

# Washington County News WEEKEND



HOME

TIPS TO PREVENT ROOF FLYING OFF IN BAD WEATHER | A15

Saturday, July 28, 2018

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## BOCC approves tentative millage rate

By Diane M. Robinson  
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CHIPLEY - Washington County Board of County Commissioners voted Thursday to approve the proposed millage rate for the upcoming fiscal year.

Set at 8.9735, the rate falls in line with the boards promise to lower taxes for their constituents.

"We have lowered taxes again this year," said Commissioner Todd Abbott. "We made the promise to do so and we are keeping that promise."

A budget hearing date has been set for September 5 at 5:05

p.m.

A special exception for a cemetery to be placed off St. Mary's Road in Caryville was also approved by the commission. The original application was approved by the Washington County Planning Commission in early June, but was voted down when it went before the Caryville Town Council on June 12.

Caryville's attorney Jerry Miller advised the board to approve the measure on legal grounds.

"There is nothing in the evidence presented to you that shows you shouldn't approve the request," said Miller. "While

I cannot tell you how to vote, but you have competent, substantial evidence before you from county staff to approve the request."

Miller went on to talk about voting based on emotion rather than law.

"We are a part of a process and I would suggest to you that the difficulty you are having is emotional and not a matter of law and fact," he said.

Chairman Tray Hawkins spoke on the matter, stating while he is a firm believer in 'home rule,' the board must follow the county's comprehensive plan.

See BOCC, A2



Washington County Board of County Commissioners pictured from left: Steve Joyner, Todd Abbott, Tray Hawkins, Alan Bush and Charles Kent. [DIANE M. ROBINSON | THE NEWS]

## TDC strategic plan centers on economic impact

By Jacqueline Bostick  
The News  
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CHIPLEY - Washington County Tourist Development Council is eyeing its future in its new strategic plan.

The TDC met Thursday in a special session to discuss the strategic plan. While the bulk of the conversation was in regards to updating language, it was evident the council was concerned about centering its objective on economic impact and broadening its tourist base.

"If we get a chance to work with any county within the Northwest Florida rural areas, that's what we should do - to attract new visitors from any Northwest Florida beaches," said TDC council member Ted Everett. "We want a greater opportunity," TDC Chairman Bill Maphis added.

The TDC has been anchored in bringing tourists from Bay and other coastal counties. A recent report showed the bulk of Washington County visitors are day-visitors and seek spontaneous activities.

While there weren't a lot of changes to the 2015-2018 Strategic Plan - which was the guiding document for the new one, TDC Director Heather Lopez reminded the council that social media and user generated content play a major role in promoting the tourists attractions for the area.

The TDC will meet again for a special meeting at 10 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 2. The next workshop and meeting will be held 10 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 13.



[SPECIAL TO THE NEWS]

## Possuum Festival is next Saturday

By Jacqueline Bostick  
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WAUSAU - It has been rumored this year's festival is the harbinger to next year's 50th anniversary of the Wausau Possum Festival. Attendees can expect more fun and entertainment than previous years.

"Our whole goal is family - to get the kids off of the laptop and get them outside," said Wausau firefighter, Captain Adam Smith.

The free festival kicks off 7 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 4 with the pancake breakfast and the parade at 10 a.m., culminating with the old fashion square dance. The event is held at the Possum Palace.

Smith's sure words rings true to the letter.

See FESTIVAL, A2



Wausau Quilters will auction off this quilt at the 2018 Possum Festival to be held Saturday, Aug. 4 at Possum Palace. The funds from the 'Gone Fishin' quilt will be used for expenses for the year, which include purchasing supplies to sew with and to make lap quilts for nursing home residents and a donation to the library.

[DIANE ROBINSON | THE NEWS]

## ChIPLEY to apply for \$750k CDBG grant

By Jacqueline Bostick  
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CHIPLEY - ChIPLEY City Council committed to paying in \$50,000 in matching funds for a water line replacement project.

At Thursday's special city council meeting, the council heard from Fred Fox Enterprises regarding submitting a Community Development Block Grant Neighborhood Revitalization application. At the meeting, unanimously approved the motion.

The grant is for \$750,000 - with ChIPLEY contributing \$50,000 - and covers the water line replacement, engineering and administration costs.

According to the application, the project includes Brickyard Road between Fourth Street and Main Street service areas, which currently experiences low water volume and pressure. The project would replace the existing water lines with twelve-inch potable water lines and install about 676 feet of replacement potable water lines. The grant states the installation will include all components, including fire hydrants, required for a complete installation.

Fred Fox Enterprises anticipates the project is slated to be complete in two years.

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## Requested vote-by-mail ballots top 2 million

News Service Florida

More than 2.3 million ballots have been sent out for the Aug. 28 primary elections, according to the Florida Division of Elections.

As of Thursday afternoon, 2,361 had been returned, 1,064 from Republicans, 920 from Democrats, 39 from third-party voters and 338 from people without party affiliation. Republicans had requested 913,071 vote-by-mail ballots and Democrats had asked for 933,777, according to the Division of Elections. The rest had been sent to people registered with third parties or without party affiliation.

The county with the most ballots out was Miami-Dade with 287,443, of which 88,677 had been sent to Republicans and 124,879 to Democrats. The GOP had a slight edge in Pinellas County, where of the 256,906 vote-by-mail ballots sent out, 100,866 had gone to Republicans and 100,083 to Democrats. In Hillsborough County, with 197,525 vote-by-mail ballots sent out, 84,634 had gone to Democrats and 71,229 to Republicans.

Of the 183,408 ballots out in Broward County, 109,702 were requested by Democrats and 43,020 by Republicans.

Of the 135,184 ballots so far requested in Orange County, 65,481 were sent to Democrats and 39,278 to Republicans.

The state had more than 12.9 million registered voters as of June 30.

Voter registration numbers will be updated after Monday, the final day in which people can register to vote in the primary. The last day for voters to request vote-by-mail ballots is Aug. 22, and the last day for supervisors to send out the ballots is Aug. 24. Voters can also pick up vote-by-mail ballots from local election supervisors up to the day before the election.

## Voter registration deadline nears

News Service Florida

TALLAHASSEE - Floridians face a Monday deadline to register to vote in the Aug. 28 primary elections, which will include high-profile races for governor, Cabinet seats and, in many areas, congressional and legislative seats.

Voters who want to change party affiliations before the primaries also must do so before the Monday deadline. As of June 30, Florida had more

than 12.9 million registered voters, with registered Democrats slightly outnumbering registered Republicans, according to the state Division of Elections website.

Miami-Dade County had the largest number of registered voters at 1.39 million, while Broward County was next at more than 1.14 million. Lafayette County had the fewest registered voters at 4,297, while Liberty County had 4,341.

## Prosecutor: no charges against ex-lawmaker Latvala

Jim Turner and Dara Kam

News Service Florida

TALLAHASSEE - Former state Sen. Jack Latvala won't face criminal charges after the Leon County state attorney announced Thursday there was insufficient evidence the Clearwater Republican promised legislative favors to a lobbyist in exchange for sex.

Jack Campbell, state attorney in the 2nd Judicial Circuit, said Thursday there was not enough "evidence to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Mr. Latvala was unlawfully compensated or rewarded for his official behavior as a Florida senator."

"Since criminal charges are not warranted, this office will take no further action on the matter," Campbell wrote in a brief summation to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, which reached the same conclusion after investigating a possible quid pro quo.

Thursday's announcement closed months of investigations into Latvala, a veteran lawmaker who decided to resign from the Senate in December following the release of a report by Senate Special Master Ronald Swanson, a retired judge. The probe was sparked by allegations that Latvala, who was serving

as the powerful Senate budget chief, had sexually harassed Rachel Perrin Rogers, a Senate aide.

Latvala has steadfastly denied any wrongdoing but admitted he had an extramarital affair with former lobbyist Laura McLeod, whose testimony prompted Swanson to recommend a criminal probe into whether Latvala had broken state laws by promising legislative favors in exchange for sex.

"Basically, what we've had here with FDLE and the state attorney is we've had professional law enforcement people who aren't tainted by Senate politics, who have looked at

something and made a good judgment on it. They've done their job and I commend them for doing their job," Latvala told The News Service of Florida on Thursday. "It took a little longer for FDLE to get that report done than I would have liked, but I think they saw through a lot of this stuff."

The state law enforcement agency launched its investigation sometime in December, according to a report released by Campbell's office Thursday.

In a brief statement, Senate President Joe Negron, R-Stuart, thanked the FDLE and Campbell for "their fair,

thorough, and independent investigation."

Swanson found probable cause to support allegations that Latvala had repeatedly groped Perrin Rogers and engaged in a pattern of making unwelcome remarks about women's bodies. Perrin Rogers set off the inquiry into Latvala, who denied her allegations, by filing a complaint with the Senate Rules Committee.

The FDLE report was focused on the testimony of McLeod, who quit lobbying and went to work as an aide to Sen. Lauren Book, D-Plantation, in September. McLeod stepped down in April.

## FESTIVAL

From Page A1

This year's festival adds a junior firefighter obstacle course for grouped ages 0-5, 6-9, and 10 and up. The winner of each set gets a trophy and the coveted opportunity to shoot the fire hose off the truck.

In addition to the obstacle course, other activities include a cross-cut saw contest, sack race and greasy pole contest; also the hog callin', rooster crowin' and cow lowin' contest. Dozens of vendors will sell unique items; that is, no two vendors will sell the same things.

Smith also pointed out "it's going to be a good year" because two gubernatorial candidates Gwen Graham and Adam Putnam will attend and participate in the festivities.

To find out more about the Wausau Possum Festival, go to townofwausau.net.

### 2018 Wausau Possum Festival line-up of activities

- PRE-FESTIVAL EVENTS**
- Saturday, July 28 - "Little King & Queen" Pageant
  - Friday, Aug. 3 - "Possum King & Queen" Contest

### POSSUM FESTIVAL AND FUN DAY EVENTS - SATURDAY, AUG. 4

- 7 a.m. - Pancake breakfast
- 10 a.m. - Parade
- 8 p.m. - Old Fashioned Square Dance

• Entertainment and activities run all day long; the event is free.



[SPECIAL TO THE NEWS PHOTOS]

## BOCC

From Page A1

"Following home rule is something I fiercely believe in," said Hawkins. "But it is our responsibility to also follow our comprehensive plan as it is laid out."

Pastor Tony Howard of Spirit Filled Church of God in Christ, who filed the application spoke to the board, explaining that they have followed the letter of the law while pursuing approval.

"We have complied with everything we are supposed to do," said Howard.

"We have followed all the guidelines and done

everything we were supposed to do according to the law. I don't think it's fair to people who follow the law and do things right."

The board voted unanimously to allow the cemetery to be constructed.

In other business, the board approved to permanently transfer the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher

Program to the Northwest Florida Regional Housing Authority to be effective October 1.

Also at the meeting, approval was given for the board to deed a .21 acre parcel of land to the City of Vernon in order for a land swap with Jim Harris to take place where Harris will deed the parking lot of the Sportsplex

in Vernon to the city.

Commissioners gave their approval to sell the Big Bend building on South Boulevard to Washington Human Services, LLC for \$200,000 subject to a commercial contract/purchase agreement.

Washington County Board of County Commissioners will meet again in workshop at 9 a.m. on August 15.

## LOCAL &amp; STATE

## Wild pigs wreak havoc in Fla. neighborhoods

By Matt Bruce  
GateHouse Media Florida

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — They come in the night, voracious eating machines that can cause massive damage to expensive landscaping.

They are wild hogs, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates they cause about \$1.5 billion in damages and control costs each year.

Residents of a Flagler County neighborhood are the latest to fall prey to their destructive nature.

Feral pigs have ravaged several yards in the Hidden Lakes community in Flagler County over the past several weeks, ripping up manicured lawns in a relentless search for food. It's a problem that has some residents in the resort-style development that abuts Graham Swamp, a 3,000-acre preserve that serves as a natural habitat for the animals, asking for help.

"Everybody's flipping out," said Rachel Huzior.

"Everybody's going crazy. They're saying someone needs to be accountable for this."

Hogs, most likely rooting for grubs, have dug up most of the sod in Huzior's backyard, knocked down several lawn lights and ripped holes in her screened-in pool enclosure.

She estimates it will cost at least \$1,500 to repair the damages.

### Widespread problem

Huzior and her neighbors have plenty of company. Over the last year, reports of wild hog damage have bounced around in Flagler and Volusia counties. Packs of feral pigs struck the Woodlands area of Palm Coast in late 2017 and their devastation is hardly limited to Flagler. Edgewater officials in June hired a trapper to capture and remove hogs last month after a pack of them were sighted in that city.

"It's a sense of helplessness," an exasperated Alberto Jones said in late November when hogs were plowing through his Palm Coast yard on a regular basis.

It's a problem nearly as old as Florida, dating back to the 16th Century when Spanish explorers brought domestic pigs to the New World as food provisions. Today wild hogs occupy all 67 Florida counties, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission estimates their population has grown to more than 500,000 in the state. In the U.S., only Texas has more.

Even state agencies appear short on answers when it comes to reducing such a huge hog population. The conservation commission's website concedes it's "usually futile" trying to keep wild pigs off private property, but suggested installing fencing as a way



A wild pig scurries through a yard recently in the Forest Lakes Preserve neighborhood of Port Orange, Fla. [AARON LONDON/GATEHOUSE MEDIA FLORIDA]

to mitigate the invasion.

"They're just too driven, like a lot of wildlife," FWC spokesman Greg Workman said. "Whenever they have their minds set on getting somewhere that has a good food source, they'll find a way to get to it. They're resourceful and determined to get that meal."

### Latest outbreak

Residents in Hidden Lakes say hogs began targeting their yards about four weeks ago. In fact, the animals dug craters into the lawn in front of the communal pool and park area late last week.

Paytas Homes, the exclusive homebuilder

in Hidden Lakes, hired trappers to set up cages throughout the neighborhood and they had captured at least 17 hogs by last Friday, residents said. Trapped hogs legally cannot be released onto public property.

Arnie Roma said six feral pigs were nabbed in his backyard, which has been attacked almost nightly. He spent a day last week resodding deep crevices in his front yard.

It's a fix Roma says is required by the homeowners association that governs his stretch of the neighborhood, one that's going to cost him about \$1,500. He plans to install a temporary fence to keep the hogs at bay, but expressed

frustration at being forced to restore the aesthetics of his property before property managers have addressed the problem.

"If they want us to fix the front, I've got no problem with that. But what happens if they (pigs) come again and dig up?" he wondered aloud. "I'm just supposed to keep throwing \$1,500 away? I'm not an idiot."

"They want their cake and they want to eat it too, and they want it both ways besides that," he added. "You can't have it both ways."

Eliminate food source  
Representatives from Paytas Homes could not be reached for comment Wednesday. Hidden

Lakes property managers attribute the most recent outbreak to two hurricanes striking within 11 months and nor'easters throughout the year that have raised the water table in the Graham Swamp preserve.

Earlier this year, there were claims of extensive damage in the Grand Haven gated community, and marauding hogs also have been blamed for damage in Edgewater and Port Orange in Volusia County. Residents in the Woodlands neighborhood on the northern end of Graham Swamp complained that construction along Colbert Lane was displacing hogs and forcing them into their neighborhood.

Buddy Smith, a chief development officer for Tuscan Gardens, which is building a senior-living facility near the Woodlands, worked with those residents last year to help them get a handle on the ongoing issue. He said the hogs eventually moved on to fresher ground on their own terms.

The most effective solution, he suggests, is to identify the food source that is attracting the animals and remove it.

"They're coming in there for one thing and that's to eat," he said. "If they're in my yard, it's because I've got something in my soil that they like, and it's probably grubs ... So you've got to eliminate whatever it is that they're eating."

Matt Bruce is a staff writer for *The Daytona Beach (Fla.) News-Journal*.

### HOUSING BRIEFS

#### Chipley Housing Authority seeking applicants

Chipley Housing Authority is currently seeking applicants for the Public Housing program. Applicants must complete an application and meet income guidelines

based on family size as required by HUD. Applications are available from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Thursday in the office located at 1370 Old Bonifay Road in Chipley. For more information call 850-638-0134.

#### Rental units wanted

Tri-County Community Council is looking for rental units for the Section 8 program.

The Section 8 program provides assistance for low income families in the private rental market

through the Housing Assistance Payments Program. Renter voucher holders select a unit from the private market.

Requirement of a unit to be rented to an assisted family are as follows: the unit must meet HUD housing quality standards

and the rent must be approvable within HUD Fair Market Rents and market rate.

When a Section 8 voucher holder is interested in your unit contact Steve Henderson at 638-4520 ext 103.

#### Section 8 wait list closed

Tri-County Community Council has announced the Washington County Housing Authority (Section 8) Rental Assistance Program waiting list is no longer accepting applications at this time.

## Destin fisherman's tuna ruled a Florida record

GateHouse Media Florida

DESTIN, Fla. — The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission recently approved the record status for an 826-pound, 8-ounce bluefin tuna caught by a Sandestin-based charter boat last year.

A fisherman aboard the You Never Know caught a record-breaking 826-pound, 8-ounce bluefin tuna off the coast of Destin in May 2017. The fisherman who caught the large tuna was Rick Whitley of Destin, with help from Capt. Joey Birbeck and mates Dennis Bennett and Josh Goodson.

This catch is one of five new Florida saltwater fishing records that were approved in the past year, according to FWC.

Other record catches approved in the past year include a 4-pound, 8-ounce hardhead catfish caught by Ethan Pillitteri; a 35-pound, 9-ounce almaco jack caught by Lewis Sapp; a 2-pound kingfish



Rick Whitley and his record bluefin tuna, along with Capt. Joey Birbeck and mates Dennis Bennett and Josh Goodson, of the vessel *You Never Know*. [CONTRIBUTED PHOTO]

(whiting) caught by Raymond A. Hathorn, Jr.; and a 26-pound horse-eye jack caught by Sharon Kartrude Pryel, an FWC news release said.

Saltwater record holders receive a certificate of accomplishment and a prize pack, and beginning this year will be awarded a custom ink fish print to memorialize their catch, courtesy of Fish Print Shop.

From the Northwest Florida Daily News.

## Northwest Florida Community Hospital

### John D. Byrd, MD

#### Internal Medicine

A native of Jackson County, Dr. John D. Byrd is Board Certified in Internal Medicine which allows him to provide specialized care for his patients, from well-care preventative measures to treating more complex chronic conditions such as: diabetes, thyroid disorders, kidney disease, arthritis, COPD, hypertension, and heart failure, to name a few. Dr. Byrd accepts patients in his Graceville and Chipley locations.



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5429 College Drive, Graceville

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nfch.org

# OPINION

## A fix worse than the problem

If you were embroiled in a dispute over claims for benefits or federal enforcement actions, your case probably would end up before an administration law judge (ALJ). These judges — of whom there are more than 1,900 across the federal government, 1,600 in the Social Security Administration alone — oversee trial-like hearings and adjudicate a range of administrative and regulatory questions. They have traditionally been subject to a merit-based hiring system led by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). But after a Supreme Court decision in June raised constitutional questions about the hiring of ALJs, the Trump administration revamped the appointment system — and in the process made it easier to politicize the administrative judiciary.

On July 10, the White House issued an executive order giving agency heads the authority to select their own ALJs. Instead of having the OPM create a central list of qualified candidates, agencies can now design their own hiring protocols. This has given rise to concerns that political appointees will pick like-minded ALJs to better serve their agendas. One can envisage an anti-welfare Social Security chief selecting an ALJ who is skeptical of benefits claims, or a pro-union National Labor Relations Board chairman appointing someone who has championed workers' demands, to name just a couple of potentially fraught appointments.

The executive order also waters down the qualifications needed to become an ALJ. Previously, candidates for these positions needed to have at least seven years' experience, pass written and oral examinations, and appear before a panel of OPM and American Bar Association staffers. Now, the only credentials necessary are to "possess a professional license to practice law and be authorized to practice law," opening the door to candidates with no litigation experience whatsoever.

Worse, the executive order dismantled regulations that limited the removal of these judges. While there are still statutes in place curbing at-will removals of ALJs, the deregulation — coupled with administration attempts to get the Supreme Court to weaken the statutory protections — has heightened fears of politically motivated hiring and firing.

The court's ruling in June made it clear the appointment process for ALJs needed to change, but the executive order does far more than fix an inefficient and potentially unconstitutional process. It threatens the independence and professionalism of those charged with overseeing thousands of administrative decisions a year.

In response to the executive order, Reps. Elijah Cummings, D-Md., and Gerald Connolly, D-Va., have requested a House Oversight and Government Reform Committee or subcommittee hearing to explore alternative appointment processes for ALJs. Democratic representatives have unsuccessfully tried to block federal funding toward implementing the order, but Congress still can set minimum standards for these positions and take steps to preserve their independence. This may be the only way left to prevent the politicization of what used to be a proudly nonpartisan position.

*This editorial originally appeared in The News Herald, a Gatehouse Media sister paper.*

### Have something to say?

Letters to the editor and comments on Web versions of news stories are welcomed. Letters are edited only for grammar, spelling, clarity, space and consistency, but we ask that they be limited to 300 words where possible. Letter writers are asked to provide a home address and daytime telephone number (neither is printed) for verification purposes.

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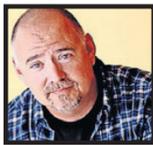
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### ANOTHER VIEW



## Facebook's Off the Mark Zuckerberg



Blair Bess

Every time Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg opens his mouth he somehow manages to stick his foot in it. It's not so much what he says that is harmful to both himself and his company, it's how he says it.

Last week, Zuckerberg managed to infuriate a large segment of the population by defending Facebook's policy to permit blatantly anti-Semitic posts on the site. His rationale for allowing hate speak to continue unfettered was a veritable cornucopia of double-speak; the kind that is both acceptable to and tolerated by an ever-increasing number of Americans.

During an interview with Recode's Kara Swisher which alluded to Sandy Hook conspiracy theorists — a group that includes Infowars host Alex Jones — Zuckerberg seemed to liken those who push alternative realities (i.e. that the massacre of 20 children and six adults at Sandy Hook Elementary School never happened) to Holocaust deniers.

While Zuckerberg pointed out that he is Jewish and that he finds those who propagate lies regarding the Holocaust offensive, he also said that he didn't believe they were "intentionally getting it wrong" by misleading readers, nor that those who disseminated this type of misinformation should be taken off his platform "if they get things wrong, even multiple times."

Like many public figures prone to confounding or deliberately misleading statements, Zuckerberg found himself under fire for his comments and attempted to walk them back. He even resorted to having his sister, Randi, come to his defense as his surrogate.

Randi Zuckerberg is active in Jewish organizations so she lends credibility to her brother's position when she says "those bent on lying, sowing misunderstanding, and breeding hate will never be truly silenced." She went on to say that, "Unfortunately, when we give a voice to everyone, we give it to people who use that voice for good and to people who abuse that voice."

Fair enough. But again, it's not so much what was said, rather how it was said; and in Zuckerberg's case, stated somewhat cavalierly.

One of the things that has always made America great (always, not "again") has been the freedom its citizens and its press have possessed to voice their opinions and observations, to report the news, keep us informed, and share ideas. Sadly, the very thing that makes us great can sometimes contribute to our vulnerability as well.

The First Amendment and our open, uncensored channels of expression are part of the reason Vladimir Putin's regime was so easily able to meddle into the 2016 presidential election. They provided Russia's security services and intelligence apparatus access to the hearts and minds of the American people through the deployment of highly effective disinformation, or dezinformatsiya as the Kremlin calls it. And they did so through outlets like Facebook.

While Russian stage-management of public opinion is not the sole reason for Mr. Trump's current occupation of the White House, it certainly contributed to the American people's opinion of him and his opponent which, in turn, may or may not have led to a favorable outcome for Vlad's favorite marionette. More significantly, the propaganda and disinformation promulgated by Russian intelligence was highly effective in re-opening festering cultural wounds and in manipulating the emotions and reason of the American people.

As evidence continues to mount that Russian dezinformatsiya played a significant role in influencing public opinion leading up to the 2016 election, we are faced with a larger dilemma: namely, can we combat future intrusions into the American psyche without sacrificing a cornerstone of our democracy? The answer — fortunately — is no.

The First Amendment sets us free, but it also leaves us susceptible to those who wish to manipulate the beliefs and values that have long set this nation apart. At a time when the current administration is disseminating "alternative facts," and while they continue to accuse the mainstream media of spreading "fake news," it's up to all of us individually to dig deep and verify what we read and see online and on-air rather than blindly accept that which is placed before us.

And while it is not Mark Zuckerberg's obligation to protect us from the ills of the world, it is his responsibility to be more introspective when assessing the impact his creation has on the nearly 2.2 billion active monthly Facebook users around the globe.

## Learning from less-Communist Cuba



John Stossel

While self-proclaimed "democratic socialists" win Democratic primaries in America, actual socialists in Cuba finally are backing away from some of the ideas that kept Cubans poor.

Sunday, Cuba's National Assembly approved a draft of a new constitution that recognizes a right to own private property. That's progress. Would Sen. Bernie Sanders and celebrity-of-the-moment Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez approve? I'm not sure. Instead of saying "communism" is the purpose of the state, Cuba will now say "socialism" is the basis of the economy. That's an ambiguous

difference, but "socialism" tends to mean a larger private sector.

Cuba's new leaders also say they welcome foreign investment. Maybe this will bring some prosperity to the long-suffering Cuban population. It may bring more freedom, too. The new draft says a criminal defendant is innocent until proven guilty. That's progress. It also sets term limits on presidents — no more than two consecutive five-year terms. Fidel Castro ruled for 50 years.

The new Cuba also may permit gay marriage. The draft defines marriage as being between two individuals, not necessarily a man and a woman. That's a big step for a country that recently locked gay people up in "work" camps.

On the other hand, the state-run newspaper says Cuba "will never return to capitalism." And while some open speech is permitted, crackdowns against dissidents, even ones who just sing angry rock songs, continue. Still, the U.S. should be happy

about the changes, and the last thing we should do when we want to encourage free market changes in a country is slap an embargo on it. Yet some conservatives want to do that, and President Trump reversed some of President Obama's "Cuba opening."

This is a bad idea. Nothing gets a population accustomed to decentralized, nongovernmental commercial activity like commercial activity.

The more we restrict trade, the more we drive a country's population into the hands of the state.

If you can't sell your products to American customers, you might just work for your country's corrupt state-run enterprises. Instead of having casual contact with customers who live outside your country's political system, that system becomes all you know. Your idea of what's possible shrinks. Embargoes favored by the right are just one wrong approach.

## LOCAL &amp; STATE

# Backroom briefing: a gift from Zuckerberg

News Service Florida

TALLAHASSEE - Facebook said this week it mistakenly banned an ad by Republican Matt Caldwell, but not before the candidate for Florida agriculture commissioner was able to score plenty of statewide free media on the issue.

Caldwell, a state House member from North Fort Myers, couldn't have asked for better pre-primary publicity than for Facebook --- under fire from conservatives for its perceived liberal advertising rules --- to reject a 15-second ad in which an armed Caldwell brags of his National Rifle Association endorsement.

Caldwell is running in the Aug. 28 GOP primary against Sen. Denise Grimsley of Sebring, former Rep. Baxter Troutman of Winter Haven and Plant City businessman Mike McCalister, as they seek to replace outgoing Agriculture Commissioner Adam Putnam.

According to Caldwell's campaign, the ad was banned under a Facebook guideline that ads can't promote the sale of guns or ammunition.

"I'm Matt Caldwell. I like guns. I love the Second Amendment. And I support our president," Caldwell says in the video ad while seated on the edge of a pickup truck tailgate. "That's why I'm endorsed by the NRA."

"I'm Matt Caldwell," Caldwell continues before locking a gun used for skeet shooting. "And that's all there is too it."

After Facebook looked into the ad, spokesman Devon Kearns said Tuesday it was "rejected in error."

"We review millions of ads each week, and sometimes we make mistakes," Kearns said. "We have overturned the incorrect decision and the ads are now running live on Facebook."

Before Facebook's admission, Caldwell sent out a news release proclaiming, "Facebook's liberal agenda is keeping our campaign for commissioner of agriculture from sharing our message."

"The U.S. Constitution could not be clearer: our Second Amendment rights are inalienable," Caldwell said in the release. "These God-given rights were enshrined in the Constitution by our Founding Fathers and Facebook's censorship regime cannot get away with waging a war against conservative ideals and our pro-liberty message. Washington, Jefferson, and Madison are the names on the U.S. Constitution, not Zuckerberg."

A number of media outlets, from the Tampa Bay Times to the online Sunshine State News, blogged Caldwell's initial claim, with a link to

**"The U.S. Constitution could not be clearer: our Second Amendment rights are inalienable. These God-given rights were enshrined in the Constitution by our Founding Fathers and Facebook's censorship regime cannot get away with waging a war against conservative ideals and our pro-liberty message. Washington, Jefferson, and Madison are the names on the U.S. Constitution, not Zuckerberg."**

Matt Caldwell

the ad, before Facebook announced its mistake.

## DEMS FUNDRAISING ON TRUMP'S RALLY

Florida Democrats wasted little time in trying to cash in on President Donald Trump's plan to stump next week in Tampa.

"He's flying in to pick his puppet for Florida governor," the Florida Democratic Party said in a fundraising email Monday, shortly after Trump's campaign announced the Tampa trip.

The email later stated: "We need to fill our Rapid Response Fund with \$25,000 in the next 24 hours."

Trump will be in Tampa on Tuesday to reaffirm support for gubernatorial candidate Ron DeSantis, as well as Gov. Rick Scott's run for U.S. Senate and Congressman Matt Gaetz' re-election effort.

Trump's campaign announced that the president will be at the Florida State Fairgrounds, where

he is "expected to address the latest record-breaking jobs and economic data from the booming Trump economy, his nomination of Brett Kavanaugh to the Supreme Court, and the importance for Floridians to get out and vote this fall for key races to support his agenda; including to support Rick Scott who is running to defeat Ben Nelson in the U.S. Senate, Matt Gaetz for re-election to the U.S. House, and Ron DeSantis for Governor."

One problem: Ben Nelson is a former Nebraska governor who served in the U.S. Senate from 2001 to 2013.

Scott is challenging Sen. Bill Nelson, D-Fla.

Scott, a booster of Trump during the 2016 campaign, won't be at the rally.

His campaign said he has a fundraiser that night. But Scott will saddle up with Trump at an education event earlier in the day in Tampa.

Donald Trump Jr., the president's son, is expected to also be in

the state Aug. 2 to pitch for Gaetz and DeSantis during an event at Northwest Florida State College in Niceville. That is in the heart of Gaetz's Panhandle district.

Besides the fundraising request, Florida Democratic Party spokesman Kevin Donohoe reacted to the news of the president's visit with a tongue-in-cheek email: "Our condolences to Adam Putnam."

Trump is backing DeSantis over Putnam in the Republican primary for governor.

## GREENE MONEY

Palm Beach billionaire Jeff Greene, one of the five Democrats running for governor, flew through Tallahassee this week, making numerous stops to garner media good will.

While talking up issues such as his education credentials --- he founded The Greene School for "for bright, curious and joyful learners" in Palm Beach County --- gun legislation, the environment and differences between himself and the rest of the Democratic field, he also talked money.

Specifically, \$10.6 million he'd already put up for the contest, with a vow that more is to come.

"As of now, I know that I've probably spent a little more than (former Congresswoman) Gwen Graham, less than

(former Miami Beach mayor) Philip Levine," Greene said. "There are only five weeks left, I don't have any idea what it will take."

If he advances to the general election, could he reach the \$76 million that Scott spent of his own cash in 2010?

"Hopefully not. I don't want to throw money away," Greene said. "But we'll spent whatever is needed to get our message out in the primary and definitely in the general election. I'll do absolutely whatever is needed, because I'm absolutely certain that with Donald Trump and Rick Scott running, there is going to be a lot of money on that side. And I'm prepared to do what it takes. I'm not doing this to go halfway. I'm not running the marathon so I can come in 10th place."

## TWEET OF THE WEEK:

**"My thoughts and prayers are with @scottplakon and his family during this difficult time. Susie was a wonderful woman and she will be greatly missed."**

Chief Financial Officer Jimmy Patronis (@JimmyPatronis) on the death of Susie Rushing Plakon, who suffered from Alzheimer's disease and was the wife of Rep. Scott Plakon, R-Longwood.

## Greyhound group asks judge to remove racing ban from ballot

Lloyd Dunkelberger  
News Service Florida

TALLAHASSEE - Arguing that it is misleading, the Florida Greyhound Association on Thursday asked a judge to remove from the November ballot a constitutional amendment that would ban dog racing in Florida.

"The (ballot) title and summary must be accurate. It must be informative. The title and summary cannot be misleading either expressly or by omission," Major Harding, the lawyer representing the greyhound group, told Leon County Circuit Judge Karen Gievers. The association represents greyhound owners, breeders and trainers.

Harding, a former Florida Supreme Court justice, argued that the ballot title and summary for Amendment 13 is misleading on several grounds, including the fact that it would not ban all dog-race wagering in the state.

The measure, placed on the ballot by the state Constitution Revision Commission, would still

allow tracks to conduct betting on dog races that are broadcast from outside the state, Harding argued.

"The title 'Ends Dog Racing' is false and will mislead Florida voters as to the breadth of the proposed amendment," he said.

Harding also said the title and summary make no mention of a provision in the amendment that establishes "the humane treatment of animals" as a "fundamental value" of the people of Florida. That provision could be broadly applied and impact other activities involving animals, such as university research, he added.

"Fundamental value language is important and has significant legal effect," Harding said, noting the only other mention of a "fundamental value" in the state Constitution is related to public schools.

Jordan Pratt, a deputy solicitor general representing the state, said the ballot language for Amendment 13, which would ban commercial dog racing after Dec. 31, 2020, is neither

**Gievers specifically questioned the lawyers about the opponents' claim that the ballot language fails to disclose its impact on another provision in the Constitution that allowed slot machines at dog tracks and other pari-mutuel facilities in Broward and Miami-Dade counties.**

misleading nor fails to state its main purpose.

As for misrepresenting the racing ban since "simulcasting" of out-of-state dog races would still be allowed, Pratt said prior court decisions on amendment ballot language have presumed "voters have a certain amount of common knowledge and common sense."

"One of the things that Florida voters certainly understand is that in voting on a proposed amendment to the Florida Constitution they are voting on what the law should be in Florida and not any other state," Pratt said.

Pratt and other lawyers defending the proposed dog-racing ban said the "fundamental value" language was part of an introductory phrase for the amendment and would not have the wide-ranging impact claimed by the opponents.

"The fundamental value language in proposed Amendment 13 is simply a declaration," Pratt said.

"There are no judicially ascertainable standards by which a court could, as plaintiffs speculate, enforce that free-standing language to other contexts."

Gievers specifically questioned the lawyers

about the opponents' claim that the ballot language fails to disclose its impact on another provision in the Constitution that allowed slot machines at dog tracks and other pari-mutuel facilities in Broward and Miami-Dade counties.

Harding said the slot-machine language, which was approved by voters in 2004, allowed the expanded gambling at facilities with live racing.

If Amendment 13 is passed, it would break "a compact with Florida voters" by allowing slot machines at dog tracks that would become stand-alone casinos without any racing, Harding said.

But Pratt said the 2004 amendment was focused on "the original authorization" of the slot machines in the two counties and that Amendment 13 would

have no impact on that activity.

The ballot summary, which specifically says "other gaming activities" are not affected, exceeds the disclosure standards and "correctly advises voters on its lack of impact on existing slot machines," Pratt said.

Gievers said she expected to issue her opinion "quickly," after reviewing the arguments submitted by both the opponents and opponents of the amendment.

The proposed dog-racing ban is one of 13 state constitutional amendments on the Nov. 6 general-election ballot. Eight of the amendments, including Amendment 13, were put on the ballot by the state Constitution Revision Commission.

In order to be enacted, each amendment must win support from at least 60 percent of the voters.

### NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION

On Thursday, August 9th, 2018 at the Ebro Town Hall 6629 Dogtrack Road, Ebro FL 32437 the Ebro Town Council will be voting on the adoption of

### ORDINANCE NO. 2018-07

**AN ORDINANCE BY THE TOWN COUNCIL AMENDING THE TOWN OF EBRO CODE OF ORDINANCES TO REPEAL ORDINANCES 2004-5 AND 2011-9; TO ADOPT A NEW FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE; TO ADOPT FLOOD HAZARD MAPS, TO DESIGNATE A FLOODPLAIN ADMINISTRATOR, TO ADOPT PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA FOR DEVELOPMENT IN FLOOD HAZARD AREAS, TO ADOPT TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO THE FLORIDA BUILDING CODE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES; PROVIDING FOR FISCAL IMPACT, APPLICABILITY; REPEALER; SEVERABILITY; AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

The ordinance can be inspected during normal business hours 8am until 2 pm Monday – Thursday at the Ebro Town Hall, 6629 Dogtrack Road Ebro Florida, 32437. For questions you may contact the clerk at 850-535-2842

NF-5028884

**"The (ballot) title and summary must be accurate. It must be informative. The title and summary cannot be misleading either expressly or by omission," Major Harding, the lawyer representing the greyhound group, told Leon County Circuit Judge Karen Gievers. The association represents greyhound owners, breeders and trainers.**

## COMMUNITY

# Gulf Power celebrates the renewal of conservation partnership with NFWF

Special to The News

Gulf Power is celebrating the five-year renewal of the conservation partnership between Southern Company and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF). For over 15 years, the partnership has funded more than 300 projects restoring, sustaining or enhancing more than 1.7 million acres of wildlife habitat in the Southeast.

Through this partnership, Gulf Power has supported nearly 100 conservation projects funded with \$5.8 million across Northwest Florida.

This investment has benefited thousands of acres of conservation and countless species in the Gulf Power service area. Among the projects: shoreline stabilization on Bayou Grande in Pensacola; native longleaf pine forest restoration from Perdido River to Blackwater River State Forest and east through Apalachicola; recovery efforts of the red-cockaded woodpecker, gopher tortoise and indigo snake; and coastal and wetland restoration in South Walton County and elsewhere.

“Our work with Southern Company exemplifies the public-private partnership model we employ to generate measurable results

for wildlife and habitats across the country,” said Jeff Trandahl, executive director and CEO of NFWF. “This enduring partnership – one of the Foundation’s longest-running – reflects Southern Company’s strong commitment to the conservation of natural resources in the local communities it serves.”

Over the past 15 years, NFWF has leveraged Southern Company’s contributions to generate more than \$126 million for on-the-ground conservation impact.

“Gulf Power’s support of environmental stewardship grants have kick-started or enhanced many community-involved environmental education and restoration projects that otherwise might not have gotten off the ground,” Jeff Cole, Gulf Power Stewardship coordinator, said. “These local level and regional projects benefit the area we live in by enhancing recreational areas and improving air and water quality. It’s important to be a leader by being out investing and participating in the community in which we live, work and recreate.”

Many conservation professionals credit Southern Company with being the first major private funder to invest

in longleaf restoration work, helping catalyze the historic public-private partnership known as America’s Longleaf Restoration Initiative.

Vernon Compton, director of the Gulf Coastal Plain Ecosystem Partnership, said the Longleaf Stewardship Fund grants the group of private and public landowners has received are critical to restoring the longleaf pine ecosystem in Northwest Florida, which once dominated the Southeast. This year’s grant of \$300,000 will restore 333 acres of longleaf pine and improve an additional 55,350 acres of existing longleaf habitat, mostly in the Blackwater River State Forest in Santa Rosa County. The grant also funds a gopher tortoise project on Eglin Air Force Base reservation aimed at preventing it from becoming listed under the Endangered Species Act.

“This partnership with NFWF is very important to the restoration effort and a critical component of the many success we’re seeing on the ground across the longleaf pine range and habitat improvement,” Compton said. “Thanks to habitat restoration on these sites, they are ready for the keystone species like the gopher tortoise to be reintroduced.”

### COMMUNITY EVENTS

If you would like your events included in this list, email information to: [news@chipleypaper.com](mailto:news@chipleypaper.com)

#### Food Coupons still available

WASHINGTON COUNTY – Washington County Council on Aging still has Farmer’s Market Nutrition Program Coupons available. If interested and have not already received coupons this year, contact Washington County Council on Aging at 850-638-6216 for more information on how you can participate in this program.

#### Spanish Trail Playhouse to Present Charlotte’s Web

CHIPLEY – The Spanish Trail Playhouse will hold performances of Charlotte’s Web at 7 p.m. Friday, August 3 and Saturday, August 4 and at 2 p.m. Sunday, August 5. The playhouse is in the Historic Chipley High School, located at 680 Second Street in Chipley. Tickets go on sale soon and will be available online at [www.spanishtrailplayhouse.com](http://www.spanishtrailplayhouse.com), and the Spanish Trail Playhouse office by calling 850-638-9113. The ticket office is open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to noon. For more information email [spanishtrailplayhouse@gmail.com](mailto:spanishtrailplayhouse@gmail.com).

#### HCSO to host a free food distribution

PONCE DE LEON – Holmes County Sheriff’s Office will host a free food distribution at 8 a.m. Saturday, August 11 at Ponce de Leon High School. This will be a “drive-thru” event

to help accommodate those with disabilities or small children. There will be someone there as long as there are supplies. For more information call the Holmes County Sheriff’s Office at 850-547-4421.

#### FTR representative to be at WCCOA

CHIPLEY – A representative from Florida Telecommunications Relay, INC. will be at Washington County Council on Aging at 9:30 a.m. Thursday, August 16, 2018. Seniors will be assessed to determine eligibility to receive an amplified or specialized telephone at no cost. For more information or to schedule an appointment call 850-638-6216.

#### HOSO to offer concealed weapons class

BONIFAY – The Holmes County Sheriff’s Office will present a Concealed Weapons Class at 10 a.m., Saturday, August 18, in the Holmes County Jail classroom, located at 3207 Lonny Lindsey Drive in Bonifay. Sheriff John Tate will instruct the class, which is expected to last about two hours. This class will meet the firearms training class requirement mandated by the Florida Department of Agriculture concealed weapon permit application. The class is open to ages 18 and up; however the minimum age to be granted a permit from the state is 21. Participants ages 21 and up may bring their own gun and rounds or use those provided by the sheriff’s office. Participants under the age of 21 are asked to use the provided gun and rounds.

No pre-registration is required, and the cost is \$25 per person. All proceeds will benefit Holmes County High School Project Graduation.

#### WCCOA to hold pampering day

CHIPLEY – In recognition of National Senior Citizen’s Day on Tuesday, August 21, 2018, Washington County Council on Aging in partnership with Interim Healthcare, will be hosting a pampering session to seniors 60 and older. Manicures and hand massages will be provided. This event will begin at 10 a.m. and will take place at 1348 South Boulevard in Chipley. For more information on this or other events call 850-638-6216.

#### PDL fire to host RTIC raffle

PONCE DE LEON – Ponce De Leon Volunteer Fire Department will host a raffle for a 65 Quart RTic cooler. The raffle will run through Thursday, August 23. Tickets are \$5 each or 3 for \$12. There are only 300 tickets available. All proceeds go to benefit the fire department. Contact any member of the PDL fire department or contact the department on Facebook.

#### Hearing life representative to be at WCCOA

CHIPLEY – A representative with Hearing Life will be at Washington County Council on Aging from 10:30 a.m. to noon Thursday, August 23 to conduct hearing screenings. This event is open to seniors 60 or older. For information call 850-638-6216.

## Notice of Tax for School Capital Outlay

The Washington County School District will soon consider a measure to continue to impose a 1.500 mill property tax for the capital outlay projects listed herein.

This tax is in addition to the school board’s proposed tax of 4.9400 mills for operating expenses and is proposed solely at the discretion of the school board.

The capital outlay tax will generate approximately **\$1,341,621** to be used for the following projects:

### CONSTRUCTION AND REMODELING

- Florida Panhandle Technical College classroom remodeling
- Chipley High School/Roulhac Middle School cafeteria expansion
- Chipley and Vernon bus barns
- Chipley High School football field restrooms/concessions and bleachers
- Vernon High School track
- Vernon Middle School baseball field
- WAVE (ESE Center) furnishing and fixtures

### MAINTENANCE, RENOVATION, AND REPAIR

- Maintenance of various school and district plants / roof repairs
- ADA compliance at district facilities
- Fire alarm systems
- Historic Chipley High School renovations
- Historic Kate M. Smith Elementary renovations and parking lot
- Public restroom renovations
- Outdoor lighting
- School safety/security systems

### MOTOR VEHICLE PURCHASES

- Purchase of ten (10) school buses
- Purchase of white fleet

### NEW AND REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT, COMPUTER AND DEVICE HARDWARE AND OPERATING SYSTEM SOFTWARE NECESSARY FOR GAINING ACCESS TO OR ENHANCING THE USE OF ELECTRONIC AND DIGITAL INSTRUCTIONAL CONTENT AND RESOURCES, AND ENTERPRISE RESOURCE SOFTWARE

- Purchase playground equipment for new elementary school
- Lease-purchase of new computers
- Upgrade Technology Infrastructure
- Enterprise Software

### PAYMENT OF COSTS OF COMPLIANCE WITH ENVIRONMENTAL STATUTES, RULES AND REGULATIONS

- Removal of Hazardous Waste

### PAYMENT OF PREMIUMS FOR PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE NECESSARY TO INSURE THE EDUCATIONAL AND ANCILLARY PLANTS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT

- Insurance premiums on district facilities

### PAYMENT OF COSTS OF LEASING RELOCATABLE EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

- Leasing of portable classrooms

All concerned citizens are invited to a public hearing to be held on July 30, 2018, at 5:05 PM in the School Board Meeting Room, 652 Third Street, Chipley, FL.

A **DECISION** on the proposed **CAPITAL OUTLAY TAXES** will be made at this hearing.

NF-5037556

### TRIVIA FUN



Wilson Casey

**1. When an acre of forest absorbs 6 tons of carbon dioxide, it puts out about how many tons of oxygen?**  
1, 4, 6, 12

**2. In auto-racing flags, what color with yellow-diagonal stripe means “move to the outside”?**

Red, Blue, Black, Green  
**3. Who has been the heaviest of all U.S. presidents?**  
Hayes, Coolidge, Taft, Eisenhower

**4. Whose address is 1 E. 161st St., Bronx, NY?**  
Trump Tower, Empire State Building, Central Park, Yankee Stadium

**5. What poet was known as “The Canadian Kipling”?**  
Service, Kirby, Henry, Wilshire

**6. Whose Latin name is**

**“Gallus domesticus”?**  
Cat, Dog, Hamster, Chicken

**ANSWERS:** 1. 4, 2. Blue, 3. Taft (William Howard, more than 350 lbs), 4. Yankee Stadium, 5. Service (Robert W.), 6. Chicken

“Trivia Fun” with Wilson Casey, Guinness World Record Holder from Woodruff, S.C., is published in more than 500 newspapers across the country. Comments, questions or suggestions? [WC@TriviaGuy.com](mailto:WC@TriviaGuy.com).

## NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING

The Washington County District School Board will soon consider a budget for fiscal year 2018-2019. A public hearing to make a **DECISION** on the budget **AND TAXES** will be held on July 30, 2018 at 5:05 P.M.

at  
the Washington County District School Board Office Meeting Room,  
652 Third Street, Chipley, Florida.

NF-5037557

# NATION & WORLD

## Governor declares emergency as Calif. fires rage

By Marcio Sanchez  
The Associated Press

IDYLLWILD, Calif. — Fire stoked by hot and windy weather raged through a forest in far northern California on Thursday. In mountain communities east of Los Angeles, calmer conditions aided firefighters on the lines of a suspected arson wildfire that forced thousands of people to flee.

California Gov. Jerry Brown on Thursday issued emergency proclamations in both Riverside County in the south and Shasta County in the north. The declarations authorize the state to rally resources to local government.

In the north, new evacuations were ordered for communities in the wilderness recreation region near Whiskeytown Lake as that wildfire tripled in size to more than 31 square miles. It had already forced residents out of French Gulch, a hamlet dating to the Gold Rush.

French Gulch resident Raquel Hines said she had two hours to evacuate and that others in the former mining town had as little as 30 minutes to leave.

The community has faced two wildfires in the last two weeks, Hines said.

"It's terrifying. You know you're frightened a little bit because you don't know if you're going to come back to your house and the town is going to be different," she told KRCR-TV.

Cal Fire Unit Chief Mike Hebrard told the Record Searchlight newspaper that the blaze made a huge push overnight and that engine crews were in the community of



A firefighter hoses down hot spots along Highway 243 on Thursday near Idyllwild, Calif. A fast-moving wildfire tore through trees, burned several homes and forced evacuation orders for an entire mountain town as California sweltered under a heat wave and battled ferocious fires at both ends of the state. [MARCIO JOSE SANCHEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

Old Shasta trying to save structures.

Hundreds of miles to the south, winds were absent over the fire in Southern California's San Jacinto Mountains. But temperatures were rapidly rising, and forecasters said highs could hit 100 degrees. They also warned of possible afternoon wind gusts that could create dangerous fire conditions.

Elsewhere in the state, a huge forest fire continued to grow outside Yosemite National Park. A total of 100 homes were still considered under threat in the San Francisco Bay community of Clayton, although firefighters had stopped the progress of a small fire there after one house burned.

The blaze in the San Jacinto Mountains

erupted Wednesday and quickly turned into a wall of flame that torched timber and tinder-dry brush. In a matter of hours, it grew to 7.5 square miles.

About 3,200 people in the town of Idyllwild and nearby communities were ordered to evacuate. An estimated 600 homes were threatened.

The fire was the largest of at least five that police believe were purposely set Wednesday by a man whose car was reportedly spotted at the starting point of the blaze in Riverside County, officials said.

Brandon N. McGlover, 32, of Temecula was booked on suspicion of five counts of arson, state fire officials said. It wasn't clear whether he had an attorney.

Authorities ordered

residents to leave Idyllwild and several neighboring communities, home to about 12,000 people.

William Blodgett of Idyllwild said he couldn't get home because of the fire and had to wait along with others at a gas station in nearby Mountain Center — until the fire hopped a highway and began to move in his direction.

"We were all peeling out of there as fast as we could," he told KNBC-TV. "It was apocalyptic."

Horses and other animals were taken to shelters, as were several hundred children who were evacuated from summer camps. About 200 were at a local high school serving as a shelter, KCAL-TV reported.

The fire in the San Bernardino National

Forest sent up a cloud 50,000 feet high that was so enormous it created its own weather in the form of lightning, the National Weather Service reported.

Throughout the day, helicopters and planes dumped water and fire retardant that turned swathes of land and homes pink. Fire engines also were stationed to protect homes.

Yosemite Valley, the scenic heart of the national park, was closed at noon Wednesday during the height of tourist season as smoke cast a pall on the region from a fire in the Sierra Nevada. The closure was heartbreaking for travelers, many of whom mapped out their trips months in advance to hike and climb amid the spectacular views of cascading

waterfalls and sheer rock faces.

"We had one guest who planned a weeklong trip," said Tom Lambert, who owns a vacation rental property near Yosemite Valley. "It was a father-daughter trip, for her high school graduation ... Now it's done. It's sad."

Another guest had to delay plans to climb Half Dome.

Officials emphasized that Yosemite wasn't in imminent danger from the fire, which grew to more than 67 square miles in the adjacent Sierra National Forest. Authorities decided on the shutdown to allow crews to perform protective measures such as burning away brush along roadways without having to deal with traffic in the park that welcomes 4 million visitors annually.

Yosemite Valley will be closed until at least Sunday, along with a winding, mountainous, 20-mile stretch of California's State Route 41 that leads into the area, Gediman said.

At least 1,000 campground and hotel bookings were canceled — to say nothing of the impact on day visitors, park workers and small businesses along the highway, Gediman said.

The last time the 7.5-mile-long valley was closed because of fire was 1990, he said.

Over nearly two weeks, flames have churned through 60 square miles of timber in steep terrain of the Sierra Nevada just west of the park. The fire was just 25 percent contained.

More than 3,300 firefighters are working the fire, aided by 16 helicopters. One firefighter was killed July 14, and six others have been injured.

### NEW YORK Biden's niece gets probation in \$110,000 credit card case

The niece of Democratic Vice President Joe Biden who racked up \$110,000 in charges on someone else's credit card has been sentenced to two years of probation. Caroline Biden told a New York judge on Thursday she takes responsibility for her conduct and deeply regrets the harm it caused.

The New York Post says Biden has paid back the money and completed community service. Biden says "nothing like this will ever happen again."

Prosecutors say the unidentified victim had given Biden permission to charge \$672 at an upscale store where face creams can run hundreds of dollars.

### MADISON, WIS. Wisconsin ordered to pay for gender reassignment surgeries

A federal judge has ordered Wisconsin to pay for the gender reassignment surgery for two transgender Medicaid recipients.

Cody Flack, 30, and Sara Ann Makenzie, 41, filed a lawsuit in April, saying a state rule denying coverage for surgeries to treat gender dysphoria violates the Affordable Care Act and their right to equal protection, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reported.

## BUDGET SUMMARY

THE PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET EXPENDITURES OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF WASHINGTON COUNTY ARE 0.7% MORE THAN LAST YEAR'S TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES  
Fiscal Year 2018-2019

### PROPOSED MILLAGE LEVY:

Required Local Effort	4.192	Basic Discretionary Operating	0.748	Debt Service	0.000
Basic Discretionary Capital Outlay	1.500	Discretionary Critical Needs (Operating)	0.000		
Additional Discretionary Capital Outlay	0.000	Additional Discretionary (Statutory, Voted)	0.000	<b>Total Millage</b>	<b>6.440</b>

### ESTIMATED REVENUES:

	GENERAL FUND	SPECIAL REVENUE	DEBT SERVICE	CAPITAL PROJECTS	PERMANENT FUND	ENTERPRISE FUNDS	TOTAL ALL FUNDS
Federal Sources	191,489	1,985,528				906,943	3,083,980
State Sources	24,115,665	20,628		101,600		3,172	24,241,065
Local Sources	5,688,406	407,914		1,353,651		23,796,341	31,246,312
<b>TOTAL SOURCES</b>	<b>29,995,580</b>	<b>2,414,070</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,455,251</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>24,706,456</b>	<b>58,571,337</b>
Transfers in	156,859					77,362	234,221
Fund Balances/Net Position (July 1, 2018)	9,478,071	516,946	903	1,161,128		13,440,698	24,597,746
<b>TOTAL REVENUES, TRANSFERS, AND FUND BALANCES/NET POSITION</b>	<b>39,630,490</b>	<b>2,931,016</b>	<b>903</b>	<b>2,616,379</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>38,224,516</b>	<b>83,403,304</b>

### APPROPRIATIONS/EXPENDITURES:

Instruction	20,656,669	285,036				54,770	20,996,475
Pupil Personnel Service	1,725,389	69,306				30,155	1,824,850
Instructional Media Services	514,222						514,222
Instruction & Curriculum Services	402,683	14,778				180,205	597,666
Instructional Staff Training	225,913	312,903				175,112	713,928
Instruction Related Technology	440,784						440,784
Board of Education	494,826						494,826
General Administration	367,627	40,118				52,262	460,007
School Administration	2,587,067	2,100					2,589,167
Facilities Acquisition & Construction				2,266,560			2,266,560
Fiscal Services	625,884						625,884
Food Service	3,741	1,694,870					1,698,611
Central Services	222,623	2,000				25,027,266	25,251,889
Pupil Transportation Services	2,121,417	16,076				3,131	2,140,624
Operation of Plant	2,531,872						2,531,872
Maintenance of Plant	747,849					6,356	754,205
Administrative Technology Services	230,407						230,407
Community Services	24,827						24,827
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS/EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>33,923,800</b>	<b>2,437,187</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,266,560</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25,529,257</b>	<b>64,156,804</b>
Transfers Out	75,000			159,221			234,221
Fund Balances/Net Position (June 30, 2019)	5,631,690	493,829	903	190,598		12,695,259	19,012,279
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES, TRANSFERS AND FUND BALANCES/NET POSITION</b>	<b>\$39,630,490</b>	<b>\$2,931,016</b>	<b>\$903</b>	<b>\$2,616,379</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$38,224,516</b>	<b>\$83,403,304</b>

The tentative, adopted, and / or final budgets are on file in the office of the above mentioned taxing authority as a public record.

NF-507558

# FAITH

## Signs of Faith

Submit your sign of faith at [photos@chipleypaper.com](mailto:photos@chipleypaper.com).

Washington County News Staff

WASHINGTON COUNTY - While driving on the long country roads, you're bound to see a sign of faith - something that can take away 'the Mondays', remind you of your many blessings or give inspiration to you for some-else.

Washington County News wants to share this positivity with our readers!

We've launched 'Signs of Faith,' which runs in each Saturday's edition. We want you to send in your 'Signs of Faith' to us to share with the community!

In the photo, a marquee at an old convenience store near Caryville reads: "Coming soon: a spiritual filling station." And we've now shared that message with you.

Send in your photos to [photos@chipleypaper.com](mailto:photos@chipleypaper.com).

Be sure to include a statement that tells the name of your faith organization and address.



Convenience station located near Caryville area [JACQUELINE BOSTICK | THE NEWS]

## While you were sleeping



Bill Tinsley

Typically don't think much about sleep. But when you fly through seven or more time zones in a single day, you think about it. When everyone else is getting up, your body is begging to go to bed. When everyone else is settling down for a good night's sleep, your body is wide awake and looking for something to do. It takes a few days, at least, to "reset the body clock."

Sleep is an amazing thing. We all require it, including the animals. Even my dog sleeps. I know, I have spent the night camping in a tent with him. He snores. Sleep appears to be a requirement for all animal life, though it may vary in intensity and method.

Something mysterious and magical happens when we sleep.

Kenneth Cooper, the world-famous physician who set us on the path for aerobic health more than 40 years ago, maintains that adequate sleep, like adequate exercise and diet, is essential to balanced health. He states, "Most studies indicate that the average person needs

somewhere between the traditional seven and eight hours a night. If you get much more sleep than that ... you feel sluggish and fuzzy-headed during the day. ... if you get too little sleep ... you tend to feel like death warmed over."

Sleep deprivation has been used as a means of interrogation and even torture. In some cases, the inability to sleep has had catastrophic consequences. Many think the popular actor, Heath Ledger's tragic death from a prescription drug overdose may have been caused by his ongoing battle with chronic insomnia.

Scientists have a pretty good idea of what goes on during sleep, but no one

seems to know exactly how it happens. According to the Sleep Foundation, the body and the brain are repaired and nourished during the phases of non-rapid eye movement and rapid-eye-movement. Somehow the body repairs its muscles, consolidates memory and releases hormones that regulate growth and appetite.

Even Jesus slept. His 12 disciples found it incredible that he could sleep in the bow of the boat during a raging storm. Frantic with fear, they woke him. Awakened from his sleep, Jesus asked, "Why are you afraid, you men of little faith?" He then rebuked the winds and the waves, and the place where they were

became perfectly calm. His disciples were astonished and looking at one another asked, "What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the waves obey him?" (Matthew 8:23-27).

The need to sleep recognizes our mortality. For seven to eight hours of every day, between a fourth and a third of every 24 hours, the world continues without us. During that time, we are totally and completely dependent upon others and upon God for our existence and our well-being. We are not the masters of our fate.

The Scripture states, "In vain you rise early and stay up late, toiling for food to eat - for he grants sleep to those he loves." (Psalm 127:2)

## Vacation Bible Schools

If you would like to see your vacation bible school on this list email them to [news@chipleypaper.com](mailto:news@chipleypaper.com)

### Blue Lake Baptist to host VBS

CHIPLEY - Blue Lake Baptist Church will hold Vacation Bible School from 5:30 p.m. to

8 p.m. on Wednesday August 1. Family day will be at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, August 5 during the regular service. A meal will follow with activities for the kids. The focus will be the importance of worship and the true meaning. For more information call the church office at 850-638-1034

### FAITH EVENTS

If you would like to include an event in this list, email information to: [news@chipleypaper.com](mailto:news@chipleypaper.com)

### Sunny Hills Chapel to host The Masters Men Plus One

SUNNY HILLS - Sunny Hills Chapel Church will host The Masters Men Plus One at 11 a.m. Sunday, July 29. Lunch will be served at noon. Bring a covered dish and enjoy the Christian fellowship. The church is located three miles south of Wausau on Highway 77. For more information call the pastor at 850-548-5649.

### Klondyke Gospel Music Center to host concerts in July

OZARK, ALABAMA - The following gospel music ministries will appear in concert during the month of July as indicated, at the Klondyke Gospel Music Center. All concerts begin at 7 p.m. There is no admission charge. Saturday, July 28, Rickey Ward of the 4 Calvary Quartet from Bonifay. The center is located half way between Newton, Alabama and Ozark, Alabama at 3885 Highway 123 South. For more information call Ron Jeffers at 334-797-9862.

### Mt. Olive to host Back to School Fun Day

BONIAY - Mt. Olive Baptist will host a Back to School Fun Day from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, July 29. There will be games, popcorn, snow cones, ice cream, school supplies and backpacks. The church is located at 3187 Mt. Olive Road.

### New Bethany Assembly to hold fifth Sunday sing

VERNON - New Bethany Assembly of God will hold a fifth Sunday sing at 11 a.m. Sunday, July 29. Special guests will be The Fortners. Lunch will be served in the fellowship hall at 12:30 p.m. The church is located at Hinson's Crossroads in Vernon. For more information call Brother Leon Jenkins at 850-773-3003

### Bonifay First United Methodist to host USDA Food Distribution

BONIFAY - Bonifay First United Methodist Church will host a USDA Food Distribution at 9:30 a.m. at the church on the following Wednesdays: August 15, October 17 and December 19. This is for Holmes County residence only. The church is located at 202 N Oklahoma Street across from the courthouse.

### WASHINGTON COUNTY CHURCH LISTINGS

If you would like your Washington County church listed here, please send information to: [news@chipleypaper.com](mailto:news@chipleypaper.com). Due to space limitation, please only send regular church services. For special services, please send separate submission.

#### ASSEMBLY OF GOD Corbin Road Assembly of God

Morning Worship is at 10 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday service is at 7 p.m. The church is located at 105 Corbin Road in Chipley.

#### Cords of Love Assembly of God

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study is at 6:30 p.m. The church is located at 2060 Bethlehem Road in Cottondale.

#### Grace Assembly of God @ Chipley

Morning Worship is at 10 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday service is at 6:30 p.m. The church is located at 567 North Main Street, Chipley

#### New Bethany Assembly of God

Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday services are at 7 p.m. The church is located on Shaky Joe Road just off Highway 280 at Hinson's Crossroads.

#### New Life Fellowship Assembly of God

Sunday School is at 9 a.m. Morning Worship is at 10 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday services are at 6:30 p.m. The church is located

at 695 5th Street, Chipley.

#### Wausau Assembly of God

Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship is at 10:30 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday services are at 7 p.m. The church is located at 3537 Washington Street in Wausau.

#### BAPTIST Abigail Free Will Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. The church is located on Dawkins Street in Vernon.

#### Berean Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday services are at 7 p.m. The church is located at 1438 Nearing Hills Drive in Chipley.

#### Blue Lake Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship is at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday services are at 6:30 p.m. The church is located at 1405 Blue Lake Road in Chipley.

#### Chipley First Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Traditional Worship Service is at 9 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service is at 10:30 a.m. Discipleship Training is at 5 p.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday AWANA is at 5:15 p.m. Wednesday, Prayer Meeting is at 6 p.m. The church is located at 1300 South Boulevard

#### Country Oaks Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 7 p.m. Wednesday service is at 7

p.m. The church is located at 574 Buckhorn Boulevard

#### Eastside Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday service is at 6 p.m. The church is located at Highway 277 in Vernon.

#### First Free Will Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship is at 10:45 a.m. Wednesday service is at 6 p.m. The church is located at 1387 South Boulevard.

#### Gap Pond Free Will Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. The church is located at 1980 Gap Boulevard in Sunny Hills.

#### Grace Baptist Chapel Mission

Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship is at 10:50 a.m. Wednesday services are at 7 p.m. The church is located at 440 Lot E Second Street, Chipley.

#### Holmes Creek Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship is at 10:30 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday service AWANA is at 5:30 p.m. and Bible Study is at 6 p.m. The church is located at 335 Cope Road in Chipley.

#### Holyneck Missionary Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Wednesday service is at 6 p.m. The church is located 3395 Cemetery Lane, Campbellton.

See CHURCH, A11

# FOOD

## ENTERTAINING

### QUICK, EASY SNACKS

As you entertain during summer, it's convenient to keep on hand easy-to-prepare snacks for your guests. Consider these suggestions from Simply Organic:

- Guacamole and chips: You only add two ripe, peeled, pitted avocados (organic is best) and break open a bag of tortilla chips.

## PREGNANCY

### FEELING YOUR BEST

To feel your best and support health during pregnancy, try some of these nutrition tips.

- Take your prenatal vitamin with food to combat queasiness.

- Avoid the "eating for two" mindset because excessive weight can lead to complications.



## FLASH IN THE PAN

# A cool drink of cucumber

Hydrate with summer's refreshing green treat

By Ari LeVaux  
More Content Now

The expression "cool as a cucumber" was bound to exist. The cooler the better, in fact, as nothing beats a cold one straight out of the fridge. But even a warm cucumber, freshly picked in the middle of a hot field, can be gloriously refreshing. The impossibility of a cucumber gathering and stashing all that water is as cool as the hydration itself.

People make a big deal about the different kinds of tomatoes they can buy during tomato season, but the same can be done over cucumbers. The differences are more subtle, but no less enjoyable. Variations in flavor, water content, crispiness and how it explodes in your mouth all add up to myriad gastronomic

experiences.

### Discovering health benefits

Cucumbers are considered a physiologically "cooling" food in the Aryurvedic medical philosophy of India, where the plant is thought to have first been cultivated. I can't comment on the physiology here, but I do know that if you cool your cucumbers first, they will be a cooling food.

And beyond the relationship between cucumbers and temperature, cucumbers are proving potentially cool in other ways as well.

Pharmacological researchers have zeroed in on several chemical compounds found in cucumbers for potential medical applications.

Many of these are found in cucumber seed extract, but interesting

compounds have been isolated elsewhere in the fleshy fruit, such as the peel and the blossom end of the cucumber, also known as the bitter end, which contains cucurbitacin C, a toxin created by the plant to ward off predators like spider mites that attack the flowers. Chemically, cucurbitacin C is a steroid molecule, though it isn't currently banned by any sports leagues, so it must not be much good in, you know, that department.

At low doses, results are promising in many arenas, with cucurbitacin C showing potential anti-tumor, anti-diabetic, anti-atherosclerotic and anti-inflammatory activities.

The cosmetics industry, meanwhile, has latched onto some other molecules in cucumber seeds, promoting their ability to hydrate, elasticize

and — you guessed it — cool and calm the skin.

### Try 'em all

Now is peak cucumber appreciation season at the farmers market, with each farmer's every variety of cucumber all hitting.

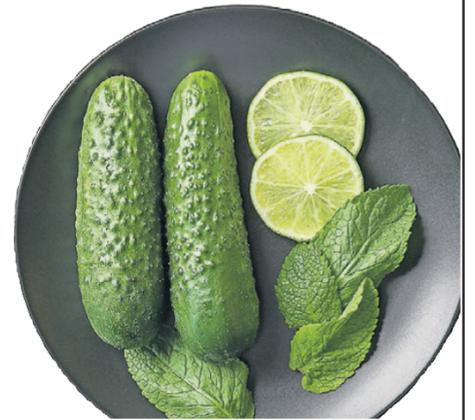
Last week I brought home five different varieties from three different vendors, and let the comparisons begin.

The highlight was the

"Chinese cucumber," which had such a pale shade of green it was almost gray, with a thin, spiky skin like a pickling cuke and an explosive, watery crisp.

Another great cucumber is the Armenian, which is as delicious as it is enormous. And don't sleep on the normal, plain-Jane-looking dark green slicing cucumbers.

There are some really fine varieties out there.



FREEPIK/BIGSTOCK IMAGES

## IN THE KITCHEN

### 'Summer sapphires' go great in pie



Prudence Hilburn

Whether you enjoy them fresh from the picking or baked in muffins, cobblers, cakes or pies, I think we all agree the "summer sapphires" of the berry family are a special taste treat.

Blueberries are a good source of vitamins A and C, and they are not as perishable as most other berries. While blackberries keep their quality only about a day or two after they are purchased or picked, blueberries will keep about two weeks, if they are handled properly. Do not wash blueberries until you are ready to use them.

Also, the Blueberry Association advises you should not wash the berries before freezing them, as this toughens the skins.

My husband's all-time favorite was Fresh Blueberry Pie, and I haven't made one in years.

When a friend gave me some blueberries recently, I decided to try my hand at making this

classic dessert.

### Fresh Blueberry Pie

#### Pecan pastry:

- 3 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup ground pecans
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup chilled shortening
- 1/2 cup chilled butter or margarine
- 5 to 6 tablespoons ice water

#### Filling:

- 4 cups fresh blueberries, washed and drained
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 tablespoons butter or margarine

Combine flour, pecans, baking powder and salt in bowl of food processor fitted with the steel blade. Add shortening and butter. Process by pulsing until the mixture resembles coarse cornmeal with just a few lumps the size of peas. Gradually add ice water and mix until dough forms a ball. Remove from bowl and divide the dough in half, making two disks each about an inch thick. Cover with plastic wrap and chill for about 30 minutes.

Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Remove dough

from refrigerator and allow to sit until soft enough to roll without tearing. Roll each disk to a circle an inch or two larger than a 9-inch pie plate. Fit one circle of dough in pie plate.

Combine berries, sugar and flour in medium bowl. Toss lightly to coat berries. Pour into pie crust. Dot with butter. Top with the second circle of dough. Trim and flute the edges of the crust. Cut 5 or 6 small slits in top crust to allow steam to escape.

Bake for 10 minutes at 450 degrees, then lower temperature to 350 degrees. Continue baking for about 30 minutes. If the edges of crust seem to be browning too quickly, cover them with aluminum foil the last 10 to 15 minutes of baking. Allow to cool completely before slicing.

*This column was originally published on July 30, 2008.*

*Prudence Hilburn has won more than 30 national cooking awards and written several cookbooks, including, "Simply Southern and More." Write her at [prudencehilburn@aol.com](mailto:prudencehilburn@aol.com) or visit [www.prudencehilburn.com](http://www.prudencehilburn.com).*

## TOWN OF ESTO CDBG FIRST PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Town of Esto is considering applying to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity for a FFY 2018 Small Cities Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). The Town is eligible to apply for up to \$600,000 in the neighborhood revitalization, commercial revitalization and housing rehabilitation categories and up to \$1.5 million in the economic development category. Construction activities funded through the CDBG Program must meet one of the following National Objectives:

1. Provide benefit to low- and moderate-income persons;
2. Prevent or eliminate slum or blight conditions; or
3. Meet a need of recent origin having a particular urgency.

The types of activities that CDBG funds may be used for including constructing storm water ponds, paving roads and sidewalks, installing sewer and water lines, building a community center or park, making improvements to a sewage treatment plant, and rehabilitating low-income homes. Additional information regarding the range of activities that could be funded will be provided at the public hearing.

In developing a CDBG application, the Town of Esto must plan to minimize displacement of persons as a result of the activities. In addition, the Town of Esto is required to develop a plan to assist displaced persons.

A public hearing to obtain citizen comment concerning the Town's economic and community development needs will be held on August 2, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. during a Town Council meeting at the Esto Town Hall, 3312 2nd Ave. S. For information concerning the public hearing, contact, Yvonne Hagans Town Clerk, at (850) 263-6521 or by e-mail at [estotownclerk@gmail.com](mailto:estotownclerk@gmail.com).

The public hearing is being conducted in a handicapped accessible location. Pursuant to the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person requiring special accommodations to participate in the hearing is asked to advise the Town at least five days before the hearing by contacting Yvonne Hagans, Town Clerk, at (850) 263-6521. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the Town using the Florida Relay Service, 1 (800) 955-8771 (TDD) or 1 (800) 955-8770 (Voice).

Any non-English speaking person wishing to attend the public hearing should contact Yvonne Hagans, Town Clerk, at (850) 263-6521 at least five days prior to the hearing and an interpreter will be provided.

**A Citizen Advisory Task Force (CATF) meeting will be held on Thursday, August 2nd, 2018, at 5:30 p.m. in the Esto Town Hall.**

A FAIR HOUSING/EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/HANDICAP ACCESS JURISDICTION



# The Mini Page

Issue 30, 2018

Founded by Betty Debnam

**Next Week:**  
Meet a famous pirate

## Flying High



### Mini Fact:

Twelve new roller coasters opened at parks around the country this year.

Have you ever ridden a roller coaster? These thrill rides can be found at many amusement parks around the country. Parks advertise their rides as the tallest, longest or fastest coasters, hoping to draw kids and adults to try them out.

This week, The Mini Page learns more about how roller coasters became so popular and the science behind them.

### Riding on science

You don't have time to think about it when you're screaming your way through steep hills and loops on a roller coaster, but your ride is demonstrating several properties of physics (FIZZ-iks), the science of matter and energy.

Roller coasters convert **potential energy**, or the energy that's built up as the car goes up the hill, into **kinetic energy** — the energy that takes you down the hill.

Roller coaster cars don't have motors. They work because of **gravity**, the force that pulls items back toward the Earth.

After the coaster cars are pulled up by a chain to the top of the steepest hill, gravity takes over to pull them down the track.



photo by Inferno Inname

**Momentum**, or the force an object has when it is moving, keeps the cars going forward even as the track levels out or goes up a little bit. But **friction**, or the rubbing of the wheels on the tracks, slows the cars down.

As the roller coaster speeds up and slows down during the ride, your body feels different forces at work: **gravity**, **acceleration** and **inertia** (in-ER-sha). Inertia can be explained by saying that an object will stay still, or keep going, unless something else acts upon it. For instance, the roller coaster car would keep going forever if there were no friction or gravity to slow it down. These competing forces can make you feel as if you're weightless.

Roller coasters also have brakes to slow the cars at certain points along the way and at the end of the ride. Which force is demonstrated through the use of brakes?

### Roller coaster Fact-a-roonies

- The **tallest** coaster is Kingda Ka at Six Flags Great Adventure in Jackson, New Jersey. It stands 456 feet tall and has the tallest drop of 418 feet.
- The **fastest** roller coaster is in Abu Dhabi, which is part of the United Arab Emirates. The ride, Formula Rossa, is at Ferrari World and goes just over 149 mph!
- The **fastest wooden** roller coaster is Lightning Rod at Dollywood in Tennessee, which goes 73 mph.

The longest ride is the **Steel Dragon** at Nagashima Spa Land in Nagashima, Japan. At more than 8,100 feet long, the ride takes 4 minutes.



photo by Holiday Point

The Mini Page® © 2018 Andrews McMeel Syndication

## Sliding down

About 400 years ago, the Russians invented the first coasters. A rider climbed to the top of a tower, got into a sled and slid to the bottom over an ice-covered course. He or she would get off and climb to the top of a nearby tower and do it again. These rides were called Russian Mountains.

La Marcus Thompson was the father of the modern roller coaster. In the 1880s he invented the "switchback." People climbed a tower, rode down and got off at the end. They then climbed another tower at the end and rode back to where they started.



A switchback railway in California in the late 1800s.

Thompson's Switchback Railway opened at Coney Island in Brooklyn, New York, in 1884. It was a wooden roller coaster.

## Steel coasters

Disney opened its Matterhorn Bobsled coaster in 1959, the first to use a tubular steel track. Using steel, coaster designers can bend tracks in any direction, which means they can include loops and corkscrews in the ride.

## Resources



### On the Web:

- [youtu.be/khRTNdEgZqg](https://youtu.be/khRTNdEgZqg)
- [youtu.be/ITcT1VeJfKc](https://youtu.be/ITcT1VeJfKc)
- [bit.ly/MPcoasters](https://bit.ly/MPcoasters)

### At the library:

- "How It Works: Roller Coasters" by Precious McKenzie

## Try 'n' Find

Words that remind us of roller coasters are hidden in this puzzle. Some words are hidden backward, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find:



ACCELERATION,  
AMUSEMENT, DROP,  
FASTEST, FRICTION,  
GRAVITY, HILLS, INERTIA,  
KINETIC, LONGEST,  
MOMENTUM, PARK,  
PHYSICS, POTENTIAL,  
RIDE, ROLLER, STEEL,  
SWITCHBACK, THRILL,  
WOODEN.

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

## Cook's Corner

### Choco-Chip Pumpkin Muffins

#### You'll need:

- 3 cups white or wheat flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon

- 1 (15-ounce) can pumpkin
- 1 cup canola oil
- 2 cups sugar
- 1/2 cup unsweetened applesauce
- 4 eggs
- 1 1/2 cups chocolate chips



#### What to do:

1. Combine flour, baking powder, baking soda and spices in a large bowl. Mix well.
2. Beat pumpkin, oil, sugar, applesauce and eggs in separate mixing bowl until smooth.
3. Add flour mixture gradually and stir until just moistened. Add chocolate chips and gently fold in.
4. Line muffin tins with paper liners; fill each liner with batter until 2/3 full.
5. Bake at 400 degrees for 20 to 25 minutes until done. Makes 2 dozen.

\* You'll need an adult's help with this recipe.

## 7 Little Words for Kids

Use the letters in the boxes to make a word with the same meaning as the clue. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in the solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

1. in front (5) \_\_\_\_\_
2. robot car in the movies (11) \_\_\_\_\_
3. they cover a fish (6) \_\_\_\_\_
4. give up (4) \_\_\_\_\_
5. break (6) \_\_\_\_\_
6. armored rider on a horse (6) \_\_\_\_\_
7. not sick (7) \_\_\_\_\_

EAD	DAM	GHT	SCA
QU	ER	HEA	TRAN
LES	KNI	AH	LTHY
AGE	SFO	IT	RM



Answers: ahead, Transformer, scales, quit, damage, knight, healthy.

## Mini Jokes



**Randy:** What's the best way to make a milkshake?

**Cara:** Put a cow on a roller coaster!

## Eco Note



Researchers say male bottlenose dolphins communicate by calling on their bros by name. A University of Western Australia study found that dolphins use signature whistles for each other, and are the only animals besides humans to adopt names. Researcher Stephanie King says that using individual names helps the dolphins manage a complex social network of relationships.

adapted with permission from Earthweek.com

## Thank You



The Mini Page thanks Tim Baldwin, communications director of American Coaster Enthusiasts, for help with this issue.

**Teachers:** For standards-based activities to accompany this feature, visit: [bit.ly/MPstandards](https://bit.ly/MPstandards). And follow The Mini Page on Facebook!



Books from The Mini Page are wonderful resources and make great gifts! See all of our Mini Page products at [MiniPageBooks.com](https://MiniPageBooks.com), or call 800-642-6480 for more information. Mail payment to: Andrews McMeel Universal, Mini Page Books, 1130 Walnut, Kansas City, MO 64106. Include \$4.00 shipping and handling per order.



# CHURCH

From Page A8

## Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 9 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 5 p.m. Wednesday service is at 6 p.m. The church is located at 614 Bennett Drive in Chipley.

## Mt. Ararat Missionary Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Wednesday service is at 6 p.m. The church is located at 1233 Old Bonifay Road in Chipley.

## New Orange Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Wednesday services are at 6 p.m. The church is located on Alford Road in Washington County.

## New Prospect Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. Morning worship services are at 11 a.m. Sunday evening services are at 5 p.m. Wednesday services supper is at 5 p.m. Wednesday prayer meeting, bible study and children's classes start at 5:45. The church is located at 761 New Prospect Road in Chipley.

## Oakie Ridge Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday service is at 6:30 p.m. The church is located at the corner of Orange Hill Road and Gilberts Mill Road.

## Orange Hill Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship is at 10:45 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday prayer and Bible Study is at 6:30 p.m. The church is located at 3485 Gainer Road in Chipley.

## Orange Hill Missionary Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. Morning worship on the first and third Sunday of the month is at 11 a.m. Wednesday night prayer meeting is at 6 p.m. The church is located at 816 Sunday Road in Chipley.

## Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship is at 10:30 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday service is at 7 p.m. The church is located at 1783 Piney Grove Road south of Chipley.

## Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday service is at 7 p.m. The church is located south of Bonifay at 1900 Pleasant Hill Road.

## Poplar Springs Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday service is at 7 p.m. The church is located at 1098 Lovewood Road two miles east of Highway 77.

## Poplar Head Independent Free Will Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday service is at 6 p.m. The church is located on Poplar Head Road.

## Sand Hills Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 9:15 a.m. Morning Worship is at 10:30 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday service is at 6:30 p.m. The church is located at 6758 Highway 77.

## Shiloh Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 9:15 a.m. Morning Worship is at 10:30 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday service is at 5:45 p.m. The church is located on Highway 277, three miles south of Highway 90 in Chipley.

## Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11:15 a.m. Wednesday service is at 6 p.m. The church is located at 3013 Moss Hill Road in Vernon.

## St. John Free Will Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday service is at 7 p.m.

## St. Matthews Missionary Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Wednesday service is at 6 p.m. The church is located at 4156 St. Matthews Road in Caryville.

## Salem Free Will Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning Worship service is at 11 a.m. Evening worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday service is at 7 p.m. Church is located at 2555 Kynesville Highway in Alford.

## Sunny Hills First Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday service is at 7 p.m.

## Unity Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 5 p.m. Wednesday services are at 6:30 p.m. The church is located at 3274 River Road in Vernon.

## Vernon First Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday services are at 6 p.m. The church is located at 2888 Church Street in Vernon.

## Wausau First Baptist Church

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday services are at 7 p.m. The church is located at 3493 Washington Street in Wausau.

## CATHOLIC St. Joseph The Worker Catholic Church

Sunday Mass is at 11 a.m. Tuesday Mass is at 9 a.m. The church is located at 1664 Main Street in Chipley.

## St. Theresa Catholic Church

Sunday Mass is at 9 a.m. Monday through Friday Mass is at 8 a.m. Saturday Mass is at 5 p.m. Adoration is the first Friday after 8 a.m. Mass. The church is located at 2071 Sunny Hills Blvd and the Rectory is located at 2056 Sunny Hills Boulevard in Sunny Hills.

## CHURCH OF CHRIST Chipley Church of Christ

Sunday morning bible study is at 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship is at 10:30 a.m. Evening Worship is at 5 p.m. Wednesday services are at

6 p.m. The church is located at 1295 Brickyard Road in Chipley.

## Spirit-Filled Church of God in Christ

Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Tuesday service is at 6 p.m. The church is located at 2128 Pate Pond Road in Caryville.

## EPISCOPAL Grant Tabernacle AME

Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. The church is located at 577 Martin Luther King Boulevard in Chipley.

## St. John AME

Morning Worship is at 11:30 a.m.

## St. Joseph AME

Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 5 p.m. Tuesday services are at 7 p.m. The church is located at 1401 Monroe Sheffield Road, Chipley.

## St. Luke African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME)

Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Wednesday service is at 7 p.m. The church is located on Jackson Community Road.

## St. Mary African Methodist Episcopal Church (AME)

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. The church is located at 1035 St. Mary Road, in Caryville.

## St. Matthews Episcopal Church

Morning worship is at 9 a.m. The church is located on Highway 90 west in Chipley.

## EVANGELISTIC Vernon Evangelistic Church

Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday services are at 7 p.m. The church is located on Highway 79 in Vernon.

## Caryville Evangelistic Center

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday services are at 7 p.m. The church is located on Wrights Creek Road in Caryville, just north of Highway 90.

## HOLINESS Harris Chapel Holiness Church

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday services are at 7 p.m. The church is located on Wrights Creek Road in Caryville, just north of Highway 90.

## Johnson Temple First Born Holiness

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11:30 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday services are at 6 p.m. Friday services are at 6 p.m. The church is located at 793 Orange Street, Chipley.

## Miracle Valley Spirit of Holiness

Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday services are at 7 p.m. The church is located 3754 Bunyon Drive, off Highway 77 near Sunny Hills.

## METHODIST Chipley First United Methodist Church

Sunday School is at 9:50 a.m. Morning Worship is at 9 a.m. (contemporary service)

and 11 a.m. (traditional service). The church is located at 1285 Jackson Avenue

## East Mount Zion United Methodist Church

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning worship is at 10 a.m. Evening Worship is at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday fellowship meal and Bible study is at 6 p.m. The church is located at 1590 Highway 173 in Graceville.

## Lakeview United Methodist

Morning Worship is at 9 a.m. Thursday morning Bible Study 9 a.m. The church is located on Highway 279 near Five Points.

## New Hope United Methodist Church

Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study is at 10 a.m. The church is located at on Highway 79 in New Hope.

## New Vision United Methodist Church

Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m. Worship is at 11 a.m. Wednesday night supper is at 5:45. Wednesday Bible Study is at 6:30 p.m. The church is located at the corner of Highway 77 and Blocker Church Road in Greenhead.

## Orange Hill United Methodist Church

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. The church is located on Sunday Road just off Orange Hill Road.

## Vernon United Methodist Church

Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m.

## Wausau United Methodist Church

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. The church is located on State Road 77

## PENTECOSTAL House of Healing United Pentecostal Church

Sunday School is at 1 p.m. Worship is at 2 p.m. Thursday Bible Study is at 7 p.m. The church is located at 1816 Highway 90 in Chipley.

## Wausau Pentecostal Holiness

Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship is at 10:55 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday services are at 6 p.m. The church is located at 2201 Pioneer Road in Wausau.

## Rock Hill Church

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Friday Night Worship is at 6 p.m. The church is located at 339 Rockhill Church Road in Chipley.

## Trinity Pentecostal Tabernacle

Morning Worship is at 10 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday service is at 7 p.m. Turnin Point Home of the First United Pentecostal Church Sunday School is at 1 p.m. Worship Service is at 2 p.m. Bible Study Thursday is at 7 p.m.

## PRESBYTERIAN Chipley First Presbyterian Church

Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Wednesday, night sing-along is at 6 p.m. The church is located at Fifth Street and Watts Avenue

## Sunny Hills Presbyterian

Morning Worship is at 9 a.m. Sunday School is at 10:30 a.m. The church is located at 3768 Country Club Boulevard

## OTHER Bonnett Pond Church

Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday services are at 6:30 p.m. The church is located at 2680 Bonnett Pond Road in Chipley.

## Christian Fellowship Center

Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Wednesday services are at 7 p.m. The church is located at 1458 Monroe Sheffield Road in Chipley.

## Christian Haven

Sunday school is h at 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Wednesday service is at 7 p.m.

## Church of God by Faith

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11:45 a.m. Tuesday service is at 7:30 p.m. The church is located at 3012 Church Street.

## Church of God of Prophecy

Morning Worship is at 9:45 a.m. Evening Worship is at 5 p.m. Wednesday service is at 6 p.m. The church is located at 1386 W. Jackson Avenue in Chipley.

## Courts of Praise

Morning Worship is at 10 a.m. Wednesday service is at 6:30 p.m. The church is located at 1720 Clayton Road in Chipley.

## Cypress Creek

Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday service is at 7 p.m. The church is located at 1772 Macedonia Road.

## Faith Covenant Fellowship

Morning Worship is at 10:30 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday services are at 7 p.m. The church is located on Highway 277 ½ mile south of I-10.

## Family Worship Center

Morning Worship is at 10:30 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday service is at 7 p.m. The church is located 531 Rock Hill Church Road, Chipley.

## Graceville Community Church

Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday service is at 6 p.m. The church is located at 1005 E. Prim Avenue

## Graham's Chapel

Morning worship at 11 a.m. Tuesday Bible Study at 7 p.m. The chapel is located ate 1218 Campbellton Avenue in Chipley.

## Hard Labor Creek Community Church

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday services are at 7 p.m. The church is located at 1705 Pioneer Road three miles east of caution light.

## Holmes Valley Community Church

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday service is at 6 p.m. The church is located at 3550 Fannig Branch Road in Vernon.

## House of Prayer Worship Center

Sunday School and Children's Church is at 9 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Youth activities on Wednesday begin at 4:30 p.m. Praise and worship services are at 6:30 p.m. on Friday. The church is located at 763 West Boulevard in Chipley.

## Impact Worship Center

Sunday. Morning Worship is at 10 a.m. Thursday service is at 6:30 p.m. The church is located at 3006 New Hope Road Marianna.

## Liberty

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Wednesday service is at 6:30 p.m. The church is located at 3983 Creek Road in Vernon.

## McQueens Temple First Born Church of Living God

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday service is at 7 p.m. The church is located at 5681 Highway 79 South, Vernon.

## NEW FAITH TEMPLE

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. The church is located at 841 Orange Hill Road.

## New Foundation Fellowship

Morning Worship is at 10 a.m. Wednesday service is at 6 p.m. The church is located on Rock Hill Church Road.

## Northwest Florida Christian Church

Morning Worship is at 10:30 a.m. The church is located at 4465 Highway 77.

## Rhema Praise and Worship Center

Morning Worship is at 10:30 a.m. Thursday service is at 7 p.m. The church is located 763 West Boulevard in Chipley.

## Sunny Hills Chapel

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening Worship is at 5 p.m. Wednesday service is at 6:30 p.m. The church is located at 4283 Highway 77.

## Pleasant Grove Church

Morning Worship is at 9 a.m. The church is located at 2430 Shakey Joe Road in the Hinson's Crossroads Community.

## Tabernacle of Praise Church of God

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning Worship is at 10:45 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday service is at 6:30 p.m. The church is located on Highway 77 South.

## The Living Word

Morning Worship is at 10:30 a.m. Evening Worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday service is at 7 p.m. The church is located at the corner of Highway 77 and Blocker Road in Greenhead.

## White Double Pond

Sunday School is at 10 a.m. Morning Worship is at 11 a.m. Evening worship is at 6 p.m. Wednesday service is at 6 p.m. The church is located on Creek Road in Vernon.

## Yes Lord Deliverance COGIC

Sunday School is at 10:30 a.m. Worship is at noon. Tuesday services are at 7 p.m. The church is located at 739 Seventh Street in Chipley.

# SPORTS TICKER

## IN BRIEF

### BARCELONA, SPAIN Ronaldo reaches deal with Spain's Tax Office

Spain's Tax Office has accepted a deal with Cristiano Ronaldo to plead guilty to tax fraud and pay a fine of close to 19 million euros (\$22 million) in exchange for a reduced prison sentence that will likely be suspended.

A source with knowledge of the deal confirmed to The Associated Press on Thursday the agreement will be finalized in the coming days.

The deal was first reported in Spanish media.

In Spain, a judge can suspend sentences for two years or less for first-time offenders.

Ronaldo had already reached a tentative deal with the state prosecutor's office, but Spain's tax authorities had yet to sign off on the agreement.

### BERLIN Football chief admits mistakes with Ozil photo

The president of Germany's football federation conceded he made mistakes in handling a controversy over Mesut Ozil's photo with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, but strongly rejected accusations of racism on Thursday.

Ozil announced his retirement from Germany's national team on Sunday. He criticized the federation (DFB), president Reinhard Grindel, fans and media for what he regarded as racism in treating people with Turkish roots. He defended the pre-World Cup meeting with Erdogan, who draws widespread criticism in Germany for being increasingly authoritarian.

Ozil was particularly scathing about Grindel, who accused him and teammate Ilkay Gundogan of allowing themselves to be "exploited" by Erdogan for political purposes. After Germany's embarrassing first-round exit from the World Cup, Grindel called for Ozil to provide an "answer" on the photo.

### MIAMI Golf carts destroyed where Beckham wants stadium

Fire rescue officials say around 40 golf carts were destroyed in a fire at the Miami golf course where David Beckham wants to build a soccer stadium.

Capt. Ignatius Carroll tells the Miami Herald that crews found a "large body of fire" near the golf clubhouse at Melreese Country Club on Tuesday night.

Carroll says fire crews contained the fire in the parking lot, keeping it from spreading to the pro shop. No one was injured, and the cause is under investigation. The 911 call about the fire came in about an hour and a half after the golf course closed on Tuesday night.

The Miami City Commission agreed last week to let voters decide in November whether the golf course should be developed into a soccer and retail complex.

The Associated Press



Houston Texans wide receiver Will Fuller V fights for position with cornerback Jonathan Joseph during the team's NFL training camp Thursday in White Sulphur Springs, W.Va. [CHRIS TILLEY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

## Texans poised for playoffs after missing out last year

By Josh Dubow  
The Associated Press

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — The Philadelphia Eagles went from playoff spectators to hoisting the Lombardi Trophy, an impressive one-season turnaround that was far from unprecedented in the modern NFL.

The Eagles were the seventh team in the past 19 seasons to pull off that trick in a sport that always goes through some significant playoff turnover each season.

There have been at least four new playoff teams each year since the NFL went to the 12-team format in 1990, including eight new postseason participants last season when the Eagles won it all.

With new blood coming into the playoffs each year, there are just as many teams heading another way, doomed by injuries, age, bad luck, poor coaching or other reasons.

Here's a look at three teams that could go from playoff spectators to participants, and three others that could go the opposite direction:

### Trending up

**Houston Texans:** Deshaun Watson showed flashes of becoming a star quarterback in six starts as a rookie before getting hurt. With the dynamic Watson on offense and a healthy J.J. Watt and Whitney Mercilus back on defense, the Texans could be in position to get back into the playoffs after a one-year hiatus. The Texans scored at least 33 points in Watson's final five starts and then went 1-8 after he had a season-ending injury in practice. Keeping Watson healthy will be necessary if the Texans are going to rebound.

**Green Bay Packers:** Green Bay's run of eight straight playoff appearances ended last season thanks mostly to a collarbone injury that limited star quarterback Aaron Rodgers to seven games. With Rodgers again healthy, the Packers should be among the contenders in the NFC, as they usually are. Green Bay was much more



Green Bay Packers' Aaron Rodgers runs a drill during NFL training camp Thursday in Green Bay, Wis. [MORRY GASH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS]

active this offseason under new GM Brian Gutekunst, adding prominent free agents like Jimmy Graham and Muhammad Wilkerson. New defensive coordinator Mike Pettine should bring a more aggressive approach that could help support Rodgers and the offense.

**San Francisco 49ers:** San Francisco won its final five games last year after making the switch to Jimmy Garoppolo at quarterback. With Garoppolo signed long term and poised to take his 7-0 career record into his first full season as an NFL starter and coach Kyle Shanahan having much more talent in Year 2 at the helm, the Niners could have the pieces to get back to the playoffs for the first time since 2013. Free-agent running back Jerick McKinnon should spark the offense, and the defense has some key building blocks in DT DeForest Buckner and LB Reuben Foster. Richard Sherman could provide a defensive boost at cornerback if his Achilles tendon injury is healed.

### Trending down

**Buffalo Bills:** The Bills ended the longest playoff drought in North America's four major sports leagues when they made the postseason for the first time since 1999. Repeating that in coach Sean McDermott's second season will be a more difficult trick,

especially with the change made at quarterback this offseason. Tyrod Taylor was traded to Cleveland, leaving either career backup A.J. McCarron or raw rookie Josh Allen as the top two options. Making the playoffs with one of those two at the helm would be a long shot, even in the weaker AFC.

**Tennessee Titans:** The Titans also ended a playoff drought last season, making the postseason for the first time since 2008 under third-year quarterback Marcus Mariota and coach Mike Mularkey. Even winning a postseason game wasn't enough for Mularkey to keep his job and Tennessee is now retooling under new coach Mike Vrabel. The Titans are in a tough division with Houston and Indianapolis likely taking big steps forward if Watson and Andrew Luck are healthy, and Jacksonville having one of the league's most talented rosters. That makes a return to the postseason a difficult proposition in Tennessee.

**Atlanta Falcons:** The Falcons took a step back last year after their Super Bowl collapse the previous season but still made the playoffs as a wild-card team. The offense regressed a bit after losing Shanahan as coordinator. There still is plenty of talent in Atlanta led by quarterback Matt Ryan and receiver Julio Jones, but the NFC is stacked, leaving little margin for error.

## 'It means everything'

### DeRozan eager to work with Popovich

By Tim Reynolds  
The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Kyle Lowry had the ball in the right corner. He was well-defended and not able to shoot or drive, so he fired a crosscourt diagonal pass to DeMar DeRozan.

For years, that was a fine idea.

This time, it became a turnover. They were on different teams during this particular scrimmage, which seems fitting.

USA Basketball's first minicamp of this Olympic cycle started Thursday in Las Vegas, with DeRozan and Lowry — longtime teammates in Toronto — both wearing the same uniform again. DeRozan is now with the San Antonio Spurs and set to be coached by Gregg Popovich, who just happened to be running his first national team practice Thursday.

DeRozan has made no secret: He wasn't happy getting traded out of Toronto. But if there's a consolation prize to be had, it's that he now gets Popovich.

"It means everything," DeRozan said. "I could have ended up in the middle of nowhere with Joe Blow. I ended up in a great place that wanted me that strives for greatness. You can't ask for nothing better than that."

DeRozan was sent to the Spurs on July 18, along with center Jakob Poeltl and a protected 2019 first round pick, for Kawhi Leonard and wing Danny Green. Leonard was one of the 35 players invited to attend this minicamp; he was one of roughly a dozen who didn't show, a list that also includes LeBron James, Stephen Curry and Klay Thompson.

Popovich didn't seem bothered that there were no-shows.

"People have lives," Popovich said. "We had a good number of people here and the people who were invited that aren't here have reasons, whether it's injury or personal things going on in their lives. And we understand that."

This two-day camp that ends Friday is little more than a get-to-know-you-better event for the players and Popovich. There are no games to play, and technically there aren't even future tournaments to prepare for — under the new qualifying rules, the U.S. isn't yet assured of having a spot in either the 2019 FIBA World Cup in China or the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

The task of making sure the Americans get to China next year has fallen to G League players, who are being coached by Jeff Van Gundy and went 5-1 in the first round of qualifying. The second round of qualifying starts in September.

Popovich is taking over the national team reins from Mike Krzyzewski, the Duke coach who led the U.S. to Olympic gold in 2008, 2012 and 2016. Krzyzewski was in the gym to watch Thursday.

"He's been great," Popovich said. "I would be remiss if I didn't bug him to death, ask him millions of questions and try to learn from him."

# TIME & MONEY SHOPPING & SAVING



## How to make timeshares worth it

By Liz Weston  
NerdWallet.com

**M**any people are desperate to shed their timeshares. That provides bargains for timeshare enthusiasts like Angie and Mike McCaffery of Los Angeles.

The retired couple have paid as little as 50 cents for “used” timeshares. They’ve parlayed their timeshare weeks at four mainland U.S. resorts into affordable stays in England, Spain, Costa Rica, Hawaii, Mexico and the Caribbean.

“You hear all the nightmare stories, but if you know how to work it and you can plan ahead, it’s the best thing ever,” says Angie McCaffery, 71.

Timeshares are a way to use vacation property, typically resort condominiums with bedrooms and kitchens, for a week each year. In addition to the upfront cost of buying, owners must pay annual maintenance fees, which average

about \$900 but can total \$3,000 or more for higher-end properties.

Timeshares may be a specific week each year, or “floating weeks” that can change from year to year, or “points” that can be converted into reservations for days or weeks at timeshare resorts. Most timeshares offer exchange opportunities that allow owners to stay at other resorts if they plan well in advance.

The details can vary quite a bit, but people who are satisfied with their timeshares tend to have several things in common, says Brian Rogers, owner of Timeshare Users Group, one of the oldest forums for timeshare owners.

### Not an investment

Happy timeshare owner understand that timeshares aren’t an investment. The average cost of timeshares sold by resort developers has risen over time and now tops \$20,000, according to the American Resort Development

Association, an industry trade group. Unethical salespeople use that fact to imply, or even assert, that the timeshare you buy will increase in value. That’s not true. On the resale market, the typical timeshare sells for 10 percent or less of what the original owner paid, Rogers says. TUG, eBay and other sites are full of “for sale” ads from owners willing to sell for just a penny.

### Don’t buy on vacation

Timeshare salespeople are often much better at selling than you are at resisting — especially when you’re relaxed and having a great time. That’s no state of mind to be in when you need to scan the details of a contract, assess potential exchange options and uncover things that can go wrong, such as rising annual maintenance fees or problems trading your share.

If you’re interested in a property,

Rogers recommends renting from an existing timeshare owner to see how much you like it.

### Don’t pay retail

The McCafferys bought their first timeshare in 1994 from a developer, paying \$15,000 for a two-bedroom condo in Palm Desert, California. Later they learned they could save thousands buying directly from other timeshare owners who no longer wanted to pay their annual maintenance fees. (People who simply stop paying their fees risk having the debts turned over to collection agencies, which can sue them and trash their credit.)

Developers often offer incentives for buying retail, such as frequent traveler points or VIP treatment, but “those are almost never worth paying \$19,000 or \$20,000 extra for,” Rogers says. “For that money, I’ll get my own limo from the airport.”

## Report: \$6M in bogus organic fruit sold to US

By Richard Read  
NerdWallet.com

How do you know whether food certified by the U.S. Department of Agriculture is actually organic? You don’t, according to Costa Rican lawmakers who investigated bogus organic pineapple exports to the United States.

A Costa Rican congressional committee says American consumers paid premium prices for more than \$6 million in pineapples sold as organic but grown with banned chemicals.

The findings confirmed NerdWallet’s own investigation into the pineapple scheme last year and flaws it revealed in the USDA organics labeling process. NerdWallet reported conflicts of interest and mismanagement in USDA regulation of the \$43 billion U.S. organics industry.

A report by the Costa Rican legislators blasted one particular pineapple producer and two companies that certified the exports as organic, accusing one of them of colluding with the producer and lying during sworn public testimony.

The certifiers “assumed the role of defense counsel for these companies that committed a large number of irregularities,” the committee report said. “The Ministry of Agriculture seems incapable of sufficient basic coordination with U.S. authorities — in



**Luis Barrantes Quesada slices a pineapple on a Costa Rica farm owned by his company, Del Valle Verde Corp. He says the fruit is organic, but Costa Rican lawmakers found otherwise. They have asked the country’s attorney general to determine whether Barrantes, fruit certifiers and officials committed fraud.**

[RICHARD READ, NERDWALLET]

the case of organic pineapple, and most likely many other products — to prevent illegal activities affecting producers and consumers.”

Lawmakers forwarded their findings to Costa Rican prosecutors for possible criminal action against a representative of the certification companies and against the country’s former agriculture minister, Luis Felipe Arauz Cavallini.

### Concerns about USDA program

The legislators’ findings undermine USDA officials’ assertions that they are eradicating fraud, leaving U.S. consumers in doubt about “organic” food often sold at twice regular prices.

Under the USDA system, the agency approves various companies around the

world to inspect, monitor and certify whether foods bound for U.S. consumers are produced according to organic standards. The agency announced recently that it would crack down on fraudulent imports by tracing imports electronically and would increase training of certifiers.

USDA managers defend their certification process, even as U.S. farmers disenchanted with the agency roll out an alternate organic seal. An agency spokesman sidestepped NerdWallet’s questions concerning USDA failings and the Costa Rica case, instead saying consumers show confidence in the official seal.

“The continued double-digit growth in organic sales is a strong indicator of the trust American households have in the USDA organic

seal,” David Glasgow, USDA agricultural marketing service public affairs director, wrote in an email.

Glasgow has declined NerdWallet’s requests for nine months to interview Betsy Rakola, USDA organics enforcement chief, and other National Organic Program officials. Rakola closed the Costa Rica pineapple case last summer.

### Certifiers, grower accused of violations

The two certifiers criticized in the legislators’ report — PrimusLabs of California and Kiwa BCS Oko-Garantie GmbH of Germany — approved production of Costa Rican pineapples allegedly grown with chemicals forbidden in organics.

Humberto Gonzalez Guerrero, who certified Costa Verde-brand pineapples as organic for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is accused of lying during sworn testimony to lawmakers, a charge he denies.

The congressional committee found that Primus violated USDA regulations by certifying farms run by Del Valle Verde Corp. while the company’s processing plant was suspended by Costa Rica for organic production.

Lawmakers concluded that Valle Verde’s pineapple operations did not meet organic standards. The committee’s report noted that Luis Barrantes

Quesada, Valle Verde chief executive officer, repeatedly refused to respond to their questions.

Gonzalez, speaking for Kiwa, and Barrantes deny the accusations, as does Arauz, who stepped down as minister of agriculture in May when a new administration took office.

The lawmakers called on Costa Rica’s Ministry of Agriculture to stop allowing Primus and Kiwa to certify organic operations in their country. Executives at Primus AuditingOps’ Santa Maria, California, headquarters have not responded to repeated requests for comment.

### U.S. groups call for changes

The Organic Trade Association, the main U.S. organic industry group, recently announced an anti-fraud initiative. Under the pilot project, organics companies will trace individual ingredients through the supply chain, using anti-fraud guidelines recommended by an association task force.

The Cornucopia Institute, a nonprofit watchdog organization, has criticized the effort. Anne Ross, Cornucopia farm policy analyst, says that “without regulatory changes that require all entities in the supply chain be certified, backed by strict USDA National Organic Program enforcement, there is no guide or task force that will deter and stop fraud.”

## Must-packs for the modern road trip

By Deena Bouknight | More Content Now

Before technological abundance, which includes cars equipped with DVD players, satellite radio, smartphones and tablets, children may have played I Spy phone sign or license plate games, caught up on reading, or played endless rounds of tic-tac-toe with fellow passengers.

Now, however, the list of must-haves for a pleasurable long-distance trip with children has changed.

This month’s Parents magazine cautions, “20 Questions and I Spy won’t get you there.” Instead, consider these modern diversions:

- Binge-worthy, age-appropriate shows: The magazine suggests “DuckTales” for 6 and older.

And, 2016’s “Moana” is this summer’s multiple-view flick.

- Downloaded, fascinating podcasts, such as NPR’s “Wow in the World,” which gets kids 5 and older inquiring about everything from “Do birds of a feather flock together?” to “Do you see what I hear?”

- Programmed, sing-along, satellite radio music; or, check out fun kid CDs from a local library. SiriusXM’s Kids Club Live “The Animal Farm” radio show has songs, skits and games. Parents, children and their friends tend to minimize inhibitions and make room for silliness when entertaining music is playing.

But don’t give up on books! Parents lists “50 States of the U.S.A.” to interest everyone. Also,

go to the library a day or so before the road trip departure date and load up. Place all the books in bags immediately upon leaving the library and store in the car so that kids won’t be tempted to dive in before the car is out of the driveway. Plenty of picture books are vital for the younger set, while fascinating, fact-filled non-fiction books and age-appropriate fictional series are best for elementary and middle schoolers. If high school teens will be car captives, get them to knock out their required summer reads.

Besides entertainment essentials, kidsareatrip.com reminds parents to pack a trash bag with grocery store plastic to use as trash bags, tissues, wipes, paper towels, water, snacks, chargers, a first-aid kit and pillows.



# How to talk about weight loss

By Melissa Erickson  
More Content Now

It's not easy to find the right words when you want to tell a loved one he or she needs to lose weight. You might even wonder, is it right to say something?

If you are concerned for a loved one's weight and health, Dr. Vijaya Surampudi, a physician with the Risk Factor Obesity Weight Management Program at UCLA Health, can offer some advice.

"Come from a place of love and concern. Go in with an open-ended question, and don't be confrontational," Surampudi said.

Discussions about a person's weight can be conversational landmines, and the best-laid plans can quickly unravel into frustration, self-doubt and tears.

"Weight is an extremely sensitive topic. When you encourage a loved one to talk about their weight, be prepared for the conversation to get emotional and difficult," Surampudi said.

## Give them control

Open-ended questions such as "What did your doctor say?" or "Do you think you would feel better if you lost some weight?" give the other person some control over the direction of the conversation, Surampudi said. Usually, a person's physician has already brought the subject up, she said.

## Don't judge, nag or preach

Instead of focusing on the problem or pointing out negatives, approach the subject in a considerate way.

"No one wants to be scolded," Surampudi said.

Strive not to be accusatory or to use prescriptive language. "You'll just end up arguing," she said.

Being judgmental can make a loved one more defensive and possibly bring about feelings of shame, she said. If that happens,

a loved one may exclude you in the future for fear of what you will say and how that will make them feel.

## Make it a group activity

Making weight loss a group activity is often successful because it gets couples to be proactive, Surampudi said. Approach the topic as a mutual goal rather than something that is just about your partner or loved one. For example, you can talk about your own weight-loss goals and ask your partner for help. You could say, "I'd like to be healthier so I'm going to work on losing weight, and I'm going to need some support."

## Don't focus on looks

The goal of weight loss is not about how a person looks but how a person feels, Surampudi said.

"What we put into our mouths affects how we feel. You are what you eat," she said.

## Share your story — eventually

If you've experienced successful weight loss, be patient before sharing your story, Surampudi said. When a person is first starting a new healthy living regimen, they don't want to hear how you lost 40 pounds, she said. No one's weight loss journey is the same, she said.

## Be supportive

Encourage your loved one to set manageable goals so that measured progress inspires them to continue, Surampudi said. Small goals can have a big impact for those working to lose weight, too; a loss of 10 pounds, for example, takes 40 pounds of pressure off the knees and ankles.

"The biggest thing is to celebrate the successes, even the small 1- or 2-pound ones," Surampudi said. "And, don't take the grumpiness to heart. Weight loss is hard."

# Sunscreen myths and facts

By Deena Bouknight  
More Content Now

The American Academy of Dermatology estimates a staggering 9,500 Americans are diagnosed daily with skin cancer. The Skin Cancer Foundation reports that one person dies from melanoma every hour. Smart measures are crucial to protect sun-exposed skin.

However, myths abound regarding how, when and where to use sunscreen. Medical News Today, last July, shed some light on the right information. Here are four myths, busted:

**1.** Sunscreen is not necessary on cloudy days: Wrong. "The truth is that any time the body is exposed to light from the sun, it is exposed to UV rays, even if it is an overcast day."

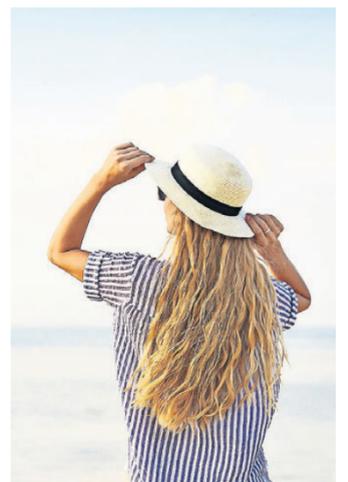
**2.** A body cannot absorb necessary vitamin D if covered in sunscreen: In theory, yes, but sunlight penetrates through clothing, and sunscreen diminishes in effectiveness over time and allows absorption of vitamin D. Plus, a body benefits from vitamin D if out in sunlight just five to 30 minutes daily.

**3.** People with dark skin do not need sunscreen: Wrong. While darker skin is less susceptible to sunburn as lighter skin, having darker skin does not protect against skin cancer.

**4.** All sunscreens are the same and only need to be applied once daily: Wrong on both counts. Check ingredients and read reviews before purchasing a sun-protection product. Look for a full-spectrum sunscreen, and the U.S. Food & Drug Administration recommends regularly (at least every two to four hours) applying a sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or higher.

Also, some believe that sunscreen application is not necessary in higher, cooler elevations. Yet, ultraviolet exposure actually increases with elevation. Don't let the cool mountain air fool you. A body can even become sunburned while cooling off in water.

Medical News Today advises not only applying sunscreen to all areas exposed to sunlight, but to wear a hat. The Skin Cancer Foundation lists "seek the shade" as a top skin cancer prevention guideline.



BIGSTOCK IMAGES

# Study: Daily aspirin linked to melanoma in men

By Melissa Erickson  
More Content Now

Men who take a once-daily aspirin have nearly double the risk of melanoma compared with men who are not exposed to daily aspirin, according to a recent Northwestern Medicine study. Women who take a daily low-dose aspirin are not at increased risk.

"Given the widespread use of aspirin and the potential clinical impact of the link to melanoma, patients and health-care providers need to be aware of the possibility of increased risk for men," said

senior study author Dr. Beatrice Nardone, research assistant professor of dermatology at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, in a news release. "However, men should not stop aspirin therapy to lower the risk of heart attack."

Men should follow recommended guidelines for melanoma prevention such as avoiding sunburns, avoiding sun exposure between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. and regularly using sunscreen, Nardone said.

"Avoiding tanning beds and getting skin checks by a dermatologist, particularly for individuals who are already at high risk for skin cancers,

is also recommended," she said.

While melanoma is the rarest form of skin cancer, it causes the majority of skin cancer deaths, Nardone said.

The link between melanoma and aspirin is surprising because aspirin is reported to reduce risk of gastric, colon, prostate and breast cancers, Nardone said.

The study, published April 27 in the Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology, looked at almost 200,000 patients ages 18 to 89, with no history of melanoma. Data collection began in January 2005, with a follow-up after

at least five years in the study.

"Out of a total of 195,140 patients, 1,187 were aspirin-exposed. Of these 1,187 patients, 26 (2.19 percent) (both men and women) had a subsequent diagnosis for melanoma compared to 1,676 (0.86 percent) in aspirin-unexposed (men and women) patients," according to a press release.

"When the groups were separated into men and women, men exposed to aspirin had almost twice the risk for diagnosis of melanoma (adjusted relative risk: 1.83) compared to men in the same population who were not exposed to aspirin."

# HOME



DECORATING

## POP OF PRINCE'S PURPLE

In August 2017, the Pantone Color Institute came out with a purple hue, "Love Symbol #2," in honor of Prince, based on the color of one of his Yamaha pianos. And craveonline.com recently offered places that could use a pop of purple in your home:

- **Front door:** A bold greeting to visitors.

- **One wall:** Add a vibrant, but subtle, pop of color.

- **Bed:** Add color to a vintage headboard.

- **Bookshelf:** Elevate a cheap bookshelf with a coat of paint.

TIP OF THE WEEK

## KEEP PESTS AWAY FROM THE PARTY

With a few tips from Terminix, you can help keep your backyard the perfect place for all your celebrations.

- Reduce standing water, which is a breeding ground for mosquitoes.

- Inspect for wasp nests and contact a professional to remove them.

- Keep outdoor surfaces clean. Mop up spills to avoid attracting pests like bees.

REDESIGNS

## KITCHEN ADD-ON FOR IN-LAWS

You don't need existing drainage to create a kitchen in a mother-in-law suite, according to Saniflo. You can still remodel without costly demolition, just add a modest kitchen setup using drain pump technology. It will pump wastewater away from a variety of sources such as a kitchen sink, laundry and washing machine.

— Brandpoint

# Roof blown off!

## Tips for prevention and making repairs after a severe weather event



During a severe weather event, such as a tornado, thunderstorm, or hurricane, high-velocity winds cause shifts in air pressure, creating suction that can literally "raise the roof." [WIKIMEDIA COMMONS PHOTOS]

By **Laura Firszt**  
More Content Now

**T**he headlines are impressive: "Nor'easter literally blew the roof off!" "86-year-old had his roof blown off!"

"Roof blown off Kansas school!" When accompanied by video, they're even more impressive — downright frightening, in fact. You're left wondering if this could happen to you ... and how to prevent it.

Let's find out what happens when a roof is blown off.

### What happens when a roof blows off

During a severe weather event, such as a tornado, thunderstorm, or hurricane, high-velocity winds cause shifts in air pressure, creating suction that can literally "raise the roof." Shingles or even the entire roof can be blown off as if lifted by giant hands. Although there have been cases where the roofing is temporarily lifted and then dropped right back down onto the house, usually it ends up being deposited nearby, potentially damaging vehicles, landscaping and more, as well as destroying the roofing material itself.

### Repair your roof

If the wind has contented itself with taking off just a few shingles, consider yourself lucky. A small shingle replacement is usually a simple and relatively inexpensive roof repair. Don't delay, though, because even a small hole in the roof will lead to leakage and worse damage over time.

In the case of larger-scale damage

(more than 30 percent of the shingles are cracked or blown off), you'll have to weigh whether roof repair or replacement is the better option. The age of your roof could be the deciding factor — lifespan depends on the roofing material.

If your whole roof has been blown off, you will need to evacuate your home and find a qualified roofer for immediate emergency roof repair. A missing roof will not only expose your furnishings to the elements but also weaken the structure of the entire building.

### Roofing disaster prevention

#### Maintain your roof.

Inspecting the roof regularly for cracked, worn, curled, or missing shingles and signs of water damage will help reduce the risk of having your roof blown off. Replace the roof as it approaches the maximum lifespan for your particular type of roofing material. Especially if you live in an area prone to severe winds, don't push your luck by trying to get a few more years out of the roof.



#### Check that your roof is installed according to code or better.

This is particularly important with an older roof because: 1) if previous homeowners installed it, you may not know whether they hired a reliable, licensed roofer and 2) local building codes change over time, and may be upgraded after a disaster. For example, Florida's post-Hurricane Matthew building code specifies closer spacing of roofing nails to best keep roofs in place during severe weather.

**Seal your roof properly.** Make sure that the edges of your roof are properly sealed with a roofing cement to prevent gale-force winds from penetrating underneath and blowing off your shingles. Seal the decking, as well.

#### Add roof clips.

These galvanized steel clips will attach your roof to the rafters or trusses of your house to protect it from being blown off in wild weather. The clips come in uplift protection strengths ranging from 300-1500 pounds; choose which to install according to the hurricane danger in your locality.



**Install windproof sheathing.** When you have a new roof installed, be sure that the sheathing used is windproof. This sheathing is a "second line of defense," which will protect against heavy winds even if the shingles themselves are blown away.

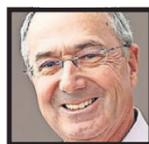
**Rope your roof down.** If a hurricane is predicted to hit your home, anchor your roof even more tightly in place. Hold your roof down with a system of ropes, attached at both ends to concrete blocks on the ground.

**Do NOT open windows when a major windstorm is expected.** Snopes has debunked the popular misconception that doing so will help equalize the indoor and outdoor pressure to prevent your roof blowing off. In fact, opening windows before a storm only exposes your home to more damage, from both wind and rain.

Laura Firszt writes for [networkx.com](http://networkx.com).

## DEAR MONTY

# Flip or hold real estate?



Richard Montgomery

**R**eaders question: I am interested in starting a career as a real estate investor. Both remodeling to flip or hold homes for the long-term interest me. How would you compare flipping houses to being a landlord?

**Monty's answer:** Both methods can be solid roads to wealth-building, and both share similar strategies in the acquisition phase. A keen understanding of

the market dynamics in the location you choose to invest, knowing how to evaluate a property and selecting the improvements to add value are the keys to minimizing risk.

### Pros of flipping

Flipping provides quick returns in the world of real estate. From the purchase to the sale of a home may be within six months. The yield on invested capital is not tracked independently for flippers; anecdotally, 15-25 percent gains are not unusual for skilled practitioners. As a cautionary note, flipping and remodeling may not be as easy as television shows make it appear. The absence

of property management is appealing to many flippers. Minor maintenance done while workers complete the necessary fixes and keeping the lawn mowed are the main tasks. Flippers see the lack of duties commonly found in non-owner occupied housing as an advantage. No rental showings, vetting tenants, collecting rent, and other activities present in rental property is attractive.

### Pros of buying to hold

One builds a portfolio of property. This method translates to an annual income stream over time that generates cash flow. Renting is lower risk than flipping because there are

likely more renters in the market than buyers. The population of qualified sellers is higher because buying to hold the property allows more flexibility on the purchase price.

Unlike the flipper, when they make a mistake, they have time to recover through rental income and appreciation. Finally, when it comes time to sell, they have had depreciation to recapture part of their improvement cost and qualify for capital gain treatment.

Richard Montgomery is the author of "House Money - An Insider's Secrets to Saving Thousands When You Buy or Sell a Home."

# FEATURED CLASSIFIEDS

Must-see opportunities appearing in today's Classifieds.

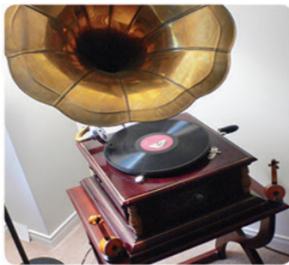
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3220 - Furniture  
3230 - Garage/Yard Sales  
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