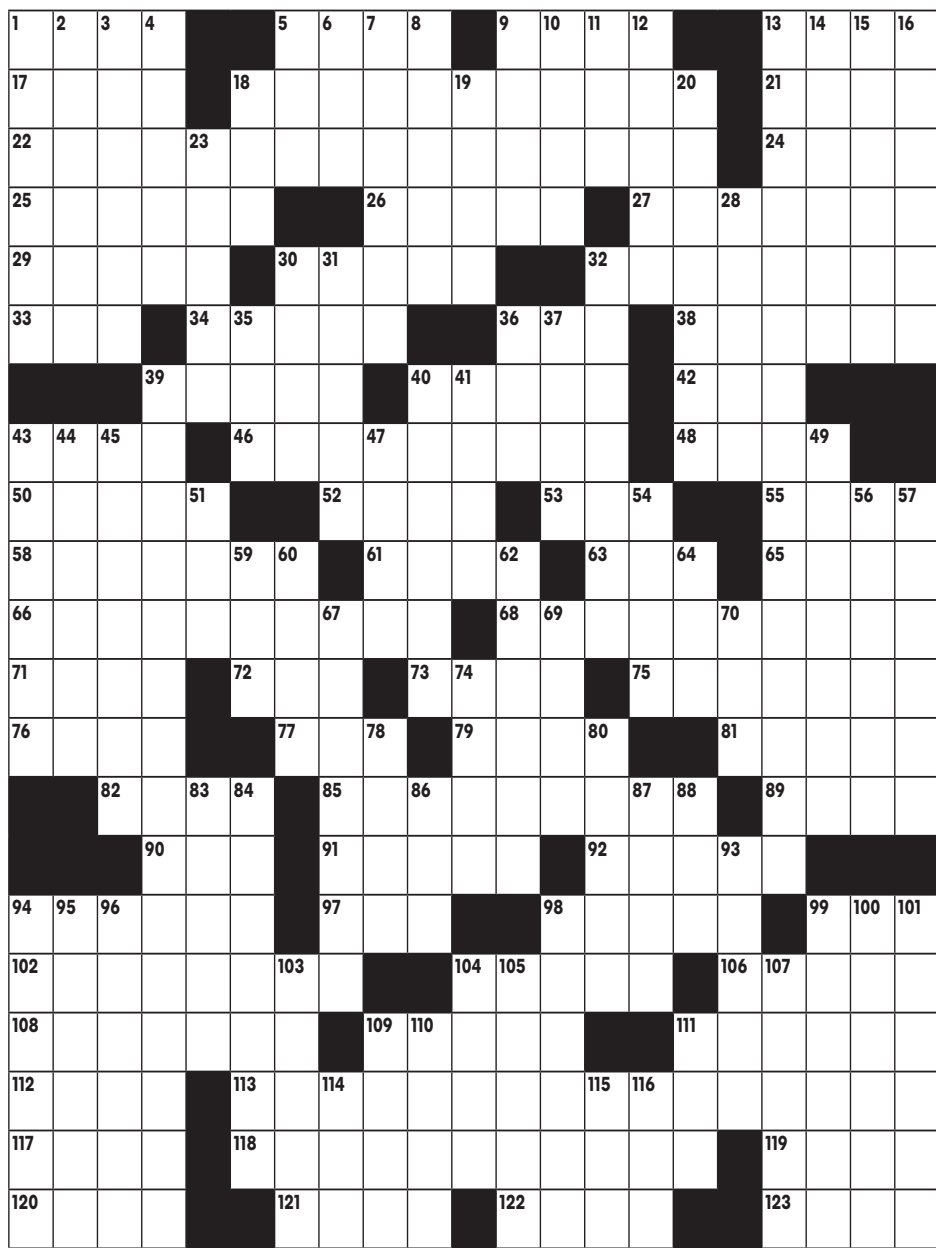
No. 0217

TRIVIAL MATTERS

BY DAVID KWONG / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

David Kwong is a professional magician and crossword constructor. He was the head magic consultant for the hit 2013 film "Now You See Me" (see the sly nod at 96-Down). He is currently performing in a one-man magic-and-puzzles show, "The Enigmatist," in New York City. Audience members must solve four puzzles in an anteroom to get into the show. (Hints are available, if needed.) This is David's 19th puzzle for The Times. — W.S.

- ACROSS
1 Not rumpled, as a bed
5 Slice, for example
9 Veal topper, informally
13 Cookie containers
17 "Yeah, right!"
18 Certain body of believers
21 Part of a Latin 101 conjugation
22 What kind of tree \_\_\_?
24 High-grade cotton
25 Capital that was home to the world's tallest building before the Burj Khalifa
26 Pears and apples
27 Vladimir Lenin's real last name
29 Nahuatl speaker
30 Answer to 22-Across [Science & Nature]
32 Multipurpose
33 Fixed
34 Polite
36 Moving vehicle
38 "Carmen" and "Elektra"
39 "Jeez!"
40 Mimicking
42 Director Anderson
43 Simulated
46 Answer to 113-Across [Geography]
149 Answer to 13-Down [History]
150 First name on a famous plane
152 Farm females
153 Host for a destructive beetle
155 Abbr. on a label of brandy
158 Class skippers
161 Princess seduced by Zeus
163 Cartesian conclusion
165 Word said before "do"
166 What 1986 \_\_\_ romantic comedy got its title from a song by the Psychedelic Furs?
168 Who wrote a 2003 best seller about a \_\_\_?
171 Tres + cinco
172 "Little ol' me?"
173 Fine fabric
175 Asmara is its capital
176 Regard
177 World Cup cry
179 Newspaper units: Abbr.
181 Clammy
182 Answer to 68-Across [Art & Literature]
185 Answer to 66-Across [Entertainment]
189 "Phooey!"
190 Have a bawl
191 Amherst campus, for short
192 Cacophonous
194 Knight's wear, in England
197 Pad
198 Find a new tenant for
199 Calendar units: Abbr.
202 Select, as sides for a game
204 Answer to 39-Down [Sports & Leisure]
206 "To repeat ..."
208 Lens covers
209 Meerkat in "The Lion King"
211L iving, to Livy
212 Nose out
213 What \_\_\_ comes from a farm bird?
217 Blacken
218 Song heard at the start of "Saturday Night Fever"
219 Ride provider
220 Some I.R.S. data, for short
221 Not hush-hush
222 Kind
223 What a judge does for much of the day
230 Spanish ouzo flavoring
231 Nutritional std.
232 Bump on a slope
233 Where were battleships sunk in an 1894 \_\_\_?
234 Key of Beethoven's "Für Elise"
235 Quimby of children's books
236 Lines on sheet music
238 CBS debut of 2000
239 Comic actor known for his shock humor
240 1966 Donovan hit with a rhyming title
243 "That tastes bleah!"
248 "Holy cow!"
249 Cole Porter's "Well, Did You \_\_\_?"
251 Jungle tangle
252 Sweet and kind
255 1962 hit for the Ikettes
256 Part of an itinerary
257 Cost to get a hand



- DOWN
1 Some roadsters
2 Brightly lit
3 Clinton who once ran for president
4 Tour de France stage
5 "Pipe down!"
6 60 minuti
7 Get rid of
8 "When it comes to ..."
9 Scorer of 12 World Cup goals
49 Oregon city that was the first permanent U.S. settlement west of the Rockies
51 A, B, C or D, in multiple choice: Abbr.
54 Foal's mother
56 Like Fenway among all major-league ballparks
57 Folds
59 Cinephile's channel
60 "Buzz off!"
62 Natty neckwear
64 Locale for Jacques Cousteau
67 Crankcase device
69 Like a moray
70 Director Burton
74 Follower of the Gospels
78 Wry Bombeck
80 Resilience
83 "It's a waste of time"
84 Loaves from whole-grain flour
86 Put away, in a way
87 Longtime Steelers coach Chuck
88 Small digit
93 Reeked
94 Gain entry to
95 Kind of scholar
96 Freeman of "Now You See Me"
98 TV Tarzan player
99 Hot stuff
100 Fate
101 Unwelcome looks
103 Be of \_\_\_ (aid)
104 Syracuse player, once
105 Sacha Baron Cohen character
107 Original edition of this puzzle's theme
109 Actor Diggs
110 Words of triumph
111 Whack
114 Length of a pool and back
115 Partner of tuck
116 Suffix with elect

FOR ANSWERS TURN TO PAGE 2

Ask the Fool

Buy-side, Sell-side

Please explain the difference between buy-side and sell-side analysts. — T.W., Ashland, Kentucky

They both study companies and make buy and sell recommendations, but buy-side analysts work in-house for institutions such as mutual funds and pension funds that buy assets, while sell-side analysts are often employed by banks and brokerages, providing broad analysis and recommendations to their customers. (Getting customers to trade generates commission fees for a brokerage.)

You may be able to access many sell-side analysts' research reports through your brokerage. Learn more at Broker.Fool.com.

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What's a REIT's "FFO"? — F.P., Norfolk, Virginia

The acronym REIT stands for Real Estate Investment Trust, a special kind of company that typically owns many properties and collects rents from tenants; a REIT (rhymes with "beef") often focuses on a niche such as offices, laboratories, nursing homes, hotels, shopping centers or apartments. REITs are required to pay out at least 90 percent of their taxable income as dividends. (As examples, Public Storage, American Tower and Weyerhaeuser are all large REITs.)

Investors studying companies often look at net income, which reflects the bottom-line profit after expenses have been subtracted from revenue. With REITs, the book value of their properties is decreased over time, with the depreciation charged against their net income, reducing it. In reality, though, the value of those real estate properties probably isn't falling, and may well be growing.

Since a REIT's net income tends to understate its health, investors should look at its "funds from operations," or FFO, instead. The FFO metric ignores the effect of depreciation and other noncash charges, so it gives you a better picture of the REIT's true performance. Learn more about REITs at REIT.com.

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



Fool's School

How to Make Millions or Billions

If you're wondering how you might become a billionaire — or even if you'd settle for millionairehood — don't assume that you have to stay busy trading in and out of stocks. Yes, some people have gotten rich through frequent trading, but they're not the norm — and it's not the most effective wealth-building strategy.

A much better strategy has worked for the likes of Jeff Bezos, Warren Buffett and Bill Gates: sticking with strong and growing companies for decades.

Yes, they founded their own companies, but you don't have to. Instead, invest in a handful of great businesses, aiming to own them for many years. Here are some common characteristics of companies many billionaires have owned:

- A sustainable competitive advantage that keeps them at the forefront of their industries.
• A shareholder-friendly management team that, preferably, owns a

piece of the company, giving them a stake in its success.

- A solid balance sheet, featuring little debt or at least manageable debt.
• A business that pumps out lots of cash.

Ideally, find these businesses when they're still relatively small. Many billionaire investors also make the most of market downturns, snapping up bargains.

Of course, many of us don't have the time or talent to study stocks and pick winners. But that's OK, because we can do what Warren Buffett has recommended: "Own a cross-section of businesses that in aggregate are bound to do well. A low-cost S&P 500 index fund will achieve this goal." He also advises investors to "accumulate shares over a long period" and not sell when the market drops. Buffett notes that in his own will, he's instructed a trustee: "Put 10 percent of the cash in short-term government bonds and 90 percent in a very low-cost S&P 500 index fund. (I suggest Vanguard's.)"

Following these guidelines may not make you a billionaire, but many of us can become millionaires by saving and investing significant sums in strong stocks — and being patient.

Name That Company

I trace my roots back to 1937, when a mechanic launched a company to make piston rings for Toyota. After World War II, I focused on making motorized bicycles and then motorcycles, and by 1964 I was a top motorcycle maker. My first car debuted in 1963.

I was the first automaker to meet the Clean Air Act standards in the 1970s.

Today I'm a major global manufacturer of cars, motorcycles, power products and aviation products, churning out close to 30 million engines annually. My worldwide employees number more than 200,000. I've made more than 100 million cars. Who am I?

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



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My Dumbest Investment

A Fastest-Growing Implosion

I bought into the hype and bit the dust big-time on a penny stock. It taught me to invest more gradually and be leery of penny stocks.

On a positive note, I invested a tenth of my assets in some Fool recommendations and have recouped more than my cost. — A., online

The Fool Responds: Penny stocks are a great way to lose most or all of your money. The stock you invested in, from a British company specializing in mobile payments, had many investors hopeful — but like many penny-stock companies, it didn't have a long track record of solid growth and profits. Instead, investors liked its story, which included promising technology; partnerships with Visa, Mastercard and IBM; appearances on lists of "fastest-growing" companies; and a new CEO who also hailed from Visa. But as with many promising companies, things didn't work out as hoped, in part because this company faced some deep-pocketed competition.

Visa sold its stake in the company in 2014, and the stock lost close to 90 percent of its value in 2015 — a year in which the company also lost its CEO and other executives. Once worth more than a billion pounds sterling, it ended up bought by another business for 70 million pounds.

For best results in investing, stick with proven and profitable companies. We're happy that you recouped your losses — albeit via other stocks.

The Motley Fool Take

What's Up, Doc?

Not all medical needs require extensive in-person visits with your doctor. Sometimes all you need is a visual inspection, a question-and-answer session, an order for lab work or a prescription.

Enter Teladoc Health (NYSE: TDOC), a leader in telemedicine, in which patients see providers via telecommunications services such as video conferencing. If you can get the medical care you need without traveling to a doctor's office, it's a win for you. If your doctor — or some doctor in your network — can spend more time on diagnosis and treatment while spending less money on overhead costs, it's a win for the doctor. With the cost of a telemedicine consultation lower than a traditional visit, it can be a win for both.

Teladoc has grown quickly both organically and through acquisitions, and now claims customers representing roughly 40 percent of the Fortune 500. Its revenue grew 62 percent year over year in its third quarter, to \$111 million.

Though Teladoc has been posting losses instead of profits, that's because it's spending about half its revenue on sales and marketing, growing its market share and cementing its leadership in the industry now so it can focus on profit later.

With a long-term growth opportunity in telehealth, Teladoc could be a big winner over the next decade. (The Motley Fool owns shares of and has recommended Teladoc Health.)

LAST WEEK'S TRIVIA ANSWER

I trace my roots back to 1937, when a man from Winston-Salem, North Carolina, bought a doughnut recipe from a New Orleans French chef and started selling doughnuts to local markets and to passersby drawn by their aroma. I trademarked my bowtie logo in 1955 and opened my first retail store in 1989. In 1992 I introduced my "hot now" light, which, when lit, meant that there were hot doughnuts available. Today, my offerings can be bought in about 12,000 supermarkets, convenience stores and other stores, as well as in my own 1,400 retail locations in 33 countries. Who am I? (Answer: Krispy Kreme)



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



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

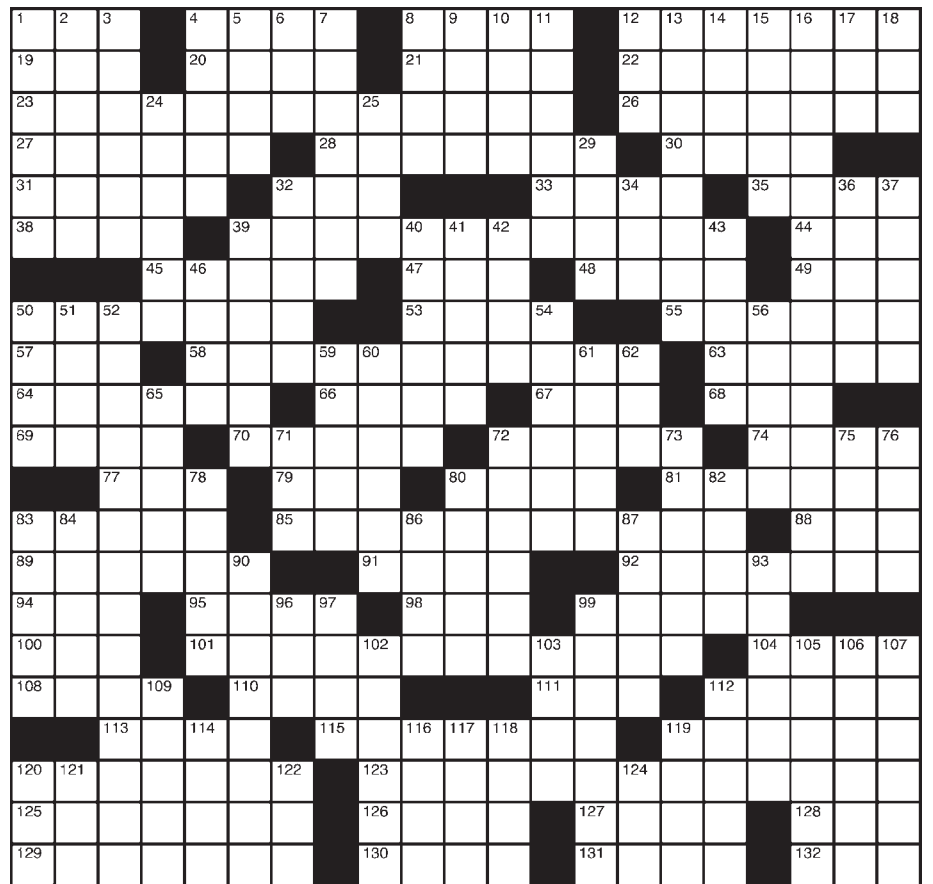
PREP-POSITIONING

By Gail Grabowski

- ACROSS**
- 1 Cheese companion
  - 4 Brewery fixtures
  - 8 Minute dispute
  - 12 Sandal features
  - 19 "Barefoot Contessa" cook Garten
  - 20 Journalist Larson
  - 21 Pro shop purchase
  - 22 Group bar orders
  - 23 Revenue for a monarchy?
  - 26 Crêpe cousin
  - 27 "My mom is gonna kill me!"
  - 28 San Simeon family
  - 30 Sleep \_\_\_
  - 31 Running total
  - 32 "The Hurt Locker" backdrop
  - 33 Upscale automaker
  - 35 It might be generic
  - 38 Novelist Waugh
  - 39 Kids nagging parents about lack of air conditioning?
  - 44 Which one
  - 45 Predator and Ionia computers
  - 47 Jack Reacher creator Child
  - 48 Dept. formed under Carter
  - 49 Bread grain
  - 50 Agassi rival
  - 53 Muses' domain
  - 55 Massage offering
  - 57 Important span
  - 58 Bungalow inundated with vacationing relatives?
  - 63 \_\_\_ column: concrete-filled steel support
  - 64 Rope in
  - 66 Quite a stretch
  - 67 Freshly stained
  - 68 Dr. Leary's turn-on
  - 69 Sullen
  - 70 Old Venetian coin
  - 72 Capital that's home to the Potlata Palace
  - 74 "This is my \_\_\_"
  - 77 Dodge logo critter
  - 79 Poor, as excuses go
  - 80 Ghee-brushed bread
  - 81 Unwitting victim
  - 83 Puts the worm on
  - 85 Funny BBQ scene that got cut?
  - 88 It's often bookmarked
  - 89 Be there
  - 91 Decorative jug
  - 92 It may be lit during the holidays
  - 94 Withdrawn
  - 95 They may be wireless
  - 98 Ristorante suffix
  - 99 Links army leader
  - 100 Loan letters
  - 101 Unlikely winner of a trite joke contest?
  - 104 Vicksburg soldiers
  - 108 One of Tom Brady's three
  - 110 "JAG" spin-off
  - 111 Has too much
  - 112 Piazza De Ferrari city
  - 113 Humorist Barry
  - 115 Takes care of a toy?
  - 119 "To conclude ..."
  - 120 Govt. water-testing sites
  - 123 Group unhappy with election results?
  - 125 SoCal daily
  - 126 Pre-calc course
  - 127 Rich deposit
  - 128 Job ad abbr.
  - 129 Pose a greater climbing challenge
  - 130 "I'll get this one"
  - 131 Chuck
  - 132 Chekov's orig. "Star Trek" rank
  - DOWN**
  - 1 NHL Hall of Famer Stan
  - 2 Dog or doggie
  - 3 It may be scented
  - 4 WWII surrender celebration
  - 5 2016 MLB retiree
  - 6 Virginia senator
  - 7 Vail toppers
  - 8 Gp. advocating adoption
  - 9 Substandard
  - 10 Charity
  - 11 Line dance step
  - 12 On the job, initially
  - 13 "Rebel Without a Cause" actor
  - 14 The Bee Gees, e.g.
  - 15 New-product div.
  - 16 Preview from St. Peter?
  - 17 Candy invented in Austria
  - 18 Dallas-to-Houston dir.
  - 24 Easy pill to swallow
  - 25 Pianist Peter
  - 29 Confident
  - 32 Less favorable
  - 34 Unpleasant noise
  - 36 DIY mover
  - 37 Sidestepped
  - 39 Flung with force
  - 40 Put on conspicuous display
  - 41 Seedless plants
  - 42 Green of "Robot Chicken"
  - 43 Question doggedly
  - 46 Shoe with lots of holes
  - 50 Tourney ranking
  - 51 River of Pisa
  - 52 "You're a big girl now"?
  - 54 "Who cares?"
  - 56 Roundup catcher
  - 59 Postgame staple
  - 60 Band aide
  - 61 Should have said
  - 62 Area 51 creatures, it's said
  - 65 Doggone mad
  - 71 Battleship letters
  - 72 Hugh of "House"
  - 73 "Just \_\_\_"
  - 75 Fiend of fantasy
  - 76 Legendary soccer star
  - 78 "Morning Joe" network
  - 80 Ad infinitum
  - 82 Hatcher of "Desperate Housewives"
  - 83 Jazz count
  - 84 Pal of Aramis
  - 86 Relative who shares your birthday, perhaps
  - 87 "Hair" styles
  - 90 Queen's mate
  - 93 Mother canonized by Pope Francis
  - 96 Hammer throw trajectory
  - 97 Impudent sort
  - 99 Pasta water prep instruction
  - 102 Did, but doesn't now
  - 103 Campus recruiting gp.
  - 105 Dining selection
  - 106 Balladeer Michael
  - 107 Give the okay
  - 109 Bush or Clinton, once
  - 112 Rubbernecks, with "at"
  - 114 Seductive sort
  - 116 Struggling to decide
  - 117 Triathlon component
  - 118 "Picnic" playwright
  - 119 Bygone Fords
  - 120 2015 Payne Stewart Award honoree Ernie
  - 121 Touch gently
  - 122 Return ID
  - 124 Great Lakes' \_\_\_ Canals

Los Angeles Times Sunday Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis



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GOREN BRIDGE

BLOODLINES

North-South vulnerable, North deals

**NORTH**  
 ♠ 7  
 ♥ A Q 8 3 2  
 ♦ K 10 6  
 ♣ K Q 8 6

**WEST**  
 ♠ J 5 4 3 2  
 ♥ K J 7 5 4  
 ♦ Q 3  
 ♣ J

**SOUTH**  
 ♠ A Q 8  
 ♥ 9  
 ♦ A 8 5 4 2  
 ♣ A 7 3 2

The bidding:  
 NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST  
 1♥ Pass 2♦ Pass  
 3♣ Pass 3♠ Pass  
 4♦ Pass 5♣ Pass  
 6♦ All pass

Opening lead: Five of ♥

South in today's deal was Paul Bethe. A good player in his own right, he is the son of Henry and Kitty Bethe. His father was a National Champion and his mother a World Champion. He and his partner had a lucky misunderstanding in the auction. Paul thought his fourth-suit forcing three-spade bid followed by five clubs set clubs as the trump suit. His partner was on a different

wavelength and bid the slam in the suit that, luckily, was breaking 3-2.

It looked easy at first, so Bethe won the ace of hearts on the opening lead, led a spade to the ace, and ruffed a spade. He cashed the king of diamonds, ruffed a heart to his hand, and ruffed the queen of spades. A club to his ace and the ace of diamonds left this position:

**NORTH**  
 ♠ Void  
 ♥ Q 8  
 ♦ Void  
 ♣ K Q 8

**WEST**  
 ♠ J 5  
 ♥ K J 5  
 ♦ Void  
 ♣ Void

**EAST**  
 ♠ K  
 ♥ Void  
 ♦ J  
 ♣ 10 9 5

**SOUTH**  
 ♠ Void  
 ♥ Void  
 ♦ 8 5  
 ♣ 7 3 2

Bethe led a club and would have claimed 12 tricks had both opponents followed. He won with dummy's king and led a heart. He didn't know who held the last trump, but it didn't matter. Should either opponent ruff, Bethe would have the rest. He ruffed the heart, led a club to the queen, and led another heart, scoring his last trump "en passant".

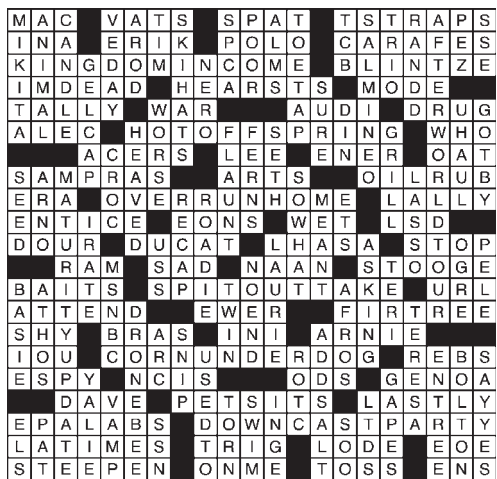
CRYPTOGRAMS

CRYPTOGRAMS BE A GOOD SPORT by Myles Mellor

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

PUZZLE ANSWERS

(Puzzles on previous pages)



JUMBLE

Answer:

CLOSET GLANCE SUPERB  
 EITHER IRONIC THROWN

Her jeans had worn out and were —

ON THEIR LAST LEGS

1. A baseball player was thirsty. He needed some water. So the manager brightly called for the relief pitcher!
2. A football coach got really mad after the vending machine broke. He yelled quickly, "Give me my quarterback!"
3. As he told a story as a gag, the famed Mohammed Ali really appreciated one magic moment of course, the punch line!
4. Tennis quite quickly becomes a boisterous, noisy game. Phew! The players are always raising a racket.

HOLIDAY MATHIS HOROSCOPES

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). The most beautiful things have something a little unpolished about them to keep them accessible and imperfect, because inaccessibility isn't very compelling and perfection is boring.  
**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). You and a loved one may disagree on a few things, which is why it's very important to recognize and unite on that which you do agree. No one needs to be convinced or changed. Everyone just needs to be accepted.  
**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). You're observant, clever and convincing. The bottom line is that you can sway people, and this is both a power and a responsibility. Before you get going, stop and ask yourself what's best for all.  
**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). Whether you're the teacher, the boss or the cheering section, repeated uplift is the way. It's not enough to give encouragement once and then expect people to do well. It's the habitual enthusiasm that will make a difference.  
**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). Groups change. Organizations become reorganizations or splinter into factions, or they dissolve, allowing new groups to form. The thing to do is to accept that the way it is now isn't how it will always be and to show up strong anyway.  
**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You've been thinking about an endeavor that's extremely interesting and enticing on many levels, although it's also a real stretch for you. When you put your mind to it and plan well, you can pull off something amazing.  
**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You follow the same path and end up somewhere different. How could this be? Maybe you go further than before, or maybe

the company you keep changes everything about the journey.  
**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It's as if your whole mind is lit up and ready to wrap around this day. That's why nothing exists in one dimension for you, and three is also too few, because you are understanding things on levels unexplainable.  
**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Optimism comes naturally to you today. You'll so easily see how things are working and work even better once you make a few small adjustments.  
**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The talks won't go as anticipated — a good sign you're doing it right. The only conversation that's predictable is the terrible kind in which one person speaks and never lets the other person contribute.  
**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Quite simply and suddenly, what appealed to you before won't anymore. It's as if the attraction just lifted — floated off. Taking its place will be freedom and more options than you knew existed.  
**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). Do all you can to get the right amount of sleep; it's crucial to this educational cycle you're in. Learning is a physical process. When you sleep, the neurons in your brain build the architecture to use what you've learned.  
**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (Feb. 24). You get newer instead of older this year because of improvements. Fresh education gives you all the motivation you need, and by May, you'll be looking back, already impressed as to how far you've come. Loved ones follow your lead. Love and friendship are the centerpiece in carefree days of July. Leo and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 7, 20, 12 and 45.



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

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 study of Earth's surface (9)     | _____     |
| 2 study of viruses (8)             | _____     |
| 3 study of reliable inferences (5) | _____     |
| 4 study of diamonds and such (8)   | _____     |
| 5 study of "buried treasures" (10) | _____     |
| 6 study of elements (9)            | _____     |
| 7 study of mushrooms (8)           | _____     |

- |      |     |     |     |     |
|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| ARCH | PHY | GIC | GY  | GEO |
| LO   | EOL | GRA | GY  | GEM |
| GY   | CHE | OGY | VIR | OLO |
| TRY  | OLO | OLO | MIS | MYC |

Today's Answers: 1. GEOGRAPHY 2. VIROLOGY 3. LOGIC 4. GEMOLOGY 5. ARCHEOLOGY 6. CHEMISTRY 7. MYCOLOGY

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).

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

Rating: GOLD

Solution to 2/24/19

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

DEAR ABBY

Wife refuses conversation with husband about important topics

**DEAR ABBY:** My husband and I have problems communicating because I don't talk enough, but that's the way I was raised. My family just didn't talk about serious things. I'm not saying avoidance is right, but I have a hard time talking seriously.



Dear Abby

When I feel put on the spot, I find it difficult to form my words correctly, and I shut down.

My husband doesn't understand why I don't talk when it comes so easy for him. This gives him the impression that I don't "want" to talk, and therefore, I don't care about our marriage as much as he does. Any advice? — MY LIPS ARE SEALED

**DEAR MY LIPS:** Issues that are not discussed often grow greater until they erode relationships. If you value your marriage, use this issue as a jumping-off point to start talking with a psychologist or other licensed mental health professional.

The way you were raised was unhealthy. It is destructive to building relationships

as well as self-esteem, and can have lifelong consequences, as you are finding out.

Please don't put it off, because your communication problem won't resolve until you do something proactive about it.

**DEAR ABBY:** May I educate your readers about a little-known disorder called misophonia?

It means "hatred of sound," and it can cause rage or panic. Misophonia is triggered by sounds such as breathing, eating, yawning, chewing or whistling. It can also be caused by a repetitive motion, such as when someone is fidgeting, jostles you or taps their foot continuously.

I suffer from this disorder. I work in the health care field

and am often surrounded by people who chew and/or pop/crack their gum. I have had the difficult, often embarrassing, conversation about my disorder many times to no avail. The gum-chewing continues.

Do you agree it is unprofessional to chew gum in the workplace?

How do I make people understand this is a real disorder that causes me physical pain and duress? — SUFFERING IN THE WEST

**DEAR SUFFERING:** I have to agree that chewing gum in the workplace is both unsightly and unprofessional. In the interest of full disclosure, I confess I'm guilty of the crime.

Before I condemn anyone for eating, chewing, yawning, foot-tapping, etc., allow me to point out that the solution to your problem may be as simple as noise-canceling headphones. I urge you try it before requesting a private office.

**DEAR ABBY:** Is it selfish for a 62-year-old recently widowed grandmother to

want more in her life besides her one daughter and three grandchildren? — WANTS MORE IN THE EAST

**DEAR WANTS MORE:** Of course it isn't selfish! If "someone" is trying to sell you that nonsensical idea, my advice is not to buy it.

You deserve happiness and fulfillment, and you should not allow anyone to prevent you from seeking it.

(Could it be the "someone" wants a free baby sitter?)

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

*Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$16 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)*

HELOISE

**Dear Readers:** Identity theft is a huge national problem. It's essential that you protect your identity and your credit cards.

When you get a new card, sign it in ink and record all of the information. Here are more hints:

— Never lend credit cards to anyone. Do not leave your card or receipts behind, where people could find them.

— Tear up incorrect receipts. Keep all accurate receipts for your tax files.

— Never give out your credit card number over the phone — unless you have made the call. Scammers call day and night claiming that they are checking your record and numbers, that you have a charge that is overdue that you have to pay immediately, or that you have to buy gift cards to cover the charges. They can be aggressive and threatening, but don't fall for this. Contact your credit card company directly.

— Open billing statements as soon as you get them and check all of the charges.



Hints from Heloise

Call the credit card company to correct errors right away. — Heloise

**Dear Readers:** Are crawdads, mudbugs, crayfish and crawfish all the same? Here's the answer to this fish question.

1. Yes. These are freshwater crustaceans that really look like tiny lobsters with claws and are about three to six inches long.

2. Crawfish are normally boiled and turn fire-engine red when cooked.

3. However, crawfish also are battered and deep-fried and often called Cajun popcorn because this dish was touted by the famous New Orleans Chef Paul Prudhomme. — Heloise

**Dear Heloise:** I have too many clothes inside my closet. It's such a mess that I just don't know where to start. Help me! — Loretta in New Jersey

**Dear Loretta:** There's an easy way of tackling this job by sorting through your closet and getting rid of unwanted or unused garments. Try my A-B-C method to first organize and then sort.

Take out all your clothes and put them into three piles:

- A. Clothes you wear often.
- B. Clothes you put on just occasionally.
- C. Clothes you have not worn in at least a year.

Then do the following: Examine the clothes in the A pile to see if they need any repairs. If not, return to the closet. If you decide that you are going to wear a number of the B pile clothes, place them in the back of the closet.

The rest that you don't want to ever wear again should be put into the C pile. Clothes in the C pile should be tossed out if they are ripped or worn out.

The rest of the clothes in the C pile should be donated to charity. — Heloise

**Dear Readers:** Our refrigerators get so much daily use, and we stuff them full. It's easy to forget what's lurking inside containers or take-out cartons that get shoved to the back of the shelves once new items are put in front. When it's crammed, it's time for a clean-out.

First, give the fridge a smell test to discover where the smell is coming from on each shelf. Toss out old or outdated items and anything with green fuzz.

Put leftovers in sealed containers or zip-top bags and label with a date. Clean the shelves with soapy water to clear off any spills, and wipe walls with white vinegar.

To control odors, pour baking soda into a plastic margarine tub. Poke holes in the lid and put it in the fridge. Replace every three months or so.

Put small dishes of lemon or lime slices on different shelves. — Heloise

KEN KEN THE LOGIC PUZZLE THAT MAKES YOU SMARTER.

EASY

3-			12X	
2-			4	
2÷			6+	3-
3				

CHALLENGING

75X		2÷		5-
2÷		30X	2-	3-
	6			1-
1-			5	2÷
6	3+		18+	
2÷				4

RULES

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

2-24-19

TODAY'S ANSWERS

1	2	3	4
6	1	4	3
3	4	1	2
4	5	1	2
2	3	4	1
4	1	2	3

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JUMBLE

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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

- SOLTCE
- EEHIRT
- CNALEG
- CNIRIO
- BRUPSE
- WHOTNR



HER JEANS HAD WORN OUT AND WERE ---

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

PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW



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- |  |   |
|--|---|
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| 2. PRESERVE AT WEST VILLAGES<br>D.R. HORTON<br>Twin Villas & Single-Family Homes<br>from the mid \$200s* | 8. CALUSA CREEK<br>EXPRESS HOMES<br>Single-Family Homes<br>from the high \$100s*                                  |
| 3. PEACHLAND HOMESITES<br>EXPRESS HOMES<br>Single-Family Homes<br>from the high \$100s*                  | 9. WATERFORD<br>EXPRESS HOMES<br>Twin Villas & Single-Family Homes<br>from the high \$100s*                       |
| 4. DEEP CREEK HOMESITES<br>EXPRESS HOMES<br>Single-Family Homes<br>from the mid \$200s*                  | 10. MAGNOLIA LANDING<br>D.R. HORTON & EXPRESS HOMES<br>Twin Villas & Single-Family Homes<br>from the high \$100s* |
| 5. GULF COVE HOMESITES<br>EXPRESS HOMES<br>Single-Family Homes<br>from the high \$100s*                  | 11. GATOR CIRCLE<br>EXPRESS HOMES<br>Single-Family Homes<br>from the high \$100s*                                 |
| 6. THE LANDINGS AT CORAL CREEK<br>EMERALD HOMES<br>Luxury Townhomes<br>from the mid \$300s*              | 12. ENTRADA<br>D.R. HORTON & EXPRESS HOMES<br>Single-Family Homes<br>from the mid \$200s*                         |

<sup>^</sup>As reported by Builder Magazine. \*Home and community information including pricing, included features, terms, availability and amenities are subject to change and prior sale at any time without notice or obligation. Pictures, photographs, features, colors and sizes are approximate for illustration purposes only and will vary from the homes as built. Florida Registered Building Contractor License CBC#1258802



D.R. HORTON • EXPRESS • EMERALD • FREEDOM

View additional photos and get additional community info at [DRHorton.com/swfla](http://DRHorton.com/swfla)



# REAL ESTATE SUNDAY

Sunday, February 24, 2019

AVON PARK • LAKE PLACID • SEBRING

SECTION C

## Stunning home in SNL's Preserve area

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

This home is at 5500 Angelo Circle in Sebring. It is priced for \$312,000 and is listed with Jo Ann Sutton with Ridge Real Estate.

Located in the exclusive Preserve at Sun 'n Lake, this stunning three-bedroom, two-and-a-half bath, pool home on the golf course is loaded with features and upgrades. This home has almost 2,200 square feet and was built in 2003.

The home has 12 feet of sliding glass doors that open to the huge lanai and pool area. The pool is heated. An outdoor half bath and outdoor shower keep people from having to go through the house with wet feet. The lanai floor has a custom epoxy finish and the pool has a waterfall feature.

Inside you will find all rooms have diagonal, oversize tile, new upgraded light fixtures and ceiling fans as well as a central vac system.

**SUTTON | 2C**

### DIRECTIONS

#### 5500 Angelo Circle, Sebring

From U.S. 27 in Sebring, turn onto Sun 'n Lake Boulevard. At the traffic circle, take the first exit onto Ponce de Leon Boulevard. Turn left onto Savona Drive. Turn left onto Angelo Circle. The home is on the left.



COURTESY PHOTO

This home is at 5500 Angelo Circle in Sebring. It is priced for \$312,000 and is listed with Jo Ann Sutton with Ridge Real Estate.

## Pool home in Golf Hammock

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

This home is at 2500 Lost Ball Drive in Sebring. It is priced for \$244,900 and is listed with Kim Reed and Helen Ferry of The Reed-Ferry Team with Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Florida Properties Group.

Updated and upgraded throughout, this lovely three-bedroom, two-bath home shows like a model. Pride of ownership is evident in the curb appeal of this home with its newly painted driveway, curb scaping, over-sized side-load garage and the extended covered front porch.

Situated on a beautiful third acre lot backing up to the 9th tee of the Golf Hammock golf course, you'll enter this home to find both a formal living room as well as a more casual family room. The spacious living room has vaulted ceilings and is adjacent to the formal dining room ideal for family holidays.

For more informal entertaining, the family room is perfect. It is directly off

**REED | 2C**

### DIRECTIONS

#### 2500 Lost Ball Drive, Sebring

From U.S. 27 in Sebring, turn onto Hammock Road. Turn right onto Golf Hammock Drive. Turn left onto Bogey Boulevard. Bear left onto Lost Ball Drive. The home is on the right.



COURTESY PHOTO

This home is at 2500 Lost Ball Drive in Sebring. It is priced for \$244,900 and is listed with Kim Reed and Helen Ferry of The Reed-Ferry Team with Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Florida Properties Group.

## Beautiful home in quiet community

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

This home is at 115 Sunbird Place in Sebring. It is priced for \$89,500 and is listed with Lisa Terrell with Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Florida Properties Group.

This well-maintained mobile home on a double lot (owned land) is situated in a quiet 55-plus community is a must see. It is the perfect home for full or part-time residence.

It is a spacious home with three bedrooms and two baths with a split floor plan. It has many upgrades. The entire kitchen has been completely remodeled including tiled counter tops, new cabinets, fixtures and backslash with an open concept.

The master bedroom is nicely sized and the master bath is freshly painted with a dual vanity, new tile flooring plus a linen closet.

**TERRELL | 2C**

### DIRECTIONS

#### 115 Sunbird Place, Sebring

From U.S. 27 in Sebring, turn onto Thunderbird Road. Turn left onto Thunderbird Hills Road. Turn left onto Sunbird Square. At stop sign, turn right onto Sunbird Court. Turn right onto Sunbird Place. The home is on the left.



COURTESY PHOTO

This home is at 115 Sunbird Place in Sebring. It is priced for \$89,500 and is listed with Lisa Terrell with Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Florida Properties Group.



**PEOPLE IN REAL ESTATE**



**Kim Reed is with Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Florida Properties Group. Call 863-381-6575.**



**Jo Ann Sutton is with Ridge Real Estate. Call 863-446-1030.**



**Lisa Terrell is with Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Florida Properties Group. Call 863-414-0358.**

**HOW TO APPEAR IN PEOPLE IN REAL ESTATE**

Members of the Heartland Association of Realtors who want to submit articles about their professional achievements should call Eileen Powers at 863-386-5809. People in Real Estate submissions appear on a space availability basis. All submissions are subject to change.

**SUTTON**

FROM PAGE 1C

The kitchen has solid surface counter tops, custom cabinets, crown molding, recessed lighting, a sky light and a decorative custom tile inlay in the floor. French doors lead to the lanai from the breakfast nook.

The over-sized master bedroom has tray ceilings, crown molding and French doors to the lanai.

The exterior has been recently painted. A new air conditioner was installed in 2018. The pool heater is also new. The driveway and garage have a custom



COURTESY PHOTO

**The kitchen has solid surface counter tops, custom cabinets, crown molding, recessed lighting, a sky light and a decorative custom tile inlay in the floor.**

epoxy finish as well as a skeeter beater and separate golf cart door. The entrance way has a custom screen enclosure and

leaded glass double doors. For more information, call Sutton at 863-446-1030. Ask about MLS 262229.

**TERRELL**

FROM PAGE 1C

Guests will enjoy their privacy in this roomy home with full guest bath that has been tastefully done with neutral tile.

The large dining room plus family room is perfect for entertaining.

The attached 40-by-12 workshop is perfect for additional storage or hobbies. Enjoy the peace and quiet relaxing on the screened porch with only nature behind this beautiful home.

This property is centrally located, close to shopping and in a well-kept neighborhood. The roof is

newer, installed in 2013. The home comes partially furnished.

The annual homeowner's association fee is \$120.

For more information or to schedule a private showing, call Terrell at 863-414-0358 or visit lterrell.bhhsfloridaproperties.com. Ask about MLS 260505.

**REED**

FROM PAGE 1C

the kitchen and has a pass-thru counter for convenience.

The kitchen is a chef's delight. It is completely updated and boasts an abundance of hickory cabinets, upscale granite counter tops and tile backsplash.

There's a dining nook for informal meals that has a great view of the lanai and nature. The dining nook adjoins the family room making entertaining family and friends a breeze.

The huge pool with its new heater and pool cage will provide hours of fun all year. The lanai overlooks the 9th Tee and is accessible by French doors from the dining room, breakfast area and owner's suite.

The spacious owner's suite has a walk-in closet, double sinks and a walk-in tile shower. There is a



COURTESY PHOTO

**The huge pool with its new heater and pool cage will provide hours of fun all year. The lanai overlooks the 9th tee.**

door from the bedroom to the pool area for convenience.

Other features of this home include extensive Florida-style landscaping, an over-sized two-car plus golf cart garage, a new roof in 2018, newly painted driveway, freshly painted interior and exterior, newer water heater, HVAC and newer flooring. This home will be easy living for years to

come. The home has 1,922 square feet of living area with 2,920 total square footage. Some furniture is available.

For more information or to schedule a private showing, call Reed at 863-381-6575 or email Kimbreed@comcast.net or call Ferry at 863-381-1089 or email Hbferry@comcast.net. Ask about MLS 260521.



**The kitchen is completely updated and boasts an abundance of hickory cabinets, upscale granite counter tops and tile backsplash.**

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SB2167 (2/1)

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**CHECK OUT THESE GREAT LISTINGS**

 SB2326	<p><b>GREAT SNOWBIRD OR YEAR-ROUND!</b> IN CRYSTAL LAKE CLUB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2/1 Fully Furnished Home</li> <li>• Ray Hammond/ Hammond Team</li> <li>• (863) 450-3339</li> </ul> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">\$23,500</p>	 SB2326	<p><b>PRICE REDUCED! TURN KEY HOME!</b> IN TANGLEWOOD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2/2 Open Floor Plan</li> <li>• Partially Furnished Home</li> <li>• Reggie Maxon (863) 808-1706</li> </ul> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">\$24,900</p>
 SB2309	<p><b>OUTSTANDING TURN KEY HOME</b> IN TANGLEWOOD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2/2 Home Furnished</li> <li>• New Roof In 2014</li> <li>• Reggie Maxon (863) 808-1706</li> </ul> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">\$24,900</p>	 SB2352	<p><b>THIS HOUSE FEELS LIKE HOME!</b> IN SEBRING VILLAGE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2/2 Split Floor Plan, Furnished</li> <li>• Fla Room Overlooking Pond</li> <li>• Amy Slane (863) 450-3336</li> </ul> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">\$34,800</p>
 SB2356	<p><b>SPACIOUS CORNER HOME!</b> IN SEBRING VILLAGE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2/2 Light &amp; Bright Home</li> <li>• Fully Furnished, Ext. Storage Shed</li> <li>• Amy Slane (863) 450-3336</li> </ul> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">\$45,800</p>	 SB2365	<p><b>BEAUTIFUL MOVE IN READY CORNER LOT!</b> IN VILLA DEL SOL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3/2 Full Of Charm</li> <li>• Fully Furnished</li> <li>• Kim Strasser (863) 279-3386</li> </ul> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">\$34,000</p>
 SB2332	<p><b>SPACIOUS LIGHT &amp; BRIGHT HOME!</b> IN SEBRING VILLAGE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2/2 Large Open Floor Plan</li> <li>• Partially Furnished, New Roof</li> <li>• Paint &amp; Flooring</li> <li>• Kim Strasser (863) 279-3386</li> </ul> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">\$27,300</p>	 SB2214	<p><b>PRICE JUST REDUCED!</b> IN TANGLEWOOD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3/2 Triple Wide, 2000 SQ. FT.</li> <li>• Under Air, Partially Furnished</li> <li>• Donald Lariviere (863) 450-3340</li> </ul> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">\$89,000</p>
 SB2215	<p><b>VERY NICE SABLE PALM!</b> IN TANGLEWOOD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2/2 Plus Den, New Roof in 2017</li> <li>• New AC in 2016, Wired For Generator</li> <li>• Donald Lariviere (863) 450-3340</li> </ul> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">\$114,500</p>	 SB2377	<p><b>WELL KEPT GARAGE HOME IN LUXURY PARK!</b> IN TANGLEWOOD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3/2 Home, Partially Furnished</li> <li>• New Roof In 2015</li> <li>• Wendy Jager (863) 812-4675</li> </ul> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">\$41,900</p>
 SB2246	<p><b>38FT. 5TH WHEEL IMMACUATELY KEPT!</b> IN TANGLEWOOD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1/1,</li> <li>• 4 Pull Outs Adds 114 SQ FT More</li> <li>• Wendy Jager (863) 812-4675</li> </ul> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">\$19,900</p>	 SB2246	<p><b>SPACIOUS HOME IN BEAUTIFUL NEIGHBORHOOD</b> IN TANGLEWOOD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3/2 1568 SQ FT Home, Furnished</li> <li>• One of the Most Poplar Floor Plans</li> <li>• Dennis Jager (863) 840-5379</li> </ul> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">\$19,900</p>
 SB2360	<p><b>BEAUTIFUL HUGE CUSTOMIZED HOME ON PERIMETER LOT!</b> IN WHISPERING PINES VILLAGE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2/2 Home, Furnished</li> <li>• Customized Kitchen Counter Tops</li> <li>• Donny Cox (863) 658-3955</li> </ul> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">\$29,800</p>	 SB2361	<p><b>JUST WHAT YOU HAVE BEEN LOOKING FOR</b> IN WHISPERING PINES VILLAGE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2/2 Home</li> <li>• Newer AC with split bedrooms</li> <li>• Donny Cox (863) 658-3955</li> </ul> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">\$23,300</p>
 SB2376	<p><b>PLENTY OF ROOM TO WORK OR RELAX!</b> IN CRYSTAL LAKE CLUB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2/2 Home Fully Furnished</li> <li>• New Carpet, Great Open Concept</li> <li>• Larry Robinson (317) 979-1294</li> </ul> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">\$29,995</p>	 SB2355	<p><b>AS IS HANDYMAN SPECIAL!</b> ALL REASONABLE OFFER WILL BE CONSIDERED!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1/1 Home Has A New Roof</li> <li>• Open Floor Concept</li> <li>• Larry Robinson (317) 979-1294</li> </ul> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">\$13,000</p>



# Another desirable feature of a retirement plan: A set-aside

A recent column I wrote on retirement ("What should you look for in a retirement plan?") indicated that in order to assure that a retiree will not run out of money at an advanced age — a primary retirement objective — most plans should contain an annuity.

In this column I will discuss a second major objective of retirement plans that is often ignored: not leaving more or less money in the estate than the retiree would have chosen if she knew in advance the day of her death. To meet this objective, a retirement plan can include a set-aside, which is an amount targeted for the retiree's estate.

## Bequests Under the 4 Percent Rule

Retirement management is largely a seat-of-the-pants process. The only exception seems to be the 4 percent rule, which says that a retiree can draw 4 percent of her financial assets every year, plus an annual inflation adjustment, without ever running out. The rule in effect ignores objective two in order to meet objective one. The result will often be an estate substantially larger than the retiree would have chosen otherwise.

Consider a female retiree of 62 with a nest egg of \$2 million, half in common stock and half in interest-bearing securities. If her portfolio earns a return of 8.1 percent, her estate will receive \$4.9 million if she dies at 82, \$8.7 million if she dies at 92, and \$16.6 million if she dies at 102. The probability of a return of 8.1 percent or higher is about 50 percent,

## MORTGAGE PROFESSOR Jack Guttentag

based on that being the median return over 745 25-year periods during 1926-2012.

Note that in a worst case where the rate of return falls to 3.6 percent, the 4 percent rule fails both objectives, running dry at age 95. The estimated probability of this occurring, based on the same historical data-base, is 2 percent.

## Bequests in RIS: The Set-Aside

RIS stands for Retirement Income Stabilizer, which is the retirement planning model I have been developing with Allan Redstone. The retiree using RIS allocates a portion of her financial assets to the purchase of a deferred annuity and draws the remainder as spendable funds during the deferral period. At the end of that period, her assets are gone and her spendable funds thereafter come from the annuity. Her estate receives nothing from the plan — unless she includes a set-aside.

RIS thus forces the retiree to decide — at the time the plan is adopted — how much of her wealth will be set aside for her estate. The set-aside amount can accumulate interest, and the decision is not irrevocable, as we shall see.

If the female retiree of 62 in our example uses RIS to purchase a 10-year deferred annuity with an annual 2 percent inflation adjustment but without a set-aside, and if the rate of return on her financial assets is 8.1 percent, her

monthly spendable funds will begin at \$8,282 and rise by 2 percent a year until she dies. After 10 years, the source of the funds will change, from asset withdrawals to the annuity. If she dies after 10 years, her estate will receive nothing from the plan.

Assuming that the retiree elects to set aside \$250,000 for her estate, her monthly draw amount will drop from \$8,282 to \$7,247, rising by 2 percent a year. The value of the set-aside will grow over

time — at 8.1 percent it will reach \$1 million when she hits 81 and \$2 million at 89. She would be free, of course, to draw on some of that herself as it is her money!

## The Set-Aside in a Worst Case

A retirement plan should always consider how the plan would work — or not work — in a worst case. The worst case used here is a return on assets of 3.6 percent. Only 2 percent of the 745 25-year periods during

1926-2012 had returns of 3.6 percent or less. I continue to assume a set-aside of \$250,000.

The worst case generates a decline in monthly spendable funds during the 10-year deferral period from \$7,247 to \$5,506. In month 121, the annuity kicks in at with a starting payment of \$8,834. The Set-Aside survives the worst case, though it does not grow as rapidly. At age 73, the set-aside is \$359,000 and at 83 it is \$509,000.

The retiree in a worst

case has another option regarding the set-aside. She could use it to offset the decline in spendable funds during the deferral period. If she did that, the set-aside would no longer go to her estate. That is a personal decision to be made when and if the worst case happens, which it probably will not.

*Jack Guttentag is professor emeritus of finance at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. Comments and questions can be left at mtgprofessor.com.*

# US home sales tumbled 1.2 percent in January

By JOSH BOAK

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — U.S. home sales fell 1.2 percent in January to their worst pace in more than three years, as persistent affordability problems have put a harsh chill in the real estate market.

The National Association of Realtors said Thursday that sales of existing homes declined 1.2 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 4.94 million last month, the slowest sales rate since November 2015.

During the past 12 months, sales have plunged 8.5 percent. Would-be homebuyers are increasingly priced out of the market as years of climbing prices and strained inventories have made ownership too costly. A solid job market has done little to boost sales, with the sharpest annual sales declines being among homes priced less than \$250,000.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this Wednesday, Feb. 20, photo a price reduced for sale sign sit in front of a home in north Dallas. On Thursday, Feb. 21, the National Association of Realtors reported on sales of existing homes in January.

"January's weak sales pace was likely the result of the lingering effects of stock market volatility and lower consumer confidence toward the end of 2018," said Joel Kan, associate vice president of industry surveys and forecasts at the Mortgage Bankers Association. "Much of the January decrease was in the lower price tiers, which also tends to be where inventory is the tightest."

Homes are sitting on the market longer, causing inventories to rise. Properties stayed on the market for an average of 49 days, up from 42 a year ago. The number of homes for sale has risen to 1.59 million from 1.52 million a year ago, yet inventories are still tight compared to historic averages.

Still, buyers may find some relief as average mortgage rates have declined this year and price

growth has slowed.

The average interest charged on a 30-year, fixed rate mortgage this week was 4.35 percent this week, down from an average as high as roughly 5 percent last year, according to mortgage buyer Freddie Mac.

The median sales price in January was \$247,500, a slight increase of 2.8 percent from last year. After eclipsing wage gains for several years, home prices in this report are now increasing at a slower rate than average hourly earnings.

"While the existing home sales numbers were not good, there were some green shoots that open up the possibility of accelerated sales in the spring," said Robert Frick, a corporate economist at Navy Federal Credit Union. "Price growth continues to slow down, which, together with higher household incomes, is making homes more affordable to more people."

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**2500 Lost Ball - \$244,900**



This 3BR/2BA home has been updated throughout and shows like a model home! New Kitchen with hickory cabinets, upscale granite and custom tile back splash. The HUGE POOL with its new heater and pool cage overlooks the 9th Tee and will provide hours of fun all year. MLS 260521

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Manor Hill SNL - .32 acres - \$27,900

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# Realtors raise funds for SunTrust victims at banquet

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN

SEBRING — The Heartland Association of Realtors held its annual Awards and Installation of Officers Banquet Feb. 7 at the Island View Restaurant.

The organization raised more than \$10,000 at the event for the SunTrust #SebringStrong fund.

Florida Realtors District 10 Vice President Manny Quiros performed the official Induction Ceremony of the 2019 Heartland Association of Realtors officers and directors. 2019 HAR Officers are: President, Madge Stewart; President Elect, Lazaro Martinez; Vice President, Tracy King MacCormack; Treasurer, Whitney Buntentbach; Secretary, Jeanne Wheeler; and Immediate Past President, Rona Port. Directors are Ivan Barinas, Tammy Christian, Susan Compton, Brock Fazzini, Rebecca Fockler Musgrave, Kris Harrington, Sarah Spires, Wes Tanner.

The Heartland Association of Realtors sponsored the 2018 President's Award, which was presented to Fazzini and Harrington by Port, 2018 HAR president.

Heartland National Bank sponsored the Hall of Fame Award, which was presented to Harrington by 2017 Hall of Fame Recipient Jean Eckman.

2017 Congeniality recipient Cullen Wheeler presented the 2018 Congeniality Award, sponsored by the Nielander Law Firm, to



FILE PHOTO

The Heartland Association of Realtors board was sworn in Feb. 7.

Bethany Rojas. Wauchula State Bank sponsored the Association Achiever award presented to Madge Stewart, who was also the 2015 recipient.

2017 Realtor of the Year Sue Dean presented the coveted Realtor of the Year award to Mandy Elliott. The Realtor of the

Year award was sponsored by John K. McClure, P.A.

The Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Sue Clark by 2017 recipient Cheryl Brantley and was sponsored by Wells & Associates Insurance.

Heartland Title Insurance Agency

Company sponsored the Rookie of the Year Award earned by Crystal

Anderson and presented by 2017 Rookie of the Year Yvonne Calhoun.

Heartland Realtors chose Supreme Lending as the 2018 Affiliate of the Year.

Geneva Financial and MidFlorida Credit Union were the Platinum Sponsors and provided the photo booth and entertainment. Royal Blue Sponsor Eileen Powers and Silver Sponsor Capstone Title LLC were also program and event sponsors.

Center State Home Inspections, Budget Bi-Rite Insurance and Supreme Lending provided door prizes.

The Heartland Association of Realtors congratulates all the award winners.

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Your forever home w/4BR +office, 3.5BA! Open floor plan w/dining room and kitchen. Caged pool behind living area w/nice covered patio to BBQ. Master BR is a great size w/large private bath. One of the bathrooms is conveniently located directly off the pool area. Central vacuum & alarm system are also included. Fencing surrounds the secluded 10 acres. Perfect for whatever you desire. MLS#260362

**1360 LAKE JOSEPHINE DRIVE, SEBRING — \$389,000**

**REDUCED**

Large open floor plan w/3BR,2BA,2CG additional huge 36x26 detached garage. Every man's dream w/ample room for extra storage for your boats, motorcycles or your fancy cars. Home has a large covered porch in the front to sit and enjoy nature or to get you out of the weather. Upon entering, you will see the higher end finishes. Neutral colors are found throughout. Wood cabinets and Corian counters are perfect. The kitchen vacuums a huge island with bar stools for a casual eating area. This home shows Lake Josephine at it's finest with the "Old Florida" feel! MLS#260414

**180 RHYTHM ROAD, SEBRING — \$415,000**

**REDUCED**

Motivated. Too many features to name in this 3BR, 3.5BA which includes a private gun range, stocked pond. A well-constructed home beyond building codes with solid concrete walls and metal framing with icynene foam and double insulated windows. A full home generator. Brand New A/C unit. Brazilian hardwood and slate flooring. A detached garage with a full shower and bonus room with a extra metal building. And oh yeah a swimming pool all on 12 AC! MLS#250103

**6012 LAKE REGENCY LN, SEBRING — \$272,000**

**REDUCED**

NEW gated community has both curb appeal and interior charm. This 3BR, 2BA w/high end finishes adorn this property throughout. With an open floor plan and huge bedrooms. The colors are neutral so decorating is a breeze. You will love the newness of the home with trending features. Nothing to do here. Lake Regency is a short walk at the end of the street. MLS#260433

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ameliaduranpm@gmail.com



**TEAM BREWER:  
CLARENCE "CB" BREWER  
& PAM BREWER**  
Realtor  
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brewerpam2@gmail.com  
CB'S CELL: 863-441-5617  
clarencebrewer21@gmail.com



**BETH LINN MACKES:**  
Realtor  
CELL: 863-446-1149  
Bethlinn29@gmail.com



**NANCY NEWMAN MAY:**  
Realtor  
CELL: 863-852-6687  
Nmay121@gmail.com



JUST RENTED

**821 GRAND AVE, SEBRING**

2BR, 1BA Fully renovated! Interior & Exterior painted. New wood plank flooring. New kitchen cabinets, counter tops & appliances! MLS#260882 **\$675/ Mo**

Contact Amelia Duran: 863-446-0578



**4 + 8 QUAIL ROOST RD, LAKE PLACID**

Home in Country Walk, w/central water, access to Lake Carrie & Lake June. 3BR, 3BA, 2CG, Split floor plan, Cathedral Ceilings, & skylights. Nice community, w/clubhouse & marina. Small monthly fee for up keep of facilities and entrance. Great area to walk, bike, or use your golf cart. New roof in 2017. The home also comes with an extra buildable lot adjacent to the homes property line. MLS#260816 **\$170,000**

Contact Clarence (C.B.) Brewer: 863-441-5617



**153 GOLFPPOINT DR, LAKE PLACID**

Affordable Dream in desirable Sun N Lakes. 2BR, 2BA, 2CG Split floor plan offers tile baths, central a/c, bonus rm & large dining room. MLS# 262079 **\$139,620**

Contact Beth Linn Mackes: 863-446-1149



LAKEFRONT!

**1014 LAKE SEBRING DRIVE, SEBRING**

Boater's paradise 3BR, 3BA, 2CG upstairs Master Suite w/roof top terrace overlooking lake. Water views from FR, DR & Master BR. Family rm w/gas fireplace, perfect for entertaining. Home has everything that you have been waiting for a MUST see! MLS# 249992 **\$249,900**

Contact Nancy May: -863-852-6687



**4131 DURANGO AVE, SEBRING**

Gorgeous 3BR, 2BA Doll house. The kitchen is spacious with lots of cabinets space. Master Bedroom features large walking in closet, spacious bath w/walk in shower & his & hers sink. 2BR features new plank wood flooring, interior is freshly painted. Tile flooring throughout living-room, dining and kitchen. Living room features a large slider leading to the screen porch that overlooks a beautiful back yard. Lawn care is included, Washer & Dryer Included. MLS 262288

Contact Amelia Duran: 863-446-0578



REDUCED

**405 FLAMINGO RD, NE, LAKE PLACID**

Larger duplex in Placid Lakes on a drainage canal. 2 BR, 2BA & 1/2 BA on both sides, w/2-CG. Bonus room on each side for a office/hobby room. Fiberglass heated pool. Eight foot sea wall, pool heater (propane tank buried in ground), emergency electric panel for external generator. MLS#260692 **\$299,000**

Contact Clarence (C.B.) Brewer: 863-441-5617



REDUCED

**626 CARISSA ST., SEBRING**

Pride in ownership shows throughout well maintained villa sitting just off the fairway offering, split floor plan with 2BR possibly 3 (office) along with 2BA, 2CG, new SS appliances, central air, gorgeous lanai with view of the golfers and ponds. No dues and no monthly maintenance fees. Some furnishings will stay. Being sold as-is with right to inspect. MLS#260549 **\$159,900**

Contact Beth Linn Mackes: 863-446-1149



**1749 KOY DRIVE, SEBRING**

Custom Built, 3 BR, 3 BA, 2CG w/ 4,165 Sq ft home on .95 acres. Features an Art Studio, Art Gallery and indoor workshop. MLS#260704 **\$251,900**

Contact Nancy May: -863-852-6687

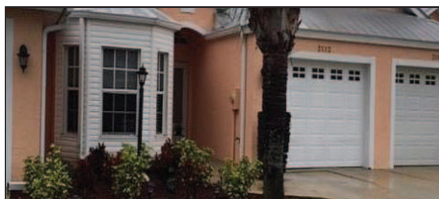


LEISURE LAKES

**3055 AZALEA LN, LAKE PLACID**

Great 2BR, 2BA comfortable home. Kitchen has twin SS sinks & faucet, new refrigerator. Nice size BR & tiled floors, one bath has a tub & shower & other has walk-in shower. New toilets in each bathroom. Need to park motor home, extra cars, toys building w/large garage door. MLS#248578 Large cement Parking for RV, Boat, Motorhome, etc. on extra lot behind house on different road for easy access, with electric. New Kitchen, tile floors, walk-in shower, large screened patio **\$155,000**

Contact Clarence (C.B.) Brewer: 863-441-5617



**2112 CORAL KEY CT, SEBRING**

In sought after Pine Key Villas gated community. Move-in ready w/free living of open floor plan. 2BR, 2BA, 1CG kitchen w/breakfast bar & pantry. A/C 4yrs new. A must See! MLS 261916 **\$137,112**

Contact Beth Linn Mackes: 863-446-1149



COMMERCIAL

**702 US 27 S, LAKE PLACID**

Sale or Lease (5 yr lease may be approved) this 2408 Sq Ft ideal location in Lake Placid. Previously used as restaurant. US HWY 27 Frontage w/46 parking spaces. MLS#249742 **\$565,000**

Contact Nancy May: -863-852-6687



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anitazahn@gmail.com  
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**ANDREA CRANMER:**  
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Contact: Anita Zahn: 863-840-1420



REDUCED

**6315 COLUMBUS BLVD, SEBRING**

Beautiful 3BR, 3BA, 2 CG w/ separate golf cart garage on half an acre. New roof and AC in 2018. Home offers open floor plan w/large Master suite, walk in closets, LR, DR & open kitchen perfect for entertaining family & friends. Detached 24x24 Detached garage equipped w/electric & water. MLS# 260497 **\$219,900**

Contact: Andrea Cranmer: 863-451-6400



37+ ACRES

**659 MOON RANCH ROAD, SEBRING**

Beautiful property w/rolling hills, spring fed pond & creek. Secluded but close to Sebring. White tail deer, turkey, wild hogs, bear & other wildlife abound in this area. Outstanding property for your dream home, ranch, weekend getaway, or camping. Great for horses, cattle and other agriculture interest. Something special MLS 262220 **\$289,900**

Contact: Mark Lambert: 863-832-0401



**3823 LEEWAY COURT, SEBRING**

3BR, 2BA, 2CG, It has all tile floors, formal living room, family room, in a very nice quiet area. MLS#249308 **\$1400/mo.**

Contact: Dana Olson: 863-451-1775



**4275 STURGEON DRIVE, SEBRING**

4BR, 2BA+ den w/open floor plan, tile throughout, vaulted ceilings. Split floor plan has spacious LR & kitchen for entertaining, large enough for a family to spend lots of great times together here. Family rm leads to back patio & yard. Over sized garage gives extra room for storage and projects. Den is being used as a bedroom. MLS#260586 **\$199,900**

Contact: Anita Zahn: 863-840-1420



**128 SIRENA DR, LAKE PLACID**

5BRM 3BA on 85' frontage! Expert Craftsmanship is evident the moment you walk in. NEW ROOF & Water Conditioning System. Luxurious amenities, crown molding, plantation shutters, beautiful brick fireplace & more. Ceilings in LR w/hand crafted wood beams. Large 2BR, 1BA apt w/kit, LR & private entrance. Perfect for guests, teenagers or mother-in-law. MLS#260340 **\$449,000**

Contact: Andrea Cranmer: 863-451-6400



1.12 ACRE

**459 BEASLEY LANE, SEBRING**

Wooded home site or recreational. Deer, turkey and wild hogs frequent this area. Zoned Agricultural. Property is on Grand Concourse Rd. Current address is from a old side street never used. Joins parcel address 3010 Grand Course Rd. Sebring FL. 33870 on the east side. MLS 262153 **\$10,000**

Contact: Mark Lambert: 863-832-0401



**117 COUNTRY CLUB DR, #202, LAKE PLACID**

Water view, 2BR 2BA condo. Partly furnished; great for a single person or a couple. New dishwasher. This property has a restriction of no one under 18. MLS#249306 **\$1050/Mo.**

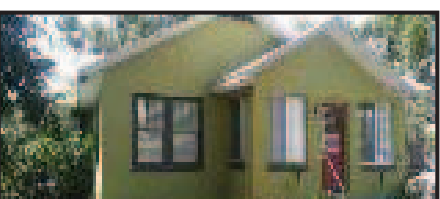
Contact: Dana Olson: 863-451-1775



**620 MEMORIAL AVE, SEBRING**

Sebring Lake front home! 2 bedroom w/ den or sitting room, 2 bath, 1 car garage, 1598 under air. Newly installed tile throughout, New kitchen, New Lanai, New roof, Newer AC. Great yard. **\$233,900**

Contact: Anita Zahn: 863-840-1420



**523 ROSE AVE, SEBRING**

Imagine 3BR, 1.5BA located in Down Town Sebring such a Unique property which boasts Old world charm! So many possibilities surround this property such as R3P zoning. Excellent use as professional offices, residential or income property. Ideal location close to the Highlands County Court House and the Sheriffs Dept. Great Curb appeal. MLS#249622 **\$82,000**

Contact: Andrea Cranmer: 863-451-6400



49+ ACRES!

**3105 N SEDGWICK RD, PARK**

Great location for residential development, farming or agricultural interest. Road frontage on north, east and south sides. Property joins residential area. Cleared with Bahia grass. Currently used for cattle with pens and watering hole. Property located in NW corner of Highlands County. Appointment only to enter. MLS 249231 **\$370,500**

Contact: Mark Lambert: 863-832-0401



DEANN ESTATES

**502 CHELSEE WAY, LAKE PLACID**

This resort style 3BR, 2BA is located right off US 27. Community pool, club house & lake views!!! Lanai has been closed in & opened to living room for even more space. Master has a wall of built ins. Full size stack washer and dryer included. You will want to check this ONE out!!! MLS#243591 **\$1100/mo.**

Contact: Dana Olson: 863-451-1775



# How do we make sure animals in no-pet community really are for emotional support?

By GARY M. SINGER  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Question: I live in a 55+ community that does not allow pets. Now there are many dogs in the community claiming to be emotional support animals. Can we put a stop to this? — Debbie

Question: In our no-pet community, the folks with ESA dogs allow them to run wild, using the whole property as their toilet. I get that we have to allow them their ESAs, but don't they have to follow the rules still? — B.

Answer: The rules that govern an emotional support animal, or "ESA," are different from those for service animals. Service animals, such as those that assist the visually impaired, are specially trained and governed by certain disabilities laws, such as the Americans with Disabilities Act, or "ADA," as well as housing laws.

ESAs do not require any training and are not covered by the ADA. However, they are often a legitimate form of therapy and comfort

for people that need it. Unfortunately, these laws are sometimes abused by unscrupulous people. Many websites sell "ESA kits" to certify that a pet is a needed ESA. One Florida attorney even got a cartoon pet certified as an ESA on behalf of a very famous mouse living in Orlando.

Because this is such a touchy subject and most people want to help those in need, many community associations have been reluctant even to question anyone who wants an animal in an otherwise no-pet community. Recently, because of some abuse, more and more communities are pushing back.

Associations are required to make reasonable accommodations for those in need of assistance. This does not mean "any" accommodation, and associations are allowed to verify that the ESA is needed and to put reasonable restrictions and rules regarding ESAs. Reasonableness is key for both the association and the person seeking the

accommodation. The association cannot question an actual doctor's judgment, nor can an owner allow their ESA to run wild. Reasonable rules can be put in place restricting where dogs can be walked and requiring owners to clean up after. Violators can accrue fines and other enforcement per the community's rules.

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



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**REDUCED!!**  
Stunning 3BR, 2BA w/ new metal roof, dock & screen enclosure. Lot next door included in sale. Kitchen w/SS Appliances, pantry w/pull-out shelving. LR, FR, Mst Bed all with French doors to pool. So much to see!  
**\$414,800**



**4540 VANTAGE CIR. SEBRING, FL.**  
Move in Ready Home in Vantage Point, 2BR, 2BA, W/den or 3RD, 2CG, laundry room, & screen liana. Home offers many upgrades, was built in 2008 has 2136 total sq. ft. a split floor plan. Great location with no homes behind, just woods. Community club house, heated pool, two small pets and low ASSOC Fee \$225 Quarterly.  
**\$168,900**



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[rport@bhhsflpg.com](mailto:rport@bhhsflpg.com)



**COUNTRY CLUB OF SEBRING**  
Lovely 2BR, 2.5BA, Open concept including large kitchen w/ SS Appliances, dining area into living room. Back wall of French doors! Bonus area off MBR, BA has separate shower & jetted tub. So much to see!  
**\$181,700**



**PLACID LAKES**  
2BR, 2BA on corner lot. All NEW flooring, kitchen & baths. Living areas have wood-look tile flooring, kitchen open to dining area, and back screen porch overlooks large backyard. Easy to show and ready for new owners.  
**\$134,000**



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- 3/2/2
- New roof
- City water & sewer
- Convenient location
- All weather porch

OFFERED AT... **\$158,000**



- 2/2/1
- Great Investment
- Newer Roof
- Just Painted Exterior
- Sun N Lake Sebring

OFFERED AT... **\$99,000**



- 2/2/2 Plus Bonus Office
- 5 Nicely Wooded Acres
- Fireplace
- Whole House Generator
- Jacuzzi

OFFERED AT... **\$250,000**



- 3/2/2
- New Roof This Month
- Super Location
- City Water & Sewer
- New waterproof vinyl plank flooring

OFFERED AT... **\$167,900**



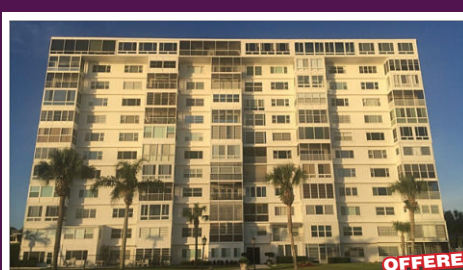
- 2/2/2
- Country Club of Sebring
- Like New Inside
- Loads Of Upgrades
- New flooring, extended
- Screen enclosed lanai
- Luxury bathroom

OFFERED AT... **\$187,500**



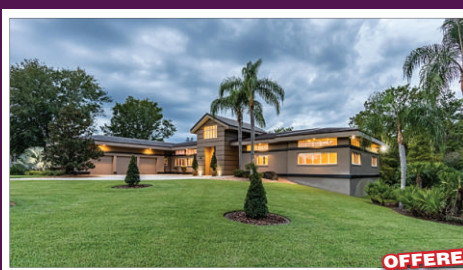
- 2/2/2
- Lake Jackson Access
- New Gourmet Kitchen
- Newer Roof
- Wood burning fireplace
- Fenced yard

OFFERED AT... **\$164,900**



- 2/2 Fountainhead Condo
- Fully Furnished
- Turnkey Ready
- New Windows
- Air Conditioner and More

OFFERED AT... **\$105,000**



- 4/3.5/3+
- Backs up to Hammock State Park
- Private Location
- Pool
- Country Club Of Sebring

OFFERED AT... **\$449,900**



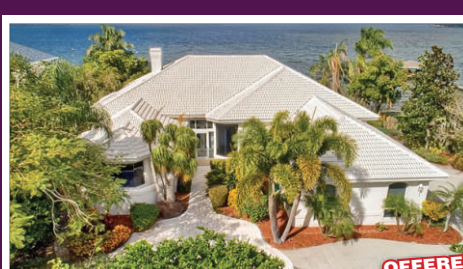
- 4/3/2+
- Pool Home
- Best Entertaining Floor Plan
- Custom Upgrades

OFFERED AT... **\$445,700**



- 4/2.5/2+
- Pool Home
- Golf Hammock
- Best entertaining floor plan
- Water views

OFFERED AT... **\$325,000**



- 3/3/3
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- Lake June
- Soaring high ceilings,
- Tile throughout,
- Storm window and more.

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**2834 PALO VERDE DR. AVON PARK**  
You'll love this gorgeous 2BR, 2BA home situated in the desirable community of Casa Del Lago. Enter your future home through a gated terrace, which is great for entertaining or just sitting and relaxing every morning as you read your paper and sip on your coffee. Enclosed back porch & awesome workshop in the garage.

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**6016 US 27 N, SEBRING**  
Location, Location, Location! This commercial property offers optimal exposure to highway traffic. Centrally located near hospitals, schools & amenities. Property offers endless possibilities! Property also has infrastructures in place, water, electric, water, sewer, phone, etc. Over 1/2 acre of commercial land on busy US 27.

## Call Your Lake Jackson Experts - TheCoolTeam.com Maureen Cool 863 873-7243 or Lisa Kneram 863 443-9276



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**LAKE JACKSON**  
1871 LAKEVIEW DR  
Coral Gables charm on Lake Jackson. 3BR, 2BA, 2CG. 4 Room Apartment. Living Room, dining room, family room & sunroom. Upgrades & Updates. Boathouse with private slip. Privacy wall. Approx. 1 acre.  
**\$599,000**



**LAKE JACKSON POOL HOME**  
2871 LAKEVIEW DR.  
Old Florida charm on the lake. 4BR, 3BA, office/den, 2CG plus 2 car carport. Remodeled kitchen with granite. New double paneled windows. Open floor plan with lake views from every room. 5 kw solar system. Dock with boathouse.  
**\$549,900**



**LAKE JACKSON**  
4201 LAKEVIEW DRIVE  
WOW...million-dollar panoramic view on Lake Jackson. 137' of lakefront. Pool, dock & boat lift. Flexible use floor plan with in-law suite. Lots of options here for this 2-4 bedroom home depending on your needs!  
**\$499,900**



**LAKE JACKSON LUXURY**  
3600 LAKEVIEW DR  
4BR, 3.5BA, 3CG. Caged Pool. Panoramic lake view. Living Room, family room, media room - approx. 5,000 square feet under air. New dock & activity deck. Screen balconies, Gourmet kitchen. Move-in ready. Loaded with upgrades.  
**\$695,000**

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**3102 SUGAR PINE CIR, SEBRING**  
Super location for this well-kept home located in Cormorant Point/Golf Hammock. Offering 2BR, 2BA & 2CG w/ Living & Family Room. Nice kitchen w/plenty of cabinet & counter space. Come & enjoy the rear enclosed air-conditioned & heated 10 x 16 porch. This home is also being sold mostly furnished. Don't let this one slip away!  
Call to see this one!  
**\$155,900**



**3134 SUGAR PINE CIR, SEBRING**  
WOW! This home has over 2200 Living sq. ft. & 2875 Total Sq. Ft! This custom built home is located in Cormorant Point & within golf cart distance to the course & club house. Features included 3BR, 2BA, & 2 Car + Golf Cart garage. Great floor plan w/open concept. Family Room w/built-in bar sink & bar refrig. Roof was replaced in 2015 & A/C replaced in 2018. Sold mostly furnished.  
**\$199,500**



**3740 LAKEVIEW DR, SEBRING**  
Waterfront Estate on Lake Jackson offers plenty charm & grace! This large home has 3BR's, 3BA's, Office, 2 Car garage, Boat house, 2 sheds and endless fun on the lake. This home is situated on almost an acre and includes gorgeous views of the lake, oversized screen porch + open porch to the rear for family get-togethers and a beautiful yard for enjoying outdoor activities. Qualified Buyers Only!  
**\$395,000**



**207 WOODLAWN AVENUE, AVON PARK**  
WOW!! Spottless & Move In Ready! Many newer features, 2BR, 2BA w/oversized garage, 15 KW whole house generator & metal roof too! Newer thermopane windows! Kitchen w/ abundant amount of cabinet & drawer space, granite counter tops. Built-in storage space throughout! Situated on corner lot w/custom painted drive, porch & sidewalk.  
**\$142,500**

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**6745 KENWOOD PL., SEBRING**  
Nice sized open split floor plan, villa is 2BR w/ a possible 3rd bedroom/bonus room, 2BA, 2CG. Beautiful area of homes, located within walking distance to the spring lake golf course.  
**\$129,000**



**302 HERON ST**  
Come swing on the front porch, enjoy the beautiful yard w/ crepe myrtles & lush landscaping. Great home for a family, 4BR, 2.5BA, w/lots of storage. Huge closets, plenty of room for everyone! Open kitchen & family room, w/vaulted ceiling. Kitchen a cook would love, many cabinets. Lanai off of kitchen to view the back. Oversized garage has bedroom & 1/2 bath under air.  
**\$165,000**



**7304 HONEYSUCKLE DR., SEBRING**  
Cute 2BR, 2BA, 1CG home, ready to move in. Perfect first home or winter home. Well maintained. Beautiful wood working done throughout. Home shows pride in ownership. Located near the spring lake golf course and lake Istokpoga for the fishermen! Come take a look!  
**\$119,900**



**100 OXBOW DR. SPRING LAKE**  
Open Split Floor Plan, 3BR 2BA, 2CG! Screened Front Entrance Welcomes you into Lvg Rm/DR, w/vaulted ceilings, Nice Sized Rooms. Kitchen A Cook Would Love, Lots Of Cabinets, Island, Breakfast Nook, 3rd BR is Also Used For A Craft Room, With More Storage & Two Murphy Beds (Twins). Come Enjoy Your Own Private Retreat On Over 1/2 Acre. Located Near The Spring Lake Golf Course  
**\$190,000**

## LIST & SELL WITH DENYELLE



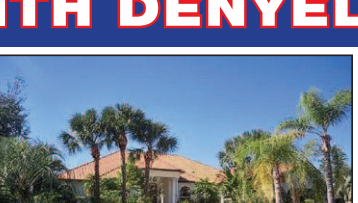
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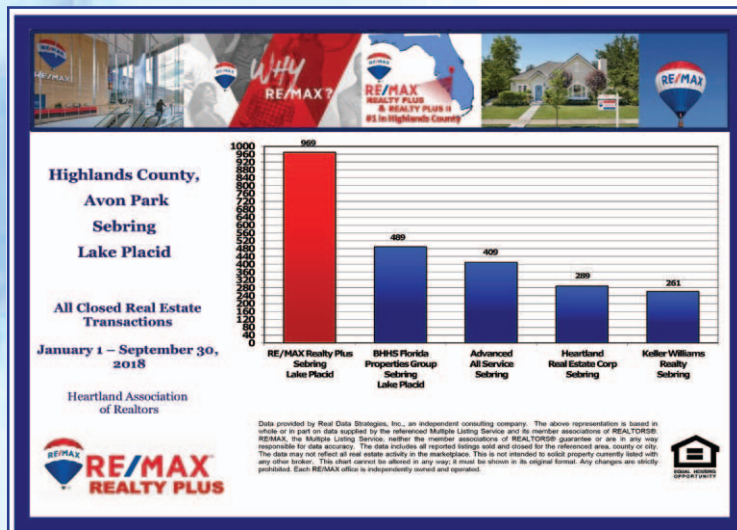


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## Familiar face in new town

Ex-Ray Jake Bauers hopes to have big year with Cleveland Indians. See the story on page 6.

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### ■ RAYS

# 0 Canada, next part-time home or native land?

Rays' principal owner wants to keep team in Tampa Bay but doesn't deny Montreal report



TAMPA BAY TIMES PHOTO

Fans walk into Tropicana Field for Fan Fest on Feb. 9. With a new stadium in Tampa Bay not on the horizon, speculation persists regarding the team's future. One recent report stated that a plan has been floated to split the Rays between Montreal and Tampa. Rays' principal owner Stuart Sternberg wouldn't deny talks involving a group looking to bring baseball back to Montreal.

By **MARC TOPKIN**  
TAMPA BAY TIMES

**PORT CHARLOTTE** — The Rays are headed across the bay to Ybor. Or they're staying in St. Petersburg. Or they're eventually moving to Portland, Vegas or Nashville. Then there's the latest rumeur chaude that they're going to split home games between the Trop and Montreal.

That's life with low attendance, a lack of sponsors and no firm plan for a new stadium to replace Tropicana Field, which, going by its 1990 opening date (as opposed to the 1998 start of Rays play), is eighth oldest in the majors.

In addressing questions about the latest time-share silliness out of Montreal, Rays principal owner Stuart Sternberg said Friday that the speculation "unfortunately" comes with territory, that if they had a new stadium in the works "this stuff

wouldn't be happening."

While reiterating his focus is getting a new stadium built to keep the team in the Tampa Bay area (and that he has "no intention" of selling all or part of it), Sternberg pointed out it's positive for the game that other cities want a team.

And, certainly, it's not the worst thing for his cause that the Rays are the ones most speculated on relocating if it can create any urgency or action among Tampa Bay folks.

Though the Rays are locked in to play all home games at the Trop through 2027, Sternberg has been saying more frequently of late that given logistics and construction timetables, they will soon have to start considering options for 2028, which will only fuel more relocation speculation in numerous places.

The Montreal sharing

RAYS | 6

# Mottola's aggressive, analytical style suits Rays

By **BEN BAUGH**  
STAFF WRITER

It's seemed as if Rays hitting coach Chad Mottola was destined for a career in sport in his home state of Florida.

The future Major League Baseball outfielder grew up in Broward County, and his predilection during the early years of his interscholastic career pointed toward the sport of football. But as fate would have it, he would be directed toward another discipline, one that found him being drafted by the Baltimore Orioles in the 10th round.

"I didn't sign, but that kind of steered me in the direction of baseball," said Mottola. "I was just kind of maturing. I was a

17-year-old high school kid."

It was that interscholastic success that saw Mottola receive interest from a number of Division I schools, eventually choosing one in his home state. He chose one in Orlando.

"I had never heard of UCF, growing up three hours away, to show you how far that's come," said Mottola, who attended St. Thomas Aquinas in Fort Lauderdale.

Mottola's hard work would begin paying dividends, excelling collegiately, eventually becoming a first round selection, going fifth overall in the 1992 Major League Baseball draft, taken by the Cincinnati Reds.

"Growth spurts came in college rather than in high school

for me, and got me on the map then," said Mottola. "I had been drafted earlier on, so I had an idea of what I wanted to do, but it came pretty fast."

However, being selected in the first round of the MLB draft was life transforming, and with it came a series of adjustments and eye-opening experiences.

"I knew it was coming, but until it happens, it kind of sinks in later in life," said Mottola.

"At the time, I didn't have an agent. My dad did everything. I don't think that's close to happening anymore. We just assumed everybody had your best interest at heart. Than you learn that this is a business, and there's another side to this



SUN PHOTO BY TOM O'NEILL

**MOTTOLA | 4** Tampa Bay Rays hitting coach Chad Mottola talks with another coach during the first official full squad workout on Monday at Charlotte Sports Park.

### ■ NFL

# Goodell has wide-ranging powers to discipline Kraft



AP PHOTO

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell, right, talks with New England Patriots owner Robert Kraft before the Patriots faced the Oakland Raiders in 2017, in Mexico City. Kraft, 77, faces a likely league probe after being charged with two counts of soliciting a prostitute in a Jupiter massage parlor.

By **BARRY WILNER**  
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell has wide-ranging powers to discipline teams, coaches, players, and, yes, owners.

Pending the completion of police investigations in Florida — and likely a league inquiry as well — Goodell could punish New England Patriots owner Robert Kraft for being charged with two misdemeanor counts of soliciting a prostitute.

The 77-year-old Kraft was twice videotaped in a sex act at a shopping-center massage parlor in Florida, police

said Friday. The charges come amid a crackdown on sex trafficking in which hundreds of arrest warrants were issued.

Goodell could fine and/or suspend Kraft from any activities involving the Super Bowl champions.

Goodell fined Kraft and the Patriots \$250,000 in 2007 for filming other teams' signals, and \$1 million in 2014 for deflating footballs during the AFC title game. The "Deflategate" case damaged Goodell's close relationship with Kraft.

Even though Goodell is employed by the owners, at a cost of about \$40 million annually in

salary and bonuses, he views the commissioner's role as one protective of the game and the league.

Indianapolis Colts owner Jim Irsay, was suspended by Goodell after he was arrested in 2014 near his home in suburban Carmel and was held overnight after he failed sobriety tests and police found prescription medications in his car.

He was charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated, along with four felony counts of possession of a controlled substance.

He pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor count of

driving while intoxicated.

Irsay drew a six-game suspension and \$500,000 fine from Goodell.

Last year, Jerry Richardson essentially was forced to sell the Carolina Panthers after allegations of his sexual and racial misconduct in the workplace. Following a six-month investigation, he was fined \$2.7 million by Goodell.

In 2012, following a long investigation into the New Orleans Saints' bounties system, Goodell fined Saints owner Tom Benson \$500,000 and stripped the team of second-round draft picks in 2012 and 2013.

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**PICK 2**

Feb. 23N	7-7
Feb. 23D	7-4
Feb. 22N	0-3
Feb. 22D	3-7
Feb. 21N	4-0
Feb. 21D	6-4

D-Day, N-Night

**PICK 3**

Feb. 23N	4-7-9
Feb. 23D	4-4-2
Feb. 22N	2-0-3
Feb. 22D	5-1-7
Feb. 21N	7-8-7
Feb. 21D	4-7-6

**PICK 4**

Feb. 23N	0-3-9-0
Feb. 23D	8-0-3-0
Feb. 22N	1-2-0-8
Feb. 22D	5-5-0-8
Feb. 21N	3-6-3-5
Feb. 21D	0-9-9-2

**PICK 5**

Feb. 23N	7-3-4-9-6
Feb. 23D	9-8-5-5-4
Feb. 22N	3-8-2-2-9
Feb. 22D	0-3-6-8-0
Feb. 21N	4-5-3-5-4
Feb. 21D	3-1-5-7-8

**FANTASY 5**

Feb. 23	Late
Feb. 22	3-25-34-35-36
Feb. 21	5-20-24-26-34

**PAYOFF FOR FEB. 22**

1 5-digit winners	\$208,309.37
309 4-digit winners	\$108.50
8,822 3-digit winners	\$10.50

**CASH FOR LIFE**

Feb. 21	3-4-34-38-39
Cash Ball	2

...

Feb. 18	1-37-39-48-54
Cash Ball	4

**PAYOFF FOR FEB. 21**

0 5-5 CB	\$1,000/Day
0 5-5	\$1,000/Week
7 4-5 CB	\$2,500
7 4-5	\$500

**JACKPOT TRIPLE PLAY**

Feb. 22	2-9-11-25-30-38
Feb. 19	7-8-18-25-43-46
Feb. 15	8-11-19-35-36-41

**PAYOFF FOR FEB. 22**

1 6-of-6	\$1,600,000
49 5-of-6	\$430.00
2,150 4-of-6	\$23.50
38,404 3-of-6	\$1

**ESTIMATED JACKPOT**  
\$500,000

**LOTTO**

Feb. 23	Late
Feb. 20	14-30-32-34-52-53
Feb. 16	2-12-16-29-43-52

**PAYOFF FOR FEB. 20**

0 6-digit winners	\$3.5 million
17 5-digit winners	\$4,958
646 4-digit winners	\$87.50

**ESTIMATED JACKPOT**  
\$4 million

**POWERBALL**

Feb. 23	Late
Powerball	Late

...

Feb. 20	27-49-50-51-52
Powerball	2

**PAYOFF FOR FEB. 20**

0 5-5 + PB	\$282 million
0 5-5	\$1 million
1 4-5 + PB	\$50,000
45 4-5	\$100

**ESTIMATED JACKPOT**  
\$304 million

**MEGA MILLIONS**

Feb. 22	18-24-31-34-55
Mega Ball	4

...

Feb. 19	17-24-34-56-65
Mega Ball	3

**PAYOFF FOR FEB. 22**

0 5 of 5 + MB	\$224 million
0 5 of 5	\$1 million
1 4 of 5 + MB	\$10,000
22 4 of 5	\$500

**ESTIMATED JACKPOT**  
\$245 million

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**CONTACT US**

**Benjamin Baugh** • Editor  
benjamin.baugh@yoursun.com or 941-206-1175

**Jacob Hoag** • Staff writer  
jacob.hoag@yoursun.com or 941-206-1122

**Email:** sports@sun-herald.com  
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**NHL: Roundup**

# Reinhart's hat trick snaps four-game skid, leads Sabres to 5-2 victory over Capitals

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — Sam Reinhart scored three goals and the Buffalo Sabres snapped a four-game skid with a 5-2 victory over the

**SPORTS ON TV**

<b>AAF FOOTBALL</b> 4 p.m. CBSN — Birmingham at Atlanta
8 p.m. NFL — San Antonio at San Diego
<b>AUTO RACING</b> 2 p.m. FOX — NASCAR Monster Energy Cup Series: The Fold of Honor QuikTrip 500, Atlanta, Ga.
<b>BOBSLEDDING/SKELETON</b> 12:30 a.m. (Monday) NBCSN — IBSF World Cup: four-man bobsled, Calgary (taped)
<b>BOWLING</b> 3 p.m. FS1 — PBA Bowling: Indianapolis Open, Indianapolis, Ind.
<b>MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL</b> 12 p.m. CBSN — SMU at Central Florida
1:30 p.m. CBS — Villanova at Xavier
2 p.m. CBSN — Drake at Illinois State ESPN — Cincinnati at UConn
3:45 p.m. CBS — Michigan State at Michigan
4 p.m. ESPNU — Loyola-Chicago at Southern Illinois
6 p.m. ESPNU — Wake Forest at North Carolina State
8 p.m. ESPNU — Stanford at Arizona
<b>WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL</b> 12 p.m. ESPN2 — Florida State at Miami ESPN — North Carolina State at North Carolina
2 p.m. ESPN2 — Michigan at Michigan State
ESPNU — Houston at Memphis FS2 — St. John's at Georgetown SEC — Vanderbilt at Mississippi State
4 p.m. BTN — Penn State at Illinois ESPN2 — South Carolina at Tennessee
6 p.m. SEC — Georgia at Alabama
6:30 p.m. BTN — Minnesota at Rutgers
<b>WOMEN'S COLLEGE LACROSSE</b> 12 p.m. BTN — North Carolina at Maryland
<b>MEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL</b> 2 p.m. BTN — Loyola-Chicago at Ohio State
<b>GOLF</b> 12 p.m. GOLF — PGA Tour Golf: WGC-Mexico Championship, final round, Mexico City
1:30 p.m. GOLF — PGA Tour Golf: Puerto Rico Open, final round, Rio Grande NBC — PGA Tour Golf: WGC-Mexico Championship, final round, Mexico City
<b>NBA G LEAGUE BASKETBALL</b> 2 p.m. NBA — Sioux Falls Skyforce vs. Raptors 905
<b>NBA BASKETBALL</b> 5 p.m. NBA — LA Clippers at Denver
7:30 p.m. NBA — San Antonio at New York
<b>NHL HOCKEY</b> 12:30 p.m. NHL — NY Rangers at Washington
7 p.m. NBCSN — St. Louis at Minnesota
<b>RODEO</b> 12 p.m. CBS — PBR Bull Riding: Iron Cowboy, Los Angeles, Calif.
<b>RUGBY</b> 12 p.m. ESPNEWS — Pro14: Cheetas vs. Scarlets NBCSN — Six Nations Championship: round 3, Italy vs. Ireland
2 p.m. NBCSN — Premiership: Leicester vs. Worcester
7 p.m. CBSN — Major League Rugby: United New York vs. Seawolves de Seattle
<b>SOCCER</b> 6:25 a.m. ESPN2 — Serie A: Sampdoria vs. Cagliari
9 a.m. NBCSN — Premier League: Manchester United vs. Liverpool
9:30 a.m. FS1 — Bundesliga: Hannover 96 vs. Eintracht Frankfurt
11:50 a.m. FS2 — Bundesliga: Bayer Leverkusen at Borussia Dortmund
<b>SKIING</b> 10:30 p.m. NBCSN — FIS Alpine World Cup, women's combined, Switzerland (taped)
11:30 p.m. NBCSN — FIS World Nordic Championships: cross country women's team sprint finals, Austria (taped)
<b>TRACK AND FIELD</b> 4 p.m. NBCSN — U.S. Indoor Championships: Day 3, Staten Island, N.Y.

Washington Capitals on Saturday.

Jack Eichel had two assists in picking up his 66th point — two more than the fourth-year player's career high set last season. Rookie Rasmus Dahlin and Jason Pominville also scored in a game in which the Sabres never trailed.

Carter Hutton stopped 31 shots, and Buffalo snapped a 0-3-1 skid while topping the three-goal mark for the first time in eight games, dating to a 6-5 overtime loss to Carolina on Feb. 7.

The Sabres avoided a major scare when leading scorer Jeff Skinner was helped off the ice five minutes into the second period and was unable to place any weight on his left leg. Skinner, however, returned for the start of the third period.

Alex Ovechkin scored his league-leading 44th goal for the Capitals, while extending his goal streak to five games. Andre Burakovsky also scored for Washington, which squandered a chance to win three straight for the first time since Jan. 6-10.

Braden Holtby stopped 33 shots in dropping to 6-8-2 in his past 18 appearances. Holtby has allowed 59 goals over that span and has failed to win consecutive starts.

The Sabres showed no signs of being the team that coach Phil Housley described as "soft" a week earlier when they closed a seven-game homestand with a 6-2 loss to the New York Rangers.

Buffalo jumped to a 2-0 lead in the first period. The Capitals cut the lead to one in the second period before Reinhart capped the third hat-trick of his career by scoring into an empty net with 56 seconds left.

Ovechkin had cut the Sabres' lead to 2-1 in the second by scoring on a breakaway 2:28 into the frame.

Dahlin responded with a power-play goal with 31 seconds remaining in the period, and Nic Dowd serving a tripping penalty for upending Buffalo's Nathan Beaulieu in the corner.

Rasmus Ristolainen started the play by feeding Eichel in the left circle. Eichel then immediately fed the puck through the middle to an open Dahlin, who one-timed a shot inside the right post before Holtby could get across.

Buffalo had another response in the third period after Washington's Burakovsky tipped in Christian Djoos' point shot 4:16 into the frame.

Reinhart scored 1:23 later by deflecting in Matt Hunwick's shot from the blue line.

**Panthers 6, Kings 1**

Aleksander Barkov and Keith Yandle scored on the power play and Florida had three goals in the second period on the way to a 6-1 victory over the Los Angeles Kings on Saturday.

Jonathan Huberdeau, Vincent Trocheck, Jamie McGinn and Ian McCoshen also scored, and Barkov, Huberdeau and Yandle added assists for the Panthers, who have won four of five and are 10-5-0 in their last 15.

Florida's Roberto Luongo stopped 18 shots and tied Ed Belfour for third place in career wins among goaltenders with 484.

Dustin Brown scored for the Kings, who dropped their seventh straight. Jonathan Quick stopped 17 of 23 shots before being lifted in the third period. Jack Campbell made two saves in relief.

Huberdeau broke a 1-all tie in the first period. He stepped out of the penalty box and collected an errant Kings slap shot that wrapped around the boards. Huberdeau then skated in on Quick and scored his 17th goal of the season at 13:33.

Barkov netted his 25th goal at 18:16 for a 3-1 lead during a 5-on-3 power play after the Kings' Derek Forbort and Oscar Fantenberg went off for penalties.

Yandle pushed the lead to 4-1 when he scored the second man-advantage goal, his ninth, at 19:22, through plenty of traffic in front of Quick.

Trocheck skated into the left circle in the second period, took a pass from Evgenii Dadonov and scored his sixth goal, and first Jan. 21 at 11:56 of the first.

Brown tied it at 1 when he stole a pass just outside the blue line, raced in on Luongo and scored his 13th goal at 13:59.

Brown, who ended a run of 12 games without a goal, nearly scored his second to give Los Angeles its first lead on a short-handed breakaway in the period's last

minute, but Luongo denied him.

McGinn and McCoshen scored their first goals of the season in the third period — McGinn at 6:14, McCoshen 28 seconds later — for the final margin.

**Rangers 5, Devils 2**

Ryan Strome had two goals, Chris Kreider and Jimmy Vesey each had a goal and an assist, and the New York Rangers beat the New Jersey Devils 5-2 on Saturday.

Brady Skjei also scored. Mika Zibanejad and Pavel Buchnevich each had two assists and Alexandar Georgiev made 19 saves for the Rangers.

Andy Greene and Kenny Agostino scored and Cory Schneider had 29 saves for the Devils.

Both teams sat key players with the league's trade deadline two days away. The Devils traded defenseman Ben Lovejoy to Dallas for defenseman Connor Carrick and a third-round pick earlier in the day and also kept out forward Marcus Johansson.

The Rangers sat forwards Mats Zuccarello and Kevin Hayes as well as defenseman Adam McQuaid.

Trailing 3-0 in the third period, the Devils scored when Agostino got his third of the season at 2:20. He took advantage of a turnover in the Rangers' zone to score his first goal with the Devils.

The Rangers answered as defenseman Brady Skjei sent a one-timer past Schneider for his fourth of the season. The score withstood a video review for goalie interference.

The Devils rallied again as Greene took a pass from Kyle Palmieri and wristed it past Georgiev for his fourth of the season at 12:59.

Strome added an empty-netter in the final minute for his second of the game to clinch the win.

Early on, the Rangers dominated the matchup between the area rivals and playoff also-rans in the Eastern Conference. They opened the scoring with two goals early in the first period.

Vesey scored his 14th of the season off a scramble in front of the net at 4:48 just as a Devils penalty expired. A few minutes later and with a Devils power play about to end, Vladislav Namestnikov

drew a tripping penalty on Drew Stafford to give the Rangers another man advantage. And they took advantage.

With the power play nearly over, Kreider sent a no-look pass to Strome, who scored his ninth of the season. Buchnevich assisted on both of the goals.

The Rangers kept up the pressure and made it 3-0. Kreider scored on another scramble in front of the Devils' net for his 25th of the season. The Rangers outshot the Devils 15-4 in the period.

**Blue Jackets 4, Sharks 0**

Sergei Bobrovsky recorded his second shutout in two nights, Matt Duchene scored his first goal for his new team and the Columbus Blue Jackets beat the San Jose Sharks 4-0 on Saturday.

Bobrovsky had 26 saves and got shutouts in both games of a back-to-back for the first time in his career. He was in the net when the Blue Jackets beat Ottawa 3-0 on Friday night, hours after the Senators traded Duchene to Columbus.

Duchene, making his home debut after being dealt for a pair of top prospects and draft picks, tapped in a loose puck after a rebound early in the second period to put the Blue Jackets up 2-0.

Cam Atkinson had a goal and an assist, and Boone Jenner and Pierre-Luc Dubois also scored for the Blue Jackets, who have won seven of their last 10. They started the day in third place in the Metropolitan Division.

Martin Jones had 19 saves for the Sharks before being replaced by Aaron Dell halfway through the third period after Columbus scored for the fourth time. Dell had three more stops.

San Jose is in second place behind Calgary in the Pacific Division.

A charging Jenner collected a great centering pass from Josh Anderson and finished from the slot to get the Blue Jackets on the board nine minutes into the game.

Duchene tallied 59 seconds into the second period. Late in the period, with San Jose's Micheal Haley in the penalty box for interference, Atkinson poked in a puck that got loose behind Jones, snapping a six-game power-play drought.



Florida Panthers defenseman Mark Pysyk (right) and Los Angeles Kings right wing Dustin Brown battle for control of the puck during the second period on Saturday in Sunrise. Brown scored the lone goal for the Kings in the 6-1 loss, their seventh straight.

AP PHOTO

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■ HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING: Class 2A-District 10 Championship

# Charlotte dominates field to take district title

By **SCOTT LOCKWOOD**  
SUN CORRESPONDENT

VENICE – Outside of winning another district championship, the Charlotte Tarpons wrestling team had one big goal at Saturday's Class 2A-District 10 tournament: qualify all 14 of their wrestlers for the upcoming regional tournament.

They met that goal with relative ease.

The Tarpons had 11 wrestlers win individual district titles, and the other three starters qualified by placing in the top four in the annual meet at Venice High School. Charlotte also claimed the district title, outscoring runner-up Venice 275-153.

Charlotte freshman Andrew Austin opened up the finals on a winning note, defeating Venice junior Lauren Stone on a technical fall in the 106-pound final. Stone, who won her third straight girls wrestling state championship last weekend and qualified for the boys state finals a year ago, also earned a regional berth.

Defending state champion Donovan Cataldi (120-pound class), Malachi Schaeffer (126), Ted Gjerde (132), Richard Lawyer (138), Cody Rice (145), Cade Newton (182), Anthony Andou (195) and Lucas Willis – another former state champion – won the 152-pound title and claimed his 200th career victory.

The 170-pound tilt between Charlotte's Sean Taft and Palmetto's Matt Wyatt was one of the day's best. The duo squared off to a scoreless draw in the

first two rounds before Taft scored 7 quick points in the final minute to earn a 7-2 win.

"He's a first-year kid and he's come a long way this year," Charlotte coach Evan Robinson said.

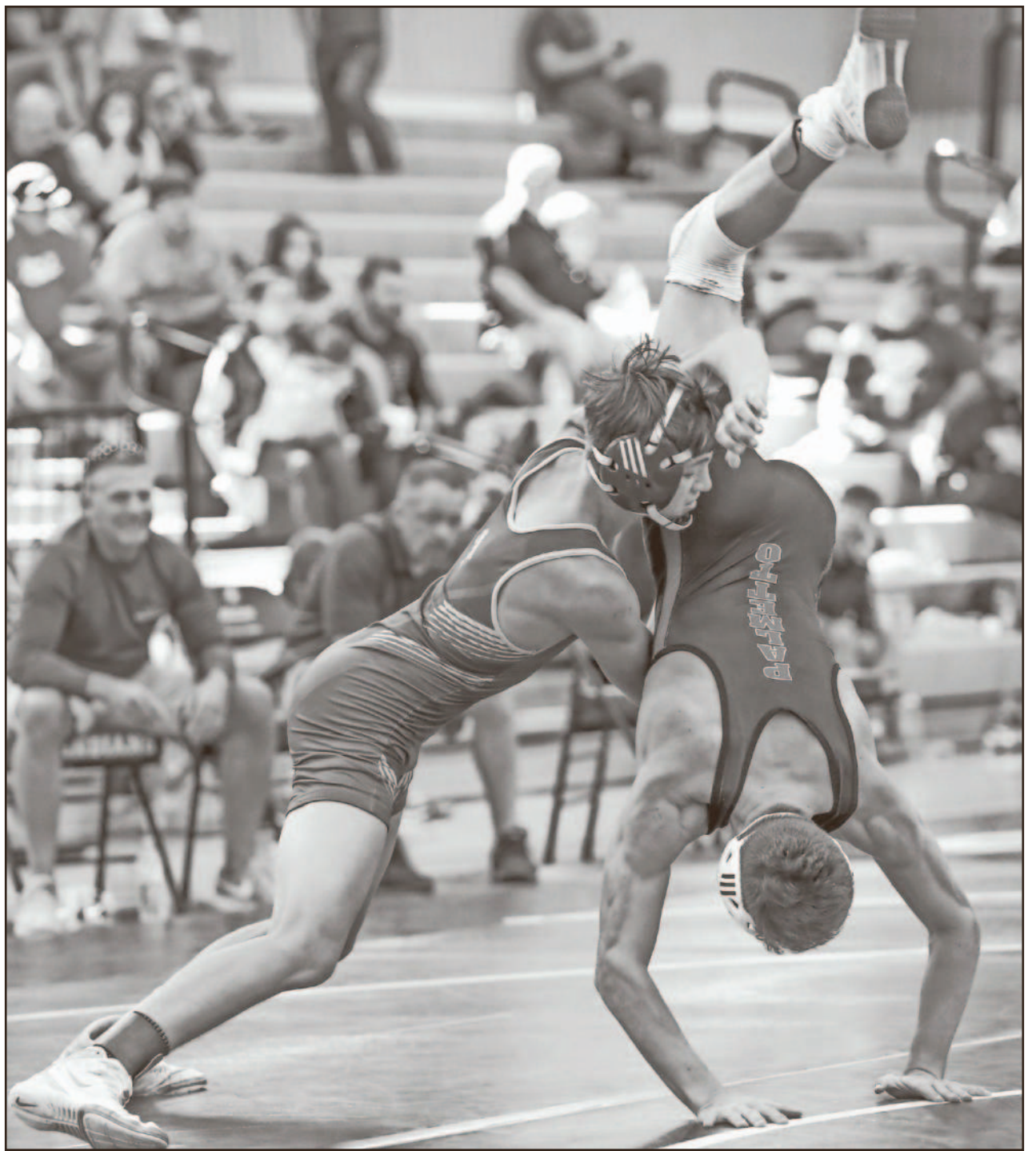
Charlotte's Jose Valdez and Venice's Jack Marble staged an epic battle for the 220-pound title. Marble kept things close for most of the match until Valdez took him to the mat and came away with a pin. The Charlotte senior improved to 46-1 on the season.

"The sky is the limit and Jose has his sights set on a state title," Robinson said of Valdez, a state runner-up a year ago. "He's working hard and hopefully he can get to that goal. He's a hungry kid and he fights for every moment."

Patrick Nolan (113), Matthew Andou (160) and Taylor Johnson (285) also earned regional berths for the Tarpons, who will host a Class 2A regional tournament next Saturday at the Wally Keller Gym.

"Everybody pretty much did their job," Robinson said. "You couldn't ask for more. With 14 guys next week that's a lot of points we can score. Hopefully we don't leave many on the table...and that our home field advantage pays off."

Jack Stone won the 113-pound title for Venice, while Tyler Conway (138), Eric Beck (120), Josh Stewart (160), Elijah Day (170) and Will Litzler (182) qualified for the regional.



SUN PHOTO BY JUSTIN FENNEL

Charlotte's Donovan Cataldi takes Palmetto's Colby Smith to the mat during Saturday's Class 2A-District 10 wrestling tournament at Venice High School. Cataldi went on to win the 120-pound district title over Smith via pinfall and improved to 42-4 for the season.

"We competed really well," Venice coach Pat Ryan said. "In tournaments like this there's people that wrestle at and above expectations...and unfortunately there's times where kids wrestle below expectations. The key is to punch your ticket to next week, where everybody is 0-0 again."

Port Charlotte's Nick Sloane (126), Okten Logue (220) and Anthony Mandile (runner-up in 285) qualified for Saturday's regional tournament. The Pirates finished sixth in team points with 30.

■ HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING: Class 1A-District 12 Championship

# Mantas capture district title, send 12 to regionals

By **BEN BAUGH**  
STAFF WRITER

The Lemon Bay Manta Rays wrestling team sent an authoritative message Saturday afternoon, by dominating the competition in District 12, and in the process sending 12 wrestlers to regionals.

Their definitive victory in the District 12 tournament, saw them better runner-up Immokalee by a margin of 216.5 to 110.5, and with the victory cementing their status as one of the area's premier teams.

"We have a core group of guys who we figured would do well, and they have," said Mike Schyck, Lemon Bay wrestling coach.

"I have a few other young kids who came out this year, and have steadily improved. Louis Baldor just keeps getting better."

The seven Mantas that captured district honors were Bryce Taranto, Eric Dagg, Derick Dagg, Lance Schyck, Tyson Davids, Louis Baldor and Brock LaVallee. Luke Heffner and Marshall Locke advance to the regionals based on their runner-up performances.

Jonathon Hartsikov, Shae Dixon and Kyle Dragon placed third and will be moving on.

Imagine School at North Port also took part in the district tournament and has seven wrestlers moving onto regionals this Friday and Saturday.

The Sharks continued to evolve throughout the season, and their persistence and hard work paid off, with a strong performance when it counted most.

"It's been a fantastic season watching these boys grow into the sport," said Tyler Crane, Imagine High School at North Port wrestling coach.

"I've focused a lot of energy into building a team. We lost a lot of kids last season. Some graduates and a few transfers when Coach McCabe left," Crane said.

"But we were able to take a group of 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th graders, who were led by two seniors, and put together a season and build our team."

Fr. Caleb McRae, 106-pound division, second place; eighth-grader Koen Hoffman, 126-pounds, second place; Sr. Jonathan Thornhill, fourth place; eighth-grader Tyler Rodriguez, 138-pounds, third place; eight-grader Nick At, a two-time regional qualifier, 145-pounds, third place; Fr. Aksel Johnson, 170-pounds, third place and Sr. Nick Berhalter, 195-pounds, third place, are advancing to regionals.

"We will be carrying this momentum into the post season, and more importantly the off-season," said Crane.

"We're hungry, the season isn't over yet, and we're excited for the next."



SUN PHOTO BY TIM KERN

Kyle Dragon tries to make his move on a tough Dunbar opponent in the Class 1A-District 12 championships on Saturday.

## LOCAL PREP BRIEFS

### BASEBALL

**Snowbird Baseball Classic**  
The Northeastern Howlin' Huskies defeated the South Dakota State Jackrabbits, 12-9.

### SOFTBALL

The North Port Lady Bobcats defeated the Island Coast Gators Friday night, 17-0. The game was mercy ruled after three innings. The Lady Bobcats raised their record to 3-0.

## PREP SPORTS CALENDAR

### SUNDAY

■ **Baseball**  
RAYS: Yankees at Rays, 1:05 p.m.  
**Snowbird Baseball Classic**  
South Dakota State vs. Northeastern, North County Recreation Park, 10 a.m.

### MONDAY

■ **Baseball**  
RAYS: Miami at Rays, 1:05 p.m.  
Port Charlotte at Charlotte, Season opener, 7 p.m.  
■ **Tennis**  
Charlotte Boys and Girls Tennis vs. Ida Baker, Home, 3 p.m.



## WORLD GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

# Johnson overcomes tree trouble for four-shot lead

By **DOUG FERGUSON**  
AP GOLF WRITER

MEXICO CITY — Dustin Johnson watched a six-shot lead shrink to two before putting together enough birdies Saturday for a 5-under 66 and a four-shot lead over Rory McIlroy going into the final round of the Mexico Championship.

Johnson nearly threw away his six-shot lead through eight holes when McIlroy made a 35-foot birdie putt on No. 9, and then Johnson ran into some serious tree trouble on the 10th hole. He hit trees with three consecutive shots and had to two-putt from across the green to salvage a double bogey.

It was his first score worse than par at Chapultepec Golf Club this week.

And it was his last of the day.

"I didn't let it bother me because I knew I was playing well and there were plenty of holes I could make birdie," Johnson said.

Johnson answered with two straight birdies, sandwiched two birdies around a big par save, and restored a cushion going into Sunday. McIlroy got no closer than two shots all day and had to settle for a 68.

No one else was closer than seven shots of the lead.

Tiger Woods pulled within four shots after Johnson's blunder, but his hopes ended on the

greens.

Woods had a 5-iron from the middle of the fairway on the par-5 15th, put it into a bunker, blasted out weakly to 25 feet and four-putted for a double bogey, with the last three putts from just outside 3 feet.

He followed that with a three-putt bogey on the 16th, and a birdie on the final hole gave him a 70. Woods, who hit 16 greens in regulation, was 10 shots behind and in no mood to speak to anyone after the round.

Johnson, the only player to capture all four World Golf Championships, is going for his sixth WGC title and his 20th career victory on the PGA Tour, which would make him a lifetime member at age 34.

McIlroy did his best to hang around. He made back-to-back bogeys on the front nine that put him six behind, and then ran off three straight birdies to close the gap. He missed a 3-foot par putt on the 14th hole and was suddenly left a tall order for Sunday.

It's even tougher on everyone else.

Masters champion Patrick Reed finished with three straight birdies for a 64 and was in the group seven shots behind with Patrick Cantlay (65), Sergio Garcia (69) and Cameron Smith (68).

Reed started birdie-eagle and missed plenty of short putts. He said he would need as many opportunities on Sunday



AP PHOTO

**Dustin Johnson hits the ball on the third hole during the third round of the WGC-Mexico Championship at the Chapultepec Golf Club in Mexico City. Johnson has a four-shot lead over Rory McIlroy going into the final round on Sunday.**

and even a better score.

"It's going to take a really special day tomorrow," Reed said.

"I don't think 7 under is going to get it done. I'm thinking it's going to at least take 10 (under) to maybe even a 59 depending on how he finishes the day."

Johnson had a two-shot lead to start the third round over McIlroy and Matt Kuchar, whose hopes for a Mexican

sweep of PGA Tour events fizzled with a 79. Johnson seized command on the second hole, when he hit a driver over the trees

on the 367-yard hole, hopped it onto the green to 4 feet and made the putt for eagle.

He holed a 10-foot birdie on No. 5 and kept getting looks at medium-range birdie attempts without making them.

The 10th hole was merely a detour.

Johnson hit driver off the tee into the trees and had a reasonable gap through the trees. But his lob wedge came out high, hit a tree and bounced into the bushes. Johnson was able to get a free drop from a sprinkler line, but that did him no good. His

next shot came out soft and struck a tree trunk, rolling into the bushes. He did well to punch that away from the bunker and onto the far left side of the green.

McIlroy smashed his drive and flipped a wedge into short range for birdie, making it a two-shot swing.

That was as close as anyone came to Johnson, who looks poised to win for the second time in four weeks after his victory at the Saudi International.

Then again, Johnson had a six-shot lead in

the HSBC Champions in Shanghai at the end of 2017 and wound up tying a PGA Tour record for largest 54-hole lead lost in the final round. He has a 4-3 record on the PGA Tour when he has the lead.

"D.J. is playing very well. He seems to be comfortable on this golf course. He's going to be very tough to beat," McIlroy said.

"Tomorrow I'm going to have to go out there and probably shoot something similar to what I shot the first day (63) to have a chance."

## NHL

# Only history's best are ahead of the Lightning

By **JOHN ROMANO**  
TAMPA BAY TIMES

TAMPA — They are architects of history. They built teams, and they built legacies.

One is a Hall of Fame coach, the other a Hall of Fame executive. They were rivals for parts of two decades, and partners for parts of two others. Combined, they have 21 Stanley Cups on their resumes.

And for the past four months Scotty Bowman and Jimmy Devellano have been watching, sometimes together, as the Lightning has shredded the league and flirted with the NHL record of 62 victories.

Their NHL record of 62 victories.

Only two teams have ever eclipsed the 60-win mark, the 1977 Canadiens (60) and the 1996 Red Wings (62). Devellano

was the general manager for that Detroit team, and Bowman coached them both.

So what is their assessment of Tampa Bay?

The Lightning could skate with either team. "I'd like to see the Lightning play that Detroit team," said Devellano. "They're very similar. All kinds of talent, goals coming from different places, a stud on defense, a good goaltender. Oh yeah, the Lightning could have played with Detroit."

"Most teams you can look at and say they need better goaltending or better this or better that," Bowman said. "You don't say that with these guys. They're deep, they're very good. Very impressive."

Bowman, 85, and Devellano, 76, know this first-hand. Both retired in the Sarasota area, and both are frequent

spectators at Amalie Arena.

They agree that, in some ways, what the Lightning has done in 2018-19 is already as remarkable as their Montreal and Detroit teams in the 1970s and 1990s. There is one champion every year, but truly great teams have been harder to come by in the salary cap era.

Building a stellar roster today requires sharp accountants as well as dedicated scouts. Even if the Lightning falls short of 62 wins or 130 points — and Tampa Bay is on pace for both — it will still likely be the most dominant regular season since the cap was instituted 15 years ago.

In that sense, the Lightning is a bit different from the Canadiens and Red Wings. Those teams were part of legitimate dynasties, built during a

time when it was easier to keep a roster intact.

That '77 Montreal team was in the middle of a seven-year stretch with five Stanley Cup titles. The '96 Red Wings lost in the Western Conference finals, but went on to win three of the next six Stanley Cups.

The Lightning may not have that luxury. Winning the Presidents' Trophy for the best regular season record is a grand accomplishment, but the window for a Stanley Cup will not stay open long.

"The Presidents' Trophy is a wonderful thing. I give it more credit than fans and media do," Devellano said.

"But our sport isn't geared that way. The big thing is the Stanley Cup, and that's the way it is. We learned that lesson in Detroit. That's a lesson the Lightning needs to pay attention to."

Tampa Bay will not likely match either Montreal or Detroit for sheer star power. The Canadiens had nine Hall of Famers on that '77 team, not including Bowman. The Red Wings had seven, plus Bowman.

Montreal also dominated the league in ridiculous ways. The Canadiens outscored their opponents by 216 goals, or an average of 2.7 goals a game.

While those numbers were particularly gaudy, Bowman says its an example of the Lightning having a tougher schedule in a league now geared for parity.

"I don't remember a lot of teams that were ever expected to give us a challenge," Bowman said.

"What the Lightning is doing is hard. I know it's a little easier to score now, but not at the rate they're scoring. They

can get 3 or 4 goals in a period. They've done a nice job adding young guys like (Brayden) Point, (Mathieu) Joseph, (Anthony) Cirelli and Yanni Gourde with (Steven) Stamkos and (Nikita) Kucherov and (Tyler) Johnson. There's not much difference from one line to the next."

So can Lightning players do it? Can they match Detroit's 62 wins? Can they join the Canadiens and Red Wings as the NHL's only 60-game winners?

"They're so far ahead, I don't even check the standings," Devellano said. "What do they need to do?"

It would take a 15-5 finish to catch the Red Wings, or 13-7 to reach 60 wins.

"Oh hell yes, they can do that," Devellano said.

"I'd like to see it. They're a good group."

## MOTTOLA

FROM PAGE 1

game. That you don't anticipate, until you go through it."

Those vagaries associated with the game, and the opportunity to play for a number of organizations would play a significant role in Mottola's career, providing him with the necessary tools to become a Major League Baseball coach.

"At the time, the journey wasn't too fun, and what happens when you're a prospect, everybody tinkers with you and wants to give you that last thing to get you over the hump," said Mottola.

"Then I became a free agent and started bouncing around and learning things on my own terms."

He had a breakout year for the Syracuse SkyChiefs in 2000, hitting .309, with 33 Home Runs, 102 RBI and 30 stolen

bases, earning the International League Most Valuable Player Award.

"It came together in 2000, but you get a label in this game," said Mottola.

"As you get older, you wait for injuries, you don't control your destiny anymore. I finally got to have fun again, be me and do the things that I wanted to do, rather than the things the Reds wanted me to do. And that's when I discovered a lot of stuff."

Mottola, who played for the Reds, Blue Jays and Orioles, returned the Major Leagues in 2001 with the Florida Marlins.

"That was kind of cool to return home, so that kind of checked a box," said Mottola. "It's one of those things, I bounced around pretty good for 16 years, my last eight or nine years, I knew what I was doing. My first eight or nine, I had no idea. It really helped me a lot, hearing so many

voices in those organizations and being able to apply it now."

Mottola's career as a player ended in 2007, and he was looking forward to life after baseball, his second child having just been born, with the intention of staying involved in sport, having a number of friends in the NFL, but he received a propitious phone call from someone who was always a great believer in his ability. Former Major League player, New York Mets bench coach and current Marlins director of player development, Dick Scott.

Scott, who was working as the Blue Jays director of player development at the time, reached out to Mottola, with a proposition that would be life-transforming.

"He called me in January, and said, 'Are you really done?' and I said, 'Yes, it physically hurts too much to get ready

every day. I feel like I gave it all I had, and I'm done.' He invited me to spring training and I got really mad at him. He said, 'I think you'll really like this.' It was a very loose first year of doing it, and I ended up loving it. I kind of saw it through."

Mottola continued to rise up through the organization, eventually reaching the major league level as the Blue Jays hitting coach.

A couple of former major league outfielders played an influential role in Mottola's career.

"Dwayne Murphy really impacted me as a player, then he impacted me as a coach," said Mottola. "I got to see him turn around Edwin Encarnacion and Jose Bautista. The things he did, I was part of it as a player, I was part of it as a coach. And with Cito Gaston there, knowing about hitting, I really got advanced fast being

around those types of guys who are forward thinking that don't really get the credit they deserve."

It's that evolution that's served Mottola well as he continues to progress as a coach. The aggressive style that he brought from the Blue Jays organization and the analytical side applied by the Rays, and the Rays' front office's approach has allowed him to grow.

"I'm in a great organization now, the way we think outside the box, because I know the traditional baseball style of hitting doesn't work," said Mottola. "Now all of these hitting thoughts are coming in. It's just been an enjoyable ride on the coaching side that the playing side prepared me for. I give a lot of credit to the front office, the way they discover players, so we have a plan going in. I think it's been a great blend of growth."



# SCOREBOARD

## PRO BASKETBALL

### NBA

#### Eastern Conference

W	L	PCT	GB
Milwaukee	44	14	.759
Toronto	44	16	.733
Indiana	40	20	.667
Philadelphia	38	22	.633
Boston	37	22	.627
Brooklyn	31	30	.508
Charlotte	28	31	.475
Detroit	27	30	.474
Miami	26	31	.456
Orlando	27	33	.450
Washington	24	36	.400
Atlanta	20	40	.333
Chicago	15	44	.254
Cleveland	14	46	.233
New York	11	48	.186

#### Western Conference

W	L	PCT	GB
Golden State	42	16	.724
Denver	40	18	.690
Oklahoma City	38	20	.655
Portland	36	23	.610
Houston	33	25	.569
Utah	32	26	.552
San Antonio	33	27	.550
L.A. Clippers	33	27	.550
Sacramento	30	28	.517
L.A. Lakers	29	30	.492
Minnesota	28	30	.483
Dallas	26	32	.448
New Orleans	27	34	.443
Memphis	23	38	.377
Phoenix	11	50	.180

### Friday's Games

Chicago 110, Orlando 109  
 Indiana 126, New Orleans 111  
 Charlotte 123, Washington 110  
 Toronto 120, San Antonio 117  
 Detroit 125, Atlanta 122  
 Minnesota 115, New York 104  
 L.A. Clippers 112, Memphis 106  
 Denver 114, Dallas 104  
 Oklahoma City 148, Utah 147, 2OT  
**Saturday's Games**  
 Portland 130, Philadelphia 115  
 Atlanta 120, Phoenix 112  
 Brooklyn 117, Charlotte 115  
 Cleveland 112, Memphis 107  
 Indiana 119, Washington 110  
 New Orleans 128, L.A. Lakers 115  
 Detroit at Miami, 7:30 p.m.  
 Boston at Chicago, late  
 Sacramento at Oklahoma City, late  
 Houston at Golden State, late  
 Minnesota at Milwaukee, late  
 Dallas at Utah, late  
**Today's Games**  
 Orlando at Toronto, 3:30 p.m.  
 L.A. Clippers at Denver, 5 p.m.  
 San Antonio at New York, 7:30 p.m.  
**Monday's Games**  
 Golden State at Charlotte, 7 p.m.  
 Indiana at Detroit, 7 p.m.  
 Portland at Cleveland, 7 p.m.  
 Phoenix at Miami, 7:30 p.m.  
 San Antonio at Brooklyn, 7:30 p.m.  
 Atlanta at Houston, 8 p.m.  
 L.A. Lakers at Memphis, 8 p.m.  
 Milwaukee at Chicago, 8 p.m.  
 Philadelphia at New Orleans, 8 p.m.  
 Sacramento at Minnesota, 8 p.m.  
 Dallas at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

### Trail Blazers 130, 76ers 115

**Trail Blazers (130)**  
 Harkless 6-9 0-0 13, Aminu 5-9 5-5 15, Nurkic 9-13 6-7 24, Lillard 5-10 6-6 17, McCollum 6-17 2-2 15, Layman 3-8 2-2 8, Labissiere 0-0 0-0 0, Collins 2-3 0-0 4, Kanter 6-14 4-5 16, Curry 4-7 2-11, Trent Jr. 0-1 0-0 0, Hood 3-8 0-0 7. Totals 49-99 27-29 130.  
**Philadelphia (115)**  
 Butler 5-9 5-5 15, Harris 8-14 1-1 20, Marjanovic 2-5 0-2 4, Bismimons 11-17 7-8 29, Redick 1-10 4-7 4, Ennis III 0-2 2-2 2, Bolden 3-4 0-0 7, Scott 5-8 2-4 15, Johnson 1-2 0-0 2, McConnell 3-9 0-0 6, Simmons 3-7 1-2 8. Totals 42-87 22-28 115.

### Hawks 120, Suns 112

**Phoenix (112)**  
 Oubre Jr. 5-19 1-2 14, Jackson 3-6 0-0 6, Ayton 6-8 2-2 14, Johnson 10-16 5-6 29, Booker 8-23 8-26, Bridges 2-10 0-0 6, Bender 1-2 1-2 4, Holmes 2-2 0-0 4, Melton 2-3 0-0 4, Daniels 2-4 0-0 5. Totals 41-93 17-20 112.  
**Atlanta (120)**  
 Prince 6-15 7-9 21, Collins 4-10 10-10 19, Dedmon 7-15 3-4 18, Young 5-14 11-12 23, Bazemore 9-19 0-0 23, Bembry 2-5 1-2 5, Spellman 4-6 0-1 9, Len 0-2 0-0 4, Adams 0-1 0-0 0, Carter 0-2 0-0 0, Anderson 1-3 0-0 2. Totals 38-92 32-38 120.

### Hawks 120, Suns 112

**Phoenix (112)**  
 Oubre Jr. 5-19 1-2 14, Jackson 3-6 0-0 6, Ayton 6-8 2-2 14, Johnson 10-16 5-6 29, Booker 8-23 8-26, Bridges 2-10 0-0 6, Bender 1-2 1-2 4, Holmes 2-2 0-0 4, Melton 2-3 0-0 4, Daniels 2-4 0-0 5. Totals 41-93 17-20 112.  
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 Prince 6-15 7-9 21, Collins 4-10 10-10 19, Dedmon 7-15 3-4 18, Young 5-14 11-12 23, Bazemore 9-19 0-0 23, Bembry 2-5 1-2 5, Spellman 4-6 0-1 9, Len 0-2 0-0 4, Adams 0-1 0-0 0, Carter 0-2 0-0 0, Anderson 1-3 0-0 2. Totals 38-92 32-38 120.

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**Phoenix (112)**  
 Oubre Jr. 5-19 1-2 14, Jackson 3-6 0-0 6, Ayton 6-8 2-2 14, Johnson 10-16 5-6 29, Booker 8-23 8-26, Bridges 2-10 0-0 6, Bender 1-2 1-2 4, Holmes 2-2 0-0 4, Melton 2-3 0-0 4, Daniels 2-4 0-0 5. Totals 41-93 17-20 112.  
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 Prince 6-15 7-9 21, Collins 4-10 10-10 19, Dedmon 7-15 3-4 18, Young 5-14 11-12 23, Bazemore 9-19 0-0 23, Bembry 2-5 1-2 5, Spellman 4-6 0-1 9, Len 0-2 0-0 4, Adams 0-1 0-0 0, Carter 0-2 0-0 0, Anderson 1-3 0-0 2. Totals 38-92 32-38 120.

### Hawks 120, Suns 112

**Phoenix (112)**  
 Oubre Jr. 5-19 1-2 14, Jackson 3-6 0-0 6, Ayton 6-8 2-2 14, Johnson 10-16 5-6 29, Booker 8-23 8-26, Bridges 2-10 0-0 6, Bender 1-2 1-2 4, Holmes 2-2 0-0 4, Melton 2-3 0-0 4, Daniels 2-4 0-0 5. Totals 41-93 17-20 112.  
**Atlanta (120)**  
 Prince 6-15 7-9 21, Collins 4-10 10-10 19, Dedmon 7-15 3-4 18, Young 5-14 11-12 23, Bazemore 9-19 0-0 23, Bembry 2-5 1-2 5, Spellman 4-6 0-1 9, Len 0-2 0-0 4, Adams 0-1 0-0 0, Carter 0-2 0-0 0, Anderson 1-3 0-0 2. Totals 38-92 32-38 120.

### Hawks 120, Suns 112

**Phoenix (112)**  
 Oubre Jr. 5-19 1-2 14, Jackson 3-6 0-0 6, Ayton 6-8 2-2 14, Johnson 10-16 5-6 29, Booker 8-23 8-26, Bridges 2-10 0-0 6, Bender 1-2 1-2 4, Holmes 2-2 0-0 4, Melton 2-3 0-0 4, Daniels 2-4 0-0 5. Totals 41-93 17-20 112.  
**Atlanta (120)**  
 Prince 6-15 7-9 21, Collins 4-10 10-10 19, Dedmon 7-15 3-4 18, Young 5-14 11-12 23, Bazemore 9-19 0-0 23, Bembry 2-5 1-2 5, Spellman 4-6 0-1 9, Len 0-2 0-0 4, Adams 0-1 0-0 0, Carter 0-2 0-0 0, Anderson 1-3 0-0 2. Totals 38-92 32-38 120.

### Hawks 120, Suns 112

**Phoenix (112)**  
 Oubre Jr. 5-19 1-2 14, Jackson 3-6 0-0 6, Ayton 6-8 2-2 14, Johnson 10-16 5-6 29, Booker 8-23 8-26, Bridges 2-10 0-0 6, Bender 1-2 1-2 4, Holmes 2-2 0-0 4, Melton 2-3 0-0 4, Daniels 2-4 0-0 5. Totals 41-93 17-20 112.  
**Atlanta (120)**  
 Prince 6-15 7-9 21, Collins 4-10 10-10 19, Dedmon 7-15 3-4 18, Young 5-14 11-12 23, Bazemore 9-19 0-0 23, Bembry 2-5 1-2 5, Spellman 4-6 0-1 9, Len 0-2 0-0 4, Adams 0-1 0-0 0, Carter 0-2 0-0 0, Anderson 1-3 0-0 2. Totals 38-92 32-38 120.

### Portis 1-2, Brown Jr. 0-1, W.Johnson 0-3, Green 0-4, Ariza 0-4, Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Indiana 41 (Sabonis 12), Washington 32 (Bryant 12), Assists—Indiana 29 (O'Quinn, Collison 5), Washington 27 (Ariza 7). Total Fouls—Indiana 21, Washington 23. A—19,648 (20,356).

### CAVALIERS 112, GRIZZLIES 107

**MEMPHIS (107)**  
 Holiday 4-7 0-0 10, Rabb 4-7 0-0 8, Valanciunas 11-19 2-3 25, Conley 5-12 8-8 18, Bradley 1-5 2-3 4, Parsons 1-7 2-2 4, Miles 1-6 0-0 3, Caboclo 2-5 0-0 4, Noah 5-8 6-10 16, Wright 6-14 2-2 15. Totals 40-90 22-28 107.  
**CLEVELAND (112)**  
 Osman 4-9 0-0 11, Love 9-15 8-8 32, Zizic 6-7 6-7 18, Sexton 8-16 0-0 20, Knight 2-5 0-4, Nance Jr. 2-6 0-2 4, Chriss 2-8 1-2 6, Dellavedova 3-7 3-4 10, Nwaba 1-3 0-0 2, Clarkson 2-10 0-0 5, Stauskas 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 39-88 18-23 112.  
**MEMPHIS 24 32 28 3 —107**  
**CLEVELAND 37 26 19 30 —112**  
 3-Point Goals—Memphis 5-15 (Holiday 2-4, Valanciunas 1-1, Miles 1-3, Wright 1-3, Bradley 0-2, Rabb 0-2, Conley 0-3, Caboclo 0-3, Parsons 0-4), Cleveland 16-42 (Love 9-9, Sexton 4-6, Osman 3-6, Dellavedova 1-4, Chriss 1-5, Clarkson 1-6, Nance Jr. 0-1, Nwaba 0-1, Stauskas 0-1, Knight 0-3). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Memphis 43 (Valanciunas 11), Cleveland 52 (Love 12, Assists—Memphis 18 (Rabb, Noah 4), Cleveland 25 (Dellavedova 6). Total Fouls—Memphis 21, Cleveland 26. Technicals—Noah, Memphis coach JB Bickerstaff. A—19,432 (20,562).

### PELICANS 128, LAKERS 115

**L.A. LAKERS (115)**  
 James 11-17 2-6 27, Kuzma 7-14 1-2 16, McGee 4-4 2-2 10, Ingram 10-18 6-9 29, Bullock 2-6 3-4 9, Chandler 0-0 0-0 0, Wagner 2-4 0-0 4, Caruso 0-0 0-0 0, Rondo 3-5 0-0 7, Stephenson 2-3 0-0 4, Caldwell-Pope 2-6 3-7 7, Hart 1-4 0-0 2. Totals 44-81 17-26 115.  
**NEW ORLEANS (128)**  
 K.Williams 4-10 0-1 11, Randle 9-17 4-6 24, Okafor 4-7 2-2 10, Payton 5-10 2-2 14, Holiday 10-18 2-3 27, Johnson 1-4 0-0 2, Diallo 8-8 2-2 18, Jackson 2-10 0-0 5, Clark 7-12 1-1 17. Totals 50-96 13-16 128.  
**L.A. LAKERS 35 22 27 31 —115**  
**NEW ORLEANS 42 27 31 28 —128**  
 3-Point Goals—L.A. Lakers 10-29 (Ingram 3-4, James 3-6, Bullock 2-4, Rondo 1-3, Kuzma 1-5, Stephenson 0-1, Caldwell-Pope 0-2, Hart 0-2, Wagner 0-2), New Orleans 15-40 (Holiday 5-9, K.Williams 3-7, Payton 2-4, Clark 2-5, Randle 2-7, Jackson 1-6, Johnson 0-2). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—L.A. Lakers 39 (Kuzma 8), New Orleans 41 (Diallo 10). Assists—L.A. Lakers 33 (James 12), New Orleans 31 (Payton 9). Total Fouls—L.A. Lakers 21, New Orleans 21. Technicals—Stephenson. A—18,626 (16,867).

## ODDS

### PREGAME.COM LINE

FAVORITE	LINE	O/U	UNDERDOG
at Toronto	9½	219½	Orlando
at Denver	9	232	L.A. Clippers
San Antonio	8½	221½	at New York

### COLLEGE BASKETBALL

FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG
at UCF	7½	SMU
at S. Illinois	1	Loyola Of Chicago
at IUPUI	5	Green Bay
Villanova	5	at Xavier
at Illinois State	1½	Drake
Cincinnati	6	at UConn
at Michigan	3½	Michigan State
at Ill.-Chicago	9	Milwaukee
at Arizona State	18½	California
at N.C. State	17½	Wake Forest
at Rutgers	Pk	Minnesota
at Arizona	4½	Stanford

### NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG	LINE
at Chicago	-120	Dallas	+110
at Washington	Off	N.Y. Rangers	Off
at Detroit	Off	San Jose	Off
Calgary	-260	at Ottawa	+230
at Minnesota	-109	St. Louis	-101
Winnipeg	-128	at Arizona	+118

### BASEBALL

**American League**  
 CHICAGO WHITE SOX — Agreed to terms with RHP Ervin Santana and OF Preston Tucker on minor league contracts.  
 CLEVELAND INDIANS — Signed RHP Tyler Clippard to a minor league contract.  
 DETROIT TIGERS — Agreed to terms with INF Josh Harrison on a one-year contract.  
 SEATTLE MARINERS — Promoted Joe Bohringer to assistant general manager.  
**National League**  
 CINCINNATI REDS — Signed INF Jose Iglesias to a minor league contract.  
 NEW YORK METS — Claimed SS Hanser Alberto off waivers from Baltimore.  
 ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Signed OF Jose Martinez to a two-year contract.  
 SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS — Designated RHP Jake Barrett for assignment.

### BASKETBALL

**National Basketball Association**  
 NBA — Fined Houston G James Harden \$25,000 for public criticism of officiating.

### GOLF

USGA — Elected Mark Newell president.

### HOCKEY

**National Hockey League**  
 CAROLINA HURRICANES — Activated C Jordan Staal from injured reserve.  
 DALLAS STARS — Traded D Connor Garrick and a 2019 third-round draft pick to New Jersey for D Ben Lovejoy. Assigned G Colton Point to Texas (AHL) to Idaho (ECHL).  
 DETROIT RED WINGS — Assigned G Harris Sateri to Grand Rapids (AHL). Recalled RW Filip Zadina from Grand Rapids.  
 PITTSBURGH PENGUINS — Recalled D Jeff Taylor from Wheeling (ECHL) to Wilkes-Barre/Scranton (AHL).  
**American Hockey League**  
 TEXAS STARS — Assigned G Colton Point to Idaho (ECHL).  
 TORONTO MARLIES — Recalled D Sam Jardine from Newfoundland (ECHL).  
 WILKES-BARRE/SCRANTON PENGUINS — Recalled F Cam Brown from Wheeling (ECHL).  
**ECHL**  
 ECHL — Suspended Rapid City coach Daniel Tetrault three games.  
 BRAMPTON BEAST — Released F Stefano Pezzetta.  
 CINCINNATI CYCLONES — Released G Josh Taylor as emergency backup.  
 KANSAS CITY MAVERICKS — Loaned F Jared VanWormer to Colorado (AHL).  
 MANCHESTER MONARCHS — Traded D Eric Schurhammer and F Zeb Knutson to Indy. TOLEDO WALL EYE — Released G Derick Burton as emergency backup.

### SOCCER

**Major League Soccer**  
 PHILADELPHIA UNION — Traded F CJ Sapong to Chicago for general and targeted allocation money.

## COLLEGE BASKETBALL

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

#### THE AP TOP 25 RESULTS/SCHEDULE

All times Eastern  
**Friday's Games**  
 No. 21 Iowa 76, Indiana 70, OT

### Wake Forest at NC State, 6 p.m.

### MIDWEST

Green Bay at IUPUI, 1 p.m.  
 Villanova at Xavier, 1:30 p.m.  
 Drake at Illinois St., 2 p.m.  
 Michigan St. at Michigan, 3:45 p.m.  
 Loyola of Chicago at S. Illinois, 4 p.m.  
 Milwaukee at Ill.-Chicago, 4:12 p.m.  
**FAR WEST**  
 California at Arizona St., 6 p.m.  
 Stanford at Arizona, 8 p.m.

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

#### THE AP TOP 25 RESULTS/SCHEDULE

All times Eastern  
**Friday's Games**  
 UCLA 74, No. 2 Oregon 69  
 No. 7 Stanford 56, Arizona 54  
 Butler 61, No. 11 Marquette 57  
 No. 12 Oregon State 68, Southern Cal 61  
 California 69, No. 17 Arizona State 69  
 No. 24 Drake 66, Evansville 39  
**Saturday's Games**  
 No. 1 Baylor 73, No. 20 Iowa State 60  
 No. 15 Gonzaga 64, San Francisco 44  
 No. 19 Texas 81, Texas Tech 57  
 No. 25 Rice 59, North Texas 47  
**Today's Games**  
 No. 2 Oregon vs. Southern Cal, 2 p.m.  
 No. 3 UConn at Tulsa, 3 p.m.  
 No. 4 Louisville vs. Boston College, 2 p.m.  
 No. 6 Mississippi State vs. Vanderbilt, 2 p.m.  
 No. 7 Stanford vs. No. 17 Arizona State, 4 p.m.  
 No. 9 N.C. State at North Carolina, Noon  
 No. 11 Marquette vs. Xavier, 3 p.m.  
 No. 12 Oregon State vs. UCLA, 4 p.m.  
 No. 13 South Carolina at Tennessee, 4 p.m.  
 No. 14 Miami vs. No. 22 Florida State, Noon  
 No. 16 Kentucky vs. LSU, 2 p.m.  
 No. 23 South Dakota at South Dakota State, 2 p.m.  
 No. 24 Drake vs. Indiana State, 3 p.m.

### RESULTS

#### SATURDAY'S GAMES

#### EAST

Albany (NY) 84, UMBG 75  
 Boston U. 72, Loyola (Md.) 65  
 Brown 68, Dartmouth 65  
 Bryant 81, Mount St. Mary's 58  
 Colgate 93, Navy 71  
 Drexel 68, Delaware 60  
 Duke 75, Syracuse 65  
 Fairleigh Dickinson 74, Wagner 66  
 Hartford 75, Mass.-Lowell 73  
 Harvard 88, Yale 86  
 James Madison 104, Hofstra 99, OT  
 LIU Brooklyn 69, St. Francis (Pa.) 66  
 Marquette 76, Providence 58  
 Md.-Eastern Shore 62, Delaware St. 56  
 Northeastern 73, Towson 58  
 Penn 68, Cornell 50  
 Richmond 84, La Salle 75  
 Robert Morris 67, St. Francis Brooklyn 62  
 Sacred Heart 80, Central Connecticut 62  
 St. Bonaventure 74, Fordham 53  
 Temple 84, Tulsa 73  
 UMass 80, Saint Joseph's 79  
 Vermont 69, Binghamton 63  
 Maine at Stony Brook, late  
 Seton Hall at St. John's, late  
 Columbia at Princeton, late  
**SOUTH**  
 Alabama 68, Vanderbilt 61  
 Alcorn St. 74, Alabama St. 69, OT  
 Austin Peay 92, UT Martin 78  
 Belmont 97, SIU-Edwardsville 75  
 Bethune-Cookman 67, Florida A&M 54  
 Campbell 74, Longwood 72  
 Clemson 76, Boston College 66  
 Coastal Carolina 95, Georgia St. 82  
 Coll. of Charleston 84, Elon 74  
 Duquesne 79, George Mason 78  
 FIU 79, FAU 76  
 Florida 64, Missouri 60  
 Florida Gulf Coast 78, Kennesaw St. 56  
 Georgia Southern 92, Appalachian St. 69  
 Hampton 74, Radford 71  
 High Point 87, Gardner-Webb 79  
 Howard 74, Coppin St. 73  
 Jackson St. 71, Grambling St. 60  
 Jacksonville St. 104, E. Kentucky 101, 2OT  
 Kentucky 80, Auburn 53  
 LSU 82, Tennessee 80, OT  
 Maryland 72, Ohio St. 62  
 Mercer 74, Chattanooga 69  
 Miami 80, Georgia Tech 65  
 Middle Tennessee 86, Charlotte 67  
 Mississippi 72, Georgia 71  
 Mississippi St. 76, South Carolina 61  
 NC A&T 63, SC State 62  
 NC Central 78, Savannah St. 69  
 NJIT 77, Jacksonville 73  
 New Orleans 60, McNeese St. 51  
 Nicholls 100, Cent. Arkansas 57  
 Norfolk St. 75, Morgan St. 74  
 North Carolina 77, Florida St. 59  
 North Florida 75, Liberty 70  
 East Carolina at Louisiana Tech, late  
 Old Dominion 67, W. Kentucky 63  
 Presbyterian 71, UNC-Asheville 55  
 South Alabama 68, Troy 52  
 Southern U. 59, Alabama A&M 49  
 Stetson 63, North Alabama 60  
 The Citadel 87, Samford 83, OT  
 UAB 76, Southern Miss. 72, OT  
 VCU 85, George Washington 57  
 Virginia 64, Louisville 52  
 William & Mary 71, UNC-Wilmington 63  
 Winthrop 80, Charleston Southern 78, 2OT  
 Wofford 72, Furman 54  
 Cleveland St. at N. Kentucky, late  
 VMI at W. Carolina, late  
 Columbus 4, San Jose 0  
 North Texas at Louisiana Tech, late  
 East Carolina at Tulane, late  
 SE Missouri at Murray St., late  
 E. Illinois at Tennessee St., late  
 Alabama A&M at Southern U., late  
 Morehead St. at Tennessee Tech, late

### PRO HOCKEY

#### NHL

#### All times Eastern

#### EASTERN CONFERENCE

GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	62	47	11	4	98	244
Boston	62	36	18	8	91	185
N.Y. Islanders	6					



## ■ MLB

# Jake of all trades: Indians counting on Bauers

Indians hoping former Tampa Bay Rays infielder can offset loss of run producers in lineup

By **GABRIELLA KREUZ**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

GOODYEAR, Ariz. — The Cleveland Indians are heading into the 2019 season missing some big bats from last year's lineup. They hope Jake Bauers brought one from Tampa.

Bauers, who came over in a December trade with the Rays, is being counted on to help fill the power void left with the departures of sluggers Edwin Encarnacion and Yonder Alonso in trades and the Indians' decision not to re-sign All-Star Michael Brantley as a free agent.

As the three-time defending AL Central champions contend with unusually chilly and wet weather that has dumped an inch of rain on this arid area the past two days — significant for a region that typically only gets about eight inches a year — the 23-year-old Bauers has been getting in work to make sure he sprays the ball around this season.

"I'm trying to use the whole field again, trying to stay left center-center field and open everything up as opposed to just kind of pulling the ball too much," said Bauers, who batted .201 with 11 home runs and 46 RBIs in 96 games after being brought up by the Rays last season.

This year, Bauers is

optimistic he can make an impact in all facets of the game.

"Getting on base, maybe taking the extra base when I can, driving in runs, basically just doing whatever the situation calls for," the easygoing Bauers said while sipping coffee in the clubhouse on Friday. "I think that's what I was taught at a young age and it's something I'm fairly good at."

Bauers can play first base and he'll be one of several candidates to get a shot in a crowded outfield, a topic he discussed in a recent meeting with Indians manager Terry Francona.

"We talked a lot about playing first base or left field and what the mix is going to be like," said Bauers, who spends down time during camp hiking with his 9-month-old Golden Retriever-Cocker Spaniel mix, Praxton. "They just have some things to figure out. I'm sure as we get deeper into the spring, we'll sort that all out."

Bauers has displayed versatility, so what's his biggest strength?

With eyebrows raised, the self-proclaimed bad surfer from Huntington Beach, California, took in the question along with a deep breath.

"Knowing how to win," he said after a short pause. "I think that's



AP PHOTO

**Former Tampa Bay Rays first baseman Jake Bauers came to the Cleveland Indians in an off-season trade and the Indians are hoping the 23-year-old can help them fill the run-producing void left after the team traded Edwin Encarnacion and Yonder Alonso and decided not to re-sign All-Star outfielder Michael Brantley. Bauers could be asked to play the outfield as well as first base.**

an underrated thing in today's game. I think the things you can't put on paper aren't valued as much as they could be."

Bauers could also help the Indians in another vital area. The loss of Brantley, starter Josh Tomlin, All-Star catcher Yan Gomes and closer Cody Allen has created a

vacuum in the clubhouse and dugout.

"We've lost some guys that had terrific leadership qualities," Francona said. "Guys like Tomlin, Brantley, there's no getting around that. We don't need to anoint leaders. The best way to lead is by example."

If Bauers can produce

offensively the way he did for the Rays after his call-up last June, he'll be leading in no time.

Bauers batted .252 with five home runs in his first 36 games last season before the All-Star break. His numbers dipped toward the end of 2018, but the potential is evident.

He's eager to show his

new teammates what he can do, and anxious to start at first when the Indians open their Cactus League season on Saturday against the Cincinnati Reds.

"I think I got those excited butterflies when I think about it," said Bauers, who will bat second.

## Orioles veterans Cashner and Cobb looking to rebound

By **RICH DUBROFF**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SARASOTA, Fla. (AP) — In the new world of the Baltimore Orioles where youth and inexperience are the rule, there are two veteran pitchers hoping to prove they still have some skills.

Last spring training, the Orioles added two free agent pitchers, Andrew Cashner and Alex Cobb, and both had substantial years.

Cashner, who signed a two-year \$16 million contract, was 4-15 with a 5.29 ERA. Cobb, who late in spring training agreed to a four-year, \$57 million deal, had the worst season of his career, going 5-15 with a 4.90 ERA.

"I don't want to touch too much on what we had going on last year," Cobb said. "I felt like there were a lot of times where we were going into competition without a full arsenal, far behind the competition we were facing, and that's frustrating."

Baltimore was derided in the past because they lagged far behind what had become industry standard in the information age.

"It's tough to go in there with a lot of confidence because you know how much more information is being given to the other side because I've been on the other side," Cobb said. "I feel like it's an even playing field now."

Under new general manager Mike Elias and new manager Brandon Hyde, the Orioles are not only more analytically oriented, but they're a lot looser. Even better for the 32-year-old Cashner, they added pitching coach Doug Brocail to the staff last month.

In 2017, Brocail was the Texas Rangers' pitching coach, and Cashner had one of his best seasons under him with an 11-11 record and 3.40 ERA. Brocail is a hard-nosed coach, but he and Hyde, who was the Chicago Cubs' bench coach last year, have brought a different tone to camp, adopting some of Joe Maddon's practices.

As the pitchers took the

field for their first stretch on Feb. 13, suddenly loud music was blaring, a sharp difference from former manager Buck Showalter's tenure.

"It's kind of a lot more fun," Cashner said. "I think it's kind of just trying to let everybody be themselves. It's not so much worrying about certain things as it is showing up and being the best ballplayer you can be. That's kind of the style (Hyde) had under Joe Maddon."

Last season, Cashner missed time with a back strain, a neck strain and a knee injury that ended his season by mid-September. Good fortune and a new pitching coach could help.

"I think my biggest thing is health, first and foremost," Cashner said. "I feel like I kind of struggled with that last year. Working with Doug is a treat for me, and it's special just because he played for so long and me and him mesh really well together."

Along with Dylan Bundy, Cashner and Cobb are the most tenured starting pitchers Hyde has.

"I think experience is important," Hyde said. "Especially the right experience, the right type of people, really good veteran guys do make a major impact in how they prepare, just watching them play."

The 31-year-old Cobb

had an awful start to his first season with Baltimore. Before the All-Star break, Cobb was 2-12 with a 6.41 ERA. He improved markedly in the second half with a 3-3 record and 2.56 ERA.

Cobb is confident that with new management, the Orioles are on the right track.

"I feel like we've got the guys that have been around the league, seen championship caliber organizations," Cobb said. "When you have those guys come in and have seen that much success and tell you that your stuff is good, it does play; we need to tweak a few things here and there, it's not a full rebuild, it gives you confidence."

## RAYS

FROM PAGE 1

plan would face myriad issues, topped by St. Petersburg mayor Rick Kriseman making it basically moot, saying he wouldn't even consider it.

Asked if he had talked to the group trying to bring baseball back to Montreal, Sternberg said, "I talk to people all the time. I'm not going to deny not speaking to them, speaking to them, other cities. People are always looking to talk to us. I don't go seek anybody out. ... I can't tell you how many times I get emails from people, 'I was in the game, would you meet with me...'" I try to generally avoid that stuff, and I do."

Sternberg will listen, but reiterated he wants to keep the team "for generations to come" in the Tampa Bay area, and "I don't want to move." But until they have a plan to stay, it's going to be an increasingly popular topic of conversation.

Players, knowing their shelf life with the team, say the uncertainty is not an issue or distraction. "We don't really concern ourselves with that," Matt Duffy said.

For now, anyway.

## Scherzer: Pitch clock disrupts game

By **CHUCK KING**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WEST PALM BEACH — If three-time Cy Young Award winner Max Scherzer has his way, Major League Baseball's pitch clock will die in the South Florida humidity.

"I know as players that's something that MLB is trying to negotiate," the Washington Nationals ace said Saturday night. "I don't think there's negotiation here. As players, it just shouldn't be in the game. Having a pitch clock, if you have ball-strike implications, that's messing with the fabric of the game. There's no clock in baseball and there's no clock in baseball for a reason."

After pushing for an agreement with players last season, management decided on its own to experiment with 20-second pitch clocks during spring training this year, part of the sport's effort to speed the pace of play. Owners have the right to implement the clocks for the regular season but would prefer to reach an agreement with the union.

Under the phase-in designed to allow teams to get used to the concept without fear of penalty, pitchers and batters who were taking too long in Saturday's games were merely warned to hurry up.

When the policy, which has been used in some minor leagues since 2015, is phased in, a ball could be charged in certain situations to pitchers who do not begin their motion in time. Batters delaying the game might draw a strike.

Washington played its Grapefruit League opener Saturday night against Houston. Scherzer came close to using the full 20 seconds on a couple of occasions with runners on base, but the clock didn't expire.

The Ballpark of the Palm Beaches features a pitch clock beneath the main outfield scoreboard and two at ground level behind home plate near each dugout.

"Now having to actually throw to it, I think it's more of a distraction than anything," Scherzer said. "I get that there



AP PHOTO

**Nationals pitcher Max Scherzer, a three-time Cy Young Award winner, said the pitch clock is "messing with the fabric of the game. There's no clock in baseball and there's no clock in baseball for a reason."**

are parts of the game that we can clean up and I think that there can be meaningful changes. I'm fundamentally against this."

A newly elected member of the Major League Baseball Players Association's executive committee, Scherzer felt his first outing dragging a bit, attributing the slow play to a high amount of foul balls. He referenced an article published a few days ago by FiveThirtyEight citing an increase in foul balls as being a major reason for longer games.

"I'm not going to put my name next to this clock," he said.

Scherzer allowed one run on Jake Marisnick's homer, one of three hits he gave up in two innings. He struck out three and walked one while throwing 25 of 44 pitches for strikes.

The home run by Marisnick to straightaway center field led off the game and came on a 2-2 fastball.



## ■ MEN'S BASKETBALL: Roundup

# Barrett, Zion-less No. 1 Duke, stop Syracuse

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — No. 1 Duke played without one of the nation's top players but found a new standout who helped the Blue Devils avenge an earlier loss.

Sophomore Alex O'Connell scored 20 points in his first start of the season while RJ Barrett scored 30 points as the Blue Devils beat Syracuse, 75-65, in ACC basketball Saturday night at the Carrier Dome.

The game was played before a crowd of 35,642, which established a new record for the largest attendance for an on-campus NCAA college basketball game.

The Blue Devils (24-3, 12-2 ACC) played their first game since star freshman Zion Williamson suffered a sprained right knee. The 6-7 All-American candidate was not in uniform for the first time this season.

Duke has played large parts of two games — an 80-78 win at Florida State on Jan. 12 and Wednesday's 88-72 loss to North Carolina — without Williamson after he was injured during those games. But Saturday marked the first time they'd played an entire game without their national player of the year candidate.

Still Duke, which lost 95-91 in overtime to Syracuse on Jan. 14 at Durham, found a way to win.

O'Connell played a big role, scoring 17 of his 20 points in the second half as Duke rallied from a five-point halftime deficit.

Syracuse (18-9, 9-5 ACC) struggled shooting down the stretch, making just three field goals over the game's final 12 minutes. The Orange finished at 34 percent from the field.

Duke, after shooting just 40 percent and 3 of 15 on 3-pointers in the first half, shot 48 percent in the second half. The Blue Devils hit six 3-pointers in the second half, finishing at 44.1 percent for the game (9 of 29, 31 percent on 3-pointers).

After Syracuse led, 34-29, the Blue Devils hit seven of their first 11 shots after halftime, including 3 of 4 3-pointers, to lead 50-46 with 13:49 to play.

O'Connell had a big play in that Duke push, grabbing a loose ball to sink a 3-pointer while being fouled. He added the free throw on play that gave Duke its first lead of the second half.

O'Connell's 3-pointer from the corner with 10:29 to play gave Duke a 56-52 lead.

Duke's lead grew to 58-52 when Barrett scored inside with 9:16 to play.

Syracuse went seven consecutive possessions without scoring, a drought of 4:57 without scoring a point.

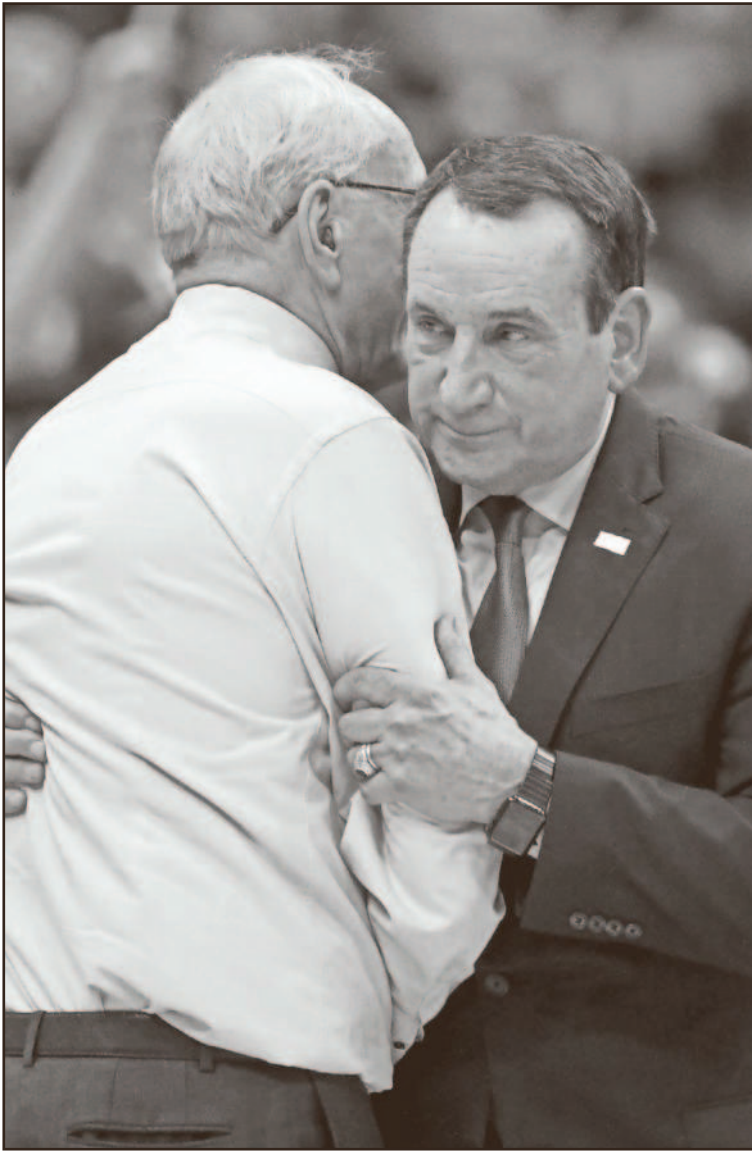
But Duke scored only five points during that stretch.

A Marek Dolezaj basket and two Elijah Hughes free throws cut Duke's lead to 58-56.

But Duke pulled away with its defense playing a big role.

Barrett's 3-pointer started a 7-0 Duke run. O'Connell's steal and slam dunk extended the lead. After a Tyus Battle miss, Barrett finished a fast break by taking a lob pass from Tre Jones for a slam dunk that put Duke up 65-56 with 4:44 to play.

Barrett scored 17 points over the game's first 20 minutes to keep Duke close while their 3-pointers weren't falling. But the Blue Devils got little



AP PHOTO

**Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski, right, embraces Syracuse coach Jim Boeheim after Duke won 75-65. It was the first game for Boeheim after he was involved in a fatal crash. Duke played without injured star Zion Williamson.**

production from anyone else as they shot 40 percent overall.

The first 20 minutes saw five lead changes and three ties. No team led by more than three points until six points in a row by Syracuse's Dolezaj turned a 23-22 Duke lead into a 28-23 Orange advantage with 4:58 left until halftime.

Barrett scored Duke's final six points of the half. But the Orange took their five-point lead to halftime.

Joey Baker, a 6-7 guard from Fayetteville, made a surprising debut for Duke thus eliminating the chance of him redshirting barring an injury.

### No. 3 Virginia 64, No. 18 Louisville 52

De'Andre Hunter scored 19 of his career-high 26 points after halftime, and No. 3 Virginia rallied from a 12-point deficit to beat No. 18 Louisville 64-52 on Saturday.

The Cavaliers (24-2, 12-2 Atlantic Coast Conference) trailed early in the second half before regrouping to hold the Cardinals (18-10, 9-6) to 6 of 30 from the field (20 percent) and 31 percent shooting overall. Virginia also found its offense, shooting 59 percent and using a 12-1 run over 4:36 for a 55-48 lead it stretched to 12 for its fourth consecutive victory.

Hunter was perfect after the break, making all six shots to finish 9 of 11 from the field. Mamadi Diakite added 14 points, while Jay Huff came off the bench to score 12.

### No. 4 Kentucky 80, Auburn 53

Kentucky coach John Calipari surpassed Joe B. Hall on the school's all-time wins list and is second behind Adolph Rupp. Calipari is 298-68 in 10 seasons with the Wildcats. Hall

compiled a 297-100 record in 13 seasons and led the Wildcats to a national championship in 1978.

PJ Washington scored 24 points to lead No. 4 Kentucky. Washington led three players in double figures and helped lead the Wildcats to a regular-season sweep of the Tigers. The Wildcats (23-4, 12-2 Southeastern Conference) defeated Auburn 82-80 last month and made things easier the second time around. Tyler Herro followed Washington with 17 points and Ashton Hagans added 14.

Kentucky played without senior forward Reid Travis, who sprained his right ankle in a 66-58 win at Missouri last Tuesday. Travis is expected to miss the next two weeks.

Chuma Okeke led Auburn (18-9, 7-7) with 14 points, followed by Jared Harper with 12 and Anfernee McLemore with 10.

### No. 13 LSU 82, No. 5 Tennessee 80 (OT)

Javonte Smart capped a career-best 29-point performance with a crucial rebound and go-ahead free throws in the final seconds.

Skyler Mays added 23 points, including a game-tying 3 with 1:16 left in regulation for LSU (22-5, 12-2 SEC), which pulled into a tie with Tennessee and Kentucky atop the Southeastern Conference despite playing without its leading scorer, point guard Tremont Waters.

Admiral Schofield had 27 points and Grant Williams 18 for Tennessee (24-3, 12-2).

Waters was ruled out with an undisclosed illness shortly before the game, and the challenge only got tougher for LSU when starting forward

Naz Reid committed two early fouls. Reid never found his rhythm, missing all nine shots he attempted from the floor. He scored his only point when he hit the second of two free throws in the final minute of overtime.

### No. 8 UNC 77, No. 16 Florida St 59

Cameron Johnson had 18 points and 10 rebounds, Luke Maye added 15 points and 11 rebounds, while freshman Nassir Little scored 18 points and Coby White finished with 10. The Tar Heels (22-5, 12-2 Atlantic Coast Conference) have won 10 of 11 to remain in a first-place tie.

David Nichols scored 16 points and Terance Mann added 10 for the Seminoles (21-6, 9-5).

### No. 11 Marquette 76, Providence 58

Sam Hauser had 18 points and 13 rebounds, while Sacar Anim scored 18. The Golden Eagles (23-4, 12-2 in the Big East) led by 11 points at half-time and showed no signs of letting up, shooting 53.6 percent in the second half to finish at 54.9 percent for the game. Anim went 8 for 12 and Hauser 7 for 10 for Marquette, which got only 14 points on 2-of-12 shooting from leading scorer Markus Howard.

Alpha Diallo had 19 points and six rebounds for the Friars (15-13, 5-10 Big East).

### No. 15 Purdue 75, Nebraska 72

Matt Haarms scored 17 points and Grady Eifert beat the shot clock for two huge baskets down the stretch. Purdue (20-7, 13-3 Big Ten) won its second straight close road game, having beaten Indiana 48-46 on a tip-in with 3 seconds left Tuesday. Ryan Cline's 3-pointer to end the first half gave the Boilermakers a two-point lead, and they never trailed again.

Their 14th win in 16 games pulled them into a brief three-way tie for first in the Big Ten with Michigan and Michigan State. The tie will be broken Sunday when those two teams meet in Ann Arbor.

Glynn Watson Jr. scored a season-high 25 points and James Palmer added 15 points and a season-high eight assists for Nebraska (15-13, 5-12), which lost for the ninth time in 11 games.

### TCU 75, No. 19 Iowa State 72

Kouat Noi had 20 points with 13 rebounds, while Alex Robinson also had a double-double and TCU ended a three-game losing streak.

TCU, which had blown a 10-point lead it built before halftime, finally went ahead to stay when Desmond Bane hit a 3-pointer from the left wing with just under two minutes left to snap a 68-68 tie. JD Miller later drove hard for a layup, knocking down one defender without a call and getting fouled by another to make it 73-70 in the final 41 seconds. He missed the free throw.

Iowa State (19-8, 8-6 Big 12) was within 73-72 when Marial Shayok found a gap and drove for a layup with 22 seconds left. Noi added two free throws before the Cyclones got to attempt two 3-pointers in the final three seconds, the last after a TCU turnover while the buzzer sounded before a lengthy review that added .4 seconds on the clock.

The Frogs (18-9, 6-8) hadn't won since a 92-83 victory at Iowa State two weeks ago.

### No. 20 Virginia Tech 67, Notre Dame 59

Kerry Blackshear Jr. had 22 points and 14 rebounds as No. 20 Virginia Tech defeated Notre Dame 67-59 on Saturday.

The Hokies (21-6, 10-5 Atlantic Coast Conference), leading from the game's first basket onward, grabbed to a 14-4 advantage over the initial eight minutes.

The Fighting Irish (13-14, 3-11), who got as close as six points on three occasions in the second half, lost their third straight game and their ninth in their last 11 outings.

T.J. Gibbs led Notre Dame with 18 points but was just 5 of 17 from the field with three 3-pointers. John Mooney added 12 points and 10 rebounds.

Nickeil Alexander-Walker added 12 points for Tech.

### No. 23 Kansas St 85, Oklahoma St 46

Balanced offense, stellar defense and good shooting propelled No. 23 Kansas State.

The Wildcats had no problems as Xavier Sneed and Austin Trice led the team with 12 points each and Kamau Stokes had 11. K-State had 10 players score.

The Wildcats (21-6, 11-3 in Big 12 play) shot 62 percent and held the Cowboys to 31 percent. Oklahoma State (10-17, 3-11) was led by Yor Anei, who had 12 points as the Cowboys struggled the entire game to find the basket.

### No. 24 Maryland 72, Ohio State 62

Anthony Cowan Jr. scored 19 points, while Bruno Fernando had 14 points and 10 rebounds and No. 24 Maryland remained unbeaten at home in the Big Ten.

The Terrapins (21-7, 12-5) used a 13-0 run to take a 52-36 lead.

Although the margin dwindled to two points with 5:27 left, Maryland held on to improve to 14-2 at home, including 7-0 in the conference.

With three Big Ten games left, including two at home, the Terrapins are in fourth place and in position to secure a double bye in the conference tournament.

Fernando scored all of his points after halftime, and reserve freshman Serrel Smith Jr. contributed a career-high 14 points for Maryland.

Despite a slow start, Fernando secured his ninth double-double in his last 10 games.

Duane Washington Jr. scored 15 and Andre Wesson had 13 for Ohio State (17-10, 7-9).

## ■ NBA: Roundup

# Efficient Young leads Pacers over struggling Wizards

WASHINGTON (AP) Thaddeus Young scored 22 points on 9-of-11 shooting, Bojan Bogdanovic added 18 and the streaking Indiana Pacers held off the struggling Washington Wizards 119-112 on Saturday night.

Domantas Sabonis added 13 points and 12 rebounds, while Darren Collison scored 11 of his 15 points in the fourth quarter to help the Pacers overcome 23 turnovers and sweep a second straight back-to-back set.

Indiana has won eight of

nine. The Pacers previously dropped four in a row following the loss of All-Star guard Victor Oladipo for the season with a ruptured tendon in his right knee.

Bradley Beal scored 35 points for the Wizards, a night after posting a season-high 46 at Charlotte. He converted an exceptional four-point play that brought Washington within two midway through the fourth quarter.

Thomas Bryant added 23 points and 12 rebounds.

### Pelicans 128, Lakers 115

Jrue Holiday hit five 3-pointers and scored 27 points while Anthony Davis watched from the bench, and the New Orleans Pelicans beat the Los Angeles Lakers 128-115 on Saturday night.

Former Laker Julius Randle had 24 points for the Pelicans, who looked in sync and motivated as they slowed LeBron James and the Lakers' push to qualify for the playoffs.

James had 27 points and 12 assists, and Brandon Ingram scored 29 points for Los Angeles.

### Trail Blazers 130, 76ers 115

Jusuf Nurkic and Enes Kanter took advantage of Joel Embiid's absence.

Nurkic scored 24 points and grabbed 10 rebounds, Kanter had 16 and eight, and the Portland Trail Blazers beat the Philadelphia 76ers 130-115 on

Saturday.

The Sixers struggled in their second game without Embiid, the All-Star center who is expected to miss at least a week with a sore left knee.

Ben Simmons had 29 points and 10 assists and Tobias Harris scored 20.

The Blazers had a 53-33 rebounding edge, including 19 offensive boards. Damian Lillard had 17 points as seven players reached double figures.

The Blazers (36-23) have won three in a row.



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TODAY / TONIGHT	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly sunny and humid HIGH 84° 25% chance of rain LOW 65° 15% chance of rain	Mostly cloudy 78° / 63° 15% chance of rain	Some sun, then clouds, a t-storm in spots 81° / 65° 40% chance of rain	Mostly cloudy 80° / 63° 25% chance of rain	A thunderstorm in spots in the afternoon 80° / 65° 40% chance of rain	Rather cloudy with a thunderstorm possible 83° / 63° 30% chance of rain

**69° GULF WATER TEMPERATURE**

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

**AccuWeather**  
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**FLORIDA CITIES**

City	Today			Mon.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Apalachicola	72	49	t	67	56	pc
Bradenton	81	64	pc	75	63	c
Clearwater	79	62	pc	73	65	c
Coral Springs	87	70	pc	80	71	pc
Daytona Beach	84	56	pc	71	61	c
Fort Lauderdale	85	71	pc	81	72	pc
Fort Myers	84	65	pc	81	66	c
Gainesville	84	49	t	73	54	pc
Jacksonville	81	48	c	66	50	pc
Key Largo	82	72	s	80	73	s
Key West	84	75	s	82	75	s
Lakeland	85	62	pc	74	61	pc
Melbourne	87	64	pc	75	66	c
Miami	85	70	pc	83	72	pc
Naples	85	68	s	83	68	pc
Ocala	82	51	pc	72	55	pc
Okeechobee	86	64	pc	75	63	c
Orlando	86	58	pc	75	61	pc
Panama City	71	49	t	69	55	pc
Pensacola	70	47	t	67	53	pc
Pompano Beach	86	70	pc	81	73	pc
St. Augustine	80	52	c	64	57	pc
St. Petersburg	82	62	pc	78	64	c
Sarasota	83	63	pc	79	63	c
Tallahassee	74	45	t	69	49	pc
Tampa	82	61	pc	76	63	c
Vero Beach	88	65	pc	76	64	c
West Palm Beach	86	69	pc	80	72	pc

**TIDES**

Location	Today		High		Low	
	Time	Height	Time	Height	Time	Height
Punta Gorda	6:42a	12:48a	6:16p	12:27p		
Englewood	5:19a	10:43a	4:53p			
Boca Grande	4:35a	9:24a	4:15p	11:13p		
El Jobean	7:14a	1:17a	6:48p	12:56p		
Venice	3:34a	9:22a	3:08p	10:55p		
Tarpon Springs to Apalachicola	10:20	1-3	Light			

**MARINE**

Location	Wind	Speed	Seas	Bay/Inland
Cape Sable to Tarpon Springs	SSW	7-14	1-2	Light chop
Tarpon Springs to Apalachicola	WSW	10-20	1-3	Light chop

**SUN AND MOON**

Day	Sun Rise	Sun Set	Moon Rise	Moon Set
Today	6:57 a.m.	6:26 p.m.	11:58 p.m.	10:39 a.m.
Monday	6:57 a.m.	6:27 p.m.	none	11:20 a.m.

**SOLUNAR TABLE**

Day	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Today	10:01a	3:48a	10:25p	4:13p
Mon.	10:54a	4:41a	11:19p	5:06p
Tue.	11:45a	5:32a		5:57p

**CONDITIONS TODAY**

UV Index and RealFeel Temperature Today

Time	UV Index	RealFeel Temp
2 a.m.	2	74
4 a.m.	4	86
6 a.m.	6	91
8 a.m.	4	91
10 a.m.	4	84
12 p.m.	1	80
2 p.m.	0	
4 p.m.	0	
6 p.m.	0	

**POLLIN INDEX**

Pollen Index readings as of Saturday

Category	Level
Trees	Low
Grass	Absent
Weeds	Absent
Molds	Absent

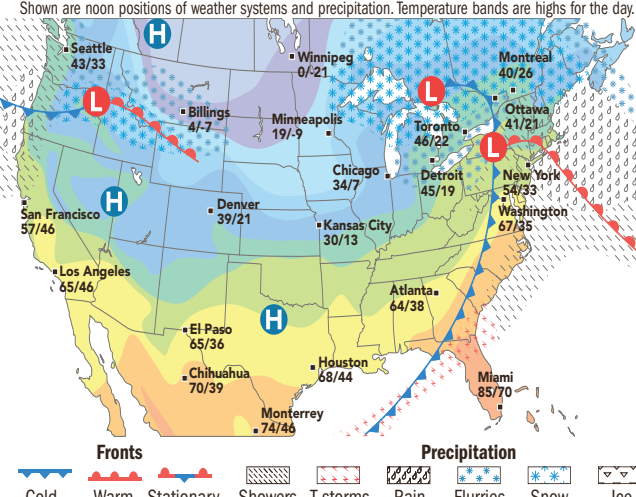
**AIR QUALITY INDEX**

Air Quality Index readings as of Saturday

Reading	Category
28	Good

**THE NATION** Publication date: 02/24/19

Time	-10s	-0s	0s	10s	20s	30s	40s	50s	60s	70s	80s	90s	100s	110s
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**U.S. Extremes** (For the 48 contiguous states yesterday)

High ..... 90° at Immokalee, FL  
Low ..... -23° at Daniel, WY

City	Today			Mon.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Albuquerque	48	26	pc	55	28	pc
Anchorage	24	9	pc	25	11	s
Atlanta	64	38	s	61	39	pc
Baltimore	63	32	r	44	28	s
Billings	4	-7	sn	1	-4	sf
Birmingham	60	36	s	60	40	pc
Boise	41	37	c	47	40	r
Boston	50	34	r	40	20	pc
Buffalo	53	23	sh	24	12	c
Burlington, VT	41	30	sh	31	11	c
Charleston, WV	57	27	pc	44	26	s
Charlotte	71	36	sh	60	33	s
Chicago	34	7	sf	19	12	c
Cincinnati	47	21	pc	38	23	c
Cleveland	52	21	sf	29	17	pc
Columbia, SC	77	35	sh	63	36	s
Columbus, OH	51	19	c	32	21	s
Concord, NH	39	30	sn	34	11	c
Dallas	58	37	s	61	43	pc
Denver	39	21	s	45	21	pc
Des Moines	19	1	c	12	4	c
Detroit	45	19	sn	27	14	c
Duluth	22	-13	sn	5	-12	pc
Fairbanks	19	1	s	22	0	pc
Fargo	7	-20	c	-2	-18	pc
Hartford	48	32	r	38	19	pc
Helena	5	-7	sn	2	-4	sn
Honolulu	80	64	s	79	65	pc
Houston	68	44	s	65	53	pc
Indianapolis	38	16	pc	32	20	s

**WORLD CITIES**

City	Today			Mon.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Amsterdam	55	35	pc	58	36	pc
Baghdad	70	46	s	71	50	s
Beijing	57	31	pc	50	29	pc
Berlin	53	32	pc	55	37	pc
Buenos Aires	74	55	s	69	46	pc
Cairo	72	58	pc	80	52	s
Calgary	2	-20	pc	1	-13	pc
Cancon	84	73	s	85	73	sh
Dublin	56	45	pc	59	41	pc
Edmonton	-1	-29	s	0	-24	s
Halifax	29	27	sn	37	14	c
Hanover	32	29	c	43	32	pc
London	60	36	s	62	38	s
Madrid	65	36	s	67	37	s

**PORT CHARLOTTE**

Punta Gorda through 2 p.m. Saturday

**Temperatures**  
High/Low 87°/66°  
Normal High/Low 78°/55°  
Record High 87° (2019)  
Record Low 33° (1978)

**Precipitation** (in inches)  
24 hours through 2 p.m. Sat. 0.00"  
Month to date 0.29"  
Normal month to date 1.76"  
Year to date 2.69"  
Normal year to date 4.20"  
Record 1.70" (1966)

**MONTHLY RAINFALL**

Month	2019	2018	Avg.	Record/Year
Jan.	3.77	1.98	1.80	9.93/2016
Feb.	1.63	0.66	2.43	11.05/1983
Mar.	0.53	3.28	9.26/1970	
Apr.	1.15	2.03	5.80/1994	
May	15.98	2.50	15.98/2018	
Jun.	6.23	8.92	23.99/1974	
Jul.	9.80	8.22	14.22/1995	
Aug.	12.37	8.01	15.60/1995	
Sep.	7.58	6.84	14.03/1979	
Oct.	2.60	2.93	10.88/1995	
Nov.	1.91	1.91	5.53/2002	
Dec.	2.47	1.78	6.83/2002	
Year	5.40	63.26	50.65 (since 1931)	

**AIRPORT**

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

City	Hi/Lo	Outlook	Delays
Ft. Myers	84/65	part cldy	none
Punta Gorda	85/64	part cldy	none
Sarasota	83/63	part cldy	none

**NASCAR**

# New rules could lead to wrecks, inflame tempers

By JENNA FRYER  
AP AUTO RACING WRITER

HAMPTON, Ga. — NASCAR was long overdue for an added punch to its racing product and eagerly awaits the results from a new competition package designed to increase the entertainment factor for the troubled series.

The new rules debut Sunday at Atlanta Motor Speedway, where the prevailing opinion is that the bumpin-and-bangin and rubbin-is-racin lore of NASCAR will return.

"This is going to cause probably more wrecks and more tempers are going to fly and more drama is going to be there," said reigning NASCAR champion Joey Logano.

NASCAR for 2019 will use a package created to deliberately slow cars and keep them closer together. It isn't intended to be the "pack racing" beloved by fans at Daytona and Talladega, but drivers so far anticipate that will be the effect.

Packs usually lead to crashes, which typically create conflict and the headlines NASCAR needs. The series is coming off a season in which three drivers combined to win 20 of 36 races — results that did nothing to stop NASCAR's slide in attendance and television ratings.

NASCAR's solution was overhauling the competition package in

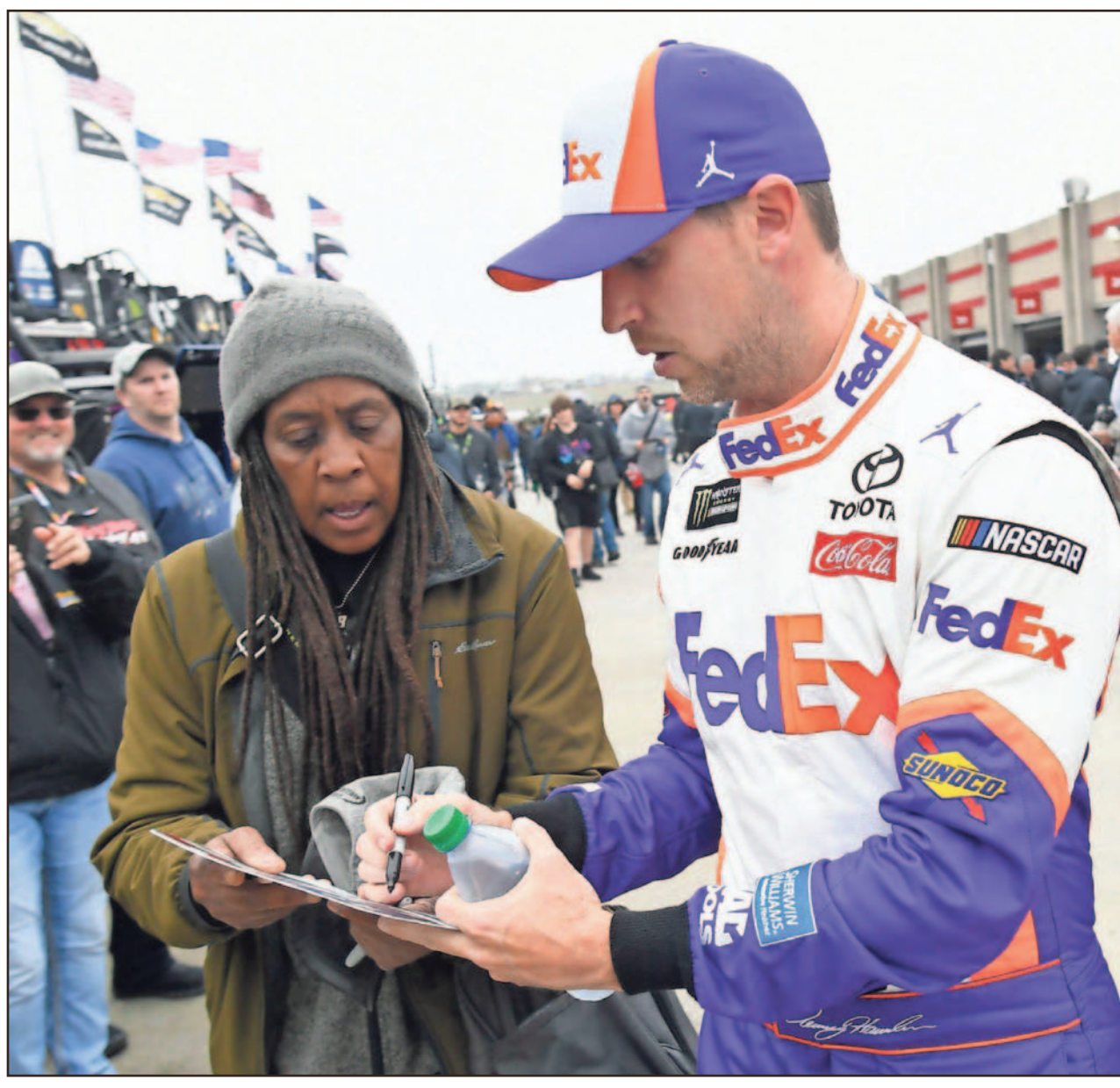
a way that, if it works, should close the gap between the top teams and the underdogs while spicing up the action.

"I think everybody is going to be in attack mode in a lot of ways," said Georgia native Chase Elliott. "How that translates into the race and how aggressive people get, I mean there is only so much space on the track, right? At some point, somebody is going to have to draw the line as to what is smart and what is not."

The package was not used in last week's season-opening Daytona 500, a crash-fest won in overtime by Denny Hamlin. Atlanta is not expected to be a true indicator of how the racing will look this season, in part because the fast and bumpy track has the oldest racing surface in the series. The track was last paved in 1997 and the abrasive asphalt eats tires and limits passing opportunities.

NASCAR knows a better indicator of what to expect will come from next week's race at Las Vegas Motor Speedway, followed by a completely different look in Week 4 when the series visits ISM Raceway in Phoenix, a 1-mile, low-banked tri-oval that is nothing like the 1.5-mile Atlanta and Las Vegas speedways.

NASCAR's second and final practice session, Saturday in a steady mist, got off to a bumpy start



Daytona 500 winner Denny Hamlin signs an autograph after practice before a NASCAR Xfinity race at Atlanta Motor Speedway on Saturday, in Hampton, Ga. NASCAR will unveil its new competition package on Sunday, which is expected to slow cars and keep them closer together. Reigning NASCAR champion Joey Logano expects this to lead to more crashes, more tempers and drama.

when Brad Keselowski couldn't make it to his car because of illness. Team Penske had Xfinity Series driver Austin Cindric start practice for Keselowski, but Keselowski eventually got in the car and ran two stints. He was met at the Penske hauler by a medical crew that drove Keselowski to the care center, and crew chief Paul Wolfe said the driver "isn't doing too good."

Kyle Busch quickly posted the fastest lap of all Toyota drivers but then hit the wall and had to go to the garage with damage that sidelined him the remainder of the session. Erik Jones, his teammate at Joe Gibbs Racing, later headed to the garage with a power steering issue.

AP PHOTO



## Housing inventory sees an uptick in January

NEWSWIRE

ORLANDO — Florida's housing market reported more new listings, higher median prices and increased inventory (active listings) in January compared to a year ago, according to the latest housing data released by Florida Realtors.

However, uncertainty over mortgage interest rates, the stock market and the federal government's shutdown may have affected home sales, which were lower than the level of sales a year ago. Sales of single-family homes statewide totaled 15,526 last month, down 6.2 percent compared to January 2018.

"As the new year gets underway, more new listings and gains in inventory (active listings) are positive signs for potential homebuyers in Florida," said 2019 Florida Realtors President Eric Sain, a Realtor and district sales manager with Illustrated Properties in Palm Beach.

"Having more homes available for sale in many local markets may start to ease some of the affordability constraints we've been seeing for a long time," Sain said. "In January, new listings for existing single-family homes rose 5.6 percent compared to a year ago and new listings for condo-townhouse properties increased 2.5 percent."

In January, statewide median sales prices for both single-family homes and condo-townhouse properties increased year-over-year for the 85th month-in-a-row. The statewide median sales price for single-family existing homes was \$249,900, up 4.1 percent from the previous year, according to data from Florida Realtors Research Department in partnership with local Realtor boards/associations. Last month's statewide median price for condo-townhouse units was \$182,500, up 2.8 percent over the year-ago figure. The median is the midpoint; half the homes sold for more, half for less.

According to the National Association of Realtors (NAR), the national median sales price for existing single-family homes in December 2018 was \$255,200, up 2.9 percent from the previous year;

HOUSING | 6D



NERD WALLET  
Liz Weston

## Companies are also flunking retirement planning

Plenty has been written about American workers' failure to plan adequately for retirement. Their employers seem to be doing an even worse job.

Only 1 in 10 large employers offers a formal phased-retirement program that lets workers cut back their hours or responsibilities before they quit work entirely, according to the 2018 Longer Working Careers Survey by professional services consultant Willis Towers Watson. Fewer than 1 in 3 of the companies surveyed offered their employees the option to work part time or switch to a less demanding job, according to the survey, which polled 143 large U.S. companies that employ 2.9 million people.

That's too bad, because flexible work arrangements don't just help people who need or want to work longer. These accommodations also could help workers who are starting families, pursuing degrees or caring for aging parents.

### PROGRAMS VARY WIDELY

Formal phased retirement programs can take many forms. Examples cited in a 2017 report by the Government Accountability Office include:

—One program that allows workers who are at least 55 years old with 10 years of service to cut their hours by 20 percent with a 20 percent cut in pay, but keep health insurance and pension accrual benefits.

—Another that allows employees 60 and older with five years of service to reduce their hours by 20 percent to 50 percent, or even more if they're willing to lose their health insurance benefit.

—An employer that allows workers 55 and older with seven years of service to negotiate their own "glide path" to retirement, ramping down from full time to full retirement while retaining benefits.

—Yet another company that allows any employee to switch to less stressful or complex duties or

RETIRE | 6D

## Just fab



BILL ROGERS/CORRESPONDENT

Charles Devlin, left, and John Paul Heston, are two of the owners of Steel Blue Fabrication.

## Steel Blue Fabrication opens in Avon Park

By BILL ROGERS  
CORRESPONDENT

AVON PARK — A new business involving a longtime, community-minded Avon Park family has opened in the City of Charm.

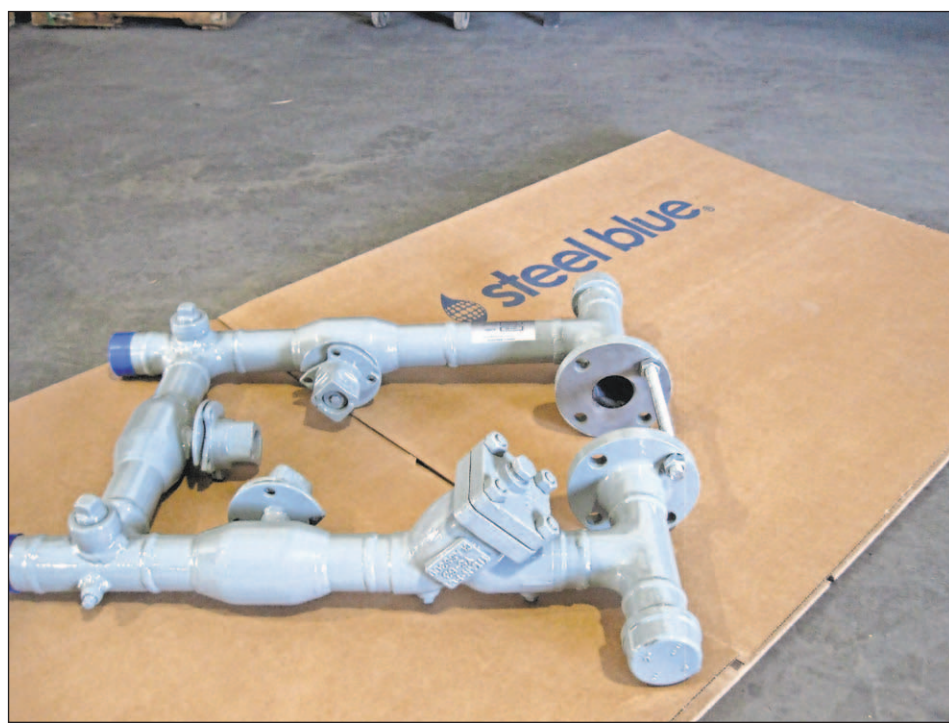
Steel Blue Fabrication began production last month of meter sets for the natural gas and propane gas markets in a building on County Road 17A.

According to Charles Devlin, who is one of the owners, Steel Blue is a spinoff of Devtech. That company, also located in Avon Park, is a provider of measurement and control products and systems such as gas meters, gauges, filters and valves.

"Devtech had a need for a facility to build these custom sets for our customers," Devlin said.

"The main thing we're doing is custom fabrication and assembly for our customers," said John Paul Heston, another owner. "There is a lot of people that do thousands of pieces at a time. We're doing custom, one-off fabrication for the gas utilities in Florida."

"We're the first fab shop of this type in Florida that just caters to the gas industry," Devlin



BILL ROGERS/CORRESPONDENT

A meter set is shown that is now being made in Avon Park.

"We're the first fab shop of this type in Florida that just caters to the gas industry. There's some welding shops that have done work for them, but not these assemblies like we're building."

Charles Devlin  
Co-Owner of Steel Blue

said. "There's some welding shops that have done work for them, but not these assemblies like

we're building." Devlin believes that because he said it is a "pretty tight-knit

industry" and they know all of their competitors. He added that Heston and Steve Baltzley, who handles sales in North Florida for the company, are always talking with their customers and getting information from them.

"Somebody opens their door as a new business; we know about it the next day," he said.

Devlin came up with the name for the business. Steel, of course, is

STEEL | 7D

## Business spotlight: Hurricane Orthopedics

SPECIAL TO HIGHLANDS  
NEWS-SUN

**Name of business:** Hurricane Orthopedics  
**Business address:** 6801 U.S. 27 North, Suite A-4, Sebring, 33870  
**Business phone:** 863-385-3611

**Business hours:** 8 a.m. to noon and 1-5 p.m., Monday-Wednesday, 8 a.m. to noon, Thursday; closed Friday to Sunday.

**Business owner name & phone:** Dr. A. Robert Massam, MD

**Why did you start**

**this business?** I love being able to offer patients quality care while improving their lifestyle with nonsurgical options.

**What is unique about your business?** Dr. Massam has been in practice for 40 years. He specializes in nonsurgical orthopedics care. He treats all ages of orthopedics from children to adults. We believe in giving every patient the best care possible to improve their quality of life.



Dr. A. Robert Massam, MD



# Changes in your business?

## You should plan, talk to staffers

By **JOYCE M. ROSENBERG**  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — As Nick Haschka bought four small horticultural businesses over the past two years, he had to help his new employees navigate almost constant change.

“They’ve had to get used to a new owner, new management style, and many new processes and tools,” says Haschka, owner of The Wright Gardner in South San Francisco, California.

Small-business owners who recognize the impact that change can have on employees can limit the fallout by helping staffers with the transition.

Mishandling change — whether it’s a new boss, office or procedures, or a turn in the company’s finances — can prompt staffers to leave or hurt their productivity. Change can also be more than a one-time event. It can be continuous, or, as in the case of Haschka’s business, periodic.

Haschka has taken several steps to help his new employees weather the changes. He’s worked with the previous owners to prepare staffers, many of whom drew some comfort from the fact that their former bosses felt secure about handing their businesses over to Haschka. And he’s sat down and talked to his new team members.

“There’s usually a lot of shock at the beginning when employees find out their owner is leaving and passing the torch to us,” Haschka says. “But we try to make it easy on them by listening and being responsive to their needs.”

He also asks his current employees to help. “The employees from the previous acquisitions

are in a good place to represent and be a sounding board for the new employees — they’ve all been in that place before, and recently,” he says.

Human resources consultants say business owners need to plan well and do a lot talking with staffers.

“People, no matter whether change is good or bad, fear change,” says Jay Starkman, CEO of Engage PEO, an HR provider based in Hollywood, Florida. “The only way to get through that fear is communicate, communicate, communicate. And when you think you’ve communicated enough, communicate again.”

Even a move to a new location requires change management. A year ago, Dave Cyphers bought a building in Crofton, Maryland, 10 miles (16 kilometers) away from the office he had rented for his marketing company. Cyphers, who has 18 staffers, made them part of the planning process. He took longtime senior employees to see the building before he bought it, and discussed with each worker how the move would affect their commutes. He discussed the new seating plan with them, and gave each money to decorate individual work areas.

“You work hard to put a team together. The last thing you want to do is blow it all up by saying, ‘we’re moving, let the chips fall where they may,’” says Cyphers, owner of The Cyphers Agency.

Startups can go through significant changes, and while staffers expect their companies to evolve, sometimes the direction is unexpected.

When Brad Weisberg started his insurance claims technology



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this Wednesday, Feb. 13, 2019, photo Nick Haschka, owner of The Wright Gardner, center, and Jason Biting, operations associate, load plants onto a delivery truck in South San Francisco, Calif. As Haschka bought four small horticultural businesses over the past two years, he had to help his new employees navigate almost constant change. “They’ve had to get used to a new owner, new management style, and many new processes and tools,” says Haschka.

company, consumers were his target market. After about a year, he realized there were few chances for people using his service to be repeat customers, and that he needed to pivot his company and cater to businesses instead. The change wasn’t so simple — for one thing, he had to convince investors that it was the right thing to do. And Weisberg’s 12 staffers, who understood the world of tech startups, worried about the company’s future.

“They were very anxious,” says Weisberg, whose company, Snapsheet, is based in Chicago. “They had taken a chance on me. They had left jobs to come with me.”

Weisberg helped his staffers by showing them his analysis of the company’s situation. They



In this Wednesday, Feb. 13, 2019, photo The Wright Gardner operations associate Jason Biting, right, and operations supervisor Maureen Grady prepare plants for delivery in South San Francisco, Calif.

were all startup and tech savvy, and after Weisberg explained the situation to them, they were on board.

Helping staffers through uncertain political or economic times is difficult because an owner can’t provide answers. Soon after British voters decided in June 2016 that their country should leave the European Union, many companies lost business because no one knew how Brexit would affect trade and the economy.

“We had six live projects that, while they didn’t fire us, simply wanted to ‘pause.’ Pausing is death to a small business,” says Monica Parker, who with her husband Julian Pollitt owns Hatch Analytics, a London-based company that helps businesses analyze employees’ behavior.

They didn’t know whether the firm would survive and had to prepare their staff for all possibilities.

“We felt being honest and transparent was better than carrying the stress ourselves and more ethical than possibly dropping very bad news on the team at the last minute,” Parker recalls.

Staffers were empowered by having heard the truth, and responded by asking what they could do to help. A few months later, when business returned to normal, they were grateful to share in that success, Parker says.

Owners, however, need to strike a balance between the company’s and staffers’ needs.

Dave Munson tried to make change pain free and found that hurt the

business. The owner of Saddleback Leather, a manufacturer of leather goods, realized in 2015 that having most of his employees work remotely cost the business time, money and efficiency. He told his 50 far-flung staffers they’d have to move to the company’s Fort Worth, Texas, headquarters or leave.

But he also said staffers who decided against moving could take their time looking for a job. And they did: It took three years to complete the transition, further draining the company’s finances and productivity.

Munson says he learned his lesson.

“It’s like pulling duct tape out of your hair,” he says. “There’s no easy way to do it, you just have to do it.”



In this Wednesday, Feb. 13, 2019, photo Nick Haschka, owner of The Wright Gardner, poses for photos in South San Francisco, Calif.

**PLACID LAKES VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**35th Annual Bar-B-Que**

Proceeds support the Placid Lakes Volunteer Fire Department

**Sunday, March 3rd**

**11 AM - 2 PM**

Only **\$10.00**

**Beef or Pork Sandwich**  
**Bar-B-Que Beans**  
**Potato Salad**  
**Cookie**

**Carry Out Only!**

**300 Washington Blvd. NW**  
**Placid Lakes Station #39**  
(Next to the water plant off Placid Lakes Boulevard)

**WELCOME TO THE ALL NEW GOOD TIMES LOUNGE**

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**7pm - 10pm**  
**Drink Specials and Great Music!**

**MAD STRINGERS**  
WED. FEB. 27TH 7 P.M. - 10 P.M.

**STOP IN & SEE ALL THE PROGRESS WE HAVE MADE!**

- New Lounge Area
- New Cocktails
- New Look
- Great Atmosphere!

**Don't forget Sunday's BAR POKER CHALLENGE Starts at 7pm.**

**GOOD TIMES LOUNGE**  
210 SEBRING SQUARE

**IN THE WINN DIXIE PLAZA - NORTH SEBRING**  
**NEXT TO CANG TONG RESTAURANT**  
210 SEBRING SQUARE | SEBRING, FL



# Call to Place Your Ad TODAY 863-385-6155

# CLASSIFIEDS

Garage Sales: 1-3 days, only \$22  
 1 week: \$35  
 2 weeks: \$49  
 4 weeks: \$79

Reach Over **65,000 Readers EVERY DAY!**

**LEGAL NOTICES**

**NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE 22**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION CASE NO. 18000368GCAXMX FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION, Plaintiff,

vs. THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF JERRY B. WATSON, DECEASED; JASON D. WATSON, et al. Defendants).

**AMENDED NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated January 10, 2019, and entered in Case No. 18000368GCAXMX of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for Highlands County, Florida, wherein FREEDOM MORTGAGE CORPORATION is the Plaintiff and THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, BENEFICIARIES, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, ASSIGNEES, LIENORS, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES AND ALL OTHERS WHO MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF JERRY B. WATSON, DECEASED; JASON D. WATSON are the Defendant(s). Robert Germaine as Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the Jury Assembly Room 430 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, FL 33870, at 11:00 AM on March 07, 2019, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

**LOT 76, BLOCK 143, A REVISION OF A RESUBDIVISION OF A PORTION OF PLACID LAKES SECTION 11, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 8, PAGE 77, PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

Property Address: 100 MURRAY CT NW LAKE PLACID, FL 33852

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

Dated this 7th day of February, 2019.

Robert Germaine  
 As Clerk of the Court  
 By: /s/ Chrystal K. Williams  
 As Deputy Clerk

**IMPORTANT**  
 AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. If you are a person with a disability who needs assistance in order to participate in a program or service of the State Courts System, you should contact the Office of the Court Administrator at (863)534-4686 (voice), (863)534-7777 (TDD) or (800)955-8770 (Florida Relay Service), as much in advance of your court appearance or visit to the courthouse as possible. Please be prepared to explain your functional limitations and suggest an auxiliary aid or service that you believe will enable you to effectively participate in the court program or service.  
 17-075554-Mam  
 February 16, 23, 2019

**Find your Best Friend in the Classifieds!**

**NOTICE OF SALE 30**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO. 18000245GCAXMX WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., Plaintiff,

v. PEDRO MERCADO GAMBOA A/K/A PEDRO MERCADO; MARCELA VEGA; UNKNOWN TENANT 1; UNKNOWN TENANT 2; Defendants.

**NOTICE OF SALE**  
 Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on November 19, 2018, in this cause, in the Circuit Court of Highlands County, Florida, the clerk shall sell the property situated in Highlands County, Florida, described as:

**LOT(S) 16, BLOCK 3 OF SEBRING HILLS SOUTH UNIT NO. 3 AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 10, PAGE 10, ET SEQ., OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

a/k/a 400 PARROT AVE, SEBRING, FL 33870

at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash, in the Jury Assembly Room in the basement of the Highlands County Courthouse, located at 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, FL 33870-3867, on **March 07, 2019** beginning at 11:00 AM.

If you are a person claiming a right to the funds remaining after the sale, you must file a claim with the clerk no later than 60 days after the sale. If you fail to file a claim you will not be entitled to any remaining funds.

Dated this 21st day of December 2018.

Robert W. Germaine  
 Clerk of the Circuit Court  
 By: /s/ Chrystal K. Williams  
 Deputy Clerk

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the Office of the Court

**NOTICE OF SALE 30**

Administrator, 255 N. Broadway Avenue, Bartow, Florida 33830, (863) 534-4686, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711. 1000001146

Feb. 17, 24, 2019

**2000**



**EMPLOYMENT**

**HELP WANTED 2001**

**Genpak**

Genpak LLC, a leading manufacturer of disposable food-service packaging, is seeking to fill the following positions in our Sebring plant.

- ★ Packers
- ★ Quality Inspectors
- ★ Electrician
- ★ Maintenance Mechanic
- ★ Parts Administrative Asst.

We offer a highly competitive compensation package, insurance & retirement benefits.  
**Apply in Person** at 116 Shicane Dr., Sebring, FL 33870 & bring your resume. GenPak is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



**CPA Tax Accountant**  
 For immediate hire. Wanted CPA or CPA candidate. Req'd 5 yr exp in income tax and QuickBooks, BA in acctg. If not CPA, must be eligible for cert. DFWP. Send res. & ref. to [info@romancpa.com](mailto:info@romancpa.com) or Fax 863-314-9906.

**Wanted Part-Time CDL Class-A Driver-** Sebring based trucking company is looking for Drivers. Home nightly. 3+ yrs experience preferred. Must be at least 25 yrs old & able to lift 60 lbs. Be able to pass a DOT physical & drug screen. **Apply in person** 11a-3p MF at 151 Deer Trail East, Sebring.

**The City of Avon Park** is accepting applications for the following positions;  
 ★ State Certified Firefighter  
 ★ Director of Infrastructure  
 ★ Administrative Executive Assistant  
 Please visit the City of Avon Park's website <http://avonpark.cc> to view details on the positions and to apply.

**EQUIPMENT OPERATOR** for grove equip. Clean Florida Driver License required. Pay based on experience. Drug-free workplace. Apply in person 8am - 11am & 1pm - 4pm Monday- Friday @ 109 Arron Dr., Lake Placid, FL 863-465-2821 or office@iplcp.com

**Exp'd Excavator & Loader**  
 Demo work; Mechanical Skills & Dump Truck Exp; Class A CDL a plus! **863-382-1228**



**MAINTENANCE ASSISTANT**  
 Royal Care of Avon Park currently has a Full Time Maintenance Assistant position. Must be able to perform general maintenance and repair to facility and equipment which may involve plumbing, painting, some electrical and light housekeeping. **Apply in person at Royal Care of Avon Park**, 1213 W Stratford Rd., Avon Park, FL 863-453-6674. EOE, F/F, DFWP

**FT Truck Driver-Avon Park**  
 HS Diploma or GED; 1 yr verifiable experience & CDL "A" current DOT certificate required. \$18/hr Must pass background check. **Call 800-929-2715** ask for Mike Solis or Rob Dague

**HELP WANTED 2001**

**WORKERS NEEDED**  
**JBO Harvesting, Inc.** is seeking 16 people for temporary nursery work, primarily loading plants, in Zolfo Springs, FL 03/18/2019 to 09/30/2019. Applicants must be able to perform all aspects of nursery work \$11.24 an hr is guaranteed. ¾ of contract guaranteed. Work tools, supplies, and equipment will be provided at no cost to the worker. Free housing, for those that cannot reasonably return to their permanent residence at the end of each working day. Transportation and subsistence expenses to the worksite will be provided or paid by the employer upon completion of 50% of the work contract. All applicants will have to complete an interview before employment is granted. For more information, contact Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, Office of Workforce Services, Alien Labor Certification Program, Caldwell Building, MSC-G300, 107 East Madison Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-4140 (850) 921-3207 or Jesus Barajas @ 273-8870 and mention job number FL10862121.

**NEED A JOB? CHECK THE CLASSIFIEDS!**

**FULL TIME GRAPHIC ARTIST WANTED**

Do you have a creative eye? Solid design skills? Enjoy working in an exciting environment? We are building a design team and we want you to be a part of it!

- Create ads and design covers for special sections and other publications.

- Some nights and weekends may be required. Experience in InDesign and Adobe Creative Suite preferred. Proofreading skills a must.

The **Highlands News-Sun and Highlands Sun** offers a competitive compensation package including salary plus incentive, a benefit package, and plenty of opportunity for advancement.

We are a drug and tobacco free workplace. Pre-employment drug/nicotine screening required.

Send resume and design samples to:  
**Annette Frederick, Senior Graphic Artist**  
[annette.frederick@highlandsnewsun.com](mailto:annette.frederick@highlandsnewsun.com)  
 315 US Hwy 27 N., Sebring, FL 33870.

**HIGHLANDS NEWS-SUN**  
 YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1919

**POOL TECH NEEDED!**  
 We Will Train!  
 Dependable, clean driving record.  
**Apply in Person at 135 US Hwy 27 N., Sebring**

**BIOLOGY AND CHEMISTRY INSTRUCTORS (FT)**  
 Application review begins (both positions) on 4/7/19. For details and to apply visit <http://sfsc.interviewexchange.com> 863-784-7132. EA/EO.

**SOUTH FLORIDA State College**

**LIBRARY ASSISTANT (FT)**  
 Application deadline: 3/17/19. For details and requirements visit <http://sfsc.interviewexchange.com> 863-784-7132. EA/EO VET'S-PRF.

**SOUTH FLORIDA State College**

**Senior gentleman needs live-in caregiver/housekeeper.**  
 Room, board + \$800/mo, private quarters. Golf Hammock area. **863-382-0555**

**Service Technician/Helper Needed-** Exp. preferred but willing to train skilled person. **Apply in person at ABC Appliance, 13611 US HWY 98, Sebring.**

**HELP WANTED 2001**

**wellpath RECOVERY SOLUTIONS**  
**CUSTODY TECHNICIAN (CT) Wellpath/ FCCC**

**NEW RATES!** This position assists C/O's in maintaining custody, safety of residents. Assist with other duties. Benefits, 401k, career opportunity. High school diploma or equivalent required. 1 yr. direct care experience in a forensic, correctional, mental health or hospital setting preferred  
<https://wellpathcareers.com/>  
**13619 SE Hwy 70, Arcadia**

**Turn your trash into cash! Advertise your yard sale!**

**wellpath RECOVERY SOLUTIONS**

**MAINTENANCE TECH. (PROFESSIONAL HANDYMAN) Wellpath/ FCCC**

Maintenance service & repairs of plumbing, carpentry, painting, plastering, machine servicing & electrical servicing. High school diploma or equivalent required. 1 yr. of general maintenance. EPA cert. for refrigerants or HVAC training preferred.  
<https://wellpathcareers.com/>  
**13619 SE Hwy 70, Arcadia**

**wellpath RECOVERY SOLUTIONS**

**THERAPEUTIC SECURITY TECHNICIAN (TST) Wellpath/ FCCC**

**NEW RATES!** Front-line support to Residents in living units by continuously monitoring residents & unit activities. Benefits, 401k, promotional opportunity. High school diploma or equivalent required. 1 yr. direct care experience in a forensic, correctional, mental health or hospital setting preferred.  
<https://wellpathcareers.com/>  
**13619 SE Hwy 70, Arcadia**

**PROFESSIONAL 2010**

Caregiver needed for 64 yr old woman with muscular dystrophy. 3 days a week, hours vary, must be able to operate a sit-to-stand manual lift, 863-840-3139

**SUNEVENTS.COM**

**Marketing Specialist Wanted**

Love your marketing work, but want to work for a small, high-growth business? Want a job that will stretch your skill base~ technical & managerial? Does crazy busy sound like fun to you?

Sun Events, one of the largest independent concert promoters in Florida, is looking for a lead for its marketing efforts. Marketing tools used actively by Sun Events include: email, Facebook, print advertising, press releases, street teams, Google search and videos.

You don't need to be an expert in every area, just willing to learn what you don't know and to enjoy a big challenge.

To apply, contact **David Dunn-Rankin at: David@D-R.Media**

**CLERICAL/OFFICE 2020**

**KISS 107.5 WFTM FM**  
**1390 AM STEREO**

**PT Administrative Secretary**

A skilled clerical & technical position responsible for providing office support functions related to the Radio Stations activities, including receiving calls from listeners, issuing related winning tickets, coupons, etc; and maintaining administrative control mechanisms.

**Requirements:**  
 Must have ability to operate office equipment, use word processing and spreadsheet programs, Windows software, ability to interact effectively with the public & co-workers. High School Diploma or G.E.D. equivalent; 2-3 years of clerical experience, preferably in an automated and computer interactive environment. Valid FL Driver's License.  
**Apply in Person** after 2pm at Kiss 107.5, 801 US Hwy 27 S Suite 5, Sebring.

**MEDICAL 2030**

**SUNCOAST MENTAL HEALTH CENTER**

**Mental Health Therapist**

- ★ Okeechobee, full-time, Fee-for-Service.
- ★ Differential pay for bilingual applicants.
- ★ Education: Master's degree in Behavioral Science or related field. Preference given to LMHC, LMFT, or LCSW, licensed by State of Florida.

To Apply: Email [ccordeiro@smhcinc.org](mailto:ccordeiro@smhcinc.org) or fax 772-466-5578

**Oaks at Avon**  
 Readers Choice Award Facility

**HIRING RNs**  
 ★ New Wages ★  
 Full-Time & Part-Time Positions

Flexible Shifts Available  
 Career Advancement Opportunities  
 All Eligible Applicants will be Interviewed Directly.  
**Apply at 1010 US Hwy 27 N., Avon Park or fax resume to Tammy Padilla at 863-453-5308**

**Oaks at Avon**  
 A NOT FOR PROFIT FACILITY

**Seize the sales with Classified!**

**OAKS AT AVON**  
 Readers Choice Award Facility

◆ **HIRING CNAs** ◆  
 Full/Part-Time, all shifts ~ **New Wages!!**

~ **Benefits for FT!!**  
**Apply at 1010 Hwy 27N Avon Park or fax resume to Tammy Padilla at 863-453-5308**

**Oaks at Avon**  
 A NOT FOR PROFIT FACILITY

**Oaks at Avon**  
 Readers Choice Award Facility

★ **HIRING LPNs** ★  
 Full-Time & Part-Time Career Advancement Opportunities

**Highly Competitive Salaries**  
 All Eligible Applicants will be Interviewed Directly  
**Apply at 1010 US Hwy 27 N., Avon Park or fax resume to Tammy Padilla at 863-453-5308**

**Oaks at Avon**  
 A NOT FOR PROFIT FACILITY

**Full-Time Receptionist**  
 For outpatient imaging center. Exp. w/insurance & authorizations required. M-F, 8a-5p & includes benefit package!  
**Email resumes to: cficbeth@gmail.com**

**FT Tech needed** for fast-paced Ambulatory Surgery Center. Must be motivated to learn & available to work flexible hrs. Willing to train. Fax Resume: 863-471-6834 or Email Resume: [cindy\\_king@secadmin.com](mailto:cindy_king@secadmin.com)

**MEDICAL 2030**

**THE PALMS OF SEBRING**

**RN/LPN-Long Term Care ★ Sign On Bonus ★**

**CNA-Long Term Care ★ Sign On Bonus ★**

**NA-Assisted Living**

★ **Rewarding Work Environment**  
 ★ **Competitive Compensation and Benefits!**

**Join Our Team. Voted Best in Highlands County!**

**Apply:**  
 at [www.palmsfsebring.com](http://www.palmsfsebring.com)  
 Email resume to: [mbruns@palmsfsebring.com](mailto:mbruns@palmsfsebring.com) or In Person at: 725 S. Pine St., Sebring, FL 33872.

**centurion.**

**RN & LPN Opportunities!**

Centurion is seeking FT, PT & PRN RNs & LPNs for a variety of day and night shifts at our Avon Park, FL location with the FL Dept. of Corrections. We offer competitive pay, great benefits, generous paid time off, & advancement opportunities.

**Apply online at:**  
[centurionjobs.com](http://centurionjobs.com) or call **Tiffany at 352-289-6074** for more info.  
**Email Resume to:**  
[tiffany@teamcenturion.com](mailto:tiffany@teamcenturion.com)

**RESTAURANT/ HOTEL 2040**

**Kitchen Manager/Cook**  
 For fraternal organization wants person w/at least 3 years experience manager/cooking with Kitchen Certification. Need to promptly address food issues, good interpersonal skills to understand and guide volunteers. Will order kitchen supplies & understand flow of meals. 20-30 hours week.

**Email Resumes To:**  
[lpelk2661@gmail.com](mailto:lpelk2661@gmail.com)  
 or fax 863-465-5077  
**Appointments only**

**Sandwich Makers Wanted!!**

**Downtown Deli is Now Hiring.** Wage based on exp. **Apply in person** Wed-Sat 9-11a or 2-4p. Call 863-471-3532 for directions only. 231 S. Ridgewood Dr., Sebring

**Get the Word out - Advertise in the Classifieds!**

The Sandhill Grill in Avon Park is seeking qualified **Servers and Bartenders** to join our opening team. The right person will be passionate about food & service & thoroughly enjoy creating excellent experiences for our guests. The ideal candidate will have a friendly, outgoing personality and at least 2 years of previous service experience in a bustling, sit down restaurant setting.

**Responsibilities/Skills:**  
 (include but not limited to)  
 Greeting customers; taking food & beverage orders and serving them in a timely manner; memorize our food and beverage menu; promptly address food/service issues & refer to manager if necessary; provide attentive service to every customer; ability to lift 25lbs unassisted; excellent written & verbal skills; knowledge of food service regulations a plus. **Apply in person** Monday-Friday between 2-4. 2250 Little Lake Bonnet Rd., Avon Park.

**GENERAL 2100**

**Nursery Workers Needed**  
 For Ornamental Plant Nursery. Apply: Peace River Growers, Inc., 3521 N. Nursery Rd., Zolfo Springs, FL 33890. EOE



**PART TIME/ TEMPORARY 2110**

**Lakeshore Mall Hiring Security Officers**  
Part-Time Security Officers with Security Class D License  
**Apply at the Mall Office:**  
901 US Hwy 27 N., Suite 68, Sebring, FL

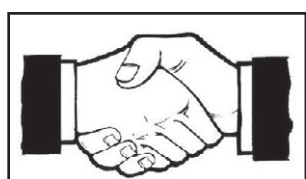
**SEEKING EMPLOYMENT 2120**

**Seeking Job for Private Senior Care~Retired CNA w/20yrs exp. Exc. references. 24/hr care avail. 937-631-3261**



**NOTICES**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS 3010**



**Do You Need More Business?**  
Reach out to all of Highlands County with 2 publications plus 2 websites to Advertise Your Business!!

Let customers Find You by advertising your business on the Business & Services Page!

Mention this ad and Call Today !! 863-658-0307



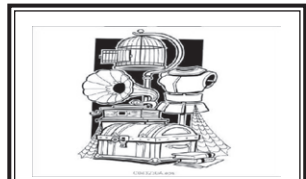
**THINGS TO DO 3030**

**Sebring Hills Bingo Games-Thursdays 6-9pm**  
Snack bar Opens: 4pm  
200 Lark Ave. 863-382-1554

**6000**



**MERCHANDISE**



**HIGHLANDS HOT DEALS!**

Do you have stuff to sell at \$500 or less? Advertise your merchandise now in the Classified Section!

**\$3 for 3 Lines  
\$4 for 4 Lines  
\$5 for 5 Lines**

Call 863-385-6155 or 863-658-0307



**GARAGE SALES 6014**

**Avon Park-10a-5p Sun. thru Wed.** at 7677 E. Horse Hammock Rd. Kubota RTV 900, Burgman 650 scooter, tools etc

**GARAGE SALES 6014**

**Get BIGGER RESULTS with a Highlands News-Sun Garage Sale Ad- ONLY \$22 for 4 lines.....!**  
Call 863-385-6155 in Highlands County

**Sebring- 10a-2p Sun only at 1500 Spring Hill Ct.** Cut glass-ware, Corell dishes, other kitchenware & collectibles.

**SEWING 6026**

**Dressmaker's Zig Zag Sewing Mach-** all metal parts. In cabinet. \$50. 863-465-5745 (call mornings)

**HOUSEHOLD GOODS 6030**

**Lamps for bedrooms,** 2 brass & crystal & 2 wte ceramic base, \$100 ea. set - 863-385-6414

**Queen Comforter Set-**w/bed skirt, shams & toss pillows. Lt gray/white. \$20 937-541-5055

**FURNITURE 6035**

2 brown leather swivel rocker recliners, 1 manual \$150; 1 electric \$200. 863-314-0497.

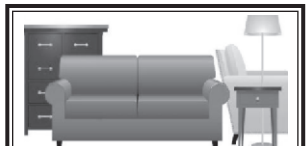
**Curio Cabinet - glass & brass w/mirror back** 60"L x 16"W x 30"H, \$250.00 - 863-385-6414

**Dining Rm Set-Hard rock maple,** 4 chairs, 2 leafs. \$200. 517-315-9780

**Dining room set-maple drop leaf table w/2 inserts,** 3 side chairs, 1 arm chair. Exc. cond! \$150. Pics avail. 573-434-9159



**DOWNTOWN MALL & NEW "DELI" NOW OPEN WED-SAT 9-5**  
★ 6 desks from \$29  
★ 150 pics & posters from \$5  
★ 8 sofas from \$85  
★ Sofa Bed Only \$89  
231 S. Ridgewood, near the Circle, Sebring 863-471-3532



**We Buy/Sell Clean Used Furniture. Best Prices in Town!** Sebring Furniture 1542 Lakeview Dr. (next to Save-a-Lot) 863-386-1119

**Leather Loveseat-**cream good cond. \$50 863-655-1404

Wicker queen headboard, like new condition, \$25, 878-208-2708.

**Wooden Tea Cart-**from 1950's. Leaf opens to be a table. \$75. 954-980-9733

**ELECTRONICS 6038**

**Case for iPad or iPad2** with removable bluetooth keyboard, brn leather, \$30-863-385-6414

**ANTIQUES COLLECTIBLES 6070**

Antique Singer sewing machine, trendle type, \$300, 502-330-4248.

**Elephant Collection,** eclectic collection of elephants, many different mediums, incl., framed prints. Priced separate or \$250 for collection- 863-385-6414

**BICYCLES/ TRICYCLES 6135**

**3 wheel ladies' bike-** like new. \$75. 757-869-7488

**Assorted Adult & Childrens Bicycles \$25 and up.** 863-414-8088

**PHOTOGRAPHY/ VIDEO 6140**

**Camera-Panasonic Lumix Digital DMC-ZS1,** 10.1MP w/12x wide angle mega opt image stabilized zoom & 2.7" LCD, tri-pod/manual incl., \$175.00 - 863-273-7625

**PHOTOGRAPHY/ VIDEO 6140**

**Photographic Smith Victor Lights,** full set incl, stands, barn doors, filters, all for \$250.00, call for list - 863-385-6414

**Tripod,** majestic mdl 2500, hvy duty & gearhead mdl 1400, 3/8 mount, platform 3 x 3 x 5/8, both \$200 - 863-385-6414

**LAWN & GARDEN 6160**

Gravelly ZT34 **Zero turn mower** like new, used 1/2 season. Cost \$2,800 new, sell for \$1,500. 937-781-6837 (Spring Lake)

**Landscape Lighting,** brand new in box, portfolio 120 watt pwr pk w/6, 11 watt low vol lights, \$50.00 - 863-385-6414

**Lawn Mower,** electric, \$55.00 248-600-9470

**TOOLS/ MACHINERY 6190**

Skill table saw, 10", all accessories. Blades, guide, etc., \$125, 502-330-4248.

**RESTAURANT SUPPLIES 6225**

**For Sale: Restaurant Equip.** Triple sink, fryer, tables, stove, chairs, walk-in cooler, coffee machine, etc. 52' Storage trailer: rent or buy. 2346 US 27 N. 863-385-4759/414-0609

**DOGS 6233**



**YORKIE MINIS CKC** Absolutely Adorable & Healthy Great Selection, meet the parents! TEACUPS AVAILABLE Prices starting at \$895+. 941-773-0723 • 322-6709 minimagicYorkie.com

**Small Yorkie Puppies- 1(m): 2 (f) \$800 ea.** Health cert. & 1st set of shots. 954-589-7511 (LP)

**APPLIANCES 6250**

**Coffee Warmer,** Bunn, double burner, \$20.00 - 863-385-6414

**ABE Appliance** "Plug into lower prices" Sales & Service  
★ Used Appliances ★ Up to 90 day warranty. Call 863-655-4995  
Help Wanted

**GE Refrigerator-** Side by side, almond, icemaker in door. \$125. 863-699-6733

**Keurig Coffee Maker-** 1 cup. New, never used. \$30. 937-541-5055

**Portable A/C-** 2 yrs old. 12,000 BTU. \$200. 863-243-4664

**MISCELLANEOUS 6260**



**TROPICAL FRUIT TREES Available in:** 3, 5, 7, 15, 20, 25 & 50 Gallon Pots

**Every Tree You Can Think Of!**

★ Delivery Available **BARRETT'S TREE NURSERY** 91 Carefree Ct., 352-843-7389

**Dinnerware Set,** 48 pc. Taiher fine china, springtime pattern, service for 8 plus extra pieces, small chip on platter, can text picture, \$50 obo 863-273-7625

**Fruit & Vegetable Peeler,** automatic rotary, uses 4 AA batteries, never used, still in box, \$15.00 - 863-273-7625

**Goblets (2),** made in Italy by Ravello, (orange/gold design, \$20.00 for set, 863-273-7625

**Ice Bucket w/tongs,** Lady Anne by Gorham Crystal, 7" dia. x 7.5"H, \$25 - 863-385-6414

**Mirror,** 24" sq., brown frame, \$15.00 - 863-385-6414

**MISCELLANEOUS 6260**

**Stand N Ride by EV Rider-** 3 whl scooter w/option for folding seat or stand, compact easy to transport. New batteries & tires. \$500 obo. 616-902-9122

**Step Stool w/rubber tread** and handle, \$10.00-863-385-6414

**Vellux Throw Blankets (2)** handmade, blue w/wolves & purple w/floral, Exc. cond., \$15.00 each - 863-273-7625

**Find it in the Classifieds!**

White metal window 28x38, brand new, \$25, 878-208-2708.

**Wolf Musical Water Globes** Tune is "Memory" for 1 & "You've got a friend" on the other, \$20 ea., 863-273-7625

**7000**



**TRANSPORTATION**

**AUTOMOTIVE 7005**



**AUTO DEALS & STEALS**

**Sell Your New or Used Auto Easy** Advertise in the Classifieds!

Only \$27.50 for 7 days (4 lines) Add a photo for only \$10 more!



**TOYOTA 7210**

**Toyota Tacoma extra cab** 1999. 130,000 mi, A-1 cond, auto, cold A/C, cust. rims, top- per. Make offer. 863-385-1574, 863-381-2597, 863-465-9100.

**AUTOS WANTED 7260**

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**Some tips to help small business owners manage change**

By **JOYCE M. ROSENBERG** THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — While change at small business- es can come in a variety of forms, owners can improve their chances of success by being strategic and empathic with staffers.

Denise Rousseau, a professor of organizational behavior at Carnegie Mellon University's Heinz College and Tepper School of Business, offers some basics that she calls Change Management 101. First, trust staffers to do what's needed. Don't micromanage them.

"The more autonomy employees have, the easier change will be for them," Rousseau says. And, Rousseau says, give staffers as much information as possible.

"People are your change agents," she says. "They're going to be engaged in it, and they need to have some understanding of the context" of the change.

Here are change management strategies some owners have used:

— Start with a plan, but also run it past an adviser like a management or human-resources consultant. When George Johnson wanted to retire from the Detroit accounting firm that bears his name, he brought in Anthony McCree as managing director. Johnson gradually decreased his involvement in the firm over several years. The transition went well, but Johnson and McCree decided to seek advice quarterly from a consultant. "We wanted to make sure we weren't missing anything," McCree says.

— Talk to staffers one-on-one about how they'll be affected. When Dave Cyphers moved his advertising firm, The Cyphers Agency, 10 miles (16 kilometers) away to Crofton, Maryland, he talked to each employee about the impact the move would have on their commutes. He also mapped out the best routes they could take.

— Don't hide or sugar-coat bad news. After British voters decided their country should leave the European Union, many small companies saw clients pull back on projects. Monica Parker and Julian Pollitt, owners of Hatch Analytics, a small business in London, told their staff the future looked uncertain. But the company survived, and "our team said they felt so honored to be included in not just the good news, but the bad," Parker says.

— When a company is sold, having the outgoing and incoming owners overlap can help employees adjust to the new boss. Trent Peneston joined the Fish Window Cleaning franchise in Houston as general manager, and after a transition period, the previous owner retired. "We thought that would help with any anxiety. And it worked out," Peneston says.



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# RETIRE

FROM PAGE 1D

phase to part-time work, retaining health insurance if they work at least 25 hours a week.

Employers that offer phased retirement typically say the plans are good for business, the GAO report found.

Phased retirement allows both the company and the worker to adjust over time, rather than scrambling to deal with an abrupt departure. Businesses can plan better since they know well in advance when an employee plans to leave, plus they can arrange for experienced workers to train or mentor younger ones, transferring years (and sometimes decades) of employer-specific knowledge.

"Otherwise, years of institutional knowledge could be walking out the door," says Susan Weinstock, vice president for financial resiliency programming at AARP.

## FOR EMPLOYERS, RETIREMENT CAN DRAIN TALENT AND KNOWLEDGE

Most employers realize retirement is a looming issue, with 83 percent of the large employers Willis Towers Watson polled saying significant numbers of their workers are approaching retirement age. In fact,

54 percent of employers believe the loss of talent from retiring workers will be more significant than other labor market risks in the next five years, the survey found.

Employers may not fully grasp, however, how many people may need to keep working because they haven't saved enough, says retirement trends expert Catherine Collinson, CEO and president of the nonprofit Transamerica Institute and Transamerica Center for Retirement Studies.

For example, 7 out of 10 employers polled in last year's Transamerica Survey of Employers Were confident that their workers would retire with adequate retirement savings. But 6 out of 10 employees had similar confidence. (Studies by the Employee Benefit Research Institute have found that 57 percent of U.S. households headed by people ages 35 to 64 are on track with retirement savings.)

## EMPLOYEES CAN BE AFRAID TO ASK

Another disconnect: Employers often think their employees aren't interested in more flexible schedules or phased retirements, because workers haven't asked. But employees may be afraid to inquire, lest they seem less than gung-ho about their jobs or get shoved out

the door before they're ready, Collinson says.

"Employees may not want to tip their hands," she says.

Flexible schedules and phased retirements aren't panaceas, of course. For many, continuing to work simply won't be an option. The Employee Benefit Research Institute found that nearly half of workers retired earlier than they expected for reasons that included layoffs, health issues or the need to care for someone else.

You may think you'll work until you die, in other words, but chances are pretty good that you won't. Those who do want to work longer, and can, may have to take matters into their own hands. Collinson says people can improve their odds of negotiating a phased retirement by keeping their job skills up to date and focusing on job performance.

"A superstar is going to have greater negotiating power than the average employee," she says.

*This column was provided to The Associated Press by the personal finance website NerdWallet. Liz Weston is a columnist at NerdWallet, a certified financial planner and author of "Your Credit Score." Email: lweston@nerdwallet.com. Twitter: @lizweston.*

# HOUSING

FROM PAGE 1D

the national median existing condo price was \$240,600. In California, the statewide median sales price for single-family existing homes in December was \$557,600; in Massachusetts, it was \$375,000; in Maryland, it was \$284,000; and in New York, it was \$272,043.

Looking at Florida's condo-townhouse market in January, statewide closed sales totaled 6,739, down 10.9 percent compared to a year ago. Closed sales may occur from 30- to 90-plus days after sales contracts are written.

"Inventory levels continued to rise across almost every price level in January, while closed sales were down on a year-over-year basis, as price growth continued on a steady path toward moderation," said Florida Realtors Chief Economist Dr. Brad O'Connor.

"At the end of January, there were 13.8 percent more single-family homes listed for sale (active listings/inventory) in Florida than there were a year prior, reaching a statewide level of single-family inventory not seen since March of 2015," O'Connor said. "The ongoing rise in inventory continues to be rather broad-based - among the price tiers tracked by Florida Realtors, single-family

inventory only fell among the small segment of homes priced below \$100,000. This is a significant change from a year ago, when much of the state's mid-tier inventory was still declining.

"Looking at condo-townhouse properties, the statewide count of active listings in January reached its highest level since May of 2012, after rising by 10.1 percent on a year-over-year basis," he said.

According to Freddie Mac, the interest rate for a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 4.46 percent in January 2019, up from the 4.03 percent averaged during the same month a year earlier.

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# STEEL

FROM PAGE 1D

tied in with the product that is being made. He said blue is associated with natural gas as the color of its flame.

There is also another reason for using blue.

"It also sort of ties to one of our main causes we're going to adopt is 'Back the Blue' - law enforcement," Devlin said. "It's a movement across the country that instead of blaming everything on them to support them ..."

Like starting up many businesses, Devlin said it has been a challenge to get it set up.

"There are so many different pieces and components to this," he said, referring to the meter set. "I mean there is like 20, it doesn't look like it, but there are flanges, valves."

The 10-acre site where Steel Blue is located had to be rezoned from agriculture to commercial. There is a 5,000-square-foot building there that Devlin said was empty for several years. He noted that the land was zoned ag with an exception for the building. He said that the property was owned by Highlands Golf, which used to build golf courses. Highlands Golf worked on its

"We're happy to be bringing another business to the community and creating jobs over time."

Charles Devlin  
Co-Owner of Steel Blue

heavy equipment in the building.

"We bought it from the previous owners with the contingency in the contract that we get the rezoning," Devlin said. "And we did. The county staff worked very closely and (was) very supportive."

They plan to expand and will likely be hiring a few more welders by the end of this year.

"We're happy to be bringing another

business to the community and creating jobs over time," Devlin said.

He said Devtech is involved in the community and supports the Avon Park Champions Club and the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) program at Avon Park High School. Devlin added that Steel Blue will also be involved.

Devlin said his family has been in Avon Park since 1977.

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# Did the 2017 tax law change the way Americans give to charities? Here's what early data show

By HAROLD BRUBAKER  
TRIBUNE CONTENT AGENCY

When the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 reduced the incentive to claim tax deductions on charitable giving, there was widespread fear that philanthropic organizations would see a steep fall in donations.

Instead, donations nationwide increased 1.5 percent last year, according to an early assessment released Wednesday by the Blackbaud Institute for Philanthropic Impact.

"There was certainly a lot of talk and speculation about whether charitable giving would significantly decrease because of tax law changes in 2017," said Steve MacLaughlin, vice president of data and analytics at Blackbaud Inc. and senior adviser to the affiliated Blackbaud Institute. "I think what this first real look at the data shows is, no, that didn't happen."

Blackbaud is a publicly traded company based in Charleston, S.C., that makes software used for fund-raising and other functions by nonprofits. It based its analysis on data from 9,029 nonprofit organizations representing \$31.9 billion in total fund-raising in 2018. Since 2016, donations are up 9 percent, which means that 2018's rate of increase, 1.5 percent, was smaller than the two previous years.

Still, nonprofit leaders said they viewed the

1.5 percent increase reported by the Blackbaud Institute as evidence that households donate because they care about nonprofits' missions more than they do about tax deductions.

For example, Interfaith Hospitality Network of Burlington County, which provides temporary housing for homeless families in churches until permanent residences are found, saw its unsolicited donations increase to \$26,000 last year from \$23,000 in 2017, director Patricia Lasusky said. The Network's larger donors, people who give \$100 or \$500, "seem to have come forth with more money," Lasusky said.

"Not everybody gives in order to get a tax deduction. Many people give because they feel that they should give. They feel blessed, they want to bless someone else, or they believe in what the organization is doing," she said.

However, others cautioned that one year is not enough time to draw conclusions about how taxpayers will adjust to the increase in the standard deduction to \$24,000 from \$13,000 for married joint filers and to \$12,000 from \$6,500 for single filers. That increase, along with capping state and local tax deductions at \$10,000, means fewer people will get a tax benefit for charitable donations.

"The new habits of the American taxpayers could

take time to form. You can't know what a trend is based on one year," said Eileen R. Heisman, president and chief executive of Jenkintown's National Philanthropic Trust, which manages \$6.28 billion in charitable assets.

It's possible that many taxpayers are only realizing now, as they do their taxes, that they won't get a deduction for last year's donations, said Abbie R. Newman, executive director of Mission Kids Child Advocacy Center in Norristown, which serves victims of sexual and physical abuse.

"We've been thinking of ourselves as fortunate because we didn't see a reduction in 2018," said Newman, who did not have specifics readily available. "Hopefully we won't see a change in 2019." On its tax return for 2017, Mission Kids reported raising \$625,395, not including government grants.

Last year's gain in donations was uneven across organizations of different sizes. While nonprofits that collect \$1 million or more in donations had an increase of more than 2 percent, charities with less than \$1 million in annual fund-raising logged a 2.3 percent decrease, the Blackbaud Institute reported.

Surrey Services for Seniors, in Devon, which has a fiscal year ending in June, is a bit behind where it was last year, but chief executive Robert

Madonna said he hasn't heard anyone say they were giving less because of tax-law changes. Surrey's tax return for the year ended June 30 says the organization raised \$1.79 million, including \$141,017 from fund-raising campaigns and \$266,399 from events, but excluding government grants.

Jon Biedermann, a vice president at DonorPerfect, a Blackbaud competitor based in Fort Washington, pointed to a possible tax-change wrinkle in the data for a nonprofit fund-raising report due out next week from the Association of Fundraising Professionals' Fundraising Effectiveness Project.

That analysis split donors into three categories based on their largest gifts: up to \$250, between \$250 and \$999, and \$1,000 or more. All three categories of donors increased giving in 2017, but last year only donations from the \$1,000-plus group climbed, said Biedermann, who is on the board of Giving USA, which publishes a benchmark annual report on philanthropy in June. That change could indicate that people who no longer itemize because of tax-law changes donated less, he said.

"Obviously, you have to be careful with causation vs. correlation," Biedermann said. "You can't say it caused it, but there sure is a strong correlation."

# 7 steps to help keep a repossession at bay

By FRANK WITSIL  
TRIBUNE CONTENT AGENCY

Millions of Americans are at least three months behind on their car payments, the benchmark for many lenders to trigger a repossession and a warning light for the economy.

In fact, according to a Federal Reserve Bank report, the number of these troubled borrowers is 7 million, 1 million more than it was in 2010 following the global financial crisis that required an auto industry bailout.

If you are one of these borrowers, or afraid you might get behind, here are some things the experts say you can do:

### Familiarize yourself with the loan

Before you buy a vehicle, shop around for the best financing deals. Consider the interest rate and the length of the loan, not just the amount of the monthly payment.

### Know what you can afford

The car buying process can be exhausting and an auto seller may convince you that, yes, you can buy a car that you may not have the money for a few months later. So before you pick out the car you want — the right color and all the options — set a budget.

### Prioritize your bills and costs

Can you cut some

expenses to save money? Can you pay your car loan — which is secured with the car — before you pay other debts, like a doctor's bill, which won't trigger a repossession.

### Consider using emergency savings

If you've saved for a rainy day and you are now behind, this might be the time to tap into that account. In addition, a tax refund also might help you getting caught up.

### Inform the lender

If you are late, or think you probably will be late, let your lender know. If you are having a hardship, such as a medical problem or job loss, the bank often is understanding and may be able to offer some leniency.

### Ask for consideration

If you miss payment, as the lender to take your situation into account until you can get back on track. You may be able to work out a deal. The bottom line is the creditor doesn't want your car, but it will take it if it thinks you aren't going to make good on what you owe.

### Seek help

If you are overwhelmed, contact a reputable nonprofit credit counseling organization. There may be a fee for the service, but the organization can help organize your finances, negotiate with creditors and help you get caught up.



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# The FUNNIES

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"Good ol' Charlie Brown"  
by SCHULZ

OH, COME ON NOW... BE REASONABLE!

2-24

I TRY TO DO MY BEST! I ALWAYS HAVE YOUR SUPPER READY ON TIME, AND I ALWAYS TRY TO FIX IT JUST THE WAY YOU WANT IT...

BUT NOW YOU'RE GOING TOO FAR!

OH, ALL RIGHT... I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO... I MUST BE OUT OF MY MIND...

SOMETIMES EVEN I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW WISHY-WASHY I AM...

YOU WILL? GOOD... I REALLY APPRECIATE IT...

SO WHAT'S WRONG WITH WANTING TO BE SERVED BY A BEAUTIFUL WAITRESS?

**THE LOCKHORNS**  
BY BUNNY HOEST AND JOHN REINER

CHEZ BOUTIQUE

"I SHOULDN'T BE LONG, LEROY... THERE'S ONLY \$287 LEFT IN MY CHECKING ACCOUNT."

"JUST A MINUTE... I'M PRACTICING MY EXCUSES FOR WHY WE HAVE TO LEAVE THE PARTY EARLY."

CATS

"THE ASPCA CALLED."

"I KNOW YOU'VE HAD THIS EVERY DAY THIS WEEK... THAT'S WHY I SAID IT WOULD BE A SURPRISE."

"WHY DO THEY CALL IT 'COMMON SENSE' WHEN IT'S SO UNCOMMON?"

## Hi and Lois

YOU LOOKED GOOD ON THAT LAST RUN, CHAMP!

SHAUN WHITE BETTER WATCH OUT!

YOU'LL HAVE TO TAKE THE SNOWBOARD SLOPE BY YOURSELF.

SEE YOU AT THE BOTTOM.

LET'S TAKE THIS TRAIL.

WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?

YOU MISSED THE BEST RUN OF THE DAY.

YEAH, BUT I BEAT YOU DOWN.

IT'S NOT A COMPETITION.

WITH THEM, EVERYTHING IS.

**MARY WORTH**

"AS DADDY SAID, LIFE IS 95 PERCENT ANTICIPATION." - GLORIA SWANSON

THAT'S A NICE PICTURE OF YOU ON YOUR PROFILE, ESTELLE!

IT'S FROM A RECENT TRIP...

TO SAN DIEGO LAST MONTH!

WHEN MARY VISITS LIBBY, SHE LEARNS THAT ESTELLE HAS JOINED ONLINE DATING SITE, SILVERDATERS...

HERE'S WHAT I WROTE FOR MY PROFILE, MARY...

I'M PRESENTING MYSELF HONESTLY... "SIXTY YEARS OLD... LIKES CATS... ROMANTIC FICTION..."

"CREATIVE COOKING... TRAVELING... AND PIANO MUSIC..."

"LOOKING FOR A PARTNER WHO'S FUNNY... SMART... ENJOYS CATS, TRAVEL AND MUSIC... FOR A SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP."

MARY BRIGMAN 2/24/19

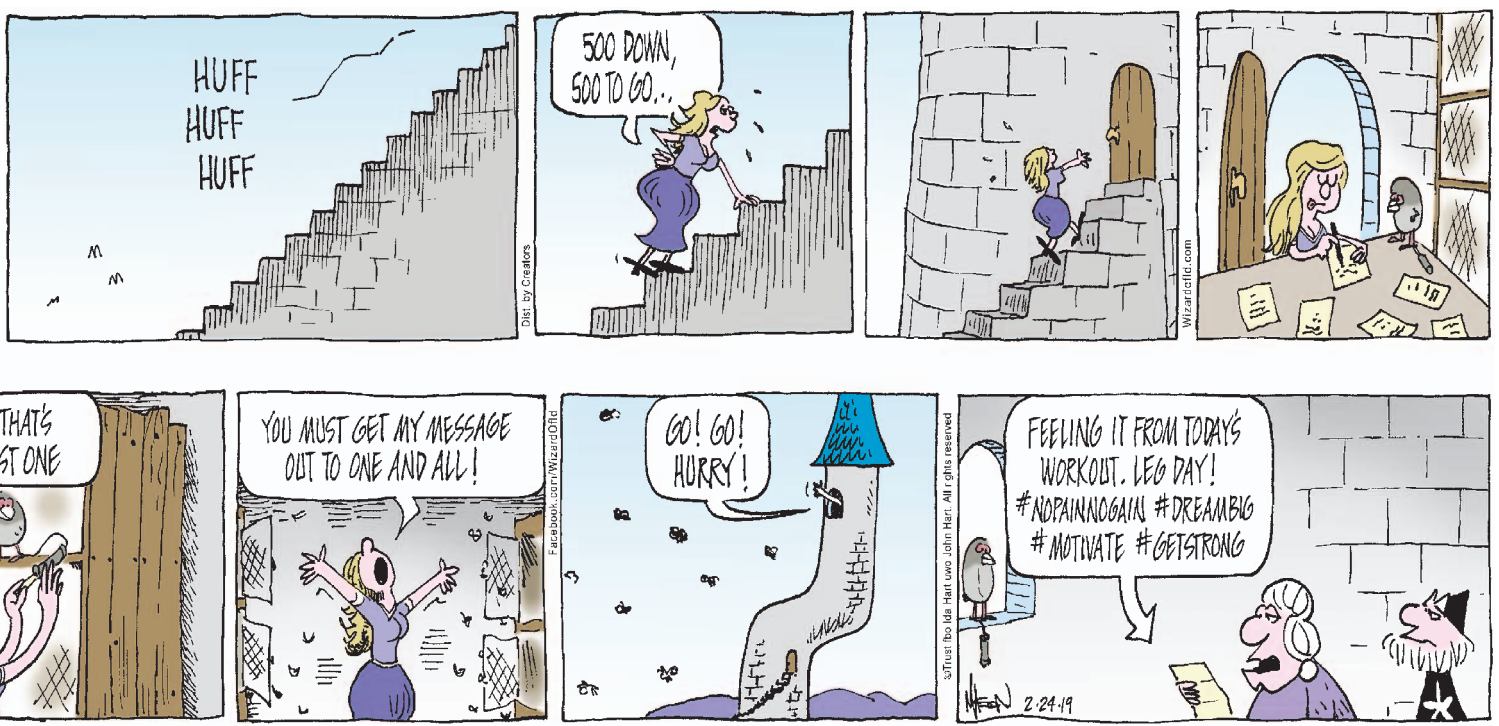
GOOD LUCK MEETING MR. RIGHT, ESTELLE! LET ME KNOW HOW IT GOES!



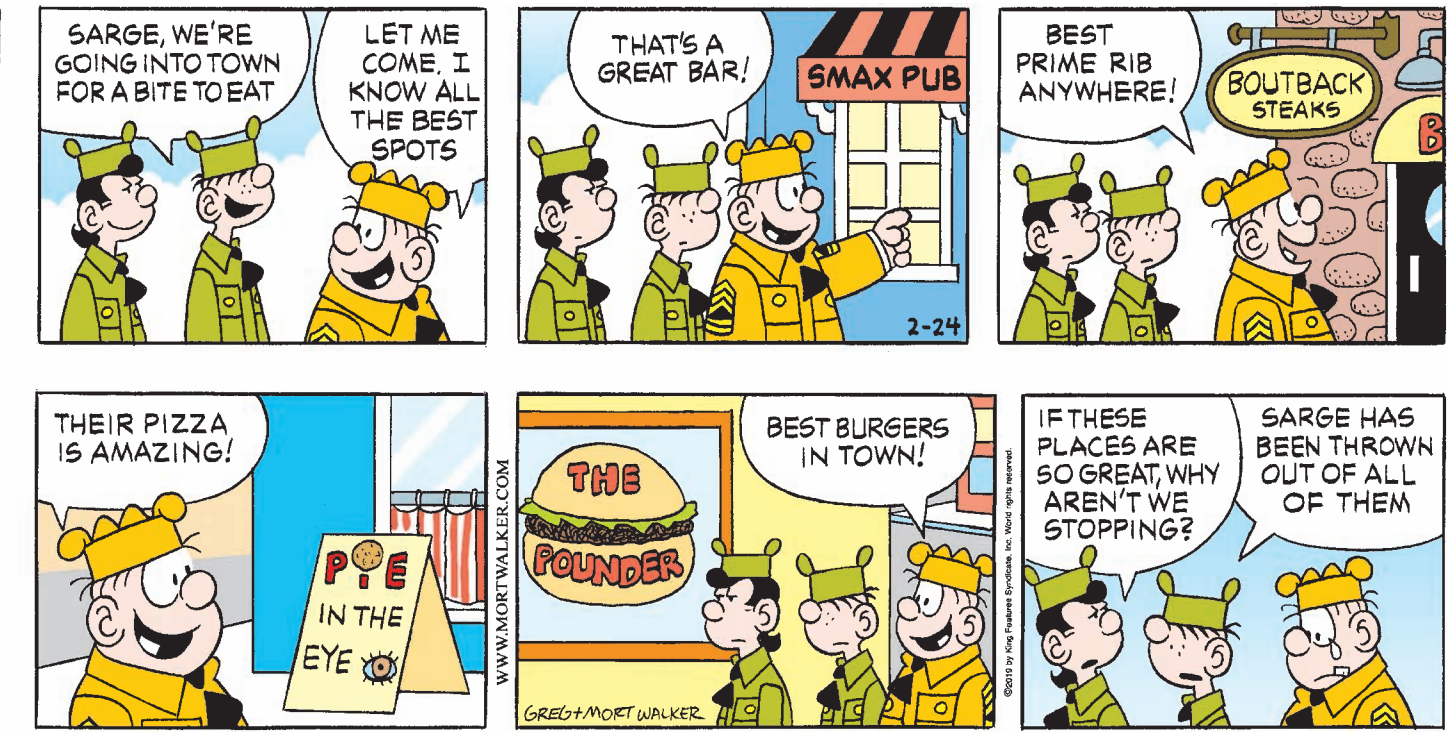
**The FAMILY CIRCUS**  
By **BIL KEANE**



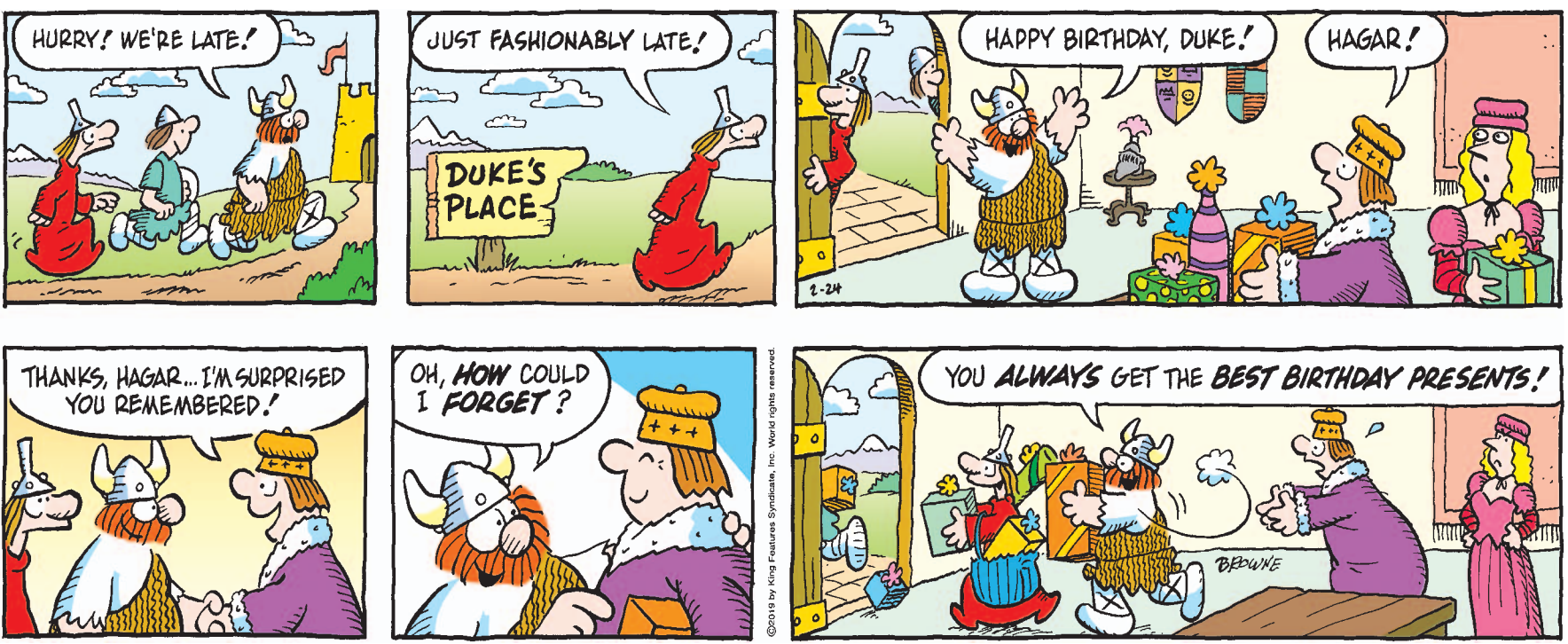
**WIZARD OF ID**  
by Hart, Mastroianni and Parker



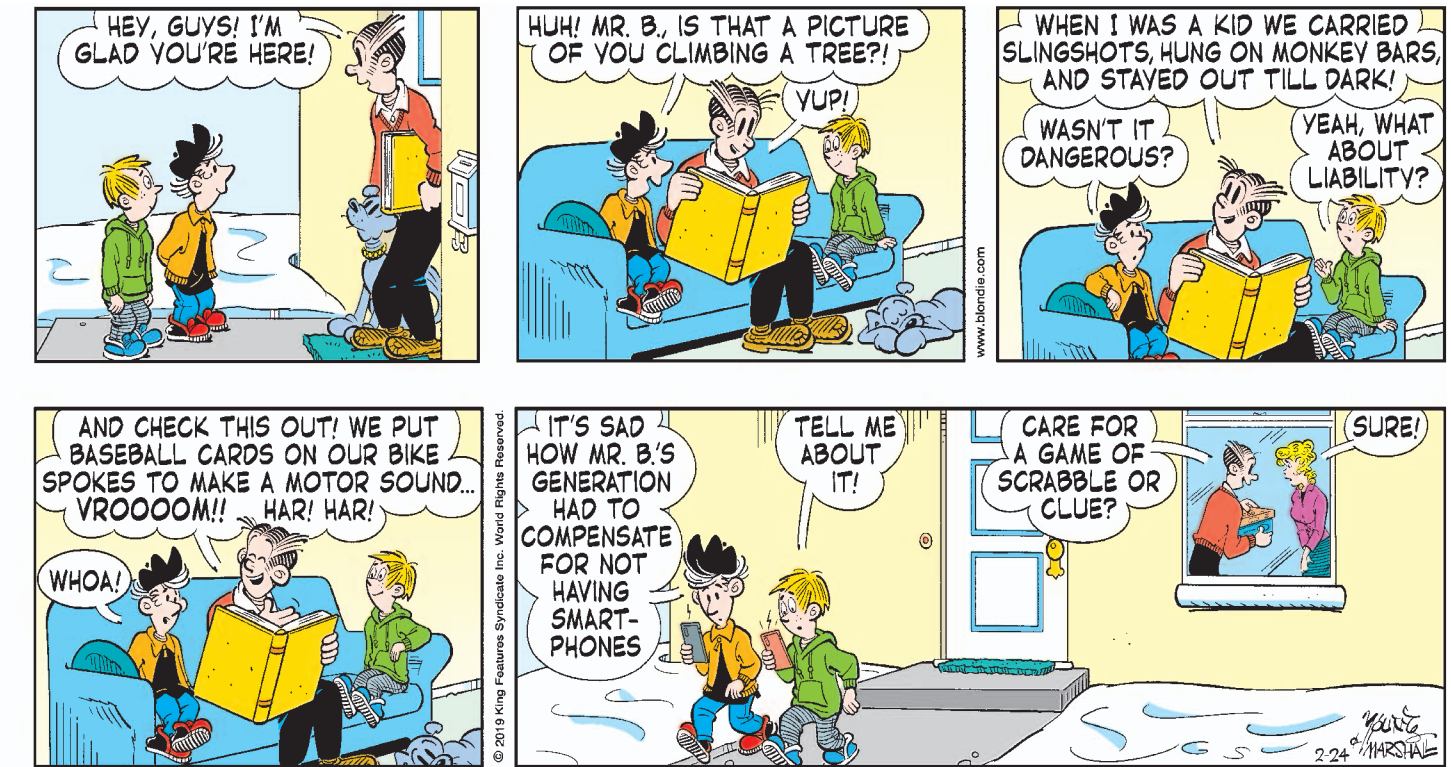
Mort Walker's  
**beetle bailey**



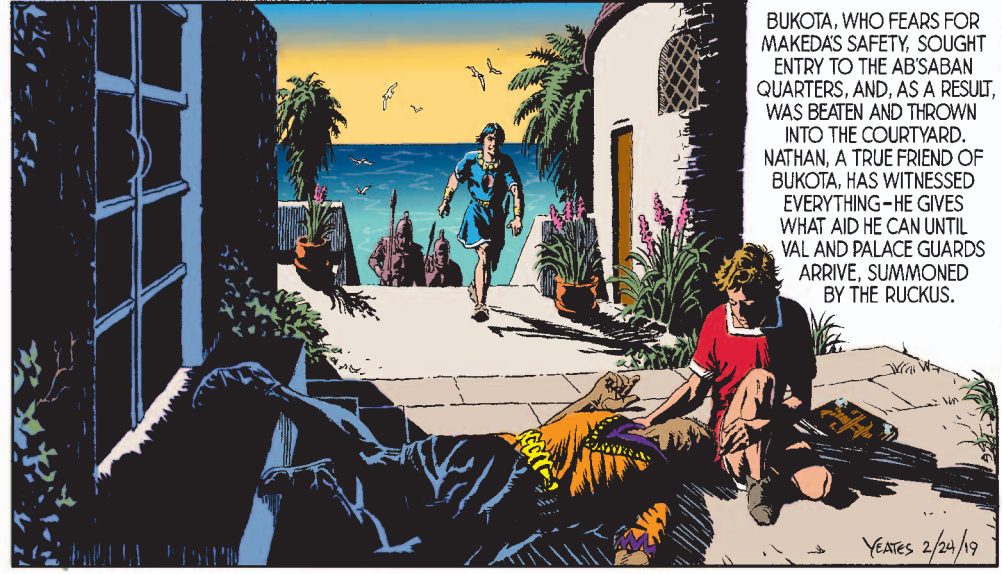
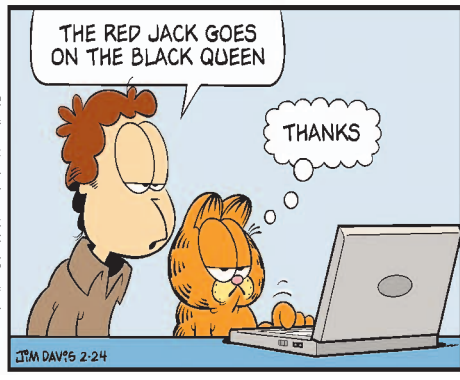
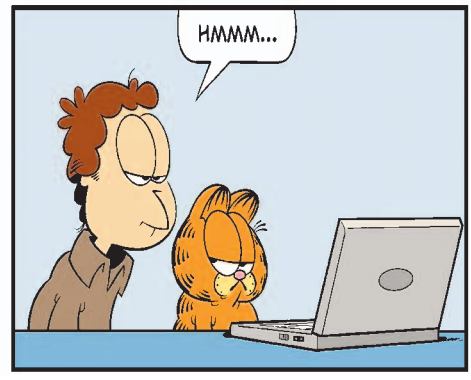
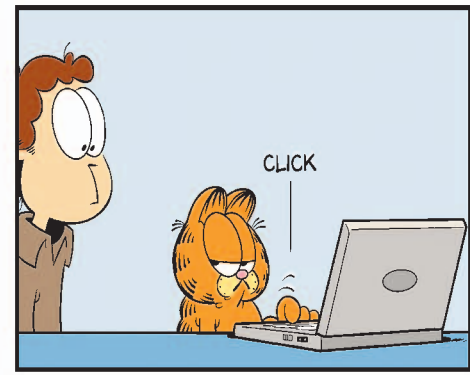
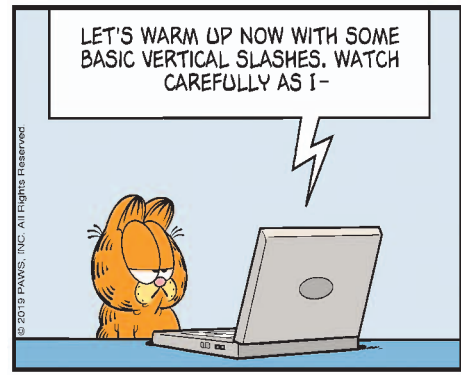
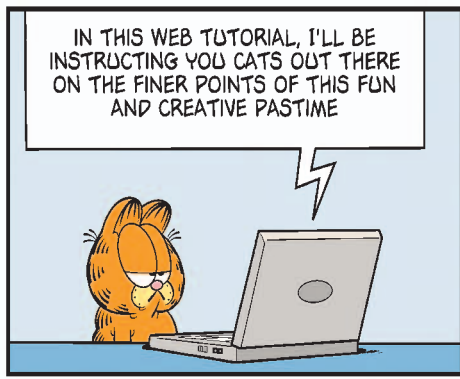
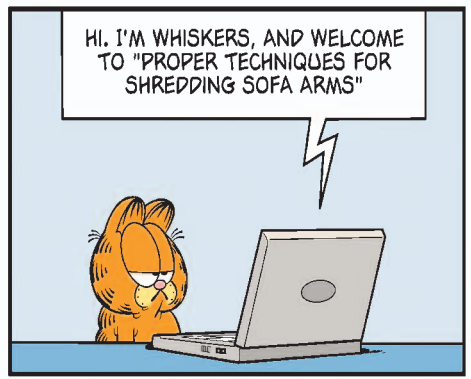
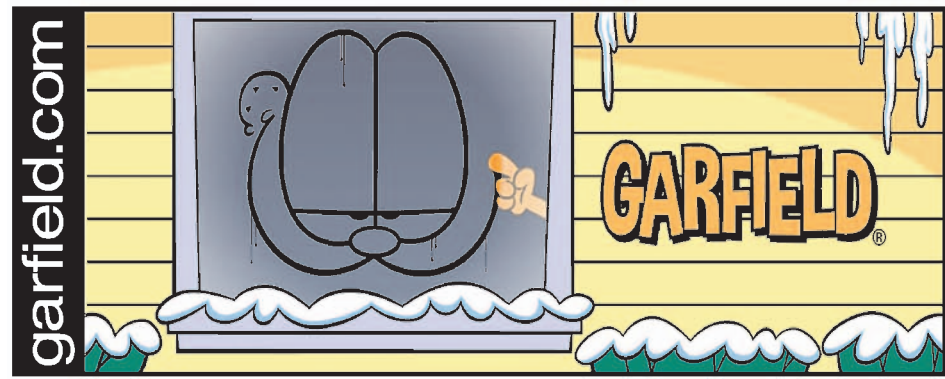
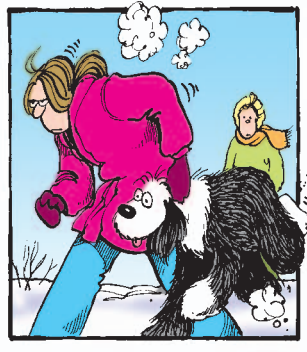
**HAGAR**  
the horrible  
by **DIK BROWNE**



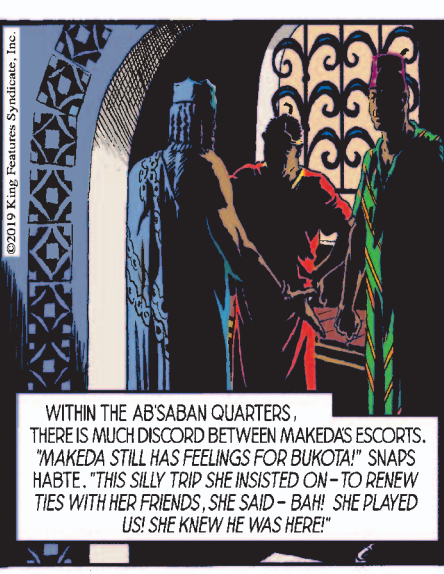
**BLONDIE**  
BY **DEAN KUNIG & JOHN MARSHALL**



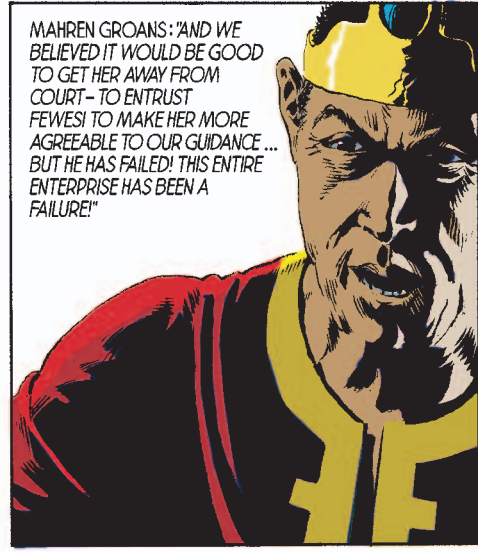




BUKOTA, WHO FEARS FOR MAKEDA'S SAFETY, SOUGHT ENTRY TO THE ABSABAN QUARTERS, AND, AS A RESULT, WAS BEATEN AND THROWN INTO THE COURTYARD. NATHAN, A TRUE FRIEND OF BUKOTA, HAS WITNESSED EVERYTHING—HE GIVES WHAT AID HE CAN UNTIL VAL AND PALACE GUARDS ARRIVE, SUMMONED BY THE RUCKUS.



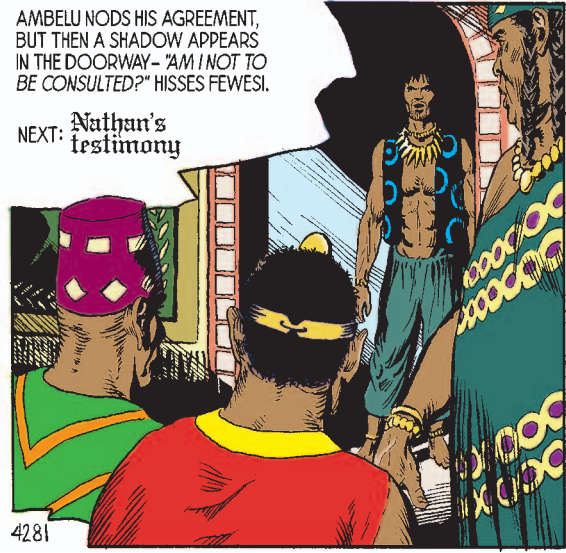
WITHIN THE ABSABAN QUARTERS, THERE IS MUCH DISCORD BETWEEN MAKEDA'S ESCORTS. "MAKEDA STILL HAS FEELINGS FOR BUKOTA!" SNAPS HABTE. "THIS SILLY TRIP SHE INSISTED ON—TO RENEW TIES WITH HER FRIENDS, SHE SAID—BAH! SHE PLAYED US! SHE KNEW HE WAS HERE!"



MAHREN GROANS: "AND WE BELIEVED IT WOULD BE GOOD TO GET HER AWAY FROM COURT— TO ENTRUST FEWESI TO MAKE HER MORE AGREEABLE TO OUR GUIDANCE... BUT HE HAS FAILED! THIS ENTIRE ENTERPRISE HAS BEEN A FAILURE!"



"WE MUST FACE FACTS. BUKOTA HAS COMPROMISED FEWESI'S TRAINING— AND NOW DRAWS LUNDIE ATTENTION. WE MUST RETURN HER TO ABSABA— NOW!"



AMBELU NODS HIS AGREEMENT, BUT THEN A SHADOW APPEARS IN THE DOORWAY— "AM I NOT TO BE CONSULTED?" HISSES FEWESI.

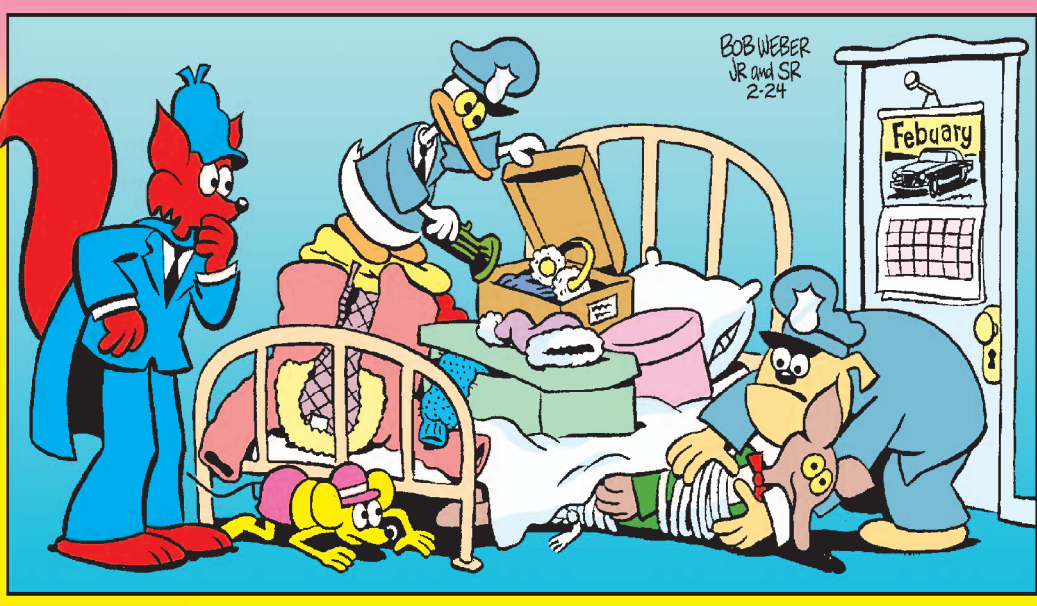
NEXT: Nathan's testimony

SLYLOCK FOX and COMICS FOR KIDS

BY BOB WEBER JR.

Andy Aardvark says he was scheduled to depart for a week-long trip to Australia today, but as he was selecting warm clothes to pack, a burglar broke in, tied him up, and stole his valuable coin collection. Why does Slylock Fox doubt Andy's story and suspects he is attempting to pull an insurance scam?

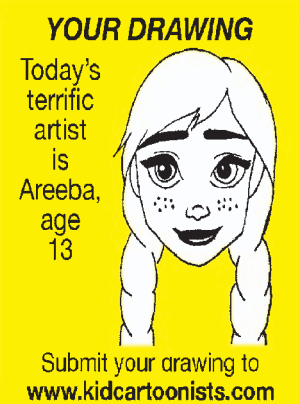
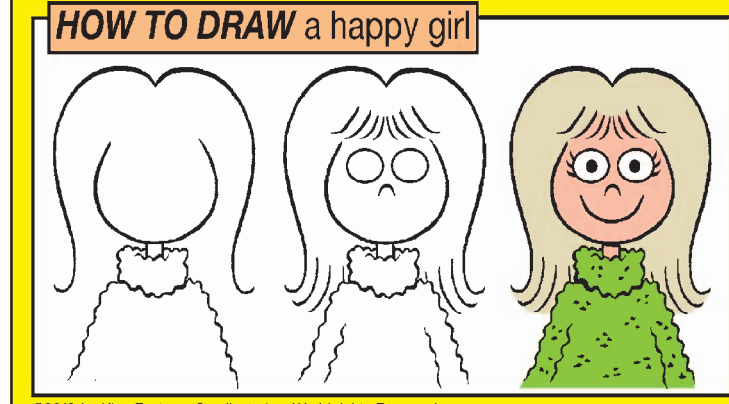
Solution -- February is a summer month in Australia -- February is a winter month in Australia. He forgot that fact while planning his scam.



Spot six differences between these panels.



Answer -- Bug, paw, duck, frog, fish, and bird.



Which one of these animals does not live in Australia?  
 a) Kangaroo  
 b) Koala  
 c) Aardvark  
 d) Wombat  
 e) Platypus

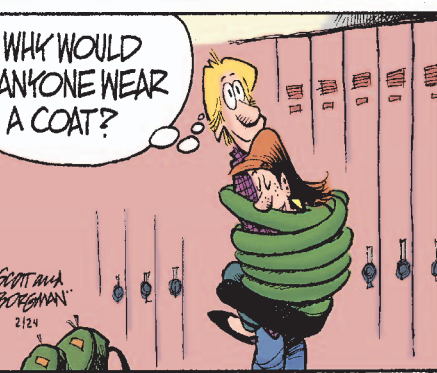
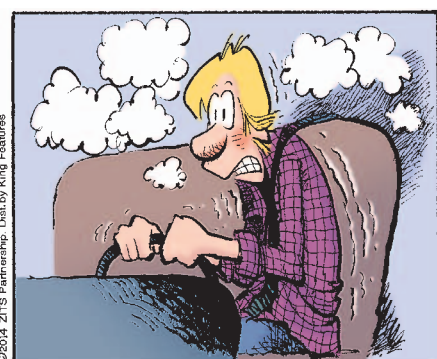
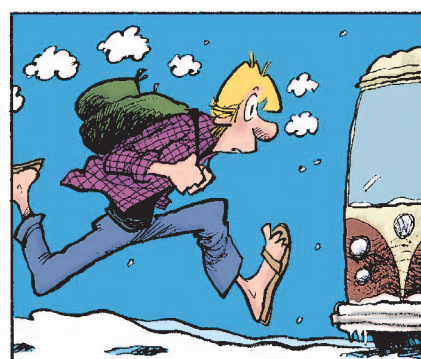
Answer is native to Africa. -- (c) The aardvark is native to Africa.





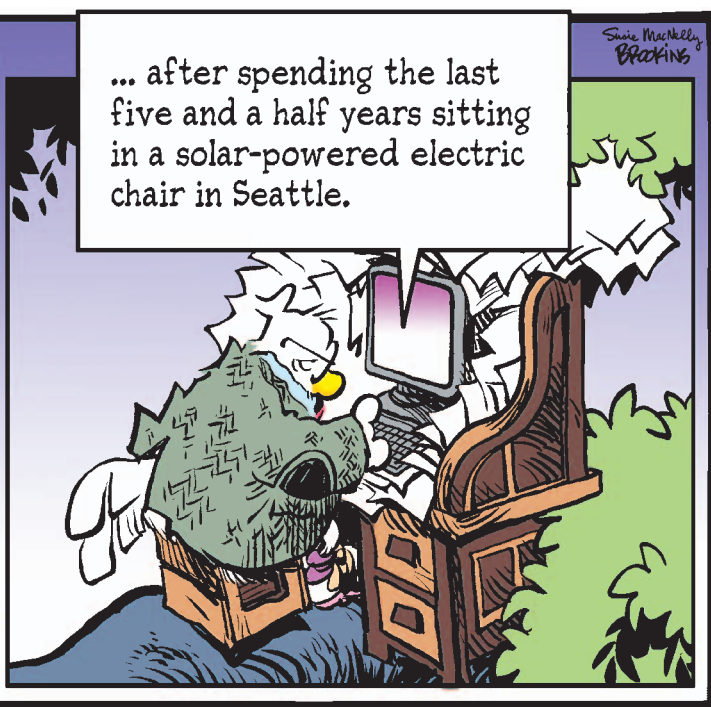
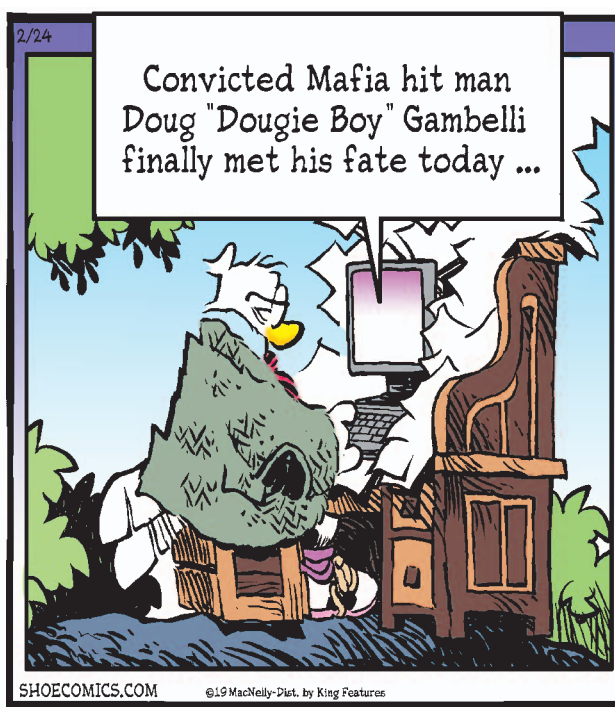
# ZITS

by JERRY SCOTT and JIM BORGMAN



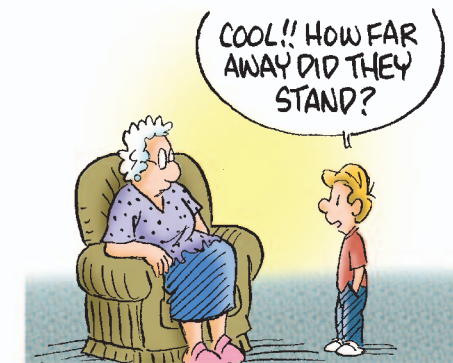
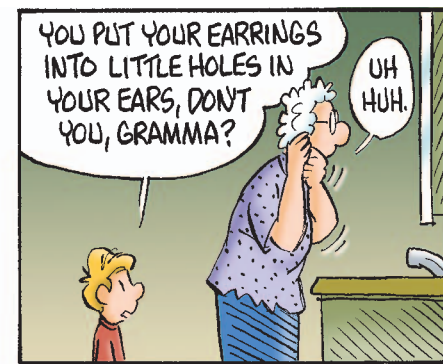
# JEFF MACNELLY'S SHOE

By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



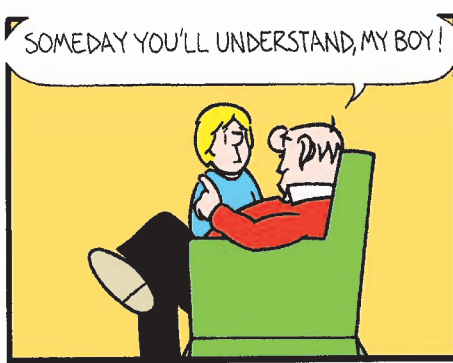
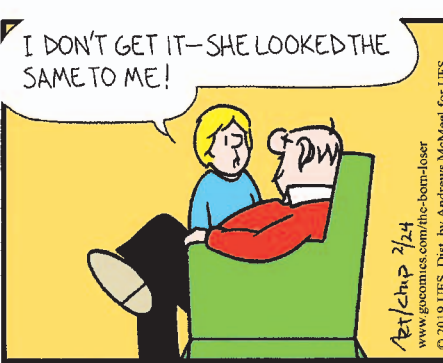
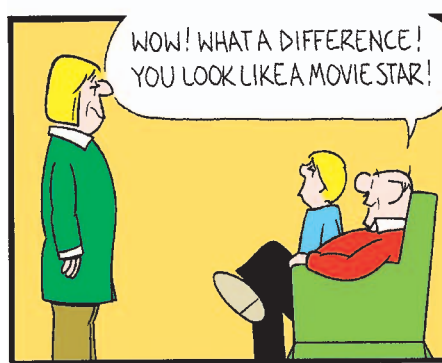
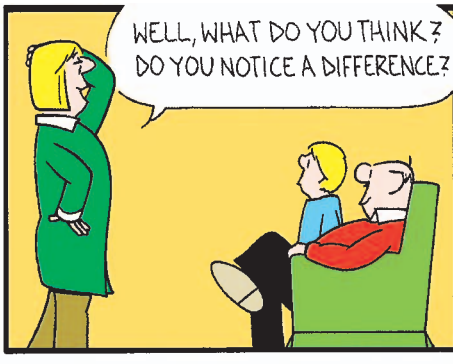
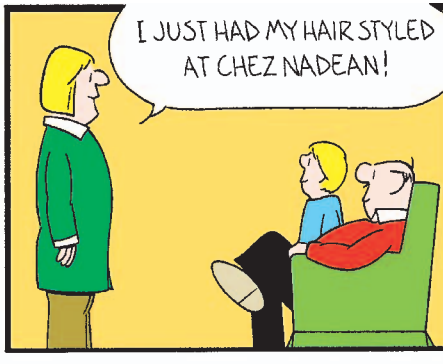
# PICKLES

by BRIAN CRANE



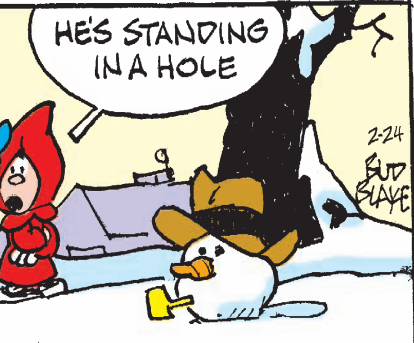
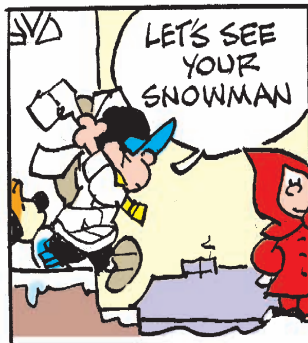
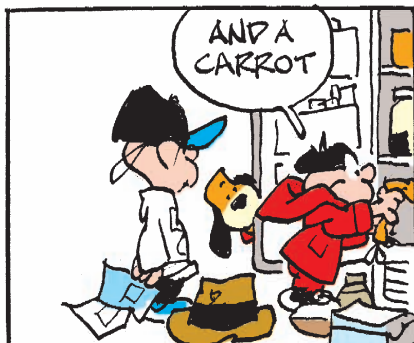
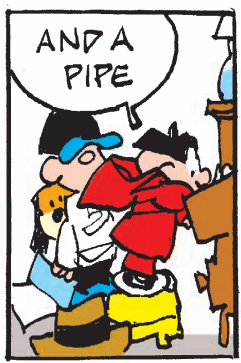
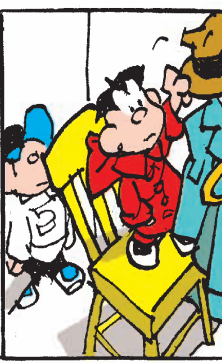
# THE BORN LOSER

by Art & Chip Sansom



# TIGER

BY BUD BLAKE







# BABY BLUES

Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

HAMMIE, IF YOU'RE GOING OUTSIDE, BE SURE TO BUNDLE UP.

AWW, MOM!

DO I HAVE TO?

JUST WEAR A SCARF.

REALLY?

IT WOULD MAKE YOUR MOTHER VERY HAPPY.

OKAY.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING??

MAKING MOM HAPPY.

# BARNEY GOOGLE and SNUFFMITH

BY JOHN ROSE

YONDER COME TH' MILLERS !!

YEP, AN' THA-A-R THEY GO !!

MY KINDA NEIGHBORS !!

YA SEE TH' SHERIFF ENNYWHAR, LUKEY ?

NOPE !!

NO BOAR...

NO BEAR...

WELL, THAR'S GOTTA BE SUMPIN' CHASIN' 'EM !!

'CUZ WHO TH' HECK WOULD RUN JEST FER TH' FUN OF IT ?!

BY MASTROIANNI AND HART

BUMP

SUTHER SUTHER

I WISH THE THAW WOULD COME ALREADY.

POOP

PUSH

ROLL ROLL

NAB

SNAPE

WHO SAYS YOU NEED HANDS TO PLAY BALL...

# SALLY FORTH

by Francesco Marciuliano

HOW GO FINANCES?

OH, LOVELY. JUST...LOVELY.

THAT BAD?

WELL, WITH THE WHOLE "WEREWOLF STATUE PATIO" FIASCO AND LINGERING HOLIDAY DEBT, IT'S GOING TO BE A LEAN FEW MONTHS.

WE'VE MADE IT THROUGH TOUGH TIMES BEFORE, THOUGH.

I ESPECIALLY REMEMBER HOW YOU STOPPED SHAVING AND WORE THE SAME HOODIE EVERY SINGLE DAY.

REMEMBER THAT YEAR I WAS UNEMPLOYED?

I WAS CULTIVATING A DEVIL-MAY-CARE, I-MIGHT-HAVE-GIVEN-UP ATTITUDE.

AND YOU STILL LOOKED CUTE. BUT I'M SO GLAD YOU GOT RID OF THAT HOODIE.

KEEFE

ANYWAY, WE'LL BE FINE. WE'LL JUST HAVE TO BE EVEN MORE MINDFUL THAN USUAL ABOUT OUR EXPENSES.

SOOOO...NO RETURN TO KAIJU THEME PARK THIS SUMMER, HUH?

TRUST ME, OUR ENTIRE SUMMER FUN THIS YEAR IS DEPENDENT ON WHETHER OR NOT WE PROPERLY STORED AWAY OUR OLD SLIP 'N SLIDE LAST YEAR.

# CRANKSHAFT

BY BATIUK & DAVIS

BREEEEEEEP!

AHHHHH!

THESE ALERTS ALWAYS STARTLE ME!

WHAT'S THE ALERT ABOUT?

THERE'S A PROBLEM WITH THE WATER AND THEY'VE ISSUED A BOIL ALERT.

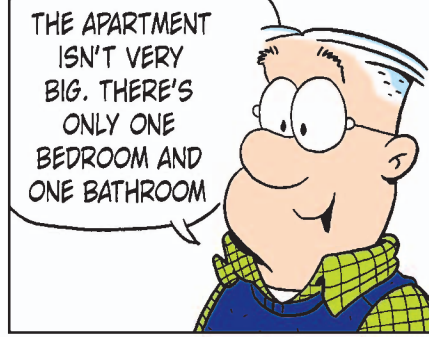
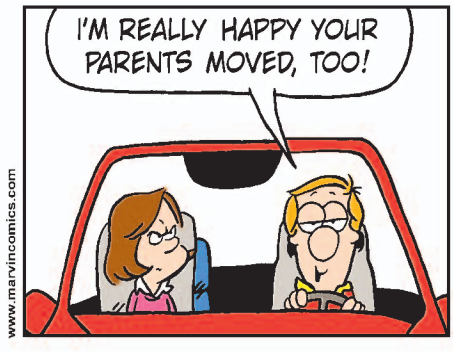
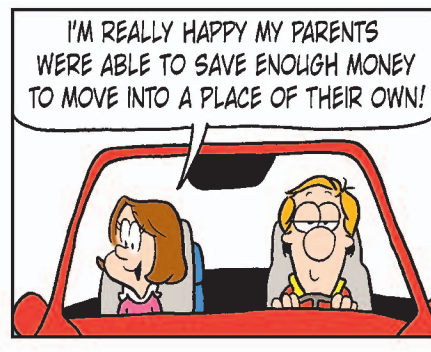
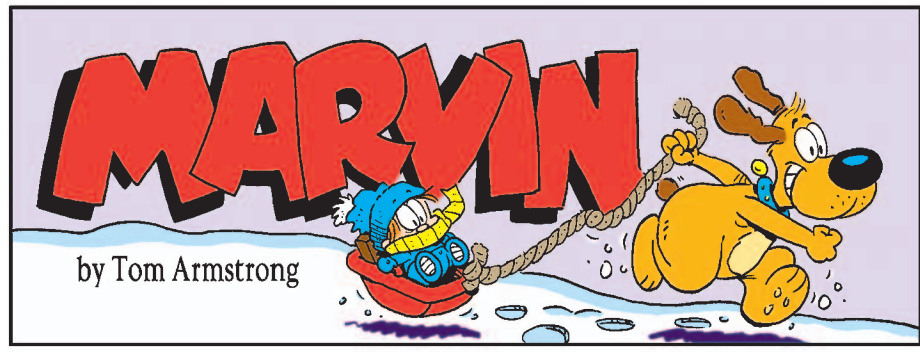
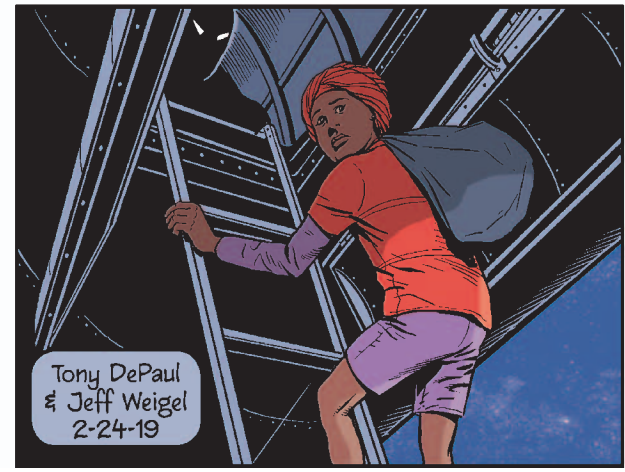
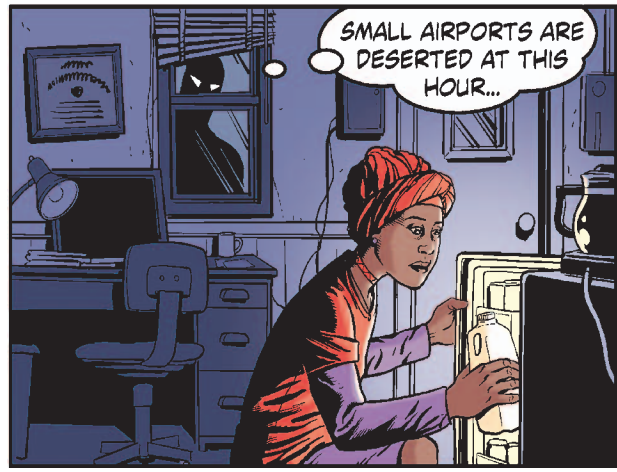
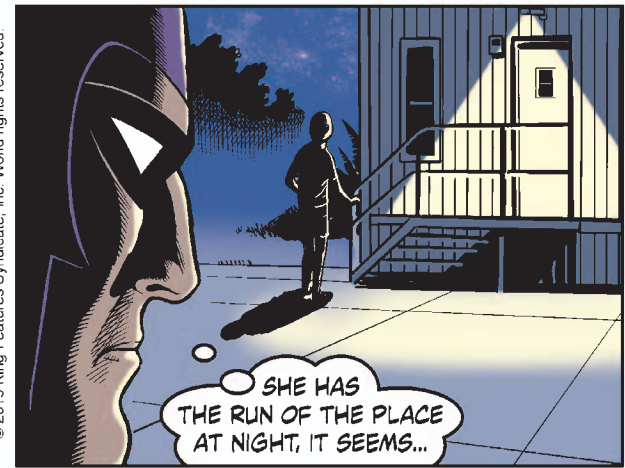
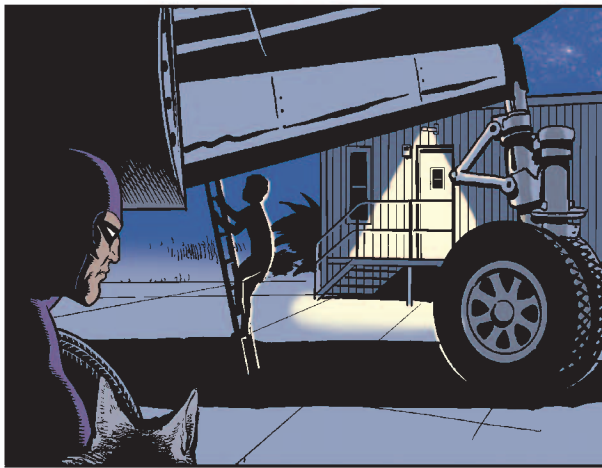
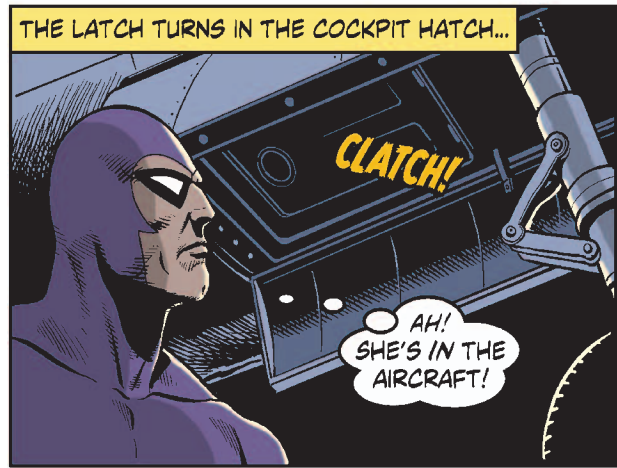
ALL OF A SUDDEN I'M INCREDIBLY THIRSTY!





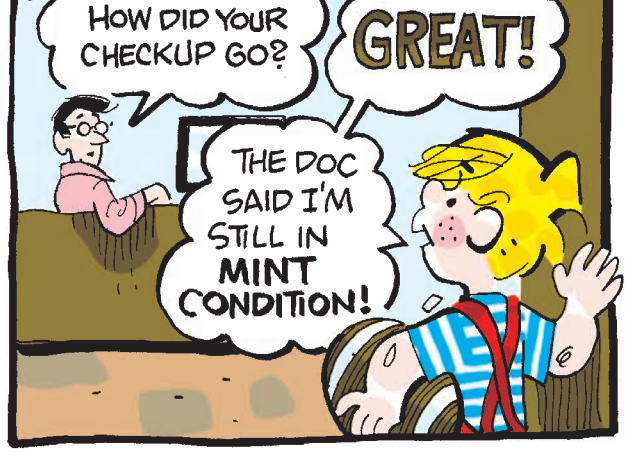
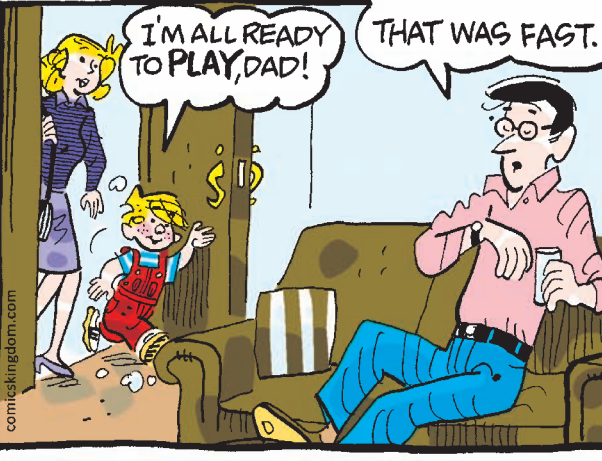
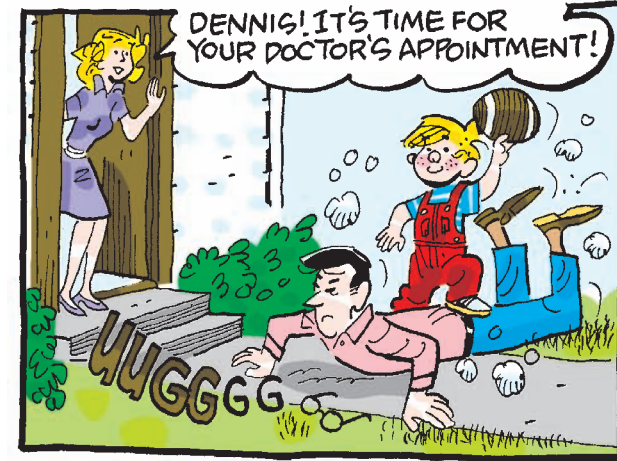
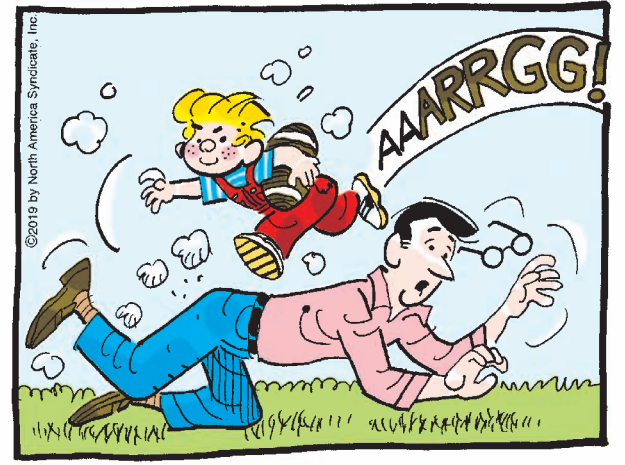
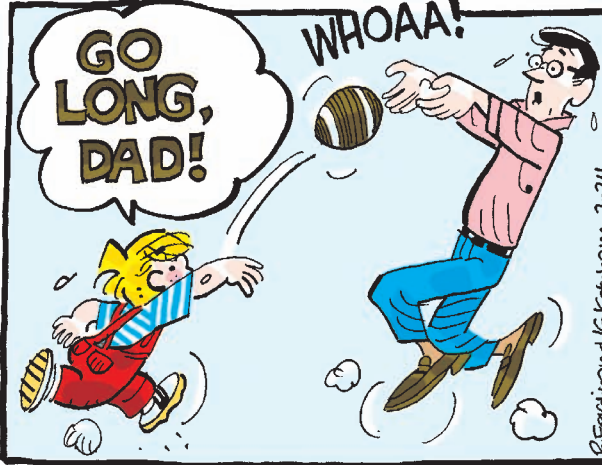
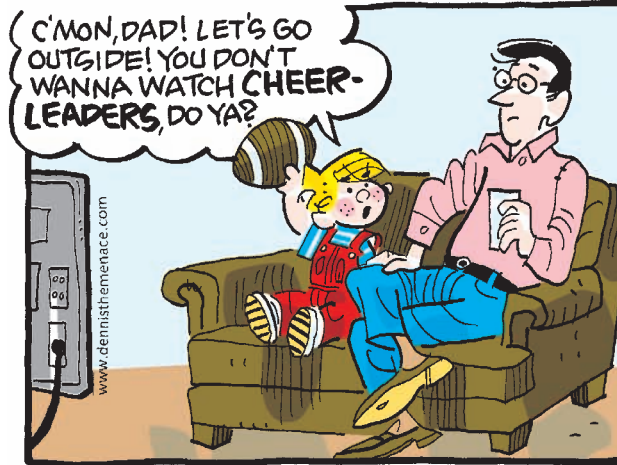
# THE PHANTOM

BY LEE FALK



# DENNIS THE MENACE

BY HANK KETCHAM



# PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

BY STEPHAN PASTIS

