

Lake City Reporter

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SUNDAY EDITION

A look back:
CHS swimmers
2nd at state.

1 B



At Fort White
library, life's more
than just books.

2A



Teen wrecks stolen Toyota

Runaway, 15, led troopers on high-speed chase.

From staff reports

A 15-year-old runaway, who allegedly stole a rental car from Marianna, was arrested in Columbia County Friday morning after leading authorities on a high-speed chase that ended when she crashed the vehicle north of Lundsford Road.

The Florida Highway Patrol did not immediately release the name of the teenager, but in a media release noted she was from Marianna.

The driver was charged with fleeing and eluding a police officer, willful and wanton reckless driving, no valid driver's license and grand theft in connection with the case. She was booked into the Columbia County Detention Facility.

According to Florida Highway Patrol reports, around 10:14 a.m. Friday, a "Be On the Look Out" Alert was issued for a gray Toyota Camry rent-

TEEN continued on 6A

Attempted homicide suspect on the loose

By **STEVEN RICHMOND**
srichmond@lakecityreporter.com

Law enforcement are on the lookout for a man suspected of stabbing another person in what



Barnes

Lake City police are calling an attempted homicide, LCPD reports. Police responded to a call about a stabbing on Ironwood Drive and found Tony Matchett, 53, lying on his lawn clutching his abdomen around 10:43 p.m. Tuesday, according to the incident report.

Witnesses told police that they heard scuffling outside their homes and saw Corey Tyrell Barnes,

SUSPECT continued on 6A

NEARLY 40 YEARS LATER REUNITED



JASON MATTHEW WALKER/Lake City Reporter

Lake City resident Jimmy Taylor has found his long-lost birth mother, Barbara Stevens Yancey, of Acworth, Ga., after nearly 40 years — all with the help of Facebook. Taylor stumbled upon an old photograph of him, his mother and his younger brother, Michael, which he said was the last time he remembers seeing his mother.

Man finds mother; still seeking brother.

By **AMANDA WILLIAMSON**
awilliamson@lakecityreporter.com

Nearly 40 years after he was placed up for adoption and countless dead ends later, Jimmy Taylor found his mother — just before Christmas Day.

It has been a little over a week since the two reunited, but their voices still bring tears to the other's eyes. Taylor calls the reunion with his mother, Barbara Yancy, and the new knowledge of a sister in Tennessee the perfect Christmas present, especially since he's always wanted a little sister.

"You don't know how long I had been waiting for your call," Yancy's voice cracked over the cell phone Friday evening.

"You don't know how long I had been waiting to make it," Taylor



COURTESY

Taylor's younger brother, Michael, is shown in a photograph taken before the were separated by adoption nearly 40 years ago.

responded.

Yancy, at the time Barbara Stevens, had to place both her sons — 4-year-

FOUND continued on 6A

Day after Christmas a 'large trash day'

By **TONY BRITT**
tbritt@lakecityreporter.com

Christmas often translates into gifts, toys and a variety of other new items that are given as symbols of the season.

However, a side-effect due to the deluge in gifts is trash and an increased amount of solid waste that needs to be taken to the local solid waste facility.

Ed Lontz, Columbia County Solid Waste Director at the Winfield Solid Waste Facility, said the days following Christmas are traditionally heavy-trash-collection days and he's anticipating about a 20 percent increase in volume.

"The day after Christmas is a large trash collection day," he said. "It's not quite as big as I thought it would be

GARBAGE continued on 6A



JASON MATTHEW WALKER/Lake City Reporter

A garbage truck unloads on top of a garbage heap at the Winfield Solid Waste Facility on Friday.

YEAR IN REVIEW

JANUARY



FILE

Jacquie Hagler (from left), Dianne Cooper, Gwen Adams and Sharron Ballance survived a home invasion and attempted armed robbery — all with the power of Christ.

Women repel gunman with Jesus, but wrong man jailed

From staff reports

A group of women successfully repelled an armed robber by telling him to "get out in the name of Jesus" after he interrupted a jewelry party Jan. 25. The story made national news.

However, the state attorney's office dropped all charges against a man suspected of the attempted heist after it was revealed the Lake City Police Department jailed the wrong man.

Jacquie Hagler was throwing a Premier Jewelry party for 17 other female friends when a gunman entered the residence and ordered all the occupants to empty their purses and hand over their cell phones and other valuables.

However, the women denied the would-be robber and ordered him to "get out in the name of Jesus," at which point he fled the scene without further incident.

Witnesses described the suspect as 5'6" with blue eyes, but could not discern any other facial features due to a bandana the suspect wore over his face.

Officer later showed a black-and-white photo lineup of six suspects to the women, hoping to identify the gunman.

The women indicated Derek Jeremy Lee as the gunman, who was then arrested and booked into county jail.

However, all of the women were in the same room when police showed them the suspects, contradicting LCPD policy directing officers to introduce witnesses to photo lineups individually instead of in a group.

Later investigation revealed video evidence showing Lee at a liquor store on US 90 around the time of the attack. Lee is also 5'9" and has brown eyes, contradicting earlier witness statements.

The state attorney's office dropped all charges against Lee and had him released from jail March 5, ending nearly 40 days of wrongful imprisonment.

Wing-suit skydiver goes missing over Cascades

From staff reports

A Lake City man went missing and was never seen again following a skydiving excursion in Washington's Cascade Mountains Jan 3.

Despite a four day manhunt conducted by roughly 350 searchers over nine square miles, volunteers and law enforcement from King County, Wash. could not locate 29-year-old Kurt Ruppert Jr.

According to local family and friends, Ruppert was an avid skydiver who had worked his way up to wing suits, specialized gliding suits that mimic flying squirrel physiology and require at least 200 solo skydiving jumps.

Ruppert and two other individuals were taking turns doing 6,500 foot jumps from a helicopter hovering around Mount Si, a 4,200-foot peak in the Cascade Mountains about 40 miles east of Seattle.

However, Ruppert never appeared at the landing site with the other jumpers.

"We know that the last time we saw him, he was doing the thing he loved to do most in the

REVIEW continued on 3A



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Lady Tigers softball team completes state title run, 7A.
District, FGC strike a deal on cost of dual enrollment, 8A.

FORT WHITE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Life's more than books for Street

By **AVALYN HUNTER**
Special to the Reporter

FORT WHITE

To many people, a library is a place where you borrow books. That's still true, but in the 21st century, books are only part of a library's services. With the advent of the Internet, public libraries have become information hubs, linking their communities with the larger world.

No one knows this better than Patti Street, who has been with the Fort White branch of the Columbia County library since it opened in 1988. As the branch manager, she has overseen many changes.

"When I started working here, we were about the only source of information for social services in Fort White," she recalled. "People down here really felt isolated. There were no branch offices for county or state services. To get to most things, you had to go to Lake City or even Gainesville. If you didn't have a car, that was a real problem. The only place people knew of where they might be able to get help was the library, so that's where they came."

Street discovered quickly that even though she had no background in social work (she holds a master's degree in English education and a bachelor's degree in psychology), people were counting on her to find the help they needed. And so she adapted herself to the needs of her community.

"I spent a lot of time on the phone in those days," she said with a laugh. "If I couldn't give people what they needed up front, I could at least put them in touch with the people who had the required information or services and get them started. It wasn't always easy, but I trained my staff to never say 'we can't do that.' instead, it was 'we'll work on that for you.'"

Once Internet terminals became available at the library, Street's job became both easier and harder. "E-government (government services available over the Web) has made it much easier for people in these rural areas to gain access to services," she said. "We usually have to walk people through the first time they use a website, but after that they can handle most things on their own. The hard part is keeping up with the expanded information and services that we can access now."

Aside from managing access to the library's nine public Internet terminals and assisting users there, Street has all the duties and problems of running any small office — juggling multiple tasks, managing her staff (she has one full-time and one part-time employee), and handling the budget. She also is something of a stage manager, setting the library's atmosphere. "I want people to feel that this is a welcome place to be," she said. "Sometimes that means overlooking the fact that a person isn't dressed well or seems a bit odd. As long as someone isn't being disruptive, I want them to be able to come here and use the facilities without prejudice. The community is getting more diverse every day and we need to be able to deal with that as well."

Overseeing the book collection remains a sizable part of Street's duties, and not always an easy one. Shelf space is limited, and Street has to balance both available space and available money while selecting books that the community wants and needs. When donations are involved, the balancing act can become even trickier.

"People sometimes get upset because their donations end up on the Friends of the Library sale shelf instead of in the collection," she said. "To tell the truth, we don't need best sellers. We usually have those already. We can't really put anything on the circulation floor unless it's in new or nearly-new condition and addresses a need in our collection. We appreciate all donations whether we sell or keep them, but if someone really wants to donate something for circulation, it's probably best to call first and find out whether we can use it." Programs are another aspect of the job that can take some juggling. The library's meeting room currently hosts a monthly book club meeting, a once-a-month quilting bee, and a Lego building club for children that meets on the first and third Saturdays of each month. The library also hosts a weekly plant clinic run by master gardeners trained by the county extension office, providing a resource for resolving garden-

'I want people to feel that this is a welcome place to be... Sometimes that means overlooking the fact that a person isn't dressed well or seems a bit odd. As long as someone isn't being disruptive, I want them to be able to come here and use the facilities without prejudice. The community is getting more diverse every day and we need to be able to deal with that as well.'

— Patti Street, Manager of the Fort White branch of the Columbia County Public Library

ing problems or even getting soil samples tested. In addition, library staff members visit local day care centers monthly, bringing suitable books and telling stories.



AVALYN HUNTER/Special to the Reporter

Patti Street, the Fort White public library branch manager, says the library isn't just for readers. Everyone can make use of the programs and activities they offer.

Street also wants people to know that the library isn't just for those who can read. "If someone has a problem with literacy and wants help, all they need to do is come in and ask," she said. "We'll work to put them in touch with services for improving their reading skills."

Like other libraries serving small rural communities, Fort White's branch library is playing a crucial role in bringing the Information Age to everyone. The biggest barrier it must overcome, ironically, is lack of information. "The tough part is getting the word out," Street said. "Almost every week, someone comes in here for the first time and says, 'I never even knew you had a library here!' Sometimes it's someone who's lived around here for years. We just want our community to know that we are here and we can help."

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

YEAR IN PICTURES

Lake City stood up to Breast Cancer

Breast cancer survivors, family members and friends release about 225 pink balloons in the air in a show of support for breast cancer awareness after the Standing Up to Breast Cancer Lunch & Learn event held at the Columbia County Resources banquet hall in October. A tag was attached to each balloon with a name of someone affected by breast cancer. At least 300 people attended the event.



JASON MATTHEW WALKER/Lake City Reporter



JASON MATTHEW WALKER/Lake City Reporter

Re-living history

The Confederate front line confronts Union troops in the 2013 re-enactment of the Battle of Olustee in February.

Winning Lottery Numbers

MEGA MONEY: 7-9-35-36-5
FANTASY 5 EZ MATCH: 1-6-9-22-27
CASH 3: 4-4-3
PLAY 4: 4-9-5-9
POWERBALL: 23-28-38-39-56-32
FLORIDA LOTTO: 4-12-23-32-45-48-x5

Thought for Today

Never test the depth of the water with both feet. — Zen proverb

Scripture of the Day

"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." — Matthew 11:28

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Correction

The Lake City Reporter corrects errors of fact in news items. If you have a concern, question or suggestion, please call the executive editor. Corrections and clarifications will run in this space. And thanks for reading.

REVIEW: January headlines

Continued From 1A

doing the thing he loved to do most in the world—flying fast and free over one of the most beautiful spots on earth,” Maureen Walsh, a friend of the Ruppert family said. “He was a special man, with special gifts and a spirit that would not stay grounded. It had to fly. He had to fly. And now he always will. God bless you, Kurt Ruppert Jr.”

Newly-elected NAACP pres. removed from office

From staff reports

The national office of the NAACP removed Bernice Presley as Columbia County branch president barely a month after she was elected Dec. 15, 2012.

Tallahassee NAACP president confirmed Presley was removed from office around Jan. 10, but declined to explain the decision. The organization replaced Presley with Lynda Thomas, who was elected vice-president in the same December election.

Presley declined to comment on the situation and Thomas did not return calls seeking comment. Presley assumed office in Dec. 2012 following a dispute with opponent Debra White.

Presley filed a police report and sought a restraining order against White, alleging she approached her and her husband in an aggressive manner in a park lot following an NAACP meeting in Nov. 2012.

However, the restraining order was denied. White's NAACP attorney claimed Presley sought the restraining order to keep her from attending official NAACP functions.

Despite the public dispute, Presley won the election 16-13 before being ousted nearly a month later.

FEBRUARY

LCPD receives accreditation, complies with state standards

From staff reports

The Lake City Police Department received its accreditation credentials from the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement.

Lake City Police Department Chief Argatha Gilmore attended a ceremony at Howey-in-the-Hills, where the department was officially recognized as a state-accredited law enforcement agency.

In 2010 the LCPD signed an agreement with the CFA, an independent governing body, to examine the standards, policies and procedures of the department.

The standards set by the CFA are encompassed in 39 chapters and broken down into 26 individual standards. Those standards cover topics such as training, use of force, operations, investigations and the written directive system, along with many more areas covering all facets of police work.

The accreditation is on a three-year cycle.

The LCPD was accredited in 2002 and re-accredited in 2005. The agency withdrew from the process in 2008 due to changes in leadership, and procedural changes needed to be implemented to come up to current CFA standards.

Emblems were placed on all department marked patrol vehicles indicating LCPD is an accredited agency. Officers received accreditation pins to wear on their uniforms as well.

Man gets life plus 30 years for murder of girlfriend

From staff reports

Kenneth Allen Ford was sentenced to life in prison, plus 30 years, for the 2009 murder of his girlfriend Kristy L. Whatley in a mobile home fire.

Ford was arrested in September 2009, but wasn't tried until four years later.

Jeff Siegmeister, Third Circuit state attorney, said once the decision was made with consultation of the family to waive the death penalty, the state attorney's office took the steps necessary to get the case tried as quickly as possible.

On Feb. 8, Ford was convicted of second-degree murder for starting a June 2009 fire in the home he shared with Whatley. He was also convicted of first-degree arson in connection with the case.

The jury deliberated about seven hours before returning the guilty verdicts.

Whatley was fighting for her life against lupus at the time of her death.

MARCH

State cracks down, closes Internet cafés

From staff reports

The Allied Internet cafe was closed in a multi-state crackdown on illegal gambling operations, along with several other Internet cafes in Columbia and Suwannee counties.

Lt. Governor Jennifer Carroll also resigned and nearly 60 other people were charged in the scandal that was said to be a front for a \$300 million gambling operation.

Secret Service agents went to City Internet Services, an Internet cafe on U.S. 90, as part of the crackdown. Lake City Internet Services apparently shut down the night before the raid.

Lake City Internet Services was listed in a search warrant issued in Oklahoma as part of the crackdown on Internet cafe's run by or connected with Allied Veterans of the World Inc. and Affiliates in 23 Florida counties and five other states, according to a news release from the Florida

Department of Law Enforcement.

Lake City Internet Services was at one time Allied Veterans Affiliate 56.

Secret Service agents also raided Live Oak Internet Services, an Internet cafe in Live Oak run by Allied Veterans, reports said.

A master affidavit from the Seminole County Sheriff's Office said arrest warrants were issued for the four owners of Live Oak Internet Services and Lake City Internet Services. The owners were not Florida residents but live in South Carolina, according to the arrest affidavit.

No Columbia County residents were listed among those being sought.

The investigation began in July 2009.

Under a law passed later in 2013, Internet cafes were outlawed and closed statewide.

Judge dismisses lawsuit filed by former police captain

From staff reports

The City of Lake City emerged victorious from a discrimination case when a federal judge dismissed a racial discrimination and retaliation lawsuit filed by former Lake City Police Department Capt. Rudolph Davis Sr.

The decision was handed down in Jacksonville by U.S. District Court Judge Marcia Morales Howard, following a hearing. Howard ordered summary judgment on behalf of the city.

Davis said he plans to appeal the ruling to the 11th Appeals Court in Atlanta, Ga.

Davis worked at the city police department for 19 years, from June 1990 to November 2009. Lake City Police Department chief Argatha Gilmore terminated Davis on Nov. 19, 2009.

Court documents said Davis claimed Gilmore was hired to fire him in retaliation for filing racial discrimination complaints.

While at LCPD, Davis filed several internal grievances complaining of racial discrimination and leveled charges against four different heads of the department: Chief David Albritton, Chief Steven Burch, Capt. Bruce Charles and Gilmore.

Davis said that Gilmore terminated him in retaliation for his history of filing racial discrimination complaints.

Court records indicate she did not terminate Davis because of any disciplinary issues.

Depositions said Gilmore terminated Davis following a one-on-one meeting on Nov. 3, 2009, after Gilmore had been at the department for less than two months.

During the meeting, Gilmore said she felt Davis “seemed to have an 8-to-5 mentality” and explained to him that she “expected him to deal with planning, drafting policies and taking initiative.”

Howard ruled that Davis was an at-will employee and could be terminated at will.

Davis said the city was not an “at-will” workplace when he was terminated, but a “just cause” workplace.



A tree limb fell across a car parked at the S&S on U.S. 90 West on Saturday. The car's back window was smashed by smaller branches from the limb, but the main branch landed on the car's roof.

City pounded by storm; over 7,000 lose power

From staff reports

A severe thunderstorm ravaged Lake City causing 7,000 residents to lose power at its peak, closing 60 roads, and displacing 19 families. Local officials declared a state of emergency in the county that lasted for seven days.

The storm toppled trees, downed power lines, caused localized flooding and interrupted power for hours when it passed through the area bringing an estimated 2 - 2.5 inches of rain as well as high winds. An estimated 30 percent of the roads were re-opened within 24 hours of the initial storm. There was extensive damage on the east side of town from Baya Avenue to the Price Creek Road area.

Additional deputies were called in to patrol storm impacted areas after the Columbia County Sheriff's Office received calls about looters. The Florida Highway Patrol sent additional troopers from Palatka and St. Augustine.

Columbia County did not qualify for federal disaster assistance to help offset costs from the March storm.

APRIL

Lake City native Pat Summerall dies at 82

From staff reports

Lake City's own Pat Summerall, who spent more than 40 years as the voice of the National Football League, died April 16 of heart failure at age 82.

Summerall called 16 Super Bowls as a play-by-play announcer.

Summerall taught middle school in the Columbia



Summerall

School District, even after he graduated and was drafted into the NFL.

Summerall played 10 seasons in the NFL, from 1952 to 1961, with the Chicago Cardinals and New York Giants.

After the season was over, Summerall would play in the Lake City fast-pitch softball league, could be found golfing at the Lake City Country Club or playing cards at the Elks Lodge. Even after he went on to be the famous CBS broadcaster, he would speak at charity events in Lake City.

Councilman's wife faces election fraud charges

From staff reports

Lake City councilman Eugene Jefferson's wife, Betty Jefferson and Linda Ivery, were arrested and face more than 20 election fraud charges in connection with Eugene Jefferson's 2010 re-election. Eugene Jefferson won the election, against three other candidates with 69.7 percent of the vote.

Jefferson faces 24 felony and two misdemeanor violations of state election laws and two counts of intimidation.

Ivery was charged with six felony and two misdemeanor counts of election law violations and two counts of intimidation. After turning themselves over to the Columbia County Detention Facility, both were released on their own recognizance.

Reports said that Betty Jefferson and Ivery “conspired to corruptly influence voting” submitted false voter registration data, corruptly influenced voting and obtained absentee ballots in violation of the law, according to information from the Eighth Circuit State Attorney's Office.

Court documents formally outlining the charges said Jefferson and Ivery submitted “false voter registration information concerning registration data” for three people purported to be Columbia County voters.

The documents alleged that Ivery illegally requested absentee ballots or helped someone else illegally request ballots for four people purported to be Columbia County voters.

The documents also accused Betty Jefferson of illegally requesting absentee ballots or helped someone else illegally request the ballots for 19 people.

Eighth Circuit State Attorney William P. Cervone was appointed by Gov. Rick Scott to prosecute the case.

Events center dropped on 4-1 commission vote

From staff reports

County officials suspended the events center project, which was being studied as a way of attracting more people to the area.

The proposal called for the construction of a 265,000-square-foot multipurpose facility for about \$28.2 million next to the Interstate 75 interchange at Ellisville.

It was proposed that the county fairgrounds property would be sold to private interests and the proceeds used as a major source of funding for the events center development.

Columbia County Resources owns and operates the 82.5-acre fairgrounds and rodeo arena. The fair would have been moved to the new events site.

However, the project was halted when a letter from the Columbia County Resources legal counsel Guy Norris indicated Columbia County Resources was not ready to make a firm commitment to transfer assets, as was outlined in the proposal.

County and Columbia County Resources officials were gearing up for Phase 2 of the project, which called for more intensive studies through a feasibility study that was projected to cost at least \$200,000.

REVIEW continued on 7A

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OUR OPINION

Be wary of Suwannee investment offer

Our county commission should use great caution in considering a request from Suwannee County to sink \$3 million dollars of our money into their catalyst site.

Suwannee Commission Chairman Wesley Wainwright made the proposal in a Dec. 16 letter to Columbia County Manager Dale Williams. Details weren't included, but basically Suwannee wants \$3 million in return for a proportional share of the revenue from their site. How they plan to compute that is anybody's guess.

Also unclear is when we'd be able to start collecting on this potential investment. Depending on the tax abatement deal that will likely be in place, we might have to wait as long as 10 years to have anything to show for our money.

Beyond that, the investment would be in Suwannee County, not here, where we have our own catalyst site ready for development.

Having already sunk \$8.7 million into their site – on which an Austrian lumber company has just started building – Suwannee has completely depleted their cash reserves, the letter admits.

If expectations for the mill come to pass, it may all be worth it. Suwannee projects the creation of 350 jobs and a \$56 million impact on the region.

Still, we're not all that comfortable with the idea of lending money to a neighbor who is not only broke, but has a less than stellar record of financial management going back some years. Suwannee County just paid out \$2.75 million to settle a lawsuit from a past, unrelated disagreement. Outcomes like this put a cloud over their business proposal – especially when our taxpayers' money is at stake. Suwannee's request is unsettling to say the least.

More details need to be revealed, but this proposal sounds like wishful thinking by our neighbors to the west. For now, we counsel caution – and lots of it – on the part of our county officials.

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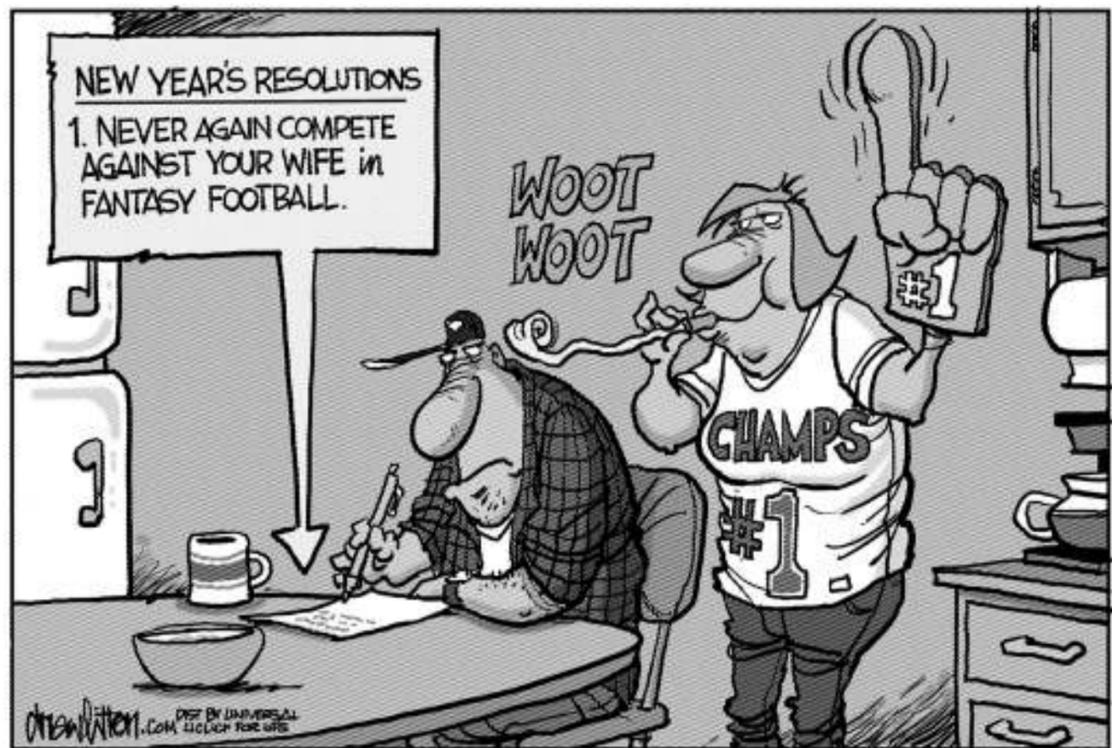
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New year brings a fresh start

What will you do with the opportunity? The new year. The fresh calendar and the pages of possibility that lie ahead.

It is time.

We all have it with the beginning of a new year on Wednesday. We all have the chance for a fresh start, another day to change our ways and do things differently.

Starting over is methodical on January 1 as the year changes, but it almost seems it would be easier for all of us to have a new mindset, say, in July. Think about it: You're relaxed, maybe you're on vacation, you get your thoughts together, you regroup and you come back to reality with new drive and a tighter focus. Maybe?

Instead, January is the traditional restart month. January is bleak. Holiday hangovers. School starts back. Colder, unpredictable weather. Just add that reality to the list of things to overcome and get on with it.

The past is behind us. Goals for today and beyond should be an important catalyst for everyone.



Todd Wilson
twilson@lakecityreporter.com

Write them down, implement a plan and go for it.

What do you want to do? Personal improvement? Career enhancements or maybe a complete career change? Do you want to further or finish your education?

Maybe financial goals and improving your personal cash flow is what inspires you. Do you have other achievements to boost yourself and your family? Now is the time to move toward these accomplishments.

During the holiday season, there are numerous examples of people reaching out to help others. Being a selfless example to others may be what your quality of life needs. We all receive the blessing when we

stop to help others less fortunate. In the rush to improve our career paths, the lives of our children and families, and our everyday existence, I think sometimes we forget the dreams we may have had in past years, sometimes long-ago aspirations that got pushed aside by other priorities. Don't forget yourself. You are never too old or outdated to chase a dream and do something new.

Learn a foreign language. Take a painting class. Hike the Florida Trail. Scuba dive. Train and run a 5k race. The possibilities are endless for all of us looking for betterment.

In the end, the year will be what you make it. Be honest and work hard. Change takes effort and the effort applied directly affects the return. It's your call. What will you do with this opportunity?

Happy New Year!

■ Todd Wilson is publisher of the *Lake City Reporter*.

Fixing what's wrong with our schools

What's wrong with this sentence?

"...white suburban moms – who all of a sudden – their child isn't as brilliant as they thought they were and their school isn't quite as good as they thought they were..."

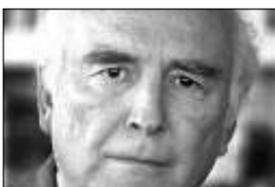
Most grade school students, at least the ones I know, could tell you in a minute that the sentence is a flawed mixture of plural and singular that probably would earn them a failing grade on any English examination. Even if one takes into account that the sentence was spoken and not written, it is a grammatical nightmare.

But what really is wrong with it is that it is attributed to Arne Duncan, the U.S. Secretary of Education who made it in defense of a controversial proposal to establish a core curriculum in the nation's public schools. The quote appeared in the *Washington Post*, which also reported that Duncan further characterized opposition to the curriculum as "political silliness" and "a rallying cry for fringe groups."

How ever one comes down on this issue, I would hazard a guess that most Americans could agree that Duncan of all people needs desperately to brush up on his sentence structure to make it at least compatible with what is being taught and has been for generations in classrooms across the land.

Or is that too much to expect from a child of the television culture where grammar is slaughtered day in and day out where tenses don't always agree and the rules about prepositional objects are ignored just between you and I (oops).

This is a culture where people are hung like gates instead of hanged as they should be. He should have



Dan K. Thomasson

"went" some place has become standard among sportscasters. Even the baby boomers are too young to remember the days when super pitcher turned play-by-play announcer Dizzy Dean's horrible but colorful grammatical gaffs on radio brought down the wrath of America's moms. Their kids were running around saying things like "he done slud into third."

As for the core curriculum, it was always my impression that we had one from the beginning of public education. It was called reading, writing, and arithmetic and it has been followed with refinements since William G. McGuffey taught half of our populace how to read in a primer that was used from 1836 to 1961. I personally was of the "Dick and Jane" generation.

The hysterics on the right and the left variously see the Core either as a federal takeover of public education or a necessary reform to improve the overall quality of the school system, which much like politics is mainly local.

Key supporters for the core, which establishes curriculum guidelines and standards for how well all students should perform in math and English/language arts K through 12, include the National Governors Association and the Council of Chief State School Officers. The Bill and Melinda Gates foundation provides a lot of the funding.

Public education is much like

the weather. As the humorist once said, everybody talks about it (the weather) but no one does anything (well, in the case of education not much anyway). George W. Bush's No Child Left Behind initiative has been flawed by resistance and faulty implantation. Teachers' Unions don't like it because it puts too much stress on the members. The core curriculum is favored by the American Federation of Teachers but the concern is the way it is written and presented and ultimately implemented by the Obama administration.

The *Post* recently quoted Randi Weingarten, the AFT president, as predicting that the implementation of the Core would be far worse than the bollixed up implementation of the Affordable Care Act.

In the end it all comes down to how good the instructor is and what kind of support he or she receives from the parents, if there are any or perhaps as Secretary Duncan might say "is any."

One of the reasons the nation's private schools do so well is that they don't have to play to the common denominator or turn every proposed solution into a nightmare of complexity.

Most of those who make our laws and influence our long range education decisions, including the president, don't send their youngsters to public schools if they bring their families here.

So how do they know?

■ Dan K. Thomasson is former editor of *Scripps Howard News Service*.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

■ To submit your Community Calendar item, contact Emily Lawson at 754-0424 or by e-mail at elawson@lakecityreporter.com.

Dec. 31
New Year's Eve party
 VFW Post 2206, 343 Forest Lawn Way, is hosting their New Year's Eve Party on Tuesday, Dec. 31. Kickstart will perform at 7 p.m. We'll provide finger foods, party favors and complimentary champagne toast at midnight. The party is open to the public. Call 386-752-5001 for more.

Jan. 4
Audubon Bird Walk
 Four Rivers Audubon will sponsor its monthly walk at Alligator Lake Park on Saturday, Jan. 4

at 8 a.m. The walk usually lasts between two and four hours, but participants may leave at any time. Meet at the pole barn to begin the walk. For more information call Judee Mundy at 386-758-9558 or Sylvia Dunnam at 386-362-3256.

Jan. 5
Zumba Class
 Sarah Sandlin, Zumba Instructor for the City of Lake City, is offering a free Zumba class on Jan. 5 at the Teen Town city building at Youngs Park from 4-5 p.m. This will be a beginner's class where you'll learn all the basic moves of this pop-

ular dance form. After the free class, a regular Zumba class will be held for \$5 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Email Sarah at lakecityzumba@gmail.com for more.

Jan. 8
Newcomers meeting
 The Lake City Newcomers will meet on Wednesday, Jan. 8 at Guang Dong Chinese Restaurant. Program speaker will be Pat McAlhany. Call Pinky Moore at 752-4552 for more.

Jan. 14
Medicare Seminar
 The Lifestyle Enrichment

Center is sponsoring a free educational Medicare seminar on Tuesday, Jan. 14 from 5-6 p.m. Irv Crowetz of C/C & Associates, Inc. will moderate the seminar. RSVP at 386-755-3476 x 107.

Bay Street Bassworks
 Bay Street Bassworks will perform at the Levy Performing Arts Center at Florida Gateway College on Tuesday, Jan. 14 at 7:30 p.m. This group is an internationally-acclaimed touring ensemble performing selections from a wide variety of genres ranging from Bach to Be-Bop. A new "flex ticket" system is being offered this year so each ticket can

be used at any Lake City Community Concert. Single concert tickets are \$20/adult and \$5/student K-12. See www.communityconcerts.info, or call (386) 466-2013, or visit the Lake City Chamber of Commerce for details.

Jan. 17
Masonic Banquet
 Gold Standard Lodge #167 will be hosting their annual Masonic Banquet on Jan. 17 at 7 p.m. at the Westside Community Center. For tickets and more information, contact Chris at 386-623-3611 or Mike at 386-867-6675.

Jan. 18
King Breakfast
 The Presley EXCEL and Scholars Program and Youth for Christ Ministry invite the community to the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. 85th Birthday Observance Breakfast at the Woman's Club, 257 SE Hernando Street. Brooke Mobley of Davita Kidney Specialists of Northern Florida will be the guest speaker. Tickets may be purchased for \$20; tables may also be reserved. Any doctor who has not received an invitation to be honored, please call Bernice Presley at 386-752-4074 on or before Jan. 3.

OBITUARIES

Dudley Eugene Easton

Mr. Dudley Eugene Easton, 76, a former resident of Lake City, Florida, passed away December 26, 2013, at Heritage Center in Huntington, West Virginia.



Mr. Easton was a native of Huntington, West Virginia and had resided in Lake City, Florida, for the past thirteen years. He graduated from Huntington High School of Huntington, West Virginia, class of 1957 and was an All State Baseball player. Mr. Easton was a Retired Master Sergeant in the U.S. Air Force. He was a deacon at the Maranatha Fellowship Church, St. Albans, West Virginia, from 1990 to 2000 and was a former member of the Christ Central Ministries in Lake City, Florida. He was preceded in death by his loving wife, Judith Ann McClintock Easton, his son, David Scott Easton, his grandmother, Pearl Gruver and his mother and step-father Dorothy and Paul Collins.

Survivors include his two daughters: Cheryl (Britt) Day, Springhill, Louisiana and Charmarie (Todd) Adkins, Huntington, West Virginia; two sons: Mark M. Easton, Huntington West Virginia, Paul (Wendy) Easton, Winfield, West Virginia, his daughter-in-law: Jo K Easton, Springhill, Louisiana; one sister: Paula Kay (Steve) Broughton, Hurricane, West Virginia; one sister-in-law: Elaine Gregory, Lake City, Florida; nine grandchildren, Nathaniel, Elaine, Lucas, Jonnette, Elyse, Paul, Jacob, Alexander and Jennifer; one nephew: Joseph (Michelle) Gregory, Keller, Texas.

Funeral services for Mr. Easton will be conducted Tuesday, December 31, 2013, at 11 AM in the chapel of Guerry Funeral Home with Pastor Britt Day officiating. Viewing will be one hour prior to the service from 10-11:00 AM. Interment will follow at Florida National Cemetery at 2:00 PM in Bushnell, Florida with military honors. Arrangements are under the direction of **GUERRY FUNERAL HOME**, 2659 SW. Main Blvd., Lake City, FL. (386) 752-2414. Please sign the guestbook at www.guerryfuneralhome.net

Claudette Faucher

Mrs. Claudette Faucher, 82, of Lake City, passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving family, on Wednesday, December 26, 2013, at North Florida Regional Medical Center in Gainesville, Florida.



She was born on September 14, 1931, in Coaticook, Quebec, Canada, to the late Rene Rieudeau and Virginia LaFaille. Claudette owned and operated restaurant and hotel businesses most of her life. She was a loving, selfless person who always put others first. She enjoyed cooking, and spending time with her family. She will be dearly missed, but always close in our heart. She was preceded in death by two sisters, Lorraine Charland and Mona Malloy. Claudette is survived by her loving children: three sons, Robie Faucher (Yuula), Dana Faucher, (Shalimar Drew) and Luke Faucher (Heidi Ratliff-Walker), of Lake City, FL.; three daughters, Rena Violette (Gerry) of Phoenix, AZ, Shelby Faucher and Aubrey Hulen (John "Bill") of Lake City, FL.; grandchildren, Daphne, Nathaniel, Briana, Chantalle, Marie, Sarah, Jessica, Natasha, MaKayla, Ryan, Christopher, and Michael; great grandchildren, Kyle, Abigail, Casey, Arianna and Skylar; several nieces and nephews, along with special family friends, Michelle Faucher, Denise Watts, and Jim Athanasios.

A Funeral Mass will be conducted at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 31, 2013 at Epiphany Catholic Church. Interment will follow in Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens. Visitation with the family will be held that day from 12:30 p.m. until 1:30 p.m. at the

funeral home prior to services at 2:00 p.m. A gathering of family and friends will be held in the Fellowship Hall at Epiphany Catholic Church following the burial.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Epiphany Catholic Church. **GATEWAY-FOREST LAWN FUNERAL HOME**, 3596 South U.S. Hwy 441, Lake City, FL. 32025. (386) 752-1954.

Words of comfort for the family may be uploaded online at www.gatewayforestlawn.com

Marcus Lewis Raulerson Sr.

Mr. Marcus Lewis Raulerson Sr., age 27, of Macclenny, Florida passed away December 25, 2013 at his residence. Marcus was born in Jacksonville, FL on April 30, 1986 to James (Ron) Raulerson and Toni Hays Raulerson. Mr. Raulerson was a lifelong resident of Macclenny and a 2004 Graduate of Baker County High School. He proudly served his country as a United States Marine War veteran. Marcus was always willing to lend a helping hand to anyone in need. He was honest and straight forward, loved to hunt, fish, watch the Gators play football and above all, spending time with his children, wife and family was his favorite past time. Marcus played football and baseball in high school and enjoyed spending time outdoors. Marcus is survived by his wife of 9 years Brandi Nash Raulerson; children; Marcus Lewis Raulerson, Jr., MaKenzie Brooke Raulerson and MaKaylin Grace Raulerson; parents; James R. and Toni Hays Raulerson of Macclenny; brothers; Brad (Wendy) Raulerson of Fernandina Beach, FL., George (Nicole Buetner) of San Diego, Calif.; James Ryan (Cara) Raulerson of Norfolk, Virginia; grandmother; Bernice Raulerson of Macclenny; father-in-law; David and Maryam Nash of Lake City, FL.; Mother-n-law; Tracey Nash of Wellborn, FL.; brothers-n-law; Jarred Nash, Garret Nash and Colby Dicks; sisters-n-law; Brittney Nash and Gavin Nash; nieces; Cailey, Kynleigh and Ellie; nephews; James and Lawson; numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.



Funeral Services will be held on Tuesday December 31, 2013 at 2:00 pm at Raiford Road Church with Pastors John A. Raulerson, Herman Rios and Dr. Timothy Pickering officiating. Interment will follow at Woodlawn Cemetery, Baker County, FL. The family will receive friends on Monday, December 30, 2013 from 5:00 - 8:00 pm in V. **TODD FERREIRA FUNERAL SERVICES**. The arrangements are under the care and direction of **V. TODD FERREIRA FUNERAL SERVICES**, 250 North Lowder Street, Macclenny, FL 32063 (904)259-5700. Visit ferreirafuneralservices.com to sign the family's guest book.

Sandra Antoinette Hardee
 Mrs. Sandra Antoinette Hardee, age 65, of Lake City, FL died on Thursday, December 26, 2013 in the Baptist Medical Center South in Jacksonville, FL following a long illness. She was born in Orlando, FL and resided in Ocala and Jacksonville, FL before moving to Lake City, FL in 1968. She was formerly employed with the Florida Highway Patrol, the Marion County Clerks Office and the Florida Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission before retiring as a records supervisor with the Baker County Sheriff's Office in 2013 with 20 years of service. She was a graduate of Paxon High School in Jacksonville, FL. She was preceded in death by her parents, Tenille Anthony and Dorothy Roberta Baker Sutton; sister, Barbara A. Melton; and one brother, Tennille S. "Rusty" Sutton.



Survivors include her daughter, Windy Gayle of Lake City, FL; her son, Shane Durance of

Houston, TX; two sisters, Debra S. (Jack) Franks of Jacksonville, FL and Sheri A. (Eddie) Metts of Yulee, FL; one brother, Steven A. (Beverly) Sutton of Macclenny, FL; four grandchildren, Shana, Kailey, Maddison and Makenzie.

Funeral services will be conducted at 2:00 PM, Monday, December 30, 2013 at the Baker County Sheriff's Department Complex, Highway 228, Macclenny, FL with Rev. Randy Williams, Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Glen St. Mary officiating. Interment will follow at the Gethsemane Memorial Gardens in Jacksonville, FL. Visitation with the family will be from 4-7:00 PM, Sunday at the Baker County Sheriff's Department Complex. Arrangements are under the direction of **GUERRY FUNERAL HOME**, 420 E Macclenny Ave., Macclenny, FL. Please sign the guestbook at www.guerryfuneralhome.net <http://www.guerryfuneralhome.net/>.

Ethel Louise "Tiny" Cato

Ethel Louise "Tiny" Cato, 82, of High Springs died Friday, December 27, 2013 at Haven Hospice Suwannee Valley Care Center in Lake City, FL. Born in Wynnewood, OK on November 7, 1931, Louise grew up in Vero Beach, FL and moved from Stuart, FL to High Springs, FL in 1989. She was of the Baptist faith and was a member of Elim Baptist Church and Santa Fe Chapter #105 Order of the Eastern Star.

She was a proud wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She was especially proud of being a nurse. Mrs. Cato is preceded in death by her husband, Harold L. Cato. She is survived by her daughters, Elaine Malmquist, Vero Beach, Jeanette Slaymaker (Larry), High Springs, Peggy Baldwin, High Springs, Ann McEver (Wendell), Palm Beach Gardens, Brenda Crews (Charles), Lake City and Donna Siler (Dewayne), Paw Paw, MI; sister, Estelle Hefner, Gilbert Falls, TX and brother, Wichita (Rhoda) Harris, Nevada, MO, 15 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services for Mrs. Cato will be conducted at Elim Baptist Church on Tuesday, December 31, 2013 at 11:00 AM with visitation from 10:00-11:00 AM at the church prior to the service. Rev. Larry Sweet will officiate. Interment will follow in the Elim Church Cemetery. **Evans-Carter Funeral Home**, 220 N. Main Street, High Springs is in charge of all arrangements. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Elim Baptist Church Building Fund, 3435 SW Elm Church Road, Ft. White, FL 32038 or Haven Hospice Suwannee Valley Care Center, 6037 W. US Highway 90, Lake City, FL 32055.

Edna Lavinia Markham

Edna Lavinia Markham departed this earth on December 28, 2013 to be with her Lord and Savior. She was born October 4, 1928 in Lake City, Florida to her late father, Jessie Manuel Winningham, Sr. and mother, Ruth E. Crawford Winningham. She resided in Pahokee, FL most of her life and moved to Lake City where she married and began her own family. She was



the center of life for her family and friends and always there when a family member needed her help. "Nanny" as she was affectionately called by her family, retired after thirty years as a food service manager for the Columbia County School System. She was raised during the Great Depression and had a tremendous appreciation for the basics of life and the gifts God has granted to us. She shared school recipes with her family and enjoyed making fruitcakes with her children and grandchildren at Christmas. She was a long-time volunteer at Cancer Care of North Florida after retirement, helping those who were in need of a loving touch during their most challenging times and she loved her personal physician, Dr. Waaseem Khan for his caring and compassionate way. She was an active member of Calvary Baptist Church, sitting in the same pew every Sunday and serving in multiple positions. Nanny was extremely independent and strong until her passing. She loved her family and would tell them how much she loved them by saying "A bushel and a peck and a hug around the neck and a kiss too." She was preceded in death by her father, mother, children's father Arthur Bowman Markham, Jr., son David Markham, two life-long friends, Annie Mae Holiday, and Remell Lee, with whom she attended many gospel sings and enjoyed special trips and Vernon Cartrider who shared happy times with her in her later years. She is survived by daughters Pat Caldwell (Don), June Tolar (Ronnie), brother Jessie Winingham (Ann) five grandchildren Missy Lee (Mike), Teresa Barber (Tommy), Crystal Tolar (Zack), Jason Tolar, Cameron Tolar (fiancée Ariel Bundy), and six great-grandchildren Jessica, Chelsea, Meghan, Austin, Aaron, Madison, one great-grandchild Lola and special friend Vivian Williams who helped care for her and enjoyed Sunday afternoon card games and many lunches with her at Kentucky Fried Chicken after church.

The family extends its heartfelt appreciation to the staff at Health Center of Lake City and Haven Hospice for the wonderful and compassionate care provided. The family will accept visitors on Monday, December 30, 2013 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at Gateway Forest Lawn Funeral Home. Funeral services will be conducted Tuesday, December 31, 2013 at 11:00 a.m., Reverend Ivan Clements officiating, at Gateway Forest Lawn Funeral Home. Interment will follow in Memorial Cemetery. Pall bearers are Tommy Barber, Aaron Barber, Austin Barber, Don Caldwell, Michael Lee, Cameron Tolar, Jason Tolar and Ronnie Tolar. The family requests that in lieu of flowers donations be sent to Calvary Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1353, Lake City, Florida 32056 in loving memory of Edna "Nanny" Markham. Arrangements are under the direction of **GATEWAY-FOREST LAWN FUNERAL HOME**, 3596 S.U.S. Hwy 44, Lake City, FL, 32025, (386) 752-1954. Please leave words of love and comfort for the family at www.gatewayforestlawn.com.

Percy Adams
 Mr. Percy Adams, 90, of Lake City, passed away Friday eve-

ning December 27, 2013 at the VA Medical Center in Lake City after an extended illness. Mr. Adams was born in Lake City on December 2, 1923 to the late George and Essie Adams. Mr. Adams was a lifelong resident of Lake City and was an avid fisherman. Mr. Adams was a carpenter for many years; and was also a United States Air Force veteran. Mr. Adams was preceded in death by his sister: Annie Bell Snead and brothers: Albert Adams; Leslie Adams and J.C. Adams.

Mr. Adams is survived by his sister-in-law: Margaret Adams Roberts (Lester Ray) of Lake City; specials/close friends: Ronnie Roberts; Brittany Roberts (Who was like his granddaughter); Jennifer Roberts; Gary Roberts; Bambi Mixon; Johnnie Mixon and Connie Mixon. One niece and nephew: Bennie and Gordon Rowe also survive.

Graveside funeral services for Mr. Adams will be conducted at 11 A.M. on Tuesday December 31, 2013 in Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens; Interment will follow. The family will receive friends on Monday evening December 30, 2013 from 5-7 P.M. at the funeral home. **Dees-Parrish Family Funeral Home** of Lake City is in charge of arrangements, 458 S. Marion Ave. Lake City, 32025. Please sign the online guestbook at www.parrishfamilyfuneralhome.com.

Golary Meek, Jr.

Golay Meek, Jr., 73, of Lake City, FL, died on Friday, December 27, 2013, at North FL Regional Hospital, Gainesville, FL. A native of Spiceland, IN, he was the son of the late Golay Meek, Sr., and Ruby Hodson Meek. He was a painting contractor and had lived in Lake City for 11 years. He was a loving husband, father and grandfather who also loved to fish and cook. He is survived by his loving wife of 54 years: Sue Hallgrath Meek, Lake City, FL; two sons: Kevin Meek, Richmond, VA,

and Brian Meek (Angie), Lake City, FL, owner of Lake City Bowl; one daughter: Sheryl Turner (Rex), Ft. Lauderdale, FL; two brothers: Gerald Meek, Brookville, OH and Miles Meek, Knightstown, IN; one sister: Carolyn Warrick, Brownsburg, IN; and six grandchildren.

Funeral services will be conducted on Tuesday, December 31, 2013, at 9:30 AM at New Life Church with Rev. Buddy Malloy officiating. Visitation with the family and friends will be Monday, December 30, 2013, from 5 PM to 8 PM at the funeral home. **GATEWAY-FOREST LAWN FUNERAL HOME**, 3596 S. US Hwy 441, Lake City, FL 32025 (386-752-1954) is in charge of arrangements. Please leave words of comfort for the family at our online guest book at www.gatewayforestlawn.com.

Obituaries are paid advertisements. For details, call the Lake City Reporter's classified department at 752-1293.

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FOUND

Continued From 1A

old Taylor and 1-year-old Michael — in foster care in 1974 due to the emotional strain of raising two children without a stable job.

Michael and Taylor went to the same foster home at first, but were separated shortly after. That was the last time Taylor remembers seeing his younger brother, but he is still searching any lead he can find.

'My name's Jimmy'

After three years in the foster care system, Taylor was adopted by a St. Augustine family, the Taylors. He still uses their name and doesn't plan to switch back to his birth name. He's been a Taylor his whole life, he said, and his son is a Taylor.

"I've been searching for years," he said. "Of course, out of the blue, I would have certain memories of my mom from before I went into foster care. I remember her name, her long straight red hair, my grandmother's house, my grandfather and his German Shepherd...."

To find his mother, Taylor relentlessly searched the Facebook alumni page for the Orange County high school he suspected she attended. Though it had over 3,000 members, he eventually found her profile. She had remarried. Yancy listed a sister on her profile who owned a hair salon. Taylor called his aunt, and eventually she returned the call.

"My name's Jimmy," he said. "This is going to sound a little strange...."

"You're one of Barbara's kids," his aunt immediately responded. "I think so," he said.

"No, you are, you are," she said. "This is going to make her Christmas."

Taylor's aunt provided him with his mother's phone number. The reunion, Taylor said, was very emotional. His mother currently lives in Acworth, Ga., so they haven't met in person yet. But, he has planned a roadtrip with his family to Georgia and then to Tennessee to visit with his younger sister.

"We've had a week of being in a reunion," Taylor said, adding that he has talked to both his mother and his sister every day for the last week. "My sister and I have been frantically searching every lead to find Michael — hopefully before the New Year. Everything we've turned up so far has been a dead end."

The search continues

When Taylor was adopted by his parents, they couple tried to adopt his younger brother as well. But, they were denied. In fact, they were told that he had already been adopted by another family. Taylor said, after Michael had reached



JASON MATTHEW WALKER/Lake City Reporter

Jimmy Taylor poses for a photograph with his step-daughters Alisha Creswell (left), 13, and Rebecca Creswell, 15.

adulthood years later, the adopting agency informed him that his brother had actually not been adopted until he was in his teens.

Taylor still struggles to understand why his adoptive parents were unable to adopt his brother and why the agency kept the details secret.

Now, he continues to search for the smiling, blond-haired toddler he remembers from photographs. Michael Joseph Stevens, who may or may not go by his birth name, was born either April 23 or April 24 in 1974 at Orlando-based Orange County Regional Medical Center.

"All in all, I've been searching for 20 years, but I've been wondering all my life," Taylor said.

Since his reunion with his mother, Taylor has had the chance to glance through childhood photos in the possession of his sister. One solitary photo captured the image of Yancy, Taylor and young Michael. It is the only photo in existence of all three of them. The search continues for Yancy's middle child, but Taylor said the reunion with the rest of his family

has been amazing.

"It's the best Christmas present I have ever gotten," he said.

Throughout the long years, he never held any anger or resentment toward his mother. He said, he always wondered and questioned "what if."

"With my adoptive family, I had a wonderful life," he said. "It made me the man I am today."

Joseph W. Taylor and Brenda Carol Rodenbaugh Taylor hold the title of "mom and dad" for Taylor. He calls his newfound biological mother "mama" so he doesn't get the two confused. His biological father was a pilot in the United States Air Force, who never married his mother. Taylor has no memory of his biological father.

Currently, Taylor is engaged to a Lake City woman, Claudia Brohl. After divorcing his previous wife, he moved to Lake City to be close to his children.

Taylor asks anyone with information on the whereabouts of Michael J. Stevens to send an e-mail to him at jimmyjamestaylor007@yahoo.com.

It's the best Christmas present I have ever gotten.

— Jimmy Taylor on finding his birth mother nearly 40 years after being adopted out of foster care

LCPD officer involved in crash

From staff reports

A Lake City Police Department officer was issued a traffic citation after he allegedly caused a three-vehicle crash last week.

According to information from the Lake City Police

Department, around 4:45 p.m. Monday Officer Larry Thomas was driving east on U.S. 90 West near Interstate 75 when vehicles in front of him came to an abrupt stop.

Thomas was unable to stop his vehicle and collided

with the vehicle in front of him, pushing it forward into a third vehicle.

Minor damage was caused to all vehicles and one driver was taken to a hospital for treatment of a possible injury.

Officer Mike Lee, Lake City Police Department assistant public information officer, said Thomas was cited for following too closely and noted an internal affairs investigation into the crash may follow.

Wreck on SR 47 seriously injures 2 local residents

From staff reports

Two Lake City residents were seriously hurt in a crash Thursday on I-75 in Alachua County, according to an FHP report.

Veronica K. Smith, 72 and Leward N. Smith, 70, were headed north at mile marker 588 at 7:50 p.m. when traffic stopped due to a mattress that had fallen off another vehicle. A Newberry woman behind

them in a 2003 Volkswagen Beetle did not stop and crashed into the back of their 2013 Volkswagen Passat.

The Smiths were transported to North Florida regional Hospital in serious condition, FHP said.

All northbound lanes were closed for about 30 minutes.

The driver of the Beetle, Alyson N. McQuillan, was charged with careless driving, according to FHP.



JASON MATTHEW WALKER/Lake City Reporter

Elden Tunnell of Bryant's Towing collects the belongings of a 15-year-old Marianna girl after the Toyota Camry she was driving crashed while she was attempting to evade Florida Highway Patrol Troopers on State Road 47 in Lake City on Friday.

TEEN

Continued From 1A

al car that was reported stolen from Marianna. The vehicle was driven by a 15-year-old female who was reported as a runaway.

Lake City district troopers saw the vehicle traveling south on Interstate 75 at the 425 mile marker.

Units attempted to stop the vehicle as the driver exited onto State Road 47 southbound.

However, the vehicle did not stop and three FHP units pursued the teen's

car as it headed southbound on State Road 47.

"The vehicle was extremely reckless, passing numerous cars at a high rate of speed," wrote Trooper First Class J.M. Farnell in his report. "The vehicle traveled onto the right shoulder to pass traffic. She struck two mailboxes, a culvert and overturned."

The driver was wearing a seatbelt and was reportedly alert and conscious at the scene before she was taken to Lake City Medical Center for observation. After being released from Lake City Medical Center, the 15-year-old driver was taken to jail.

SUSPECT

Continued From 1A

27, of 2680 SW Windsong Circle, pinning Matchett to the ground and punching him repeatedly, the report said.

Then they saw Barnes begin stabbing Matchett multiple times with a large steak knife, according to the report.

Stacy Johnson, Barnes' sister, attempted to pull her brother off of Matchett and sustained a laceration

to her right hand before Barnes fled on foot, the report said.

Police attempted to make contact with Barnes, but have thus far been unsuccessful in locating him, according to a press release sent Friday.

If proven guilty, Barnes would face charges of attempted second degree murder and aggravated battery with a deadly weapon.

Citizens with information about the suspect can contact LCPD anonymously through their tip line at 386-719-2068.



JASON MATTHEW WALKER/Lake City Reporter

Ed Lontz, solid waste director at the Winfield Solid Waste Facility, goes through a number of discarded electronics on Friday. Lontz said that as people get newer versions of appliances and electronics, they look to get rid of their existing items, some of which will be recycled.

GARBAGE

Continued From 1A

but it's still a large trash day. You can see it when you go down the streets — where there is normally one or two garbage cans, there are a couple of garbage cans with a bunch of bags. The tonnage isn't as high, but the volume is. Yes, it's up, but because Christmas was on Wednesday, we haven't seen the full effect."

All the Columbia County refuse placed at curbside won't be collected until next week and then Lontz will be able to determine if there was a significant increase. Christmas was Wednesday and trash collection is always a day late due to the holiday.

Post Christmas trash collection normally has a variety of items.

"We normally see a lot of food waste, Christmas wrapping and boxes," Lontz said. "We've had a lot of people drop off old electronics, DVDs and videos. They're making room for new stuff."

With the ever increasing popularity of electronic gadgets as gift items, Lontz said he's seen an increase

Quick Facts

■ According to the Environmental Protection Agency, in the period between Thanksgiving and New Year's, American households generate 25% more waste. That's about 1 million extra tons of trash each year.

in older electronic items making their way to the solid waste facility.

"Thursday I saw four or five in our electronics department, the old answering machines, 20-30 DVDs, some of the older model Nintendos and Playstations and the games that belong to them," he said. "For that stuff, two or three years old, is darn near outdated."

Lontz also noted he's seen lots of Christmas ornaments that have been brought to the solid waste facility.

"New Year's and Christmas are the big collection days of the year," he said, noting the New Year's collection cycle is when they see alcohol containers, heavy amounts of food waste and Christmas trees. "A lot of people, after New Year's, decide to do the second wind of cleaning. Wastes from the stores also go up because there are a lot of returns."

MAY



FILE

The Columbia High School Lady Tigers celebrate on the field after defeating Pembroke Pines Charter School to win the 6A state softball championship in Vero Beach in May.

Lady Tigers softball team completes state title run

From staff reports

In a year that saw Columbia High School's softball program reach its first Final Four and win more games in a single season than any Lady Tigers team before it, the only thing better would be winning a state championship.

Around 11 a.m. on Sunday, May 12, the Lady Tigers did just that, defeating the Pembroke Pines Charter School 6-2 in Vero Beach. The win capped a 28-4 season.

Erin Anderson made the weekend even more remarkable by hurling a non-hitter to lead Columbia to the win. She pitched 6 2/3 innings, struck out six batters and walked three.

6-for-7: Porter sees much success in sponsored bills

From staff reports

Despite political setbacks, state Rep. Elizabeth Porter (R-Lake City) never gave up on her bill that would require neighboring water management districts to cooperate with each other.

On May 1, the bill passed the state House after already passing through the Senate earlier in the legislative session. Later, the bill was signed into law by Gov. Rick Scott.

The bill could protect North Florida's water from being sucked into other areas of the state by over-pumping of ground water.

"I am most pleased with the passage of the water management district bill that I have worked and fought hard for the past three years," Porter said in an earlier e-mail interview. "This has been a great session for the people of North Florida and our great state."

Since it has been signed into law, the bill requires the state's water management districts to recognize the science of other districts and take into account the minimum flow levels of other districts' rivers, streams and springs.

Six out of seven bills Porter introduced during the 2013 legislative session were signed into law by Scott.

11-year-old, accidentally shot by 4-year-old, dies

From staff reports

Lake City police filed criminal charges against a man who allegedly owned the gun that a 4-year-old used to accidentally shoot an 11-year-old boy at Cedar Park Apartments on Mother's Day.

Michael S. Norman, 26, faces charges of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, possession of a firearm with altered serial numbers and aggravated manslaughter, according to a city police news release.

Jarvin Jackson, 11, died two days after he was shot in the neck with a Ruger 9mm handgun. Jackson was originally listed in critical condition, and preliminary findings indicated that the shooting was accidental. At the time of the accident on May 12, no other information was released due to an ongoing investigation.

Further information released on May 22 stated that, at the time of the shooting, there were nine children staying in the Cedar Park apartment at the time. Norman was the father of the 4-year-old who shot Jarvin and the boyfriend of Jarvin's aunt. Both Jarvin's mother and aunt were not at home when the shooting occurred. The 4-year-old was Jarvin's cousin.

Norman was watching the children on Mother's Day and brought the gun with him as a precaution. He told police he felt the apartment complex was unsafe. Norman added that he left the gun on the kitchen table before going to sleep at 3 a.m. on May 12. He woke to the sound of gunfire at about 8 a.m. and rushed to the living room where he saw a 2-year-old girl and a 4-year-old girl, police said.

While the two were playing with the gun, it went off and shot Jarvin in the neck. The 4-year-old girl had injuries to her face from the recoil of the 9mm handgun.

JUNE

Jury votes death for Franklin

From staff reports

Two-time convicted murderer Richard P. Franklin was convicted of first-degree murder in the stabbing death of Columbia Correctional Institution officer Sgt. Ruben Thomas III. He was also convicted of felony battery and possession of contraband in a prison.



FILE

Convicted murderer Richard P. Franklin is seen as Third Circuit Court Judge Paul S. Bryan sentences him to death in June.

The jury took less than three hours to convict Franklin of first-degree murder in the March 18, 2012, stabbing death of Thomas.

Franklin was facing charges of first-degree murder, aggravated battery on a law enforcement officer and possession of contraband in a prison.

About a week after Franklin was convicted, a Columbia County jury took about 90 minutes to recommend the death penalty for Franklin. The same seven-man, five woman jury that convicted Franklin, voted 9-3 for the death penalty.

JULY

Former superintendent Sam Markham dies at 76

From staff reports

Grady Darrell Sam. Mr. Markham or Daddy Markham — Lake City residents called the former Columbia County School Superintendent by many different monikers, but what everyone remembers when they think of the late Grady D. "Sam" Markham is his generous heart of gold.



Markham

Markham, 76, passed away in July at Haven Hospice Care Center in Lake City as a result of medical complications from an injury suffered in 2012.

"Everybody's got a story about him," his son, Samuel Markham, said during an earlier interview. "He bought eyeglasses [for students], he bought jackets, he bought clothes, and he bought lunch — just anything. If he could help, he did, and he didn't go telling everybody that he did it."

Born May 3, 1937, in Columbia County, Sam Markham attended Columbia High School, played football for the Tigers and worked at his father's restaurant, The Magnolia Barbeque.

He obtained a master's degree from the University of Florida. After a tour in the Army, he returned to Lake City to teach math for 10 years at Lake City Junior High School. He served four years on the Columbia County School Board, starting in 1972.

In 1980, Markham was appointed principal of Five Points Elementary. He paid for student lunches out of his own pocket for the 24 years he helmed the school, resigning in 2004.

An unsuccessful run for superintendent in 1976 culminated in 2004 when Markham earned the position. He defeated Lex Carswell by less than 1 percent. He lost to Michael Millikin in 2008.

"He was one of the most dedicated, lovable men I knew," David Monroe, a longtime friend of Markham's, said. "I'm going to miss him. I miss him now."

New water advocacy group replaces FLOW

From staff reports

After Florida Leaders Organized for Water floundered, unable to solve problems plaguing the group, local representatives gathered in July to protect North Florida's dwindling water supply.

The new group hoped to determine whether a smaller group than the original FLOW could effectively petition the Legislature on water quality and protection issues.

Helen Miller, mayor of White Springs; John Kuykendall, representative from The Ichetucknee Partnership; Ron Williams, Columbia County commissioner; Dale Williams, Columbia County manager; Stacie Greco, Alachua County/Santa Fe Springs Working Group representative; Lee Pinkoson, Alachua County commissioner; Annette Long, of Save Our Suwannee and more attended the meeting, which lasted about 90 minutes.

After a round-table discussion and review of FLOW history, the group developed several preliminary goals and objectives:

- Establish current and future minimum flows and levels;
- Promote conservation to restore the aquifer;
- Address water quality and reduce water pollution;
- Support water management districts to help them get proper funding;
- Reduce withdrawals from the aquifer;
- Support legislation that redefines the roles of water management districts;
- Support legislation to create a statewide water goat, and
- Create funding to help agricultural operations retrofit their flow systems.

AUGUST

Trucking magnate, 3 others slain; gunman takes own life

From staff reports

UNION COUNTY—A gruesome shooting rampage in August by a former Pritchett Trucking employee left four men dead, including his one-time employer, and a small town trying to recover from the tragic events.

On Saturday, Aug. 24, Hubert Allen Jr., 72, killed his ex-boss and founder of Pritchett Trucking, Inc., Marvin Pritchett, in a series of attacks that left four dead and two wounded at three different crime scenes, according to a Union County Sheriff's Office press release.

Further investigation uncovered a handwritten note at Allen's residence that identified his four victims, proving that the shooting spree was a premeditated event. The note did not reveal a motive, officials said.

Allen first drove to Rolling Oaks Farm owned by Pritchett off County Road 18A, where he confronted and killed his former co-worker, 28-year-old Rolando Gonzalez-Delgado. Shortly after, Allen fatally shot Pritchett, 80, on the dirt road leading into the farm.

According to the press release, a few minutes later Allen encountered another co-worker, Lewis Mabrey Jr., driving a farm tractor on County Road 18A. Allegedly, Allen exchanged words with Mabrey, 66, and then fired a small-bore shotgun. He struck Mabrey in the left arm and side.

At Pritchett Trucking, Inc. headquarters in Lake Butler, Allen then shot 44-year-old David Griffis. Griffis later died

of complications related to the gunshot wound.

Allen killed himself in his truck parked at his home off 6th Avenue, less than a half mile from corporate headquarters.

"We'll make it through, but it takes everybody," said Lake Butler Mayor Lonnie Norman in a previous interview. "This is a family community. We're going to pull together. We've proven that."

Marshals capture alleged killer in Harvey, La., home

From staff reports

U.S. Marshals arrested a man in Louisiana suspected of first-degree murder and armed robbery in Lake City last year.



Grandison

Ernest Larry Grandison, formerly of 864 NW Thetis Place, was one of two suspects in the April 2012 armed robbery and fatal shooting of Rajni Patel, police said.

According to the Lake City Police Department, around 1:36 p.m. Friday, April 27, 2012, police responded to an armed robbery at A&M Discount Beverage on Duval Street only to find the suspects had fled. Patel, the store's owner, had been shot.

Police say Grandison and his son-in-law and alleged accomplice, James Leonard Johnson, fled on foot.

Grandison's daughter, Sheena Marie, was arrested in May for her alleged role in the robbery. She drove the men to a location near the store minutes before they entered, police said.

Around 6:44 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 29, Grandison was staying with a woman in Harvey, La., when members of the U.S. Marshals' Gulf Coast Regional Fugitive Task Force arrested him without incident.

Intermodal park officials report bright prospects

From staff reports

The owner of the North Florida Intermodal Park announced in August that it was working with the U.S. Forest Service to swap land in Lake Butler for four acres in the Osceola National Forest to build a railroad spur seen as necessary for economic development.

Over the last several years, the Forest Service rejected previous efforts by Plum Creek, a timber company and largest landowner in the nation, to acquire an easement on federally owned property. The agency voiced concern about the location of the 6.1 acre plot because of a colony of endangered red-cockaded woodpeckers living in the pine trees on the suggested site.

The board of county commissioners voted unanimously in December to begin the land swap process that would lay the groundwork for a new railroad spur connected to the North Florida Intermodal Park project.

Plum Creek requires the spur to connect its property to an existing rail line in the area. The company plans to establish an intermodal park on its 2,622 acres of U.S. Highway 90, a plot that includes a 500-acre, state-designated Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern (RACEC) catalyst site. Located 60 miles from JaxPort, the site is positioned with the Interstate 10 and the Interstate 75 corridor.

The long-term plan is for an inland port to benefit from increased shipping to JaxPort due to widening of the Panama Canal.

SEPTEMBER



FILE

Members of the LCFD look on as the City Council discusses plans to allow the city and county fire departments to stay the way it is during a city council meeting in July.

City, county pursue separate public safety agendas

From staff reports

The Lake City administration continued moving toward its goal of public safety self-sufficiency throughout 2013, declining an offer from the county to consolidate fire departments and engage in a single combined communications dispatch center.

"We have a well-oiled machine right here. We don't need to make a change," Councilman George Ward said during a Sept. 3 council meeting. "We have a great [insurance rating], good seasoned firefighters working for us. I don't see any reason for even considering contracting with the county."

The city also decided to move its fire safety dispatch services to their dispatch center downtown, pulling out of the county's combined communication center Oct. 1.

City Manager Wendell Johnson claimed city public safety officials cited concerns over management practices, unanswered financial questions and stakeholder collaboration as part of a list of grievances against the county's approach to dispatch.

With the current arrangement, all calls for city services—such as LCPD and LCFD—must be "rung down" from the county's combined communications center to the city's dispatch center. The process adds five to 10 seconds to the dispatch process, officials said.

County Safety Manager David Kraus said the county would be willing to negotiate with the city should they wish to pursue a combined communications center in the future.

REVIEW continued on 8A

REVIEW: September headlines

Continued From 7A

Ichetucknee conservation efforts get \$4M from state

From staff reports

An Ichetucknee springshed water quality improvement project received the largest portion of a \$10 million state fund Sept. 4 after area lawmakers, conservation groups and water management district officials spent months advocating on the spring's behalf.

"They — the governor, DEP Secretary Vinyard and Florida legislators — realize how important the Ichetucknee is," said Rep. Elizabeth Porter (R-Lake City). "And they really understand that, when it comes to springs, Ichetucknee is the crown jewel."

Ichetucknee acquired \$3.9 million from the state, \$400,000 from the Suwannee River Water Management District and \$300,000 from local partners.

SWRMD officials said they aim to use the funds to renovate a Lake City sprayfield that sits inside the Ichetucknee trace.

"We're going to continue to advocate for the same or better allocations in years to come," Porter said. "This is certainly not the end. It's just the beginning."

Pipeline path diverted away from Ichetucknee

From staff reports

Local residents successfully discouraged Florida Power & Light and construction contractor Sabal Trail Transmission from building part of a \$3.5 billion natural gas pipeline system underneath the Ichetucknee.

Members of the Ichetucknee Alliance and Three Rivers Estates voiced their concerns that one mistake during the pipeline's construction could damage limestone regions underground, which could ultimately drain or alter the Ichetucknee, putting the delicate ecosystem in jeopardy.

"It was no small feat to have them reconsider the route," County Manager Dale Williams said. "Companies doing these types of projects basically have the same power that government has."

The proposed pipeline would extend 700 miles from western Alabama to FPL's Martin County Plant. However, officials have not yet decided where it will be located.

"We're really excited to have the pipeline not come across the Ichetucknee," said John Kuykendall, president of The Ichetucknee Partnership. "We've done so much to preserve it and educate the public about how important it is... The Ichetucknee has been a part of this community forever, and we'd like to preserve that for future generations."



Christian Service Center officials say they have confidence the organization's operations will continue to run smoothly after they refused to sign USDA contracts earlier this year. Picture are volunteers Micheline Adamcewicz (from left) Donna Griffin and assistant director Charlie Suydam.

Christian Service Center at odds with USDA

From staff reports

Christian Service Center went public in September with details regarding why they decided to reject food commodities United States Department of Agriculture for their food distribution programs.

According to CSC staff, an inspector with the USDA told the group they would have to remove religious imagery from locations where people came to receive food, as well as barring them from praying with, preaching to, or proselytizing clients.

However, representatives from the USDA deny ever telling CSC they had to go that far.

"It's not a violation as long as it's not a requirement to receive the food," said Erin Gillespie, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services press secretary. "They would not be in violation of USDA requirements as long as it was not a condition to receive the food."

The CSC board of directors voted unanimously to break ties with the USDA and "trust God to take care of us," according to CSC Executive Director Kay Daly.

Daly said 30 to 40 percent of the CSC's food pantry previously came from the USDA.

OCTOBER

Officer dies in house fire

From staff reports

One Lake City Police Department officer was killed and another hurt in a house fire in the early morning hours of Oct. 31.

Law enforcement responded to a call about a full involved structure fire that took the life of LCPD officer Brandi Jackson, 24, and injured 14-year investigator David Greear, 41, around 1:00 a.m. Oct. 31.

Investigators said Greear and Jackson were sleeping in separate parts of the house at the time of the fire. Greear attempted to lead Jackson out of the residence, but became separated from her during the blaze, authorities said.



Jackson

YEAR IN PICTURES



FILE

Schools open with enthusiasm

Belmont Academy teacher Melinda Nicholson prepares her fifth-graders for the upcoming school year in August by asking them if they knew that their planner should be used for. Aston Huber, in the front row, eagerly threw up both hands to respond.

Jackson, unfamiliar with the home, remained trapped inside. Investigators said there was no suspicion of foul play.

Jackson had only been with LCPD for about 10 weeks and already solved a case of stolen check forgery before her untimely death in October.

Jackson's two daughters, two and four years old, were adopted by Jackson's mother days later.

"During our interview, her statement to us was 'This is where I want to be. I want to make a difference in the community,'" LCPD Police Chief Argatha Gilmore said. "I felt her commitment and sincerity. That will always be her legacy with the community and police department."



FILE

A public hearing has been scheduled for Monday, Jan. 13 for the public to give feedback about the potential sale.

Hospital Authority considers seeking a buyer for Shands

From staff reports

As the Affordable Care Act moves onto the health care scene, the Lake Shore Hospital Authority entertained the idea of selling the local hospital in October, in order to remove the burden of funding indigent care from the taxpayers.

A public hearing has been scheduled for Monday, Jan. 13, at the Lake Shore Hospital Authority Administrative building, 259 NE Franklin St., where the public will give feedback about the proposed merger and potential sale.

"I think the hospital authority has really outlived its usefulness," said authority board member Koby Adams. "When I had my interview with the governor, he asked me what I didn't like about the authority. I told him I didn't like the idea that we can tax the people of Columbia County, and we're not elected. ... It's time we get out of the business."

If the hospital is sold, it would continue to operate as a private entity.

Health Management Associates, which currently leases the Lake Shore Regional Medical Center from the hospital authority, agreed to sell at least 25 of its hospitals or hospital leases to Community Health Associates Inc. in July. Therefore, the lease owner will transition from HMA to CHS in the first part of 2014.

The board's attorney, Marlin Feagle, said the sale — if it happens — would most likely have to be according to the terms and stipulations of the lease agreement with the new company.

According to the board, the hospital is valued at \$10 million to \$12 million.

District, FGC strike a deal on cost of dual enrollment

From staff reports

Florida Gateway College informed the Columbia County School District in October that it will reimburse 35 percent of tuition costs paid this semester and next semester, despite the college's statements that it would not compromise further.

On Oct. 16, Columbia County School Board received a letter from FGC offering a solution to the dual-enrollment battle between the board and the college because of new legislation requiring the district to foot the cost of the program.

FGC agreed to give Columbia County, and its four other service areas, a 35 percent reduction in tuition costs, a 25 percent discount on book purchases and a reduction in course costs for classes taught on the high school campus.

The issue erupted in September after School Superintendent Terry Huddleston suggested the district could acquire a better deal on the cost for dual

enrollment. Other districts in the state had agreed to reimburse districts a percentage of the fees, Huddleston said in September.

A July 15 letter from Florida Gateway College President Charles Hall informed Huddleston the state requires the college charge \$71.98 per credit hour for classes offered to high school students on the FGC campus or online. If the course is offered on the high school campus, the college has reduced the fee to \$10/credit hour. Book purchases to the FGC Bookstore were reduced by 25 percent.

Huddleston was unhappy with the proposal, listing colleges throughout the state that had provided better deals to their local districts. The board prolonged the agreement between the district and FGC in hopes of gaining a better deal the originally proposed.



FILE

TIMCO Aviation Services, based in Greensboro, N.C., was acquired in October by Hong Kong Aircraft Engineering Company Limited for about \$388.8 million.

TIMCO sold, but no changes planned for Lake City facility

From staff reports

The day-to-day operations of Lake City's TIMCO facility will go unchanged as corporate executives prepare to sell ownership of the company for \$388.8 million to Hong Kong Aircraft Engineering Company Limited in January 2014.

Greensboro, N.C.-based TIMCO Aviation Services announced "a definitive agreement has been signed for [TIMCO] to be acquired by [HAECO]," in an October media release.

"HAECO is acquiring TIMCO in whole," said TIMCO's vice president of marketing and business development Leonard Kazmerski. "One hundred percent of it will be owned by HAECO. That said, the brand and management team and all of the employees will stay in place as they are today. We will become a wholly-owned part of HAECO that will continue to operate within its own structure, the only difference being that HAECO will be making the major strategic decisions and investments at the facility."

TIMCO said the Lake City facility employed 623 of the company's 2,750 employees throughout the United States as of October, and was the fourth largest employer in Columbia County behind PCS Phosphate-White Springs, the VA Medical Center and the School Board.



FILE

Columbia High School senior Darrah McNair, 17, signs a farewell message on a sign Tuesday for fellow senior Czarrah Howard, who died in a two-vehicle accident in October.

CHS student dies in crash during homecoming week

From staff reports

A cloud of pink balloons drifted into a candlelit sky on a Tuesday night in October, their bubblegum-colored reflections rippling across the water of Lake DeSoto.

About 200 people gathered at the gazebo near Shands at Lake Shore Regional Medical Center for an 8 p.m. candle-

REVIEW: October headlines

Continued From 8A

light vigil in honor of Columbia High School senior Czarrah Howard. Howard died days earlier in a two-vehicle collision at the intersection of SW Main Boulevard and SW Malone Street.

Howard, 17, passed away while being transported to Lake City Medical Center and was pronounced dead at the hospital, according to the Lake City Police Department. Five other students were injured in the accident.

"She will be missed, but there's a piece of her in all of our hearts," Cyrena Spagnola, one of Howard's best friends, told the crowd at the vigil. "It's not really that it will get easier. ... We just ask that you pray for her family. They need it. Her close friends need it. We just ask for your help."

Days after the accident, CHS celebrated their Homecoming Week. The words "Columbia Strong" dotted T-shirts, twitter feeds and the Homecoming Parade floats — a powerful reminder of the school's decision to stand together in the days after the death of one of its own.

Peppered throughout the CHS Homecoming Parade, posters and ribbons honored Howard and reminded Lake City to "Pray for All 9" involved in the crash.

YEAR IN PICTURES



FILE

Enjoying the cool part of summer

Blythe Harrell (right), 4, and Hunter Christian, 7, enjoy their strawberry and root beer slushies, respectively, as they cool off from the heat while attending the 20th annual Blueberry Festival in June.

NOVEMBER



FILE

Lake City Public Works employees Tony Bell (from left) and Harold Solomon and FWC fisheries biologist Dan Dorosheff haul off a bin full of plastic bottles, aluminum cans and various other items found in Lake Montgomery. In some areas, the lake is 15 feet deep with murky waters and thick algae hiding a lot of the garbage.

Lake City Reporter inspires lake clean-up

From staff reports

An article published by the Lake City Reporter helped inspire a concentrated effort between the Lake City Public Works Department and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to clean-up a litter-ridden Lake Montgomery.

George Hudson Jr. had been living on the banks of Lake Montgomery for over 20 years before he contacted the Reporter in November to complain about excessive trash in and around the lake.

There was apparently confusion between the city's Public Works Department and FWC over which agency was responsible for maintaining pollution in the lake.

Hudson, Lake City, FWC and local volunteers agreed to team up and clean the lake on Dec. 4, in addition to posting signage in hopes of deterring future litterbugs.

City Public Works director Thomas Henry said he intends to sit down with the Florida Department of Transportation, FWC, and the Suwannee River Management District to discuss a nearby filtration system that he believes isn't working properly and contributing to the trash problem.

"They need to police the lake or how else are they going to know it needs to be clean," Hudson said. "This needs to be done. Not just at my lake, but a lot of lakes."

Lake City remembers JFK 50 years later

From staff reports

Local residents relived their memories of the day former President John F. Kennedy was assassinated 50 years ago.

Helena Powers, 97, personally met Kennedy at an inauguration reception.

"[My husband] Ralph and I did a waltz alongside Jack and Jackie," she said. "He was a very good dancer."

Her son, Ralph Powers, marched as a Coast Guard reservist in Kennedy's funeral procession.

"What really stood out in my mind was the quietness ... it was extraordinarily quiet," Ralph Powers said. "The whole thing was almost surreal considering that my parents were at his inauguration and here I was at his funeral."

Kennedy's death left an indelible mark in the minds of millions of Americans. "Seeing Jackie Kennedy with blood on her... there are vivid images that will never leave my head," Third Circuit Judge Paul Bryan said. "Just talking about it right now brings up a bunch of emotions in me."

People speculated how the nation would move forward and what America would have been like if Kennedy had survived that day.

"It changed America because [President] Johnson... took it upon himself to push through a lot of civil rights legislation and everything else that relates to equal opportunity," said Glenel Bowden, congressional aide to U.S. Rep. Corrine Brown (D-Jacksonville). "In the black community, it felt like we had a personal relationship with the family. A lot of folks had a portrait of Martin Luther King and JFK side by side in their homes."

DECEMBER



FILE

The PotashCorp-White Springs facility is seen at night.



FILE

iPads a fun part of SCOPE

Fort White Elementary School fourth-grade teacher Carol Barnett assists her students in May as they work on a project using iPad 5's. More than 20 iPads and a charging cart were purchased partly with teacher's bonuses, which they donated to help jump-start Project SCOPE (Stopping the Cycle of Poverty through Education). Pictured are Emily Quinones (from left), 10; John Miller, 9; Wesley Asmus, 10; Hannah Hodge, 10; and Barnett.

Potash lays off 350, cites global market conditions

From staff reports

PotashCorp White Springs announced plans to close its Suwannee River chemical plant and lay off 350 workers by the second half of 2014.

PCS cited unfavorable global conditions as the driving force behind its layoffs, which included 695 additional layoffs from its facilities in the United States, Trinidad and Canada, home of Potash's headquarters.

"This was not something that was done lightly," White Springs Public Affairs Manager Mike Williams said. "This does not reflect on the talent, skillset or performance of the people affected. Our thoughts, prayers and concerns are with the impacted members of the PotashCorp family."

According to a press release, 100 workers immediately laid off as part of the closure continued to receive full-time pay and benefits until Feb. 2, 2014.

The PCS White Springs facility has been a cornerstone of North Central Florida's economy ever since Occidental Petroleum Corporation CEO Armand Hammer broke ground on the \$35 million site in 1964 (which would have been roughly \$255 million in 2013 dollars).

In efforts to help those affected, PCS and the North Florida Workforce Development Board held a resource fair at the facility's conference center.

Laid-off workers received help and advice regarding their transition process as well as an opportunity to meet with potential new employers.

Williams said PCS White Springs won't forget its local North Florida family. "We've always been partners with the community," he said. "That will always continue."



FILE

H.K. Edgerton, from Asheville, N.C., waves a Confederate flag outside the Columbia County School Board in December. He was protesting a proposed Union monument.

Monument battle at fever pitch

From staff reports

Civil War aficionados fiercely contested plans for a new monument in Olustee Battlefield Historic State

Park that would pay homage to the Union soldiers that fought and died nearly 150 years ago.

Michael Farrell, a member of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, has been working since 2011 to erect the monument in the park, proposing it be placed directly adjacent to an existing 100-year-old Confederate monument erected by the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

However, several groups and individuals opposed the idea of placing a Union monument so close to the existing Confederate counterparts, citing inappropriate aesthetics, relevance and intentions.

The Florida Department of Environmental Protection held a meeting Dec. 2, detailing possible locations for the monument.

Those against the monument protested it vehemently, including H.K. Edgerton who interrupted the meeting, began waving a Confederate flag and leading the audience in an unscripted rendition of "Dixie."

Although the monument has already been OK'd by FDEP, Rep. Dennis Baxley (R-Ocala) proposed a bill that would require legislators to vote on changes made to state parks.

However, local Rep. Elizabeth Porter opposed Baxley's bill and his "hubris." "I think the decision should rest with the people, not with the legislature," Porter said. "I just think it's a local issue that needs to be served at a local level."

While the location is still in the area, the Union monument supporters hope to have it funded and constructed by 2015.

NFBA privatization agreement moves forward

From staff reports

The North Florida Broadband Authority finalized a deal allowing Texas-based service provider Affiniti, Inc. to effectively take the wheel of the fledgling government-funded broadband company.

NFBA Board members attributed the lack of success to "misinformation" and "bad publicity."

The agreement is a 10-year contract that says Affiniti will handle the day-to-day operating efforts, capital improvements and maintenance of the NFBA's approximately 140-tower communication infrastructure.

NFBA board members heard a report from Affiniti CEO Darol Lain in December on the various house-keeping procedures underway as Affiniti prepared to become custodian of the roughly \$30 million of federal assets under the NFBA umbrella.

Lain said he was interested in using the board's existing community relationships and connections for courting clients in the future.

"Our plan right now is still in the early stages of scouring these markets and getting to know everybody," Lain said after the meeting. "We're focusing first on expanding anchor institutions the NFBA was connecting to, like schools, hospitals and government entities."

THE WEATHER

29 SUN HI 72 LO 47 Partly cloudy	30 MON HI 67 LO 40 Partly cloudy Light wind	31 TUE HI 63 LO 32 Partly cloudy	01 WED HI 67 LO 40 Partly cloudy	02 THU HI 65 LO 40 Chance of rain showers
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REGIONAL FORECAST MAP for Sunday, Dec. 29

Sunday's highs/Sunday night's low

City	Monday	Tuesday
Cape Canaveral	76/59/pc	72/54/pc
Daytona Beach	72/54/pc	68/49/pc
Fort Myers	80/60/sh	74/56/pc
Ft. Lauderdale	80/66/sh	79/67/sh
Gainesville	68/45/cd	64/35/pc
Jacksonville	65/46/pc	63/38/pc
Key West	79/69/sh	75/68/pc
Lake City	68/45/cd	64/35/pc
Miami	81/66/sh	79/68/sh
Naples	77/63/sh	77/60/sh
Ocala	69/47/cd	66/39/pc
Orlando	73/57/pc	69/50/pc
Panama City	63/44/pc	59/46/pc
Pensacola	60/43/sh	57/43/pc
Tallahassee	67/39/pc	62/37/pc
Tampa	72/56/sh	68/50/pc
Valdosta	66/39/pc	62/36/pc
W. Palm Beach	80/66/sh	78/66/sh

NATIONAL FORECAST: A strengthening low pressure system will track from the Southeast into the Mid-Atlantic, bringing heavy rain and a few thunderstorms to those regions. Snow will fall on the back side of this system, from northern New England through the Great Lakes.

NATIONAL FORECAST MAP

3 p.m. today

YESTERDAY'S NATIONAL EXTREMES High: 84°, Immokalee, FL Low: -9°, Kremmling, CO

LAKE CITY ALMANAC

TEMPERATURES

High Saturday	72	Sunrise today	7:26 a.m.
Low Saturday	53	Sunset today	5:39 p.m.
Normal high	66	Sunrise tom.	7:26 a.m.
Normal low	43	Sunset tom.	5:40 p.m.
Record high	82 in 1942		
Record low	21 in 2010		

PRECIPITATION

Saturday	0.01"
Month total	5.89"
Year total	55.20"
Normal month-to-date	2.15"
Normal year-to-date	47.10"

MOON

Moonrise today	4:14 a.m.
Moonset today	3:11 p.m.
Moonrise tom.	5:18 a.m.
Moonset tom.	4:09 p.m.

Jan 1 New Jan 7 First Jan 15 Full Jan 24 Last

UV INDEX

3

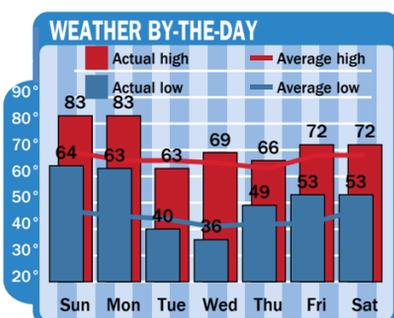
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ultra-violet
radiation risk
for the area on
a scale from 0
to 10+.

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CITY	Saturday Hi/Lo/Pcp.	Today Hi/Lo/W	CITY	Saturday Hi/Lo/Pcp.	Today Hi/Lo/W	CITY	Saturday Hi/Lo/Pcp.	Today Hi/Lo/W
Albany NY	71/62/0.00	73/53/pc	Des Moines	51/30/0.00	5/-5/pc	Oklahoma City	60/32/0.00	30/14/pc
Albuquerque	46/24/0.00	42/23/pc	Detroit	47/31/0.00	40/12/ri	Omaha	57/28/0.00	8/-1/pc
Anchorage	21/15/0.00	24/19/pc	El Paso	55/24/0.00	53/32/pc	Orlando	77/66/01	79/59/ts
Atlanta	46/36/02	54/40/r	Fairbanks	-4/-22/0.00	-2/-14/cd	Philadelphia	56/28/0.00	46/34/r
Baltimore	58/28/0.00	46/36/r	Greensboro	55/23/0.00	46/35/r	Phoenix	66/46/0.00	68/42/s
Billings	46/19/0.00	29/21/pc	Hartford	49/22/0.00	39/32/r	Pittsburgh	50/38/0.00	40/22/r
Birmingham	46/42/30	53/35/r	Honolulu	82/73/0.00	80/67/sh	Portland ME	37/18/0.00	37/27/r
Bismarck	33/1/0.00	-2/-8/pc	Houston	60/48/0.00	65/40/pc	Portland OR	44/37/0.00	44/34/fg
Boise	20/15/0.00	32/16/fg	Indianapolis	53/31/0.00	40/15/sn	Raleigh	59/25/0.00	54/37/r
Boston	48/27/0.00	41/33/r	Jackson MS	47/42/71	58/37/pc	Rapid City	47/28/0.00	13/12/pc
Buffalo	41/35/0.00	42/17/r	Jacksonville	64/54/02	75/47/ts	Reno	46/19/0.00	47/23/pc
Charleston SC	65/34/0.00	70/45/ts	Kansas City	57/33/0.00	17/5/pc	Sacramento	64/30/0.00	63/33/s
Charleston WV	53/24/0.00	46/29/r	Las Vegas	59/45/0.00	58/38/pc	Salt Lake City	28/17/0.00	30/14/pc
Charlotte	55/21/0.00	56/38/sh	Little Rock	50/33/0.00	51/26/cd	San Antonio	58/46/0.00	65/34/fg
Cheyenne	47/32/0.00	30/22/pc	Los Angeles	73/51/0.00	74/52/s	San Diego	66/54/0.00	72/53/s
Chicago	50/33/0.00	31/-2/sn	Memphis	48/34/0.00	51/26/pc	San Francisco	57/39/0.00	58/47/s
Cincinnati	51/33/0.00	45/21/r	Miami	80/72/37	83/71/pc	Seattle	48/42/0.00	46/38/fg
Cleveland	54/39/0.00	42/17/sh	Minneapolis	46/19/0.00	-1/-15/pc	Spokane	28/21/0.00	33/25/fg
Columbia SC	54/32/0.00	25/4/pc	Mobile	51/44/27.4	59/40/pc	St. Louis	60/37/0.00	33/7/pc
Dallas	62/36/0.00	45/26/cd	New Orleans	50/46/1.13	61/44/pc	Tampa	79/65/0.00	75/60/ts
Daytona Beach	76/65/17	79/56/ts	New York	53/31/0.00	48/37/r	Tucson	64/39/0.00	64/36/pc
Denver	38/32/0.00	34/20/pc	Oakland	57/35/0.00	60/38/s	Washington	57/30/0.00	47/37/r



WEATHER HISTORY

The worst Florida freeze ever occurred on this date in 1894. On that day, the temperature at Orlando sunk to an all-time record low of 18 degrees. Two months later, another cold spell helped to destroy 98% of the Florida citrus trees.

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INTERNATIONAL

CITY	Saturday Hi/Lo/Pcp.	Today Hi/Lo/W	CITY	Saturday Hi/Lo/Pcp.	Today Hi/Lo/W	CITY	Saturday Hi/Lo/Pcp.	Today Hi/Lo/W
Acapulco	87/71/0.00	86/71/s	La Paz	60/41/0.00	57/42/ts	Rio	93/75/0.00	93/77/pc
Amsterdam	48/39/0.00	50/35/r	Lima	77/66/0.00	77/69/pc	Rome	57/33/0.00	55/44/fg
Athens	57/50/0.00	59/48/r	London	48/37/0.00	48/32/s	San Juan PR	86/77/02	85/75/sh
Auckland	71/57/0.00	71/62/pc	Madrid	51/42/0.00	51/30/pc	Santiago	86/69/0.00	86/66/pc
Beijing	35/21/0.00	35/13/s	Mexico City	68/46/0.00	66/48/pc	Seoul	28/13/0.00	28/15/pc
Berlin	50/44/0.00	51/41/cd	Montreal	35/21/0.00	37/21/sn	Singapore	84/77/0.00	86/77/r
Buenos Aires	89/77/0.00	95/80/pc	Moscow	33/28/0.00	32/30/cd	St. Thomas VI	85/75/04	86/76/r
Cairo	68/53/0.00	64/50/s	Nairobi	77/57/0.00	78/57/pc	Sydney	80/65/0.00	78/68/s
Geneva	42/30/0.00	50/33/r	Nassau	78/75/0.00	80/73/pc	Tel Aviv	75/60/0.00	77/51/s
Havana	84/73/0.00	84/68/pc	New Delhi	64/44/0.00	66/39/s	Tokyo	48/35/0.00	46/33/s
Helsinki	42/41/0.00	42/37/r	Oslo	48/42/0.00	50/44/pc	Toronto	37/35/0.00	37/33/cd
Hong Kong	57/48/0.00	59/48/pc	Panama	89/77/0.00	89/75/pc	Vienna	46/39/0.00	46/35/s
Kingston	86/75/0.00	87/77/pc	Paris	53/42/0.00	50/39/r	Warsaw	50/32/0.00	48/39/s

KEY TO CONDITIONS: c=cloudy, dr=drizzle, f=fair, fg=fog, h=hazy, i=ice, pc=partly cloudy, r=rain, s=sunny, sh=showers, sn=snow, ts=thunderstorms, w=windy.

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Story ideas?

Contact
Tim Kirby
 Sports Editor
 754-0421
 tkirby@lakecityreporter.com

Sunday, December 29, 2013

www.lakecityreporter.com

Section B

Impressive individuals

Columbia, Fort White athletes excelled in '13

By **BRANDON FINLEY**
 bfinley@lakecityreporter.com

This past year wasn't just a banner year for sports teams in Columbia County's high schools.

Individuals were able to step out of the shadows and into the spotlight during 2013 as well.

Perhaps the two biggest honors went to a pair of female athletes at Columbia.

Hannah Burns won a state championship for Columbia in swimming, and Kayli Kvistad won the Class 6A Player of the Year in softball after leading the Lady Tigers to the 6A state championship in softball.

Burns' championship was in the 200 Individual

Medley, and she was runner-up in the 500 Freestyle.

Lindsay Lee qualified for state in the 100 Backstroke and 50 Freestyle and placed third in the former. Skyler Covert was a state qualifier in the 100 Breaststroke.

The threesome was joined by Courtney Britt at state in the 200 Medley Relay, and the Lady Tigers placed second.

Columbia High's football team had four players named to the all-state team with Laremy Tunsil leading the way. He was also named to the Parade All-American team. Trey Marshall, Ronald Timmons and Deontae' Crumitie were on the all-state list.

Fort White had two play-

ers named to the all-state team with Kellen Snider and Michael Mulberry receiving the honor.

The wrestling team at Columbia High had a year to remember with three wrestlers advancing to the state tournament.

Cole Schreiber, a four-time state qualifier, was joined by Kaleb Warner and Daniel Devers at the state competition.

Schreiber was state runner-up in the 113-pound weight class. Warner placed fifth in his division and Devers won a couple of matches.

The Tigers also excelled in the weight room with six lifters working their

ATHLETES continued on 2B



FILE

Columbia High swimmers Courtney Britt, Skyler Covert, Hannah Burns and Lindsay Lee placed second at state in the 200 Medley Relay. Burns was state champion in the 200 Individual Medley and runner-up in the 500 Freestyle. Lee placed third at state in the 100 Backstroke and also qualified in the 50 Freestyle. Covert qualified in the 100 Breaststroke.



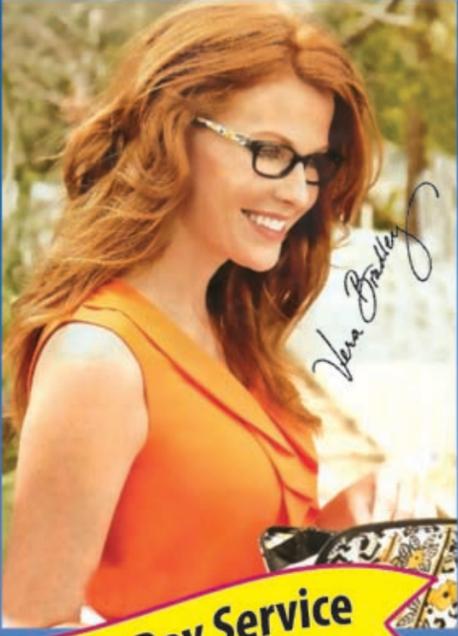
FILE

Fort White High's Sitia Martinez was a district champion in the 100 meters, 200 meters and 300-meter hurdles. She advanced to state in the 100 and 300, and placed fourth in hurdles.

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 2012 VOLKSWAGON JETTA \$13,000	 2012 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN \$13,500	 2013 HYUNDAI ELANTRA \$14,000	 2012 NISSAN ALTIMA \$14,000	 2013 CHEVROLET IMPALA \$15,000	 2012 TOYOTA CAMRY \$15,500	 2013 KIA OPTIMA \$15,500
 2013 NISSAN ALTIMA \$15,500	 2012 DODGE RAM 1500 \$16,500	 2011 MINI COOPER \$16,500	 2013 NISSAN JUKE \$16,500	 2011 CHEVROLET COLORADO \$17,000	 2013 NISSAN XTERRA \$17,500	 2010 CADILLAC CTS \$17,500

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Section C

Saving money starts at grocery store

A few simple tips can help while you're shopping.

STATEPOINT

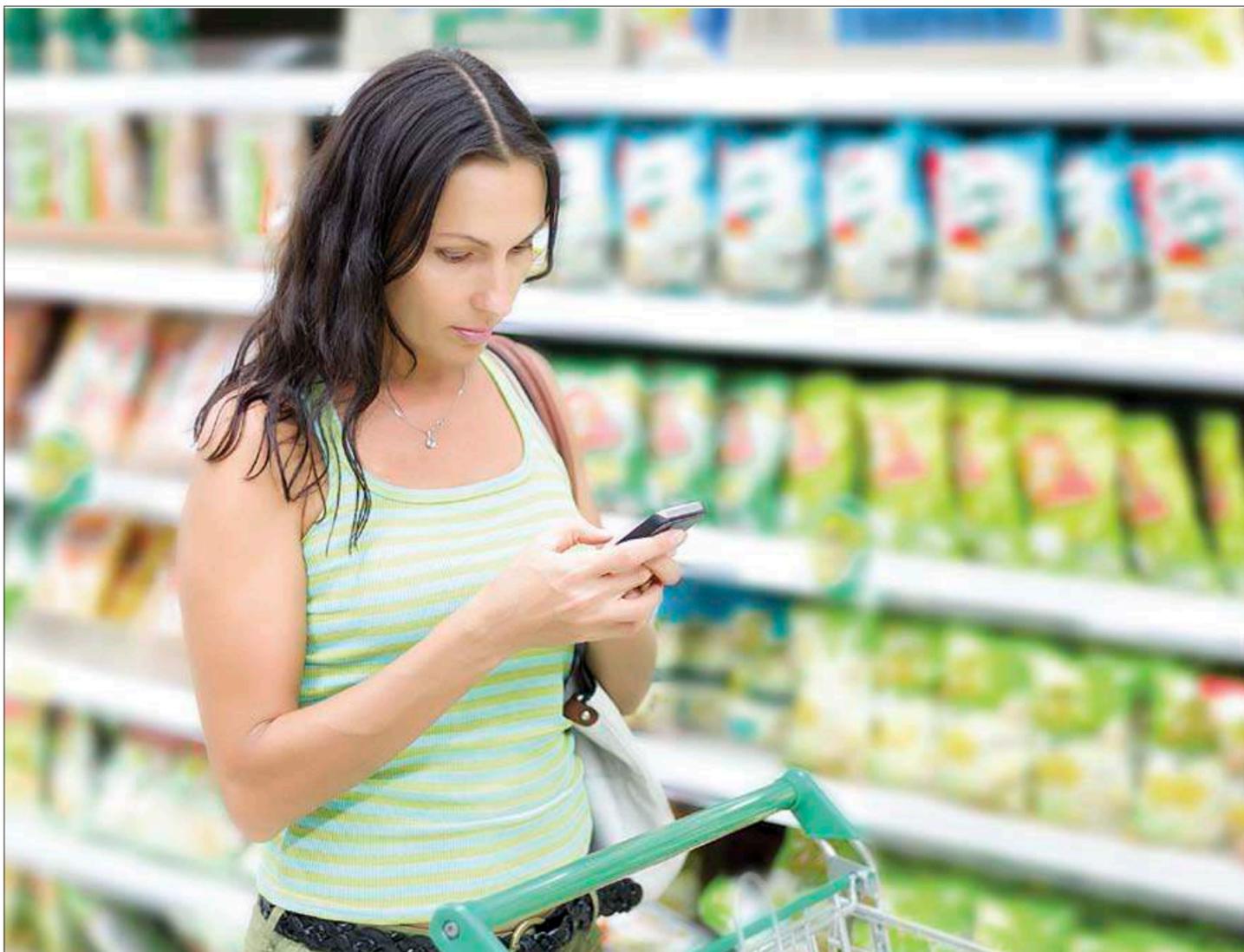
An overly ambitious New Year's resolution probably won't stick. This year, ditch the desire for all-at-once dramatic transformation.

Instead, consider simple, sustainable changes to your everyday routine that can make a big impact over time.

For example, if you wish to get smarter about personal finances, start by cutting back on grocery expenses, which is our third largest expense, according to US government statistics. It's a way to save thousands annually.

"Saving money at the grocery store can seem tedious. But smart strategies can eliminate time-consuming coupon clipping and save you big at the store," says Erin Chase, the "\$5 Dinner Mom," author, blogger and frugal living expert.

To help you kick off the year right, Chase is offering some hassle-free tips for cutting expenses.



Art Allianz - Fotolia.com

SHOPPING continued on 2C You can save money throughout the new year by following some simple tips when grocery shopping.

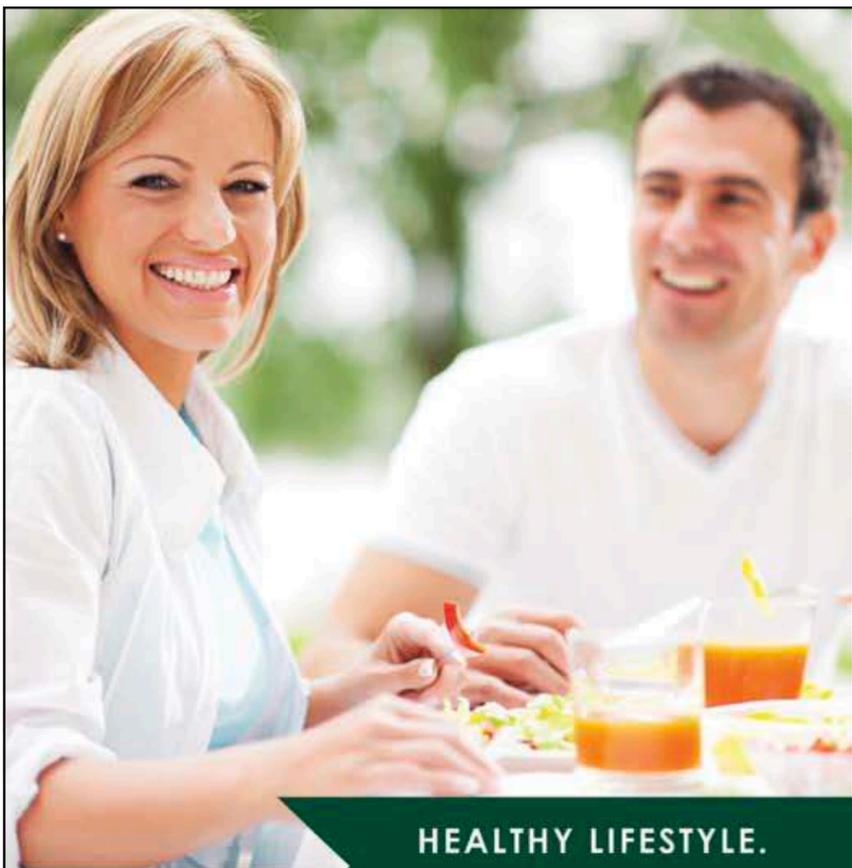
Lack of customers dooms many Cuban businesses

By **ANDREA RODRIGUEZ** and **ANNE-MARIE GARCIA**
Associated Press

HAVANA — The dented metal pizza trays are packed away, so too the old blender that never worked when it was needed.

Gone is the sweet smell of rising dough that infused Julio Cesar Hidalgo's Havana apartment when he and his girlfriend were in business for themselves, churning out cheesy pies for hungry customers.

CUBA continued on 2C



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Ask the Fool

Women in Charge

Q I see that General Motors just appointed Mary Barra as its new CEO. What other big companies have women in charge? — C.L., Baton Rouge, La.

A There are 21 women running Fortune 500 companies — but 96 percent of the companies are still run by men. At least the numbers have been rising in recent years, up from just six in 2002.

Here are some CEOs to know: Virginia Rometty, IBM; Ursula Burns, Xerox; Marillyn Hewson, Lockheed Martin; Ellen Kullman, DuPont; Indra Nooyi, PepsiCo; Marissa Mayer, Yahoo!; Meg Whitman, Hewlett-Packard; Denise Morrison, Campbell Soup; Irene Rosenfeld, Mondelez International; Gracia Martore, Gannett; Patricia Woertz, Archer Daniels Midland; Carol Meyrowitz, The TJX Companies; and Phebe Novakovic, General Dynamics.

Any list of financially powerful women in the world would also feature, among others, Janet Yellen, nominated to head the Federal Reserve.

Q How can I learn enough about an industry to become competent enough to invest in it? — U.R., Davenport, Iowa

A First, understand that industries vary in their complexities, so some will be easier to understand (retailing, consumer products) than others (biotechnology, financial services). You'll learn the most by reading broadly. Read many full annual reports of companies in the industry, including the comprehensive 10-K reports that detail each company's successes, challenges and plans. Don't worry if you don't immediately understand it all — many concepts will sink in over time.

Your brokerage may have Wall Street analyst reports available for companies of interest, and you'll likely find articles at Fool.com and elsewhere on companies you're researching, too. If you're serious about maximizing your investing skill, consider learning more about accounting, as that will help you make sense of financial statements, which is critical.

Got a question for the Fool? Send it in — see Write to Us



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Your Stock's True Value Matters

"Value investing" is one of the most respected strategies around, employed by Warren Buffett and others. It involves buying securities for less than they're really worth and holding them as they appreciate.

In other words, it's all about finding bargains. Value investors are on the hunt for a dollar selling for 50 cents. Stocks that have fallen significantly naturally attract their attention, but they also need to keep in mind the need for a margin of safety.

It's easy to think that when a stock price gets very low, it surely can't go any lower. That's wrong, though, and can lead to a lot of financial pain. After all, until a stock price has reached zero, it can always go lower.

Understand that a stock's current price in the market and its intrinsic value are two different numbers. You'll rarely buy a stock at its bottom, but as long as you build in a satisfactory margin of safety, by buying at a price considerably lower than the stock's intrinsic value, then you'll likely do well.

Intelligently assessing a company's intrinsic value is difficult, though, so it's smart to aim for greater margins of safety to compensate for the uncertainty.

How do you maximize your margin of safety? For starters, avoid messy balance sheets. Leave companies with lots of debt to more sophisticated investors.

Next, look at well-known, established companies selling cheaply because of temporary problems. For example, when the housing market slumps, so do stocks of home-improvement retailers. A fast-growing company might see its stock drop if quarterly earnings are lower than expected due to its investing heavily in its future.

Once you find a great business selling at a good price with a satisfactory margin of safety, don't panic if the stock price drops after you buy. Fluctuations are normal and don't change the company's intrinsic value. Have patience and conviction in your analysis.

Learn about valuing companies at fool.com/how-to-invest, and see which stocks our analysts think are undervalued by trying our "Motley Fool Inside Value" newsletter for free, at fool.com/shop/newsletters.

My Dumbest Investment

A Bad Play

One of my dumbest investments was buying a penny stock for fractions of a cent per share, investing \$600. It immediately plummeted to zero. It was a speculative play, and I ended up with a 100 percent loss. — B.W., New Hope, Pa.

The Fool Responds: Lots of people lose lots of money on penny stocks. They get excited by the thought of owning thousands of shares for just hundreds of dollars. They don't realize, though, that while a stock that costs, say, 6 cents per share might seem insanely cheap, it can still fall to 3 cents per share or lower, and there's even a good chance that it will.

Penny stocks are often small, unproven companies with more promise than performance. They're sometimes touted by hypesters via "pump and dump" schemes, where the hypesters buy shares, talk the stock up, and then sell for a profit as the stock crashes. Stick with healthy, growing companies — ideally, profitable ones. Speculation is dangerous. Try not to think of investments as "plays," either, as it's your precious, hard-earned money you're trying to grow.



Do you have an embarrassing lesson learned the hard way? Boil it down to 100 words (or less) and send it to TheMotleyFool@fool.com or My Dumbest Investment. Got one that worked? Submit to My Smartest Investment. If we print yours, you'll win a Fool's cap!

Name That Company

I'm named after a Kansas railroad machinist who wanted to produce affordable luxury vehicles. Brands under my roof over the years have included DeSoto, Willys Hudson, Nash, Plymouth, Maxwell and Chalmers. I assembled tanks for the U.S. Army in World War II. In 1941 I introduced a wood-sided, steel-roofed station wagon with a name that's on minivans today. After being bailed out in 2009, I'm owned by Italy's Fiat and a United Auto Workers health-care trust and am profitable again. There's talk of Fiat buying all of me. An art deco building in Manhattan bears my name. Who am I?

Know the answer? Send it to us with Foolish Trivia on the top and you'll be entered into a drawing for a nifty prize!



LAST WEEK'S TRIVIA ANSWER

I began in 1867 in Cincinnati, producing circus posters, placards and labels. I printed my first deck of playing cards in 1881. Today, based in Kentucky, I'm the leader in premier playing cards. (I've created some games, too, and also sell poker chips and gaming accessories.) My brands include Bee, KEM, Aviator and Hoyle. My Bicycle brand has been in continuous production since 1885. During World War II, working with the U.S. government, I made special card decks for U.S. prisoners of war that contained hidden escape routes. I became a subsidiary of Jarden in 2004. Who am I? (Answer: U.S. Playing Card Co.)



Write to Us! Send questions for Ask the Fool, Dumbest (or Smartest) Investments (up to 100 words), and your Trivia entries to Fool@fool.com or via regular mail c/o this newspaper, attn: The Motley Fool. Sorry, we can't provide individual financial advice.

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SHOPPING

Continued From 1C

Compare Prices

You can save up to 70 percent on groceries by comparing prices across stores, which adds up to hundreds, even thousands of dollars annually. But manual comparison shopping can be tricky and involve running all over town.

Let technology do the work for you. Over half of all consumers currently use technology to grocery shop. Get on board the trend to save money and time.

For example, with a new app called Favado, you can view sale prices from multiple stores to locate the best deals. With just a few clicks from your computer or smartphone, you can enjoy the satisfaction of having paid the lowest price possible. You can also use the app to create and share shopping lists. For more information or to download the app, visit www.Favado.com.

Loyalty Programs

For additional savings, sign up for loyalty or club cards. Items on sale with loyalty cards change periodically, so stock up on things you buy regularly when prices are low. Make tracking sales easier with an app like Cardstar that stores all your loyalty, rewards and membership cards in one place. This can help you rid your wallet and keychain of all those loyalty cards from multiple stores.

Follow the Cycles

Most groceries you purchase regularly will eventually go on sale. In fact, most items go on sale every eight to 12 weeks. The key is to buy as much of the item as you need while it's on sale to last you until the next cycle.

Buy In-Season

In-season fruits and vegetables tend to be more affordable. Find out what is in season in your local area and purchase accordingly. A new app called Seasons can tell you what's in season locally. With 214 entries that include an image, description and seasonal stats, users can easily decide what to buy.

Buy One, Get One

Many grocers offer buy-one, get-one free sales. This is a great way to save without clipping coupons. You can easily uncover these sales on a shopping app like Favado.

Don't waste money paying more for groceries than necessary. With a little planning, you can score great deals on the things your family needs and wants.

CUBA

Continued From 1C

Two years on the front lines of Cuba's experiment with limited free market capitalism has left Hidalgo broke, out of work and facing a possible crushing fine. But the 33-year-old known for his wide smile and sunny disposition says the biggest loss is harder to define.

"I feel frustrated and let down," Hidalgo said, slumped in a rocking chair one recent December afternoon, shrugging his shoulders as he described the pizzeria's collapse. "The business didn't turn out as I had hoped."

The Associated Press recently checked in with nine small business owners whose fortunes it first reported on in 2011 as they set up shop amid the excitement of President Raul Castro's surprising embrace of some free enterprise.

Among them were restaurant and cafeteria owners, a seamstress and taekwondo instructor, a vendor of bootleg DVDs and a woman renting her rooms out to well-heeled tourists.

Their fates tell a story of divided fortunes.

Of the six ventures that relied on revenue from cash-strapped islanders, four are now out of business, their owners in more dire financial straits than when they started. But the three enterprises that cater to well-heeled foreigners, and to the minority of well-paid Cubans who work for foreign businesses, are still going and in some cases thriving.

While the sample size is small, the numbers point to a basic problem that economists who follow Cuba have noted from the start: There simply isn't enough money to support a thriving private sector on an island where salaries average \$20 a month.

"Clearly, there is a macroeconomic environment that does not favor the private sector or the expansion of demand that the private sector requires," said Pavel Vidal, a former Cuban Central Bank economist.

Vidal has long called on Communist authorities to adopt a huge stimulus package or more aggressively seek capital from foreign investors. Now a professor at Colombia's Javeriana University, he says one has only to look at the trends since 2011 to see the private sector economy is nearly tapped out. After a surge of enthusiasm, the number of islanders working for themselves has stalled for the past two years at about 444,000 — or 9 percent of the workforce.

Even in developed countries where

entrepreneurs have access to capital, loans and a wide pool of paying customers, startups are risky ventures. According to the U.S. Small Business Administration, about half of all new establishments in America close within five years, and two-thirds are gone within a decade. The failure rate of Cuban entrepreneurs followed by AP was 44 percent in less than two years, and worse if one considers only those that relied primarily on Cuban customers.

"There's not enough money circulating in the economy in the hands of everyday people," said Ted Henken, a professor of Latin American studies at Baruch College in New York and author of an upcoming book on private enterprise in Cuba. "You're all competing for the same customers, most of whom are poor and have very limited disposable income."

Economists have criticized the Cuban government for a series of measures to crack down on what it sees as illegal activities — including banning private movie cinemas, taxing the import of hard-to-get products in travelers' luggage, and banning the sale of imported clothing. But on Saturday, Castro came down firmly in favor of increased regulation, sternly warning entrepreneurs that "those pressuring us to move faster are moving us toward failure."

Henken and Vidal said Cuba must find a way to raise state salaries, expand state-funded microcredits and create a functional wholesale market to service the new businesses. They also noted that for a relatively well-educated society like Cuba's, there are remarkably few white collar jobs on the list of nearly 200 activities that have been legalized.

Still, not every entrepreneur is struggling.

High-end bars and glamorous new restaurants have become common in Havana, with shiny state tour buses disgorging photo-snapping travelers to sample lobster tail and filet mignon at upward of \$20 a plate. Private rooms and homes that rent to foreigners can go for \$25-\$100 a night, less than most tourist hotels. Cubans with the means, and the business sense, to tap into the gravy train can do very well.

Chef-owner Javier Acosta sank more than \$30,000 into Parthenon, a private restaurant catering to tourists and diplomats. He struggled at first, telling the AP back in 2011 that there were nights when nobody came in and he and his four waiters just sat around.

But the restaurant slowly gained a reputation, in part because Acosta makes a potent Cuban mojito and offers a special suckling pig that can feed up to

five people for \$50.

These days, Acosta is expanding. He recently added tables in a new room decked out with mosaic tiles and faux Greek pillars, and plans to build a roof deck. He even has started advertising, paying \$300 a year to have his establishment included in a tourist magazine.

"I haven't yet managed to recover my initial investment and the other money we've put into the place," the 40-year-old said. "But in two or three more years maybe I can."

Even more humble operations can do well, as long as they have some access to foreign money. One woman who rents an apartment to foreigners for \$25 a night in the upscale Vedado neighborhood says her business provides a stable income that supports her and allows her to help her son and granddaughter.

Two women who sell \$1.25 box lunches to Cubans and foreigners in a building in Old Havana with many international firms and consular offices have managed to stay afloat despite a sharp drop in customers following the departure of several companies, and what they say has been a steady rise in prices of key ingredients like black beans, rice, cooking oil and pork.

"This has become difficult," said Odalis Lozano, 48. "But we're still here, because we can always make some money."

For those without access to that foreign cash line, the results have been grim. Besides, the failed pizzeria, a DVD salesman, seamstress and street-side cafe owner who allowed the AP to tell their stories shut down after less than a year in business, citing high monthly taxes, a lack of customers and limited resources and business sense.

The only two operations that rely on everyday Cubans for revenue which remain in business are gymnasiums. One is run by Maria Regla Zaldivar, who in 2011 was giving taekwondo classes to children in Nuevo Vedado and dreamed of converting a ruined dry cleaning factory into a proper gymnasium. The factory remains a crumbling shell, but Zaldivar said her business continues. She declined to grant a formal interview, but said in a brief phone call that she had rented a small space near her apartment and continued to give classes.

The other success story belongs to Neysi Hernandez, the mother of Julio Cesar Hidalgo's girlfriend. Hernandez opened a simple gymnasium for women in Havana's La Lisa neighborhood, charging the equivalent of \$5 a month for membership. Two years later, she has 25 paying clients and ekes out a small profit.

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ADVantage

Placing An Ad

You can call us at 755-5440, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Some people prefer to place their classified ads in person, and some ad categories will require prepayment. Our office is located at 180 East Duval Street.

You can also fax or email your ad copy to the Reporter.

FAX: 386-752-9400 Please direct your copy to the Classified Department.
EMAIL: classifieds@lakecityreporter.com

Personal Merchandise 4 lines • 6 days One item per ad

Rate applies to private individuals selling personal merchandise totalling less than the category amounts listed below. Each item must include a price. This is a non-refundable rate.

Under \$100	Under \$500	Under \$1,000	Under \$2,500	Under \$4,000	Under \$6,000
\$3.50 Each additional line \$25	\$10.75 Each additional line \$1.10	\$17.15 Each additional line \$1.15	\$24.70 Each additional line \$1.45	\$28.40 Each additional line \$1.55	\$31.40 Each additional line \$1.65

Service Guide

Limited to Service type advertising only:
\$82.00
4 Lines • 1 Month
Each additional line \$9.00
Includes an additional \$3.00 per ad for each Sunday insertion.

Garage Sale

\$17.50
4 Lines • 3 Days
Includes 2 Signs
Each additional line \$1.65

Ad to Appear:	Call by:	Email by:
Tuesday	Mon., 10 a.m.	Mon., 9 a.m.
Wednesday	Tues., 10 a.m.	Tues., 9 a.m.
Thursday	Wed., 10 a.m.	Wed., 9 a.m.
Friday	Thurs., 10 a.m.	Thurs., 9 a.m.
Sunday	Fri., 10 a.m.	Fri., 9 a.m.

These deadlines are subject to change without notice.

Cancellations, Changes, and Billing Questions

Ad Errors- Please read your ad on the first day of publication. We accept responsibility for only the first incorrect insertion, and only the charge for the ad space in error. Please call 755-5440 immediately for prompt correction and billing adjustments.

Cancellations- Normal advertising deadlines apply for cancellation.

Billing Inquiries- Call 755-5440. Should further information be required regarding payments or credit limits, your call will be transferred to the accounting department.

General Information

Advertising copy is subject to approval by the Publisher who reserves the right to edit, reject, or classify all advertisements under appropriate headings. Copy should be checked for errors by the advertiser on the first day of publication. Credit for published errors will be allowed for the first insertion for that portion of the advertisement which was incorrect. Further, the Publisher shall not be liable for any omission of advertisements ordered to be published, nor for any general, special or consequential damages. Advertising language must comply with Federal, State or local laws regarding the prohibition of discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations. Standard abbreviations are acceptable; however, the first word of each ad may not be abbreviated.

Legal

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING A SPECIAL EXCEPTION AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE CITY OF LAKE CITY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS BY THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS OF THE CITY OF LAKE CITY, FLORIDA. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the City of Lake City Land Development Regulations, as amended, hereinafter referred to as the Land Development Regulations, objections, recommendations, or comments concerning a special exception, as described below, will be heard by the Board of Adjustments of the City of Lake City, at a public hearing on Tuesday, January 7, 2014 at 6:30 P.M., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, in the City Council room on the second floor of City Hall located at 205 North Marion Avenue, Lake City, Florida. Pursuant to a petition, SE 13-04, by Sabrina Marshall, requesting a special exception be granted as provided for in Section 4.12.5(6) of the Land Development Regulations to permit a Child Care Center be established in Commercial General zoning district, to be located on property described, as follows:
561 & 577 East Duval Street
Columbia County Parcels #13154-000 & 13155-000
The public hearing may be continued to one or more future dates. Any interested party shall be advised that the date, time, and place of any continuation of the public hearing shall be announced during the public hearing and that no further notice concerning the matter will be published, unless said continuation exceeds six (6) calendar weeks from the date of the above referenced public hearing. At the aforementioned public hearing, all interested parties may appear to be heard with respect to the amendment.
Copies of the special exception are available for public inspection at the Office of Growth Management, City Hall, located on the second floor at 205 North Marion Avenue, Lake City, Florida, during regular business hours.

All persons are advised that if they decide to appeal any decision made at the above referenced public hearing, they will need record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

05542677
December 29, 2013

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CONCERNING A SPECIAL EXCEPTION AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE CITY OF LAKE CITY LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS BY THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS OF THE CITY OF LAKE CITY, FLORIDA. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the City of Lake City Land Development Regulations, as amended, hereinafter referred to as the Land Development Regulations, objections, recommendations, or comments concerning a special exception, as described below, will be heard by the Board of Adjustments of the City of Lake City, at a public hearing on Tuesday, January 7, 2014 at 6:30 P.M., or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard, in the City Council room on the second floor of City Hall located at 205 North Marion Avenue, Lake City, Florida. Pursuant to a petition, SE 13-04, by James L. Wilkinson, owner, requesting a special exception be granted as provided for in Section 4.12.5 (3) of the Land Development Regulations to permit a retail package store be established in Commercial General (CG) zoning district, to be located on property described, as follows:
126 SW Main Blvd.
Columbia County Parcel Number #12431-000
The public hearing may be continued to one or more future dates. Any interested party shall be advised that the date, time, and place of any continuation of the public hearing shall be announced during the public hearing and that no further notice concerning the matter will be published, unless said continuation exceeds six (6) calendar weeks from the date of the above referenced public hearing. At the aforementioned public hearing, all interested parties may appear to be heard with respect to the amendment.
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05542678
December 29, 2013

020 Lost & Found

FOUND 2 small dogs.
Near 100A & CR 252.
Identify.
904-501-8899

060 Services

BANKRUPTCY / DIVORCE
Other Court Forms Assistance
18 yrs Exp. / Reasonable
386-961-5896
Custom Marriages / Vows

100 Job Opportunities

05542564
FLORIDA GATEWAY COLLEGE
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL AID
Position # P99973
Works with the Director of Financial Aid managing the daily operations of the department. Oversees tracking of clock hour programs. Coordinates the functions and reports of students in State Scholarships and Grant programs, processes the return of Title IV funds in an accurate and timely manner. Coordinates the Financial Aid Appeals Committee meetings and serves as moderator. Assists in the preparation of reports. Assumes Director of Financial Aid's duties in the Director's absence. Handles special projects as assigned. Serves on campus committees.
Requires Bachelor's Degree plus two (2) years' experience working in an office dealing with detailed records and customer service. Knowledge of complex computer data entry. Knowledge of Windows, Microsoft Word and Excel software. Ability to delegate or seek assistance as necessary. Ability to work well with staff and students. Ability to handle multiple priorities with minimum supervision and to work with confidential information. Ability to communicate verbally and in writing. Ability to supervise other employees.
SALARY: \$39,375 annually plus benefits
DEADLINE FOR RECEIVING APPLICATIONS: 1/29/14
Persons interested should provide College application, vita, and photocopies of transcripts. All foreign transcripts must be submitted with official translation and evaluation.
Position details and applications available at: www.fgc.edu
Human Resources
Florida Gateway College
149 S.E. College Place
Lake City, FL 32025-2007
Phone (386) 754-4314
Fax (386) 754-4814
E-Mail: human.resources@fgc.edu
FGC is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.
VP/ADA/EA/EO College in Education and Employment

05542624
Admissions & Marketing Asst. RN Supervisors Day & Night Shift
180 bed skilled and rehab facility is looking for dynamic, positive and experienced candidates with related work experiences. One to two years experience in a long term and rehab SNF, familiar with regulatory, payor source requirements, demonstrate effective customer focused communications, high morale, leadership qualities and self directed. Contact: Suwannee Health Care Center - Staff Development Office
1620 Helvenston Street, Live Oak, FL 32064, Tel 386-362-7860

CAMPING WORLD Lake City.
Apply in person.
NO PHONE CALLS.
Open Position: Sales Person
High School education or equivalent.
2+ years experience in Sales
RV Sales experience preferred.
Available to start immediately.

CAMPING WORLD Lake City.
Apply in person.
NO PHONE CALLS.
Open Position: Title Clerk
High School education or equivalent. 2+ years experience as a title clerk. RV Sales experience preferred.
Available to start immediately.

100 Job Opportunities

05542565
FLORIDA GATEWAY COLLEGE
STAFF ASSISTANT I PART-TIME, 25 Hours per Week
Position #: OP9956
Answer phone calls, make appointments, assist students and staff, help manage a busy Advising Office. Prepare reports as needed and provide clerical support for the Director. Requires a High School diploma or its equivalent plus two years clerical experience. Additional education may be substituted on a year for year basis for required experience in related area. Special consideration will be given to applicants with an Associate's Degree or Certificate in a related area. Excellent communication skills, organizational skills, computer skills. Knowledge of MS Excel preferred.
Salary: \$ 10.19 per hour
Application Deadline: 1/13/14
Persons interested should provide College employment application. Position details and applications available on web at: www.fgc.edu
Human Resources
Florida Gateway College
149 S.E. College Place
Lake City FL 32025-2007
Phone (386) 754-4314
Fax (386) 754-4814
E-Mail: human.resources@fgc.edu
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05542571
FLORIDA GATEWAY COLLEGE
BENEFITS AND EMPLOYEE RELATIONS SPECIALIST
Position # C99870
Responsible for carrying out highly technical duties involved in the administration of all benefits programs and risk management activities (COBRA, retirement, FMLA, Worker's Compensation, etc.), under the direction of the Executive Director of Human Resources. Duties include counseling faculty, staff, and retirees on fringe benefits and/or retirement, maintaining personnel records, and compiling personnel reports. Requires Associate's Degree in business administration or related area plus two years' experience with insurance or benefits administration, or High School graduate plus six years insurance or benefits administration experience. Bachelor's degree preferred. Human Resources experience preferred. Proficient in Word and Excel. Knowledge of processing and record keeping requirements for compensation/overtime, leave, and personnel files. Knowledge of and/or ability to interpret State Retirement rules and regulations. Ability to communicate effectively in written and verbal form. Ability to maintain confidentiality.
SALARY: \$29,831 annually plus benefits
DEADLINE FOR RECEIVING APPLICATIONS: 1/13/14
Persons interested should provide College application, vita, and photocopies of transcripts. All foreign transcripts must be submitted with official translation and evaluation.
Position details and applications available at: www.fgc.edu
Human Resources
Florida Gateway College
149 S.E. College Place
Lake City, FL 32025-2007
Phone (386) 754-4314
Fax (386) 754-4814
E-Mail: human.resources@fgc.edu
FGC is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.
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DRIVERS: \$5,000 Sign-On Bonus! Great Pay! Consistent Freight. Great Miles on this Regional Account. Werner Enterprises: 1-855-515-8447

Administrative Assistant must be flexible, great personality, outgoing, salary negotiable, plus benefits. Send reply to Suwannee Music Park, 3076 95th Drive, Live Oak, FL 32060

100 Job Opportunities

DRIVERS: HOME EVERY
Weekend, Dedicated Southern Lanes & OTR! All Miles PAID (Loaded & Empty)! Or Walk Away Lease: No Money Down, No Credit Check. 1-866-823-0323

120 Medical Employment

Director of Nursing
Avalon Healthcare is currently accepting applications for the position of Director of Nursing. RN and Management Experience in LTC required. Competitive Salary and Excellent benefit package. Please apply at Avalon Healthcare and Rehabilitation. 1270 S.W. Main Blvd, Lake City, Florida 32055 386-752-7900
EOE

The Orthopaedic Institute is seeking an experienced, full-time X-ray Tech for its Lake City location.

240 Schools & Education

05542377
INTERESTED in a Medical Career?
Express Training offers courses for beginners & exp

- Nursing Assistant, \$499 next class- 1/13/2014
- Phlebotomy national certification, \$800 next class- 1/13/2014
- LPN APRIL 14, 2014

Fees incl. books, supplies, exam fees. Call 386-755-4401 or expresstrainingservices.com

310 Pets & Supplies

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Florida Law 828.29 requires dogs and cats being sold to be at least 8 weeks old and have a health certificate from a licensed veterinarian documenting they have mandatory shots and are free from intestinal and external parasites. Many species of wild-life must be licensed by Florida Fish and Wildlife. If you are unsure, contact the local office for information.

420 Wanted to Buy

K&H TIMBER
We Buy Pine Hardwood & Cypress. Large or small tracts. Call 386-288-6875.

430 Garage Sales

PUBLISHER'S NOTE
All Yard Sale Ads Must be Pre-Paid.

440 Miscellaneous

BLUE
SITTING room chair
\$40 OBO
386-292-3927

ELECTRIC GOLF CART well maintained, clean, kept in garage, will be very satisfied. 2 seater w/ top. \$1500 call 386-288-6877

MAYTAG GAS range, white, works great. \$200 OBO
Christmas Special
386-292-3927

Nice Sleeper Couch
First \$60 gets it
386-292-3927

RARE FIND male Chihuahua mix fawn w/black nose, real sweetie about 8 pounds. \$185 OBO
386-292-3927

WHITE ELECTRIC Stove
Clean, Works great
\$150
386-292-3927

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Nice and Clean
\$175 OBO
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CH/A
\$500. mo \$500 dep.
No pets 386-697-4814

2BR/1BA DUPLEX
\$650/mth
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Call 755-6867

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2 br Apts \$600. & up + sec. Great area. CH/A washer/dryer hookups. 386-758-9351 or 352-208-2421

GREAT AREA West of I-75, deluxe 2br apts, some w/garage. W/D hookups & patio. \$625-\$750 plus SEC. 386-438-4600

Large & clean. 1br/1ba apt. CH/A lg walk in closet. Close to town. \$395. mo and \$350. dep. (904)563-6208

UPDATED APT, w/tile floors/fresh paint. Great area. 386-752-9626

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ROOMS FOR Rent. Hillcrest, Sands, Columbia. All furnished. Electric, cable, fridge, microwave. Weekly or monthly rates. 1 person \$145, 2 persons \$155. weekly 386-752-5808

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Complex Professional Office
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Lake City Reporter

805 Lots for Sale

PUBLISHER'S NOTE
All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the fair housing act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, disability, familial status or national origin; or any intention to make such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under the age of 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll free at 1-800-669-9777, the toll free telephone number to the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

810 Home for Sale

Fixer-Upper 1940's House, (1750 Sq Ft) on 5 acres in Ft White. \$59,900, owner financing w/\$15,000 down payment. I will consider less for cash. Property is 164 Genesis CT, near FT White Park. Call Charlie 386-984-7226.

820 Farms & Acreage

10 ACRES with w/ss/pp. Owner financed, low down payment
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4 1/2 acre lot. Lake Jeffery Road. Gorgeous Oaks! Paved Rd! Owner Financing! NO DOWN! \$59,900. \$52/mo 352-215-1018.
www.LandOwnerFinancing.com

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SALES EVENT



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UP TO \$8,600 OFF MSRP

MSRP: \$31,660 - \$1,000 RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH - \$1,000 FORD CREDIT RETAIL BONUS CASH - \$1,750 RETAIL TRADE-IN ASSISTANCE BONUS CUSTOMER CASH - \$5,660 RTM DISCOUNT



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0% APR & UP TO \$2,995 OFF MSRP

48 MONTHS

MSRP: \$22,995 - \$500 RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH - \$1,000 RTM DISCOUNT = \$28,000

2014 FORD FUSION S



0% APR & UP TO \$3,195 OFF MSRP

48 MONTHS

MSRP: \$22,695 - \$500 FORD CREDIT RETAIL BONUS CASH - \$2,695 RTM DISCOUNT = \$19,500

2013 FORD F150 STX



UP TO \$7,800 OFF MSRP

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2014 FORD EXPLORER



\$28,000

MSRP: \$31,555 - \$2,000 RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH - \$1,555 RTM DISCOUNT = \$28,000

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GARDEN TALK



Nichelle Demorest
 nddemorest@ufl.edu

Holiday plants that keep on giving

Popular hostess gifts during the holidays are colorful, blooming plants. Some of the more popular plants for the season are Christmas cactus, poinsettia, amaryllis, kalanchoe and cyclamen. You may have purchased a festive plant for your own home as an indoor decoration, but did you know that your investment could provide months, or even years, of cheery color?

Modern poinsettia plants are not your 'mother's poinsettias' any more. Her plants would barely make it past New Year's Day before the naughty leaves and flowers began falling. Due to intensive breeding programs, there are many new cultivars available with stunning colors and shapes. Within the last decade, poinsettias have 'learned' to keep their leaves and flowers on for several months.

Most of your holiday plants will give you enjoyment well after the holidays if you give them a little care. Place plants in bright, indirect light, such as near a sunny window. If your room is too dark, they will do well under incandescent or fluorescent lamps. Keep the room temperature around 70 degrees during the day and 60 degrees at night. The soil should be slightly moist to the touch, and never over-watered or soggy.

The Christmas cactus and poinsettia are both 'short day' plants. These plants begin to set flower buds as the days get shorter and the nights get

PLANTS continued on 2D

BEWARE: Winter weather is on its way

Here are tips to help you prepare.

STATEPOINT

Imagine living without heat, power or communication during the coldest days of the year. During a winter weather emergency, not only can these conditions be unpleasant, but dangerous too.

Making a plan, winterizing your home and stocking up on supplies are all essential steps to prepare for winter emergencies. However, Columbia County emergency management director Shayne Morgan believes winter emergency tips can and should carry over for the rest of the year.

"I don't really like to classify one emergency over another," he said "It's important to have a plan in place for your family and have an emergency kit that will work for any type of emergency."

Use this crucial stay-safe checklist now to help your household prepare for blistering conditions all winter long:

Make a Plan

Storm heading your way? Follow the news closely so you can make last minute preparations before the weather turns dangerous. As part of this process, create an emergency plan and review it with your family. The plan should also address specific scenarios, such as what to do if someone is separated from the group and is unable to call for help.

Make time to sit down and talk with family members about an emergency plan, Morgan said. It's important to set a location where the entire family can meet if there's an evacuation. The location can be a neighbor's house down the road or a nearby convenience store. If possible, establish an

out-of-state contact family members can call in case of an emergency, Morgan said. If not out-of-state, then at least have a contact out-of-county. Morgan said it is important to have someone who will not be affected by the emergency that can give messages to worried friends or family members.

Stay Powered Up

In the event that the power goes out, you will need a reliable alternative power source to charge essential communications equipment like your phone and computer, as well as heat sources, such as space heaters.

A durable and compact USB solar charger that's compatible with smartphones, tablets and even laptops, can be a lifesaver.

Winterize

Ensuring that your home is protected from the elements can turn a bad situation into a life-saving scenario. Install storm windows and apply weather-stripping to help insulate your home. In the event the heat goes out, you'll be trapping warm air in and keeping cold air out. And remember - you can never have too many blankets and warm clothes.

Pack an Emergency Kit

When extreme weather hits, it's important to have essential supplies within an arm's reach. Be sure that you have a well-stocked, up-to-date first aid kit and an extra supply of all family members' prescription medications.

"Emergency kits are



COURTESY

Hundreds around the nation were without power during the holiday season. These tips can help prepare you for winter weather that is coming our way.

good because if you have to leave your house in a hurry, you'll have all the important items," Morgan said. "It's important to have your emergency kit in place year-round — not just for winter and not just for hurricane season."

Your kit should also include several gallons of clean water, as well as enough non-perishable food to last three days, including formula for young children. Pick items that don't require cooking or preparation. The Federal Emergency

Management Agency recommends replacing these stores every six months.

Lastly, make sure you have a battery-operated radio and plenty of batteries on hand.

"The key to getting through any emergency is having a really good plan in place," Morgan said. "A couple times a year, take time to talk about your plan and see if it still works for the family. Have a plan in place before something happens. Hopefully, that will prevent things from being

any worse if something should happen."

Unless you enjoy treacherous roads, panicked crowds and long lines, don't wait until that big storm comes your way to start preparing. For a safe and happy winter season, follow these steps to ensure your family is ready for any winter weather emergency that comes your way.

■ Lake City Reporter staff writer Amanda Williamson contributed to this report.

HAPPY 100th BIRTHDAY

Book profiled restaurants that are centenarians.

By **SUZETTE LABOY**
 Associated Press

MIAMI BEACH — Conventional wisdom has it that many restaurants never make it to their first birthday, never mind their 100th.

So it's a little shocking just how many have done not only that, but have thrived well beyond 100 years. Fascination with what sets these culinary centenarians apart is what prompted Rick Browne to dig into American restaurant history, collecting the stories of some of the nation's oldest eateries.

"These places are American culinary history," says Browne, who made it a mission to identify restaurants — including taverns, grills, barbecue joints — that are at least 100 years old.

And his recent book, "A Century of Restaurants: Stories and Recipes from 100 of America's Most Historic and Successful Restaurants," includes the nation's oldest (White Horse Tavern in Newport, Rhode Island, established in 1673), the youngest (the Pleasant Point Inn in Lovell, Maine, opened in 1911), and many in between.

"These old restaurants are serving really good meals, made from scratch, plus they're preserving our culture," he says. "And we can't lose that."

Tallying restaurant centenarians is a tricky business. Browne counted any business that serves food — such as taverns

— and came up with more than 250. In 2010, the National Restaurant Association and the Nation's Restaurant News focused on eating establishments (rather than bars and taverns that serve food) and came up with 140.

Further complicating Browne's search, several of the restaurants he found have changed their names over the years. Some have even changed locations after fires, earthquakes or hurricanes damaged the original structures. But that's just part of the history that makes these businesses so fascinating.

Whatever the exact count, the numbers are surprising in part because the restaurant industry has a notoriously short survival rate. More than a quarter of new restaurants close within the first year, and that jumps to nearly two-thirds by the end of three years, according to research by the Cornell Hotel and Restaurant Administration.

And most of that is due to typical industry pressures. Centenarian restaurants have buffeted not only that, but also The Great Depression and multiple recessions and wars.

"These older establishments have track record and history and heritage," said Grant Ross, general manager at The Black Bass Hotel in Lumberville, Penn. "This building has been here for 270 years and

RESTAURANTS continued on 3D



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Wedding

Hale and Boyd wed in Hawaii

Lindsey Rebecca Hale and Mark Richard Boyd were married October 10, 2013 in Waimanalo Beach on the island of Oahu, Hawaii.

Lindsey is the daughter of Billy and Terran Hale of Lake City, and the granddaughter of Pat and the late Jerry Carswell and W.C. and Kathryn M. Hale. Mark is the son of Bernadette Boyd of Palm Coast.

Lindsey is a 1998 graduate of Columbia High School. She graduated with a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing from Florida State University in 2001. She went on to complete her graduate education at the University of Florida where she obtained a Master's in Nursing and Nurse Midwifery in 2005. She is now employed by FABEN Obstetrics and Gynecology in Jacksonville, Fl where she works as a Midwife/Nurse Practitioner.

Mark is 1994 graduate of Flagler Palm Coast High School. He went on to join the US Navy where he remained on active duty until 2008. He graduated from the University of North Florida in 2012 with a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing. Mark has remained active with the US Navy Reserves since 2008 and is currently employed by Baptist Medical Center in Jacksonville as a Registered Nurse.

After honeymooning in Maui, Hawaii, the couple now resides in Jacksonville.



COURTESY

PLANTS

Continued From 1D

longer. Both species can be kept alive and healthy so they will bloom again next year, but the poinsettia is a little more difficult. For more information on caring for poinsettias as potted or outdoor plants, read the University of Florida publication at <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ep349>

Christmas cacti are much easier to grow at home, and they may give you up to 20 years of enjoyment. The Christmas cactus is not a true cactus and is not quite as drought tolerant as its name implies. Water when the soil feels dry to touch. The time between watering will depend on temperature, humidity, light, and growth rate. By fall, water to prevent wilt-

ing, and keep the soil moist when the blooming begins. When it has finished blooming, remove the faded blossoms and withhold water for six weeks. Fertilize every month or two from April to September with a weak soluble fertilizer or slow-release fertilizer.

Propagation is done by taking short Y-shaped cuttings of the stem tips. Place the cuttings in a light, moist potting mixture. Starting your own Christmas cacti can be rewarding, especially when you give them to others for good cheer. Read all about propagating new plants at <http://mrec.ifas.ufl.edu/foilage/folnotes/holiday.htm>

■ D. Nichelle Demorest is a horticulture agent with the Columbia County Extension of the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences.

Surfers dress as Santa at beach

Associated Press

COCOA BEACH — More than 210 surfers dressed as Santa Claus, elves and snowmen were surfing the Christmas Eve waves off central Florida's Atlantic coast.

Florida Today reports that when Cocoa Beach Mayor Dave Netterstrom took in the view from the sand Tuesday, he declared the fourth-annual gathering "the largest surfing Santa event on the planet."

Organizer George Trosset says he may

move the holiday event to downtown Cocoa Beach next year to accommodate growing crowds. He started the tradition in 2009 with a few family members after seeing a television commercial featuring people surfing in Santa Claus attire.

More friends joined them the following year, and in 2012, nearly 160 surfers participated. Trosset says the event "has gone from being a little family party to being a community event."

Americans hopeful for a better year

By JENNIFER AGIESTA | *Associated Press*

Large number of Americans see 2013 as anything but a banner year and aren't reluctant to wave

goodbye on New Year's Eve, a new AP-Times Square poll says, reflecting anxiety stretching from the corridors of power in Washington to corporate boardrooms, statehouses, and city

and town halls.

Although the poll shows that people generally are looking forward to the new year with optimism and no blatant sense of foreboding, it

also un.masks pent-up worries about international crises and instability, and concerns at home about the standard of living, health care and schools.

What the public thought of 2013:

Good year or good riddance?

On the whole, Americans rate their own experience in 2013 more positively than negatively, but when asked to assess the year for the United States or the world at large, things turn sour.

All told, 32 percent say 2013 was a better year for them than 2012, while 20 percent say it was worse and 46 percent say the two years were really about the same. Young people were more apt to see improvement: 40 percent of people under age 30 called 2013 a better year than 2012, compared with 25 percent of people age 65 or older.

The public splits evenly on how the year turned out for the country, 25 percent saying it was better than 2012, 25 percent saying it was worse. As with most questions about the state of affairs in the U.S. these days, there's a sharp partisan divide. Democrats are more apt to say the U.S. turned out better in 2013 than 2012 (37 percent) than are Republicans (17 percent).

Thinking about the world at large, 30 percent say 2013 was worse than 2012, while just 20 percent say it was better.

But the outlook for the new year is positive: 49 percent think their own fortunes will improve in 2014, 14 percent are anticipating the new year to be a downgrade from the old. Thirty-four percent say they don't expect much to change.

Where's the party?

Most Americans — 54 percent — say they'll be ringing in the new year at home, while 1 in 5 are heading to a friend's or family member's house. Only 8

percent say they'll go to a bar, restaurant or other organized event.

Younger Americans are least apt to spend the holiday at home: 39 percent of those under age 30 will celebrate at home, 33 percent at someone else's home, 13 percent at a bar or other venue.

Regardless of their own time zone, nearly 6 in 10 say they'll watch at least some of the celebration from New York City's Times Square.

Countdown companions

Wherever they're spending the holiday, most Americans prefer the company of family. Asked with whom they want to be when the clock strikes midnight, 83 percent name a family member.

On a holiday often sealed with a kiss, nearly 4 in 10 say they most want to be next to their spouse, and 13 percent cite a significant other or romantic interest as a preferred companion. Parents like to be with their children, more than the children like to be with their parents.

Less conventional choices: 2 percent cite their pets, 3 percent God, Jesus or their religious congregation, and less than 1 percent said they wanted to ring it in with their co-workers.

Of course, some opt out altogether: 18 percent say they're not planning to celebrate on New Year's Eve, and 9 percent say there's no one with whom they'd like to party, preferring instead their pillow, TiVo or their own thoughts.

What mattered in news

The implementation of the health care law topped the list of the most important news stories of 2013, with 26 percent

citing it. In an Associated Press survey of news directors and editors, 45 of 144 journalists surveyed called the health care rollout their top story.

In the AP-Times Square poll, the death of Nelson Mandela occurred as the poll was underway. It rose quickly, with 8 percent naming it as the most important news of the year, matching the share citing the federal government's budget difficulties or shutdown.

The budget fight, which led to a partial shutdown of the federal government in October, was rated extremely or very important by 60 percent of Americans, and prompted rare bipartisan agreement. About two-thirds in each major party, 65 percent of Republicans and 63 percent of Democrats, rated it highly important.

A majority said the Boston Marathon bombings were

By the numbers:

On a personal note

32 percent say 2013 was a better year for themselves than 2012
20 percent say 2013 was a worse year for themselves than 2012
46 percent say the two years were about the same

Age matters

40 percent of people under age 30 thought 2013 was better than 2012
25 percent of people over the age of 65 thought 2013 was better than 2012

On a national level

25 percent say 2013 was a better year for the nation than 2012
25 percent say 2013 was a worse year for the nation than 2012

extremely or very important, and 47 percent considered the national debate over gun laws that important.

Pop culture: Mostly forgettable moments

Miley Cyrus's MTV Video Music Awards performance. The launch of "Lean In." Apologies from Paula Deen and Lance Armstrong. Walter White's exit and the entrance of the Netflix series "House of Cards." What do they all have in common? More Americans say these pop culture moments were more forgettable than memorable.

Just one pop culture moment was deemed more memorable than forgettable: The birth of Prince George to Britain's Prince William and his wife, Kate.

Among men, 64 percent called the debate on work-life

balance sparked by the book "Lean In" and other writings forgettable. About half of women agreed.

About 1 in 5 younger Americans said the launch of original programming through streaming services like Netflix or Hulu was a memorable moment, about doubling the share among those age 50 and up.

Residents of the West were more likely than others to consider memorable the San Francisco "Batkid" (31 percent) or the final season of the series "Breaking Bad" (19 percent).

The AP-Times Square New Year's Eve Poll was conducted by GfK Public Affairs and Corporate Communications from Dec. 5-9 and involved online interviews with 1,367 adults. The survey has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3.5 percentage points for all respondents. The poll is a cooperative effort between AP and the organizers of the Times Square New Year's Eve Celebration, the Times Square Alliance and Countdown Entertainment. The Alliance is a non-profit group that seeks to promote Times Square, and Countdown Entertainment represents the owners of One Times Square and the New Year's Eve Ball Drop.

The survey was conducted using KnowledgePanel, a probability-based Internet panel designed to be representative of the U.S. population. Respondents to the survey were first selected randomly, using phone or mail survey methods, and were later interviewed online. People selected for KnowledgePanel who didn't otherwise have access to the Internet were provided with the ability to access the Internet at no cost to them.

RESTAURANTS

Continued From 1D

people have been coming here to dine, stay and to drink for 270 years. And just because there is a recession that is not a reason to stop."

Why do so many succeed? One often-repeated theme is family.

A majority of the centenarian restaurants have been in one family for decades. Like Joe's Stone Crab in Miami Beach, which was not featured in Browne's book but has been family-owned from the start when it opened as a mom-and-pop fish house. Today, it's a must-spot where wearing a bib over fine-dining attire is the norm.

"Has the fact that it's family-owned been a benefit to them? Yes, because people are nostalgic," says Bonnie Riggs, a restaurant analyst with consumer research firm NPD Group. "Why do they succeed when the industry right now is not doing well? Because this place is unique. We know it's pricey, but we are willing to pay for it because we know they will deliver on what we expect. And it's an experience."

Joe Weis opened a small lunch counter on Miami Beach in 1913 and years later — under a different name and in a different building after a hurricane damaged the original location — introduced the tasty crustaceans to his menu. At 75 cents a plate, they were a huge hit and have been ever since. On a busy night, Joe's serves up nearly 1,000 pounds of stone crabs to some 1,700 customers willing to pay market price for a plate.

Joe's is a fourth-generation family-owned restaurant that treats its customers like family. And vice versa.

"Our customers will tell us when things aren't right and when things are right," said Stephan Sawitz, the restaurant's chief operations officer and the great-grandson of Weis.

Browne traveled nearly 50,000 miles over a year and a half to compile his list, eating 163 entrees along the way. A few of the 250 restaurants he found have since closed down, he admits.

"If we lose them, we would have lost a lot. All you're going to see is fast food places, yellow arches and red roofs."

His advice for the next 100 restaurants over 100? Don't radically change the menu.

"In a lot of cases, people order a dish that they had one time or another," Browne said, adding that diners return to spots they went to as a child. "It's comfort food that comes with memories."

Legroom cut to add first class

By SCOTT MAYEROWITZ
AP Airlines Writer

NEW YORK — JetBlue Airways will cut one inch of legroom from its coach seats on transcontinental flights to make room for a new first-class cabin that will feature lie-flat beds.

The New York-based airline unveiled plans earlier this year for its first premium service on flights between New York and Los Angeles and San Francisco. It's part of a larger effort by the carrier to attract business travelers, who pay more for last-minute flights.

The new seats will debut on Airbus A321 planes in the second quarter of 2014.

Walls come alive with 'living pictures'

By SARAH WOLFE
Associated Press

Looking for a fresh way to liven up your garden walls? Think plants, not paintings.

Living pictures — cuttings of assorted succulents woven together in everything from picture frames to pallet boxes — have caught on among garden designers and landscapers this spring as an easy, modern way to add color and texture to an outdoor space.

"Living pictures composed of succulents have a gorgeous sculptural quality that work surprisingly well in a number of different aesthetics — contemporary, bohemian, Southwestern and more," says Irene Edwards, executive editor of Lonny home design magazine. "They're great for urban dwellers with limited space."

Living pictures are also nearly maintenance-free (i.e. hard to kill). So even beginners or those with the blackest of thumbs can look like the master gardener of the neighborhood.

Here's how you can create your own living succulent picture:

Pick your style

There are a few ways you can go. For a larger living picture, you can use a wooden pallet, framing out the back like a shadow box. Large, do-it-yourself living wall panels are also for sale online through garden shops like San Francisco's Flora Grubb Gardens and DIG Gardens based in Santa Cruz, Calif.

But going big right away can be daunting, and bigger also means heavier, so many newbies like California gardening blogger Sarah Cornwall stick with smaller picture or poster frames.

Go vintage with an antique frame or finish, or build your own out of local barn wood. Chunky, streamlined frames like the ones Cornwall bought from Ikea give a more modern feel.

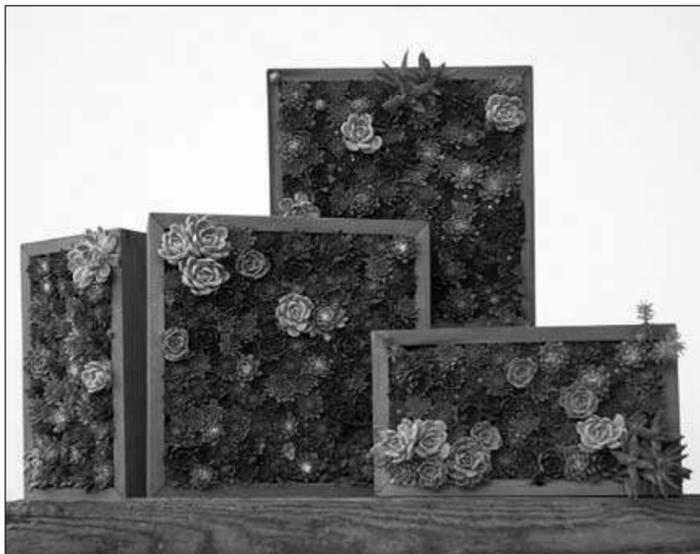
You'll also need a shadow box cut to fit the back of the frame, and wire mesh or "chicken wire" to fit over the front if you're going to make your own.

First, nail or screw the shadow box to the back of the frame. A depth of 2 to 3 inches is ideal. Set the wire mesh inside the frame and secure it with a staple gun, then nail a plywood backing to the back of the shadow box.



Photos by FORMLA/Associated Press

A living succulent picture created by FormLA Landscaping is shown. The piece of living art was designed for the courtyard of the 2012 Pasadena Showcase House of Design.



Living pictures, cuttings of assorted succulents woven together in everything from picture frames to pallet boxes, are hot among garden designers and landscapers this spring as an easy, modern way to add color and texture to an outdoor space.

Take cuttings

Almost any succulent can be used for living pictures, though it's usually best to stick with varieties that stay small, like echeverias and sempervivums, says DIG Gardens co-owner Cara Meyers.

"It's fun to use a variety of aeoniums and sedums for their fun colors and textures, but they may need a little more maintenance, as they may start to grow out of the

picture more," she says.

Cut off small buds of the succulents for cuttings, leaving a stem of at least 1/4-inch long.

No succulents to snip? You can always buy some at a nursery or trade with other gardeners in your neighborhood.

"They grow so easily, don't feel embarrassed knocking on a door to ask for a few cuttings," Cornwall says.

Make sure any old bottom leaves are removed, then leave the cut-

tings on a tray in a cool, shaded area for a few days to form a "scab" on the ends before planting.

Add soil

Set the frame mesh-side up on a table and fill with soil, using your hands to push it through the wire mesh openings.

Be sure to use cactus soil, which is coarser than potting soil for better drainage.

Some vertical gardeners place a layer of sphagnum moss under and over the soil to hold moisture in when watering.

Fill in with plants

Now comes the fun and creative part. Lay out the succulent cuttings in the design you want on a flat surface, and poke them into the wire mesh holes in your frame.

You can start either in one corner or by placing the "focal point" cuttings in first and filling in around them. Waves or rivers of color are popular living-picture designs, although Cape Cod-based landscaper Jason Lambton has gone bolder with spirals of green and purple.

"We painted the pallet different color stripes to go with the color theme of the back of the house," says Lambton, host of HGTV's "Going Yard." "It looked like a cool piece of living, reclaimed art."

Using just one type of succulent is also a simple yet elegant option, says Kirk Aoyagi, co-founder and vice president of FormLA Landscaping.

"Collages with some draping and some upright plants can create a more dramatic look and feel," he says.

Care and maintenance tips

Keep the living picture flat and out of direct sunlight for one to two weeks to allow roots to form along the stems, then begin watering.

"If you hang it up right away or it rains a lot, that dirt will just pour right out. ... I made that mistake once," Lambton says.

Mount your living art once the succulents are securely rooted, which can take four to eight weeks depending on climate.

After that, water every seven to 10 days by removing from the wall and laying it flat. Be sure to let the water drain before hanging your living picture back up, to avoid rotting.

World's hottest pepper is grown in South Carolina

By JEFFREY COLLINS
Associated Press

FORT MILL — Ed Currie holds one of his world-record Carolina Reaper peppers by the stem, which looks like the tail of a scorpion.

On the other end is the bumpy, oily, fire-engine red fruit with a punch of heat nearly as potent as most pepper sprays used by police. It's hot enough to leave even the most seasoned spicy food aficionado crimson-faced, flushed with sweat, trying not to lose his lunch.

Last month, The Guinness Book of World Records decided Currie's peppers were the hottest on Earth, ending a more than four-year drive to prove no one grows a more scorching chili. The heat of Currie's peppers was certified by students at Winthrop University who test food as part of their undergraduate classes.

But whether Currie's peppers are truly the world's hottest is a question that one scientist said can never be known. The heat of a pepper depends not just on the plant's genetics, but also where it is grown, said Paul Bosland, director of the Chile Pepper Institute at New Mexico State University. And the heat of a pepper is more about being macho than seasoning.

"You have to think of chili heat like salt. A little bit improves the flavor, but a lot ruins it," Bosland said.

Some ask Currie if the record should be given to the single hottest pepper taken instead of the mean taken over a whole batch. After all, Usain Bolt isn't

considered the world's fastest man because of his average time over several races.

But Currie shakes off those questions.

"What's the sense in calling something a record if it can't be replicated? People want to be able to say they ate the world's hottest pepper," Currie said.

The record is for the hottest batch of Currie's peppers that was tested, code name HP22B for "Higher Power, Pot No. 22, Plant B." Currie said he has peppers from other pots and other plants that have comparable heat.

The science of hot peppers centers around chemical compounds called capsaicinoids. The higher concentration the hotter the pepper, said Cliff Calloway, the Winthrop University professor whose students tested Currie's peppers.

The heat of a pepper is measured in Scoville Heat Units. Zero is bland, and a regular jalapeno pepper registers around 5,000 on the Scoville scale. Currie's world record batch of Carolina Reapers comes in at 1,569,300 Scoville Heat Units, with an individual pepper measured at 2.2 million. Pepper spray weighs in at about 2 million Scoville Units.

Pharmacist Wilbur Scoville devised the scale 100 years ago, taking a solution of sugar and water to dilute an extract made from the pepper. A scientist would then taste the solution and dilute it again and against until the heat was no longer detected. So the rating depended on a scientist's tongue, a technique that Calloway is glad is no longer necessary.

"I haven't tried Ed's peppers. I am afraid to," Calloway said. "I bite into a jalapeno — that's too hot for me."

Now, scientists separate the capsaicinoids from the rest of the peppers and use liquid chromatography to detect the exact amount of

the compounds. A formula then converts the readings into Scoville's old scale.

The world record is nice, but it's just part of Currie's grand plan. He's been interested in peppers all his life, the hotter the better. Ever since he got the taste of a sweet hot pepper from the

Caribbean a decade ago, he has been determined to breed the hottest pepper he can. He is also determined to build his company, PuckerButt Pepper Company, into something that will let the 50-year-old entrepreneur retire before his young kids grow up.

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SUNDAY EVENING												DECEMBER 29, 2013			
Comcast	Dish	DirecTV	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	
3-ABC	3	-	TV20 News	ABC World News	America's Funniest Home Videos	*** "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" (2001, Fantasy) Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint, Emma Watson.	News at 11	Inside Edition							
4-IND	4	4	Chann 4 News	omg! Insider (N)	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	CSI: Miami "One of Our Own" (N)	Criminal Minds A prolific serial killer.	News	Sports Zone	Chann 4 News	Arsenio Hall			
5-PBS	5	-	(3:00) *** Giant	Nature "Christmas in Yellowstone"	Call the Midwife Holiday Special (N)	Masterpiece Classic Trip to a Scottish hunting lodge. (DVS)	The 36th Annual Kennedy Center Honors Entertainers receive recognition. (N)	Austin City Limits "Rodrigo y Gabriela"	Action Sports 360	(-35) Castle (N)					
7-CBS	7	47	47	NFL Football Denver Broncos at Oakland Raiders. (N)	60 Minutes Jumping off mountains in wing suits. (N)										
9-CW	9	17	17	Doc Tony	YourJax Music	City Stories	Music 4 U	Preview Show	Daryl's House	Local Haunts	I Know Jax	YourJax Music	Jacksonville	Local Haunts	Meet the Browns
10-FOX	10	30	30	NFL Football San Francisco 49ers at Arizona Cardinals. (N)	The OT (N)	The Simpsons	The Simpsons	Family Guy	Animation Dom	News	Action Sports 360	Modern Family	Modern Family		
12-NBC	12	12	12	News	NBC Nightly News	Football Night in America (N) (Live)		(-20) NFL Football	Philadelphia Eagles at Dallas Cowboys. (N)					News	
CSPAN	14	210	350	NewsMakers	Washington This Week		Q & A	British House of Commons	Road to the White House				Q & A		
WGN-A	16	239	307	(5:00) * "Red Planet" (2000)	America's Funniest Home Videos		How I Met/Mother	How I Met/Mother	WGN News at Nine	(-40) Instant Replay	** "Deep Blue Sea" (1999)				
TVLAND	17	106	304	Roseanne (N)	Roseanne (N)	Roseanne (N)	Roseanne (N)	Roseanne (N)	King of Queens	King of Queens	King of Queens	King of Queens	King of Queens	King of Queens	
OWN	18	189	279	The Best of the Oprah Show (N)	The Best of the Oprah Show (N)	Oprah's Next Chapter	Oprah's Next Chapter	Oprah's Next Chapter Lance Armstrong. (Part 1 of 2)	Oprah's Next Chapter	Oprah's Next Chapter	Oprah's Next Chapter	Oprah's Next Chapter	Oprah's Next Chapter	Oprah's Next Chapter	
A&E	19	118	265	Shawshank	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	Duck Dynasty	
HALL	20	185	312	"Hats Off to Christmas!" (2013, Drama) Haylie Duff, Antonio Cupo.	"A Bride for Christmas" (2012, Romance) Arielle Kebbel, Andrew Walker.	"The Christmas Spirit" (2013) Nicolette Sheridan, Olympia Dukakis.									
FX	22	136	248	(5:30) *** "Rango" (2011, Comedy) Voices of Johnny Depp, Isla Fisher.	** "Grown Ups" (2010, Comedy) Adam Sandler, Kevin James, Chris Rock.	(-02) ** "Grown Ups" (2010, Comedy) Adam Sandler, Kevin James.									
CNN	24	200	202	CNN Newsroom (N)	CNN Newsroom (N)	Inside Man "Guns"	Inside Man Medical marijuana industry.	Inside Man "Bankruptcy"	Inside Man "Immigration"						
TNT	25	138	245	(5:30) *** "Ocean's Eleven" (2001) George Clooney, Matt Damon. (DVS)	** "Sherlock Holmes" (2009, Action) Robert Downey Jr., Jude Law. (DVS)	** "Sherlock Holmes" (2009, Action) Robert Downey Jr.									
NIK	26	170	299	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	See Dad Run	Instant Mom (N)	** "The Last Airbender" (2010, Fantasy) Noah Ringer, Dev Patel.			Friends (N)	(-33) Friends (N)	
SPIKE	28	168	241	Bar Rescue	Bar Rescue A bar with a golf theme.	Bar Rescue "Twin vs. Twin"	Bar Rescue	Bar Rescue	Bar Rescue	Bar Rescue A death-metal concert bar.	Bar Rescue	Bar Rescue	Bar Rescue	Bar Rescue	
MY-TV	29	32	-	The Rockford Files (N)	Kojak Drug-related deaths.			Columbo "Negative Reaction" A photographer kills his wife.							
DISN	31	172	290	Dog With a Blog	Jessie (N)	Jessie (N)	Jessie (N)	** "High School Musical 2" (2007) Zac Efron, Vanessa Hudgens.		Good Luck Charlie	Good Luck Charlie	Austin & Ally (N)	Austin & Ally (N)		
LIFE	32	108	252	(5:00) "The Wrong Woman" (2013)	"Missing at 17" (2013, Suspense) Tricia O'Kelley, Ayla Kell, Marin Hinkle.	"Taken for Ransom" (2013, Suspense) Teri Polo, Tia Carrere. Premiere.									
USA	33	105	242	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit	
BET	34	124	329	(4:00) The BET Awards 2012 Chris Brown, Nicki Minaj and Kanye West.	BET Awards 2012 Chris Brown; Mariah Carey.										
ESPN	35	140	206	Women's College Basketball	SportsCenter (N) (Live)			Roll Tide/War Eagle		SEC Storied (N)			SportsCenter (N) (Live)		
ESPN2	36	144	209	Football Sunday on ESPN Radio (N)	Football			30 for 30		Outside the Lines	World Series		2013 World Series of Poker		
SUNSP	37	-	-	Ship Shape TV	Lightning Live!	NHL Hockey New York Rangers at Tampa Bay Lightning. Tampa Bay Times Forum in Tampa, Fla.	Lightning Live!	Lightning Live!	Lightning Live!	Lightning Live!	Lightning Live!	Lightning Live!	Lightning Live!	Lightning Live!	
DISCV	38	182	278	Alaska: The Last Frontier (N)	Alaska: The Last Frontier Exposed	Alaska: The Last Frontier (N)	Alaska: The Last Frontier (N)	Alaska: The Last Frontier (N)	Alaska: The Last Frontier (N)	Alaska: The Last Frontier (N)	Alaska: The Last Frontier (N)	Alaska: The Last Frontier (N)	Alaska: The Last Frontier (N)	Alaska: The Last Frontier (N)	
TBS	39	139	247	*** "Yes Man" (2008, Comedy) Jim Carrey, Zooey Deschanel. (DVS)	*** "Wedding Crashers" (2005, Comedy) Owen Wilson, Vince Vaughn, Christopher Walken. (DVS)	*** "Mr. Deeds" (2002) Adam Sandler, Winona Ryder. (DVS)									
HLN	40	202	204	What Would You Do?	Cook Your A... Off "Red Carpet Ready"	Cook Your A... Off	Fat, Sick and Nearly Dead	Fat, Sick and Nearly Dead	Fat, Sick and Nearly Dead	Fat, Sick and Nearly Dead	Fat, Sick and Nearly Dead	Fat, Sick and Nearly Dead	Fat, Sick and Nearly Dead	Fat, Sick and Nearly Dead	
FNC	41	205	360	FOX News Sunday With Chris Wallace	FOX Report (N)	Huckabee	Fox News: Our Story	Stossel "Innovation Nation"	Huckabee						
E!	45	114	236	(5:30) * "The Back-up Plan" (2010) Jennifer Lopez, Alex O'Loughlin.	** "Little Fockers" (2010, Comedy) Robert De Niro, Ben Stiller, Owen Wilson.										
TRAVEL	46	196	277	Pizza Paradise Creative pizzerias.	Scambushed (N)	Scambushed (N)	Monumental Mysteries (N)	Mysteries at the Museum (N)	America Declassified (N)						
HGTV	47	112	229	Beachfront Bargain	Beachfront Bargain	Beachfront Bargain	Beachfront Bargain	Beachfront Bargain	Hawaii Life (N)	Hawaii Life (N)	Island Hunters	Island Hunters	Island Hunters	Island Hunters	
TLC	48	183	280	Sister Wives "A Wife Decides" (N)	Sister Wives (N)	Sister Wives (N)	Sister Wives (N)	Sister Wives "Mother-in-Law Invasion"	Breaking the Faith "Shedding Skin" (N)	Sister Wives "Mother-in-Law Invasion"	Sister Wives "Mother-in-Law Invasion"	Sister Wives "Mother-in-Law Invasion"	Sister Wives "Mother-in-Law Invasion"	Sister Wives "Mother-in-Law Invasion"	
HIST	49	120	269	101 Weapons that Changed the World	Pawn Stars (N)	Pawn Stars (N)	Ax Men "Large Barge" (N)	Ax Men "Father Knows Best" (N)	Pawn Stars (N)	(-31) Pawn Stars (N)	(-02) American Jungle "Lost" (N)	(-02) American Jungle "Lost" (N)	(-02) American Jungle "Lost" (N)	(-02) American Jungle "Lost" (N)	
ANPL	50	184	282	Finding Bigfoot "Best Evidence Yet"	Finding Bigfoot: Further Evidence	Finding Bigfoot: Further Evidence	Finding Bigfoot "Lonestar Squatch"	Finding Bigfoot "Abominable Snowman"	Travel to Nepal in search of the Yeti.						
FOOD	51	110	231	Chopped Four mystery ingredients.	Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives	Guy's Grocery Games "Frozen Feats"	Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives	Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives	Cutthroat Kitchen (N)	Restaurant: Impossible "Barely Edible"					
TBN	52	260	372	T.D. Jakes (N)	Joyce Meyer	Leading the Way	The Blessed Life	Joel Osteen (N)	Kerry Shook	Kenneth Copeland	Creflo Dollar (N)	** "The Bible" (1966, Drama) Michael Parks, George C. Scott, Richard Harris.	World Poker Tour: Season 11	World Poker Tour: Season 11	
FSN-FL	56	-	-	NBA Basketball Atlanta Hawks at Orlando Magic. From Amway Center in Orlando, Fla.	Magic Live! (Live)	UFC Unleashed (N)									
SYFY	58	122	244	"Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines"	"Lake Placid 3" (2010, Horror) Colin Ferguson, Yancy Butler, Kacey Barnfield.	"Lake Placid: The Final Chapter" (2012, Horror) Robert Englund, Yancy Butler.									
AMC	60	130	254	Breaking Bad	(-24) Breaking Bad "Cornered" (N)	(-28) Breaking Bad "Problem Dog" (N)	(-32) Breaking Bad "Heramos" (N)	(-36) Breaking Bad "Bug" (N)	(-40) Breaking Bad "Salud" (N)	(-44) Breaking Bad					
COM	62	107	249	(4:32) Liar Liar (N)	** "The Longest Yard" (2005, Comedy) Adam Sandler, Chris Rock, Burt Reynolds.										
CMT	63	166	327	*** "The Guardian" (2007, Comedy-Drama) Jack Nicholson, Morgan Freeman, Sean Hayes.	World's Deadliest "Unsettling predators."	Africa's Deadliest "Killer Tactics"	Africa's Deadliest "Predator Swarm"	Africa's Deadliest "Lethal Weapons"	Africa's Deadliest "Firestarter" (N)	Ultimate Survival Alaska	Ultimate Survival Alaska	Ultimate Survival Alaska	Ultimate Survival Alaska	Ultimate Survival Alaska	
NGWILD	108	190	283	World's Deadliest "7 Deadly Sins"	World's Deadliest "Unsettling predators."	Africa's Deadliest "Killer Tactics"	Africa's Deadliest "Predator Swarm"	Africa's Deadliest "Lethal Weapons"	Africa's Deadliest "Firestarter" (N)	Ultimate Survival Alaska	Ultimate Survival Alaska	Ultimate Survival Alaska	Ultimate Survival Alaska	Ultimate Survival Alaska	
NGC	109	186	276	The Real Roswell	Ultimate Survival Alaska	Ultimate Survival Alaska	Ultimate Survival Alaska	Ultimate Survival Alaska	Ultimate Survival Alaska	Ultimate Survival Alaska	Ultimate Survival Alaska	Ultimate Survival Alaska	Ultimate Survival Alaska	Ultimate Survival Alaska	
SCIENCE	110	193	284	Beyond With Morgan Freeman	Beyond With Morgan Freeman	Beyond With Morgan Freeman	Beyond With Morgan Freeman	Beyond With Morgan Freeman	Beyond With Morgan Freeman	Beyond With Morgan Freeman	Beyond With Morgan Freeman	Beyond With Morgan Freeman	Beyond With Morgan Freeman	Beyond With Morgan Freeman	
ID	111	192	285	On the Case With Paula Zahn (N)	On the Case With Paula Zahn (N)	On the Case With Paula Zahn (N)	On the Case With Paula Zahn (N)	On the Case With Paula Zahn (N)	On the Case With Paula Zahn (N)	On the Case With Paula Zahn (N)	On the Case With Paula Zahn (N)	On the Case With Paula Zahn (N)	On the Case With Paula Zahn (N)	On the Case With Paula Zahn (N)	
HBO	302	300	501	** "The Lucky One" James Gandolfini	(-15) *** "Warm Bodies" (2013) Nicholas Hoult, Teresa Palmer. "PG-13"	Treme (Series Finale) Colson is offered a transfer. (N)	(-20) Getting On	School Girl	(-20) Treme (N)						
MAX	320	310	515	(5:45) *** "The Long Kiss Goodnight" (1996, Action) Geena Davis. 'R' (N)	(7:50) *** "Rock of Ages" (2012, Musical) Julianne Hough. "PG-13"	*** "Magic Mike" (2012, Comedy-Drama) Channing Tatum. 'R' (N)	*** "Seven Psychopaths" (2012, Comedy) Colin Farrell. 'R' (N)								
SHOW	340	318	545	Episodes (N)	Episodes (N)	Episodes (N)	Episodes (N)	Episodes (N)	Episodes (N)	Episodes (N)	Episodes (N)	Episodes (N)	Episodes (N)	Episodes (N)	

WEEKDAY AFTERNOON												DECEMBER 30, 2013			
Comcast	Dish	DirecTV	12 PM	12:30	1 PM	1:30	2 PM	2:30	3 PM	3:30	4 PM	4:30	5 PM	5:30	
3-ABC	3	-	News	Be a Millionaire	The Chew	General Hospital	We the People	Supreme Justice	Dr. Phil	Varied Programs	Be a Millionaire	News			
4-IND	4	4	4	Chann 4 News	Paid Program	America's Court	Supreme Justice	Steve Harvey	The Queen Latifah Show	The Dr. Oz Show	Chann 4 News	Chann 4 News			
5-PBS	5	-	-	Sid the Science	Thomas & Friends	Daniel Tiger	Caillou	Super Why!	Dinosaur Train	Peg Plus Cat	Cat in the Hat	Curious George	Arthur	R. Steves' Europe	World News
7-CBS	7	47	47	Action News Jax	The Young and the Restless	Bold/Beautiful	The Talk	Let's Make a Deal	Judge Judy	Judge Judy	Action News Jax	Action News Jax	Action News Jax	Action News Jax	
9-CW	9	17	17	The Trisha Goddard Show	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit	Judge Mathis	The Bill Cunningham Show	Maury	The People's Court						
10-FOX	10	30	30	Jerry Springer	The Steve Wilkos Show	The Test	Paternity Court	Paternity Court	Dr. Phil	The Ellen DeGeneres Show	Family Feud	Family Feud	Family Feud	Family Feud	
12-NBC	12	12	12	News	Be a Millionaire	Days of Our Lives	First Coast Living	Katie	The Ellen DeGeneres Show	News	News	News	News	News	
CSPAN	14	210	350	Key Capitol Hill Hearings	Key Capitol Hill Hearings	Key Capitol Hill Hearings	Key Capitol Hill Hearings	Key Capitol Hill Hearings	Key Capitol Hill Hearings	Key Capitol Hill Hearings	Key Capitol Hill Hearings	Key Capitol Hill Hearings	Key Capitol Hill Hearings	Key Capitol Hill Hearings	
WGN-A	16	239	307	In the Heat of the Night	WGN Midday News	Walker, Texas Ranger	Walker, Texas Ranger	Walker, Texas Ranger	Walker, Texas Ranger	Walker, Texas Ranger	Walker, Texas Ranger	Walker, Texas Ranger	Walker, Texas Ranger	Walker, Texas Ranger	
TVLAND	17	106	304	Gunsmoke	Varied Programs	Gunsmoke	Varied Programs	Gunsmoke	Varied Programs	Gunsmoke	Varied Programs	Gunsmoke	Varied Programs	Gunsmoke	
OWN	18	189	279	Dr. Phil	Dr. Phil	Dr. Phil	Dr. Phil	Dr. Phil	Dr. Phil	Dr. Phil	Dr. Phil	Dr. Phil	Dr. Phil	Dr. Phil	
A&E	19	118	265	CSI: Miami	Criminal Minds	Varied Programs	Criminal Minds	Varied Programs	Criminal Minds	Varied Programs	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	The First 48	
HALL	20	185	312	Home & Family	Varied Programs										
FX	22	136	248	(11:00) Movie	Varied Programs										
CNN	24	200	202	Around the World	CNN Newsroom	CNN Newsroom	CNN Newsroom	CNN Newsroom	CNN Newsroom	CNN Newsroom	The Lead With Jake Tapper	The Situation Room	The Situation Room	The Situation Room	
TNT	25	138	245	Bones	Bones	Varied Programs	Bones	Varied Programs	Bones	Varied Programs	Castle	Castle	Castle	Castle	
NIK	26	170	299	PAW Patrol	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Varied Programs					
SPIKE	28	168	241	Varied Programs										Cops	
MY-TV	29	32	-	Hawaii Five-0	Gunsmoke	Bonanza	The Big Valley	Dragnet	Adam-12	Emergency!					
DISN	31	172	290	(11:40) Movie	Varied Programs						Dog With a Blog	Varied Programs			
LIFE	32	108	252	Varied Programs											
USA	33	105	242	Varied Programs											
BET	34	124	329	Movie	Varied Programs										
ESPN	35	140	206	SportsCenter	Varied Programs										
ESPN2	36	144	209	Varied Programs							NFL Live	Varied Programs			
SUNSP	37	-	-	Varied Programs											
DISCV	38	182	278	Varied Programs											
TBS	39	139	247	(11:30) Wipeout	Cleveland Show	American Dad	American Dad	American Dad	Cougar Town	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	King of Queens	King of Queens
HLN	40	202	204	Showbiz Tonight	News Now	Varied Programs	News Now	News Now	News Now	News Now	News Now	News Now	News Now	News Now	
FNC	41	205	360	(11:00) Happening Now	America's News Headquarters	Varied Programs	Shepard Smith Reporting	Your World With Neil Cavuto	The Five						
E!	45	114	236	Varied Programs	Sex and the City	Sex and the City	Varied Programs								
TRAVEL	46	196	277	Varied Programs											
HGTV	47	112	229	House Hunters	Hunters Int'l	Varied Programs									

DEAR ABBY

Favorite hairdresser divorces her husband, not his cousin



Abigail Van Buren www.dearabby.com

DEAR ABBY: For 17 years I have been using the same hairstylist, "Marietta," because she does great cuts and color. She's married to my cousin "Gil," but not for long. They're divorcing.

Gil's mother suggested I should find a different stylist, but when I did, I had horrible results. I returned to Marietta and it took her several appointments to correct my color.

Some family members are now furious with me for getting my hair done by someone who is soon to be a relative's ex. I look at it as a business. I like what Marietta does for me. We never discuss the divorce. Family is now demanding an apology, and I don't think I owe one. I haven't been close to any of these people in years.

Must I say I'm sorry to distant family and discontinue Marietta's services? Or should I say nothing and continue my professional relationship with her? My roots are beginning to show again, so please answer quickly. — SNIPPED

DEAR SNIPPED: Tell Gil's mother to stay out of your hair. You tried leaving Marietta; it was a disaster — and you plan on using her until the day you curl up and dye.

DEAR ABBY: I am the mother of three grown children. I have a good marriage, a successful career and a close relationship with my two younger children.

My problem involves my oldest daughter. She has been emotionally unstable and verbally abusive to me since her 20s. I have reached my limit of patience with her. We had a terrible fight three weeks ago, and she hasn't spoken to me since.

Abby, these have been the most peaceful weeks I have had in a long time. Am I a terrible mother? Is there such a thing as separating from a child? I am tired of always being the peacemaker with no effort on her part. What do you suggest? — PEACEMAKER

DEAR PEACEMAKER: Refusing to be abused by an adult child does not make you a terrible parent. I don't know what caused the fight between you and your daughter.

If you caused it, then you owe it to both of you to offer an apology. If she caused it, then put your white flag away and enjoy the respite because sooner or later she'll be back. (Probably when she needs something.) Only she can fix what's wrong with her, but you can reduce your level of stress if you keep your distance.

DEAR ABBY: I was involved in a fatal car accident in 2012. Two of my best friends died. There is a void in my heart. They were 15 and 18. I feel so much pain over the loss of my friends, and it is never going to end or hurt less. Their families hate me, which is to be expected.

I am in prison and feel so depressed. Time here seems to barely move. How do I deal with this pain and my sentence? — IN JAIL AND HURTING

DEAR HURTING: If possible, use your time in prison to complete your education. If there are classes, take them. If there is a library, use it. You can make the walls around you disappear if you lose yourself in the pages of a book. Try it, and you will see that I'm right.

Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

HOROSCOPES

THE LAST WORD Eugenia Word

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Major upset will develop if you make changes without permission or you confront someone regarding a situation that is out of control. Avoid unpredictable people and do your best not to get involved in a dispute. Keep things simple and moderate. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Venture out and you'll discover what your community has to offer. Getting involved in neighborhood projects will lead to new friendships and possibilities. Expand your options by sharing your knowledge and experience, but don't take over someone else's territory. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Self-deception regarding your position, ability or future is apparent. Be prepared to make changes based on past experience. If you don't have a contract or written consent, you are best to be wary of the situation you are in, personally or professionally. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): An unexpected turn of events at home or work will leave you wondering what's next. Trust in your ability and

unique way of doing things and you will find your way through any changes that take place. Aim to stabilize your life. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Problems with authority figures are apparent if you don't abide by the rules. Aim to please and have fun, but know your limitations and stick to what's considered the norm. There will be a fine balance between what's acceptable and what's not. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Step into the spotlight and share what you have to offer. Getting together with friends or family will help you spread some cheer and encouragement for what's to come in the new year. Update your image and look your best. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Get outdoors, to the gym or involved in a physical activity. Keeping busy will help you avoid a situation with someone at home or nearby who is difficult to deal with. Protect your assets, your health and your emo-

tional well-being. ★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Be an observer, not a participant, if you are around a situation that has the potential to spin out of control. Your vision and insight will help you judge wisely and make decisions that are in your best interests. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Do what you can to help others. The gift of joy and encouragement will get both you and your recipient in a good mood with plenty to look forward to in the future. Make last-minute financial changes before it's too late. ★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Go over what's transpired this past year and formulate your strategy for the days ahead. You'll be in a good position to question and prompt others to offer worthwhile opinions and unique options that you may not have considered. ★★★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Focus on your money, your direction and what you can do to up the ante in the new year. A change in position will also bring in greater self-assurance and liquid cash. Collect any money or possessions owed to you. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Spend time with loved ones and make personal and domestic improvements that will help you move into the upcoming year with less stress and greater control over your future. Money, health and legal matters can be dealt with effectively. ★★★★★

CELEBRITY CIPHER

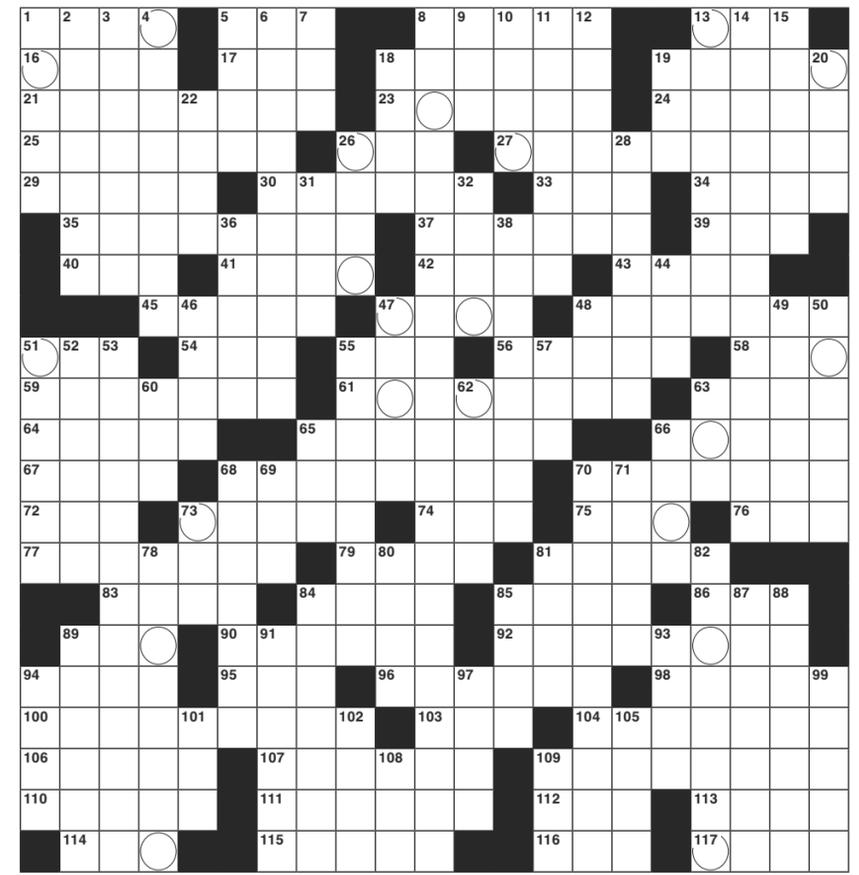
Celebrity Cipher cryptograms created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another. Previous Solution: "Marry an orphan: you'll never have to spend boring holidays with the in-laws." — George Carlin

SUNDAY CROSSWORD

GOOD ONE! By ELIZABETH C. GORSKI / Edited by Will Shortz

Note: When this puzzle is done, draw a line connecting the 21 circled letters from A to U in alphabetical order. The resulting shape will provide a clue to 6-, 8-, 14-, 53- and 70-Down.

- ACROSS 1 Help to harm 5 Part of a pharaoh's headdress 8 Worker with a trowel 13 Much 16 Mideast capital 17 Symbol of mass density 18 Mercurial 19 "The Caine Mutiny" captain 21 Many an early French settler in America 23 More off-putting 24 European capital 25 Special seating area in an airplane 26 Cry from Scrooge 27 With 63-Down, 1997 P.G.A. champ who captained the 2012 U.S. Ryder Cup team 29 Good scores in diving 30 Like many coats and tunes 33 Make calls 34 General chicken 35 Special mall event 37 Bride of 1981 39 Jules or Jim in "Jules et Jim" 40 Amarillo-to-Dallas dir. 41 L.G.B.T. rights advocate 42 Iowa city 43 Done: Fr. 45 Lands 47 Without (dangerously) 48 It may be full of icons 51 Tease, with "on" 54 2-Down, for one 55 Some H.S. math 56 Slanting 58 "Say what?" 59 One more 61 Words that precede "Born is the King ..." 63 House committee chairman Darrell 64 Mexican sauces 65 Ear-related study 66 Hilarious types 67 Strain 68 Reproductive stock 70 New hire, typically 72 Hydrocarbon suffix 73 Target number 74 Fr. holy woman 75 British rule in India 76 [I'm mad!] 77 "Don Quixote" composer 79 Idiosyncrasies 81 Overseas assembly 83 Number-crunching grp. 84 Bach's "_____, Joy of Man's Desiring" 85 Greek earth goddess 86 Robe closer 89 Nuke 90 Chef Lagasse 92 Unseen scenes 94 Taunt 95 One customer 96 Name on a swim cap 98 Funny Anne 100 Giving a boost 103 How- 104 Moneymaker for Money 106 Compact Olds 107 Futuristic weapon 109 Like a rendition of "Deck the Halls" 110 He's no Einstein 111 Boo-boos 112 Thriller writer Follett 113 Rural storage 114 Preserve, in a way 115 China producer 116 Nettle 117 Half of a noodle dish? DOWN 1 Gray 2 Good source of aluminum 3 What cowlings cover 4 Took up the slack in 5 River of Pisa 6 [See blurb] 7 Something it's not good to go to 8 [See blurb] 9 Cousin of "aargh!" 10 Lose traction 11 Mrs. cow 12 Braced (oneself) 13 Give it the gas 14 [See blurb] 15 Expulsion, as of a foreign diplomat 18 Majority owner of Chrysler 19 Play callers, for short 20 Big money units, in slang 22 Lead-in to while 26 cheese 28 Beatles tune from "A Hard Day's Night" 31 Some wings 32 Broad 36 -Coeur (Paris basilica) 38 Unknot 44 Suffix with sentimental 46 Cries of joy 47 Throw for 48 Common game piece 49 Expulsion 50 Futuristic weapon 51 One of 11 pharaohs 52 Bedub 53 [See blurb] 55 Termite's nemesis



- 57 Item in Santa's sack 60 Eastern holiday 62 Ransacks 63 See 27-Across 65 Home of Thunder Bay: Abbr. 66 Rao, "The Serpent and the Rope" novelist 68 Tailors' inserts 69 Sister of Helios 70 [See blurb] 71 Charged 73 In the role of 78 Guest-star in, say 80 Nile deity 81 Mideast ruler 82 Symbolic effort in support of equal rights 84 "Cloud Shepherd" artist 85 Departs 87 Writer Ann 88 Mideast national 89 Self-sealing bag 91 Vintage wedding gown fabrics 93 Mideast ruler 94 Spanish cession in the Spanish-American War 97 Millennia on end 99 Extension 101 Charge carrier 102 Greek diner order 105 Winter sports locale 108 Son of 109 Bit of winter sports equipment

Answers to last Sunday's Crossword.

Grid of crossword answers: CROAT, TOUR, LUAAU, LETHETHE, CELTS, CLUE, TURK, CATER, CSIS, HOUSE, RULE, CTRS, ASPCA, MRI, JUKES, JAUNTIER, EOS, UNICYCLE, ALF, ELIAS, MSNBC, PAL, BIONIC, LEG, TOOK, TAXI, ONEA, AGAIN, RELO, TOPSCORE, ASS, ENDORSED, INLEAF, NASTIER, OHENRY, LEARN, T, ELPRADO, FARINA, DAYS, HERBS, HIDE, F, ODED, ALE, AEIOU, TEATS, ESS, DIVAN, MCRAE, CHIRR, THRICE, THIR, D, HEROES, MAOIST, TRAGEDY, TINMAN, AMOS, IDEAS, NOOSE, DATE, ZEKE, OUNCE, TWYLA, ORBS, EDYS, NOOK, NORM, SKYS

Grid of numbers: 9 7 2 8 3 6 5 1 7, 5 4 6 2 9 1 3 8 7, 3 1 8 4 7 5 9 2 6, 1 8 5 6 2 9 4 7 3, 2 6 4 3 5 7 8 9 1, 7 3 9 1 8 4 6 5 2, 8 2 1 9 4 3 7 6 5, 9 5 3 7 1 8 2 4 9, 4 6 7 5 6 2 1 3 8

Grid of numbers: 8 3, 5 7, 8 1, 5, 5 9 7 3, 9, 1, 6, 4 2, 3, 2 9, 8, 2 6 5 7, 8, 7, 1 6, 4, 5 9, 6

expanding YOSEMITE



COURTESY PHOTOS

Landowners sell 1,600-acre parcel to park

By TRACIE CONE
Associated Press

More than a century ago John Muir argued that Congress should include a wildlife

corridor with stunning vistas of the Merced River in the boundaries of Yosemite National Park. He lost to timber interests.

Now with the old-growth Ponderosa pine and cedar long gone, a California non-profit has made good on the famed environmentalist's vision. Pacific Forest Trust has agreed with a group of private landowners to sell the 1,600-acre parcel to the National Park Service.

The addition of land on the western boundary near El Portal would be the 761,000-acre park's first expansion in more than 70 years.

"It has a magnificent view of the Wild and Scenic Merced River, and it's also a migration corridor for deer," said Laurie Wayburn, president of the forest trust group. "This was always meant to be a part of the park."

The federal government would use money from the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which collects fees from offshore oil drilling fees to acquire sensitive land and easements.

Sen. Dianne Feinstein and Rep. Jim Costa introduced bills this year to modify the boundary of the park that hosts 4 million visitors a year.

"Yosemite's popularity is also its greatest challenge," Feinstein said in a news release.

Besides logging, the land



Passengers board the free shuttle bus at Yosemite National Park at Sentinel Bridge, with Yosemite Falls in the background.



Tourists take photos of Yosemite Falls in Yosemite National Park in California. Beautiful scenery ranging from waterfalls to mountain views is easily accessible to visitors at Yosemite, which is one of the country's most-visited national parks. **ABOVE:** Banner Peak in the Ansel Adams Wilderness in Yosemite National Park in California is shown. Yosemite is one of the most visited parks in the national park system, but a hiking trip to the backcountry can offer access to uncrowded, pristine areas.

'Yosemite's popularity is also its greatest challenge.'

— Sen. Dianne Feinstein

that would be included in the expansion has had pressure from development. It surrounds the Yosemite West subdivision that would not be included in the sale.

Park officials declined to comment on the expansion proposal, citing regulations that keep them from commenting on pending legislation.

But the California State Senate approved a resolution urging the expansion. It also has support from the Board of Supervisors in Mariposa County, where the land is remotely located and deliver-

ing services such as police and fire protection is expensive.

The Pacific Forest Trust bought 900 acres eight years ago from the second owners after the Yosemite Timber Co., which cut its last trees from the property roughly 140 years ago. The family wanted the land protected. The owners of the rest of the property are a consortium of doctors who purchased it as an investment years ago but are willing to sell now.

The trust worked for eight years to thin heavy stands of white fir that are susceptible to fire and to restore meadows whose water they sucked dry. Wayburn said the trust will donate one-third of the value of the land, which will be established through a fair market appraisal.

"We always intended it to go into the park," she said. "Yosemite is a national treasure and the pride of the state."