

Lake City Reporter

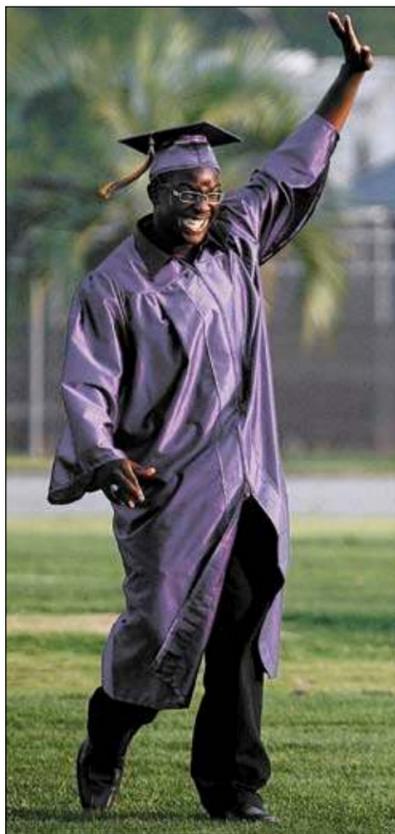
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SUNDAY EDITION

Atlantic storm means a wet holiday here. **3A**



Wellborn readies for 19th annual Blueberry Festival. **1D**



JASON MATTHEW WALKER/Lake City Reporter

Carlton Watson Jr. waves to family members and friends Friday during commencement ceremonies at CHS.

370 get diplomas at CHS

By **Laura Hampson**
lhampson@lakecityreporter.com

As the sun sank behind the stands at Tiger Stadium, the Columbia High School Class of 2012 walked two-by-two toward the sunset of their high school career.

The school held its 123rd commencement ceremony Friday night for about 370 seniors and thousands of their family and friends.

The crowd cheered, whistled and clanked cowbells as students' names were called. Their walk across the stage, situated in front of the north-end goal post, was the product of 13 years of note taking, pop quizzes and homework.

The class had eight students achieve

GRADUATION continued on 7A



JASON MATTHEW WALKER/Lake City Reporter

Columbia High School valedictorian Bryce McCarthy (from left), salutatorian Ryan Thomas, and valedictorians Ashlin Thomas and Jonathan Darby share a laugh during commencement exercises Friday.

MEMORIAL DAY 2012

Heroes' holiday



JASON MATTHEW WALKER/Lake City Reporter

Rachael Maguire, an Operation Enduring Freedom veteran, speaks at the 18th annual 'Catch the Spirit' Memorial Day Ceremony at the Lake City VA Medical Center.

100 attend services at VA hospital

By **Laura Hampson**
lhampson@lakecityreporter.com

American flags rustled in the breeze as community members gathered in the shade of an old oak tree to honor fallen servicemen and women.

The Lake City Veterans Affairs Medical Center held the 18th annual Memorial Day Ceremony Friday morning.

For some Americans Memorial Day is a fun day off, but for others it means more, said keynote speaker Rachael Maguire, to a crowd of about 100.

Maguire, an Operation Enduring Freedom Veteran, served three years of active duty with the Army and one year with the Kentucky National Guard.

War has shaped every generation of Americans, she said.

Maguire recalled the stillness on her base on Sept. 11, 2001 and watching news reports of the terrorist attacks and the beginning of her generation's war.

"Within one hour I would be in full armor gear" patrolling the base, unsure where terrorists would strike next, she said. In the next months she landed in Afghanistan, where she was deployed for six months.

Maguire now spends her free time advocating for veterans' rights and educating the public on the effects of war on servicemen and women.

We need to reflect on our own promise to honor lives lost this Memorial Day and support those struggling with the memories of war, she said. To veterans in the audience, she said "I know you each live with the memories of those lost in battle."

"This Memorial Day I ask of you to take time to remember those who are no longer with us," she said.

Lake City councilman Eugene Jefferson read a proclamation on behalf of Mayor Stephen M. Witt that urged citizens to reflect on the value of freedoms we enjoy as Americans.

Representatives for Sen. Marco Rubio, Sen. Bill Nelson and Rep. Ander Crenshaw

CEREMONY continued on 6A

County resident pioneered use of 3-D photography in Vietnam

Fort White man subject of cable TV show.

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

FORT WHITE — Joel Glenn grew up on a southern Columbia County farm with an interest in photography.

His love of photography never wavered, even after he joined the military and became a helicopter pilot in Vietnam.

During his two tours of action in the Vietnam War, Glenn began taking 3-D photos. Glenn was not a combat photographer, but took a lot of photographs in his down time while on active duty. Glenn often took 3-D photographs and it is believed that he had one of the largest, if not only collections, of 3-D photos from the Vietnam War.

Glenn's 3-D slides of the Vietnam War is one of the reasons he's featured on an upcoming documentary.

The show, Sky Soldier: The Vietnam War in 3-D, will air on 3net, a 3-D channel, at 9 p.m. Monday night.

It is described as a one-of-a-kind documentary that takes viewers on a first person journey of the Vietnam War through a rare collection of 3-D photos and audio recordings.

The original one-hour special, narrated by Bill Paxton, recounts the personal wartime journey of Maj. Joel Glenn, a Silver Star-decorated soldier who leaves his young wife and family and plunges headlong into service as an Army helicopter at the start of U.S. combat involvement in 1965.

"He took three-dimensional pictures of the Vietnam War and we are pretty certain they are the only 3-D pictures of the Vietnam War in existence," said Judy Glenn, who was married to Joel Glenn for 45 years, until his death in 2007.

Glenn's 3-D photos will



COURTESY

U.S. Army Major Joel Glenn takes a break at an unknown location in South Vietnam during one of his two tours of duty there in the mid-1960s.



JASON MATTHEW WALKER/Lake City Reporter

Fort White resident Judy Glenn displays a Stereo Realist camera that her husband, Joel, used while flying as a helicopter pilot in Vietnam. He often took three-dimensional photographs to show her how it looked while he was flying. Glenn is thought to have shot the only known 3-D photographs ever taken during the Vietnam War.

be topic of the Memorial Day documentary.

"These photos represent an introduction to stereo photography during a time of personal discovery," Joel Glenn wrote in the forward of his book, which was published in 1985. "The thrill of flying, a strange country and the turmoil induced first the purchase of a 35mm SLR camera. The results were quite satisfying except for aerial views. An extraordinary sense of depth and space in a mix of sky, clouds, mountains, machines and jungle was missing. The next step was the purchase of a stereo camera and the resulting experimentation."

Judy Glenn said Joel was a photographer from about the time he was 10 years old when he had a small box camera and he gradu-

3D continued on 6A

Still no Catalyst rail spur

By **HANNAH O. BROWN**
hbrown@lakecityreporter.com

Plum Creek, the largest private landowner in the nation and owner of the Columbia County Catalyst Site, has been working for years to construct a railroad spur at the site, in hopes of enticing industry dependent on rail to build there.

However, the U.S. Forest Service has rejected every request for the 6.1 acre easement needed to lay the track. The Catalyst Site is in the Osceola National Forest, which USFS manages.

At a local Chamber of Commerce function Wednesday, a Plum Creek representative said progress is at a standstill.

"The Plum Creek plan is that anybody and everybody that wants to try and fight for the rail, have at it," Plum Creek real estate manager Allison Megrath told guests at a Better Business series luncheon.

The Columbia County RACEC, or Rural Area of Critical Economic Concern, Catalyst Site is a

CATALYST continued on 7A



TONY BRITT/Lake City Reporter

Saturday housefire

Firefighters battle a housefire on Colburn Avenue Saturday night shortly after 10 p.m. Authorities on the scene said the house was abandoned. No other details were available at press time.



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TODAY IN PEOPLE
Gary Sinise
at it again.

COMING TUESDAY
Local news
roundup.



Friday:
8-23-25-26 15



Friday:
5-8-11-16-34



Saturday:
Afternoon: 7-0-6
Evening: N/A-



Saturday:
Afternoon: 5-6-8-3
Evening: N/A



Saturday:
N/A



Saturday:
xx-xx-xx-xx-xx-xx

AROUND FLORIDA

Wildfire blows heavy smoke near Disney World

ORLANDO— A wildfire that is burning in Orlando blew heavy smoke near the busy hotel and attractions district of Walt Disney world at the start of the busy Memorial Day weekend.

The smoke also closed a section of Orlando's main highway in the city's tourist district for a couple hours Friday.

A section of Interstate 4 was closed in both directions because the billowing smoke cut down visibility.

No injuries or damage to buildings were reported. By nightfall, the smoke had died down but the fire is still burning.

Fla. woman charged with using stun gun on couple

MARGATE — A 34-year-old South Florida woman has been charged with battery after police say she repeatedly shocked the father of her child and his lover after catching the two in bed together.

Eva Hartman went to Alvin Hennis' house Wednesday and found him in bed with another woman. She allegedly shocked Hennis on the arm with a stun gun from her key chain.

The other woman fled the house through a window, but according to a Margate Police report, Hartman chased the woman and stunned her on the neck and arm.

The Sun Sentinel reports Hennis told a judge the incident was his fault and praised Hartman as a good mother and hard worker. The couple has a 3-year-old daughter.

Hartman was released from jail Thursday. A telephone listing could not be found.

High school football coach killed in crash

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — An Alabama high school football coach and his 10-year-old son were killed in a central



COURTESY

Golf charity

The Foundation for Florida Gateway College, including its Take Stock and Children program, and Catholic Charities Lake City Regional Office each received \$32,063.48 in proceeds from the S&S Food Stores 12th Annual Charity Golf Tournament. Checks were presented to the two organizations on Friday. Pictured are Mike Lee (from left), the Foundation for Florida Gateway College executive director; Anne and Lester Scaff, S&S Food Stores owners; Keith Brown, S&S Food Stores vice president of marketing; Suzanne Edwards, Catholic Charities chief operating officer; and Harold Mann S&S Food Stores chief operating office. The Lester and Anne Scaff Foundation has raised more than \$667,000 for various charities in the communities over the 12 years with the golf tournament.

Florida crash Thursday morning, police said.

The Florida Highway Patrol reports that 38-year-old Stacy Watters pulled out in front of a box truck and the truck crashed into his car.

Watters and his son Quentin died at the scene and his 9-year-old son Jai suffered critical injuries in the collision. He was taken to an Orlando hospital, followed by family members that had been riding in another vehicle. The family had just returned from a cruise. The truck's driver

wasn't injured.

Watters coached at Carroll High School in Ozark, Ala., where he was hired as a physical education teacher last spring.

At the school, Watters' players remembered him as an inspiration and planned to wear their jerseys under their graduation gowns Thursday night.

"He pushed for me to be on scholarship now at Grambling. He said never back down and never finish second," defensive tackle CJ Stapleton told the Dothan Eagle.

Facility workers fired over pregnant patient

TALLAHASSEE— Officials say two people have been fired and a third person has resigned after a patient at a Panhandle mental-health facility gave birth to a baby that is now on life support.

David Wilkins, secretary of the Florida Department of Children and Families, said Thursday that the woman was admitted to Florida State Hospital in October and soon began expressing concerns about her pregnancy. She repeated the concerns in December, when she was taken to a Tallahassee hospital, where she gave birth to a boy.

A multi-agency investigation found that the mother's care did not meet DCF's standards. Wilkins wouldn't say whether the baby's condition was directly caused by the actions of the employees.

Environmentalists serve notice on paper mill

TALLAHASSEE — Two environmental groups and a pair of citizens want Gov. Rick Scott and the Florida Cabinet to block a Palatka paper mill's plan for a pipeline to discharge wastewater into the St. Johns River.

They said they served notice Wednesday on the officials, who serve as trustees for state lands and waters. They'll ask the Florida Supreme Court to step in if the matter can't be resolved within 15 days.

The Florida Clean Water Network, Environmental Youth Council of St. Augustine and two individuals from Duval and Putnam counties want the justices to order the trustees to review the project and require "equitable compensation" from the Georgia mill if it is allowed to go forward.

Scott chairs the trustees. His office had no immediate comment Thursday.

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

'Gump' actor to raise money for vet

RICHMOND, Va. — Actor Gary Sinise is keeping a promise to help raise money for a southwest Virginia Marine who lost his limbs in Afghanistan.

The star who played disabled Vietnam War veteran Lt. Dan in "Forrest Gump" is set to perform with his band named after the fictional character in Martinsville on Thursday. He canceled the fundraiser in March after suffering injuries in a car accident.

Sinise's foundation is helping build a specially equipped home for 22-year-old Patrick County Marine Cpl. J.B. Kerns. Kerns lost his right arm below the elbow and both his legs below the knees in an explosion in Afghanistan.

The 57-year-old actor says he's been involved in supporting the military for years but became more active after 9/11.

Bogart's son to help farm where parents wed

LUCAS, Ohio — The oldest child of actors Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall is helping to raise money to renovate part of the Ohio farm where the pair married in 1945.

The News Journal in Mansfield reports Stephen Bogart will make his first visit to nearby Malabar Farm from June 1-3. The meet-and-greets and special meals are part of a fund-raising campaign to help renovate the mansion on the property.

Malabar Farm administrative director Sybil Burksey says water and flooring problems have left the home in desperate need of repairs. The farm founded by celebrity author Louis Bromfield in 1939 is now part of a state park.

Bogart says his mother, who turns 88 this year, is happy he's making the trip to see where his parents' marriage began.

Country's George Jones released from hospital

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Country music star George Jones has been released from the hospital.

In a news release from Jones' publicist on Saturday, Jones says he is improving, and "I look forward to seeing everyone soon."

Jones, regarded as the greatest voice in country music history, was hospitalized for the second time this year on Monday in Nashville, Tenn., with an upper respiratory infection. The 80-year-old spent a week in the hospital in March as well.

The "White Lightning" singer has canceled his live performances through the month of June and will reschedule shows where possible.

Jones says in the news release he's got a new team of doctors treating him, "and it seems to be working."

NC musician Doc Watson still in critical condition

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — Grammy-winning folk musician Doc Watson remains in critical condition at a North Carolina hospital after undergoing colon surgery this week.

A spokeswoman at Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem says Watson remained in critical condition Saturday.

The 89-year-old Watson's daughter, Nancy, says the musician fell Monday.

The blind singer and guitarist has won several Grammys, including a lifetime achievement award. He also received the National Medal of the Arts.

Watson is known as a master of the flatpicking style of guitar playing. He also started Merlefest, an annual gathering of musicians in Wilkesboro named after his son, who died in a tractor accident in 1985.

Court orders woman to stay away from Goldblum

LOS ANGELES — A judge on Friday granted Jeff Goldblum a temporary restraining order against a woman who has been repeatedly ordered to stay away from the actor in recent years.

Goldblum's attorneys obtained the order against Linda Ransom, 49, after she repeatedly went to the actor's home three times this month. A previous stay-away order against Ransom from 2007 has expired and police claim she has told them that she will not stop trying to meet Goldblum unless a restraining order is in place.

The filings state Ransom has been arrested three times for violating previous restraining orders. Goldblum first alerted authorities to her in 2001 after she attended one of his acting classes and then started waiting outside his home.

"Over the past decade, I have experienced substantial emotional distress due to Ms. Ransom's continuous stalking, harassing, and threatening behavior," Goldblum wrote in a sworn court declaration.

Ransom did not immediately return a phone message seeking comment.

A judge will consider whether to grant Goldblum, who has starred in films as "The Fly," "Jurassic Park" and "Independence Day," a three-year restraining order during a hearing on June 12.

Britney Spears debuts on 'X Factor' show

AUSTIN, Texas — Britney Spears has been on the job just two days and she's already proving to be a popular judge on "The X Factor."

The pop queen is also growing into her role as critic on the Fox singing contest show.

"The X Factor" staged its first auditions for the upcoming season Thursday and Friday in Austin, Texas, and judging by the boisterous cheers and the "I love you Britney!" calls from the crowd, the Grammy-winning singer is already a hit in her new role.

She's also showing she's not afraid to vote against contestants or disagree occasionally with show creator Simon Cowell and fellow judges Demi Lovato and L.A. Reid.

Celebrity Birthdays

- Actor Christopher Lee is 90.
- Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger is 89.
- Actor Louis Gossett Jr. is 76.
- Actor Michael McKnight is 54.
- Rocker Neil Finn is 54.
- Comedian Adam Carolla is 48.
- Actress Traci Lords is 45.
- Jockey Chin Yang is 45.
- Baseball player Jeff Bagwell is 44.
- Football player Antonio Freeman is 40.
- Football player Danny Wuerffel is 38.

Daily Scripture

"For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him."

- John 3:17 NIV

Lake City Reporter

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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.

Folk Festival heats up for thousands

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

WHITE SPRINGS — The uniqueness of the Sunshine State was the scheduled attraction at this year's Florida Folk Festival. But the heat and humidity might have stolen the show.

Thousands endured the high temps — and a heat index of 106 — to take in the smells of carnival food, the sounds of folk music, and the colorful sights of people making their own art at this year's festival, the 60th annual event held at the Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park.

"We promoting the folklife of Florida and all the different cultures and heritage that makes Florida such a wonderful state," said Andrea Thomas, park services specialist and media specialist at the park. "They're all coming together here and with those cultures we're spotlighting the inland counties of the western panhandle. We've got everything from square dancing to whip making and shoe shining."

Today's Florida Folk Festival will start around 8 a.m. when the gates open. Activities are slated to begin around 10 a.m.

"I think the 60th Annual Florida Folk Festival is going to be remembered for not only bringing Arlo Guthrie back to perform as well as all of our other Florida favorites back," Thomas said. "Because it is the 60th Anniversary, we are spotlighting the fact that we've been around for 60 years and we're just gearing up for another 60 years."

Lucinda Maynard, of White Springs, was preparing to perform with the Makley Family, which is composed of members of her immediate family. The group yodels, sometimes in five-part harmony.

Maynard's family members came from different parts of the state to take part in the performance and two members of the group even traveled from New Jersey to sing with the group for the first time in five years.

"Some of us have been performing here for 40 years," she said. "It's awesome to perform at the 60th Annual Florida Folk Festival. We wouldn't have missed it," Maynard said.



TONY BRITT/Lake City Reporter

Keith Hope and the Charlie Creek Band perform on the Under the Oaks stage Saturday during the 60th Annual Florida Folk Festival.



TONY BRITT/Lake City Reporter

Michael Croft and Trish Peterson listen to Randy Thorpe as he gives instructions on how to perform an English Country Dance during a dance workshop at the Florida Folk Festival Saturday.

Tuesday's paper may be delayed

From staff reports

The Tuesday edition of the *Lake City Reporter* may be delivered early, at its regular time or late, depending on the track and local impact of sub-tropical storm Beryl.

For more information about the delivery schedule for Tuesday's newspaper please check www.lakecityreporter.com on Monday.

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Rainy Memorial Day for Lake City

By **RUSS BYNUM**
Associated Press

SAVANNAH, Ga. — A cluster of thunderstorms that stalled off the southeastern U.S. coast on Saturday is expected to make for a sloppy, rainy Memorial Day on beaches and in tourist towns from Florida to South Carolina.

Tropical storm warnings were in effect for the entire Georgia coastline, as well as parts of Florida and South Carolina.

Locally, the forecast calls for an 80 percent chance of rain Sunday night and Monday, and a 70 percent chance Monday night.

Beryl was technically still considered a "subtropical storm," but the system is expected to bring winds and rain to the area regardless of its official classification.

Tropical storm conditions — meaning maximum sustained winds of 45 mph (72 kph) — could reach the coast as early as Saturday night. Some coastal flooding is forecast, as the rain could cause high tides.

Late Saturday afternoon, Beryl was centered about 220 miles (354 kilometers) east-southeast of Charleston, S.C. It was moving south-

west at 6 mph.

The southeastern coast is popular with tourists who visit the beaches and wilderness areas.

"A three-day thunderstorm is what it's probably going to be," said Jay Wiggins, emergency management director for Glynn County, which is about 60 miles south of Savannah and includes Brunswick and St. Simons Island. "Unfortunately, it's going to ruin a lot of Memorial Day plans."

Wiggins said he expects some flooded roadways and scattered power outages, perhaps some minor flooding in waterfront homes, but otherwise little damage. However, he urged beachgoers to beware of dangerous rip currents.

On Tybee Island, home to Georgia's largest public beach east of Savannah, employees at Amy Gaster's home and condo rental business were making sure arriving guests were aware of the approaching storm. Gaster said her 180 rentals were sold out and nobody was canceling plans or asking to check out early.

"Mostly I think people are just curious," said Gaster, adding that guests were

being urged to bring in patio furniture if the winds kick up and prepare to hunker down for movies and home cooking Monday. "We're just saying. Take advantage of today as your beach day and get it while you can."

On Cumberland Island, a federally protected wilderness area beloved by hikers and campers, superintendent Fred Boyles said he planned to wait until Sunday to decide if campers need to evacuate before the storm arrives. Boyles said he had about 100 campers planning to stay overnight Sunday, and the only way to leave Cumberland Island is by ferry.

While Georgia hasn't taken a direct hit from a major hurricane in 114 years, the last time a tropical storm made landfall here was in August 1988. Tropical Storm Chris hit near Savannah but did little damage as it pushed northward into South Carolina.

In South Carolina, Beaufort County Emergency Management deputy director David Zeoli (zee-oli) said that at midday Saturday word went out to first-responders along the coast near the Georgia line to pay attention to the storm's

progress. Officials haven't been ordered to work on an otherwise lovely day for the beach, but have been told to stay near a phone, Zeoli said.

Columbia County Tobacco Free Partnership

The Columbia County Tobacco-Free Partnership is a diverse community partnership which fosters collaborative initiatives to develop and promote policies that reduce the use and effects of tobacco.



Event: Columbia County Tobacco Free Partnership Meeting
Date: Tuesday, June 12, 2012
Location: Central School Board Office Room 153
372 West Duval Street
Lake City, FL 32055
Time: 1:00pm – 2:00pm

All partnership meetings are open to the public. For more information on how to make a difference in your community through your local Tobacco Free Partnership, please contact:

Lauren Pinchouck
Columbia County Health Department
(386) 758-1193 or Lauren_Pinchouck@doh.state.fl.us

Lake City woman arrested after near miss at Eastside

From staff reports

A Lake City woman was arrested Friday for driving under the influence of drugs after she nearly struck several children and teachers at Eastside Elementary School, according to Florida Highway Patrol reports.

Phyllis W. James, 47, of Lake City, was arrested and charged with two counts of careless driving and two counts of DUI.

The incident occurred 2:20 p.m. Friday at Eastside Elementary School at the intersection of Llewellyn and Baya Avenue.

Reports said James, driving a 1995 Toyota 4-door with 10-year-old Makayla James as her passenger, turned into Eastside Elementary School around 2:20 p.m. and struck the front gate as she was pulling into the student pickup area where children were

present during the dismissal of school.

James then traveled up the curb of the sidewalk with the right side tires, "very close to where students and faculty were standing," according to FHP.

James left school grounds and drove south on Southeast Llewellyn Avenue where several vehicles were stopped at the intersection of SE Baya Avenue. James failed to stop, striking a 1993 Ford pickup truck driven by John C. Puttere, 38, of Lake City, who was traveling with Kaitlynn and Dylan Puttere as his passengers, said FHP. James' vehicle struck the pickup's rear bumper.

FHP troopers Shelia Walker and Sgt. Tracy Hisler-Pace responded to the investigate both crashes. It was determined that James was under the influence of drugs at the

time and she was arrested, according to FHP.

No one was injured in either crash, reports said.



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OUR
OPINION

One moment, please

It won't take a minute this Memorial Day to pay your respects to the men and women who gave their lives so that we might enjoy the simple pleasures of a three-day weekend, among the other joys, great and small, of living in the nation most blessed with freedom among them all.

The moment you're looking for comes at 3 p.m. local time. It's called the National Moment of Remembrance, and all you need do is pause briefly to reflect on their sacrifice, and observe, in the words of a December 2000 congressional resolution, "a moment of remembrance and respect."

This observance is not meant to take the place of traditional Memorial Day services, but rather to give those working that day, or otherwise unable to pay their formal respects, the chance to offer a heartfelt thanks.

It's the least – the very least – we can do.

HIGHLIGHTS
IN HISTORY

Today is Sunday, May 27, the 148th day of 2012. There are 218 days left in the year.

On this date:

In 1861, Chief Justice Roger Taney, sitting as a federal circuit court judge in Baltimore, ruled that President Abraham Lincoln lacked the authority to suspend the writ of habeas corpus. (Lincoln disregarded the ruling.)

In 1929, Charles A. Lindbergh Jr. married Anne Morrow in Englewood, N.J.

In 1937, the newly completed Golden Gate Bridge connecting San Francisco and Marin County, Calif., was opened to pedestrian traffic (vehicular traffic began crossing the bridge the next day).

■ Associated Press

Lake City Reporter

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BY FAX: (386) 752-9400.

BY E-MAIL: news@lakecityreporter.com



ANOTHER
VIEW

Obama is not 'fiscally moderate'

President Obama claims federal budget deficits have not soared out of control during his administration. He has officially jumped the shark.

On Wednesday at a Denver fundraiser, Mr. Obama said he was "running to pay down our debt in a way that's balanced and responsible." He claimed that "after inheriting a \$1 trillion deficit, I signed \$2 trillion of spending cuts into law" and that since he has been president, "federal spending has risen at the lowest pace in nearly 60 years. Think about that." It doesn't take much thought to see that this is the most absurd claim in political memory.

Mr. Obama is basing his boast on an already discredited study by journalist Rex Nutting that purported to show that "Obama has been the most fiscally moderate president we've had in 60 years." Among other fatal problems with the study is that it omits all spending that took place during the first nine months of the Obama administration, which were the last nine months of fiscal 2009. Thus, all of the initial spending programs to which the White House points with pride - particularly the failed nearly trillion-dollar economic stimulus program - are George W. Bush's responsibility so far as Mr. Nutting is concerned.

The "savings" Mr. Obama signed into law were all based on rosy economic projections, none of which has come true. The fiscal 2010 budget, fancifully titled "A New Era of Responsibility," projected a \$1.2 trillion cut in the deficit to \$533 billion by 2013. The fiscal 2012 budget, which had no hopeful title, raised this number to \$768 billion. Mr. Obama's September 2011 deficit-reduction proposal further raised the projected 2013 deficit to \$912 billion. The fiscal 2010 budget also hopefully projected 6.26 percent economic growth for 2012 rather than the anemic 1 percent to 2 percent growth the country is suffering. Naturally, Mr. Obama would much rather make reference to the imagined future his economists projected than to the grim reality he actually created.

Other simple metrics show the disastrous impact of Mr. Obama on the deficit. The 2009 budget deficit was three times that of 2008. The deficit as a percentage of gross domestic product went from 3.1 percent in 2008 to 9.9 percent in 2009. The deficit for the first month of fiscal 2010 was \$176 billion, which was greater than the \$161 billion deficit for all of 2007. In his first 986 days in office, up to Oct. 3, 2011, Mr. Obama oversaw a \$4.2 trillion increase in the national debt, which was more than the debt accrued by all presidents from George Washington to George H.W. Bush combined.

The federal budget deficit is the second-most-important issue in the election after jobs, on which Mr. Obama's record is equally dismal. The White House has never submitted a proposal that has come close to balancing the federal budget, even with 10-year projections to work with. The flawed economic assumptions used to sell Mr. Obama's programs were a bait-and-switch that left America mired in unsustainable levels of debt. It's incredible that Mr. Obama believes he can get away with such a big lie. He seems simply to have lost his grip on reality.

■ The Washington Times

Down to sea in tall ships

I was doing some work on my sailboat earlier this week when a guy who was doing some fiberglass work pointed toward the Amelia River and said, "Hey, check out the barquentine."

I looked up just in time to catch a glimpse of a magnificent tall ship drifting by, and then it was hidden from view. I hopped in my car and caught up with her as she was nearing her port of call at Fernandina Harbor Marina.

The sailor in my blood didn't want to miss a moment of her arrival. I ventured down on the pier and got as close as I dared without getting in the way while docking preparations were made. Soon, deck hands aboard the tall ship were tossing lines to crew on the dock and within a few efficient minutes, she was made fast.

There are sailboats and there are sailboats and then there's Peacemaker, a stately, three-masted tall ship out of Georgia. There are other large, impressive sailboats and motor yachts at the marina but Peacemaker dwarfs them all, towering a hundred feet over the harbor and making the other vessels around her look like humble servants of the king.

Azurah Clinton, the wife of Peacemaker's captain, was also at dockside awaiting the ship's arrival and I struck up a conversation with her, quickly learning that as soon as the Coast Guard did its inspection and everything was in official order, Peacemaker would be open for free tours to the public. If she had told me they'd be giving away hundred dollar bills, I wouldn't have been more excited. Azurah told me the tours would begin Tuesday. I had some business to attend in Jacksonville on Tuesday and all I could think about was getting

CUP OF JOE



Joe Palmer
treysurf@comcast.net

home and getting a tour of that ship.

I found Azurah reading and drinking a glass of water in the main salon when I arrived. We chatted for a few minutes and she filled me in with a bit of history. Peacemaker was built on a riverbank in Brazil by an Italian family of boat builders using traditional methods and ironwood. The owner is said to have purchased a forest of ironwood trees so he could hand select those he wanted, in some cases, using only one side of the tree for the wood's density. The keel was laid down in 1986 and, in 1989, Frank Walker, the boat's designer and owner christened her Avany in honor of his wife, launched it and motored the brand new ship to Savannah, Georgia, where he intended to rig her as a three-masted stay sail Marconi rigged schooner. The long range plan was to use her for charters.

But for some reason, the work never got done and there this grand dame sat until she was bought by the faith community known as The Twelve

Tribes of Israel. The Twelve Tribes cleaned her up and outfitted her as the barquentine Peacemaker she is today. The religious group, which grew out of the Jesus movement in the early 1970s, uses the vessel as an apprenticeship program for its youth in seamanship, navigation, sailing and boat maintenance.

Peacemaker also has a Coast Guard attraction vessel permit and is available for festivals and dockside events. She makes regular along the eastern seaboard and into the Gulf of Mexico.

Peacemaker is 150 feet long and displaces 400 tons. She's 33-feet abeam and has a draft of 14 feet. Carrying 10,000 feet of sail, her hull speed is 14 knots. Crewmembers tell me they once had her up to 11 knots in a twenty to twenty five knot wind.

The interior of the vessel is appointed from stem to stern in rich mahogany.

The Captain, Larry Clinton, who goes by the biblical name, Anak, told me that coming through the Gulf of Mexico on a trip, they ran into a microburst storm. Although the ship wasn't completely "knocked down," as sailors say, she took a fifty degree list to port and had seawater sloshing the rails. Needless to say, the crew must be pretty impervious to seasickness.

Like his wife, Anak is a merry character and happily gave me a blue plate special tour of the ship. Our tour ended back in the salon, where Azura bought me a freshly made cup of iced herbal tea. I bought a ship's mug for my wife.

Peacemaker will be here until Tuesday and is open for tours from 9:00 a.m. till 6:00 p.m.

I'll be taking another tour.

■ Joe Palmer is a columnist living in Fernandina Beach.

A kinder, gentler, more efficient TSA

I'd like to say we can guarantee 100 percent security and 100 percent customer satisfaction and it's just not realistic," John Pistole told The Wall Street Journal.

Pistole is the administrator of the Transportation Security Administration, and the customer satisfaction with his agency, according to a recent poll, is 38 percent, although some airline travelers may think that is on the high side.

The negative perception is 43 percent with respondents, according to The Wall Street Journal, mentioning a perception of "TSA incompetence and overstepping its authority." Anybody who flies regularly has seen both.

When challenged, the screeners fall back on the repetitive invocation of "rules and procedures," as if that excuses or



Dale McFeatters
mcfeattersd@shns.com

explains anything. After 10 years of this, the TSA should be building up a level of professionalism that gives screeners and their supervisors some discretion.

The TSA is going to streamline screening for people over 75 and children under 12. While this is overdue, it may also be too late. The newest entrant in the terrorist field, al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula, is determined to bring down a U.S.-flagged aircraft. It has tried twice, through underwear and

printer cartridges packed with explosives.

Unfortunately for the TSA, AQAP would have no scruples about using elderly women or young children to bring down an aircraft. The TSA faces that conundrum of terrorism: The screeners have to succeed every time, the terrorists only once.

Pistole should also stress friendliness and good humor. It doesn't always seem like it, but we are on the same side in this fight. After 9/11, there was a faint sense that all this might be only temporary, but now we know this security is never going to go away. We can only hope it gets better.

And, TSA people, it wouldn't kill you to smile once in a while.

■ Dale McFeatters is editorial writer for Scripps Howard News Service.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

■ Submit Community Calendar announcements by mail or drop off at the Reporter office located at 180 E. Duval St., via fax to (386) 752-9400 or e-mail lhampson@lakecityreporter.com.

May 28

Aglow Lighthouse meets

The Lake City Aglow Lighthouse will meet May 28 at 7 p.m. with information on modern day slavery. Human trafficking now has become the most profitable illegal industry in the world. Ryan Brackett, representing the Florida Abolitionist Organization in Orlando, will inform this community of this evil currently present in our beautiful state and learn what we can do to fight this horrible tragedy in our own backyard. The meeting will be held at the Christ Community Church, 159 SW Spencer Court in Lake City. For more information call 386-935-4018.

May 31

Education seminar

Learn how to apply, recertify and make changes to your Food Assistance, Medicaid and Cash Assistance using your My ACCESS account during the ACCESS Education Seminar Thursday 11 a.m. May 31 at the DCF Lake City Service Center, 1389 West US Highway 90.

June 1

Blueberry festival

The 19th Annual Wellborn Blueberry Festival is June 1 and 2. Admission is free! Both Friday and Saturday feature arts & crafts, food vendors, the Country Store selling blueberry pies, cobbler, muffins and more, live entertainment by the Willow Creek Band, and fresh blueberries and blueberry plants available for purchase. On Friday, the hours are from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m., and the Blueberry Bake-off, Tasting Party and Children's Talent Contest are Friday's special events. The Lake City Reporter's Taste Buddies, Genie Norman and Mary Kay Hollingsworth, will be judging the Bake-Off! Saturday, the festival opens at 7 a.m., and features the Blueberry Pancake Breakfast, the "Think Green" Parade, and the Adults' Talent Contest. The winners of the Bake-Off, Parade and Talent Contests are awarded cash prizes. This event is hosted by the Wellborn Community Association, a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation. For more info call 386-963-1157.

June 2

Leadership class

Free Leadership Seminar June 2 at 3 p.m. at Richardson Community Center, 255 NE Coast Anders Lane. For more information call Pearlita Mitchell 386-752-0110.

Charity golf tournament

North Florida Blaze 11U Youth Baseball Team will have the 2nd Annual Golf Tournament at Quail Heights Country Club on Saturday, June 2. Shotgun start at 8 a.m. 18 hole scramble, 4-person teams, lunch provided, mulligan sales, door prizes, prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place teams, entry fee \$200 per team, hole sponsorships available \$100. Contact Tim Williamson at 386-234-0423 for further information. Proceeds will be utilized for the 2012 AAU National Championship Baseball Tournament.

Baseball team raffle

The North Florida Blaze 11U Youth Baseball Team is raffling a Youth Model 20 Gauge Mossberg Shotgun (pump action) valued at \$260. Tickets \$10 each. Also available is a \$100 Fuel Card donated by Busy Bee, tickets \$5 each. Drawing will be held on Saturday, June 2 at the 2nd Annual Golf Tournament at Quail Heights. You do not have to be present to win. Tick-



COURTESY PHOTO

Big donation

Daniel Pubill, 17, a junior at Lake City's Covenant Community School donated more than one thousand needed items to the Robert H. Jenkins, Jr. Veterans' Domiciliary Home of Florida as part of a community service project for a class. Pubill spent time with the residents at the domiciliary and gathered a list of items residents needed. He then spent several weeks in front of stores with a display featuring residents and their stories to collect donations from the community. Churches and fellow students also donated to his drive. Pictured at the domiciliary are Ed DaSilva, (left to right) counselor; Pubill; Lilliam Pubill, Daniel's mother; Diana Braden, activities director; Amelia Tompkins, administrator; and Virgil Pubill, Daniel's father who is currently serving in the United States Air Force.

ets are available by calling 234-0423. Proceeds will be utilized for the 2012 AAU National Championship Baseball Tournament.

Early Alzheimer's class

The Alzheimer's Association in partnership with Columbia County Senior Services will be presenting a workshop June 2 from 9 a.m. to noon entitled Living with Alzheimer's for Caregivers at the Lifestyle Enrichment Center in Lake City. This program is designed for caregivers of persons with early stage Alzheimer's disease or some other memory disorder. Anyone who wishes to learn more about Alzheimer's disease and caregiving strategies is welcome. Topics covered will include: the nature of dementia, coping strategies, community resources, financial/legal planning, and safety issues. To register for this workshop or for more information, please contact the Alzheimer's Association at (800) 272-3900.

Book and bake

The Wellborn community library is having a huge book and bake sale 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. June 2 at the Wellborn United Methodist Church, 12005 CR 137. The event is being held in conjunction with the annual Wellborn Blueberry Festival, located just down the road from the church. There will be thousands of books available for sale by donation during the sale. At the same time as the book sale, there will be a bake sale with all kinds of goodies available at low prices. Coffee will also be available for browsers. Both hardcover and softcover books will be available, mostly all gently used and ready for new homes! And since all books are available by donation, you set the price! Books have been collected for months in preparation for this popular sale, which is held twice a year in the spring and fall. It's still not too late to donate books for the sale. For pickup, contact Rev. Dr. Everett L. Parker at 386-754-8524. Proceeds from the book and bake sale will benefit the library and the Wellborn United Methodist Church and its outreach programs. Come visit the book sale and then the blueberry festival.

Breakfast with the chief

Join Chief Argatha Gilmore for a complimentary breakfast, informative discussion and community foun on neighborhood issues Saturday, June 2 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Challenge Learning Center, 1301 NW Labonte Lane. For more information call 719-5742.

p.m. The Art Show will be held at the West Branch of the Columbia County Public Library June 5 through August 3. It is sponsored by The Friends of The Library and the Art League Of North Florida. The judges for the event will be community leaders. The reception will be on Tuesday June 5 from 5:30 until 7 p.m.

June 6

Wire craft class

Stephen Foster Folk Culture Center State Park will host a beginning wire craft class presented by demonstrator Sue Rowand on Wednesday, June 6 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Participants will learn the basic techniques of crafting a bangle bracelet using precious metal wire. Included in the workshop are: the instructions, use of all tools required to complete the project and all materials needed. The cost will be \$30. For more information on the workshop or to register, please call the park Gift Shop at (386) 397-1920.

Builders meeting

Columbia County Builders' Association is looking forward to their June 6 lunch at Guang Dong when Allison Megrath, Real Estate Manager for Florida of Plum Creek will speak. Arrive about 11:30 a.m. Enjoy the buffet and meeting, which starts at noon. CCBA members \$12 and non-CCBA members \$15. To RSVP call 867-1998.

Friendship luncheon

The June Friendship Luncheon of the Lake City Newcomers and Friends will be at Texas Roadhouse, 3039 Hwy 90, Wednesday, June 6 at 11:30 a.m. All members, guests and friends are welcome. For more information call 755-2175.

June 7

Diabetes detection class

Do you know the signs and effects of Diabetes? The UF/IFAS Columbia County Extension is offering a Diabetes Detection class Thursday, June 7 at 5:30 p.m. The class is \$2 per person and limited to 20 people. Registration deadline is May 30. Class will be held at the Columbia County Extension Office, SW Mary Ethel Lane at the Columbia County Fairgrounds. To register or for more information please contact Jenny Jump at the Extension Office at (386)752-5384.

Education seminar

Learn how to apply, recertify and make changes to your Food Assistance, Medicaid and Cash Assistance using your My ACCESS account during the ACCESS Education Seminar Thursday 3 p.m. June 7 at the DCF Lake City Service Center, 1389 West US Highway 90.

June 9

Filipino dinner and dance

The Filipino American Cultural Society of Lake City will have a Filipino Independence Day Dinner and Dance Saturday, June 9 from 6 to 10 p.m. at the Epiphany Catholic Church social hall in Lake City. All FACS members and guests please plan to attend this special night of fellowship, entertainment, music, dancing and cultural food. Please bring a covered dish. Free to members. Cover charge is \$10 for nonmembers. For information call 386-965-5905.

Flower arranging class

Bruce Cavey of The Gardener's Emporium will present a hands-on, instructional program on flower arranging June 9 at 1 p.m.

at the Fort White Branch Library. This free program is sponsored by the Friends of the Columbia County Public Library.

Middle Alzheimer's class

The Alzheimer's Association in partnership with Columbia County Senior Services will be presenting a workshop June 9 from 9 a.m. to noon entitled "Living with Alzheimer's for Caregivers" at the Lifestyle Enrichment Center in Lake City. This program is designed for caregivers of persons with middle stage Alzheimer's disease or some other memory disorder. Anyone who wishes to learn more about Alzheimer's disease and caregiving strategies is welcome. Topics covered will include: changing relationships, safety, respite care, personal care issues, and dealing with challenging behaviors. To register for this workshop or for more information, please

contact the Alzheimer's Association at (800) 272-3900.

June 12

Medicare seminar

The Lifestyle Enrichment Center of Lake City is sponsoring a free Medicare educational seminar on Tuesday, June 12 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Moderated by Irv Crowetz of C/C and Associates. The seminar will cover what you need to know about Medicare such as when to enroll and what's covered. This is educational, not a sales seminar. Please RSVP 755-3476.

June 13

Newcomers meeting

The regular meeting of the Lake City Newcomers and Friends will be held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, June 13 at Eastside Village Clubhouse. Our Program is our annual picnic and bingo. Come Join the fun. Lunch is \$11.00.

Robert (Robbie) Mershon
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Itchetucknee Springs: Perfect cure for heat, humidity

By TONY BRITT

tbritt@lakecityreporter.com

FORT WHITE — Thousands flocked to Itchetucknee Springs State Park over the weekend as temperatures soared into the '90s.

The north end of the park was closed to visitors around 10 a.m. after more than 750 people went to park to enjoy the cool water or float down the river for the first day of full-length Itchetucknee tubing.

Nathan Sheets of Jacksonville was at the springs with family and friends.

"We come here and float down the river about twice a year," he said. "We decided to come down this year on the Memorial Day holiday weekend because it's fun. It's a chance to be with the family and to get out and get on the water and bring my buddy because it's going to be a hot weekend."

Sheets and his family stopped at the midpoint to have lunch and rest before heading back to the river and floating down.



TONY BRITT/Lake City Reporter

Tyler Schweiker (from left) floats down the Itchetucknee River Saturday with Nathan Sheets.

"The family loves it," Sheets said. "We started out up on the north entrance and they hung out at the Blue Hole and the kids swam in the swimming pool and we had a good time."

Kayla Cole of Gainesville was tak-

ing her first trip floating down the Itchetucknee.

"It was really nice," she said. "It was very enjoyable, very relaxing."

With the high temperatures, people piled tubes into the backs of pickup

trucks, car trunks and on car roofs as they headed to the Itchetucknee River and springs.

Linda Lynch, an employee at Lowe's Tubeland, which is owned by her father, said tube rentals on the Memorial Day weekend started slow, but rose steadily throughout the day Saturday.

Rudy Heath, an employee at Lowe's Tubeland for about 13 years, said it was one of the better Saturdays he's seen.

"The heat has a lot to do with it," he said. "It's one of those things, plus the graduation at the schools and everything, I'm surprised we've done this much business."

Heath said most years Sundays are busier than Saturdays during the Memorial Day holiday period. However, he and Lynch said the Memorial Day weekend is not the busiest of the season for them.

"Our regular weekends are busier than the Memorial Day weekend," she said. "The July 4 weekend just wipes it out. Our busiest month is July."

3D: Photos from Vietnam

Continued From Page 1A

to take pictures while the job of a soldier is to be a soldier, in this case to fly the helicopter. Serious men landing to do battle in a hostile landing zone do not care to have one of the pilots of their aircraft turn from his job and attempt to photograph the unpleasant situation. The pictures presented here are mixed in the mind's eye with countless missed photo opportunities of action, turmoil and beauty."

In March 2011, Judy Glenn said she was contacted by representatives from 3Net, the 24/7 3D network from Sony, Discovery and IMAX, who wanted to know whether she had 3-D pictures from Vietnam.

"They found us through the National Stereoscopic Association," she said. "We had published a book in 1985 with stereo pictures from Vietnam in black and white."

Company representatives found the book and contacted Glenn to see whether she still had the pictures and "it just went from there," she said. "I think it is just unbelievable they are doing a documentary on this. When the Vietnam veterans returned they did not get welcomed home. They were demon-

ized. I really feel like this is kind of a welcome home for him. I hope that other veterans will see this and in a sense live with it, because it's being shown on Memorial Day."

Judy Glenn said she saw the entire documentary Thursday night during a 2-D viewing.

"I thought it was absolutely marvelous," she said.

The documentary has slides that chronicles Joel Glenn going to Vietnam. Between the two tours, while in Germany, Joel Glenn learned he had cancer. They thought it was cured and once he passed his flight physical, he returned to Vietnam for his second tour.

After completing his second tour, Joel Glenn returned stateside and remained in the Army for close to a decade, before retiring in 1976. He returned to the family farm in Southern Columbia County.

Judy Glenn and her son Tom also allowed the use of many of the voice "letters" exchanged during the family's time apart to be used in the documentary. Seen and heard for the first time, the immersive 3-D photographs and voice recordings, along with modern day interviews

with the Glenn family and Joel Glenn's fellow soldiers in combat - offer a deeply personal, first-hand perspective of one of the most enigmatic times in American history.

"They came here in July and turned my whole house, practically, into a sound stage, taking pictures and doing interviews," Judy Glenn said. "It was quite exciting."

Judy Glenn said he had never heard of the show before its representatives contacted her.

"I think it is unbelievable to see Joel's work on the big screen," she said. "He was concerned what would happen to his pictures when he was gone and I told him they would never be thrown away. I told him they would be archived and we would do something with them and this just happened. So, I think it's great."

Judy Glenn said she feels it's a tribute to veterans to have the documentary debut on Memorial Day.

"I think it's just fantastic because it is on Memorial Day," she said. "We just feel like it's something the veterans deserve. We've gotten feedback from a couple of veterans that have seen the clip and they are very thrilled it's being shown on Memorial Day."



JASON MATTHEW WALKER/Lake City Reporter

Using the light from a chandelier, Judy takes a look at a few slides that her husband took.



JASON MATTHEW WALKER/Lake City Reporter

Glenn holds up a lenticular photograph of her husband and a family dog taken out on the family farm in 1977.

CEREMONY: At VA

Continued From Page 1A

spoke about the sacrifices made by servicemen and women.

"I'm here every year. I think it's great," said Wilbur Corbitt, a Korean War veteran, after the event.

Corbitt said he was 15 years old when he left school to join the Florida National Guard in Lake City and later the Army during the Korean War.

"Functions like this are great to show public support," said Corbitt, a member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 772 of Lake City. "It has a special meaning to the veterans and active duty military."

Officer Charles Abrecht, of the Department of Veterans Affairs Police, participated in the laying

of the wreath ceremony and the presentation of colors.

Friday's ceremony was the first event for Lake City's newly formed VA honor guard, he said. There is also a four-man team in Gainesville at the Malcom Randall VA Medical Center.

Abrecht, a Gulf War veteran, said he enjoyed the ceremony. "A lot of places don't do stuff for veterans like they used to," he said. "I'm glad to be part of it."

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The three possible answers are **"YES"**, or **"NO"** or **"PCSR"** (Politically Correct Sidestep Response) Cite References.

Kenny Merriken 386-344-7339, kbmerriken@hotmail.com

(Compare Holy Bible versus Florida Biology 1 End-of-Course Assessment Test Items Specifications, page 32 - SC.7.L.15.1; page 52 - SC.91.L.15.10

<http://fcat.fldoe.org/eoc/pdf/BiologyFL11Sp.pdf>

Ephesians 6:12, I John 4:1 "but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world."

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CATALYST: No railroad spur

Continued From Page 1A

state-designated plot of land, 500 acres in size, designed to bring industry to the area.

The local Catalyst Site is one of four in the state. Industrial growth is facilitated at the site by offering increased opportunities for grant funding, expedited permitting and increased availability of state funds to local government.

USFS has resisted the placement of the rail spur because the agency felt it would "impede the day-to-day operations of the forest," Megrath said.

At issue, says USFS, is the presence of red-cockaded woodpeckers, an endangered species.

Megrath said a team of biologists were sent out by Plum Creek to investigate the six-acre plot, working with USFS biologists. She said the survey helped Plum Creek understand the impact of using the preferred location on the red-cockaded woodpeckers.

Megrath said the impacts on the species would be minor.

USFS disagrees.

"Any type of corridor through the national forest has impacts," USFS public affairs officer Denise Rains said. "This is one of the best pieces that we have in Osceola National Forest."

A second route was investigated on the western edge of the forest as an alternate path for the rail line. The site is immediately adjacent to Columbia County Sheriff's Office property.

According to Megrath, however, positioning the rail line on the alternate site would cause a greater disadvantage to the surrounding environment than the preferred route.

"If I shift the rail line off the forest and put it on the Columbia County Sheriff's Department property, there are more environmental impacts that occur because we have to go through wetlands," Megrath said. "The forest service puts their hands over their ears and says, 'Don't really care because you're off the forest.' So while they say they want to protect the environment, they only want to protect the environment as it relates to their lands."

State Rep. Elizabeth Porter of Lake City said the alternate

route would add significant costs for the project.

"Not only would it have more effect as far as environmental concerns go, if they took the other route she talked about, which is non-U.S. Forest Service property, but it would also add a million dollars a mile to the cost of building that rail line and CSX is not going to volunteer to spend an additional 3 to 4 million dollars building rail lines when this is still a project in its infancy and there is no guarantee of success, even though it's very likely and it's a state-endorsed Catalyst Site," Porter said after Wednesday's luncheon.

Megrath said Plum Creek has been working to get a final meeting with USFS in Tallahassee, but haven't yet been able to secure a date with them.

U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio agreed to take the fight to Washington if they continue to have difficulties in negotiating a deal for the preferred location, Megrath said.

Gov. Rick Scott has also been involved in the fight for the land. Scott sent a letter to a regional U.S. forester in Atlanta on behalf of the project.

"It fell on deaf ears, they chose to not respond to him at all," Megrath said.

Megrath said that Scott was less than pleased and has agreed to work for the project in Washington as well if need be.

Porter said she was "extremely frustrated and very unhappy" about USFS's refusal to allow the land to be used for the rail line.

"The impact on the forest would be minimal," Porter said. "All of the other stakeholders that are involved at the state level are on board, whether it's DOT, DEP, Florida Forest Service, they are all ready to let this roll out, ready to make it go and the only entity that is stopping this project from moving forward is the U.S. Forest Service."

Columbia County Commissioner Ron Williams said he was frustrated with the response of the forest service.

"It's one of the most frustrating things I have dealt with," Williams said. "To me, it doesn't

make common sense."

Williams emphasized the importance of gaining access to the land to ensure the success of the site.

"We need this spur to make the Catalyst Site to the most economic way of doing it," Williams said.

Once funding and approval are secured for the dredging of JAXPORT (see story, this page), it is hoped the area can function as an inland port.

Rains said USFS is aware of the economic importance of the site to Columbia County.

"The forest service is very cognizant of the economic concerns of Columbia County and we are really not trying to be the bad guys here," she said. "It would be irresponsible of us to not consider all aspects before we approve it."

Rains said USFS reviewed the application for the rail line project thoroughly. She said the first part of the screening process is for the USFS is to consider whether the activity can be accomplished on private lands.

"We haven't been convinced that the rail spur can't be constructed on private land," Rains said.

Porter said the USFS's reluctance to allow Plum Creek to use the land has little to do with concern for the environment.

A 2011 letter from Forest Supervisor Susan Jeheber-Matthews to Jim Poole, then-executive director of the former Columbia County Industrial Development Authority, said the project would conflict with the "administrative use by the Forest Service, other scheduled or authorized existing uses of the National Forest System, or use of adjacent non-National Forest System lands."

According to Porter, "They seem to have a proprietary view of the forest as if the forest belongs to them and not to the people of the state of Florida."

She called USFS an "entrenched governmental bureaucracy."

Rains said the job of USFS is to manage the forest.

Megrath said it was a matter of common sense.

"We're just trying to do the right thing and have one more conversation at the local level, present the information that we have compiled and see if we can bring some common sense to the table," Megrath said.



An aerial view of JAXPORT.

COURTESY

Channel deepening won't happen soon

By HAL NEWSOME

The Beaches Leader

JACKSONVILLE — The deepening of the St. Johns River navigational channel between the Port of Jacksonville and the Atlantic Ocean remains at least four years in the future, provided an ongoing study of environmental impacts on the river and other factors allows it.

A public hearing on the Jacksonville Harbor Navigation Deepening Study was conducted Tuesday at the Jacksonville Port Authority Cruise Terminal.

Organized by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Jacksonville District, the meeting's purpose was to discuss ecological and water quality models being developed for the study. The study is focused on increasing the depth of the harbor from the entrance channel at the Atlantic Ocean up to river mile 14. The plan studies deepening the river channel from its current depth of 40 feet to a maximum depth of 50 feet.

The study models will be used to help assess potential effects that deepening the navigation channel may have on the St. Johns River ecosystem.

The goal of the proposed deepening project is to allow the harbor to accommodate larger vessels while preserving the environment and cultural resources.

Currently, the river channel that leads to the port is not deep enough to accommodate newer "super freighters" that require a channel with a 50 foot depth. The growing presence of these freighters led to the current widening of the Panama Canal. The St. Johns River channel also has a treacherous area known as Mile Point where the channel is shallow to 33 feet and only allows ocean-going ships to cross twice a day at high tide. Limestone formations in the river bed cause the situation.

Project manager Jason Harrah of the COE explained that the focus of the current study is the first segment of the Jacksonville Harbor, which extends from the entrance channel to river mile 14. Harrah also said that the first 3.8

miles of the channel have already been dredged to 50 feet.

The project goals, Harrah said, are to:

- Provide transportation cost savings by allowing vessels to transit the harbor without waiting on tidal advantages or "light-loading";
- Develop a cost-effective means of disposing of dredged material (the amount of which will vary depending on the depth to which the channel is dredged); and
- Accommodate larger ship traffic while minimizing environmental impact.

Harrah said a public meeting on the ecological draft report is scheduled to be held in the fall. In 2014, a draft capability report is expected to be completed and available for review. In 2015, Harrah said, the final feasibility report/supplemental environmental impact statement will also be available for public review.

Harrah also said that "if everything goes well," an authorization bill would be received in the summer of 2016, and appropriations to advertise "and eventually construct the project."

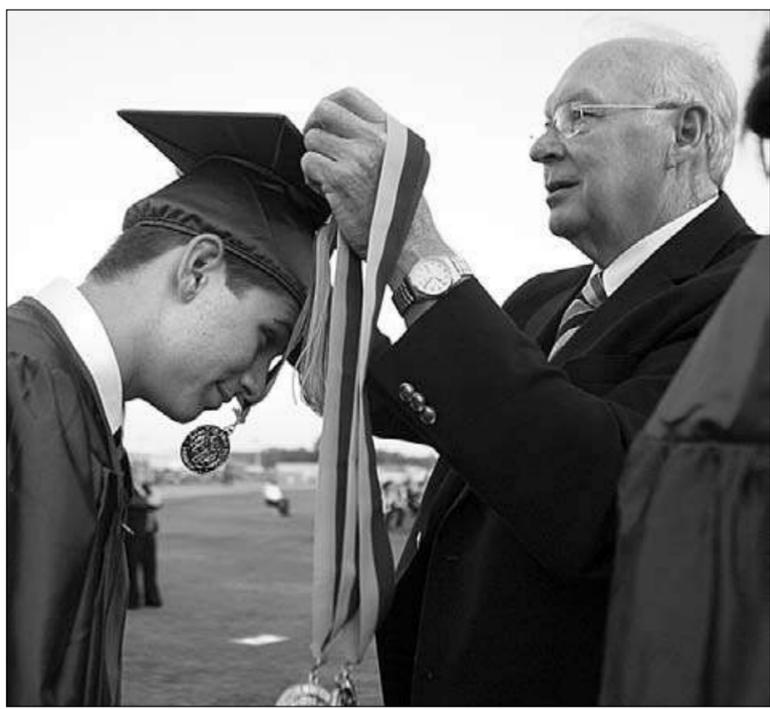
The channel widening project in Jacksonville is of interest in Lake City and Columbia County because Plum Creek's catalyst site is near the CSX railroad line that has a direct link to JAXPORT. The port is landlocked and off-site "inland ports" will be necessary to sort and process the additional freight containers that could arrive as the port becomes busier with larger ships and more freight, provided the deepening project becomes a reality.

Anderson said the proposed channel deepening project would help "maximize job creation," saying that more cargo means "more work, more growth and, hopefully, a better quality of life."

He also stressed the importance of protecting the natural environment.

"We must leave this river healthy," he said.

Lake City Reporter staff contributed information for this story.



JASON MATTHEW WALKER/Lake City Reporter

Columbia County School Board member Charles Maxwell (right) places a medallion around the neck of Stephen Aguila Jr. as he walks across the stage to receive his diploma Friday.



JASON MATTHEW WALKER/Lake City Reporter

Family members and friends shield themselves from the sun as they await the Columbia High School Class of 2012 to enter Columbia High Stadium Friday during the Commencement Ceremony.

GRADUATION: 8 had 4.0

Continued From Page 1A

a perfect 4.0 grade point average, with college entrance exam scores determining a three-way tie for valedictorian.

Before giving his graduation speech, valedictorian Bryce McCarthy said he was a little anxious but proud.

McCarthy was accepted in November at University of South Florida and plans to study chemical and biological engineering. He said he found out in January that he received close to a full-ride scholarship to the university. "That felt really good," he said.

McCarthy said the soccer and robotics teams would be his best memories from high school. It was amazing how much the robotics team was able to accomplish in just two years, he said.

"The past is not something we should dwell on for too long, but instead learn from," he said in his speech.

"We are here to celebrate the end of an era. The end of our childhood," said valedictorian Ashlin Thomas. In her speech, Thomas encouraged the senior class to have a moment of silence to savor the present.

"I've had my eyes set on valedictorian" since middle school, Thomas said before the ceremony. Maintaining perfect grades and keeping up with leadership positions and extracurriculars was a challenge, she said, but "hard work and determination got me there."

Thomas was accepted into a seven-year honors medical program at Florida State University. She plans to specialize in cardiology.

"We are really proud to represent our class up on stage," she said.

Valedictorian Jonathan Darby said the class has to focus on the creation of their future. "When greatness is your only goal, everything else becomes secondary," he said during his speech. "Let no one tell you your dream is impossible."

Earning the seat at the top of the class has been a goal for some time, Darby said before graduation. "We've been in competition since middle school," he said of classmates who earned perfect GPAs. The competition pushed Darby and his classmates to challenge themselves and work hard, he said.

Darby was accepted at Emory University and plans to study law and business. He got his acceptance letter in November, so "battling senioritis has definitely been a struggle," he said.

Darby said Kay Dekle, assistant principal, told the seniors that their class had the highest average GPA ever. "We are really intelligent as a whole," he said.

Salutatorian Ryan Thomas said his goal wasn't to be the top of the class, but "to be the best I can be to get into a good college."

Thomas was accepted at the University of Florida and plans to study microbiology and sports medicine.

Thomas said his best memory of high school will be playing baseball with the same five friends since tee ball. "It's been really cool to play with them and advance as far as we did," he said.

Thomas congratulated the valedictorians and said he was looking forward to being able to contribute to society.

Seniors Heather Burns, Taylor Douglass, Chelsey

Hendry and Pericia Lofton also earned 4.0 GPAs.

"It's been an honor to represent such a great group this year," said Savannah Bowdoin, senior class president. Bowdoin was accepted at UF and plans to go to law school. She said she was a little bit nervous before graduation and would probably cry after.

Senior Mickala Emery said keeping up with dual enrollment classes and high school classes was a struggle this year. Next fall she will attend Florida Gateway College and apply to New York University for theater, she said.

Senior Genaina Rossin said her best memory was the senior picnic because everyone was together having a good time without drama. Rossin said she plans to attend FGC for nursing and later Santa Fe College to be an ultrasound technician.

Senior Lauren Ogburn said she leaves for Army basic training July 3. Staying out of trouble was one of her biggest struggles in high school, she said.

"We probably won't have another group like this in a long time," said Michael Reynolds, senior class sponsor. They are a tremendous, united group that worked hard all year, he said.

This class is "going out into the real world and they are really going to help our community out," he said.

Reynolds said the class was easy going, especially when they had bus problems on two trips. "They smiled and said 'Hey, we are together and we are going to enjoy this,'" he said.

Having eight students with perfect GPAs, "that's unheard of," he said.

Jessie R. Box contributed reporting for this story.

THE WEATHER

27 SUNDAY CHANCE T-STORMS HI 89 LO 70	28 MONDAY WINDY, T-STORMS HI 82 LO 70	29 TUESDAY WINDY, T-STORMS HI 87 LO 70	30 WEDNESDAY CHANCE T-STORMS HI 92 LO 70	31 THURSDAY CHANCE T-STORMS HI 92 LO 69
----------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------

REGIONAL FORECAST MAP for Sunday, May 27
Sunday's high/Sunday night's low

City	Monday	Tuesday
Cape Canaveral	85/73/t	87/74/t
Daytona Beach	87/73/t	87/73/t
Ft. Lauderdale	88/78/t	89/77/pc
Fort Myers	89/74/t	91/73/pc
Gainesville	85/70/t	88/70/pc
Jacksonville	86/71/t	88/71/t
Key West	87/78/sh	87/78/sh
Lake City	82/70/t	87/70/t
Miami	89/77/t	89/76/t
Naples	87/73/t	89/73/pc
Ocala	86/71/t	88/72/t
Orlando	89/73/t	88/72/t
Panama City	86/74/t	85/77/t
Pensacola	90/74/pc	91/76/pc
Tallahassee	84/72/t	84/71/t
Tampa	88/74/t	90/74/pc
Valdosta	80/72/t	80/71/t
W. Palm Beach	89/75/t	89/76/t

LAKE CITY ALMANAC

TEMPERATURES
High Saturday 93
Low Saturday 62
Normal high 89
Normal low 65
Record high 100 in 1953
Record low 46 in 1979

SUN
Sunrise today 6:31 a.m.
Sunset today 8:25 p.m.
Sunrise tom. 6:30 a.m.
Sunset tom. 8:26 p.m.

MOON
Moonrise today 12:20 p.m.
Moonset today 12:44 a.m.
Moonrise tom. 1:19 p.m.
Moonset tom. 1:20 a.m.

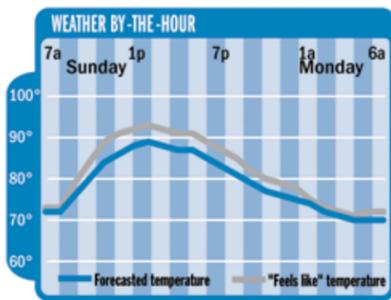
PRECIPITATION
Saturday 0.00"
Month total 1.73"
Year total 7.91"
Normal month-to-date 1.90"
Normal year-to-date 15.41"

May 28 First, June 4 Full, June 11 Last, June 19 New

UV INDEX
11
EXTREME
10 minutes to burn
Today's ultra-violet radiation risk for the area on a scale from 0 to 10+.

FYI
An exclusive service brought to our readers by The Weather Channel.

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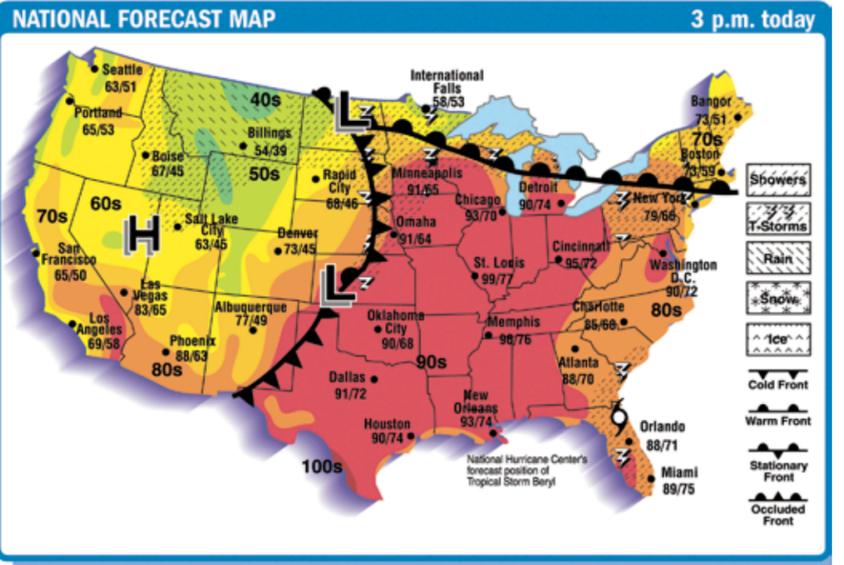


WEATHER HISTORY
On this date in 1987, severe thunderstorms in west Texas produced baseball size hail at Crane, hail up to three and a half inches in diameter at Post, and grapefruit size hail south of Midland.

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NATIONAL FORECAST: Tropical Storm Beryl will generate thunderstorms for Florida and the Southeastern coast. A warm front will extend from North Dakota to New England, bringing thunderstorms to the northern Great Lakes and Northeast. A cold front will extend along the High Plains, producing thunderstorms from Kansas to Minnesota. Some of these storms may be severe.



YESTERDAY'S NATIONAL EXTREMES High: 96°, Andalusia, Ala. Low: 27°, Stanley, Idaho

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	82/67/.01	80/64/t	Des Moines	81/61/0	93/67/s	Omaha	89/64/0	91/64/pc
Albuquerque	82/58/0	77/49/s	Detroit	69/61/.23	90/74/pc	Orlando	93/71/0	88/71/t
Anchorage	50/43/0	57/45/pc	El Paso	90/69/0	90/64/pc	Philadelphia	84/66/0	86/70/pc
Atlanta	91/70/0	88/70/pc	Fairbanks	51/40/0	63/43/pc	Phoenix	80/66/0	88/63/s
Baltimore	84/66/0	91/68/pc	Greensboro	83/66/0	84/67/pc	Pittsburgh	87/67/0	90/69/t
Billings	38/31.19	54/39/r	Hartford	84/68/0	79/62/t	Portland ME	80/62/0	70/53/sh
Birmingham	92/67/0	93/72/pc	Honolulu	77/73/0	87/74/pc	Portland OR	56/53/.01	65/53/c
Bismarck	49/44/0	69/46/t	Houston	90/75/0	90/74/s	Raleigh	84/66/0	85/69/pc
Boise	52/43/.32	67/45/sh	Indianapolis	86/70/0	97/74/pc	Rapid City	49/46/.23	68/46/pc
Boston	81/66/0	73/59/pc	Jackson MS	88/64/0	97/71/pc	Reno	51/45/0	68/47/pc
Buffalo	80/61/0	84/69/t	Jacksonville	88/64/0	85/71/t	Richmond	84/63/0	87/68/pc
Charleston SC	87/69/0	83/70/t	Kansas City	87/75/0	90/72/pc	Sacramento	64/51/0	79/53/pc
Charleston WV	89/63/0	92/69/pc	Las Vegas	60/52/0	83/65/s	St. Louis	90/75/0	99/77/pc
Charlotte	87/64/0	85/68/pc	Little Rock	88/67/0	95/73/pc	Salt Lake City	60/52/0	63/45/sh
Cheyenne	68/49/.01	68/39/pc	Los Angeles	63/55/0	69/58/pc	San Antonio	86/75/0	92/74/pc
Chicago	76/60/0	93/70/s	Memphis	88/71/0	96/76/pc	San Diego	62/57/0	68/59/pc
Cincinnati	90/63/0	95/72/pc	Miami	88/76/0	89/75/t	San Francisco	53/50/0	64/50/pc
Cleveland	77/66/0	90/72/t	Minneapolis	63/59/.55	91/65/t	Seattle	58/50/0	63/51/c
Columbia SC	90/66/0	87/70/pc	Mobile	91/68/0	95/71/pc	Spokane	61/47/0	69/46/c
Dallas	89/75/0	91/72/pc	New Orleans	91/69/0	93/74/pc	Tampa	91/73/0	89/75/t
Daytona Beach	91/67/0	86/73/t	New York	84/67/0	79/66/pc	Tucson	79/70/0	88/60/s
Denver	86/54/0	73/45/pc	Oklahoma City	84/73/0	90/68/pc	Washington	85/71/0	90/72/pc

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	86/81/0	89/79/t	La Paz	57/30/0	60/28/s	Rio	88/82/0	80/67/pc
Amsterdam	77/59/0	80/52/s	Lima	72/63/0	70/66/pc	Rome	73/57/0	75/56/pc
Athens	78/53/0	77/60/pc	London	77/57/0	78/54/s	St. Thomas VI	85/74/0	85/78/t
Auckland	63/48/0	62/46/r	Madrid	79/59/0	79/57/s	San Juan PR	86/75/0	85/75/t
Beijing	93/52/0	87/65/s	Mexico City	68/54/0	78/54/t	Santiago	55/50/0	56/49/r
Berlin	72/50/0	75/54/pc	Montreal	73/61/0	66/55/sh	Seoul	81/54/0	74/56/pc
Buenos Aires	66/57/0	67/60/c	Moscow	66/41/0	63/51/c	Singapore	88/79/0	87/81/sh
Cairo	90/70/0	91/75/c	Nairobi	77/59/0	74/57/sh	Sydney	63/50/0	64/49/c
Geneva	75/54/0	72/53/r	Nassau	88/73/0	84/73/t	Tel Aviv	82/64/0	86/73/pc
Havana	84/72/0	84/73/t	New Delhi	108/90/0	111/87/s	Tokyo	77/63/0	72/58/s
Helsinki	70/54/0	70/48/pc	Oslo	75/59/0	80/56/pc	Toronto	75/63/0	66/59/sh
Hong Kong	88/82/0	86/80/sh	Panama	88/77/0	88/76/t	Vienna	73/46/0	73/51/sh
Kingston	91/79/0	88/79/t	Paris	79/54/0	80/61/s	Warsaw	70/50/0	68/53/sh

KEY TO CONDITIONS: c=cloudy, dr=d-rizzle, 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?

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Sunday, May 27, 2012

www.lakecityreporter.com

Section B

FROM THE SIDELINE



Brandon Finley

Phone: (386) 754-0420
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Bailey's magical season

Next week, the *Lake City Reporter* sports department will unveil its Athletes of the Year. The awards are primarily given based on performance in several sports.

However, if the award was based solely on outstanding performance in one sport, another athlete might be the choice.

Kellan Bailey played one sport at Columbia High, but he excelled in it.

Bailey is a three-year starter for the Tigers' baseball team, but his senior year was by far his most impressive.

The saying goes that numbers never lie and for Bailey his numbers can match those of anyone in the state.

The senior was 10-0 as a starter and didn't give up an earned run during the season.

When you go deeper into the numbers, his season sounds even more impressive.

Bailey had 94 strikeouts this season compared to only 30 hits. To break down the math, that's more than three strikeouts for every hit he gave up. Bailey didn't allow a triple this season and only three doubles.

Want more?

Bailey allowed opposing batters to hit only .118 from the plate this season.

But that's not the most impressive stat.

The number that is going to stick out in Columbia history is three.

Three wins.

That's how many wins Bailey delivered after the regular season to propel the Tigers to the Elite 8 and their farthest run in the playoffs in school history.

Bailey punched the Tigers ticket to the playoffs with a win at Atlantic Coast High against the Stingrays in the district tournament.

He followed that up with wins at Middleburg High and at Stanton Prep to send Columbia into the third round of the state playoffs.

Bailey might not receive the Athlete of the Year designation, but he just might have had the best performance in a single sport.

Bailey set the bar for a program and left Columbia baseball in better shape than when he arrived.

Bailey will be sorely missed next season, but the senior definitely left his mark.

■ Brandon Finley covers sports for the *Lake City Reporter*.

Bailey selected as FACA All Star

Columbia ace playing in classic games in Sebring.

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

It was a year of firsts for Columbia High baseball and Kellan Bailey is adding another first to the list this weekend with a trip to the 34th annual Florida Athletic Coaches Association All Star Baseball Classic at Fireman's Field in Sebring.

The event annually collects the best of Florida's baseball talent and this is the first time that a Columbia player has made the trip.

"I'm definitely honored to get to be the first player to

be from Columbia — with Michael Kirkman and Jacob Tillotson — to be the first guy to come down," Bailey said. "It's a good opportunity to play in front of college scouts and pro scouts. I get to play against the best in the state."

Columbia head coach J.T. Clark summed up what made Bailey an obvious choice for the event.

"He's just had such an unbelievable year," Clark said. "I've been around the game for a long time and for someone to throw as many innings as he did without giving up an earned run is unheard of, even at the little league level. He did it all

BAILEY continued on 5B



Columbia High pitcher Kellan Bailey delivers against host Stanton Prep during the Tigers' 8-1 win in the second round of the playoffs.

Orange & Green clash

RMS Wolves close spring with competitive game

By **TIM KIRBY**
tkirby@lakecityreporter.com

Richardson Middle School wrapped up spring football practice with the Orange & Green intrasquad game at the school on Friday.

The competitive game was settled on the last play when Jovaris Thomas crashed into the end zone from one yard out to give the Orange an 18-14 win.

"I was impressed with how they played hard," Wolves head coach Joey O'Neal said.

Principal Bessie Whitfield was honorary coach for the Green squad and Assistant Principal Jonathan Jordan was honorary coach for the Orange. As a result of a friendly bet, the losing coach will have to take a turn in the dunking booth on the final day of school.

It looked like a runaway for the Orange in the early going. The Green began the game with the ball on its 30 and turned it over on downs after one first down.

The Orange struck quickly, going 50 yards in five plays. The big gainer was a 24-yard completion from Ronnie Collins, who played quarterback for both squads, to Thomas. Teon Dollard scored the touchdown on a five-yard run.

The Orange made another stop and, on the first series of the second quarter, Thomas broke a 65-yard touchdown run on a pitch-out. The Orange led, 12-0.

It only lasted one play. Kamario Bell ripped off a 70-yard run for a touchdown to cut the lead in half.

Early in the third quarter, Bell struck again. This time it was on the other side of the ball, as he intercepted a pass and returned it 35 yards for a touchdown. Bell ran in the extra point to give the Green a 14-12 lead.

The Orange responded with a long drive that lasted a quarter and a half and produced Thomas's winning touchdown as time ran out.

O'Neal said he would encourage his players to work out at the high school and he will re-assemble the Wolves in late June. He expects an influx of 10 players from the fifth-grade for the fall.

"We've got a lot to work on," O'Neal said. "We see that now."



ABOVE: Richardson Middle School quarterback Ronnie Collins (right) is grabbed by Darrel Robberson (4) of the Orange squad during the Orange and Green intrasquad game on Friday. Collins played quarterback for both teams.



LEFT: Green running back Kamario Bell (29) fights off a tackler on a run during the Orange & Green game at Richardson Middle School.

Photos by
JASON MATTHEW WALKER

Lake City Reporter

Lake City Parks & Recreation T-ball



Photos by
JASON MATTHEW WALKER
Lake City Reporter

The Lake City Parks and Recreation Department sponsors two T-ball leagues, which play at the Columbia High baseball and softball fields. Pictures are from action on Tuesday.

TOP: Rays player Anna Belle Dansby (right) prepares to tag Addison Anderson (5) of the Diamondbacks out at home plate.

ABOVE RIGHT: Damon Hill (2) of the Yankees tags Tigers player Tanner Ring (3) out at home.

RIGHT: Tigers head coach Kasey Richmond give advice to Collin Richmond as he steps up to home plate.

BELOW RIGHT: Yankees hitter Michael Anschultz (1) checks under first base after hitting a ball against the Tigers.

BOTTOM RIGHT: The Rays congratulate the Diamondbacks at the conclusion of their game.

ABOVE LEFT: Tanner Ring takes a swing during a game against the Yankees.

BELOW LEFT: Addison Anderson sprints to reach third base as Matthew Pitts rounds second after hitting the ball.

BOTTOM: Ty'Jahn Wright (7) scrambles to home plate for a put out during a game against the Yankees.



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of the Bard Gymnastics contingent who participated at the 2012 Spring AAU State Championships in Daytona Beach.

Bard gymnasts bring home medals, ribbons from state

From staff reports

Bard Gymnastics of Lake City took a contingent to the 2012 Spring AAU State Championships in Daytona Beach on April 28-29.

Bard students scored medals and ribbons in Modified Optionals, Level 4 and Level 3. Gymnasts compete in vault, uneven bars, beam and floor exercise, and are awarded an all-around score.

Bard also has a Gym Achievers group that competed at state. The Gym Achievers are critiqued by the judges, but not scored.

Raven Martin in Modified Optionals won first place in all-around. Martin placed first in floor and beam, second on bars and third in vault.

Other who scored first in events are: Hailey Bush, Level 4 beam; Lauren Tylutki, Level 3 bars; Kaylee King, Level 3 beam; Grace Duncan, Level 3 vault.

Modified Optionals scores: Alexia Scott — third in bars, fourth in beam and floor, fifth in vault and fourth all-around; Crystal Norris — third in floor, fourth in bars and eighth all-around; Andrea Comartie — fifth in beam and eighth all-around; Eva Kirby — fourth in floor, fifth in vault, sixth in beam and ninth all-around.

Level 4 scores: Alaina

Anschultz — second in beam, third in vault and bars, fourth in floor and third all-around; Brandi Oliver — second in bars, third in vault, fourth in floor, fifth in beam and third all-around;

Daphene Green — second in vault, third in bars, fourth in beam and fourth all-around; Natalie Duarte — fourth in bars, fifth in vault and sixth all-around; Kinleigh Collins — fifth in vault and bars and sixth overall;

Hailey Bush — first in beam, second in floor and seventh all-around; Spencer Todd, second in vault and seventh all-around; Rachel Baker — fourth in floor and seventh all-around; Aja Lewis — fourth in vault and eighth all-around; Kiley Brown — fourth in bars, sixth in vault and 10th all-around; Sarah Garbett — seventh in bars and beam and 10th overall; Taiya Driggers — fourth in vault and 11th overall; Rebekah Baker — 12th all-around.

Level 3 scores: Lauren Tylutki — first in bars, second in vault, fourth in beam, seventh in floor and second all-around; Grace Duncan — first in vault, second in beam, third in floor, sixth in bars and second all-around; Emylee Schafer — second in floor, third in vault and beam, seventh in bars and

second all-around; Kaylee King — first in beam, fourth in floor, fifth in bars, sixth in vault and third all-around; Lauren Wilson — second in bars, third in beam, fifth in vault, ninth in floor and fourth all-around;

Suzanna Raines — third in vault, fifth in beam, sixth in floor, seventh in bars and fourth all-around; Victoria Murray — second in floor, fifth in beam, sixth in vault, 10th in bars and sixth all-around; Chloe Conner — third in bars, fourth in vault, ninth in beam, 11th in floor and seventh all-around; Faith Fields — sixth in beam and floor, seventh in bars, ninth in vault and eighth all-around; Kayla Hardy — seventh in bars, eighth in vault and floor and eighth all-around;

Kiley Craig — second in floor, seventh in beam, ninth in bars, 10th in vault and ninth all-around; Manda Perry — fourth in vault, eighth in floor, 10th in beam, 11th in bars and ninth all-around; McKenzie Brown — fourth in vault, seventh in beam, eighth in floor, ninth in bars and ninth all-around; Daisha Poulnot — fifth in vault, seventh in bars, eighth in beam 12th in floor and ninth all-around; Sarah Baker — seventh in vault, 10th in bars and floor, 11th in beam and 11th all-around.

FORT WHITE BASEBALL



COURTESY PHOTOS

Fort White High's baseball team had its award banquet on May 19.

TOP: Varsity award winners are: Kody Moniz, Most Improved Award (from left); Brandon Sharpe, Coach's Award; Kevin Dupree, Team Player; Lane Pendergrast, Warrior Award; Robby Howell, Golden Arm; Bryce Beach, Most Valuable Player; Brady Wilkinson, Academic Award.

MIDDLE: Junior varsity award winners are: Zach Gaskins (from left) and Willie Carter, Silver Slugger Award; Kodey Owens, Team Player; Austin Dupree, Most Versatile; Trace Wilkinson, Coach's Award and Academic Award; Rhett Willis, Most Valuable Player.

BOTTOM: Middle school award Winners are: Dylan Cason, Academic Award and Warrior Award (from left); Alex Mitchell, Coach's Award; Cameron Hilbert, Most Versatile. Tyler Morgan was Most Valuable Player.

BRIEFS

FISHING License-free days Saturday, June 9

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is offering license-free fishing days on Saturday for saltwater fishing and June 9 for freshwater. All restrictions apply. The license-free fishing designation applies only to recreational fishing.

For details, go to MyFWC.com/Fishing.

YOUTH VOLLEYBALL Summer camp at Suwannee High

Suwannee High coach Heather Benson is hosting a volleyball camp June 19-21 for ages 11-17 (10 a.m. to noon) and ages 6-10 (12:30-1:30 p.m.) at the Suwannee High gym. Cost is \$20.

For details, contact Benson at (386) 688-2078 or hbenson@alummi.flagler.edu.

FALCONS FOOTBALL Spring game on Wednesday

Lake City Middle School's Black & Red spring football game is 4 p.m. Wednesday at the practice field behind the school. Admission is \$1, excluding teachers and students.

For details, call the school at 758-4800.

■ From staff reports

BAILEY: Chance for Player of the Year

Continued From Page 1B

year and in two big playoff games."

Bailey was 10-0 this season and credits his success to the work he put in during the off-season.

"It started pretty much the summer of my senior year," Bailey said. "I worked a lot with our pitching coach. I was told my first year by Heath Phillips that I had a chance. I kind of fell off and didn't really live up to my potential. The last two years, I really started to pick it back up. He told me before the season I shouldn't give up an earned run, and I didn't really think about it. As time went on, I tried not to worry about it, but do what I was doing start after start to put the team in a situation to win. I came into the year wanting to use the pitching to take me to the next level, so that's what I tried to work on to take the team as far as I could take."

That ended up being an Elite 8 appearance — the farthest Columbia has gone in its history.

Clark gives a lot of that credit to Bailey's performance during the year.

"Considering how long baseball has been played at CHS, it's a tremendous accomplishment," Clark said. "It kind of adds to our season to be selected by the FACA. It's big for Kellan and it's big for our school."

Besides hard work, Bailey had a competitive edge. Clark equates it to his greatness during the season.

"His greatest attribute is his competitiveness," Clark said. "He wants to prove that he's better than you. At times early in his career, he would kind of get fired up, but he's learned to control that. He's using it now. Every game that he threw where it looked like he was in a situation to give up an earned run, he'd just find a way to get a strikeout or a pop-up. It was unbelievable and it doesn't hurt that he is a left-handed pitcher with good speed and a breaking ball."

Bailey is also nominated

for the FACA Player of the Year.

"Just being nominated is an accomplishment," Clark said. "It just says a lot about his special season. It's also good for CHS and it's good to have his name out there."

Bailey expects to be challenged by the top players in the two games.

"I'm expecting to see a test," Bailey said. "I'll be pitching against the top guys in the state of Florida that are graduating this year. I plan on pitching the way I've been pitching and there's no doubt that I can do that. I'm not going to change anything."

Bailey is expected to pitch two innings in the games this weekend. However he does, he wants to give thanks to those that have helped him come this far.

"All the coaches have worked to help me tone my craft," he said. "My parents have sent me to camps to be in a good position to succeed. I just want to thank them for that."

ACROSS

- 1 Boot liner
- 4 Write up a speeder
- 8 Fuse word
- 11 M.D. employers
- 13 Scurries along
- 14 Reception
- 15 Major—
- 16 Wing parts
- 18 Flocks of geese
- 20 Down Under birds
- 21 Pirate's quaff
- 22 Bro or sis
- 24 Investment
- 27 Parrots
- 30 Lavish attention (on)
- 31 Oh, gross!
- 32 GOP member
- 34 Hippo locale
- 35 Opal and topaz
- 36 Cut calories
- 37 Plunks
- 39 Insurance giant

40 Wrinkle-nosed dog

- 41 Lingerie buy
- 42 Advantage
- 45 Cream puff
- 49 Nectar gatherer
- 53 Novelist — Ferber
- 54 Yale athlete
- 55 Housetop
- 56 Gibraltar landmark
- 57 Angkor —
- 58 Walkman brand
- 59 That girl

DOWN

- 1 Univ. degrees
- 2 Running wild
- 3 Show up
- 4 Yawning gulf
- 5 Jr.'s son, maybe
- 6 Util. bill
- 7 WNW opposite
- 8 — smasher

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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T	O	A	D		A	N	Y		A	T	V

Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com

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- 22 Marsupial pockets
- 23 Ugh!
- 24 Woodworking tool
- 25 Grime
- 26 Use the overhead
- 27 Autumn flowers
- 28 Subpoena, e.g.
- 29 Detected
- 31 Safecracker
- 33 "Harper Valley —"
- 35 Lion's quarry
- 36 Merchant
- 38 Basilica part
- 39 Orbit segment
- 41 Thickset
- 42 Sigh of relief
- 43 "Whatever — Wants"
- 44 Gallon or liter
- 46 Big commotions
- 47 Rainfall measure
- 48 Long-handled tool
- 50 Mos. and mos.
- 51 — and hiss
- 52 Many millennia

Miracle catch man speaks to Wolves

By **TIM KIRBY**

tkirby@lakecityreporter.com

Meeting any NFL player is a thrill for a middle school football player.

The Richardson Middle School Wolves were treated to a special visit on Friday from David Tyree, who is associated with one of the greatest plays in NFL history.

It was Tyree who made the "best catch in Super Bowl history."

Tyree pulled down the pass from Eli Manning in the 2008 Super Bowl during the winning drive for the Giants that ended New England's bid for an undefeated season.

On the play Tyree was guarded by Rodney Harrison and they both leaped for the pass from Manning, who had just escaped being sacked. Tyree pinned the ball to his helmet and held on for the



TIM KIRBY/Lake City Reporter

Former NFL player David Tyree (center) is welcomed to Richardson Middle School by Ronnie Collins (from left), Assistant Principal Jonathan Jordan, head football coach Joey O'Neal and Robert White. Tyree spoke to the Wolves before their spring football game.

first-down completion.

Tyree has family in Lake City and was introduced to the Wolves by his sister, Tara Williams.

Tyree told of his background in New Jersey and how a move to Montclair when he was in the sixth grade introduced him to

football, and helped keep him from going down the wrong path.

"The change of scenery showed me the opportu-

nities for football," Tyree said. "I grasped football and fell in love with it. Football opened up the floodgates for me, but I still needed direction. The pitfalls were there for me."

Tyree experienced them all.

"There were peer pressure, drugs, alcohol and people telling you what will make you popular," Tyree said. "In the eighth grade I was on probation. That was no place I wanted to be."

Tyree was recruited by Notre Dame and Urban Meyer, who told him he had to do better in school. It came as a shock because Tyree was putting up C+ grades. He recovered enough to get many scholarship offers and eventually attended Syracuse. He was drafted by New York in the sixth round in 2003.

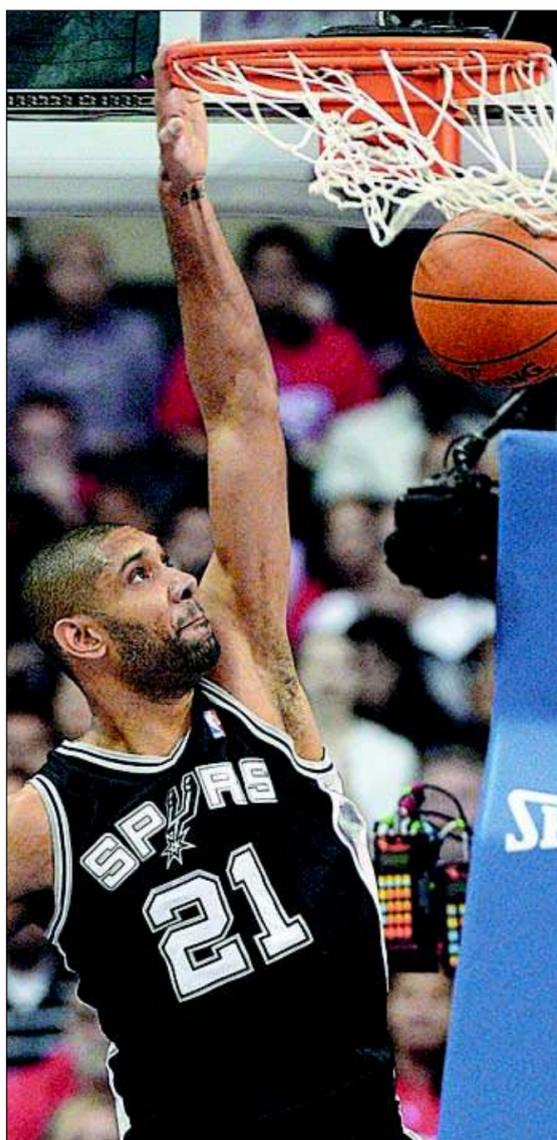
Tyree still didn't have his life in order until God took over.

"Bad company corrupts good morals," Tyree said. "People can tell about you by who you hang around. My faith is the bedrock of who I have become as a person. Every day you have an opportunity to choose life or choose death. The right choice is the best thing to make you successful as an individual."

Tyree told the players not to make their vision too narrow, to aspire to be the best. Commitment and sacrifice is the key to success at all levels.

"Don't just be good enough to get past," Tyree said. "You can't cheat your way to success. Set a higher standard for yourself. It ultimately falls on you."

Tyree is out of the NFL. He enjoys speaking to groups, especially young people. Tyree wrote the book "More Than Just a Catch" on the play and his experiences.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

San Antonio Spurs center Tim Duncan dunks during Game 4 of Western Conference semifinal against the Clippers in Los Angeles on May 20.

Easy part over in NBA West

By **PAUL J. WEBER**

Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Maybe they'll finally get a challenge this time.

The San Antonio Spurs and Oklahoma City Thunder have simply rolled through this postseason.

Consider:

- There's the 18-game winning streak that has the Spurs flirting with history;

- Seventeen combined playoff games and just one loss;

- The Thunder sending home the last two NBA champions;

- No other playoff teams besides these two that can boast a series sweep.

What took the Western Conference finals so long to get here Sunday, anyway?

"I think we both deserve it," Spurs guard Manu Ginobili said.

Few would dispute that.

It's a clear-cut matchup of the West's best teams without any qualifiers: No what-if speculating because of devastating injuries like Derrick Rose's blown-out knee that sunk top-seeded

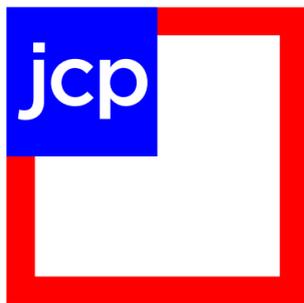
Chicago and reshuffled predictions in the East, nor were there lucky breaks or Game 7 heartbreakers that will gnaw at San Antonio's and Oklahoma City's dispatched opponents and their fans all summer.

By and large, the Spurs and Thunder have just steamrolled to this point.

The top-seeded Spurs clobbered Utah and the Los Angeles Clippers by an average of 14 points a game. They're one victory from tying the 2001 Lakers for the longest winning streak kept alive in a postseason and two from becoming just the fourth team in NBA history to win 20 in row.

"It's been a while since we've been in the Western Conference finals. And it's been a week kind of sitting here stewing and waiting on it," said Spurs forward Tim Duncan, whose last playoff trip this far in 2008 ended with a loss to the Lakers. "All of that together makes it an exciting series to start."

Oklahoma City finished three games behind the Spurs for first in the West.



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Story ideas?

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Robert Bridges

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Sunday, May 27, 2012

www.lakecityreporter.com

Section C

Pushing Ahead

College partnership is providing higher education opportunities for local students.

By HANNAH O. BROWN
hbrown@lakecityreporter.com

Saint Leo University, a private college that works in partnership with Florida Gateway College to provide higher education opportunities to Lake City students, is pushing ahead with advancements in student services, community involvement and marketing of the local center.

Assistant Director of Saint Leo, Dr. Robin Hall, is preparing to retire from her position after 14 years of work with the organization. Hall said she has seen the college mature in her time there, comparing her experience to watching a child grow.

"When I started here, our center was at the infant stage. We were a new start-up, we were in a new

relationship with FGC, we were just starting to create a presence here," Hall said. "So if you compared that to having a child, then we would be looking at teenage years right now."

Saint Leo University has a network of centers across the United States, with around 15,000 students enrolled. The college has military partnerships as well as relationships with community colleges in Florida, California, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia.

The Lake City Center of Saint Leo has around 300 students enrolled currently.

Enrollment at the college has consistently increased, even through the past years of hard economic times, according to Saint

PUSHING AHEAD
continued on 2C



HANNAH O. BROWN/Lake City Reporter

Saint Leo University Director Dr. Charles Oden and Assistant Director Dr. Robin Hall are half of the staff of the Lake City Center of the college. With a current enrollment of 300, Saint Leo believes their small size helps facilitate a one-on-one approach.

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Ask the Fool

One-Time Charges

What are these "one-time charges against earnings" that I see in company earnings reports? — R.P., Madison, Ind.

They're meant to reflect unusual costs a company bears (for example, due to closing a plant, experiencing an extraordinary crop loss, writing off bad investments, etc.). The charges are often added back to company earnings, ostensibly to more accurately reflect the firm's operating performance.

Imagine that Acme Explosives Co. (ticker: KBOOM) earns \$50 million in a quarter, but it also lays off many employees then, making significant severance payments. If these costs amounted to \$5 million and were labeled as one-time charges, then the company would be suggesting that its business really earned \$55 million in the quarter. Beware of companies with too-frequent "one-time" charges. ***

What does a company's relationship of current assets to current liabilities tell me? — S.D., Abilene, Texas

Dividing a company's current assets by its current liabilities gives you its "current ratio," which shows whether it has sufficient short-term assets (such as cash and expected incoming payments) to cover its short-term obligations (such as payments and interest due). The "quick ratio," which subtracts inventories from current assets before dividing by current liabilities, is a bit more meaningful.

A company's current debt situation is good to know, but it's just a tiny piece of its profile, telling you nothing about its profitability, long-term debt, growth rates, competitive position or valuation. Ideally, you should examine a company from many different angles, crunching a lot of numbers, such as profit margins, inventory levels, growth rates and more. Checking out a firm's management is smart, too. Learn more about how to evaluate companies and invest in stocks at fool.com/investing/basics/index.aspx, morningstar.com/cover/start-investing.aspx and better-investing.org.

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



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Fool's School

Buffett and Munger in Omaha

In early May, around 40,000 Berkshire Hathaway shareholders flocked to Omaha to listen to Chairman Warren Buffett and his partner, Charlie Munger, answer their questions for five hours.

Here are some snippets from the annual meeting and the subsequent press conference (the quotes are paraphrased):

On dumb investments: "We steer clear of companies where we don't have a reasonable idea about how the industry will develop within five to 10 years. Consider Apple and Google: Both are extraordinary companies. They may well be worth a lot more 10 years from now, but we would not want to own them — or bet against them." (The Motley Fool owns shares of both companies and its newsletters have recommended shares of them.)

"If a company's price is crazy, even if we do understand it, then that's out, as well. We avoid new issues (IPOs), too, as there are usually plenty of better alternatives. Then there are indus-

tries that we think could potentially do very well, but we have no idea who the clear winners will be in the next few years."

On the railroad industry (Berkshire owns BNSF Railway): "Economics are on our side, because we can move a ton of products 500 miles on a gallon of diesel. Railroads move 42 percent of inner-city stuff. In terms of congestion and emissions, railroads are all advantage. Some \$3.9 billion will be spent this year to expand and improve railroad infrastructure, and the country will be better off."

On barriers to entry, a competitive advantage: "We tend to buy barriers instead of building them."

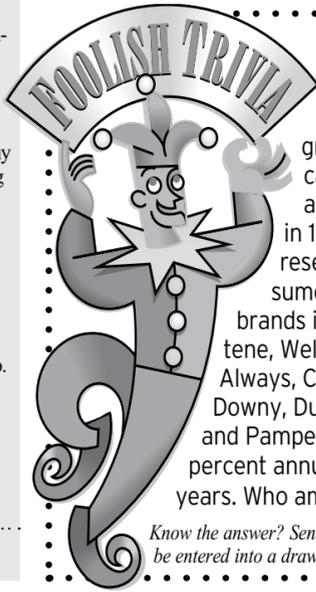
"If you gave me \$30 billion and told me to try to knock off Coca-Cola, I wouldn't have the faintest idea how to do it. And nobody is going to build another railroad. One competitor can be enough to ruin a business. If you're in an industry with no barriers, you have to move really fast and always stay ahead."

We'll offer a few more nuggets next week. In the meantime, read Buffett's educational letters to shareholders at berkshirehathaway.com.

Name That Company

I was founded in 1837 – 175 years ago! – by English and Irish immigrants, brothers-in-law who made candles and soap in Cincinnati. I was a pioneer in employee profit-sharing in 1887 and an early user of market research in the 1920s. Today I'm a consumer-products giant. My billion-dollar brands include Head & Shoulders, Olay, Pantene, Wella, Braun, Fusion, Gillette, MACH3, Always, Crest, Oral-B, Iams, Ace, Ariel, Dawn, Downy, Duracell, Gain, Tide, Bounty, Charmin and Pampers. My stock has grown by nearly 11 percent annually, on average, over the past 20 years. 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!



My Dumbest Investment

A Solar Burn

I was still relatively new to the investment game and, being a sustainable energy supporter, I fell for Pacific Blue Energy's talk about solar panel farms. Literally the day I invested, the stock price started falling. Blind faith that things would turn around sooner or later proved very blind. I ended up losing around \$10,000. But being badly burned once is usually an excellent motivation to improve your investing skills. It was soon after that that I joined The Motley Fool. — Ingrid, online

The Fool Responds: First of all, be careful when you refer to investing as a game. It's easy to think of investing as gambling, but you're doing much more than just speculating if you're investing in healthy, established, growing companies with proven track records and competitive advantages.

Unfortunately, Pacific Blue has mostly been a penny stock. Penny stocks, often hyped and manipulated, are like gambling and are best avoided. Many have high expectations for solar energy, but it's not booming quite yet, partly due to supply-and-demand issues. With all stocks, buy on strength, not rumors, promises or possibilities.

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

LAST WEEK'S TRIVIA ANSWER

Born in 1906, I'm the world's top cereal company, and a major snack and frozen-food maker as well. My brands include Cheez-It, Nutri-Grain, Morningstar Farms, Coco Pops, Eggo, Frosted Flakes, Kashi, Keebler, Mini-Wheats, Rice Krispies, Famous Amos, Ready Crust and Special K. Pringles will soon join the lineup, too. I fed the Apollo 11 crew in space and made K-rations during World War II. In the 1990s, Pop-Tarts became my top-selling product. I make my products in 18 countries and sell them in more than 180. I rake in more than \$13 billion annually. Who am I? (Answer: Kellogg 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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Mass. church, founded in 1692, gets renovation

Associated Press

SALEM, Mass. — One of the oldest Protestant churches in North America has reopened after a \$1.8 million renovation.

The First Church in Salem, Unitarian, was founded in 1629, and hosted historically important preachers including Roger Williams and William Brantley.

But the building needed to be restored and updated. Among the changes is a new wheelchair-accessible main entrance with a Gothic arch, which leads to a new elevator.

The pastor, the Rev. Jeff Barz-Snell, told The Salem News (<http://bit.ly/JXNGZI>) that improving accessibility and opening up the church to the broader community were the main reasons the church took on the project.

The church, with a congregation of about 170, raised the money in part with a controversial decision to selling church silver. It also relied on donations and matching funds from its endowment.

Oil holds near 2012 low

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The price of oil held near the lowest levels of the year on a quiet Friday ahead of the holiday weekend.

Benchmark U.S. crude on Friday added 20 cents to finish the week at \$90.86 per barrel in New York while Brent crude rose by 28 cents to end at \$106.83 per barrel in London.

Both crude varieties have tumbled this month on forecasts of weaker world demand and higher supplies.

PUSHING AHEAD: College partnership providing more opportunities

Continued From Page 1C
Leo Director Dr. Charles Oden.

"We've grown through the recession," Hall said. "When people can't find jobs, they go back to school."

Student success at the college is high, Hall said. One hundred and ten students graduated at this year's ceremony.

"When we get a student, if they don't finish in two years, they finish in three," she said. "We have a really good retention rate. We like to think that our one-on-one has something to do with that. Because if someone becomes lost, we call them, say, 'we miss you, are you coming back?'"

The staff at the Lake City Center of Saint Leo is made up of four people who play the role of all the departments within the college: registrar, academic advisor, financial aid, admissions, etc.

Oden said the staff typically advises students individually two to three times a year.

"Just that reassurance that okay, I'm on track, everything is going good. It's a good thing and I think students appreciate the fact that we do that," Oden said.

Oden said a common misconception is that because Saint Leo is a private college, its tuition costs are higher than most public universities.

With help from the Florida Resident Access Grant, which offers \$2,150 in grant money a year for some students, tuition fees at Saint Leo are actually beginning to fall below state averages for public universities, Hall said.

"This coming year we are \$717 per course and that's before the FRAG so that would be equal to an out-of-state," Oden said. "So in-state you are looking at

about \$450 per course."

Saint Leo offers bachelor's degrees in areas such as criminal justice, psychology and business but the college is particularly proud of their education program.

"We are very, very proud of our education program, we provide a lot of teachers here in this five county area," Hall said. "In fact, last year when I had gone to the teacher of the year program, almost half of the teachers who were nominated in all the 14 schools were our graduates."

Hall called the program the "most cohesive" at the center because of its emphasis on taking classes on-site and working with a cohort of other students.

Employment success after graduating from Saint Leo has been very high for all of its programs, Oden said.

"Even in the criminal justice program if you talk to the sheriff, he's got quite a few our graduates," Oden said. "A lot of local businesses are looking at our graduates. So we have a lot of strong programs."

"They typically are hired right when they graduate," Hall said of Saint Leo students.

Saint Leo works in concert with FGC, putting emphasis on programs that are not offered by their cousin college. Hall said the colleges are true partners.

FGC has recently discussed expanding some of their programs to four-year programs. However, according to Oden, this will not conflict with growth happening at Saint Leo.

"The idea of two-year institutions doing this is they look around and say what other needs are out there that are not being met and then stepping up to the plate on those," Oden said. "That's what

Florida Gateway is doing, like with nursing. We can't do nursing. We don't have it on our main campus. We don't have any background in that, we don't have the resources for it. They are stepping up to the plate and doing what needs to

be done for the community in areas that we can't help with."

"When the students win, we all win and that's the bottom line," Hall said. "This partnership is for the students."

Oden said he expects

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Now that another school year is drawing to a close, your young children are a step closer to the day when they'll be heading off to college. Of course, as you're probably aware, higher education doesn't come cheap — and the costs seem to continuously climb. You can help your children — or even your grandchildren — meet these expenses by investing in a 529 plan. And this college savings vehicle offers estate-planning benefits.

As a college funding vehicle, a 529 plan offers some significant benefits. When you contribute to a 529 plan, your earnings accumulate tax free, provided they are used for qualified higher education expenses. (Keep in mind, though, that 529 plan distributions not used for qualified expenses may be subject to federal and state income tax and a 10% IRS penalty.) Furthermore, your 529 plan contributions may be deductible from your state taxes. However, 529 plans vary, so be sure to check with your tax advisor. And the lifetime contribution limits for 529 plans are quite generous; while these limits vary by state, many plans allow contributions well in excess of \$200,000. Plus, a 529 plan is flexible: If the child, grandchild or other beneficiary decides against college, you can transfer the unused funds to someone else, tax and penalty free.

Now, let's turn to a 529 plan's estate-planning benefits. If you think that you may need to reduce the size of your taxable estate, and you also want to create a legacy you may be able to enjoy during your lifetime, you may find that the 529 plan offers a solution for you. When you establish and contribute to a 529 plan, the assets leave your estate — but

they don't leave your control. If your named beneficiary decides against college and you don't have another family member to whom you can transfer the account — or if you simply change your mind about funding the 529 plan — you can get your money back at any time, although, as mentioned above, you'll have to pay taxes, and possibly a 10% IRS penalty, on the earnings.

Your contributions to a 529 plan also qualify for the \$13,000 annual gift tax exclusion, so you can give large amounts each year without incurring the gift tax.

In the investment world, you can find many vehicles that can help you make progress toward one goal. But it's far less common to find something that may give you a boost toward two. And when the two goals are helping a child or grandchild go to college and lowering the value of your taxable estate — while still maintaining control of your assets — you've got an investment worth considering. So consult with your tax and financial advisors to determine if a 529 plan is right for you. And if it is, think about taking action soon, because the more years you can contribute to a 529 plan, the better the outlook for both your future student and your estate plans.

Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors are not estate planners and cannot provide tax or legal advice. You should consult your estate-planning attorney or qualified tax advisor regarding your situation.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



Jerry Osteryoung

Answering staff's questions

There is no question in my mind that the primary job of a manager or entrepreneur is to help their staff progress and support each employee's efforts. Your job as the leader of the team is not just to provide a fountain of answers, but to enable your staff to become the best they can be.

So many times when I am consulting with organizations, I see managers who are so busy that all they have time to do is quickly answer questions. Of course, answering questions is important, but if this is the only way you are interacting with your staff, you are not empowering them or using your time efficiently.

Simply answering the question at hand is effective only in the short term. It gets that staff member in and out of your office very quickly but does very little in the long term. Because questions are usually situation-specific, the employee will likely return again and again. There is no real exchange of knowledge and nothing to empower the staff member to deal with issues in the future.

Think of each question as a training opportunity. Every time a staff member comes to you with a problem, you need to ask them what solution they would recommend. In the beginning, of course, they are not going to have solutions, but if you continue to ask them for their thoughts, they will eventually come to you with suggestions.

Ultimately, of course, it is you who gives the ok, but making the employee think through the situation and propose a solution empowers them while helping develop necessary decision-making skills.

If the employee cannot come up with a good solution, it is the manager's job to coach them through the process. The first step is helping the staff member articulate what the real issues are. Then they need to identify how these issues affect the business.

For example, consider an employee who is managing a new software conversion. The project is taking more hours than originally budgeted, so this staff member comes to you asking for permission to spend additional funds.

Although going over budget is the problem this employee has brought to you, there is a deeper cause that needs to be addressed. Before dealing with the budget concern, you need to help the employee recognize what caused this problem in the first place and think about how the budgetary process might have been flawed. Once they understand the cause of the problem, without blame, it is so much easier for them to come up with a solution.

Empowering your staff is the key to being a great manager.

The more you can get your staff to figure out problems for themselves, the more they will feel like part of the team. As a bonus, if you train them to come up with good solutions, they will come to you less and you will have fewer interruptions to inhibit your productivity. Interruptions are the number one cause of time management issues.

Now go out and make sure it is your practice to address staff questions as training opportunities. If you continue to ask your employees to offer their own possible solutions, you will develop better decision-makers. I promise your company and staff will be stronger for it.

You can do this!

■ Jerry Osteryoung is a consultant to businesses - he has directly assisted over 3,000 firms. He is the Jim Moran Professor of Entrepreneurship (Emeritus) and Professor of Finance (Emeritus) at Florida State University. He was the founding Executive Director of The Jim Moran Institute and served in that position from 1995 through 2008. His newest book co-authored with Tim O'Brien, "If You Have Employees, You Really Need This Book," is an Amazon.com best-seller. He can be reached by e-mail at jerry.osteryoung@gmail.com.

Restaurant fundraisers promote pet causes

By **MICHELLE LOCKE**
Associated Press

Restaurants are going to the dogs... and the cats, and various other friends of the four-legged variety.

From Doggie Happy Hours to seasonal dinners raising money for animal charities, the white tablecloth set is serving up a little pet philanthropy.

The eat well, do good movement marries two trends — the fascination with things furry (kitten videos, anyone?) as well as our nearly insatiable appetite for great, memorable food.

"I think we're a good match with a lot of charitable events because of the nature of our business," points out Ron Patak, vice president of student operations at Culinary Institute of Virginia College, which runs the Kitchen on George restaurant in Mobile, Ala.

So, when Kitchen on George opened late last year, it decided to throw a "Pooches on the Patio" event to benefit the Mobile SPCA. The event — which indeed featured pooches quite literary on the restaurant's patio — was such a success, the restaurant repeated it this spring, drawing 80 to 100 people and about 15 dogs.

Guests donated \$25 for admission to the party, which included wine, cheese and hors d'oeuvres, and the SPCA brought along animals in need of homes. The visiting dogs were well behaved, money was raised for the SPCA and three homeless dogs were adopted, the same number as were adopted in the earlier fundraiser, says Patak.

A little further up the East Coast, dogs are welcome at regular Doggie Happy Hours in the courtyard of the Jackson 20 restaurant at Hotel Monaco-Alexandria near Washington, D.C. The restaurant also has been hosting "Bitch & Whine" tastings featuring the libations of Virginia vineyards to benefit local pet charities. And at Halloween they put on a Doggie Happy Howl-o-ween costume contest with registration and door donations going to the Animal Welfare League of Alexandria.

The Hotel Monaco-Alexandria is seriously pet friendly. If you can't bring Fido they'll lend you a goldfish. And it's not the only hotel unleashing a little animal love.

At Rosewood Sand Hill south of San Francisco, the hotel's Michelin-starred Madera restaurant has an annual Easter celebration that includes a brunch and a petting zoo on the hotel lawn. Proceeds from the petting zoo admission benefit the Palo Alto Humane Society.

Wineries also have a long tradition of supporting animal charities, with the latest in the wine-canine connection coming via Frenchie Winery at Raymond Vineyards in the Napa Valley.

Billed as the only tasting room designed exclusively for dogs, Frenchie Winery is named after winery proprietor Jean-Charles Boisset's French bulldog. It features five kennel spaces boasting wine barrel dog beds with an outdoor play area and a tasting bar that dispenses water. Meanwhile, guests tasting wine in the human tasting room can keep an eye on the whole thing by doggie-cam.

Plans are under way for events including mobile pet grooming and pet adoption, and donations are being made through wines



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A rescued dog named "Girl," attends the Pooches on the Porch event recently to benefit the SPCA at Kitchen on George restaurant in Mobile, Ala. Restaurants around the country are offering doggie adoption happy hours and dinners to raise money for animal shelters.



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Above left: Supporters and their rescued dogs attend the Pooches on the Porch event.

Above right: Val Regaliza at a buffet for the Pooches on the Porch event.

At left: Marcia Mathis greets "Atticus" recently at the Pooches on the Porch event to benefit the SPCA at Kitchen on George restaurant in Mobile, Ala.



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featuring Frenchie on the label dressed as historical figures — current releases include the 2009 Frenchie Napoleon Red Blend and 2009 Frenchie Louis XIV Cabernet Sauvignon. A dollar for every bottle of Frenchie wine produced in 2012 will be donated to the ASPCA.

From Doggie Happy Hours to seasonal dinners raising money for animal charities, the white tablecloth set is serving up a little pet philanthropy.

Right at Home: Modern twists on wood furnishings

Associated Press

Industrial designer Robert Hendrick was on a tech career track out of college until two things happened that changed his trajectory.

First, he bought a company that maintains and rebuilds railroad tracks. Then he started spending Saturdays building stuff with his father, Jim.

"I'd always been fascinated by trains and loved the history of how they were so instrumental in the industrialization of America," says Hendrick, of Nashville. "Dad was a construction exec, and the carpentry shop was a weekend diversion. He was always salvaging some interesting artifact from a building that was being torn down. When I saw some of the scrap rails, I realized there might be some beautiful things we could make with them."

The two launched Rail Yard Studios in 2010. Using century-old railroad steel and

hardwood timber, they make one-of-a-kind chairs, desks, tables, beds. Some of the rails date back as far as 1898. Each piece is numbered using a salvaged date nail that's been scavenged from the tracks themselves.

Many wood furniture artisans are interested, as the Hendricks are, in honoring the provenance of their material, whether it's repurposed, recycled or just reimagined as something that can be

used in the home.

That creative respect makes for some beautiful and intriguing pieces.

Naomi Neilson Howard, founder of the company Native Trails in San Luis Obispo, Calif., uses staves and barrels from nearby wineries to make bathroom vanities for her Vintner's Collection. Her Cabernet model has a deep, warm patina, the result of the oak soaking in red wine for several years. The

pieces have an Old World, weathered quality.

This spring, Howard added the Renewal series to her line, a departure from the more rustic pieces. She molds tightly grained, compressed bamboo into contemporary vanities such as the Halcyon, a curvy, wall-mounted piece fashioned from two proprietary varieties, Caramel Bamboo and the darker Woven Strand Bamboo.

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Degree in early childhood education or related field or FCCPC preferred and minimum of three years relevant experience in child care or related field. Ability to advocate for high quality programming and to implement change where necessary. Must have good organizational skills, observation skills, communication skills and computer skills. Must be able to visit child care programs throughout the service area. Must be willing to participate in professional development. For additional information, please visit our website at www.elc-fg.org Please send letter of interest and resume to Early Learning Coalition of Florida's Gateway, Inc. Attn: Human Resources at 1104 SW Main Blvd, Lake City, FL 32025. Fax to (386) 628-9321 or email lsurrency@elc-fg.org by June 1, 2012.

Recruitment & Retention Specialist
Partnership for Strong Families is the lead agency for community-based care in N Central FL, providing services to ensure the safety, well-being & security of children & families through foster care & related services. Position will be responsible for the recruitment & support of Partner Families through MAPP training until they are licensed. Position requires travel & primarily works in Lake City/Live Oak. **Minimum Requirements:** BA in Social Services, PR/Marketing or a closely related field w/ 2 yrs of related social welfare or recruitment exp. Valid DL. **Preferred:** Child Protection Professional Certification. **Hiring Range:** \$36,750-\$45,937 **Closes:** 06/05/12 Please visit PSF's website at www.pfsf.org for complete specifications & description. PSF is an AA/EOE.

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GARDEN TALK



Nichelle Demorest
dndemorest@ufl.edu

Thank goodness for blueberries

With the Wellborn Blueberry Festival coming up, this is a good time to talk about this "super fruit." Although blueberries are native to North America, they have only been grown in gardens for the past century. Picking where they grew wild was the method of obtaining blueberries before people began growing them in gardens and cultivated fields.

Florida's winters are a little too short and mild for good production of some fruits. Many deciduous fruit cultivars require more winter chill exposure (temperatures below 45 degrees) than they are likely to receive, even in northern parts of Florida. Without sufficient chilling, plants just don't flower or leaf out well in the spring.

Thank goodness for the efforts of plant breeders at the University of Florida and other research facilities. Cultivars of delicious and productive blueberries have been developed specifically for areas with mild winter temperatures such as ours. We can have blueberries from our backyard, from the U-pick blueberry farm down the road, or in all kinds of tasty foods offered at the festival in Wellborn next weekend.

There are two types of blueberries grown in Florida, southern highbush and rabbiteye. Southern highbush blueberries are better adapted to areas south of Ocala and require a little more maintenance. Rabbiteye grow well in northern Florida when given a few soil and site requirements. Primarily, they don't like wet feet, so drainage must be good to 18 inches deep. The soil pH must be acid, about 4.0 to 5.5, so a pH test is recommended before preparing the soil. Check with the Extension office where the

Master Gardeners provide free pH tests and suggestions on preparing the soil. Call 752-5384

We now have rabbiteye cultivars which can extend our harvest of homegrown blueberries from May through July. Early producers include 'Beckyblue', 'Bonita', and 'Climax' which ripen in late May and early June in Gainesville. Cross pollination is needed and 'Climax' has proven to be a good pollinator for both of the other early cultivars. Bees will have to be present in the area.

The mid to late season producers seem to consistently have better yields because they bloom a little later and aren't caught by any late cold snaps. Some of the best cultivars for home gardens include 'Brightwell', 'Powderblue', 'Tifblue', and 'Woodard'.

GARDEN TALK
continued on 2D



Jeremy Koger, 3, tries to feed his 5-year-old sister, Abigail, a blueberry as she picks from a plant.

Blueberry Bounty

19th Annual Wellborn festival will celebrate the harvest of the versatile and juicy fruit.



A cluster of blueberries adorn a plant awaiting to be picked by eager blueberry enthusiasts.

From staff reports

Blue-stained fingers and T-shirts will be a common sight next weekend as Wellborn residents and visitors celebrate the harvest of the versatile and juicy blueberry.

The 19th Annual Wellborn Blueberry Festival is Friday, June 1 and Saturday, June 2 in historic downtown Wellborn. Admission is free.

The festival is a celebration of the annual blueberry harvest and the major fundraiser for the non-profit Wellborn Community Association.

The two-day festival will feature live entertainment headlined by the Willow Creek Band. The event is family friendly with children's crafts, a talent contest and a variety of games. This year's theme is Think Green.

More than 90 vendors will sell crafts ranging from handmade mailboxes and jewelry to hand-painted pictures and knitted items, as well as food items

"My favorite part about the festival is having all the vendors come in, especially the food vendors," said Wendell Snowden, president of the Wellborn Community Association. "It's like a carnival atmosphere."

The community association's country store will have homemade pies, cobbler, jam, jelly, syrup and candy - all of the blueberry variety, of course - for sale.



Wellborn residents Peral Turner (left) and Judy Husocki display various blueberry-based treats, such as pie, cobbler, jams, syrups, muffins and bubble gums at a previous Wellborn Blueberry Festival.

The Blueberry Bake-Off Contest judging is scheduled for 5 p.m. Friday with the Lake City Reporter's Taste Buddies Genie Norman and Mary Kay Hollinsworth serving as judges.

"You name it, anything a person could bake for a dessert (the participants) have a tendency to do and add blueberries," Snowden said. "It comes at a nice time where if you've been working all day you can go in, wind down, sit and go at it."

The youth talent contest starts at 6 p.m. Friday and an adult talent contest is slated for 1:30 p.m. Saturday.

The festival continues from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday with the famous blueberry pancake breakfast until 9:30 a.m.

The breakfast includes three pancakes, three sausage links, orange juice and coffee. The meal is \$5 for adults and \$3 children. A third breakfast station will be available at the Wellborn Baptist Church on US 90, with a free shuttle running to the festival grounds.

"If you don't want to wait in line, be there at 7 in the morning," Snowden said. "But it seems like people don't mind waiting in line. It's like a social event. That's why it's popular."

Many come in groups to the breakfast just to socialize, he said.

"Some people have been to

every festival and always come to the pancake breakfast," Snowden said. "That seems to be the highlight of the festival for them."

After breakfast the festival parade starts at 10:30 a.m. with floats from local businesses, churches and organizations.

The camaraderie available at the Blueberry Festival brings people back each year to meet with familiar faces again, Snowden said. The Wellborn Blueberry Festival is free to the public.

"It's a festival not to be missed," he said. "It's a festival for all of the family."

For more information visit www.wellborn-communityassociation.com.

See related photo on 2D.

Children of Andrew still recall 1992 hurricane

For some, the storm even shaped the adults they became.

By **CHRISTINE ARMARIO**
Associated Press

MIAMI—When Hurricane Andrew roared across South Florida 20 years ago this August, it flattened homes, uprooted trees and destroyed suburban blocks for miles around. One of just three Category 5 storms to strike the U.S. in the past 160 years, Andrew left at least 15 people dead and more than 150,000 people homeless, its 165 mph winds causing more than \$25 billion in damage.

Some of the most poignant images of the aftermath were those of children: Standing in food lines, idling in sweltering heat beside damaged homes, limp in the arms of rescue workers. Once back at school, some kids hid under desks, apprehensive whenever thunderstorms approached. Others spoke of nightmares that another hurricane would strike.

"Disaster really exposes all our childhood beliefs," said Jon Shaw, a psychiatrist at the University of Miami who studied children in the aftermath of the storm. "To discover that people are unable to provide for you, protect you, is an increased understanding of how the world works."

As another hurricane season opens in June, what was one of the worst U.S. natural disasters has increasingly become a fading memory. For the children who lived through Andrew though, each new threat still brings a vivid recollection. For some, the storm even shaped the adults they became.

Laura Tsiltidze, Dante Diaz and Marcela Rubio will each be thinking of the hurricane this summer. I will remember it, too.

Disaster with color

In Laura Tsiltidze's work at a large insurance company, disasters are measured in numbers: Claims filed, dollars lost, payments made. But it's hard for the 27-year-old to look at the figures coldly. She thinks of the people behind them, and she's reminded of the storm that ripped away rooftops, knocked out power and shook the walls of her family's home.

"I see it with a lot of color,"

she says.

Tsiltidze, her parents and three siblings survived Hurricane Andrew crunched together in a bathroom with no windows. She remembers the wind howling as the storm gained in fury before dawn on Aug. 24, 1992. She still recalls the antsy, nervous movements of her 2-year-old brother. She could feel the walls vibrating as she leaned against them.

Then as the storm abated, she and her family walked outside and entered a changed world: Tiles, roofing, tar, leaves and garbage littered the ground. A big tree in the front yard had fallen, luckily, away from their home.

In all, authorities estimated that Andrew destroyed more than 25,000 homes and damaged more than 100,000 others as it tore through entire neighborhoods. While at least 15 deaths were directly attributed to the storm, there were reports of several other deaths indirectly from its passage.

On the ground, she and her siblings found birds injured by the debris. They picked them up from the muck and put them in shoeboxes.

"None of them survived," she says.

Several rooms, including her own, had roof damage, so the Tsiltidzes spent weeks sleeping on the living room floor. There was no electricity for more than a month and running water was scarce. They'd take sponge baths and bathe every few days in a nearby lake.

For a child, the evening cookouts and nights spent in sleeping bags almost seemed fun. As an adult, she sees it through a different prism. Hurricanes aren't just a burst of orange, green and yellow swirling on a radar screen, or a set of numbers added up, totaling the enormity of destruction.

"These are people who have lost something," she says. "I guess it was me during Andrew."

Amazed by the wind

Dante Diaz had just turned 9. He and his sister, whose birthdays are less than a month apart, were planning a party for the next week. Their mother purchased "FernGully" decorations, from an animated film about a magical rain forest, and had gifts hidden in a closet.

The Diaz family lived in a one-story, beige colored house with a white tile roof in Cutler

Ridge, a middle-class neighborhood set along Biscayne Bay, just south of Miami. As the hurricane approached, Cutler Ridge was evacuated. The Diazes left nearly everything behind: their dogs, family photographs, books, clothing, the birthday presents.

As Diaz settled into sleep at his grandmother's house that night, the sound of a window slamming shut awoke him. Small rocks began banging against the house, and a metal shed rattled in the yard as the wind tore it apart. The family gathered in a closet and Diaz fell asleep standing up.

Hours later, his grandmother's white colored house was green from the leaves stuck to the exterior. At his home in Cutler Ridge, the windows were blown out and the ceiling caving in. The dogs had survived but were covered in insulation. It was six months before the family could move back. Diaz recalls trying to salvage books and clothing from his bedroom, and his dad promising to buy him all new stuff. The birthday gifts were still in his mother's closet, but the packaging was so wet he could push his fingers through them.

"I remember thinking how remarkable it was, that wind could do all that," says Diaz, now 28.

As the years passed, Diaz grew more and more curious about what happened. He checked out books on hurricanes from the library. By

high school, he was tracking hurricanes at home and had decided to study meteorology. Today, he is a tropical meteorologist, tracking hurricanes and tropical storms for ImpactWeather in Texas. A fellow meteorologist there, Andrew Hagen, also was a child living in Miami during Hurricane Andrew.

At work, Diaz keeps photographs in a notebook of his house after the storm. He

uttered in French, Arab and Israeli accents.

"This is worse than the war in Lebanon!" one cried.

The house was barely left standing: The windows and roof were gone by the time the last gusts ceased. Everything, she remembers, was covered in glass, like something she might have seen in Honduras.

"To see that happen in the United States, a wealthy nation, somewhat connected the two

places in my mind and made them equal for a brief moment," she said.

She returned to Honduras but moved to the United States

a year later, and the storm has remained a vestige connecting her to Miami. Today, Rubio, 27, is a caseworker for the City of Miami Beach. Each hurricane season, she makes presentations to the elderly on storm preparations.

"There is a deep understanding among those who went through (Andrew)," she said. "But I feel that it has almost become folklore, and it could never happen again."

Long recovery

My house was largely spared but our neighborhood was mostly demolished.

A two-story house on our block was reduced to one. The trees that had neatly lined our street were scattered across the lawns in pieces, or missing altogether. A few doors down, my friend's house was left uninhabitable. I remember going inside with her to try and find clothing; most of it was ruined.

In all, authorities estimated that Andrew destroyed more than 25,000 homes and damaged more than 100,000 others as it tore through entire neighborhoods.

looks at them every day.

Worse than war

Marcela Rubio lived in Honduras, but in the summer of 1992, her mother was working as a live-in housekeeper in Miami. Rubio went to visit and in late August they found themselves caught in the fury of Andrew.

Her mother worked for a Lebanese-Israeli family that lived in an apartment near the water. Like others, they decided to pass the storm at a friend's house further inland. Rubio remembers being excited about spending the weekend at a big house with a shaded pool.

The 10 adults and four children at the house crammed into a hallway as the strongest winds approached. They held their knees to their chests and listened to a battery-operated radio. Rubio recalls the nervous worried talk of the adults,

Wellborn Blueberry Festival is June 1-2



FILE

Southern Made Company co-owner Sharon Wallace, of Clemont, describes her homemade buttermilk, blue cheese and wing sauces

See related story on Page 1D.

GARDEN TALK: Thank goodness for blueberries

Continued From Page 1D

For more information on blueberry varieties, go to <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/hs215>

The best time to plant bare root or container grown blueberries is during the winter. So while you are planning out your edible garden, be sure to

add some juicy blueberries. And make good use of your local U-pick blueberry farms right now!

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

ENGAGEMENT

Mohl-Borer

Steven Mohl and Carla Rey of Leesburg, Ga., announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Rebecca Lorraine Mohl of Albany, Ga., to Nathan Thomas Borer of Albany,



Ga., son of Barbara and Donald Borer of Lake City. The bride is also the daughter of Steven and Diana Mohl, and Brett and Carla Rey. The wedding is planned for 1 p.m. Saturday, July 28 at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Macon, Ga. A reception will follow at Le Piada, Macon, Ga. The bride-elect is a 2003 graduate of Lee County High School, a 2005 graduate of Darton College with an associates degree, and a 2008 graduate of University of Georgia with a bachelors in athletic training. She received her masters in math education from UGA in 2009 and currently works as an assistant athletic director and mathematics instructor at Darton College in Albany, Ga. The future groom is a 2004 graduate of Columbia High School and is currently attending Florida Gateway College for a degree in business administration. He is self-employed as an auction buyer and reseller.

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Some edibles are great as ornamentals

By DEAN FOSDICK

Associated Press

Sweet potato vines decorating window boxes? Blueberry plants prized more for their foliage than their fruit?

Some flowers and vegetables are as appealing in the home garden as they are on the menu.

"We generally are interested in something to eat when we grow vegetables. In some cases, however, certain vegetable cultivars have been bred and selected for their ornamental characteristics rather than their food quality," said Dan Gill, a Louisiana State University AgCenter horticulturist.

Ornamental sweet potatoes are a prime example, he said.

"They've been really popular in the last 15 or 20 years," Gill said. "The early ones can easily cover 5 square feet. Plant a few in a container and they will fill it in."

Sweet potatoes are vining plants, members of the morning glory family, so they work equally well as low-growing bedding plants, as ground cover, on climbing arbors or trailing from hanging baskets, he said.

"They can be aggressive, however. Breeders are developing hybrids that



ASSOCIATED PRESS

A weeping larch is shown in Scarsdale, N.Y., in this undated photo.

are less vigorous and that play well in mixed beds with other plants," Gill said. "They do produce an edible crop but they're not that tasty. Gardeners like them more for their colored foliage."

Blueberries are another great multi-use option, said Scott NeSmith, a

research horticulturist at the University of Georgia-Griffin campus.

"We're seeking a variety of novel blueberry types, with (an) emphasis on berry colors, plant shape and form, fall color, dwarfness and other interesting traits," he said. "We want consumers to surround

themselves with flavorful beauty."

Some other appetizing ornamentals:

— Kale, Swiss chard, parsley, chives, rosemary, sage and mustards.

— Black peppers, chili, sweet peppers and hops. The latter "beautifully and vigorously cover an arbor

or fence, and the young strings taste quite good," said Rose Marie Nichols McGee, owner of Nichols Garden Nursery in Albany, Ore.

— Elderberries and strawberries.

— Eggplants, squash and zucchini, cabbages, artichokes and beets.

Just as there are ornamental fruits and vegetables, so, too, are there edible flowers, garden beauties that provide culinary treats. Some nominees:

— Hostas (blooms), day-lilies (tubers, buds), dandelions (flowers when picked young), marigolds ("poor man's saffron"), begonias.

— Sunflowers (buds), yucca (petals, fruit), lavender (blooms), nasturtium (leaves, petals).

A couple of cautions, however, about adding flowers to the menu:

"Never use flowers for garnishing unless you know for certain they are edible," said Gill, adding, "Some flowers, like the plants that produce them, are poisonous."

Also, do not eat flowers that may have been sprayed with pesticides or picked along roadsides. Wash flowers thoroughly before plating up, and eat them in small quantities.

"If you're buying a plant off the shelf, wait a month before you use it for culinary reasons," McGee said. "By then, it's probably OK. If you've been growing it yourself and know how it's been handled, there should be no risk. The same goes for anything organic. But if its background is unknown, be careful."

California's Coronado named nation's best beach

By JULIE WATSON

Associated Press

CORONADO, Calif. — Like a Hollywood star, Coronado's 1.5 mile-long beach literally sparkles, thanks to the mineral mica glinting in its sand.

That's one of the reasons why Coronado — flanked by the iconic hotel featured in Marilyn Monroe's 1958 film "Some Like It Hot" — has been named the No. 1 beach in the United States in the 2012 survey by "Dr. Beach" professor Stephen P. Leatherman of Florida International University.

It is the first time "Dr. Beach" has given the top slot to California in the more than two decades that he has been ranking beaches in the United States based on their environmental quality and safety for swimmers.

Coronado Beach, on a peninsula across the bay from San Diego, has near-perfect Mediterranean weather and a postcard backdrop.

"I think it's one of the most super beaches around," said Leatherman, director of FIU's Laboratory for Coastal Research.

Rounding out the top 10 this year were No. 2, Kahanamoku Beach in Waikiki, Honolulu, Hawaii; No. 3, Main Beach, East Hampton, N.Y.; No. 4, St. George Island State Park, Florida Panhandle; No. 5, Hamoa Beach, Maui, Hawaii; No. 6, Coast Guard Beach, Cape Cod, Mass.; No. 7, Waimanalo Bay Beach Park, Oahu, Hawaii; No. 8, Cape Florida State Park near Miami.; No. 9, Beachwalker Park, Kiawah Island, S.C.; and No. 10, Cape Hatteras in North Carolina.

Leatherman ranks beaches on 50 criteria, including the look and feel of the sand, water quality, weather, facilities and crowds. A top score is 250. Coronado came in the 230s, losing points because its water temperature hovering in the 60s allows



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A child chases a sea gull on the Coronado Beach in Coronado, Calif., recently. The Coronado Beach has been named America's best beach. Coronado Beach tops the 2012 list of Top 10 Beaches produced annually by coastal expert Stephen P. Leatherman, also known as "Dr. Beach," director of Florida International University's Laboratory for Coastal Research. Below: Duke Kahanamoku Beach in Waikiki, Hawaii is number two on the 2012 list of Top 10 Beaches.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

for only a quick dip for most, Leatherman said. California's chilly coastal waters have cost its pristine beaches points when they've been up against balmy contenders in Florida and Hawaii in the past. Coronado Beach was runner-up last year to Florida's Siesta Beach. Once a beach tops Leatherman's list, it is retired from consider-

ation for future rankings.

A No. 1 spot on the popular list typically brings a 15-to-20-percent boost in visitors.

Leatherman said Coronado is great for skim boarding (gliding on the water with a small, finless surfboard) and walking. The wide, flat beach is lined by majestic mansions and the Hotel del Coronado. Known as

"Hotel Del," the National Historic Landmark with its peaked red roof was built in 1888 and is the last of California's Victorian seaside resorts.

Coronado is also the name of the swanky-yet-quiet city on a peninsula populated by Navy officers and some of California's wealthiest. It can be reached by ferry boat for a few dollars from downtown San Diego.

There is free parking at the beach but it is on a public street so it can be challenging, Leatherman said.

On a recent spring afternoon, tourists from China to Russia sprawled out on its beach in front of "Hotel Del," lounging on blankets in the sun. A Navy ship dotted the horizon. One man aimed his camera upward, thrilled as the quiet lapping of waves was interrupted with the roar of a Navy jet from a nearby base doing a training exercise.

Lifelong San Diego County resident 55-year-old Nellie Landeros said it is her favorite beach.

"It's gorgeous," she said. "Just the setting alone feels like we're in another world."

Billy Pavlacka, 51, has been visiting Coronado Beach weekly for 30 years. Known as "The Sand Castle Man," Pavlacka was building a towering castle with rows of arches and spheres. He said he spotted an aircraft carrier and submarine earlier that day. Flecks of the glittery mica mineral make the sand shimmer in the sunlight.

"If you look at the sand you can see it sparkling," said a tanned Pavlacka, with gray locks peeking out from under his baseball cap. "Under ask me all the time if it's gold."

The top 10 list is in its 22nd year.

Beaches do not pay to be evaluated for the top 10 best beaches list. Leatherman said he visits top 10 candidates incognito to collect sand and water samples for study.

New packaging offers wine to go for picnic season

By MICHELLE LOCKE

Associated Press

Enjoying good wine in the great outdoors is fun, but toting glass bottles on the trail is no picnic.

Enter the new crop of alternatively packaged wines in cartons, cans and other trail-ready options.

Sure, for actual hydration you'll

want to tote along water or whatever energy drink you favor. But for that moment when the hike is done, the mountain bike path conquered, or you're just relaxing and grilling a few steaks on a lazy Sunday, these wines make it easy to blend libations with explorations.

As Brad Day, a wine lover and outdoorsman who runs the

outdoor activities website WeekendSherpa.com puts it, "It adds a nice element to sitting back and enjoying the natural surroundings."

So here are some wines that make good traveling partners.

— PACK A POUCH

The Climber is billed as "all-terrain wine transport," and it is. Available in chardonnay or cabernet sauvignon, this wine comes in a foil pouch with a hole punched at the top so it can be clipped to a backpack with a carabiner hook.

It shouldn't come as a big surprise that The Climber comes from Clif Family Winery founded by Gary Erickson and wife Kit Crawford, the people behind the Clif energy bar. The Climber is widely available and also can be found at the Clif winery tasting room Vela Vino in St. Helena, a popular spot with bicyclists.

The pouch holds the equivalent of two regular bottles and has a suggested retail of \$17, so the wine is light on your wallet as well as your pack.

The winery works with the group 1 Percent for

the Planet, and 1 percent of Climber sales go to charity, in this case a partnership with Trees for the Future. What to pair with it? Gorp is good, or if you want to go a little more upscale you might try the Smoked Paprika Almonds from the Gary & Kit's Napa Valley line of snacks.

— HAVE A CAN-DO

ATTITUDE

You may be more used to seeing beer in cans, but there are a few wines available in aluminum. A fun wine to try is Sophia minis from the Francis Ford Coppola winery. This is the winery's Sophia blanc de blancs sparkling wine that is a blend of pinot noir, sauvignon blanc and muscat, but

in a pink 187-milliliter can, complete with a tiny straw (suggested retail \$5).

Another option is FLASQ wines from JT Wines. These are sold in 375-milliliter aluminum half bottles that chill quickly and are recyclable. Available in chardonnay, merlot and a cuvee blanc (a white blend), they come with a suggested retail of \$5.99 to \$7.99.

Finally... a wine you can drop.

— BET ON A BOX

Several wines are available in cartons and a reliable line is Bandit wines from Napa Valley winemaker Joel Gott. Available in several varietals and blends, including sangria, the wines are available in 1-liter or 500-milliliter boxes and are priced at around \$9 for the liter.

Or, if you're going to be gone for a while or have a crowd with you, you could kick it old-school and go with one of the bag-in-box wines that hold the equivalent of four bottles. Day recalls going for a backpacking trip with friends and toting along some Black Box Wines, one of the pioneers in putting quality wine in a box.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

A Climber pouch filled with Cabernet Sauvignon wine is poured into a glass on a patio table recently at the Vela Vino tasting room and bike center in St. Helena, Calif.

SUNDAY EVENING MAY 27, 2012. Table with columns for Comcast, Dish, DirecTV and time slots from 6 PM to 11:30. Rows list various TV channels and their programming.

WEEKDAY AFTERNOON. Table with columns for Comcast, Dish, DirecTV and time slots from 12 PM to 5:30. Rows list various TV channels and their programming.

MONDAY EVENING MAY 28, 2012. Table with columns for Comcast, Dish, DirecTV and time slots from 6 PM to 11:30. Rows list various TV channels and their programming.

DEAR ABBY

Act of supermarket kindness touches cashier and others

DEAR ABBY: From time to time you print letters about acts of kindness, and I'd like to relate one I witnessed:

I was working as a cashier in a grocery store. An elderly woman came through my line with about 10 items in her basket, including some strawberries and short-cakes. Making small talk, I commented on how nice the berries looked. She agreed, and informed me that they were a little treat for herself. She said she didn't have much on her late husband's pension. When I told her the total, her face fell and she asked me to take the strawberries and short-cakes off because she couldn't afford them. I was sad and embarrassed for her. I thought about buying them myself, but had no cash on me and wasn't sure if it might violate a store policy. She paid for the remainder of her items and went outside to rest on a bench before walking home. I began scanning the next customer's items while trying to put out of my mind the sadness I felt at the lady's disappointment. My customer asked me why the lady hadn't



Abigail Van Buren www.dearabby.com

taken her strawberries. I explained and continued totaling the woman's sale.

The woman then told me to include the strawberries - not for herself, but for the lady outside. She wanted no praise or thanks and asked me to give them to the lady.

I took them to the lady on the bench and explained that the woman in line behind her had purchased them for her. She looked down at the strawberries, tucked them into her bag and began to cry, murmuring about the kindness of strangers. I went back inside and had to explain to the next 15 minutes' worth of customers in my line why I was crying.

The woman who bought the strawberries never saw how grateful the lady was, nor how touched I was, or my co-workers and other customers were - not only by her kindness, but her

humility in making her gift anonymous. - INDIANA READER

DEAR INDIANA READER: Thank you for a sweet and uplifting letter. I'm sure it will stimulate others to consider how they, too, can help the less fortunate.

DEAR ABBY: Because many women have stopped wearing pantyhose or stockings when they go out on a dinner date or formal function, would it be a fair turnaround for me to put on a three-piece suit and tie and not wear any socks? - SOCKLESS IN MICHIGAN

DEAR SOCKLESS: Women who forgo pantyhose or stockings in hot weather usually do it because they're wearing strappy sandals or open-toed summer footwear. Hosiery doesn't look right with them. I have seen men - at least on the West Coast - wear T-shirts under their sport coats and go barefoot in their loafers. But I have never seen a man don a three-piece suit and tie and go sockless. (And I never hope to.)

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

HOROSCOPES

THE LAST WORD

Eugenia Word

digs may be required, but be careful not to overpay someone to do a job you can do yourself. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't donate to a cause in order to impress someone. Charity begins at home, and making sure you have taken care of your family's needs and your own is vital if you are going to keep the peace. Love is highlighted. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don't push, or someone will push back. Bide your time and see what everyone else does before you make a move. Be smart and calculating. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You've got what it takes to dazzle everyone around you. Your spontaneity will help you drum up excitement and the support you need to reach your goals. Travel and learning will pay off, and love and romance should highlight your day. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Improve a project or idea by adding a feature that will differentiate you from the competition. A social affair can alter your professional objectives. You shouldn't have to spend money to impress someone. Don't invest in someone else. ★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Look for an adventure or get involved in something that will bring you emotional, mental and physical stimulation. Trust in your instincts and avoid getting into an argument with someone who thinks differently. Do your own thing. ★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Spend time making personal improvements that will pay off emotionally and financially. The more you do outside your normal routine, the more impressed everyone will be with your adaptability. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Make changes at home. Whether you redecorate, alter your lifestyle or make a residential move, you must enhance your world emotionally, mentally and financially. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't make a move in order to please someone else. Refuse to let anyone put pressure on you. Choose the people you associate with carefully. Someone will be dishonest or will not have your best interest in mind. ★★

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Take action. If you believe in something or someone, follow your instincts and make a move. Socializing or sharing ideas will lead to solid partnerships. Love is in the stars, and romancing someone important to you will pay off. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Not everyone will be on your team. Size up your situation and do whatever it takes to protect your heart, your assets and the things you cherish. Don't be fooled by a big talker. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Put in extra effort and avoid senseless disputes. Focus your energy on self-improvement and making money. Working toward greater security is crucial. Don't overspend on luxury items or loved ones. Offer emotional support, not cash. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You'll be privy to information that is not widely known. Be proactive when it comes to your financial dealings. Fixing up your

CELEBRITY CIPHER

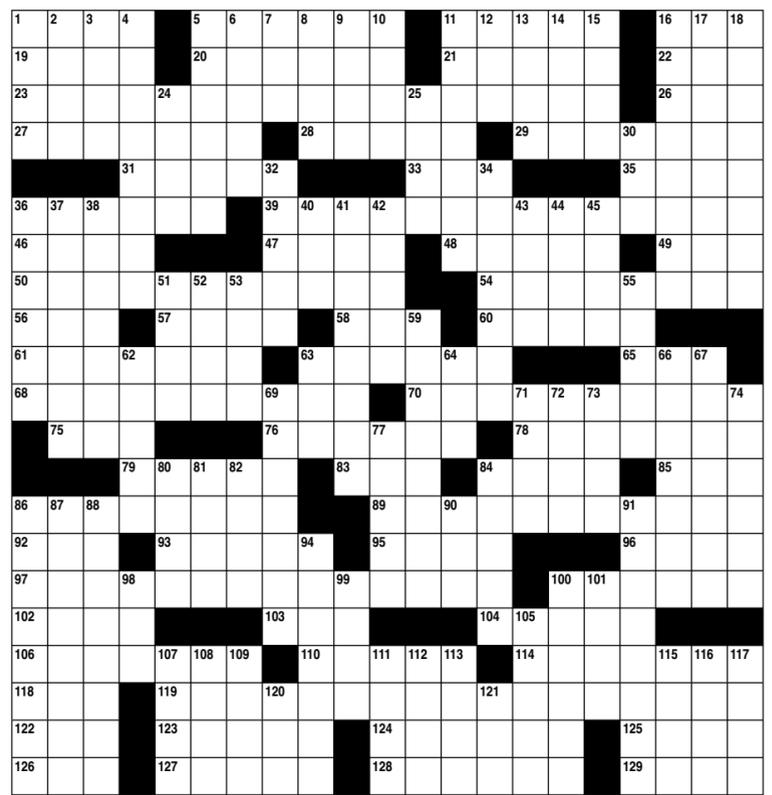
Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.
" K T Y L N K M S B K ' J P W B Z S J K T Y J Y Z
B E M Y Z B X ' J K M Y Y . "
- K T B X N J O N X L P Y W W
" J B W Z S Y M , M Y J K I K T A F N M E N M Y
B ' Y M . " - J S M F N W K Y M J O B K K
Previous Solution: "Carnegie Hall was real fabulous, but you know, it ain't as big as the Grand Ole Opry." - Patsy Cline
TODAY'S CLUE: A s i e m b e r v
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SUNDAY CROSSWORD

No. 0520

WISECRACKS By Alan Arbesfeld / Edited by Will Shortz

- Across
1 Course preparer
5 Close shave
11 John Lennon song that ends "I love you, yeah, yeah, now and forever"
16 Deck (out)
19 Tops
20 Like some church matters
21 Monster slain by Hercules
22 Lead-in to meter
23 Chocolate, say?
26 Shorten, with "off"
27 In the limelight
28 HBO competitor
29 Emphatic denial
31 Home to the Minutemen, informally
33 When repeated, an old New Orleans tune
35 Word repeated four times in the last line of Shakespeare's "All the world's a stage" speech
36 Polyester fabric
39 Macho drag queen?
46 Shield border
47 Make, as a copy of a CD
48 Stop on a line
49 Dockworkers' org.
50 Like literary classics?
54 Call to the bar?
56 Weirdo
57 Earth goddess
58 Bobby who sang "Take Good Care of My Baby"
60 Hall-of-Fame pitcher Joss
61 Unsurprisingly
63 Skinny?
65 Discreet signal
68 Like a centaur?
70 "Don't let that youngster get off without paying!"?
75 Rural setting
76 Had way too much of
78 Words from a con man
79 Given a number, maybe
83 Flushed
84 Baseball's strikeout king
85 Go (for)
86 Unbiased account?
89 Announcement made by a transplant surgeon, perhaps?
92 British isle
93 Allan-___ (figure in the Robin Hood legend)
95 Omelette ingredient
96 Middling grades
97 Stigmatize a "great" king?
100 Hankering
102 Salon selection
103 Twin killings, on a diamond: Abbr.
104 Went off course
106 Part of the inn crowd?
110 Access requirement, maybe
114 Old-fashioned ingredient
118 Big collection agcy.
119 Two reasons to avoid a dog kennel?
122 Apt name for a 1-Across?
123 Unenthusiastic
124 Maximum
125 Bar mixer
126 Rx amt.
127 Wonderland message
128 "Are you kidding me?"
129 Ocho minus cinco
Down
1 Roman censor
2 Game ender, at times
3 Chemical endings
4 Given prominence
5 "A diamond is forever," e.g.
6 Saint-Germain-des-Prés sights
7 Ohio or Colorado: Abbr.
8 Some tennis winners
9 Head line?
10 Lanchester on the screen
11 Little genius
12 Olive ___
13 Mid 16th-century year
14 God with a shield
15 Launch party?
16 Was duplicitous
17 Former co-host of "The View"
18 Lose it
24 ___-shanter
25 Of no interest
30 See 32-Down: Abbr.
32 Native of 30-Down
34 It's solid yellow
36 Take a peke?
37 Excitement
38 Debate ender
40 Do more than threaten, say
41 Pilgrim
42 Anesthetized
43 Tore
44 Like some dorms
45 Title town of a Longfellow poem
51 Chihuahua drink
52 Tandoor-baked bread
53 Where heroes are made
55 Elaine of "Seinfeld"
59 Represented
62 Outlaw Belle who is said to have harbored Jesse James
63 Many a Little League coach
64 River to the Rhône
66 When many German steins are lifted
67 They get bigger when you smile
69 Hit the runway
71 Astronomical distance: Abbr.
72 Refrain syllables
73 Easter activity
74 Abhor
77 Actor Alain
80 Barely
81 "I did it!"
82 It's grounded every Saturday
84 Prepare, as some Mexican-style beans
86 Aesop, notably
87 Places for gates
88 "That makes sense"
90 Saturn S.U.V.
91 Conclusive trial
94 Lose it
98 Holiday quaff
99 Not worth ___
100 Singer of the 1958 #1 hit "It's Only Make Believe"
101 The first "H" in Hanukkah
105 Former TV judge
107 Suffix with cigar
108 Cousin of an ostrich
109 Back-to-sch. time
111 Growl
112 Sitting on one's hands
113 Simba's mate
115 ___ effort
116 Tactless
117 Mmes., over the border
120 Actor Alastair
121 Cambodia's Lon ___



Grid of numbers for the crossword puzzle, showing starting positions for clues.

Answers to last Sunday's Crossword.

Grid of answers for the crossword puzzle, including words like GARCON, SOLAR, OVERCOME, etc.

Grid of numbers for the crossword puzzle, showing starting positions for clues.

Ricky Lauren likes a lived-in look for her homes

By SAMANTHA CRITCHELL
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Ricky and Ralph Lauren don't just have a great house in New York's Hamptons, they have a happy home there.

It's where they spend lovely, fun-filled summer weekends and where they have cozy winter nights.

They serve fancy foods, such as lobster souffle and towers of beets, arugula and goat cheese, and comfort fare like challah-bread French toast and brownies. Sure, there's help nowadays, Ricky says, but she likes to do as much of it as she can: decorating, cooking, general good hosting.

She also likes a full house, and her now-grown children, their spouses and their friends, are often there.

"There's a very grounding thing about family, spending time together, cooking for them, having their friends over," she says. "It feeds you not only with food, but with love."

She's put together a new book, "The Hamptons: Food, Family, and History," opening up the inside world of one of fashion's most famous labels. It's full of that classic, clean, Americana style that Ralph Lauren and clan have come to symbolize — and have used to make lots and lots of money.

"Nice things have happened in our lives," Ricky says with a smile.

But what strikes a reader right away is how normal mom, dad, two sons and daughter seem to be. The kids were skeptical of eating salmon, and they learned to ride bikes with Ralph holding a broomstick for them to use for balance. There even might have been some questionable fashion moments.

"The home is where the family gathers, talks together. Is it perfect?"

Ricky says. "How can it be perfect with all those people?"

The Laurens have been regulars on Long Island's tip for 40 years, starting in the early 1970s in the converted barn that was part of someone else's mansion in Southampton. It was rugged, and Ricky once found



ASSOCIATED PRESS

A breakfast setting is shown from "The Hamptons: Food, Family and History," a book by Ricky Lauren in this undated image released courtesy of Ralph Lauren. Ricky Lauren, wife of fashion designer Ralph Lauren, put together the book that gives readers an insider look at one of fashion's most famous labels. It's full of that classic, clean, Americana style that Ralph Lauren and clan have come to symbolize.

a bird's nest on one of the ledges of its indoor wooden ceiling beams. She'd use the big kitchen sink to alternate baths for her first child, Andrew, and their big dog.

Their Amagansett houses — there were two — served as Ricky's base when Ralph would commute to Manhattan. No television

At their old shingled saltbox in East Hampton, Ricky's mom would visit often and she was charged with making the coffee each morning.

The "screening room," which would later become a McMansion must-have, was a freestanding pull-down screen in the living room.

When they settled into Montauk, the area was still pretty remote, even if they had moved into the house previously occupied by John Lennon and Leonard Bernstein, says Ricky. The community is more bustling now, but the house is on a high cliff and surrounded by lush

greenery. They're an outdoorsy group, she says, and everything is about bringing the



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Designer Ralph Lauren, left, and his wife, Ricky are shown with their children, from left, David, Andrew and Dylan in East Hampton, New York and used in "The Hamptons: Food, Family and History," a book by Ricky Lauren in this 1975 family photo released by Ralph Lauren.

Eliminating things you can live without seems a good overall philosophy, she says with a smile. Even during this interview, done at Ralph Lauren's Madison Avenue headquarters, she goes back for her bottle of water in another room instead of cracking open a new one. She makes herself comfortable in son David's office, promising she won't eat the food he leaves at his desk. Even more importantly, she tells him she won't play with his Star Wars collectables.

The book has many family photos dotted among the picture-perfect displays of picnic food and how-to instructions on setting the perfect atmosphere for a barbecue. There weren't any objections about using the one with Andrew making eyebrows with watermelon rinds and David making googly eyes with water glasses. No problem with Dylan in her diaper and bloomers, either.

"They're embarrassed when they're young to talk about them, but they love hearing about themselves as kids when they are adults," Ricky says.

It's largely for her kids that she did the book, she explains; it's really just a more comprehensive version of the journals and albums she's created and

kept for them. "I hope it's all entertaining enough for other people."

The focus is the Hamptons because that's really where their magic happens, even if they also have other wonderful homes, in places such as Telluride, Colo., and Bedford, N.Y.

Ricky says she particularly loves the beach in the wintertime — and she can light her own fire, thank you very much. (The key is rolling up newspaper in tubes and arranging them in the shape of a tent to get the fire started, she says.)

She makes a point of greeting all guests in the driveway, but at the point you're invited into their home, you're probably more like family, anyway, Ricky says. "Most people that come through the door are people we really know so it's easy to entertain them. I always try to be welcoming, gracious and I think about their comfort."

Even with so many options at her immediate disposal, Ricky says she's not looking to constantly change things by redecorating or renovating. She wouldn't be surprised if this year the biggest change is switching out her collection of seashells.

"If you have what you love, why would you change it?"

'There's a very grounding thing about family, spending time together, cooking for them, having their friends over. It feeds you not only with food, but with love.'

Ricky Lauren

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