

# Lake City Reporter

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**SUNDAY EDITION**

NAACP holds annual Freedom Fund Luncheon. **9A**



Foreign Trade Zone in the works. **1D**



Best of the Best: Ballot inside **7A**

## Snapshots of Dad

*Editor's note: Local fathers along with sons and daughters shared their memories, as well as the meaning, for them, of fatherhood, with staff writer Megan Reeves at various locations in Lake City on Thursday and Friday. Their comments proved moving and insightful.*

### Quentin Frye

To Quentin Frye, fatherhood cannot be defined in just one word, or even in one sentence.

"I think fatherhood is a lot of things," he said. "It's spending time with your kids, believing in your kids, taking care of your kids. It's always being there for them."

Frye said he likes being a father because he enjoys watching his 9-year-old son Brayden grow. Being a good example is the most valuable thing a father can offer his child, he said.

"When I see him be polite in a store, or be respectful, or show love to his mom, I feel like I have succeeded," Frye said. "I feel like he is following my lead, and that makes me so proud of him."

He said being a father is more important now than ever before. "You have to be a role model for your kids," he said. "There are so many things happening in the world today, you have to be someone who cares enough to look after them and lead them."

This means monitoring the games they play, how they do in school, what they watch on TV and more, he said.

Brayden confirmed his dad is doing a fine job at parenting.

"He cares for me a lot," Brayden said of his father. "We play basketball together a lot, and he always buys me cool things I like when I'm good."



### David Guadagnoli

"I can't tell you much about my dad, because he passed away," said 7-year-old Jonathan Conner. "But I can tell you about my grandpa."

His grandfather, David Guadagnoli, said he believes values and the importance of education are the most important lessons someone can teach a child.

"[Jonathan] does great at both," he said. "And I'm proud of him for that."

Jonathan said he only missed one day of school during the 2013-14 school year. He also was an "A" honor roll student.

Jonathan said when he's not in school, his favorite thing to do is help his grandpa work in the yard.

"We dig holes and stuff," he said, adding that sometimes they plant flowers for grandma, too.

Jonathan's grandparents bragged about his tomato plants until he finally revealed how many he is growing.

"I have 46 tomatoes on five plants," Jonathan said. "They aren't ready yet, but I'll eat them when they are."

Jonathan said his favorite thing about his grandpa is that he works hard every day.

For Father's Day, he planned to take a now-familiar trip to Wild Adventures in Valdosta, Ga. with his grandparents.

"We have season passes," Jonathan said.

### Antonio Brown

Antonio Brown wants to leave behind a fatherhood legacy. "It's always a legacy," he said. "When I'm gone, I want my kids to think to raise their kids how they were raised."

Working at a prison, he sees fathers who are unable or unfit to take care of their children on a daily basis.

"It's very rare that you see real fathers nowadays," Brown said. "Fathers that are in their child's life."

Brown said it is imperative for children and fathers to live in the same home.

"These days, kids look to TV, athletes and movie stars to find their role models," he said. "They should be able to find a positive role model in the home."

Brown's 11-year-old son, Shyhein, said his favorite things to do with his dad are play basketball in the park or watch a movie from Redbox together.

"There's just a lot of things I like about him," Shyhein said of his dad. "I could name them all."

Brown said he is especially proud of his son right now because his academic and conduct grades both improved this school year.

"He's an 11-year-old boy, so of course he's mischievous at times, but overall he is a great kid," he said. "And I just think that's a testament to having a father in the household."

Brown said that to him, Father's Day is not gifts or celebration, it is being able to be there for his kids.

"There are few fathers today who take the time to take care of their kids," he said. "I just thank God that I'm able to."



### Jack Gherna:

Jack Gherna said becoming a father two years ago changed his life completely – forever and for the better. "The day he was born is definitely the most profound experience that I've ever had in my entire life," he said. "Everything changed that moment."

His wife Corinne said her husband lucked out, as she remembers him being the first to hold their now 2-year-old son Cooper.

"Right after he was born, he took him to the window and said 'That's the world out there, and I'm gonna teach you all about it,'" she said.

Both Gherna and his wife said that having their son has shown them that having kids really does change your life, but that the change is good.

"You appreciate different things," Corinne Gherna said. "You can still have your own life, but mostly your life becomes theirs."

Gherna said the one hope he has for Cooper is that life brings him joy.

"I just want him to be happy," he said. "If he's happy, that's all that matters to me."



SNAPSHOTS OF DAD continued on 9A

## District reverses course on sex cases

Now, 'consensual' incidents will be reported to DCF.

By SARAH LOFTUS  
sloftus@lakecityreporter.com

In the wake of an investigation into sexual misconduct by two students at Niblack Elementary School in 2012 and 2013, Supt. Terry Huddleston said the incidents would be reported to state officials if they occurred today.

He previously said school officials had no duty to report the cases, which involved the same two students, to the state Department of Children and Families.

The incidents, said to be consensual by school officials, were reported to county law enforcement. Both involved a 9-year-old boy touching an 11-year-old classmate inappropriately through her clothes. The second incident occurred off-campus, school officials said.

In a June 3 letter summarizing an investigative report on

NIBLACK continued on 8A

## Schools fight on against truancy

District seeking charges against 2 more parents.

By SARAH LOFTUS  
sloftus@lakecityreporter.com

District officials are pursuing truancy charges against two more parents whose children missed too much school, said Keith Hatcher, the district director of adult education, truancy and charter schools.

The parents have not been arrested and their names have not been released.

Another local woman, Patty Bell Gaines, was arrested in January for truancy, but Third Circuit State Attorney Jeff Siegmeister said procedural issues required dismissal of the case.

Cracking down on parents who don't keep their kids in school is one element of the district's "Every Child, Every Seat, Every Day" program, initiated last fall by Hatcher.

TRUANCY continued on 6A

## Primary election qualifying starts Monday

Election day for the county is August 26.

By EMILY STANTON  
estanton@lakecityreporter.com

The qualifying period for the Columbia County primary election starts Monday at noon and runs until Friday at noon.

The positions open are U.S. Representative District 3, State Representative District 10, County Commission districts 2 and 4, School Board districts 1, 3 and 5, City Council districts 10 and 14, county attorney and Santa Fe soil and water conservation district groups 2 and 4.

Candidates who have

already qualified by petition must bring their petition certification, a completed form 1 or 6, which are financial disclosure documents, and loyalty oaths, which indicate how the candidate wants his or her name to appear on the ballot.

Candidates who did not complete a petition must fill out a DS-DE9, which

appoints a campaign treasurer and chooses a bank for their campaign account. A check must be made from the account to pay the qualifying fee. Candidates must then fill out a form 1 or form 6, depending on the position they are seeking, and loyalty oaths. Candidates running for a city position must also submit an affi-

davit of residency.

Most candidates choose the petition route, but Columbia County has had a few candidates enter during the qualifying period, said Liz Horne, Columbia County Supervisor of Elections.

Early voting for the primary will be Aug. 16-23 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Election day is Aug. 26.



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**TODAY'S WEATHER**  
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**LOCAL**  
CCBA builds new room at Humane Society, 6A.



**SPORTS**  
Babe Ruth Baseball Champs, 3B.



COURTESY

### Mock job fair at Lake City Correction Facility

Correction Corporation of America's Lake City Correctional Facility recently hosted a mock job fair. Residents who are set to be released within the next six months were given the opportunity to be interviewed by volunteers from local businesses to prepare themselves for re-entry into society. Representatives from Lowe's, Florida Gateway College, Probation and Parole, Career Source and the Social Security Administration spent the day interacting with the inmates. Front row, from left: Amanda Schulz, Florida Gateway College; Toni Briley, Florida Gateway College; Jeb Stewart, Lake City Probation and Parole; Thomas Durkin, Social Security Administration; Denise Wynne, Career Source Florida Crown; Harry Strohmets, Lake City Probation and Parole. Back row, from left: Lawanda Williams, Lowe's of Live Oak; Jhakira Russell, Lowe's of Lake City; Jeff Bowe, Assistant Warden of Programs, Lake City Correctional Facility; and James Cornell, Principal, Lake City Correctional Facility.

### Scripture of the Day

"For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself."  
— **Philippians 3:20-21**

### Thought for Today

When I hear somebody sigh that life is hard, I am always tempted to ask, compared to what?  
— **Sydney J. Harris**, American journalist for the Chicago Daily News and later the Chicago Sun-Times (1917-1986)

### Winning Lottery Numbers

**Cash 3:** (Saturday) 3-4-7  
**Play 4:** (Saturday) 5-5-3-2  
**Fantasy 5:** (Friday) 2-6-14-15-23  
**Florida Lotto:** (Wednesday) 14-21-31-42-45-52-x3  
**PowerBall:** (Wednesday) 14-18-25-33-49-23-x5

## AROUND FLORIDA

# Fire crews rescue dog after 16-story fall from condo

**FORT LAUDERDALE** A small dog is recovering after falling 16 stories from a South Florida condominium. Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue workers say Susie, a Maltipoo, fell through a pipe chase and landed on a piece of concrete in the pipe chase on the second floor. Fire crews cut holes above and below the second floor to try to reach Susie. They eventually removed her from the shaft before she fell any further. She is being treated at an animal hospital. Her condition was not known.

### Handcuffed suspect hit by vehicle

**NAPLES** — Authorities say a handcuffed suspect was hit by a vehicle after fleeing the scene of a southwest Florida grow house bust. The Collier County Sheriff's Office reports that detectives had been watching 27-year-old Ivan Pedroso Mondeja and 43-year-old Vladimir Castilla Venegas at a Golden Gate

Estates home Thursday. Once the Miami-Dade County men left, they were picked up during a traffic stop, while deputies executed a search warrant at the home. Deputies reported finding 72 marijuana plants valued at \$216,000. At some point, officials say Mondeja ran away from the scene, still in handcuffs. The Florida Highway Patrol reports that he was hit by a vehicle after running into the street. He was hospitalized and listed in stable condition later Thursday. The Naples Daily News reports that Mondeja and Venegas face two counts of marijuana trafficking.

### New staff hired after jail explosion

**PENSACOLA** — Escambia County officials have hired a new doctor, several nurses and two mental health agencies to treat prisoners in the wake of a deadly gas explosion at the jail. County Administrator Jack Brown says the county is investigating allegations that prisoners experienced excessive waits for

medical attention or were given over-the-counter painkillers instead of appropriate treatment. The Pensacola News-Journal reports several inmates and their family members said prisoners sometimes waited hours for treatment and were allegedly given an aspirin and sent back to their cell. Under the current contract, nearly three dozen additional medical staff can be brought in and stay as long as needed. Two inmates died and a corrections officer was paralyzed in the April blast. Nearly 200 other people were injured.

### Woman steals lobster tails from Publix

**DELAND**— A central Florida woman faces petit theft charges after officials say she stuffed seven frozen lobster tails in her pants and walked out of a Publix supermarket without paying for them. A loss prevention officer at the DeLand Publix told police he watched 30-year-old Nichole Ann Reed put the lobster tails into her pants on Wednesday eve-

ning. He says she walked around the store before leaving. Police found her about an hour later. Reed told them she went to the store with the intention of stealing the lobster tails, which were valued at \$83.99. According to a police report, she said she planned to trade the lobster with a friend to get either a Chinese buffet or the prescription pain medication Dilaudid. She posted \$250 bail. It wasn't clear whether she'd obtained a lawyer.

### Top teen weightlifter on to nationals

**FORT MYERS** — A 16-year-old southwest Florida teen ranked as the top lifter in her division is competing in the USA Weightlifting Youth National. Adrian Dougherty doesn't look like your typical weightlifter. The 5-foot-2 teen works at a doughnut shop on weekends and is on her high school math team. But she can snatch 134 pounds and can clean and jerk 182. That's almost 1½ times her body weight. She'll compete Saturday night

in Port Orange. Dougherty, a former swimmer who started lifting at age 14, says a 2012 clinic with USA Weightlifting coach Danny Camargo helped her realize her potential. The Fort Myers News-Press reports she has her sights on the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo.

### Man dies after lightning strike

**MILTON**— Authorities say a man is dead after being struck by lightning at a Florida Panhandle blueberry farm. Santa Rosa County officials say the man was hit Friday morning at a farm in Milton. He was taken to a nearby hospital in cardiac arrest and pronounced dead. Officials didn't immediately name the man but said he was in his 70s. The National Weather Service reports that remnants of storms that had struck the Mobile, Alabama, area earlier Friday morning area were moving through the area at the time of the strike. ■ Associated Press

### UF/IFAS COLUMBIA COUNTY



COURTESY

Graduates of the Wetlands module: Sally Ann Collins, Gray Gossman, Jeanne Gossman, Eileen Greene\*, Joseph Greene, Lamar Greene\*, Sherry Harmon\*, Linda Headley, Susan Howell\*, Kit Lane, John Middleton, Gale Pierce, Cynthia Sandlin, Susan Steinhorst\*, Judy Turner, Debra Wiess. \*Denotes students who have completed all three modules and are certified as Florida Master Naturalists.

## 16 graduate from Wetlands Module

From staff reports Sixteen students last week graduated from the Master Naturalist Program (FMNP) Freshwater Wetlands Module at a ceremony at the Ichetucknee Springs State Park. Prior to this recognition, students presented their final research projects on a wide variety of wetland-related topics. The module is offered by UF/IFAS—Columbia County Cooperative Extension in conjunction with Ichetucknee Springs State Park. Each graduate received a UF/IFAS certificate of achievement, an embroidered FMNP patch and Wetlands lapel pin, and registration in the UF/IFAS FMNP database as a Wetlands Naturalist.

The objectives of the Wetlands Module are to prepare participants to share their knowledge with others, to act in a positive manner, to help others feel a greater connection to the land and to help others develop their own personal ethics. Students received training through 40 contact hours of classroom instruction, field trips, and practical interpretive experiences related to the general ecology, habitats, vegetation types, wildlife, and conservation issues of Freshwater Wetlands in Florida, which include marshes, swamps, and permanent wetlands (lakes, rivers, and streams). In addition, the course addresses the role of society in wetlands, develops naturalist interpretation

skills, and discusses environmental ethics. This FMNP Wetland Module is one of three modules required by the University of Florida / IFAS Extension for students to become certified Florida Master Naturalists. In total, students must successfully complete 120 hours of training to become certified Master Naturalists. The next module will be the Upland Habitats which will be conducted in September – October 2014. Details of future course offerings will be posted online at <http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/fmnp/>. Contact Derek Barber at the Columbia County Extension office, 386-752-5384 for more information about the modules.

## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

### Christie moves past scandal with comedy

**NEWARK, N.J.** — Gov. Chris Christie's latest appearance on "The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon" not only proved the man can bust a move and take a joke. It also provided an opportunity for the potential Republican presidential contender to put the traffic scandal in his rear-view mirror. Christie poked fun at himself and the George Washington Bridge furor on Thursday night during his first late-night TV appearance since the story that has cast a cloud over his 2016 White House prospects broke several months ago. Wearing a polo shirt and pleated, high-waisted khakis, he swiveled his hips and threw up his hands as he and Fallon demonstrated dorky, middle-aged dance moves in a comedy bit called "The Evolution of Dad Dancing." When Fallon began to show off

a move called the "This Bridge Is Closed," the governor pretended to walk off the stage in a huff. Later on the program, Christie joked that as bad as the lane-closing scandal has been, the dance performance was far more humiliating to his family "because I actually did that."

### Kanye West returns to Bonnaroo; Kim in tow

**MANCHESTER, Tenn. (AP)** — With new wife Kim Kardashian looking on along with 80,000 fans, Kanye West showed up pretty much on time at the Bonnaroo Music & Arts Festival. The show comes six years after West famously began his first Bonnaroo appearance at 4:30 a.m. following technical delays with his set. West mentioned that appearance, again skewering Pearl Jam for delaying his start and the media he says inaccurately portrayed the reasons for his late start. ■ Associated Press

### See an error?

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

### Submissions

The Lake City Reporter accepts photographs and caption information to run on this page at the discretion of the editor. If you would like to see your organization in the newspaper, send the picture and information to associate editor Emily Lawson at [elawson@lakecityreporter.com](mailto:elawson@lakecityreporter.com).

### Lake City Reporter

**HOW TO REACH US**  
Main number ..... (386) 752-1293  
Fax number ..... 752-9400  
Circulation ..... 755-5445  
Online . . . [www.lakecityreporter.com](http://www.lakecityreporter.com)

The Lake City Reporter, an affiliate of Community Newspapers Inc., is published Tuesday through Friday and Sunday at 180 E. Duval St., Lake City, Fla. 32055. Periodical postage paid at Lake City, Fla. Member Audit Bureau of Circulation and The Associated Press.

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**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to Lake City Reporter, P.O. Box 1709, Lake City, Fla. 32056.  
**Publisher Todd Wilson** ..... 754-0418 ([twilson@lakecityreporter.com](mailto:twilson@lakecityreporter.com))

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PATRICK SCOTT/Special to the Reporter

## Fatal wreck in Wellborn Friday

Florida Highway Patrol Troopers leave the scene Saturday around 3:15 p.m. of a crash on 29th Road in Wellborn that took the life of a local man the night before. William Matthew Carr, 43, of 35th Place, Wellborn lost control of his 2007 Toyota Rav4 on a sharp curve at 6:35 p.m. and struck the tree pictured at left, according to an FHP news release. He was transported to Shands UF Health in Gainesville where he died of his injuries, FHP said. Troopers, who said they were not notified until hours later that Carr had died, returned to the scene Saturday to do a traffic homicide investigation.

## Officials discuss options for jail

Overcrowding cited as one reason to build new facility.

By SARAH LOFTUS

sloftus@lakecityreporter.com

Local officials met Thursday evening to discuss what needs to be done to the Columbia County Detention Facility. The group's final objective is to determine whether the current jail can be renovated to meet county needs or if a new facility will need to be built, Columbia County Manager Dale Williams said.

In 2006, officials had a plan to build a new \$35 million jail, but that fell through because of the recession, Williams said.

Eight years later, a different group of public officials met to once again to discuss the matter.

The meeting acted as a forum for public officials to talk about how the jail could be improved.

However, no decisions were made. Officials simply vocalized their concerns over the jail and its current state of disrepair.

Columbia County Sheriff Mark Hunter, CCSO Chief Correctional Officer Joe Lucas, State Attorney Jeff Siegmeister, Public Defender Blair Payne and Chief County Judge Tom Coleman were a few of the officials at the meeting.

All in attendance agreed that the current jail has problems, and almost all who spoke said the current facility's 250-person capacity was not large enough.

Hunter suggested that if a new facility is built, it should have 500 beds, double the size of the current one, and should be built so that it's easy to add on to.

"I'm trying to use good business sense to do this,"

he said.

Hunter and Lucas said the jail is poorly laid out.

Hunter said CCSO, which now runs the jail, is limited by the physical design of the building. He said legal restrictions about which inmates can be kept where have led to problems with overcrowding. Women and men must be separated as well as juveniles and adults. That means some areas of the jail are overfilled, while others are mostly empty.

Payne said he's also concerned about the current design of the jail and ease of access to inmates.

Lucas said if they do decide to build a new jail, they'll have to figure out where to put inmates while the new facility is built. Williams and Hunter said it would take three-four years to build a new facility once construction starts.

Williams asked all members of the council to send him in writing their thoughts about the jail's functionality and the possibility of building a new facility. He asked to have those statements by June 26.

Williams will compile those statements for the public safety coordinating council's next meeting, which will be sometime in July or August, he said.

While officials began discussing what they would want in a new jail, Williams, who led the meeting, urged officials to take it one step at a time and carefully consider whether a new jail is necessary.

He said the 2006-plan for a new jail didn't seem well-thought out to him.

"They said they needed to build a new jail before going through the process to see if that was the best option," he said.

# CHS to maintain own fields with use of county-owned equipment

The county purchased \$46,303.80 worth of equipment this month for field maintenance.

By TONY BRITT

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The Columbia County School District will be in charge of maintaining its own high school football fields, but will use equipment purchased and owned by the county for upkeep of the facilities.

After paying more than \$110,000 for improvements and equipment purchases for the football fields at Columbia High School and Fort White High School, the school board and county were working on an agreement for the county to maintain both fields if the school board would pay for it.

The county proposal was to maintain both fields at an annual cost of \$93,696.04. It already spent \$64,626 getting the field back in shape after decades of neglect.

The school district, which has spent \$22,137.34 since July 1, 2013 maintaining fields at five different schools, including CHS and FWHS, declined the offer and will maintain the field on its own, though with the use of equipment purchased by the county for that purpose.

Bryan Allen, who just completed his third year as head football coach at CHS, says he won't allow the field to fall into disrepair.

"As long as I'm here the field won't go backwards," Allen said. "I promise I'll outwork every coach who has ever been here as far as the maintenance of the fields and that they stay in the shape they need to be in. That's one of the things I want done and I'm extremely picky about how our fields look."

Allen, who graduated CHS in 1995-96, said the stadium was built in 1994, but that the field hadn't been re-sodded or re-turfed since.

"With our field being done it's kind of a reflection on who we are as a team," Allen said. "It not only reflects the success we've had as a program, but at the same time it builds the morale of a group of kids each year going out to compete



FILE

Jose Gonzalez, of T Mac Wilder & Associates LLC, uses a sod roller to apply TifGrand Bermuda grass onto the CHS football field earlier this year.

against different teams week in and week out."

Allen noted the CHS soccer team also plays its games on the field and the school's annual commencement exercises are held there as well.

"It's not just a reflection of the football program, because football doesn't have sole use of the field, but it benefits us," he said. "It goes along with the motto I have: You look good. You feel good. You play good."

He said the community also benefits from a well-maintained facility.

"They benefit when they come to watch their children, grandchildren, cousins, family and friends graduate, that the place is a nice site," Allen said. "The grass is manicured, the sidewalks are tapered off and its looks nice. It's representative not only of our school and that graduating class, but as a community, who are helping to pay taxes to get it fixed. It's not just a football thing, but the community benefits from it as well."

The county chose to step in earlier this year when commissioners noted the field's poor condition and that the school district did not have the funds to repair it.

Although county officials will not maintain the fields, commissioners on June 5 authorized the purchase of \$46,303.80 in equipment to be used for that purpose.

"[The Landscapes and Parks

Department is] going to keep the equipment titled to the county, but they will loan it for use on those fields to the school when needed," County Manager Dale Williams said.

The current plan is for the equipment to be used by county employees on county projects as well as by school district employees for use on the fields.

"The equipment is too expensive to just limit it to one facility," Williams said. "So, the county, while it's purchasing the equipment, does recognize the equipment is needed to help maintain the football field, and we'll make it available for that. It won't be limited to just one location or facility."

Williams said the county does not anticipate providing additional funding for the project.

"This is it for Columbia County," he said. "Obviously the schools will have to maintain what's there, but they've already been maintaining the old fields so I doubt there is any new expense to them."

Over the last year the county has spent more than \$500,000 in improvements at school district athletic venues. The projects included \$200,000 for facility upgrades and improvements to the Columbia High School Softball facility; \$224,000 for improvements at Fort White High School locker rooms and \$110,930 for improvements and equipment purchases for the field at CHS.

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ANOTHER VIEW

## Labels mean something to our war veterans

The governor putting his signature on a bill Thursday that changes how the state refers to the Korean and Vietnam wars completed a stroke of symbolic poetry.

It's no small thing. House Bill 559 isn't just about redesigning veterans' license plates. It's about the truth. It's about how these wars will be reflected in the minds of young people who read what we wrote about them.

State statutes are pocked with references to the Korean War as a "conflict" and to Vietnam – not even afforded the lowly "conflict" designation, but referred to as an "era" – as if GIs never bothered to show up for the fighting.

Senate sponsor Charlie Dean, R-Ocala, and House sponsor Larry Metz, R-Groveland, recognized this. They listened to veterans – some 1.5 million of them in Florida.

More than 36,500 American servicemen died in Korea; 7,900 are still missing in action.

In Vietnam, the numbers are even more dramatic. All you have to do is look at the 58,272 names carved on the long, granite Vietnam Veterans Memorial. The brave GIs in Southeast Asia were fighting in a war and living not in any era defined by geography. They were living in hell.

In Korea, soldiers were told they were fighting to stop the march of communism and preserve freedom, and that was good enough for them.

The Korean War lived up to its nickname – "the Forgotten War." It was forgotten, frankly, because no one knew how to remember it. Few Americans understood it even while it was happening. Most important of all, unlike World War II, it was a war without clear definition – a war we couldn't win.

The Vietnam War, on the other hand, was a war we couldn't bring ourselves to win. It was a culmination of years of wishy-washy decisions in Washington of whether to go in with bombs or soft-pedal our presence until we could get out without losing face. The Vietnam War was in everybody's living room night after night on the 6 o'clock news. It was a public relations nightmare. And for the soldiers lucky enough to get back, just another war they had to fight.

Increasingly unpopular at home, the war ended with the withdrawal of U.S. forces in 1973 and the unification of Vietnam under communist rule two years later. To too many Americans, returning servicemen were a reminder of killing and failure. Too many Vietnam vets felt unwanted and unrewarded, and were never able to recover fully from the twin trauma of the war and the homecoming.

This bill doesn't mean we're going to have a team of clerks going through every state record to purge it of "Korean Conflict" and "Vietnam Era." The bill certainly will alter forever wording in Florida statutes. But it was largely a gesture, important to veterans and people who care about them. The point is, Florida's further euphemistic, politically correct slant to important events at least in this area of history has finally been nipped in the bud.

■ Sunshine State News

## Lake City Reporter

Serving Columbia County Since 1874

The Lake City Reporter is published with pride for residents of Columbia and surrounding counties by Community Newspapers Inc.

We believe strong newspapers build strong communities — "Newspapers get things done!"

Our primary goal is to publish distinguished and profitable community-oriented newspapers.

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## LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the Editor should be typed or neatly written and double spaced. Letters should not exceed 400 words and will be edited for length and libel. Letters must be signed and include the writer's name, address and telephone number for verification. Writers can have two letters per month published. Letters and guest columns are the opinion of the writers and not necessarily that of the *Lake City Reporter*.

**BY MAIL:** Letters, P.O. Box 1709, Lake City, FL 32056; or drop off at 180 E. Duval St. downtown.

**BY FAX:** (386) 752-9400.

**BY EMAIL:** news@lakecityreporter.com



## Immigration cruelties of the 'compassionate' sort

Tens of thousands of illegal immigrant children are streaming across our border with Mexico to escape horrors at home and finding new troubles here. These may be far less heinous than what they fled, but many have endured something akin to torture on the journey, will mostly have to return home anyway and meanwhile have a president of the United States to thank for their predicament.

Though something new, at least in this magnitude, the situation adds up to cruelty of a kind seen all over the immigration map, often put in place not by nativists, as anyone short of mindless on these issues is often called, but by people who are supposedly compassionate while failing the test.

Most of these children, unaccompanied by parents, are from Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras and are desperately poor. They were sometimes abused at home. They were further terrorized by drug crime gone manic. A Reuters interview with a teenage girl tells what it can be like. Though now with her mother in Virginia, she walked great distances in getting here, went hungry, was raped by a migrant smuggler and initially worked in unpaid servitude after arriving. She thought coming here was legal.

On reaching America, many of the children quickly find otherwise. They end up in the custody of the Border Patrol and are then handed over to representatives of the Health and Human Services Department. They may get stuck in the equivalent of large cages, can go for days without a shower and may have to sleep on plastic cots.



**Jay Ambrose**  
 Speaktjay@aol.com

Some say the food they're eating is making them sick.

The government, while spending hundreds of millions trying to cope with this ever-growing crowd, is doing no such thing. One Border Patrol official complained that the agency was so overwhelmed that it was having a hard time also dealing with other duties such as drug smuggling and gun runners. As with the interviewed girl, the children may eventually be taken to a parent or other relative in the United States, but will still face deportation proceedings hard to win.

It was President Barack Obama who issued the invitation for them to go through all of this. During the 2012 presidential election campaign and without benefit of Congress, he announced he would stop deportations of illegal immigrants who came here as children. The policy, which was sure to win still more Hispanic votes as it eased lots of worries, did not apply to children arriving after 2007, but it is scarcely rare that imperfect understandings get widespread.

In this case, even a White House official has said the current, unmanageable influx appears partly attributable to false stories that foreign children showing up alone would

not be shooed away. In 2011, before the campaign promise, the number of illegally crossing children who were apprehended was something like 6,000. It is already 47,000 this year and the total next year is expected to be 140,000.

The deplorable plight of the children should be obvious to all, but the helplessness of many other immigrants is often made to seem opportunity at last. For the uneducated and unskilled, it is seldom anything of the sort.

They can't get more than low-wage jobs, cannot navigate the culture and are often assimilated into an underclass culture where the norms are single-parent homes, gang membership and dropping out of school. Prior to the 2008 recession, these immigrants and their descendants were the major cause of American increases in poverty, even though educated, skilled, entrepreneurial immigrants fare well and are an enormous boon to the economy.

What that suggests at the least is that reform should aim at bringing in far more of those who can contribute and far fewer of those more likely to find hardship than rescue. We meanwhile need to employ workable ways to prevent grotesquely exploited and frequently dangerous illegal entry as prelude to any amnesty agreement. To skip these basics would be heartless.

■ Jay Ambrose, formerly Washington director of editorial policy for Scripps Howard newspapers and the editor of dailies in El Paso, Texas, and Denver, is a columnist living in Colorado.

## US can't do anything for this sinking ship

The situation in Iraq is passing from being a cause for American reflection on its own actions there in the 2003-2011 period to a reason for serious thought about the future in that part of the Middle East.

What is occurring is that a force calling itself the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria is assuming control through successful military action of the Sunni Muslim heartland, including the cities of Fallujah, Mosul, Ramadi, Samarra and Tikrit and most of Anbar and Nineveh provinces. The primarily Shiite Iraqi government forces of Prime Minister Nouri Kamal al-Maliki, trained and equipped by the United States, have not yet mounted a successful defense to roll back the ISIS forces.

As of Friday Baghdad, the Iraqi capital, was some 40 miles away from advancing ISIS forces. They have adequate mobility and arms, thanks

to assets U.S. forces left behind for use by Iraqi national forces.

The al-Maliki government has asked for new U.S. military support, drones for reconnaissance and intelligence and air strikes to try to hold back the ISIS forces. Kurdish forces have taken control of the important hub of Kirkuk, probably successfully denying it to the ISIS but raising the specter of impending, at least de facto, division of Iraq into Shiite, Sunni and Kurdish domains.

The ISIS is made up of Sunni Islamist extremists from both Iraq and Syria, supporters of the Baath Party of Saddam Hussein, including members of that government's armed forces, and other Sunni militias, including some who were on America's payroll when the United States attempted to bring Iraq's Sunnis under control during the occupation through the so-called Sunni Awakening.

First, given the current trend of

events, unlikely to be changed even by the level of U.S. military intervention that could be contemplated, is the likelihood that the ISIS will take Baghdad. Second, it is likely that the ISIS will stop with that, not trying in the short run to master either the Shiite South or the Kurdish North. Third, it is likely that the United States, working with contacts developed with Sunnis during the occupation, could do business with the ISIS, in spite of its radical components, potentially creating a useful bridge to that element in the region.

The critical point at this juncture is that the United States not jeopardize the future by trying to plug the holes in the al-Maliki regime's sinking ship. With all the advantages America gave it and him, his regime has failed miserably to govern a multicultural Iraq in such a way to prevent it from dissolving.

■ Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

## June 16

### Baby Shower

The Lulu Ladies and Provinces Piecers Quilt Group will host a Baby Shower for the Pregnancy Care Center of Lake City at the Lulu Community Center on June 16 at 10 a.m. The public is welcome, and if you attend please bring an unwrapped baby gift — boy or girl is fine. Refreshments will be provided. Please call Sue Hansens at 752-2596 with questions.

### SCORE workshop

A SCORE Entrepreneur's Workshop will be held June 16 from 6-8 p.m. at Columbia County Public Library, 308 NW Columbia Ave. The workshop is free, but a reservation is required. Call 1386-752-2000 or email scorelakecity@gmail.com.

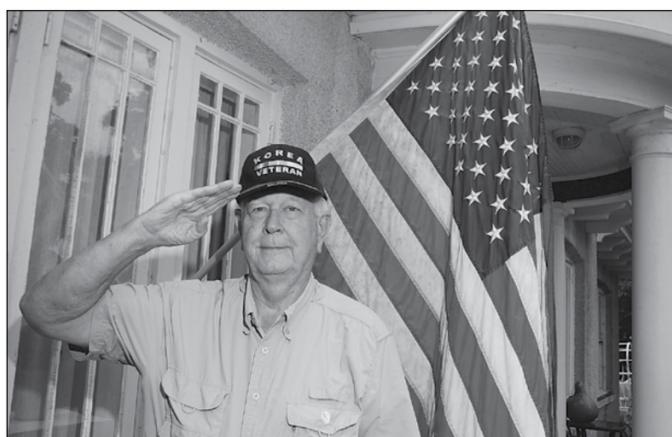
## June 17

### NARFE Meeting

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association will meet Tuesday, June 17 at the LifeStyle Enrichment Center, 628 SE Allison Court, at 1 p.m. The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumers Services will conduct the meeting. Call Jim Purvis at 752-8570 for more.

### Art reception

The Art League of North Florida and the Friends of the Library will host a reception on June 17 from 5:30-7 p.m. West Branch Art Show winners will be announced. Come meet the artists who participated in the show. Refreshments will be provided. For details call Gateway Art Gallery at 752- 5229.



JASON MATTHEW WALKER/Lake City Reporter

## List celebrates flag day — everyday

Lake City resident Irvin List, 82, enlisted in the United States Navy and served from 1951-54, as a 2nd Class Engineman. His American flag that he has proudly displayed in front of his home for several years was given to him after shipping care packages to soldiers in Afghanistan. List said that his house has always had a flag out front. Saturday was Flag Day, which commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States. 'To me, it means freedom. I cry sometimes when I see the flag.'

## June 19

### Early Learning

The Early Learning Coalition will have an Executive Committee Meeting Thursday, June 19 at 1:30 p.m. at 1104 SW Main Blvd.

## June 22

### St. Johns Day

Gold Standard Lodge #167 will have the St. Johns Day Service on June 22 at 3:30 p.m. at Bethel AME Church. Call 386-697-3739.

## June 23

### Day Camp

The Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches will offer a free week-long day camp June 23-27 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Treadway Elementary School. Call Lauri Quick (386) 749-9999 to register.

## OBITUARIES

### Vermell Aileen Allbritton

Vermell Aileen Allbritton, 82, of Perry, died Thursday, June 12, 2014, at her home with her family in Perry, FL. Vermell was born September 25, 1931 in Lulu, FL, to the late Clifford and Cecelia (Williams) Pearce. Vermell was preceded in death by her husband of over 59 years, Clifton Allbritton.

Vermell was of the Southern Baptist Faith and was a member of New Home Baptist Church in Perry. Her life's joy was family, especially time spent with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was an active church member who also enjoyed working with puzzles, flowers, and reading.

She is survived by five children: Daughter Teresa Levingston and her husband W.L. of Perry, sons C. Winton Allbritton Jr. of Decatur, AL., Michael K. Allbritton and his wife Kimberly of Perry, Brian L. Allbritton and his wife Linda of Perry, and Bruce C. Allbritton and his wife Gina of Grovetown, GA., eleven grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren and a host of others who called her Mom.

Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Sunday, June 15, 2014 at New Home Baptist Church in Perry with Brother Bill Jenkins officiating. Interment will follow at Pisgah Cemetery. The family received friends from 6-8 p.m. on Saturday, June 14 at Burns Funeral Home Chapel. Memorial contributions can be made to Covenant Hospice. All arrangements are under the care of **JOE P. BURNS FUNERAL HOME**.

You may send condolences to the family at [www.joeburnsfuneralhomes.com](http://www.joeburnsfuneralhomes.com).

### Wayne Ennis Douglas

Mr. Wayne Ennis Douglas, 78, of Lake City, died Thursday, June 12, 2014,

at the Suwannee Valley Care Center (Haven Hospice) following a lengthy illness.

Mr. Douglas was born May 21, 1936, in Sanderson, Florida to the late Elmer R. and Helen Mann Douglas. He attended schools in Columbia County and graduated from Columbia High School in 1954. He attended the University of Florida, was in the Air Force for 4 years and retired from the Navy after 16 years. Mr. Douglas then worked for the Florida Department of Transportation. Where he retired as a maintenance engineer. He has made Lake City his home for the past 14 years. Mr. Douglas was a faithful member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Price Creek Ward.

He was preceded in death by his youngest brother, Judson Bruce Douglas (Deb) of Gainesville, Florida. Also, the wife of his children, the late Barbara King Douglas, a native of Youngstown, Ohio.

He is survived by his wife of 14 years, Vera Erlene Douglas of Lake City; two daughters, Connie Olson (Steve) Corning, CA, and Elaine Carman (Tim) Sioux Falls, SD. Two sons; Kenny (Leslie) Douglas, Jacksonville, FL, and Scott (Jeannie) Douglas of Lake City. His three brothers; Bob (Anne) Clayton, Gainesville, FL, Marshall (Diana) Douglas, Lake City, Vernon (Debra) Douglas, Lake City; grandchildren, Chadd Douglas and Kyrsten Douglas, Jacksonville, FL, Amorette, Nina, and Corwin Carman, Sioux Falls, SD.

"Sweet Uncle Wayne," as he was called by family and friends, was always ready with a smile and a welcoming handshake. He was a humble Southern gentleman and dearly loved his family.

He was always grateful for life, its goodness and the many kindnesses he received. He loved to sing and delighted his family with stories of his youth.

Visitation with the family will be held at the Gateway-Forest Lawn Funeral Home, 3596 S. Hwy. 441, Lake City, on Sun. June 15th from 5-7 p.m. Funeral services for Mr. Douglas will be conducted Mon. June 16th at 11:00 a.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Stake Center, Country Club Rd., Lake City, FL. Bishop Jeffery Thomas will be officiating. There will be a private interment at Memorial Gardens, Jacksonville, Florida.

**GATEWAY-FOREST LAWN FUNERAL HOME**, 3596 South US Hwy 441, Lake City, FL. 32025. (386) 752-1954. Please leave words of encouragement for the family online at [www.gatewayforestlawn.com](http://www.gatewayforestlawn.com)

### Marvin S. Hall Jr.

Dr. Marvin Hall, 90, of Lake City, died Friday, June 13 at Haven Hospice after an extended illness. A resident of Suwannee and Columbia counties since 1974, Dr. Hall was born on January 6, 1924, in Atlanta, the son of Marvin Shepard Hall and the former Sarah Parish. After completing his undergraduate education at the University of Florida, Dr. Hall received his professional doctorate from Emory University and established a dental practice in Miami. During the Korean War in the 1950s, he served in the Navy as a dentist in Korea. He was a member of Rotary Club for many years, as well as an accomplished cabinetmaker whose many creations included furniture for the First Presbyterian Church, where he was a deacon.

Dr. Hall's wife of 48 years, the former Ann Bareford, died in 2005. He is survived by his wife, Lucille, of Lake City; a son, David, of Fairfax, Virginia; a daughter, Betsy Hansen, of Jonesboro, Arkansas; and a sister, Barbara Hall, of Atlanta. A memorial service is scheduled for 11 a.m. Wednesday, June 18 at First Presbyterian Church of Lake City, 697 Baya Avenue. Interment will be at Forest Lawn Cemetery with arrangements by **GUERRY FUNERAL HOME**, 2659 SW Main Blvd., Lake City.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be sent to First Presbyterian Church, PO Box 469, Lake City; or Haven Hospice, 6037 W. US Highway 90, Lake City, 32055.

### Mayse Wesley Holliday

Mr. Mayse Wesley Holliday, 76 of Lake City, passed away on Friday, June 13, 2014 at Shands at the University of Florida in Gainesville. He was the oldest of four children to the late Orian A. and Annette Bishop Holliday. Mr. Holliday was a graduate of Columbia High School class of 1957 and a veteran of the Florida National Guard. He retired from the Florida Department of Transportation as the Assistant District Materials Engineer with 35 years of employment. Mr. Holliday was a former member of the Lake City Masonic Lodge #27 and held various positions within the organization. He enjoyed traveling, woodworking and spending time with his family. He was preceded in death by one brother, Wayne Holliday.

Survivors include his wife, Betty C. Holliday, Lake City; two sons, Mayse W. (Lisa) Holliday, II, Lake City and

Kenneth Holliday, Okinawa, Japan; two sisters, Edna Nell (John) Rau, Myrtle Beach, SC and Elizabeth (Kenny) Moore, Lake City; three grandchildren, Chelsea (Rodney) Watson, Ft. White and Tyler and Erika Holliday of Japan; his nephews and niece, Wayne Holliday, Randy Thomas, Penny Jarrard and Brad Johnson; and two close friends, R.E. Hall, Ft. White and Sandy Daniel, Jacksonville.

Private services will be held at a later date. Arrangements are under the direction of **GUERRY FUNERAL HOME**, Lake City. 752-2414 Please sign the guestbook at [www.guerryfuneral-home.net](http://www.guerryfuneral-home.net)

### Kimberly Rodgers Horsley

Mrs. Kimberly Rodgers Horsley, 50, of Lake City, FL, passed away peacefully on May 29, 2014 at her residence, surrounded by her family, following a valiant battle with cancer.

She was born on August 26, 1963 in Monroe, Michigan to Linda Rodgers and the late Franklin Rodgers Jr. She enjoyed crocheting and spending time with her family. She was looking forward to the birth of her first grandson, Dawson Glenn Khachigan, due in October. She was a loving wife, caring mother, a beloved daughter, sister, and a good friend to many. Kim was employed by Pizza Hut and most recently Wal-Mart, and is remembered by many for her friendliness, warm smile, and the loving way she treated everyone. She was a member of "Circle Cross Cowboy Church."

She was predeceased by her grandparents Arletta and Joseph Volpi; John and Rose Rodgers, and her father, Franklin Rodgers Jr.

She is survived by her loving husband of 26 years Harold L. Horsley Jr., two daughters Katlynn Khachigan (Steven), and Angela Patroia, a granddaughter, Rylie Khachigan, and her mother, Linda "MeMe" Rodgers, all of Lake City, FL. Three sisters, Kelly Walsh, Karrie Ernest, and Rose Jackson, along with numerous nieces and nephews, and her special friends and co-workers also survive. She is also survived by her three special pets, "Champ", "Gizzy", and "Prissy".

A private service was held at her home on Saturday, May 31, 2014 with the Reverend Zack Douglas officiating. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to further the Ministry of the "Circle Cross Cowboy Church". Arrangements were under the direction of **GATEWAY-FOREST LAWN FUNERAL HOME** 3596 S. US Hwy. 441, Lake City, FL. 32025 (386)752-1954. Please leave words of comfort for the family at [www.gatewayforestlawn.com](http://www.gatewayforestlawn.com).

### Mary Elizabeth Howard Petersen

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Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Howard Petersen, 92, of Lake City, passed away on Tuesday, June 10, 2014 at Ben Atchley State Veterans Home in Knoxville, TN.

She was born on October 6, 1921 in McAlpin, FL, to the late Francis Marion Howard and Mary Ann Eliza Greene. As a young woman she felt a sense of duty to serve her country in the WWII effort, and enlisted in the U.S. Naval Reserves - Women's Reserve (WAVES). She was a proud member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and great grandmother who dedicated her time to her family and extended church families at the First Advent Christian Church of Lake City and McAlpin Advent Christian Church.

She is preceded in death by her loving husband of 67 years, Walter C. Petersen Sr., her parents, her siblings; Ethel Howard O'Hara, George Willard Howard, Pauline Howard Sanders, Sadie Howard, Francis Marion Howard, Jr., Goff Ives Howard, Verna Howard Coolidge, Hazel Howard Stewart, Marguerette Howard, and Greene Van Buren Howard.

Survivors include her son; Walter C. (Angie) Petersen Jr., of Knoxville, TN, grandchildren; Benjamin H. (Annie) Petersen of Sanford, FL, and Eric D. (Beth) Petersen of Knoxville, TN, and great grandchild, Mary Caroline Petersen of Knoxville, TN.

Graveside services will be conducted at 10:00 am, on Wednesday, June 18, 2014 in Memorial Cemetery, Lake City, FL, with Pastor Fred Gaylard officiating and Pastor Tom Amerson assisting. Visitation with the family and friends will be from 5:00pm-7:00pm, Tuesday, June 17, 2014 at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers the family ask that memorial donations be made in her honor, to the charity of your choice. Arrangements are under the direction of **GATEWAY-FOREST LAWN FUNERAL HOME**, 3596 S. U.S. Hwy 441, Lake City, FL. 32025. (386) 752-1954. Please leave words of love and comfort for the family at [www.gatewayforestlawn.com](http://www.gatewayforestlawn.com)

### Janis Allbritton Robinson

Ms. Janis Allbritton Robinson, 66, of Lake City, FL, died Saturday, June 14, 2014, at Suwannee Valley Haven Hospice after a short battle with cancer. She was born in Columbia County, FL to the late Jesse James Allbritton and Minnie Ola Knight Allbritton and had lived here most of her life. A Christian by faith, she had worked many years as a waitress for Shirley's Restaurant and loved doing her yard work and flowers and was devoted to her family and her cat, "BooBoo". She was preceded in death by her parents and a sister, Cindy Allbritton.

Survivors include her brother: Donald J. Allbritton, Ocala, FL; several aunts and uncles and

numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be conducted on Monday, June 16, 2014, at 4 P.M. at Gateway-Forest Lawn Chapel with Rev. Charles Knight officiating. Interment will follow in Memorial Cemetery. Visitation with the family and friends will be one hour before the service (from 3 PM to 4 PM). Loving thanks to her special caretakers: Shirley Keen, Bernice Allbritton and Brenda Henderson. Flowers will be accepted or memorials may be made for funeral expenses to Shirley Keen, P. O. Box 1973, Lake City, FL 32056. **GATEWAY-FOREST LAWN FUNERAL HOME**, 3596 S. US Hwy 441, Lake City, FL 32025 (386-752-1954) is in charge of arrangements. Please leave words of love and encouragement for the family online at [www.gatewayforestlawn.com](http://www.gatewayforestlawn.com).

**Donn Edwards Welden**

Mr. Donn Edwards Welden, unstoppable in all that he attempted, died June 12, 2014 after an extended battle with terminal illness. Donn was a father, a husband, a craftsman and a lover of life. He was preceded in death by his father William Welden, his mother Helen Welden, his sister Wendy Loveless and his daughter Kim Roberts. Donn is survived by his wife Sandy Welden; his children Lisa Welden, Donn Welden, David Welden, Kenny Roberts, Tania Roberts, Peter Roberts, Erin O'Donnell, Alvin Riggins and April Riggins; his brothers Stephen Curtis and Lawrence Doughty; his sisters Robin Curtis and Barbara Doughty; his nieces and nephews James

### Donn Edwards Welden

Gilbert, Autumn Loveless, Jared Curtis, Jonathan Curtis, Jessica Curtis, Lawrence Doughty, and Carl Doughty; as well as fourteen grandchildren and twelve great nieces and nephews. Donn also leaves behind his faithful dog Cooper and his historic White Springs home—lovingly and painstakingly restored by his hands.

Donn was born in White Plains New York, raised in Margate Florida, and settled in White Springs Florida. In between he traveled the United States from coast to coast seeking fun, adventure, and experience. Beneath a sometimes gruff exterior Donn was a man who gave of himself without limits in loving his family and friends. He was both a commercial contractor and a restoration carpenter. Donn was instrumental in preserving and restoring many historic homes and structures in White Springs, Florida—including his own home.

Donn will be missed dearly by those who loved and knew him. Please join us to celebrate his life at a memorial service to be held at 11:00 am on Monday June 16, 2014 at **GATEWAY FOREST LAWN FUNERAL HOME**, 3596 South US Highway 441 Lake City, Florida 32025 (386) 752-1954. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the American Cancer Society in Donn's name at <http://www.cancer.org/>.

Please leave words of comfort for the family online at [www.gatewayforestlawn.com](http://www.gatewayforestlawn.com)

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

**LAKE CITY COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY MEETING**  
CITY OF LAKE CITY

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Lake City Community Redevelopment Agency for the City of Lake City, Florida will hold a meeting on Monday, June 16, 2014, at 6:30 P.M., in the Council Chambers located on the second floor of City Hall at 205 North Marion Avenue, Lake City, Florida.

All interested persons are invited to attend.

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKE CITY, FLORIDA WILL MEET ON MONDAY, JUNE 16, 2014 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS LOCATED ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF CITY HALL AT 205 NORTH MARION AVENUE, LAKE CITY, FLORIDA**

All interested persons are invited to attend.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:** If you require special aid or services for any of the meetings identified above, as addressed in the American Disabilities Act, please contact the City Manager's Office at (386) 719-5768.

**AUDREY E. SIKES, MMC**  
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## TRUANCY

*Continued From 1A*

Hatcher put an emphasis on lowering truancy rates this school year, and that included prosecuting parents with truant children.

Since the program began, truancy rates for every school in the district but one actually went up. About 580 students were sent to truancy court this school year, a 21 percent increase from last year, Hatcher said.

However, that may not mean more students actually skipped school.

Hatcher said he believes schools were simply more careful about entering attendance data this year.

He won't know if his speculation is correct until truancy rates for 2014-15 are calculated a year from now, he said. If next year's rates are similar to this year's, he'll know he was right.

For students, the stakes are high.

A 2013 study by the school district shows that missing school during the early elementary years leads to higher chances of dropping out of high school.

The study found that 45 percent of high school dropouts in Columbia County over the previous five years were truant in kindergarten-third grade, Hatcher said at Tuesday's school board meeting.

In the meeting, he also discussed the findings of a study done this school year about which students are truant.

The study showed that 95 percent of the 581 students who were sent to truancy court this year are impoverished.

A Johns Hopkins University study Hatcher cited shows that truancy in kindergarten correlates to lower academic performance in first grade, and that impact is twice as great for students from low-income families.

Hatcher on Tuesday sent letters of notification to the parents the district plans to file charges against.

Hatcher didn't say how many days of school their children missed during the 2013-14 school year. But he did say the district is only going to pursue prosecution for truancy in the most severe cases.

### A focus on prevention

The district is trying to put the focus on helping truant students, rather than just punishing them and their parents, Hatcher said.

To do that, the district is implementing more ways to prevent truancy and educate students and their families on its effects.

"Before now, it's been all punitive," Hatcher said.

Typically, students and parents who are prosecuted for truancy are given community service, he said. But that doesn't necessarily relate to missing school and doesn't help students attend school more regularly, he said.

For the coming school year, the district will be offering a parenting class for those with truant children, he said.

"What I want to have happen is to make sure parents are more literate and more in tune to their children's education," he said.

The district is also starting a program called Children In Need of Services, which is co-sponsored by the school district and the juvenile justice system. It will look at students who've missed a lot of school and determine whether they need to be educated on the effects of excessive absences, Hatcher said.

## Truancy by the numbers

By SARAH LOFTUS

Truancy is defined as missing 21 or more days of school, according to Florida law. In Columbia County, unexcused and excused absences factor into truancy rates. Each early dismissal and tardy also counts as a missed day of school as far as truancy rates are concerned.

Truancy rates jumped this year, the first year of a program designed to curtail it. However, Keith Hatcher, the district director of adult education, truancy and charter schools, said that may have been because schools were more careful about keeping attendance records this year.

Niblack Elementary had the biggest jump in truancy, according to district records gathered by Hatcher. The truancy rate for 2013-14 was 41 percent, meaning that many students missed 21 or more days of school. Niblack's truancy rate for 2012-13 was 14 percent.

Summers and Melrose elementary schools also had large increases in truancy. Both schools' rates went up by 15 percent this school year.

The only school with a decrease in truancy rates was Challenge Learning Center, which fell from 70 to 62 percent, still highest in the district.

In its first year of operation, Belmont Academy had the lowest truancy rate in the district for the 2013-14 school year at 6 percent.

While truancy rates went up, attendance rates for district schools remained fairly even, with all but Challenge Learning Center remaining in the 90th percentile.

Attendance rates are based on the number of days each student was in school. A missed day, whether an excused or unexcused absence, counts as missed in terms of calculating attendance rates. However, unlike truancy rates, early dismissals and tardies do not factor in.

In addition to having the lowest truancy rate this year, Belmont Academy also had the highest attendance rate at 97 percent.

However, other schools weren't far behind.

Westside Elementary had an attendance rate of 96 percent for this school year.

And with the exception of Challenge Learning Center's attendance rate of 71 percent, the lowest rate in the county was 91 percent. Shining Star Academy, Fort White High School and Columbia High School all had attendance rates of 91 percent, according to district data.

Hatcher said high schools tend to have higher truancy rates than elementary and middle schools because students are more likely to skip school in high school.

However, kindergartners, first-graders and second-graders tend to also have higher truancy rates. With younger students, it's typically because their parents don't make them go to school, Hatcher said. With high schoolers, it's more likely to be the student's choice to skip.

Finally, the district plans to revamp truancy court, although Hatcher said he couldn't yet comment on what exactly is being done.

This year, to motivate students and schools to lower their truancy rates and raise attendance rates, the district held a contest. Students won flat-screen televisions for perfect attendance and improved attendance, and the schools with the lowest truancy rate, most improved attendance rate and highest attendance rate got checks.

The district will continue that contest for the upcoming school year.

LAKE CITY HUMANE SOCIETY

# Builders Association crafts addition to Adoption Center

Animals will move to the front of the building to be more visible to visitors.

By TONY BRITT

tbritt@lakecityreporter.com

A chorus of barking dogs found it difficult to compete with the sound of hammers at the local humane society on Saturday.

Members of the Columbia County Builders Association were on site with hammers, saws, nails and other tools working on an addition to the Margaret Smith Animal Adoption Center building at the Lake City Humane Society.

The plan is to enclose a carport and turn it into office space, freeing up space near the front of the building for dogs and cats, making them more visible to visitors.

"That way we can use the front of the building to house more animals during the day," said Teena Ruffo, LCHS operations manager. "People have a hard time, they walk through the kennels and they can't picture these dogs in their house and a house setting. But when we have the dogs up front in the air conditioning, just laying in a pen and relaxing, we've gotten a lot more animals adopted like that because people can visualize them in their home."

Still, humane society officials needed to build the addition as economically as possible. Money saved on construction can be used in the



TONY BRITT/Lake City Reporter

Bryan Zecher (from left) prepares to take a window from Mike Nicholson as Christian Zecher offers assistance. Several members of the Columbia County Builders Association worked on improvements at the local humane society Saturday.

spay/neuter program to control the animal population, Ruffo said.

"The builders association was kind enough to volunteer their time," Ruffo said, noting Lube Specialists gave money towards purchasing an air conditioner and Homes of Merit donated all the materials for the work.

Bryan Zecher, Columbia County Builders Association president, said one of the organization's missions is to give back to the community and each year the organization finds a project.

Framers put up the walls on Friday, and on Saturday crews worked for about half a day, installing siding, insulation, windows and an air conditioner. Marc Matthews did the electrical work and Dave Ponton did the framing work earlier in the week. Crews are expected to return later in the week to finish the inside trim work.

"It all goes back to helping the community and finding a need in the community," Zecher said. "This project came up and we just felt like it was the right one to partner with."

## Still no word on Thursday wreck

From staff reports

As of press time Saturday, the Lake City Police Department still had not released any information on a crash involving a City of Lake City automobile and an SUV at the intersection of US 90 and Bascom Norris Road Thursday morning.

The driver of the city vehicle, still unidentified, was

taken to an area hospital, according to an eyewitness at the scene.

The driver of the SUV told a reporter she suffered minor injuries. At least four children were in the SUV as well. None appeared to be injured.

An LCPD employee said Friday that a report had been completed but not authorized for release.

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- Best Caterer \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Country Style Restaurant \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Deli \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Dinner Under \$10 \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Donuts \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Drive Thru \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Early Bird Dinner \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Fried Chicken \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Hot Wings \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Lunch Special \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Mexican Restaurant \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Asian Cuisine \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Pizza \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Restaurant Atmosphere \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Salad Bar \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Sandwich \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Seafood \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Steak \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Sub \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Sushi \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Hot Dog \_\_\_\_\_

**BEST SERVICES**

- Best Tattoo Artist \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Veterinarian \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Assisted Living Fac. \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Auto Body Shop \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Auto Electronics \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Auto Service \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Bank \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Barber Shop \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Carpet Cleaner \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Cellular Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Child Care Center \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Civic Organization \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Cleaning Service \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Credit Union \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Dance Studio \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Dry Cleaner \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Electronic Repair \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Emergency Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Funeral Home \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Gym \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Hair Salon \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Hearing Center \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Heating & Air Company \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Home Health Care Provider \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Hospital \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Karate School \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Lawn Care \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Lawn Mower Sales/Service \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Medical Clinic \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Motorcycle Repair \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Nail Salon \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Oil Change \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Optical Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Pest Control \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Pet Boarding \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Pet Grooming \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Pharmacy \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Place for a Massage \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Place to Buy Meat \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Pool/Spa Service and Repair \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Printer \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Nursing Home \_\_\_\_\_

- Best Auto Parts Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Real Estate Agency \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Swimming Pool Sales/Installation \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Tanning Salon \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Towing Company \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Window Tinting \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Antique Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Appliance Dealer \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Bedding \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Boat Dealer \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Consignment/Thrift Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Convenience Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Domestic Auto Dealer \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Fabric Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Feed Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Floor Covering Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Florist \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Furniture Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Garden/Nursery \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Gift Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Hardware Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Import Auto Dealer \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Jewelry Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Manufactured Home Dealer \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Motorcycle/ATV Dealer \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Pawn Shop \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Pet Shop \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Place to Buy Tires \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Produce \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Shoe Store \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Spa/Hot Tub Dealer \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Truck Dealer \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Used Auto Dealer \_\_\_\_\_

**BEST PEOPLE**

- Best Attorney \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Automotive Salesperson \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Chiropractor \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Dentist \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Electrician \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Event Planner \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Doctor \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Hair Stylist \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Home Builder \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Insurance Agent \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Masseuse \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Orthodontist \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Pharmacist \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Photographer \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Plumber \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Real Estate Agent \_\_\_\_\_

**BEST PLACES**

- Best Activity Center \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Apartment Complex \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Golf Course \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Hotel/Motel \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Place for a Wedding \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Place for a Wedding Reception \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Retirement Community \_\_\_\_\_
- Best Campground \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTIONS AND OFFICIAL RULES:** One entry form per household. Entries must be submitted on official entry ballot. Photocopies and carbon not accepted. Must be 18 years of age to enter. Ballots must include name, age, address and telephone number. Entries not meeting these criteria will not be tabulated nor entered in the drawing for \$150 worth of cash prizes. The Lake City Reporter reserves the right to verify all entries and to eliminate any category for any reason. This ballot must be postmarked by June 17, 2014 and mailed to: Reader's Choice Contest - Lake City Reporter, PO Box 1709 Lake City, FL 32056. Ballot must have at least half of the categories filled out to be considered valid. No purchase required. The Reporter will not be responsible for lost, late, misdirected, damaged or otherwise undeliverable mail. All entries become the property of the Lake City Reporter. Winner will be notified by telephone and/or certified mail, and will have seven days to reply and claim the prize. Taxes are the responsibility of the winner. Winner agrees to publication of name, hometown and photograph. An announcement of the winner will appear in the Lake City Reporter. The name of the winner will not be given out by telephone. Judge's decision is final. Contest coordinator will not enter into any written or oral discussion about the contest judge's or awarding of the prize. Employees of the Lake City Reporter (and their immediate families and members of their household) are not eligible.

## MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

## Hersha: Drawing to make others happy

*Editor's note: Meet Your Neighbor is an occasional feature meant to introduce readers to interesting or notable local residents who might not otherwise find themselves in the public eye.*

By MEGAN REEVES

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In a world of restlessness, Joe Hersha finds ease in two things: paper and pencil.

"I did a little drawing in school," he said. "But the older I get the more it eases my mind."

Hersha said he uses his artistic talents as an outlet from the stress of everyday life.

Although his zip code has recently changed, Hersha's passions have not. He has only been living in Lake City for a short time, after moving from Ohio to be close to his mother.

Hersha, now 37, said he started drawing years ago.

"It's something to kill time," he said. "I make

things so I can send to them other people in hopes that they enjoy it."

Hersha just finished working on a piece Friday that he will be sending to his friend Heather back in Ohio.

The drawing is the profile of a woman who is staring at a collection of roses.

"[Heather] always tries to make everybody happy," Hersha said of his friend. "She's good to everybody, tries to help everybody out, so to me this is a picture of her."

He explained that he drew the picture to show her that she deserves to see a bed of roses in front of her.

"I usually just sit on the porch and listen to the radio while I draw," Hersha said. "Usually it's country music."

He said the focus of his art has always been diverse.

"I draw a little bit of everything," Hersha said.

"I take whatever someone likes and I try to make



MEGAN REEVES/Lake City Reporter

Joe Hersha shows off a tattoo based on one of his drawings.

something of it so that they like it. I incorporate

something that represents them."

His portfolio includes drawings for all types of people: friends far, friends close and his children, specifically a Spider-Man drawing for his son.

Hersha has also designed tattoos for several of his friends, as his artwork often mimics the style of a tattoo.

He has two of his own tattoos, one on his bicep and shoulder and another on his side. He drew the pieces and his friend tattooed them for him.

Although Hersha's subject matter may change to suit the person he is creating for, his medium does not.

"I like pencil because I like black and white pictures," he said. "To me, the shading is just a lot better."

Hersha said black and white images can make people feel things that color can't.

After doing it for years, he said that the important thing is to "keep trying." "I'm sure everybody

changes with anything they do," Hersha said. "It's just something you're gonna get better at the more you do it."

Hersha has started teaching his three children to draw. He said at ages six, eight and 13, they are young but learning.

Although he draws in his spare time, Hersha works in the construction industry.

While living in Ohio, Hersha worked for a company building log cabins. He said the creative aspect is what made him love it.

"I just like to build and draw," Hersha said. "I like to do stuff where when it's done I can sit back and look and say, 'Hey, I did this.'"

He said all of his creations are aimed to make people happy.

"Everyone seems to enjoy them and most people hang them up," he said. "At least I hope so, because there's a lot of time that goes into them."

## NIBLACK

Continued From 1A

the incidents, Huddleston said he did not believe the matter warranted DCF attention.

However, he said a presentation by a private attorney, brought in to speak to district administrators last week at his request, caused him to look at the matter afresh.

"It's safe to say she was eye-opening," Huddleston said.

Previously, district employees believed that consensual sexual activity between children, while improper, might not require a call to DCF, he said. The attorney corrected that thinking.

"That had been the mindset in the district that children with children wouldn't necessarily be child abuse," he said. "But that's where she went in to say, 'No,' because some of them don't have the capacity to consent."

Huddleston said that after the attorney's visit, local educators will be better versed on the law. He said the training would be passed down to every district employee.

"I think if that situation repeated itself now, I don't think there's any question that people would call," he said. "But I think after the training that everybody went to, I think they're gonna call about everything."

Huddleston said a 2012 change in state law made stricter the reporting requirements for educators, and said he understood why Niblack officials didn't call DCF at the time.

"I don't think they would have (called) with their understanding at that time of the old rules," he said.

Huddleston said if he had been an administrator at Niblack at the time, he wouldn't have called DCF either.

However, the 2012 change did not pertain to educators, said John Harrell, communications director for the Northeast Region of DCF. The law



JASON MATTHEW WALKER/Lake City Reporter

Minnie J. Niblack Elementary School is pictured.

was expanded to require every citizen to report abuse, he said, but the rules for school personnel didn't change at all.

"The (old) law would absolutely apply to teachers," Harrell said.

It would also apply to law enforcement, he said.

The Columbia County Sheriff's Office was notified of the incidents but determined they did not constitute abuse, according to the school's investigative report.

A case number was generated after the first incident but school officials ruled the boy's conduct "sexual harassment" and no sheriff's report was written.

Sheriff Mark Hunter said a deputy was told of the second incident on a Friday, then informed the following Monday that the girl's father did not wish to press charges.

He said in the absence of a complaining witness, his office did not investigate further.

Harrell said DCF should have been notified regardless.

"Anyone who suspects or is aware of abuse would be required to report that," he said. "If someone suspects child abuse, including child-on-child abuse, they should call the abuse hotline. Ultimately, our feeling is they need to let us investigate."

Hunter said his office acted properly under the law.

"We take seriously and investigate such incidents thoroughly," he said. "We examine the facts and go where the evidence leads us."

## Huddleston on Cherie Hill

From staff reports

Columbia County Superintendent of Schools Terry Huddleston issued the following statement Thursday on the appointment of Cherie Hill as the new principal of Pinemount Elementary School:

"With recent events, one of my major goals has been to find the right person to take the helm at Pinemount Elementary to continue the momentum and progress made since the school opened," Huddleston wrote. "I looked at the existing administrators in the district to find one who has the needed experience to bring the students, teachers, staff, and families of Pinemount together to continue the great job that is being done there in educating students. The district is very fortunate to have several experienced administrators who could move into this position."

Hill replaces Donna McAdams, whose contract was not renewed.

## A common thread

The common thread in the incidents at Niblack and Pinemount was the presence of Marilyn Gassett, as principal at Niblack, then as assistant principal at Pinemount.

Gassett was demoted to assistant principal in August 2013 for unrelated reasons, school officials say, and has since been relieved of her duties there for failing to report a student's claim of sexual abuse at home. She will be allowed to return to the district as a teacher in the fall.

Media inquiries over possible parallels in the incidents at the two schools led Huddleston to investigate the Niblack cases, the first of which occurred in October 2012, before he took office as superintendent. The second incident occurred in January 2013.

Keith Hatcher, the district director of adult education, truancy and charter schools, led the probe.

Gassett, Melinda Moses, then assistant principal at

However, while both students signed a "no contact" contract at the request of school officials, only the boy was punished, receiving five days' suspension for the first incident and 10 days' suspension for the second, provided he receive counseling.

When asked why, if they were equal partners in the incidents, only the boy was punished, Huddleston defended administrators' choices.

"When you do a discipline, you have to be in the room at that time," he said. "We could pull up all kind of disciplinary referrals. We could look in hindsight at many referrals and say, 'Well, why did so and so.' You had to be there, right there, within that room with those parents to determine how and why that happened. I mean, that's all I can say. You have to be there in that moment (during) that decision-making process."

## 'Scheduling conflicts'

The first Niblack incident occurred Oct. 5, 2012 in the classroom of Chris Dang, who was away for in-service training at the time.

Afterward, Dang was concerned about the boy being left in the same classroom with the girl and thought he "may have qualified for an Emotional/Behavior Disorder," according to Hatcher's report.

However, administrators at Niblack never acted on his suggestion.

Possibly due to "administrative scheduling conflicts," meetings to discuss the matter were never held, Dang told Hatcher.

Huddleston declined to second-guess the decision to leave the boy and girl in the same classroom.

"I'm not gonna fault her (Gassett) because you don't know where he could have gone, whose class. See, at Niblack, you've only got two classes," he said. "So if he went in that class, or if he went in the other class, what kids in there could cause worse (problems)."

After the second incident, which occurred Jan. 23, 2013 as the students were walking home from school, one of the children was moved to a different classroom, according to a redacted May 15 report by Moses.



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## Vacation Bible School coming up

## Community VBS

A community-oriented vacation bible school entitled "The Jesus Connection: What a Friend" will be held at the Richardson Community Center June 16-20 from 6-8 p.m. daily.

Youth and adults both welcome. Call Georgia Muldrow at 752-1830 for more details.

## Sister's Welcome

Sister's Welcome Missionary Baptist Church, 3194 SW Sisters Welcome

Road, will offer a vacation bible school for Pre-K through Senior High students as well as adults June 16-20 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. The theme is "The Amazing Road Trip — Discovering God's Purpose for Me." Call Essie Wilson at 386-344-1516.

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## SNAPSHOTS OF DAD

Continued From 1A

### Michael Green

"I guess there's just really nothing like being a dad, especially for the first time," said Michael Green, father of three.

Green said it is hard to put the meaning of fatherhood into words.

"When you become a dad, everything changes," he said. "You start living more for your children than you do for yourself."

Green said he enjoys seeing his children have fun more than having fun himself.

"When you see them smile, your smile is like 100 times bigger," he said.

There are three things Green said he tries to teach his children: To have good values and be fair, to treat other people with respect and to be appreciative of what they have.

Although he said each of his children's births have been the defining moments of his life, his second most enjoyable memory is their annual camping trip.

In a few weeks, the Green family will be traveling to the Florida Keys to camp on the beach, lobster gig, snorkel and spend quality time together.

"I really like just spending time with my dad," said Green's 11-year-old daughter Kyndall.

Her brother Trenton, 7, agreed and said he loves playing baseball and going swimming with his dad.

Trenton also said he is thankful for his dad, to which Green responded,

"Well, he's getting a bike today."

### Chris Hatrick

For Chris Hatrick, fatherhood is all about the milestones.

"Your proudest moment is when your kids are born," he said. "That's the biggest thing, and then you go through the milestones."

His 15-year-old daughter Hannah is just learning to drive, which he considers a pretty exciting marker.

"I love getting to teach her and seeing her develop," Hatrick said. "The older they get the less and less directing you have to give them. So for me right now, that's the greatest thing."

He said he sees being a father as really just a "pride thing." You are constantly watching them set goals and accomplish them, he said.

"You get to watch them move on in their lives and see what they make of themselves," he said.

Hatrick said that because he wants the best for his daughter and his son Mitchell, he does his best to provide for them. You have to provide the best to give them the best opportunity to make the most of their lives, he said.

Hannah said she thinks her father has done just that. "He really cares about me being cultured," she said.



Chris Hatrick stands with his daughter, Hannah, 15.



Johnathan Rodgers holds his newborn daughter Addison.

"I'm very cultured musically and we always try a lot of new foods."

Hannah said that because of her dad, she has learned much about life. She thinks it's really important that he doesn't shelter her, she said.

"He's very open-minded and I enjoy that a lot," she said. "And on top of that, he's always supportive of me."

Hatrick said he has many hopes for his two children:



Photos by MEGAN REEVES/Lake City Reporter

Michael Green stands with his children Kyndall (11), Trenton (7) and Truett (1). Family friend Branson (8) is also pictured.

"I hope that they love what they do, that they get to experience parenthood and the joys of that, and that they have long lives and they are very productive," he said. "I just hope they do something big with their life."

### Johnathan Rodgers

Johnathan Rodgers became a father just three weeks ago, when his daughter Addison was born. After having his first child, he said things have begun to change for him.

"She's just pretty much the most precious thing in my life," he said. "She's like a little baby doll."

As he looked at his daughter, he explained that being a father isn't just having children, it is teaching them.

"You have to teach them to be good people, and be good to other people," Rodgers said.

He said that as a father he feels a responsibility to raise her right. This means teaching them right from wrong and how to do things, he said.

Of all the dreams a father can have for his daughter, Rodgers said for him one thing stands out among the rest. I want her to be a good person all-around, he said.

"Really I just hope she grows up to be a better person than I am," he laughed.

## NAACP holds 32nd annual Freedom Fund Luncheon

Branch also gave awards to local sponsors.

By TONY BRITT  
tbritt@lakecityreporter.com

Keeping the family together should start at home and spread throughout the community.

Barbara Watson, a member of the Florida House of Representatives from Miami, was the guest speaker for the 32nd Annual Columbia County NAACP Freedom Fund Luncheon and said keeping the family together should start at home in the kitchen with basic conversation and communication between family members.

The luncheon took place Saturday at The County Club of Lake City and was attended by more than 60 people. The theme for this year's event was One Community and One People, United We Stand.

The Freedom Fund Luncheon is the major fundraiser for the Columbia County branch of the National Association For the Advancement of Colored People.

During the program the local branch also presented awards to community sponsors from throughout the year.

Awards and recipients were:

■ NAACP Corporate



TONY BRITT/Lake City Reporter

Barbara Watson (left), a member of the Florida House of Representatives from Miami, receives a gift from She'leda Mirra, secretary and ministerial staff member of the Columbia County branch of the NAACP. Watson was the guest speaker for the branch's 32nd annual NAACP Freedom Fund Luncheon Saturday at The Country Club of Lake City.

Award winner — Zack Paulk

■ NAACP Community Service Award Winner — Sheriff Mark Hunter and the Columbia County Sheriff's Office

■ NAACP Community Service Award Winner — Dr. Jean Felert Cadet

■ NAACP Life Member Award — Barbara Carter

Debra White, Columbia County NAACP president, said the Freedom Fund Luncheon went really well.

"We had a great turnout

and we just thank everybody for coming and supporting us," she said. "We would like for everybody to believe in us and we hope to be of great assistance in this county."

White, who presented the awards to the recipients during the ceremony, said it's important to recognize people in the community who support the NAACP.

"We have to keep a communication pipeline between our sheriff's office, doctors and people that give us money through

the community and help us financially," she said. "It's very important that we keep a relationship with them and to recognize them and let them know how much we appreciate them."

"I very much enjoyed the program," said Shirley Rentz following the luncheon. "I'm probably a little prejudiced because she (Watson) is my first cousin. The program was great. I've been coming a long time and she ranks at the top."

## Deadline to enter hogs into county fair is this Friday

From staff reports

The deadline for hogs to be entered into the Columbia County Fair is Friday, June 20 at 5 p.m.

Children entering hogs to be judged must be between the ages of 8-18 and be enrolled in

any Columbia County public or private school or in home school.

All entries must be turned in to the Columbia County fairgrounds office or by calling 752-8822.

The hog weigh-in is scheduled for July 12 from 8-10 a.m.

## Volunteer locally during the summer

### Shands Lake Shore Hospital

The Auxiliary at Shands Lake Shore Hospital is looking for drivers for their golf cart. If you are 18 or older and would like a volunteer opportunity, consider driving the golf cart for 4 hours per week. Stop by the gift shop to pick up an application or call 386-292-8000 x 21216 to receive an application by mail.

### Hospice of Citrus and Nature Coast

Hospice of Citrus and the Nature Coast is searching for individuals who are interested in volunteering in the Suwannee, Columbia, Hamilton and Lafayette areas. Volunteers are needed to provide general office support and non-medical assistance to patients and their families. Hospice volunteers can provide services such as: telephone calls, socialization, light meal preparation, shopping or errands and staffing information booths at seasonal festivals. Specialized training will be provided. To volunteer contact Volunteer Manager Lynda Schladant at 386-755-7714 or email: lschladant@hospiceofcitrus.org.

### SHINE

Learn how to be a SHINE Volunteer in your community. SHINE volunteers offer free counseling and assistance to Florida Seniors and those with disabilities, on topics related to Medicare, Medicaid, long-term care planning, prescription drug assistance, supplemental insurance and more. Volunteers are needed in Columbia, Suwannee and Hamilton counties. Comprehensive three-day training will take place in Lake City on March 25-27. Costs for transportation are reimbursed and meals provided. Call 1-800-262-2243 for more information and application.

# THE WEATHER

<b>15</b> SUN Slight chance of storms HI 90 LO 68	<b>16</b> MON Storms likely Partly cloudy HI 90 LO 70	<b>17</b> TUE Slight chance of storms HI 90 LO 70	<b>18</b> WED Chance of storms HI 92 LO 72	<b>19</b> THU Chance of storms HI 92 LO 72
---	---	---	--	--

### REGIONAL FORECAST MAP for Sunday, June 15

Sunday's highs/Sunday night's low

City	Monday	Tuesday
Cape Canaveral	89/74/ts	89/73/ts
Daytona Beach	89/73/ts	89/71/ts
Fort Myers	92/73/ts	91/72/ts
Ft. Lauderdale	89/77/ts	88/77/ts
Gainesville	90/71/ts	90/70/ts
Jacksonville	89/72/ts	88/72/ts
Key West	89/80/pc	88/80/ts
Lake City	90/71/ts	90/70/ts
Miami	88/77/ts	90/76/ts
Naples	89/74/pc	90/74/ts
Ocala	90/70/ts	90/71/ts
Orlando	92/74/ts	92/74/ts
Panama City	87/75/pc	87/75/pc
Pensacola	85/76/pc	85/76/pc
Tallahassee	94/70/ts	96/71/ts
Tampa	88/74/ts	89/74/ts
Valdosta	94/69/ts	96/69/pc
W. Palm Beach	89/76/pc	88/76/pc

**NATIONAL FORECAST:** Showers and thunderstorms will be likely from the Upper Midwest and western Great Lakes down to the southern Plains. Additional showers and storms will be possible in the Southeast and northern Rockies. The Southwest will see continued dry weather.

### NATIONAL FORECAST MAP

3 p.m. today

**YESTERDAY'S NATIONAL EXTREMES** High: 102°, Carlsbad, NM Low: 25°, MCMWTC BRIDGEPORT, CA

### LAKE CITY ALMANAC

**TEMPERATURES**

High Saturday	84
Low Saturday	70
Normal high	90
Normal low	69
Record high	102 in 1977
Record low	59 in 1980

**PRECIPITATION**

Saturday	1.37"
Month total	4.79"
Year total	15.79"
Normal month-to-date	2.87"
Normal year-to-date	18.86"

**SUN**  
Sunrise today: 6:28 a.m.  
Sunset today: 8:33 p.m.  
Sunrise tom.: 6:28 a.m.  
Sunset tom.: 8:33 p.m.

**MOON**  
Moonrise today: 10:55 p.m.  
Moonset today: 9:10 a.m.  
Moonrise tom.: 11:41 p.m.  
Moonset tom.: 10:17 a.m.

June 19 June 27 July 5 July 12  
Last New First Full

### UV INDEX

**9**

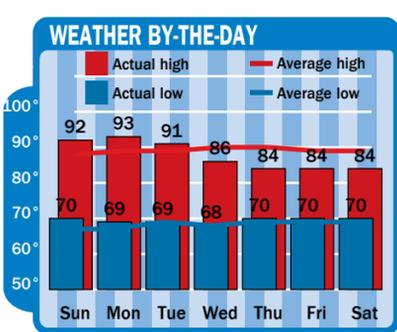
Very High  
15 mins to burn  
Today's ultra-violet radiation risk for the area on a scale from 0 to 10+.

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

The Weather Channel weather.com

Forecasts, data and graphics WSI ©2014

CITY	Saturday	Today	CITY	Saturday	Today	CITY	Saturday	Today
Albany	66/61/13	79/52/pc	Des Moines	82/59/00	83/62/ts	Oklahoma City	88/69/00	89/72/ts
Albuquerque	89/60/00	89/62/s	Detroit	74/48/00	80/67/pc	Omaha	84/62/00	81/62/pc
Anchorage	54/48/00	61/48/sh	El Paso	96/77/00	96/76/pc	Orlando	88/70/82	91/73/ts
Atlanta	84/64/00	87/69/ts	Fairbanks	69/52/00	72/50/pc	Philadelphia	75/69/00	83/63/s
Baltimore	73/64/00	84/61/pc	Greensboro	84/66/00	85/66/pc	Phoenix	100/84/00	104/76/s
Billings	57/50/01	73/50/pc	Hartford	77/63/00	81/56/pc	Pittsburgh	70/52/02	81/61/s
Birmingham	84/64/00	87/70/pc	Honolulu	84/75/00	84/76/pc	Portland ME	75/55/00	75/53/pc
Bismarck	64/54/20	72/46/pc	Houston	90/73/00	90/78/pc	Portland OR	62/54/00	66/51/sh
Boise	57/50/00	76/51/pc	Indianapolis	73/52/00	84/69/pc	Raleigh	86/66/00	87/66/pc
Boston	73/57/01	78/59/pc	Jackson MS	88/66/00	91/70/pc	Rapid City	61/54/24	74/52/pc
Buffalo	62/53/00	89/70/pc	Jacksonville	84/73/21	89/71/ts	Reno	72/52/00	82/51/pc
Charleston SC	90/73/00	87/58/pc	Kansas City	64/61/00	82/68/ts	Sacramento	84/59/00	89/57/s
Charleston WV	73/54/00	88/64/s	Las Vegas	91/75/00	98/74/pc	Salt Lake City	63/52/00	80/57/pc
Charlotte	86/63/17	88/68/pc	Little Rock	84/62/00	90/71/pc	San Antonio	87/75/00	93/75/pc
Cheyenne	66/53/00	71/47/pc	Los Angeles	73/59/00	75/62/fg	San Diego	72/64/00	68/62/pc
Chicago	78/54/00	87/66/ts	Memphis	84/63/00	91/73/pc	San Francisco	82/55/00	63/53/pc
Cincinnati	73/48/00	85/66/pc	Miami	89/73/33	88/76/ts	Seattle	59/53/00	64/51/sh
Cleveland	68/51/00	79/65/pc	Minneapolis	66/57/41	75/59/ts	Spokane	54/48/01	66/43/sh
Columbia SC	78/54/00	84/68/ts	Mobile	87/64/00	89/71/pc	St. Louis	80/55/00	90/71/ts
Dallas	89/73/00	90/75/ts	New Orleans	88/72/00	87/74/pc	Tampa	87/75/04	88/75/ts
Daytona Beach	87/71/1.00	88/71/ts	New York	79/67/79	79/63/s	Tucson	100/81/00	101/72/pc
Denver	78/61/00	79/53/pc	Oakland	77/54/00	70/54/pc	Washington	75/68/00	84/68/pc



### WEATHER HISTORY

The major Mount Pinatubo eruption of 1991 began on this date, hurling debris 100,000 feet into the atmosphere. The debris spread throughout the globe, partially blocking the sun's energy and cooling the average surface temperature by as much as 1 degree.

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Lake City Reporter

### INTERNATIONAL

CITY	Saturday	Today	CITY	Saturday	Today	CITY	Saturday	Today
Acapulco	89/78/00	89/77/pc	La Paz	60/30/00	59/30/pc	Rio	86/64/00	82/66/s
Amsterdam	64/57/00	86/53/pc	Lima	73/66/00	69/64/pc	Rome	86/66/00	86/64/ts
Athens	87/62/00	86/69/s	London	71/59/00	73/53/r	San Juan PR	89/78/02	89/78/pc
Auckland	60/44/00	62/48/s	Madrid	93/66/00	93/55/s	Santiago	91/73/00	91/73/pc
Beijing	89/64/00	93/69/s	Mexico City	78/60/00	78/55/pc	Seoul	78/71/00	80/59/s
Berlin	64/53/00	71/48/r	Montreal	66/59/00	69/51/s	Singapore	91/82/00	91/82/ts
Buenos Aires	55/42/00	60/51/s	Moscow	69/51/00	68/50/r	St. Thomas VI	89/78/00	90/79/s
Cairo	91/73/00	91/71/s	Nairobi	68/59/00	75/57/ts	Sydney	68/55/00	68/50/r
Geneva	77/59/00	75/53/ts	Nassau	87/78/00	87/78/s	Tel Aviv	86/68/00	87/68/s
Havana	91/73/00	89/73/s	New Delhi	96/80/00	105/86/pc	Tokyo	82/69/00	78/66/pc
Helsinki	57/51/00	62/46/pc	Oslo	51/50/00	71/42/pc	Toronto	64/53/00	69/53/s
Hong Kong	93/82/00	93/82/pc	Panama	82/75/00	89/77/ts	Vienna	73/59/00	71/53/pc
Kingston	89/80/00	89/82/ts	Paris	71/57/00	71/51/pc	Warsaw	64/51/00	64/51/r

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

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TIM KIRBY/Lake City Reporter

Members of the Lake City Gold playing in the Rookie Qualifier are (front row, from left) Collin Tuell, Carter Downing, Mason Hauge, Tyler Boston, Tyson Yaxley and Richard Jones. Second row (from left) are Logan Brooks, Evan Williams, Brayden Dupree, Riley Law, Dakota Philpot, Nate Lucas and Jerry West. Back row coaches (from left) are Chris Williams, Kraig Kennington and J.J. Pollard.



COURTESY

Members of the Fort White team playing in the Rookie Qualifier are (front row, from left) Nathaniel Angelo, Garrett DePaola, Hayden McCrory, Brennan Martin, LeCosta Byrd and Patrick Kennedy. Second row (from left) are Chauncey Mays, David Fralick, Conner Bass, Tristen Johnson, Kenton Haase and Noah Knowles. Back row coaches (from left) are Chip Sundo, Donnie Rosbury and Darren Bass.

## Qualify quest

Lake City hosting annual Rookie Qualifier tourney.

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

Lake City Columbia County Youth Baseball is

hosting its annual Rookie Qualifier for 8U Babe Ruth Baseball. Games begin Thursday at Southside Sports Complex.

As LCCCYB president, Jessica Langley is hosting president for the tournament. Florida State Commissioner John Lucas

is tournament director.

“The Rookie Qualifier is 7-8-year-olds trying to make it to the state tournament in Palm Beach Gardens,” Langley said. “The tournament brings in a lot of people and money to our

**ROOKIE** continued on 3B



TIM KIRBY/Lake City Reporter

Members of the Lake City Purple playing in the Rookie Qualifier are (front row, from left) Jayse Brinkley, Jacob Burch, J.D. Dumas, Trayce McKenzie and Branson Mann. Second row (from left) are Evan Umstead, Brett Jones, Philip Maddox, Luke Wehinger, Gavin Crews and Ian Davis. Back row coaches (from left) are Caleb Umstead, Jason Dumas and Robert Mann. Not pictured is Cameron Saunders.

Sydney and Mark may not know each other. But they share a common enemy.



**UFHealth**  
 UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA HEALTH

UFHealth.org

As an infant, Sydney Thomas was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes. Mark Atkinson has been working for more than 25 years developing treatments to prevent – and even cure – diabetes. Dr. Atkinson’s work at UF Health is shedding new light on Sydney’s disease. And it’s an invisible connection that’s helping us move medicine forward.

UF Health and Shands Lake Shore Regional Medical Center, an innovative alliance to enhance our community.

# SCOREBOARD

## TELEVISION

**TV sports**

**Today**  
**AUTO RACING**  
**9 a.m.**  
FS1 — 24 Hours of Le Mans, finish of race

**1 p.m.**  
TNT — NASCAR, Sprint Cup, Quicken Loans 400

**11 p.m.**  
ESPN2 — NHRA, Thunder Valley Nationals (same-day tape)

**COLLEGE BASEBALL**  
**3 p.m.**  
ESPN2 — World Series, game 3, Texas Tech vs. TCU, at Omaha, Neb.

**8 p.m.**  
ESPN2 — World Series, game 4, Mississippi vs. Virginia, at Omaha, Neb.

**CYCLING**  
**11 p.m.**  
NBCSN — Criterium du Dauphine, final stage, Megeve to Courchevel, France (same-day tape)

**GOLF**  
**Noon**  
NBC — USGA, U.S. Open Championship, final round

**MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL**  
**1:30 p.m.**  
MLB — Cleveland at Boston or Washington at St. Louis (2 p.m.)  
WGN — Chicago Cubs at Philadelphia

**8 p.m.**  
ESPN — L.A. Angels at Atlanta

**MOTORSPORTS**  
**7:30 a.m.**  
FS1 — MotoGP World Championship, Grand Prix of Catalunya

**Noon**  
FS1 — MotoGP Moto3, Grand Prix of Catalunya (same-day tape)

**1 p.m.**  
FS1 — MotoGP Moto2, Grand Prix of Catalunya (same-day tape)

**NBA**  
**8 p.m.**  
ABC — NBA Finals, game 5, Miami at San Antonio

**SOCCER**  
**11:30 a.m.**  
ABC — FIFA, World Cup, Group E, Switzerland vs. Ecuador, at Brasilia

**2:30 p.m.**  
ABC — FIFA, World Cup, Group E, France vs. Honduras, at Porto Alegre

**5:30 p.m.**  
ESPN — FIFA, World Cup, Group F, Argentina vs. Bosnia-Herzegovina, at Rio de Janeiro

**WNBA**  
**1 p.m.**  
ESPN2 — Phoenix at Minnesota

**Monday**  
**COLLEGE BASEBALL**  
**3 p.m.**  
ESPN2 — World Series, game 5

**8 p.m.**  
ESPN2 — World Series, game 6

**MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL**  
**8 p.m.**  
ESPN — N.Y. Mets at St. Louis

**SOCCER**  
**11:30 a.m.**  
ESPN — FIFA, World Cup, Group G, Germany vs. Portugal, at Salvador

**2:30 p.m.**  
ESPN — FIFA, World Cup, Group F, Iran vs. Nigeria, at Curitiba

**5:30 p.m.**  
ESPN — FIFA, World Cup, Group G, Ghana vs. United States, at Natal

## BASKETBALL

**NBA Finals**

**Thursday**  
San Antonio 107, Miami 86, San Antonio leads series 3-1

**Today**  
Miami at San Antonio, 8 p.m.

## BASEBALL

**AL standings**

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	40	29	.580	—
New York	35	31	.530	3½
Baltimore	34	32	.515	4½

Boston	31	36	.463	8
Tampa Bay	26	42	.382	13½

**Central Division**

	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	34	29	.540	—
Kansas City	34	32	.515	1½
Minnesota	32	33	.492	3
Chicago	33	35	.485	3½
Cleveland	33	35	.485	3½

**West Division**

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	40	27	.597	—
Los Angeles	36	30	.545	3½
Seattle	34	33	.507	6
Texas	33	34	.493	7
Houston	31	38	.449	10

**Today's Games**

Minnesota (Nolasco 4-5) at Detroit (Porcello 8-4), 1:08 p.m.

Cleveland (Kluber 6-4) at Boston (Workman 1-0), 1:35 p.m.

Toronto (Happ 5-3) at Baltimore (Tillman 5-3), 1:35 p.m.

Kansas City (Shields 7-3) at Chicago White Sox (Rienzo 4-3), 2:10 p.m.

Tampa Bay (Price 4-6) at Houston (Peacock 2-4), 2:10 p.m.

N.Y. Yankees (Nuno 1-2) at Oakland (J.Chavez 5-4), 4:05 p.m.

Texas (N.Martinez 1-3) at Seattle (Iwakuma 4-3), 4:10 p.m.

L.A. Angels (H.Santiago 0-6) at Atlanta (Minor 2-4), 8:05 p.m.

**Monday's Games**

L.A. Angels (Shoemaker 3-1) at Cleveland (Bauer 1-3), 7:05 p.m.

Kansas City (Vargas 6-2) at Detroit (Verlander 6-6), 7:08 p.m.

Baltimore (W.Chen 7-2) at Tampa Bay (Odorizzi 2-7), 7:10 p.m.

Minnesota (Correia 3-7) at Boston (R.De La Rosa 1-2), 7:10 p.m.

Texas (Lewis 4-4) at Oakland (Pomeranz 5-3), 10:05 p.m.

San Diego (T.Ross 6-5) at Seattle (C.Young 5-4), 10:10 p.m.

## NL standings

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	35	31	.530	—
Washington	35	31	.530	—
Miami	34	32	.515	1
New York	30	37	.448	5½
Philadelphia	28	37	.431	6½

**Central Division**

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	40	28	.588	—
St. Louis	35	32	.522	4½
Pittsburgh	33	34	.493	6½
Cincinnati	32	34	.485	7
Chicago	27	38	.415	11½

**West Division**

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	43	25	.632	—
Los Angeles	36	33	.522	7½
Colorado	32	35	.478	10½
San Diego	28	39	.418	14½
Arizona	29	41	.414	15

**Today's Games**

Pittsburgh (Undecided) at Miami (H.Alvarez 3-3), 1:10 p.m.

San Diego (Kennedy 5-7) at N.Y. Mets (Matsuzaka 3-0), 1:10 p.m.

Chicago Cubs (T.Wood 6-5) at Philadelphia (A.Burnett 4-5), 1:35 p.m.

Cincinnati (Leake 3-6) at Milwaukee (Estrada 5-3), 2:10 p.m.

Washington (Fister 5-1) at St. Louis (J.Garcia 2-0), 2:15 p.m.

Colorado (Nicasio 5-5) at San Francisco (Bumgarner 8-4), 4:05 p.m.

Arizona (Arroyo 6-4) at L.A. Dodgers (Beckett 4-3), 4:10 p.m.

L.A. Angels (H.Santiago 0-6) at Atlanta (Minor 2-4), 8:05 p.m.

**Monday's Games**

Chicago Cubs (Hammel 6-4) at Miami (Koeher 5-5), 7:10 p.m.

Philadelphia (Hamels 2-3) at Atlanta (Teheran 6-4), 7:10 p.m.

N.Y. Mets (deGrom 0-3) at St. Louis (Wainwright 9-3), 8:10 p.m.

Milwaukee (W.Peralta 6-5) at Arizona (McCarthy 1-9), 9:40 p.m.

Colorado (Matzek 1-0) at L.A. Dodgers (Ryu 7-3), 10:10 p.m.

San Diego (T.Ross 6-5) at Seattle (C.Young 5-4), 10:10 p.m.

## AUTO RACING

**Race week**

**GROUP G**  
**Monday**  
At Salvador, Brazil  
Germany vs. Portugal, Noon  
At Natal, Brazil  
Ghana vs. United States, 6 p.m.

**SPRINT CUP**  
**QUICKEN LOANS 400**  
Site: Brooklyn, Michigan.  
Schedule: Today, race, 1 p.m. (TNT, noon-4:30 p.m.).  
Track: Michigan International Speedway (oval, 2.0 miles).  
Race distance: 400 miles, 200 laps.

**THUNDER VALLEY NATIONALS**  
Site: Bristol, Tennessee.  
Schedule: Today, final eliminations, (ESPN2, 11 p.m.-1 a.m.).  
Track: Bristol Dragway.

**OTHER RACES**  
AUTOMOBILE CLUB DE L'OUVEST:  
24 Hours of Le Mans, Through today (Today, Fox Sports 1, 2-7:30 a.m.; Fox Sports 2, 7:30-9:30 a.m.) Circuit de la Sarthe, Le Mans, France.

## Quicken Loans lineup

At Michigan International Speedway Brooklyn, Mich.

**Friday qualifying; race today**  
(Car number in parentheses)

- (4) Kevin Harvick, Chevrolet, 204.557.
- (24) Jeff Gordon, Chevrolet, 203.776.
- (88) Dale Earnhardt Jr., Chevrolet, 203.729.
- (43) Aric Almirola, Ford, 203.2.
- (27) Paul Menard, Chevrolet, 203.04.
- (2) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 202.908.
- (48) Jimmie Johnson, Chevrolet, 202.401.
- (41) Kurt Busch, Chevrolet, 202.043.
- (22) Joey Logano, Ford, 202.032.
- (55) Brian Vickers, Toyota, 201.331.
- (1) Jamie McMurray, Chevrolet, 200.49.
- (42) Kyle Larson, Chevrolet, 201.117.
- (5) Kasey Kahne, Chevrolet, 200.876.
- (18) Kyle Busch, Toyota, 200.842.
- (15) Clint Bowyer, Toyota, 200.831.
- (78) Martin Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 200.82.
- (51) Justin Allgaier, Chevrolet, 200.73.
- (16) Greg Biffle, Ford, 200.518.
- (3) Austin Dillon, Chevrolet, 200.457.
- (9) Marcos Ambrose, Ford, 200.128.
- (20) Matt Kenseth, Toyota, 199.967.
- (99) Carl Edwards, Ford, 199.534.
- (21) Trevor Bayne, Ford, 199.518.
- (31) Ryan Newman, Chevrolet, 199.165.
- (47) AJ Allmendinger, Chevrolet, 200.837.
- (14) Tony Stewart, Chevrolet, 200.457.
- (10) Danica Patrick, Chevrolet, 200.451.
- (12) Juan Pablo Montoya, Ford, 200.217.
- (11) Denny Hamlin, Toyota, 199.933.
- (17) Ricky Stenhouse Jr., Ford, 199.75.
- (13) Casey Mears, Chevrolet, 199.617.
- (38) David Gilliland, Ford, 198.593.
- (34) David Ragan, Ford, 198.571.
- (66) Brett Moffitt, Toyota, 198.347.
- (44) J.J. Yeley, Chevrolet, 197.9.
- (33) David Stremme, Chevrolet, 197.666.
- (7) Michael Annett, Chevrolet, Owner Points.
- (98) Josh Wise, Chevrolet, Owner Points.
- (40) Landon Cassill, Chevrolet, Owner Points.
- (36) Reed Sorenson, Chevrolet, Owner Points.
- (23) Alex Bowman, Toyota, Owner Points.
- (26) Cole Whitt, Toyota, Owner Points.
- (32) Travis Kvapil, Ford, Owner Points.

**Failed to Qualify**

(83) Ryan Truex, Toyota, 196.931.

## SOCCER

### World Cup

**GROUP G**  
**Monday**  
At Salvador, Brazil  
Germany vs. Portugal, Noon  
At Natal, Brazil  
Ghana vs. United States, 6 p.m.

# GOLF REPORTS

## New greens coming along

We have one week to go, if weather permits, before we get the new greens in. Once we put them in place it generally takes about five days before we can allow play on them.

Then it is on to the next set of greens in the replacement process.

Monday's Top of the Hill winner was Bill Ryan with a +10.

Tying for second place with +7 were Jack Tuggle and Joe Herring.

Wednesday Blitz winner with a +8 was Al Cohoon.

Following with a tie for second with +5 were Bob Jaeger and Chuck Slaymaker. Taking fourth with a +4 was Kevin Parks.

Skin winners were Cohoon with three, Ricky Crawford Jr., Keith Denmark, Kevin Parks, Jim Munns and Gerald Smithy.

Closest to the pin winners were Slaymaker on Nos. 3 and 11, Joe Herring on No. 5, Parks on No. 15 and Cohoon on No. 17.

The Wednesday Scramble winning team was Bill Ryan, Wallace Christie and Richard Simmons with a -4.

The scramble pot

## QUAIL HEIGHTS COUNTRY CLUB

Nicki Newmans

was won by team members Ricky Crawford Jr., Brantley Stephens and Jacob Bryan.

The Thursday Twilight League had the end of season toss tournament and banquet.

The season winning teams for A flight were Phillip Russell and Luther Huffman. Taking second in A flight were Chet Carter and Gillian Norris.

First place winners in B flight were Bob and Carole McGraw. Second in B flight were Jerry Snowberger and Hugh Sherrill.

C flight first place winners were Mike and Patti Kahlich. Taking second place were Tracy Spears and C.J. Bradford.

The Twilight League had a toss tournament to finish the season.

In A flight, the first place winner with a +19 was Jason Watts. Taking second place with a +15 was Todd Carter and Steve Nail was third with a +14.

B Flight winners were

Bill Ryan in first with a +15 after a tie-breaker over Luther Huffman in second. Hugh Sherrill was third with a +14.

C Flight winner was C.J. Bradford with a +19. Ken Kellam took second with a +16 and George Poultney took third with a +15.

D Flight winner was Jeff White with a +15. After a tie-breaker, Janice Miles took second with a +9 over Tracy Spears.

We had a full payout on what used to be a 50/50. Winners were Jason Watts and Amanda Odom.

Awesome job to all of the Twilight League winning teams. We would like to thank all the teams that joined in this season.

The Friday Dogfight winner, who has been on fire the past couple of weeks, was Kevin Parks with a +14. In second with a +4 was Jack Tuggle.

Skin winners were Parks with two and Jim Munns.

Closest to the pin winners were Larry Boone on No. 3 and Tuggle on No. 15.

To schedule a tee time or for questions, call the pro shop at 752-3339.

# SUMMER CAMPS

## YOUTH TENNIS

### Johnny Young junior camps

Johnny Young is offering three Junior Tennis Camps this summer at The Country Club at Lake City. The first camp is 8-11 a.m. Monday through Friday. Cost is \$65 for club members and \$80 for non-members and includes drinks and snacks. Registration is at The Country Club at Lake City.

For details, call Young at 365-3827.

## YOUTH GOLF

### Quail Heights summer camps

Quail Heights Country Club has Junior Golf

Camps (girls and boys ages 5-17) under the direction of Tammy Carter Gainey Monday-Friday and July 14-18. Camps are 8:30-11:30 a.m. each day at a cost of \$60 for club members and \$70 for non-members. Snacks and drinks will be provided. There are discounts for multiple family members and those at both camps.

For details, call the pro shop at 752-3339.

## Ste-Marie's Junior Golf Clinics

Carl Ste-Marie is offering Junior Golf Clinics this summer at The Country Club at Lake City. Remaining clinics are 8-11 a.m. Monday through Friday on the following dates: June 23-27;

July 14-18; July 28-Aug. 1. Cost is \$65 for club members and \$80 for non-members and includes drinks and snacks. Registration is at The Country Club at Lake City.

For details, call Ste-Marie at 623-2833.

## YOUTH SOFTBALL

### Impact Zone camp in Fort White

Impact Zone has a softball camp for all ages from 8 a.m. to noon Tuesday-Thursday at the South Columbia Sports Complex. Cost is \$75 with registration at the Impact Zone.

For details, call Josh Wehinger at 623-3628.

■ From staff reports

- ACROSS**
- Former ABC drama
  - Read hurriedly
  - ATV feature
  - A Muppet
  - Cross the creek
  - Gleeful shout
  - Cabbage dish
  - Added new text
  - Strenuous
  - Cleans house
  - Sicilian spouter
  - Dim sum additive
  - Dine in a meadow
  - Parting words
  - Ms. Shriver
  - Thicken, as cream
  - Two-masted sailboat
  - Desert dweller
  - "Anything —"
  - Thing on a ring
- DOWN**
- Perchance
  - Dragon puppet
  - Level
  - Cash, for instance
  - for the books
  - Slow
  - Merv's hostess
  - Makes up for
  - Percussion toys
  - Hobbling
  - Primary color
  - Composer — Satie
  - Smooth and level
  - Mermaid's domain
  - Rookie socialites
  - Fender spoiler

### Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

- Brainy
- Wrecker's job
- Guzzle
- Airtight container
- Circulars
- Requires
- Domino or waller
- Hone
- Pops
- Football kin
- DEA operative
- Parcels out
- Pond scum
- Monkey havens
- Talk, talk, talk
- Dolly the clone
- Conniving
- Reassure Rover
- "Exodus" hero
- Ms. West
- Wild horse
- Fall mo.
- Drove (along)
- In the altogether
- Jack, in cards
- Oman neighbor
- DVD predecessors
- Not into the wind
- Goose egg
- Requests
- Mailed out
- Prior to
- Umbrella spoke

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

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11	
12					13					14			
15					16					17			
18					19					20			
					21					22			
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30	31	32			33					34			
35					36					37			
40								41			42		
					43	44				45		46	47
48	49	50						51				52	
53								54	55		56		
57								58			59		
60								61			62		

# BRIEFS

## ADULT SOFTBALL

### Relay for Life tournament

The Relay for Life Softball Tournament is Saturday at the Southside Sports Complex. Registration fee per team is \$170 with all profits donated to Columbia County Relay for Life. Registration begins at 8 a.m. Saturday. Format is double elimination with a three-game guarantee.

For details

# LAKE CITY BABE RUTH BASEBALL CHAMPIONS



COURTESY

Giebeig Family Medicine was Lake City Babe Ruth Baseball 12U champion in 2014. Team members are (front row, from left) Cooper Brasfield, Darren Eubank and Kyler McClean. Second row (from left) are Sam Abott, Zach Abott, Lane Albritton, Coyle Giebeig, Morgan Hoyle and Trey Houk. Back row coaches (from left) are Shane Eubank, Jamie Albritton and Peter Giebeig. Not pictured is John Saucer.



COURTESY

Lake City Industries was Lake City Babe Ruth Baseball 10U champion in 2014. Team members are (front row, from left) Camdon Frier, Danny Rowland, Ty Jackson and Joel Brennan. Second row (from left) are Mason Gray, Kade Jackson, Travis Matthews, Ty Floyd and Josh Kasper. Back row coaches (from left) are Keith Jackson, Kevin Gray and Matt Frier. Not pictured are Austin McInnis, Austin Reaves and Adeon Farmer.



COURTESY

JW Weaponry was Lake City Babe Ruth Baseball 6U champion in 2014. Team members are (front row, from left) Eli Umstead, Madden Mann, Kayden Cheshire, Jackson Woodley and Ayden Roush. Second row (from left) are coach John Woodley, Bridger Ray, Raelyn Wehinger, Koy Frier, Ashton Giddens, Kade Frier and Ian McMillian. Back row coaches (from left) are Matt Frier, John McMillian, Caleb Umstead, Cov Woodley and Kevin Cheshire.



COURTESY

Health Center of Lake City was Lake City Babe Ruth Baseball 8U champion in 2014. Team members are (front row, from left) Tyson Yaxley, Jacob Burch, Wyatt Hudson, Braiden North and Tyler Boston. Second row (from left) are Ryan Cole Norris, Riley Law, Brett Jones and Logan Brooks. Back row coaches (from left) are Kevon Jones, Tommy Boston and Drew Law. Not pictured are Travis Hoyle and Elijah Jones.

## ROOKIE: Pool winners go to state

Continued From Page 1B

community. It puts Lake City on the map."

The 2014 tournament has a field of 40 all-star teams in three divisions — 26 in A, 16 in B and eight in Small League.

Teams are divided into 12 brackets and face each other in pool play. The winning teams qualify for state and there also are at-large possibilities.

Lake City Purple is the local entry in the A Division and Lake City Gold is the entry in the B Division.

Fort White has a team in the Small League Division.

The players are all-star selections from the regular season.

"We don't like to say A and B," Langley said. "It is just that we have enough for two teams, so we use our league colors of purple and gold. Typically, the older players who will be moving up are in the A Division."

Potential Lake City players for the machine pitch tournament are based on performances throughout the spring season.

"Managers and coaches evaluate players after each game," Langley said. "That is the determining factor that allows us to note players who have shined in their age division. At the end of the season there is a nominating process then voting on who are on the teams."

Langley said concessions are a big money-maker for the league. Stephen Davis heads up a crew that does all the cooking and selling.

The Tourist Development Council waives its field-use tournament fees for the Rookie Qualifier and the county does the maintenance work.

"Obviously, without the community and parent support none of this would be possible," Langley said.

"We are a true baseball family."

There is a second Rookie Qualifier in Ocala, which alternates weeks each year with Lake City. The Ocala tournament was last week.

Lucas has a coaches meeting planned for 7 p.m. Wednesday at the Babe Ruth Baseball meeting room.

Round robin pool play is Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

One-loss runners-up will play on Sunday to determine at-large state berths.

Several counties surrounding Columbia have teams in the tournament.

The list of teams by divisions with Thursday's game schedule follows.

■ 9 a.m. — Okecheelee vs. Winter Park (A), Orange Park vs. Palatka (A), San Jose vs. Lake City (A), Union County vs. Lutz (A);

■ 10:30 a.m. — Santa Fe vs. South Lakeland (A), Chiefland vs. Sanford (A), Callaway vs. Acreage (A),

Flagler vs. Atlantic Beach (A);

■ Noon — Suwannee vs. Eagle Lake (A), North Brandon vs. Palm Beach Gardens (A), Ft. Caroline Lightning vs. Flagler (B), Orange Park vs. Ponte Vedra (B);

■ 1:30 p.m. — Ft. Caroline Thunder vs. Oakleaf (A), Mandarin vs. Madison (A), Middleburg vs. Suwannee (B), San Jose vs. Fort Caroline Thunder (B);

■ 3 p.m. — Marietta vs. Middleburg (SL), CKA vs. Branford (SL), Atlantic Beach Waves vs. South Lakeland (B), Julington Creek vs. Atlantic Beach Suns (B);

■ 4:30 p.m. — Bradford vs. Okecheelee (A), Ponte Vedra vs. Orange Park (A), Bradford vs. Santa Fe (B), Lake City vs. Lutz (B);

■ 6 p.m. — Santa Fe vs. Winter Park (A), Chiefland vs. Palatka (A), Fort White vs. Gilchrist (SL), Normandy vs. Hamilton County (SL).

### JUMBLE

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

DUBYD

FREAT

PIPTUL

XESESC

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: PRANK AVOID DILUTE ENGAGE

Answer: H.G. Wells' concept to write a book about a time machine was a — NOVEL IDEA

### THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



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

- ACROSS**
- 1 Dole out
  - 5 Gator Bowl st.
  - 8 — spumante
  - 12 Uproars
  - 13 Bottle edge
  - 14 Pore over a book
  - 15 Sawbucks
  - 16 Nth
  - 18 Close at hand
  - 20 Festive occasions
  - 21 NFL gains
  - 22 Antique
  - 23 Valleys
  - 26 Bring up
  - 29 Gazed at
  - 30 Cornstarch brand
  - 31 Furrow maker
  - 33 So-so grade
  - 34 Mineral springs
  - 35 Paddle cousins
  - 36 Enjoyed the rink
- DOWN**
- 1 Tumbler's pad
  - 2 Idyllic spot
  - 3 Color
  - 4 Tried
  - 5 Bungles
  - 6 Type of pad
- 38 Prize money**
- 39 Tex- — cuisine**
- 40 Many mos.
  - 41 Bossa nova kin
  - 44 Target amounts
  - 47 Spring wildflower
  - 49 Tall flower
  - 51 — -de-camp
  - 52 Ewe's mate
  - 53 Fiddling emperor
  - 54 Surprise attack
  - 55 Ben & Jerry rival
  - 56 Huff and puff

### Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

- 7 Two-BR unit
- 8 Large fleet
- 9 Apply caulking
- 10 Bye, in Bristol (hyph.)
- 11 "Et tu" time
- 17 Home with a dome
- 19 Hwys.
- 22 PTA and NEA
- 23 Solstice mo.
- 24 Votes in favor
- 25 Scallion kin
- 26 Carpet nail
- 27 Grill steaks
- 28 — d'oeuvres
- 30 Triangle tip
- 32 Wind dir.
- 34 Real bargain
- 35 Expulsion
- 37 Moseyed along
- 38 Ski instructor
- 40 Delicious
- 41 Milky Way part
- 42 Tune from an opera
- 43 Calf-length
- 44 Dorm view
- 45 Vicinity
- 46 Knights feeling
- 50 Dip in gravy

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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54				55				56		


**Outdoors360**

# A fishing marathon

**OUTDOORS 360**


**Rob Chapman**  
rob@outdoors360.com

It's 3:15 a.m. and I had just fallen asleep maybe three hours earlier. For an insomniac like myself, this may equate to 53 minutes of actual sleep.

It's tournament day; so I wasn't tired, I was wired.

Just 5 hours and 225 miles earlier Jonathan Allen and I arrived in St. Pete from Lake City to spend the night with my brother in route to our final destination — the Sam Crosthwait shotgun start at the mouth of the Manatee River.

We arrived at Tournament Captain Josh Bibler's house about 4 a.m. and immediately started loading.

Typically we'd fish six guys in the inshore tournament, spread out across a flat like we were running a Billy Donovan full-court press, jump in the water and wade-fish for the next 15 hours.

Josh prefers less people on the boat and likes to run and gun. That meant we'd be primarily fishing from the boat, and running from North Tampa Bay to south of Sarasota Bay.

Josh fishes out of a 24-foot 2013 Pathfinder with a 300-hp Yamaha that's tricked out with more gadgets than a James Bond movie.



PHOTO COURTESY ROB CHAPMAN

Rob Chapman with a 35-inch, 14.5-pound snook from his last fishing tournament.

In terms of inshore fishing boats this was like having a brand new top-of-the-line Mercedes Benz fully loaded. I almost felt guilty getting a little dirt on it.

You could tell it was a tournament day because we weren't even close to the first boat, and there were multiple boats arriving at exactly the same time.

It's almost like the first day of school; you can taste the nervous excitement in the air like salt spray over a bow.

Speaking of salt spray, Mother Nature can be as cruel as King Joffrey from Game of Thrones.

A late cold front days before dropped the water temperature 8-10 degrees in some places, and left behind a stiff 20-25-knot wind out of the north with a temperature in the upper 50s at night.

The Crosthwait is not an artificial tournament. That means your 29 hours of consecutive fishing actually turns into about 40 hours. Why? Because, you have to catch live bait to have any shot at winning.

That means 3 a.m. wake-up calls at the start of the tournament, and four hours scrubbing and cleaning the boat after the tournament from all of the chum, sea weed, bait, fish

and other junk that gets accumulated.

We made the 15-mile run to the Sunshine Skyway Bridge in the dark along with all of the other idiots (that's a term of endearment for fisherman), directly into sloppy 2-4-foot seas.

We were stacked tighter than sardines along the span of the old skyway bridge while bobbing in the dark like a cork in a washing machine. Did I mention we were idiots?

In order to get the best position we actually anchored off the stern, motored directly into the seas, and my job was to tie the bow off on the pier

against the wind, seas, and tide.

I reached up, waited for a nice swell, and extended my arm upwards. I reached to a point that my favorite watch of all time, a Gravitron Reactor, clipped the pier, hit the clasp, and splash.

Have you ever seen something you love, and that your wife has no idea how much it costs, fall to the bottom of the ocean? It's painful.

Ten minutes after this snafu we were getting bait, Kyle Dawson (fourth team member) made a cast with his 12-foot cast net, lost his balance from the waves, and followed his net into

the water.

Keep in mind the Skyway isn't your neighborhood pool with a few beach balls; it's loaded with big sharks, some of which would make Kyle a 240-pound snack. Luckily, he not only knew how to swim, but he also was able to keep the cast net on his wrist while managing to not drown, or get eaten.

At this point you might as well have pitched a tent on the circus that had become Team Outdoors360.

After Kyle dried off in the brisk 59-degree air, and I recovered from the sadness of my lost watch, we topped off the live well.

For all of our good intentions and plans, Mother Nature took away plans 1-4, and we were left scrambling. At 7:14 a.m. we had one plan, at 7:17 we changed it, at 7:22 we went back to the 7:14 plan, and then at 7:29 we decided to play for the win. We were going to head into the teeth of the wind and waves (again) and go for the win.

We dipped under the Skyway (again) on our way north and officially began our tournament.

To be continued ...

■ Rob Chapman IV is a tournament winning angler and outdoorsman from Lake City. He's an award winning marine artist, a graduate of Florida Gateway College and of Jacksonville University. He is currently the Coordinator of Marketing, Web, & Graphics Production at FGC, and is active both in the outdoors and designing for outdoors companies throughout the world. He'd love to hear from you! Send your reports, photos, and articles to [rob@outdoors360.com](mailto:rob@outdoors360.com).



PHOTO COURTESY ROB CHAPMAN

**ABOVE:** Scott and Tracy Mathews with a 25-inch Horseshoe Beach trout.



**LEFT:** Jennifer Bedenbaugh shows off a recent catch from the Gulf of Mexico.

PHOTO COURTESY ROB CHAPMAN



PHOTO COURTESY ROB CHAPMAN

Jayse Allen Brinkley with a mackerel on Big Bend Adventures.

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Section C

## Foreign Trade Zone in the works

Site status at Intermodal Park could mean jobs, growth.

By EMILY STANTON  
estanton@lakecityreporter.com

New economic opportunities from foreign importers might be on the horizon for Columbia County now that Plum Creek's North Florida Intermodal Park has the opportunity to become a Foreign Trade Zone for Jaxport.

An influx of international trade is expected in 2015 when expansion of the Panama Canal is completed. North Florida Intermodal Park was created to support the increased freight traffic.

Once a company becomes an end-user at the park, it can opt to become a Foreign Trade Zone Magnet Site and take advantage of streamlined customs clearance, thus operating more efficiently.

A foreign trade zone, or FTZ, is a secured site within the United States but technically considered outside the jurisdiction of U.S. Customs.



Greg Galpin (center), Plum Creek senior planning manager, fields questions during a tour of the North Florida Intermodal Park east of Lake City during a quarterly stakeholder meeting. The park now has the opportunity to be designated a Foreign Trade Zone for Jaxport, which would bring tax and tariff advantages. Local officials say the designation could mean jobs and growth for Columbia County.

ZONE continued on 2C

**NEW!**

# SPECIALTY PIZZAS

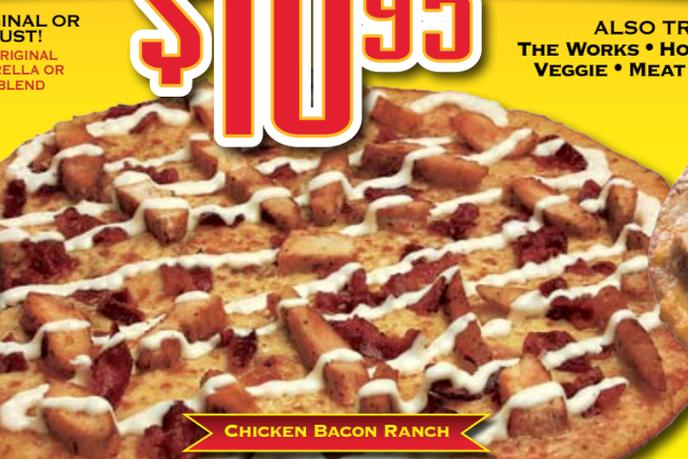
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Large 2 Topping Pizza, 3 Cheezer Bread with Dipping Sauce Plus a 2-Liter  
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• Any Regular Salad  
• Any Regular Sub  
• 3-Cheezer Pepperoni Bread  
**\$5**  
Each  
Plus sales tax. Expires in 30 Days.

## Ask the Fool

## What to Expect

Q I've averaged gains of around 25 percent with my initial stock investments. This short-term success has me wondering what average annual returns I can expect over, say, a 10-year period. Is 12 percent to 15 percent reasonable? — C.B., Cadillac, Michigan

A Don't expect any particular number, as the stock market's moves can be surprising from year to year. Over many decades, though, it has averaged about 10 percent annually. That's just an average, however, and over the particular years in which you invest, you might average 7 percent, or 13 percent, or something else.

It takes a lot of skill and work to beat the market over the long haul, and even then, averaging 15 percent is ambitious. For perspective, know that stock in Berkshire Hathaway, run by superinvestor Warren Buffett, has averaged about 22 percent growth annually over 52 years. Trying to beat the market is hard. Buffett himself has recommended low-cost, broad-market index funds for most folks. They'll roughly match the market's return.

\*\*\*

Q What's the "wash sale" rule? — J.C., Syracuse, New York

A The IRS says that if you sell a stock for a loss and buy it back within 30 days, the loss cannot be claimed for tax purposes. Don't worry, though — the loss isn't lost forever. You do get to claim it, just not now. The disallowed loss is added to the cost of the repurchased stock, and it's claimed when the stock is finally sold in a non-wash sale way.

You can simply avoid the rules entirely, though, by always waiting at least 31 days before jumping back into any stock. Learn more about tax issues for free at [fool.com/taxes](http://fool.com/taxes) and from the horse's mouth at [irs.gov](http://irs.gov).

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



# The Motley Fool®

To Educate, Amuse & Enrich

## Fool's School

## The P/E Ratio: It's a Start

The price-to-earnings ratio (P/E) is probably the most widely used stock valuation tool. Unfortunately, it can be dangerous when used alone.

Its simplicity is appealing: You just divide a company's stock price by its last 12 months of earnings per share (EPS). For example, MasterCard's EPS is \$2.67. At a recent price of \$76.50, its P/E ratio is 29 (\$76.50 divided by \$2.67 equals 28.7). Wall Streeters and others will sometimes refer to it as MasterCard's "multiple" of 29.

Since you naturally want more earnings for every dollar you invest, a lower P/E is more attractive. After all, you'd rather pay \$50 per share for MasterCard for its \$2.67 in earnings (for a P/E of 19) than \$100 (with a P/E of 37), right? It's not so simple, though.

For example, P/E ratios differ by industry. An automaker with a P/E of 15 might be a little richly valued, while a briskly growing

software company with a P/E of 20 could be a bargain.

A company's EPS isn't always what it seems, either, as it's possible to manipulate earnings, such as by delaying when a company recognizes certain revenue. In another instance, a company's top line might be growing, but its total earnings might be flat. But if it buys back lots of shares, thereby reducing its share count, then its earnings per share will rise.

There are many other measures to assess beyond the P/E. For example, how quickly are items such as revenue, earnings, debt, free cash flow, profit margins, etc., growing? If you're looking at biotech companies, assess their pipelines of drugs in development. If you're examining soft-drink companies, look at societal trends.

Never isolate your attention on any single metric. The better you get at reading financial statements and evaluating companies, the better investor you'll likely be.

(The Motley Fool owns shares of MasterCard and its Motley Fool Stock Advisor service has recommended it. Test-drive Stock Advisor for free at [fooladvisor.com](http://fooladvisor.com) and check out all its recommended stocks.)

## My Dumbest Investment

## Oops

My dumbest investment has to have been the first stock I ever bought. It was a local burger chain, recommended in Money magazine. About a year into my investment, I called the local office to try to get my address changed or something, and I learned that I had invested in a different company with the same name. Still, I did well on the investment. So it all worked out fine, but that was blind luck. — J.H., Falls Church, Virginia

**The Fool Responds:** This is a great reminder to be careful when buying stock. Many companies share the same, or similar, names, and many ticker symbols can be misleading, too. You might, for example, expect Intel's ticker to be something like INTL. Instead, it's INTC. Meanwhile, Apple's is not APPL, but AAPL; Coca-Cola's ticker is KO, not CO; and Hewlett-Packard, after swallowing Compaq, is not HP, but HPQ.

When you decide you want to buy into a company, do a little digging to make sure you're identifying it correctly — and then get its ticker symbol right, too. You're lucky your story has a happy ending!

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!



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## The Motley Fool Take

## Big Blue Chip

If you're looking for a company that has demonstrated an ability to successfully adapt to the changing times over many years, consider 103-year-old International Business Machines (NYSE: IBM). The company has been shifting its focus from lower-margin hardware offerings to higher-margin software and services. It's investing heavily in cloud-computing technologies, with a stated goal to have 40 cloud data centers running in 15 countries by the end of 2014.

Think, too, of its cognitive super-computer, "Watson," which can actually learn. The possibilities it offers in the fast-growing big-data market are seemingly endless, with potentially revolutionary applications in science, medicine, finance and more.

Another key IBM asset is its pile of patents, which generate more than a billion dollars in royalty income annually. (IBM set a new record with 6,809 patents issued in 2013, its 21st consecutive year atop the industry charts in terms of awarded patents.) And then there is its brand, which ranks third among top global brands according to BrandZ, which pegs its value at more than \$107 billion.

Investing in a company that's in the middle of a major strategic change is a risky proposition — but it could also be an opportunity to make a great long-term investment, inexpensively. IBM recently had a P/E ratio near 12.5 and its dividend recently yielded 2.4 percent. (The Motley Fool owns shares of IBM.)

## LAST WEEK'S TRIVIA ANSWER

I trace my roots back to 1902 and the purchase of the Pittsburgh Testing Laboratories' stockroom. My first offerings included microscopes and balances, and I published my first catalog in 1904. Today, based in Massachusetts, I'm the global leader in serving science — accelerating life sciences research, solving complex analytical challenges, improving patient diagnostics and increasing laboratory productivity. My products and services range from beakers and flasks to diagnostic test kits and chemicals to mass spectrometers and fume hoods. I rake in more than \$13 billion annually and employ about 50,000 people in 50 countries. Who am I? (Answer: Thermo Fisher Scientific)

**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](mailto: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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## Name That Company

I trace my roots back to the Chautauqua airline in New York in 1973, which flew two 15-passenger turboprop planes between three cities.

Today I'm a holding company including Chautauqua Airlines, Shuttle America and the airline that bears my name. My combined fleet has more than 250 planes and operates more than 1,300 flights daily to more than 110 cities, mainly in the U.S. There's a good chance you've flown on me, as I fly on a fixed-fee basis under my partner brands that include American Eagle, Delta Connection, United Express and US Airways Express. 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!



## ZONE

Continued From 1C

Importers using the Jaxport FTZ can expect benefits like:

- Tariff exemption on foreign merchandise that is imported and stored within the FTZ, then re-exported without being formally entered into the U.S.;
- Reduced tariffs on foreign materials used in manufacturing or production operations within the FTZ;
- Paying U.S. Customs duties only when goods are transferred out of the FTZ and into the United States;
- Receiving no time limit on dutiable foreign merchandise stored within the FTZ;
- Consolidation of all shipments into a single weekly customs entry, reducing merchandise processing fees;
- Elimination of duty payment on merchandise that becomes waste, defective or damaged while in the zone.

The park was recently certified as a shovel-ready Mega Industrial site, which can save prospective tenants six to eight months of due diligence.

It is hoped the park can come to function as an inland port.

"We recognize that the Port of Jacksonville will need facilities away from the coast to support the increased freight traffic," Ron Williams, chair of the Columbia County Commission, said in a prepared statement. "Columbia County is in a great location and offers businesses and industries the opportunity to build here at a lower cost and grow their workforce with people already being trained in our local schools to handle logistics and distribution management."

An FTZ means jobs and growth for Columbia County, said Glenn Hunter, executive director of Columbia County's Economic Development Department.

There are 250 general purpose FTZs in the U.S. Twenty-two are in Florida.

Most of what comes into Florida FTZs is oil — 53 percent of all Florida foreign-status products in 2012 was oil/petroleum. Vehicles come in second at 18 percent.

In total, Florida FTZs received \$10 billion-\$25 billion worth of merchandise in 2012. The Jacksonville Port Authority received \$1 billion-\$5 billion in merchandise in 2012. Exports from the port reached \$75-100 million.

## Waits for doctors vary outside VA

By LAURAN NEERGAARD  
AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON — Veterans aren't the only ones who can find it tough to get a quick appointment with a new doctor.

There are wide variations in wait times, depending on where you live and what kind of care you're seeking.

Need routine primary care? The average wait to see a family physician for the first time ranged from 66 days in Boston to just five days in Dallas, according to a survey in 15 large cities by health care consulting firm Merritt Hawkins.

And that's before the new federal health care law opened the way for millions of newly insured people to start looking for a doctor.

"To say it's an easy solution to the VA problem — we'll just have them get care in the community — overestimates the capacity the community has to absorb these folks," said Dr. Yul Ejnes of the American College of Physicians.

## WAITS MADE HEADLINES

A government audit shows more than 57,000 veterans have been waiting at least three months for their first appointments at Veterans Affairs medical centers and an additional 64,000 who enrolled for VA care over the past decade never got seen by a doctor. The longest waits for an initial primary care appointment ranged from 145 days in Honolulu to 73 days in Richmond, Virginia.

To help, Congress is moving to allow more veterans who encounter delays to seek VA-paid care, temporarily, from a non-VA doctor. (The VA already had allowed some outside care, although veterans have complained that it's difficult to access and includes a series of bureaucratic hurdles that must be cleared.)

## OUTSIDE VA, WHAT'S THE WAIT?

There are no national statistics. But Merritt Hawkins' survey, released earlier this year, illustrates there's variation around the country when it comes to choosing a new physician. And the kind of doctor you need makes a difference.

The wait for a first-time appointment with a cardiologist averaged 32 days in the nation's capital but only 11 days in Atlanta.

Got knee pain? Waits for an initial consultation with an orthopedic surgeon averaged 18 days in San Diego and five days in Philadelphia, Minneapolis and Houston.

For a well-woman visit, waits for a first-time OB/GYN appointment ranged from 46 days in Boston to 10 days in Seattle.

Those are averages. The longest reported wait time was a stunning 256 days for a particular Minneapolis dermatologist. You could wait 129 days for a certain Seattle family practice and 132 days for one San Diego cardiologist, the survey found.

But people frustrated by waits for one doctor often can seek another, depending on their insurance and how far they're willing to drive. Sure enough, Merritt Hawkins' survey showed that in multiple cities, there were physicians with appointments available in just one day even for a new patient.

That's not the only way to measure. The Massachusetts Medical Society's annual statewide survey found wait times ebb and flow. The wait for a first-time appointment with an internal medicine specialist was 50 days in 2013, up from 44 days the previous year. In contrast, the wait for a family physician dropped to 39 days, from 45 in 2012, and the wait for a gastroenterologist was 33 days, 11 days shorter than the previous year.

## WHY THE WAIT?

Partly, there aren't enough doctors. A graying population that needs more medical care was straining the system even before the new health care law allowed more people to enter the system. With older physicians retiring, too, there aren't enough new ones coming on board to meet growing demand.

Primary care physicians get the most attention, and nearly 20 million people live in areas officially designated in need of more, said Dr. Atul Grover of the Association of American Medical Colleges. But specialists can be hard to find, too, especially in rural areas and in parts of the country where new doctors haven't kept up with rapid population growth. That includes parts of the Southeast and Southwest, particularly Arizona, Nevada and Texas, he said.

The AAMC estimates that by 2020, there will be a shortage of 45,000 primary care physicians and 46,000 surgeons and specialists nationally.

Pending legislation calls for the VA to hire more doctors. Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., chairman of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, said Wednesday that "at the very minimum, there is a need for 700 new physicians in the VA."

## NEW PATIENTS VS. EXISTING

The busier the office, the less space for a new patient and some doctors simply don't accept newcomers. Ejnes is a Rhode Island internal medicine physician with 1,500 patients, enough that he only accepts new patients who are family members of existing ones. Some offices close to new patients during busy times of the year, like a bad flu season, and accept them again during slow periods.

"It's supply and demand," Ejnes said. "It takes a lot of persistence, a lot of phone calls, to find someone."

Existing patients get priority for future appointments. Even the VA audit found returning patients usually had shorter waits for a primary care appointment, with some exceptions.

## WHAT ABOUT URGENT VISITS?

The American Academy of Family Physicians says 80 percent of its members make provisions for same-day appointments. Half also offer extended hours, with some appointments early or in the evening to catch people who can't get off work for a doctor's appointment and those who otherwise would go to the emergency room for a sudden problem, said AAFP president Dr. Reid Blackwelder.

How many patients say they're able to get quick appointments when they need them? A survey by Medicare overseers found 82 percent of beneficiaries seeking an appointment for an illness or injury never had to wait longer than they wanted.

A Commonwealth Fund survey published last year found almost half of adults in the U.S. got a same- or next-day appointment the last time they were sick, compared with about 70 percent of those surveyed in Germany and New Zealand.

## WHAT'S TOO LONG?

The VA has lifted its goal of 14 days to get an appointment, after investigators determined workers falsified records to cover up delays. For private doctors, there are no national standards on waits.

California, however, does have some rules requiring that certain types of health plans ensure their customers get timely access: 48 to 96 hours for an urgent need, and 10 to 15 business days for a non-urgent need.

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NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY  
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL  
ASSESSMENT  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
VETERANS AFFAIRS

Proposed Installation and Operation of Solar Photovoltaic and Solar Thermal Systems  
Lake City VA Medical Center  
619 South Marion Avenue  
Lake City, Columbia County, Florida

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announces the preparation and availability of a "Draft Environmental Assessment" (DEA) for the proposed installation and operation of Solar Photovoltaic and Solar Thermal Systems at the Lake City VA Medical Center located at 619 South Marion Avenue, Lake City, Florida. The Proposed Action would include the installation and operation of solar photovoltaic (PV) arrays on carport-like structures in up to two surface level parking lots and the installation and operation of one solar thermal system on the roof of the Lake City VAMC laundry building. The DEA has been prepared in accordance with the regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), (Public Law 91-190, 42 USC 4321-4347 January 1, 1970), amendments, and VA's Implementing Regulations (38 CFR Part 26). The VA intends to issue a "Finding of No Significant Impact" (FONSI) following a 30-day comment period in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing NEPA, Section 1508.13, provided there are no substantive comments which warrant further evaluation.

A copy of this report can be viewed in the Engineering Department at the Lake City VAMC located at 619 South Marion Avenue in Lake City, Florida between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, from June 16 to July 16, 2014.

Please submit comments before July 16, 2014, to

Cynthia.Snook@va.gov  
(Please type "Lake City VAMC Solar DEA" in the subject line)

Or by regular mail to:

Cindy Snook - Public Affairs Officer  
Malcom Randall VA Medical Center  
RE: Lake City VAMC Solar DEA  
1601 SW Archer Road  
Gainesville, FL 32608  
(386) 754-6302

05545536  
June 15, 17, 18, 2014

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FT positions include competitive compensation, paid time off, & access to onsite daycare and fitness facilities.  
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Lake City, FL 32025-2007  
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Fax (386) 754-4814  
E-Mail: [human\\_resources@fgc.edu](mailto:human_resources@fgc.edu)  
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Lake City FL 32025-2007  
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F/T position to coordinate all aspects of public relations, donor database management & special events/fund raising for non-profit minimum qualifications Assoc. Deg. w/3 yrs relevant exp. in development. Satisfactory completion of a criminal background check. Use of your personal car is required. Send reply to Box 05124, C/O The Lake City Reporter, P.O. Box 1709, Lake City, FL, 32056 EOE

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# New VP of Development at Haven

From staff reports

Haven Hospice welcomes Bill Garrett, who has accepted the position of vice president of business development. Garrett will lead the organization's business development, communications and marketing initiatives.

"I believe I can put my proven team building skills and relationship selling expertise to good use for Haven Hospice," said Garrett who is a resident



Garrett

of Orange Park. Garrett's 30 years of experience in pharmaceutical industry includes a recent focus on a neuroscience specialty as a district sales manager with Otsuka Pharmaceuticals. In this position he also trained, directed and hired a new specialty sales team for Florida, Georgia and Alabama. He has more than 15 years of experi-

ence managing regional sales territories for national pharmaceutical companies including Upjohn, Schering Plough and Otsuka Pharmaceuticals. Garrett has managed multi-state and national sales teams of up to 30 staff, overseen contracting with payer groups and built a national sales compensation plan.

"Bill's expertise lies in building business development teams from the ground up, developing successful strategies and leading teams to exceed goals," said

Haven Hospice President Tim Bowen. "We are excited to have him join us and lead our corporate-wide efforts to engage the healthcare community and raise awareness of the programs and services Haven offers patients and families."

Haven Hospice, which has a location in Lake City, is a not-for-profit community hospice organization providing services since 1979 and licensed in Florida since 1980.

## Forshaw-Carlson of Baya Pointe receives ACHCA Eli Pick Facility Leadership Award

From staff reports

The American College of Health Care Administrators honored Bette Forshaw-Carlson, Administrator of Baya Pointe Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Lake City, with the 2014 Eli Pick Facility Leadership Award. The leadership award was celebrated during the awards luncheon at ACHCA's 48th Annual Convocation and Exposition in Las Vegas recently. Two hundred and seventy six administrators were awarded leadership awards nationally, 42 of which were

at the awards luncheon.

Mrs. Forshaw-Carlson was one of 234 recipients who received the Eli Pick Facility Leadership Award with virtual recognition. Based on the premise that facility excellence is a reflection of leadership excellence, this award recognizes the administrator of record who provided that leadership through-



Forshaw-Carlson

out the award year. Eligibility for this award is based on three years of skilled nursing facility survey data, including the Health, Fire (Life Safety), and Complaint Surveys, as well as top quartile performance on designated Quality Measures. The criteria also included an 80 percent or greater facility occupancy and a three year avoidance of a Special Focus Facility status. This prestigious award is made possible with the support of eHealth Data Solutions.

This award is in memory of Eli Pick, who was

a consummate member of ACHCA, dedicated to advancing professionalism and leadership in long term care.

Founded in 1962, the American College of Health Care Administrators is the only professional association devoted solely to meeting the professional needs of today's long term care administrators and executives. Focusing on advancing leadership excellence, ACHCA provides professional education and certification to administrators from across the spectrum of long term care.

## North Florida HomeSeller

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### Rockford Realty Group is growing!

Rockford Realty Group is pleased to announce that Jan Messer has joined their team!

Jan is a native of Lake City and a 10-year veteran in the real estate business.

She brings with her expertise and commitment, and takes great pleasure in helping home buyers and sellers achieve their desired goals.

After all; there's no place like home!



## Plum Creek scholarship is awarded to CHS grad

From staff reports

Plum Creek has awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to Columbia County high school student Anna Trippensee. Since 2007, Plum Creek has annually awarded scholarships to

exemplary high school seniors who plan to continue their education after graduation.

The scholarships recognize students who have excelled in the areas of academics, school and community activities, and overall achievement in their high school careers.

Anna is a graduate of Columbia High School and will attend Florida Gateway College in the fall. While in high school, she was a member of the National Honor Society and the National Beta Club. Most notably, she was salutatorian of her senior class. Anna is the daughter of Aaron and Andrea Trippensee.

This year, Plum Creek awarded 121 scholarships to high school seniors around the country, totaling \$149,000. In Florida, 12 students were awarded 2014 Plum Creek scholarships, totaling \$12,000.

Plum Creek is among the largest and most geographically diverse private landowners in the nation with approximately 6.8 million acres of timberlands in forest ecosystems across the northern and southeastern United States.

The company also operates wood products mills in the Northwest.

As the company celebrates its 25th anniversary as a publicly traded corporation, it continues to manage our working forests and lands using sustainable practices to benefit Plum Creek's many stakeholders, according to a company news release.

"Our talented employees work together to create shareholder value, serve as stewards of the environment, make wood products for everyday use, and build strong communities," the release said.



Trippensee



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## 'Stealth' cellphone towers on the rise

By BARBARA RODRIGUEZ  
Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — One might be hidden in a cross on a church lawn. Others are disguised as a cactus in the desert, a silo in farm country or a palm tree reaching into a sunny sky.

The goal is always the same: concealing the tall, slender cellphone towers that most need but few want to see in their neighborhoods.

As telecommunications companies fill gaps in their networks, many have sought to camouflage the ungainly outdoor equipment that carries the nation's daily supply of calls, texts and data. It's another way the industry is evolving to meet the demands of consumers who insist on ever-increasing amounts of wireless information but won't tolerate large antennas looming over their homes, parks and other beloved sites.

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Story ideas?

Contact Editor  
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Sunday, June 15, 2014

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Section D

## FIZZ BOOM READ!

Fort White library is getting youngsters excited about books.

By AVALYN HUNTER  
Special to the Reporter

FORT WHITE

The love of reading is one of the best gifts a child can receive. But while parental support of a child's reading is crucial, in today's busy world, parents need all the help they can get.

That's why the Fort White Branch Library is hosting "Fizz Boom Read!," a summer series of children's programs designed to encourage summer reading and use of the public library. About 25 children in grades K-5 attended the program opening, which took place on June 9.

While a scheduled appearance by Grammy-nominated children's recording artist Anna Moo didn't go as planned, librarian Patti Street was there to provide information on the program, hand out bags with program materials, and play "Hangman" with her enthusiastic audience.

Children can participate in the program in two ways. One is by checking off reading time on a chart; children can mark off one box for every 30 minutes they spend reading. (For children too young to be able to read, time spent by a parent or guardian in reading to them counts.) When the entire chart is filled in, the child can return the chart to the library to receive a small prize.

Attending library programs will also be rewarded. Each time a child attends a library children's program between now and the program's end on July 18, he or she will be given a sticker to put on an attendance



Librarian Patti Street plays hangman with children at the reading program.

chart. Any child who collects stickers for 10 programs and turns the attendance chart in will be eligible for a prize drawing. Both reading and attendance charts can be picked up from library staff.

Currently, the Fort White Branch Library is scheduled to offer the following children's programs:

LEGO builders will meet on Tuesdays at 3:00 p.m. The program is recommended for children age 6 and older. Children must be able to handle standard-sized LEGOs.

A story and craft hour will be held on Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. This program is recommended for chil-

dren age 7 and older.

"Music Mania" will take place on Thursdays at 3:00 p.m., giving children ages 1-5 the opportunity to sing and dance to kid-friendly music.

Special programs will be held on Fridays at 10:00 a.m. Check the Columbia County Public Library's website or call the branch library at 497-1108 for details.

All programs are free of charge.

"Our goal this year is to provide programs appealing to a wider range of age groups and get more children involved," Street said. "Keep checking our website for updates, and we'll see you at the library!"

## Tools and tips to plan your next road trip

When I set out to plan the road trips that Sue Towns and I take, we typically already have our locations and destinations in mind. I begin by not only referring to my book, "1,000 Places To See Before You Die - in the USA and Canada," but I take it old school and use my latest Road Atlas too.

Once I've mapped out a tentative route, I then use technology and go to MapQuest to estimate our travel times. This helps me to determine how many days it's going to take for us to get where we are going. We try to keep the driving to around 300 miles per day. That's an average of 5 hours driving time and gives us 3-4 hours for all kinds of stops - bathroom, photo ops, trails to explore, sights to see, or simply to get gas. We also don't like to drive into the night in unfamiliar territory.

Now that I've determined how many days we'll be gone and where our approximate stopping points will be, I begin to look for lodging. We have had some experiences worth talking about in this area; some diamonds in the rough and some not so much but turned out to be so funny, we couldn't help but share, like the Big Texan in Amarillo. In the past, we've had reward points of some kind, that on one trip we had 8 of 11 nights covered with points. Now that's the way to go. But not so in planning this next trip.

Some of the important factors we consider when choosing where to stay are cost, of course, but also location and whether or not breakfast is included. Which, if you are staying in a chain hotel, is almost always the case now a days. Location is

TRAVEL TALES



Sandy Kishton

important because after driving all day, we'd really like to walk to dinner. We typically look for a downtown location where it might be busy and safe for us to walk around. Safety and time are the reasons we book our stays in advance instead of flying by the seat of our pants and stopping when we feel like it.

Next on my list is to research and peruse some of the areas along the route. We like to anticipate what we might see, if that makes any sense. Some of the things we are always interested in are wineries and breweries, hiking trails, waterfalls and any other odd sort of history along the way.

For example, when in Winslow, Arizona... (I know where your mind is already going and you are right). I stood on the corner "in Winslow, Arizona and such a fine sight to see / It's a girl, my Lord, in a flatbed Ford slowin' down to take a look at me." If you've ever been, you'll know there is a mural painted on the wall on that corner of a girl in a flatbed Ford. Clearly, we had to stop there for a photo op.

And so, with a folder prepared for each day with hotel confirmations, maps, directions pamphlets and factoids about places along the way, our trip begins.

■ Sandy Kishton is a freelance travel writer who lives in Lake City. Contact her at skishton@comcast.net

## Keeping tomato plants healthy

In Florida, the tomato is the most important commercially grown vegetable crop. This sun-lover is also the most popular vegetable grown in home gardens. Who doesn't anticipate biting into their first vine-ripened tomato of the season?

Many home gardeners experience problems with

Send your pictures

Send us your pictures of garden décor such as statues, globes, benches, etc. What decorative items adorn your outdoor garden rooms?

growing tomato plants, and this is very frustrating, given our love of tomatoes. The UF/IFAS Extension office in Columbia County receives many questions concerning problems with tomato plants. Unfortunately, there are quite a few insect pests, diseases and disorders that affect whether a ripe tomato will even make it to your plate.

Common pests that may visit your tomato plants are the whitefly, aphid, leafminer, stinkbug, looper, and hornworm. Worms will chew out holes or areas in leaves, stems or fruit. Aphids and tiny whiteflies remove juices from young leaves, which will appear yellowed. Leafminers feed in leaves and leave random tunneled markings. Disfigured and spotted fruits are often caused by juice-sucking stinkbugs. As one client recently discovered, visiting birds enjoy taste-testing garden tomatoes.

Bacillus thuringiensis, or Bt, sprays work well to control worms. Insecticidal soaps and horticultural oils are some safe products that can be used on many pests, but they shouldn't be used in really hot weather. Many



COURTESY

Elmer Elkins, Lake City, stands with his prize tomato plant, which was purchased at a local feed store. He uses aged horse manure and an occasional application of 10-10-10 during the growing season.

GARDEN TALK



Nichelle Demorest

ndemorest@ufl.edu pyrethroid insecticides are also labeled for control of insects on tomatoes. Always read the label and follow the instructions given.

Some of the most serious diseases of tomatoes are early and late blights, leaf spots, wilts, and viruses. Leaf spots can usually be controlled with sprays or dusts. Wilts and viruses, however, must be controlled by other means such as the use of resistant varieties. Look for letters following the tomato

variety name on seed packs or plant tags. More letters mean more resistances to problems. The letters VFN, for instance, refer to that variety's resistance to verticillium wilt, fusarium wilt, and nematodes.

There are tomato problems that have nothing to do with pests. Blossom-end rot is a nutritional disorder signally calcium deficient soil. Blossom drop is usually a problem of too much of something: low or high night temperatures, nitrogen, shade, water. Other common tomato disorders appearing in home gardens include fruit cracking, blotchy ripening, sunscald, yellow-shoulder and herbicide injury. Disorders are usually associated with nutrition, water or temperature. For more information, read the UF/IFAS publication 'Tomatoes in the Florida Garden' at <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/>

vh028 or call the UF Master Gardeners at 752-5384.

In Florida, tomatoes are not considered to be a summer crop. As nighttime temperatures climb above 70 degrees, tomatoes stop setting fruit. Cherry tomatoes provide the best results during the summer heat. Summer is also a stressful time for our lawns. Attend UF/IFAS Extension presentations to learn how to maintain your lawn, grow grass in shady spots, and identify those pests that are trying to take over. Fort White Library on June 19 at 5:45. Main Library, downtown Lake City on June 21 at 1:30. These classes are free and open to everyone.

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

If you were recently engaged or have an upcoming wedding and would like to announce it in the Lake City Reporter, stop by our office at 180 East Duval Street to fill out an announcement form.

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WEEKDAY AFTERNOON. Table with columns for Comcast, Dish, DirecTV, and time slots from 12 PM to 5:30 PM. Lists various TV programs and their descriptions.

MONDAY EVENING JUNE 9, 2014. Table with columns for Comcast, Dish, DirecTV, and time slots from 6 PM to 11:30 PM. Lists various TV programs and their descriptions.



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