

Around Osceola

Teen paints mural at Celebration Health.

Girl Scout hoping to receive the organization's highest honor.

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County sues big pharmacy in opioid crisis

Lawsuit targets increased costs in healthcare, first responder calls

By Rachel Christian Staff Writer

Osceola County government is taking legal action in the fight against opioid addiction.

Osceola recently became the first county in Florida to file a lawsuit against pharmaceutical companies that manufacture highly addictive opioid medications.

The suit targets over 20 different big pharmacy companies, including the maker of OxyContin and corporations like Johnson & Johnson.

County staff members said the lawsuit is meant to hold the manufacturers accountable for increased healthcare, law enforcement and first responder costs incurred locally due to the opioid crisis.

Alachua County in northern Florida also filed a nearly identical suit against more than a dozen drug manufacturers this week. Other counties across the state, including Miami-Dade and Palm Beach, are considering filing lawsuits, but have not yet done so.

See County, Page 3.



NEWS-GAZETTE PHOTO/MARTIN MADDOCK

Facilities, such as the Park Place Behavioral Health Care, above, have seen a major uptick in the number of patients struggling with opioid addiction.

AROUND TOWN

Black History Month



NEWS-GAZETTE PHOTO/MARTIN MADDOCK

Local artist Priscilla Jenkins celebrated her 90th birthday by showing off her works of art now on display for Black History Month inside of Kissimmee City Hall.

State of Education touts increased graduation, higher education enrollment

By Rachel Christian Staff Writer

Increased graduation rates and improvements in the number of Osceola County students enrolled in higher education were just some accomplishments touted during the School District's annual State of Education address on Wednesday.

Hosted this year at the Osceola School for the Arts, the presentation examined strategic aspects of the district's growth and development. The meeting was led by Superintendent Debra Pace and accented with multimedia footage from each board member on a different aspect of Osceola County schools, such as community engagement and resources for educators.

Positive statistics and anecdotes of student success served to underline the event's "going from good to great" theme of improvement.

See Education, Page 6.



NEWS-GAZETTE PHOTO/MARTIN MADDOCK

School District Superintendent Debra Pace addresses those attending the State of Education address on Wednesday at the Osceola School for the Arts.

Photographer leaves behind legacy of hard work, kindness

By Rachel Christian Staff Writer

Friends and family of Bruce Wilson Sr. remember the Kissimmee photographer as a man truly dedicated to his craft.

Wilson, 77, passed away Monday after battling a short-term illness. He left behind a legacy of hard work and a rich portfolio more than 45 years in the making.

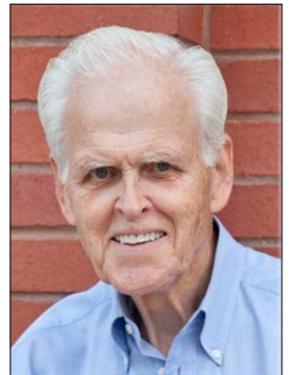
Wilson was born in Boston, Mass., and moved with his family to Central Florida when he was growing up. He graduated from St. Cloud High School, and enlisted in the United States Air Force after graduation.

After serving his country, Wilson returned to Osceola County, where he soon found work at the local telephone company as a cable splicer. He also managed the Kissimmee and St. Cloud movie theaters.

Wilson always dreamed of owning his own business, and in 1966, that dream became a reality when he opened Bruce Wilson Photography.

Over the next four decades, Wilson fostered community tiers and grew his small home-based studio into a thriving operation. As the business grew, Wilson and his wife Cathy operated three different studios over the years in Kissimmee, Orlando and Winter Park. During the 1980s, the studios employed over 33 people.

During his extensive career, Wilson held



Bruce Wilson Sr.

accounts with places, such as Walt Disney World, Tupperware and the naval base in Orlando. He was also well known for his high school senior portraits and family portraits.

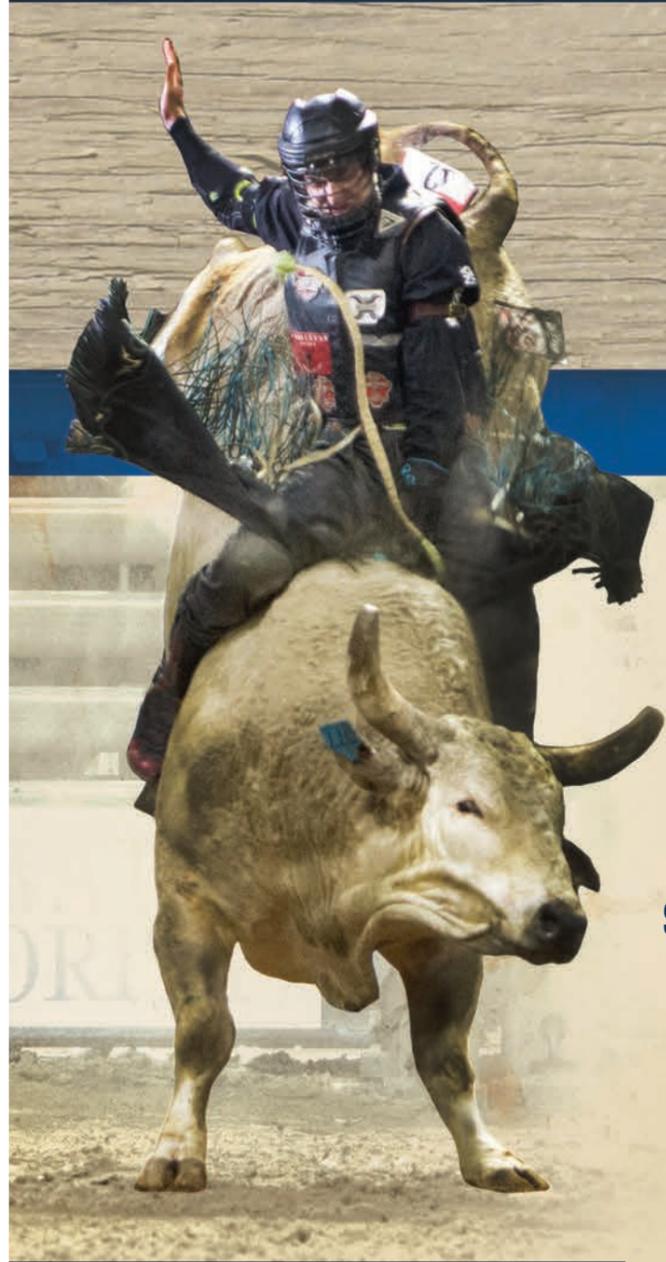
When Bruce Wilson Photography moved from U.S. Highway 192 to its current location on Stewart Avenue in 1999, Wilson began handing over control of the business to his eldest son, Bruce Wilson Jr. The founder still remained heavily involved in the company though, and never officially retired.

Over the years, Wilson earned a reputation as a hard worker by all that knew him - even his competition.

Fellow photographer Skip Stowers recounted the tenacity and passion Wilson consistently brought to his work. For over 35 years, Wilson and Stowers operated as Kissimmee's most prominent photography studios. The two professionals differed in primary subject matter, with Wilson catering to

See Wilson, Page 5.

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OSCEOLA BUSINESS

Nemours Children's Urgent Care now opening earlier for busy flu season

Families who want care from a Nemours board-certified pediatrician for their child's flu symptoms will now find it even easier to be seen at a Nemours Children's Urgent Care thanks to expanded hours that recently went into effect. Locations in Lake Nona, Kissimmee, Melbourne, Sanford and Waterford Lakes are now opening earlier. The change comes at a time when many emergency departments are filled with people seeking care for the flu.

"At Nemours Children's Urgent Care we had families seeking care before we were open. We heard you and are adjusting hours to meet your needs," said Dr. Robert Cooper, medical director of the five Nemours Children's Urgent Care locations in Central Florida.

The Florida Department of Health reports that flu activity in Florida increased sharply for the fourth week in a row, creating increased waits at area emergency departments.

Nemours' new urgent care hours took effect on Feb. 1. Locations in Kissimmee and Waterford Lakes are now open from noon until 10 p.m. daily. The Lake Nona location is open from 4 to 10 p.m. every weekday and noon to 10 p.m. on weekends. The Melbourne and Sanford locations are open from 5 to 10 p.m. every weekday and noon to 10 p.m. on weekends.

Unlike adult urgent care clinics, every Nemours Children's Urgent Care is staffed by board-certified pediatricians who have special training in pediatric urgent care and can treat each child quickly, determine an accurate diagnosis, and provide a prescription if indicated.

Dr. Cooper expects the flu outbreak to continue for several more months, possibly into April or May. To prevent the spread of flu, Dr. Cooper encourages everyone to get a flu shot if they haven't already, wash their hands frequently, and to stay home if they have flu symptoms.

A near record year of spending expected for Valentine's Day

The Florida Retail Federation said consumers are expected to spend an average of \$143.56 on Valentine's Day, an increase from last year's total of \$136.57.

Total spending nationally is expected to reach \$19.6 billion, up from \$18.2 billion in 2017. These numbers are the second highest on record.

According to annual survey taken, consumers plan to spend an average \$88.98 on their significant other/spouse (\$12.1 billion), \$25.29 on other family members such as children or parents (\$3.5 billion), \$7.26 on children's classmates/teachers (\$991 million), \$7.19 on friends (\$982 million), \$5.50 on pets (\$751 million) and \$4.79 on co-workers (\$654 million). Those ages 25 to 34 will be the biggest spenders at an average of \$202.76.

Those celebrating Valentine's Day plan to spend \$4.7 billion on jewelry (given by 19 percent), \$3.7 billion on an evening out (35 percent), \$2 billion on flowers (36 percent), \$1.9 billion on clothing (17 percent), \$1.5 billion on gift cards/gift certificates (15 percent) and \$894 million on greeting cards (46 percent). More consumers plan on purchasing candy this year, with 55 percent (up from 50 percent) saying they will give gifts of candy for a total of \$1.8 billion.

"Gifts of experience" such as tickets to a concert or sporting event continue to be popular, sought by 42 percent of consumers, but only 24 percent plan to give one. Those 25 to 34 are the most likely to give such a gift at 41 percent.

Much the same as last year, consumers plan to shop at department stores (35 percent), discount stores (32 percent), online (29 percent), specialty stores (19 percent), florists (17 percent), and local small businesses (14 percent).

Even those foregoing Valentine's Day festivities won't be left out. More than a quarter (27 percent) of consumers who are not observing the holiday have an alternative in mind such as treating themselves in some way or getting together with family and friends.

OSCAR members accepted into Florida Realtors Leadership Academy

Two members of the Osceola County Association of Realtors (OSCAR) have been accepted into the Florida Realtors Leadership Academy, a rigorous program of study designed to cultivate leadership skills in agents looking to pursue ranking positions in committees, associations, or within the community. These members are Maria Flores-Garcia, a current director on the OSCAR Board of Directors, as well as Sue Vasquez, an active participant in several OSCAR committees.

The Leadership Academy at Florida Realtors accepts up to 20 participants each year from a large group of hopefuls, immersing them in a classroom type setting with a curriculum which focuses on team-building exercises, goal setting, networking techniques, and communication skills. Participants receive the confidence and experience to empower them in leadership roles and maximize their potential in business.

"I'm excited to see members from our association represented in the 2018 class. Real estate is a time-consuming business, yet these members commit to the extra hours required to build their leadership skills, so they can be of service in their community and within their Association. This commitment speaks to their ambition and their high self-standards," stated Becky Chirillo, 2018 OSCAR president.

COUNTY

Continued from Page 1

Joseph Ciaccio, an attorney with the New York-based law firm Napoli Shkolnik, signed professional service contracts with both Osceola and Alachua counties. His firm represents more than 100 other counties nationwide in state-level litigation.

The County Commission voted to appoint the firm in November. Napoli Shkolnik is taking the case on for free due to a contingency clause, but the firm would be awarded 25 percent of the money if the county wins, said Osceola County Attorney Andrew Mai.

The suit, which is currently in circuit court, asserts that drug companies

put their desires for making money above the well-being of consumers by using a deceptive and unfair marketing campaign to get doctors and patients to use the powerful drugs to treat chronic pain long term, rather than short term as was originally intended.

Mai said it is still being determined how much money the county will seek in damages from the drug manufacturers named in the suit.

A 2016 report from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement says 5,725 opioid-related deaths were reported in the state, which is a 35 percent increase over 2015.

Facilities, such as the

Transition House and Park Place Behavioral Health Care have seen a major uptick in the number of patients struggling with opioid addiction.

Jim Shanks, CEO/president of Park Place, said many individuals get hooked on opioids after being prescribed pain pills by a physician. After the prescription runs out though, more individuals are transitioning to harder, illegal opioids like heroin and Fentanyl.

"Mixing heroin and Fentanyl can be a deadly combination," Shanks said. "But people do it because they're chasing the high they experienced from the presentation pills."

POLICE NEWS

Log truck crash kills teenager

A Kissimmee teenager was killed on Tuesday after the car he was driving slid under a log truck.

According to a Florida Highway Patrol report, Donald Vanosdol, 83, of St. Cloud, was driving a log truck southbound on Deer Park Road, approaching U.S. Highway 192 about 3:35 p.m.

After stopping at a stop sign, Vanosdol attempted to cross U.S. 192.

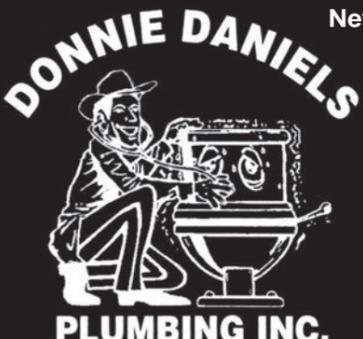
Isiah Chery, 19, of Kissimmee, who was driving a 2006 Nissan Altima eastbound on U.S. Highway 192 at the time, was unable to stop for the truck, and the Nissan went under the trailer, the report stated.

Chery was pronounced dead at the scene. Three of his passengers, Keyrian Mercado, 20, Ruth Rodriguez, 19, and Daniel Brinez, 20, all from Kissimmee, suffered serious injuries.

Vanosdol did not suffer any injuries.

The crash remains under investigation.

See **Police**, Page 6.



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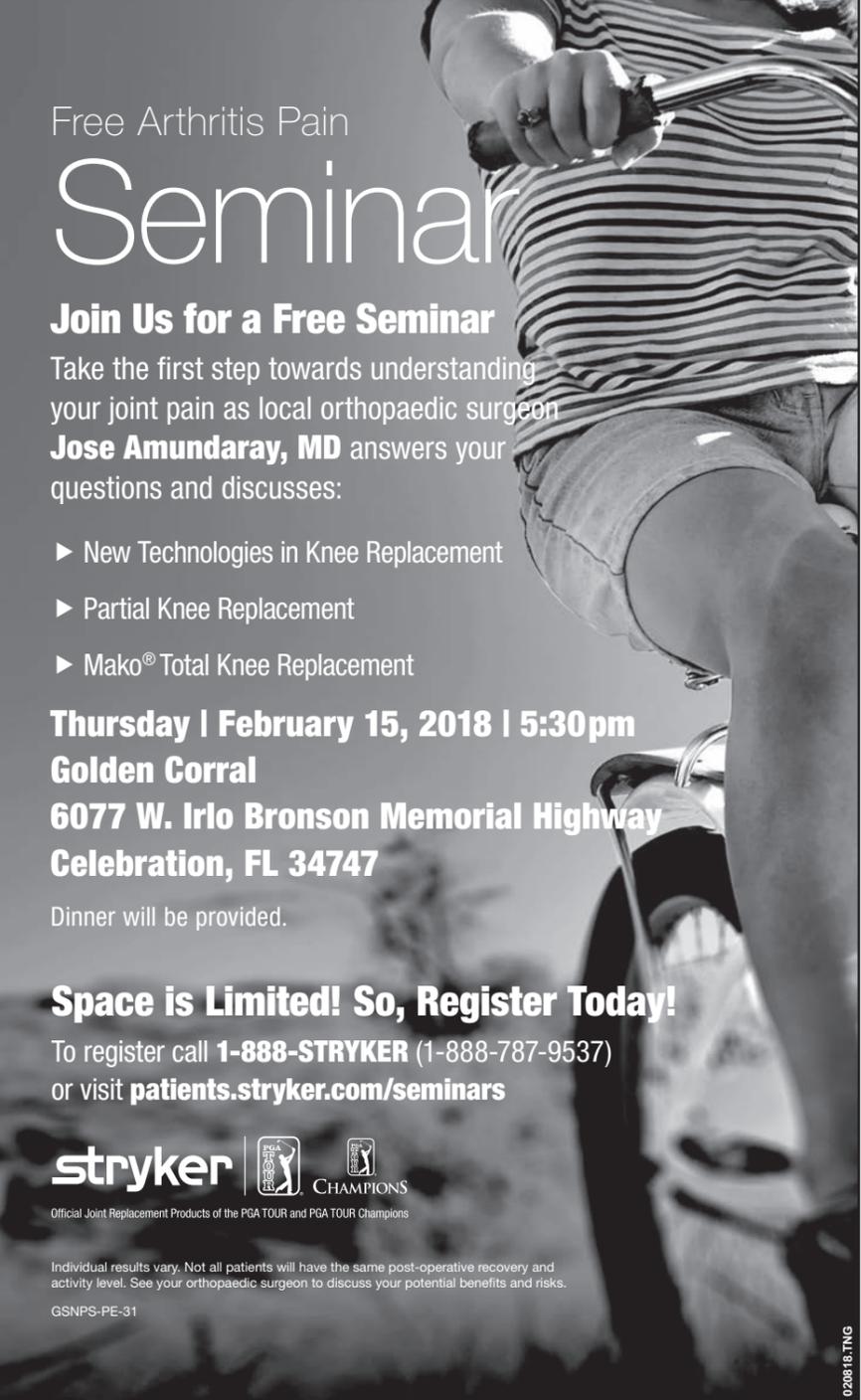


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GUEST EDITORIAL

Yemen's crisis belong to all of us

What's a little cholera - excuse me, the worst outbreak of this preventable disease in modern history - compared to the needs of a smoothly functioning economy?

A week before he was kicked out of British Prime Minister Theresa May's cabinet for allegedly having watched pornography on his government computer, former First Secretary of State Damian Green was quoted in the Guardian as saying that British weapons sales to Saudi Arabia were necessary because: "Our defense industry is an extremely important creator of jobs and prosperity."

That statement is not the scandal - just business as usual. And of course Great Britain only supplies a quarter of the weaponry Saudi Arabia imports to wage its devastating war against the Houthi rebels in Yemen. The United States supplies more than half, with 17 other countries also cashing in on this market.

This amounts to a huge portion of the world at war, with a lot of winners and only a few, easily ignored losers. The losers include most of the population of Yemen, which has become an abyss of hopelessness, with famine and infectious disease intensifying the hell they are being forced to endure, as international players struggle for regional domination.

This sort of insanity has been going on since the dawn of civilization. But the voices crying out against war remain as marginalized and without political clout as ever. War is too useful politically and economically to be susceptible to a moral challenge.

"Our understanding of war . . . is about as confused and unformed as theories of disease were roughly 200 years ago," Barbara Ehrenreich notes in her book "Blood Rites."

This is an interesting observation, considering that "The cholera epidemic in Yemen has become the largest and fastest-spreading outbreak of the disease in modern history," with more than a million suspected cases reported, and some 2,200 deaths - "About 4,000 suspected cases are being reported daily, more than half of which are among children under 18," according to Kate Lyons of the Guardian. "Children under five account for a quarter of all cases."

Lyons quotes Tamer Kirolos, director of the Save the Children NGO in Yemen: "There's no doubt this is a man-made crisis," she said. "Cholera only rears its head when there's a complete and total breakdown in sanitation. All parties to the conflict must take responsibility for the health emergency we find ourselves in."

I repeat: This is a man-made crisis.

The results of this strategic game of power include the collapse of Yemen's sanitation and public health systems. And fewer and fewer Yemenis have access to . . . clean water, for God's sake.

And it's all part of the strategic game of power. In order to rout the Shiite rebels backed by Iran, the Saudi coalition "has aimed to destroy food production and distribution" with its bombing campaign, according to London School of Economics researcher Martha Mundy. When I read this, I couldn't help but think about Operation Ranch Hand, the U.S. strategy during the

Vietnam War to destroy crops and forest cover by inundating the country with some 20 million gallons of herbicides, including the notorious Agent Orange.

What military or political end could possibly warrant such action? The reality of war transcends all description, all outrage.

This is a man-made crisis. Or is it something less than that - a crisis of the worst of human instincts? In Yemen, cholera and famine have been unleashed by men in pursuit of victory for their cause. The faces of suffering and dying children - the consequences of this pursuit - provoke shock. This is so clearly wrong, but geopolitically, does anything change?

ROBERT KOEHLER
Tribune Media



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Robert Koehler is an award-winning, Chicago-based journalist and nationally syndicated writer. His book, "Courage Grows Strong at the Wound," is still available. Contact him at koehlercw@gmail.com, visit his website at commonwonders.com or listen to him at *Voices of Peace* radio.



Want to write a letter to the editor?

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Puerto Rican task force focuses on students at latest meeting

By Charlie Reed
For the News-Gazette

Local officials met for a second time on Jan. 29 as part of the Regional Task Force for Puerto Rican Arrivals.

This meeting focused on education and brought together school officials from Osceola, Orange, Brevard and Polk counties to discuss the ongoing influx of thousands of Puerto Rican students.

Osceola County has absorbed 2,500 new students into schools across

the district, though about 500 have withdrawn, said Schools Superintendent Debra Pace.

Still, 59 new students from Puerto Rico arrived last week in Osceola, already the fastest growing school district in Florida.

The Florida Department of Education has made funding adjustment to accommodate the sudden spike in population, but “resources are tight,” Pace said.

Along with Saturday academic enrichment classes, some students

from Puerto Rico also are receiving mental health counseling to deal with the post-traumatic stress from Hurricane Maria. Pace said the district is working closely with 119 high school seniors from Puerto Rico hoping to earn their diplomas by May. Most are working toward a diploma from the state of Florida, which has tougher standards for graduation than Puerto Rico does, school officials said.

District officials are also working with Valencia College help students from Puerto Rico transition into

higher education, Pace told the task force, which meets at the Osceola County Commission chambers.

Organized by Rep. Darren Soto, D-Kissimmee, the task force brings together local, state and federal officials to work on the issues related to the influx of people still coming from Puerto Rico.

Many are scrambling for a place to live as emergency shelter funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency run out. FEMA on Wednesday “officially shut off” its mission in Puerto

Rico and will turn over its remaining food and water supplies to the Puerto Rican government to finish distributing.

Almost four months later after the monster storm hit, nearly one-third of the island is still without power. Many families who fled to Florida in the storm’s aftermath have yet to secure permanent housing or jobs.

It’s still unclear exactly how many Puerto Ricans have come to Florida. Gov. Rick Scott’s office put the estimate near 300,000 in December. It was based on

commercial flights from Puerto Rico to Orlando, Miami and Tampa, which include business people, journalists, aid workers, contractors and government employees.

But earlier this month, University of Florida economists said the state’s figures were inflated and that the number was closer to 500,000, based on school enrollment and aid requests. So far, about 22,000 Florida driver licenses and identifications have been

See **Task force**, Page 6.

WILSON

Continued from Page 1

portraits and schools, and Stowers focusing more on weddings and event coverage.

The growing Osceola County community provided ample assignments for the two men, and Stowers said he always admired the work ethic Wilson exhibited.

“He was a man with an extreme passion for photography,” Stowers said. “He told me he never planned on retiring, and he was right. He practiced photography until he physically couldn’t do it anymore. He was a very driven person.”

Linda Outten has worked at Wilson’s studio for 35 years, and said she still carries fond memories

of her former boss and his lighthearted humor.

“He would always greet us each morning as we came into the office, and he just had a great sense of humor about him,” she recalled. “He would make these off-handed remarks that would make us all crack up laughing.”

Wilson shot photography for Outten’s wedding, and the long-time employee recounted memories of visiting the Wilsons’ home each Christmas Eve with her family. Her children asked to trick-or-treat in Wilson’s neighborhood each year because the photographer took Polaroid snapshots of the children and gave them the print as a keepsake –

along with plenty of candy, of course.

Outten echoed Stowers sentiments about the photograph’s commitment to his craft. But she also stressed the human touch and kindness that preceded the photographer wherever he went.

“He was such a gentleman, a truly great person,” she said. “There are so many precious memories I have of him, that we all have of him.”

Funeral services for Wilson will be today at 11 a.m. at Kissimmee Christian Church.

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LOCAL

TECO evolves into technical college



NEWS-GAZETTE PHOTO/MARTIN MADDOCK

Technology Education Center Osceola (TECO) is now operating as a technical college.

By Rachel Christian
Staff Writer

A vocational training center is now operating as a technical college after gaining approval from the Osceola County School Board last week.

Technology Education Center Osceola (TECO) will now operate its Kissimmee, St. Cloud and Poinciana campuses under the name Osceola Technical College, or OTech. The change came after the creation of new course offerings, a lengthy re-accreditation process and official approval from the school board on Jan. 16.

So, what's in a name? The new name doesn't actually change much when it comes to the kinds of

credits offered. Students will still be able to earn industry certifications and college-equivalent credits like before. The new accreditation also doesn't grant OTech the ability to award associate or bachelor degrees the way a community college like Valencia can.

It does, however, change the school's title from a technical center to a technical college. OTech Principal Thomas Ott said the minor lingo change will appear on things like student transcripts and certifications, which he hopes will aid the institution's re-branding efforts.

"It gives us some extra validity to be officially recognized as a technical college, and not just a center," Ott said.

TECO opened its Kissimmee campus in 1994, and the two other campuses in 2014. The technical colleges are part of the Osceola County school district and have over 900 students currently enrolled.

Ott said OTech beefed up its course offerings during its re-accreditation process with the Council on Occupational Education in October. In the last 18 months, the institute has added six new courses at its three facilities.

OTech is currently working with school district officials to make changes to its website and other digital branding. Ott said he expects to switch it over in early to mid-February.

EDUCATION

Continued from Page 1

Increased graduation rates and improvements in the number of Osceola County students enrolled in higher education were particular points of pride discussed during the event.

Kathleen Plinske, president of Valencia's Lake Nona, Osceola and Poinciana campuses, spoke about the continued partnership between the community college and Osceola schools.

She noted that within five years the number of students who were continuing their education after high school improved by more than 20 percent, shifting it from 61st out

of 67 counties in Florida in 2010 to 22th in 2015. Plinske said that with the opening of Valencia's Poinciana campus in August, that number is likely to have improved even more.

The 2017-18 school district budget is the first to exceed \$1 billion, according to School Board Member Clarence Thacker. The continued population growth within Osceola County has created some budgetary challenges for an area with relatively low property tax values.

A limited revenue stream has prompted the district to take action by implementing

a half-cent sales tax and increased impact fees for property developers who bring additional homes and students to the area.

"It's allowing us to take care of ourselves," said Thacker, who also noted that the district is expected to receive roughly \$25 million a year in revenue generated from the sales tax.

The event wrapped up with encouraging words from Pace on the district's future.

"We believe, with your continued help and support, we can and will change a day, change a life and change our world."

POLICE

Continued from Page 3

Rape suspect arrested

The Kissimmee Police Department has arrested a man wanted for a December rape.

The suspect was identified

at as Louis Raul Mundo III. He was arrested on Tuesday and charged with sexual battery and kidnapping to commit a felony. On Dec. 17, police officials said Mundo sexually battered a female

victim in the parking lot between Kmart and Jason's Asian Market off West U.S. Highway 192.

He was booked into the Osceola County Jail on no bond.

TASK FORCE

Continued from Page 5

issued to Puerto Ricans and more than 11,000 students from the island have been enrolled in Florida schools.

Members of Soto's task force urged the public to support efforts to use increased property-tax revenues stemming from

higher property values for schools – a hot topic in the Florida Legislature, which is now in session.

The Senate and Gov. Rick Scott want to use the increased revenues to help fund public schools, while the House has opposed

the idea, calling it a tax increase.

Meanwhile, federal lawmakers are still hammering out how to assist Puerto Rican American citizens who have been displaced by Hurricane Maria.

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SPORTS



Playoff kicks

Storm wins 5-2, plays Jenkins today.

Page 8.

Local & National Sports • Sports Commentary



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OSCEOLA NEWS-GAZETTE SPORTS EDITOR

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NATIONAL SIGNING DAY

FSU, FAU, Bethune among choices

Kowboy Malcolm Davidson stays in state with FAU

By J. Daniel Pearson
For the News-Gazette

After electrifying Osceola football fans for the last three years, running back Malcolm Davidson hopes to do the same for Florida Atlantic fans in the future.

On National Signing Day Wednesday, Davidson signed with Lane Kiffin's Owls — choosing FAU over 30 other schools that offered scholarships.

"In the end it came down FAU, I just got really good vibes from their coaching staff and from their players during my visit," Davidson said. "This is a great opportunity for me and I feel blessed that I will be

able to continue my career in state and close to home."

Kowboys Coach Doug Nichols said Davidson's choice was a good one for both the player and the school.

"They are getting a tremendous player and an outstanding young man," Nichols said. "Malcolm had some ups and downs during his career but always stayed on point and overcame the difficult issues. But I also think that it's important for an athlete to pick the right program. They have to ask themselves, 'How do I fit in to that school's style of play?' This is where I think FAU is

See **Davidson**, Page 9.



NEWS-GAZETTE PHOTO/MARTY MADDOCK

Gateway's Dennis Briggs, Jr. (second from left, FSU) and Jeremiya Messam (second from right, Garden City Community College) signed their scholarships Wednesday along with family: from left, Dennis Sr. and Shelley Briggs, Panthers Coach Marlin Roberts and Penny Bemby.

Gateway's Briggs chooses new Seminoles coaching staff; Messam to continue football career at Kansas JUCO

By Ken Jackson
Sports Editor

Gateway defensive lineman Dennis Briggs, Jr. continued a string of Panther Football Bowl Subdivision signees on National Signing Day Wednesday when he signed his National Letter of Intent to Florida State.

He was joined Wednesday by line-mate Jeremiya Messam, who signed with Garden City (Kan.) Community College.

Briggs is Coach Marlin Roberts' third FBS signee in the past four years (Isaiah Wharton, Rutgers, 2015; Henry Miller, Pittsburgh, 2016).

Gateway Athletic Director Travis James said Briggs and Messam will be great Panthers ambassadors as a Seminole and a Bronc.

"Athletically and academically they've succeeded, by most importantly they are high-character guys," he said.

Briggs (6-4, 260), ended some uncertainty about his choice last week when he committed to FSU and new head coach Willie Taggart. Jimbo Fisher's move to Texas A&M gave other schools an opening — Miami, Louisville and South Carolina — but a meeting with Taggart and Seminoles' defensive line coach Odell

Higgins Jan. 26 helped lock him back in.

"I wanted to sign in the early (December) signing period, but with the coaching changes I decided to take the time I had, and it worked out in the long run," he said. "Being around the new coaches, you could see a family bond, and I wanted to be a part of that."

Briggs thanked Roberts for his support during his four-year varsity career.

"He showed faith in me in bringing me to varsity as a freshman," Briggs said. "He also told me the work can't stop to reach ultimate goals."

Messam hopes to turn his opportunity, which came

about thanks to the game film of his senior year, into an opportunity at a four-year school after three years in the Gateway program.

"At the beginning of the year, I didn't know if this would happen," he said.

His mother, Penny Bemby, called the process leading up to Wednesday "nervewracking."

"The coaches put me at ease, we all worked together to do what was right," she said.

Roberts called Messam "a great success story."

"He's been a blessing, I've seen him riding his bike to practice on my way in to school."



NEWS-GAZETTE PHOTO/MARTY MADDOCK

Osceola's Malcolm Davidson (seated) signs with FAU on Wednesday, joined by Kowboys Coach Doug Nichols.

Howard picks B-CU; Holcy revives career at Tarleton State

By Ken Jackson
Sports Editor

St. Cloud High's two college football signings Wednesday were a contrast in styles and stories.

For Levelle "L.J." Howard, the moral of the story is: if you have talent, you will be found.

For Trevill Holcy, his story reads: if you want to use the talent you have, there will be a home for it.

The Bulldogs' two signings couldn't be more different.

Howard, an offensive tackle, spent his senior year at St. Cloud after starting his football career at Celebration.

The next stop is Daytona Beach, as he signed Wednesday to attend Bethune-Cookman University, a Football Championship Subdivision

member of the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference.

It's a school that Howard has dreamed of attending, he said.

"After I got my grades and test scores up, I started reaching out to coaches, after going to one of their camps the of (this past) summer they hit me up," Howard. "It's been one of my favorite school since I was a little kid."

Howard said his only other offer came from a junior college near Los Angeles.

"Wrong coast. Too far," he said, noting he can't wait to get started on his college career this summer.

"The plan is to get ready for those college D-linemen," he said. "I can't wait to get into the weight room and get right."

Bulldogs Coach Bryan Smart called Howard "A

tremendous kid with a tremendous family.

"I wish I could have had him for one more year," he said.

Holcy, who played receiver for St. Cloud from 2012-14 and caught 36 passes for 470 yards and three touchdowns, walked away from the game after his senior year after getting interest from Ole Miss and other Division I programs.

But after working in construction for two years, he realized he missed the game, and after attending a community college camp over the summer in Iowa, where he accumulated game film, he garnered interest, and then a scholarship, from Tarleton State, a Division II school in Stephenville, Texas.

"I had to live the real life for a little bit, but I realized I could do more



NEWS-GAZETTE PHOTO/MARTIN MADDOCK

Joined by Bulldogs Coach Bryan Smart (standing), Lavelle Howard (second from right) signs his scholarship to Bethune-Cookman joined by family: Evonie, Thomas and Leah Davidson.

and wanted more," said Holcy, who plans to major in general business. "There are no more question marks in my life now. It's exclamation points."

At 21, he'll report to the school with all four years of eligibility intact, and according to Tarleton's athletic website, with his 6-6, 215-pound frame, "It

wouldn't surprise anyone if he got on campus and turned into one of the most athletic players on the field."

See **Bulldogs**, Page 9.

SPORTS

REGIONAL SOCCER PLAYOFFS

Celebration uses four-goal second half to knock off Vero Beach, 5-2, in regionals

► Face George Jenkins tonight in District 5A-9 final rematch

By Ken Jackson
Sports Editor

Celebration's boys soccer team earned its first time to Class 5A regional playoff semifinals since 2011 Wednesday with a 5-2 win over Vero Beach.

The Storm (14-2-4) host George Jenkins, a 1-0 winner over Jupiter on Wednesday on Saturday at 7 p.m. Celebration beat the Eagles by the same score, in overtime, in the District 5A-9 championship on Feb. 2.

Wednesday's game was not as lopsided as the score indicated. Vero Beach (8-6-4) applied



NEWS-GAZETTE PHOTO/MARTIN MADDOCK

Daniel Perez, shown dribbling the ball during the District 5A-9 tournament, assisted on Celebration's first two goals in the Storm's 5-2 playoff win Wednesday over Vero Beach.

heavy doses of pressure in the first half. The game was tied 1-1 at halftime before Coach Chad Boudreaux adjusted the attack to come from the wings rather than the center of the field.

"We realized if we attacked from out wide we could find the holes in the middle, and we did," he said. "We start off slow of late, and they brought it to

us, thankfully we turned it on at the end."

The adjustment worked — eight minutes into the half, Daniel Perez fed a perfect cross to Gabriel Pinheiro, which he met and buried, just like they indeed on the Storm's first goal 20 minutes into the match.

That second goal gave Celebration a lead they'd never relinquish, and just

seven minutes later, the score was 4-2 after Mel Rodriguez and Luis Mora added tallies on long runs through the defense. Anti Antunez added an insurance goal in the 67th minute.

Celebration last made it this far in the boys soccer playoffs in 2011, when the Storm advanced to the Class 5A Final Four and state tournament.

Vero Beach ends Lady Longhorns' playoff hopes; HHS returns bulk of powerful lineup

By Ken Jackson
Sports Editor

The Harmony Lady Longhorns' soccer season may be over, but their mission isn't.

While a loss to Vero Beach in Tuesday's Region 5A-3 quarterfinals in penalty kicks (6-5), after 100 minutes of scoreless soccer, sends Coach Scott Marlega's team into the offseason, it'll be spent looking forward rather than back, sure as the 'Horns are back-to-back district champions.

Only two players, fullbacks Morgan Cecil and Cate McHugh, graduate. The core of the team, especially its scoring punch, is made up of juniors who will get one more postseason crack next year — players who scored 102 of Harmony's 108 goals this year will return.

"We lose a little bit of leadership on and off the field, but I'm sure those who are coming back will be excited to get revenge next year," Marlega said.

Harmony (18-4-2) had likely its best offensive chance in the 16th minute Tuesday, when two headers

off of a corner kick couldn't find the back of the net.

The Indians (16-5-1), who applied pressure for much off the contest, nearly answered four minutes later when 53-goal scorer Madelaine Rhodes rang a shot off the post.

"Vero's a well-coached team and built like us. They deserved to win. I'm sure those coming back will be excited to get revenge."

— MARLEGA

In the first ten-minute overtime period, Harmony goalie Angie Santos stopped two point-blank shots over the course of three straight Vero corner kicks.

The Longhorns thought they'd won in the second overtime, when Morgan Cecil's indirect free kick deflected, they thought off Lindsay Larisa or the Indians' goalie, into the net, but the goal was waved off.

"It's so hard to celebrate like that, then see it waved off and have to compose and play on," Marlega said.

Both teams hit their first five penalty kicks before Harmony's sixth one was deflected off the goal line.

"We worked on them the past two weeks and felt good going in, and we hit five good ones," Marlega said, noting he wasn't surprised the two teams played 100 scoreless minutes — the played a scoreless regular-season game on Nov. 11.

"Vero's a well-coached team and built like us, from the back. Hats off to them, they deserved to win," he said. "It wasn't our best game, we may have been rattled by the intensity of the moment, and just couldn't possess like we wanted to."

All 12 penalty kick shooters for both teams return, including Larisa, Jenna Butcofski, Yani Calles, Carlie Rucks, Samantha Hizer and Samantha Blanchard. Other underclass contributors include goalie Angie Santos, midfielders Vanessa Bolen, Abbey Johnson and Mckenzie Eaddy and forwards Autumn Horn and Calie Horn.

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THE REEL DEAL

Lakeland's Lane wins B.A.S.S. Eastern Open on Lake Toho

The Kissimmee Lakefront Marina was packed with boats and anglers last weekend for the first B.A.S.S. Eastern Open. Pro Angler "Big Fish" Bobby Lane swept the first two days of the tournament and claimed the top spot with a three-day total weight of 60 pounds even on Championship Saturday. Included in his five fish limit on day one were two Florida Trophy Catches, an eight and a nine-pounder. Lane was the very first angler to weigh-in on day one setting the tone and mood for all anglers that followed on the Pro Angler side.

Lane claimed \$7,300 in cash winnings and a boat valued at over \$45,000 and a spot at the 2019 Bassmasters Classic. Bobby Lane is Lakeland native and host and founder of the Bobby Lane Cup held in December at Camp Mac/Lake Kissimmee. This tournament benefits local High School anglers and raises money for scholarships. Fishing is a family affair for Bobby and his brother Chris and

cousin Arnie Lane. Chris finished 26th and went home with \$2,600.

Finishing second on the Pro side was Brandon Lester with 47 pounds, 11 ounces, and in third place with 43 pounds, 3 ounces was Drew Cook. For the co-anglers, Steve Robbins claimed a boat valued at over \$30,000 for his 3 day total weight of 26 pounds, 8 ounces. Following behind him was another Central Florida angler, Bobby Bakewell, with 23 pounds, 13 ounces. And rounding out third place was Tony Sears with 22 pounds, 15 ounces.

The top 40 on both the Pro Angler and Co-Angler side receive a payout. On the Pro Side local angler from St. Cloud, Don Eady finished in ninth place and took home \$4,700. Other locals taking home a check were Ray Trudeau in 18th place, Jerrod Albright in 29th and Cody Detweiler in 30th.

I hope you had the chance to catch some of the live weigh-ins. Finding a place to park was a challenge. All surrounding

parking lots where full from the 200 plus boats and over 400 anglers. This was the first time service trailers had to camp out over a block away down in a parking lot by the courthouse. They are on site for when a boater has engine or equipment issues and are in need of immediate repair.

The Toho Marine and Outdoors Elite One Man Tour as well as the Elite Pro Team Trail sponsored by Bartow Ford, kick off their first tournaments of the season next weekend.

The first One-Man will be held next Saturday on Lake Toho out of Southport and the Team Trail will be held Sunday (Feb. 18) also out of Southport on Lake Toho. For more information visit www.tohomarine.com or call 407-892-3200.

Have a great weekend and Tight Lines!



CINDY JOINT
The Reel Deal

DAVIDSON

Continued from Page 7.

a good fit for Malcom and Malcom is a good fit for FAU. His talents and strong points as a runner really should mesh with what the Owls like to do on offense."

Despite missing three games with injury and sharing the spotlight with talented runners Jakobe Thomas, Tayquan Pinellas and Da'nas Pinellas, Davidson still rushed for 867 yards and 12 touchdowns his senior year. A three-year starter he amassed more 3,400 rushing yards in his career.

Davidson's goals are modest as an incoming freshman.

"I want to go down there, learn everything I can,

work hard and hopefully earn some playing time," Davidson said. "I've been handed a great opportunity, it's now up to me to take advantage of it."

Davidson joined teammate defensive tackles Jordan Redmond (Virginia) and Dion Bergman (Wake Forest) as Division I signees. They signed scholarship offers during the new early-signing period in December.

"Malcom and this entire senior class were a really special group. They not only won a lot of games, but they also love each other and care about each other," Nichols said. "Because they didn't get the opportunity to have a signing ceremony

in December, I invited both of them to be a part of today's event," Nichols said. "Both Dion and Jordan said thanks but no thanks, they wanted today to be about Malcom. I think that, and the fact that all his teammates are here to congratulate Malcom, says a lot about how close knit this group was."

Nichols added that as many as seven other of his senior players, including defensive back Jaleal Maloney, could also sign scholarship offers on the coming days.

"We have some guys with multiple offers and I think they are weighing their options," he said.

BULLDOGS

Continued from Page 7.



NEWS-GAZETTE PHOTO/MARTY MADDOCK

Former Bulldogs receiver Trevill Holcy signs with Tarleton State on Wednesday, joined by cousin Tatiana Jackson, grandfather Freddie Holcy and girlfriend Taelor Borne.

"Working construction, I kept my speed up, my strength up," he said. "I'm coming in as a receiver, and they talk like I'm one of the guys who can turn the program around, because they're looking to move up

(to FCS). I'm just trying to close my ears to all that."

Hocly's and Smart's paths barely crossed, but long enough for Smart to appreciate it.

"Trevill's somebody who never gave up on his

dreams," the coach said. "He's been through it all, ups and downs, and now he's got ups in front of him."

Smart said as many as five more Bulldogs may sign scholarships later in the spring.

SPORTS BRIEFS

St. Cloud Soccer registration

Registration for the St. Cloud Soccer Club is now being accepted for the spring seasons in St. Cloud and Harmony. The league offers recreational (players ages 4-13 just entering the game) and Select (more competitive for ages 7-18) programs. Harmony (Lakeshore Park on Schoolhouse Road) has more open game play, registration is \$95 per player for Under-5 through Under-12 teams. St. Cloud (Stephanie Rothstein Park) has more structured game play and teams due to larger membership, registration is \$150 (Under-5 & 6), \$165 (U7-8), \$170 (U9-10) and \$180 (U11-12). For more information visit www.stcloudsoccer.com or reach Mike Alferts

at malfers1713@gmail.com or 503-548-3762.

Heartbreak 5K

The St. Cloud High School girls weightlifting program will hold a benefit 5K race on March 17 at 8 a.m. to help defray costs incurred in traveling to the state meet in Panama City, among other expenses. Cost is \$20 for adults, \$10 for any county student with proper school ID, and \$5 for ages 9 and under. There will be prizes and raffles. For information email auncory@osceola.k12.fl.us.

Mr. Butler 5K

Harmony High School will host the Mr. Butler Memorial 5K on Feb. 24 from 5 to 10 p.m. at the school. The event honors former HHS Principal Grover "Buddy" Butler,

and proceeds from the \$20 event funds the Grover Butler Memorial Scholarship Fund. The school's goal is to eventually raise \$10,000. Register for the race online at <https://runsignup.com/race/fl/stcloud/themrbutlermemorial5K>

Osceola School District Legacy Program

The School District of Osceola County has launched a Legacy Club to promote community engagement with schools. Individuals ages 60-64 will receive to \$2 off admission to any district athletic, musical, arts, or theater performances. Those over 65 will receive to free admission. To apply go to osceolaschools.net.legacyclub.

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THE DAILY PLANNER

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Weekly and Monthly Events

The Celebrity Amputee Golf Classic comes to the Omni Orlando Resort at Championsgate, Feb. 11 and 12 for two days of events including golf and a charity auction. The event, which has featured celebrities like Reidel Anthony, Phil Esposito, Dwayne Schitzus, Jack Youngblood, Derrick Brooks and more features a photo opp with the celebrities at the Sunday evening pairings party, golf with one celebrity and one injured service member or amputee athlete. Prizes and giveaways and more. This is an elite event for charity. The cost is \$250 per golfer, with \$150 per additional guest at the VIP party. For information, call David Bowen at 954-864-2478.

WHAT Celebrity Amputee Golf Classic
WHERE Omni Orlando Resort at Championsgate
WHEN Feb. 11 and 12
COST \$250 per golfer, with \$150 per additional guest at the VIP party
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DAILY SATURDAY 02-10

BLOOD DRIVE

In honor of Deputy Scott Pine who was killed in the line of duty, Feb. 11, 2014. The blood drive will be Saturday, Feb. 10 coinciding with the grand opening ceremony of the Deputy Scott Pine Memorial Park, 17199 Ficquette Rd, Windemere. The event is from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

SCULPTURE EXHIBIT

The current exhibit at the Polasek Museum in Winter Park is Island Objects: Art and Adaptation in Micronesia, featuring local anthropologist Barbara Wavell's private collection. The exhibit is included with museum admission. It is through April 15.

OSCEOLA COUNTY FAIR

The 74th annual Kissimmee Valley Livestock Show & Osceola County Fair is officially underway. The fair opened Friday and will continue daily through Feb. 18. For the latest events, fair specials and more go to OSCEOLACOUNTYFAIR.COM

CONNECTIONS PROJECT

Planning a road trip to South Florida? The Connections Project: A Mosaic to the Keys is a series of six exhibitions featuring nearly 400 individual canvases throughout the keys. There also are several events scheduled with the exhibit, on display now through May 8. For more information, go to KEYSARTS.COM

BOB ROSS PAINT WORKSHOP

Will be from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Osceola Arts, 2411 E. Irlo Bronson Memorial Highway, Kissimmee. The painting will be a 16 by 20 inch Landscape called "Willow Creek." Learn the Bob Ross painting technique as seen on TV. All materials are provided and you will leave the class with a finished painting ready for framing. Tuition: \$80. To register or for more information, visit OSCEOLAARTS.ORG

7TH ANNUAL MONSTER BULLS

Osceola Heritage Park starting at 7:30 p.m. It's a night of just bull riding where the biggest and baddest Silver Spurs bulls will enter the arena and give the cowboys a ride of their life. Tickets are just \$15 per adult and kids 10 and under are free. For more information, visit OHPARK.COM

JAKE SHIMABUKURO

The Plaza Live Orlando, 425 N. Bumby Ave., Orlando, at 8 p.m. This event is for all ages. Tickets are \$24.50 - \$49.50. For tickets or for more information, go to PLAZALIVEORLANDO.ORG

BLUES TRAVELER - 30TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR

House of Blues Orlando, 1490 Buena Vista Drive, Orlando, at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$24 to \$55.75. For tickets or for more information, visit HOUSEOFBLUES.COM



SPAGHETTI DINNER

The Boy Scouts of Troop 192 will be serving their famous "All You Can Eat" spaghetti at the First United Methodist Church at 1000 10th Street, St. Cloud from 4 - 7 p.m. on Feb. 10. A single dinner includes homemade spaghetti sauce over pasta, garlic bread, salad bar, beverage and dessert for only \$8. A party of 2 dines for only \$15. Bring a friend, socialize; everyone is welcome dine in or carry out.

SHANANA TRIBUTE

ShaNaN tribute artists, The Studebakers will be performing and hosting a tribute to Elvis Presley, Buddy Holly and many more at 7 p.m., Mount Dora Community Building. All proceeds go to charity. Call 407-962-0263 for information.

SUNDAY

02-11

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE AT OSCEOLA COUNTY FAIR
 Get ready for this special guest at a show at Osceola County Fair. Thomas will be part of three shows and meet and greets at the fair events center at 2, 4 and 6 p.m. He also will be available for photos with children and their families after each show. The show is included with admission to the fair.

REGGAE LOVE FEST 2018

Featuring Tarrus Riley with Deen Fraser and the Blak Soil Band and Gyptian & Wayne Wonder. Hard Rock Live Orlando, 6050 Universal Blvd., from 6:30 to 11:30 p.m.. For tickets or for more information, go to HARDROCK.COM

SONS OF APOLLO

With Sifting will be at The Plaza Live, 425 N. Bumby Ave., Orlando, at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$24.50 to \$39.50. This event is for all ages. For tickets or for more information, visit THEPLAZALIVE.COM

MONDAY

02-12

MICHAEL ANDREW & THE GERSHWIN BIG BAND
 Presents American Rhapsody: The Gershwin Song Book will be at The Plaza Live, 425 N. Bumby Ave., Orlando, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$24.50 to \$39.50. This event is for all ages. For tickets or for more information, visit THEPLAZALIVE.COM

TUESDAY

02-13



SELENA IN WAX

Music icon Selena comes to Madame Tussauds Orlando for a limited engagement, Feb. 13 to April 8. Selena fans will get a chance to attend the official welcoming of the #LoveSelenaOrlando celebration by sharing clips of them singing their favorite Selena song to Instagram with the hashtag, #LoveSelenaOrlando. Fans who visit the attraction, will also have the opportunity to leave messages for Selena which will form part of the experience and be passed on to the Quintanilla family at the end of the figure's limited-time appearance. For more details on the social media contest, visit MADAMETUSSAUDS.COM/ORLANDO/EN/SELENA-QUINTANILLA/

WEDNESDAY

02-14

GORDON LIGHTFOOT
 The Plaza Live, 425 N. Bumby Ave., Orlando, at 8 p.m. Ticket are \$45.50 to \$75.50. This event is for all ages. For tickets or for more information, visit THEPLAZALIVE.COM

FREE ADMISSION

The Polasek Museum will have free admission in honor of Albin Polasek's birthday and Valentine's Day. Tours of the historic house and chapel also will be offered throughout the day.

THURSDAY

02-15

CODY JINKS

With Ward Davis and Sunny Sweeney will be at The Plaza Live, 425 N. Bumby Ave., Orlando, at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$29 to \$202. This event is for all ages. For tickets or for more information, visit THEPLAZALIVE.COM

FRIDAY

02-16

140TH SILVER SPURS RODEO

One of Osceola County's longest and most treasured traditions is the Silver Spurs Rodeo will be Feb. 16-18 at Osceola Heritage Park. This event features all seven traditional rodeo events: bull riding, saddle bronc riding, bareback riding, steer wrestling, team roping, tie down roping, and barrel racing. Well known as one of the best indoor rodeos of the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA), the Silver Spurs Rodeo in February draws contestants from all over the nation, many national champions, to compete for \$100,000 in prize money. For tickets or for more information, go to OHPARK.COM

SATURDAY

02-17

FIELD TO FEAST DINNER

Long & Scott Farms annual Field to Feast Dinner. The country market is now closed for the winter but will reopen in the spring. Tickets for the dinner event are available at EDIBLEORLANDO.COM

TOUCH-A-TRUCK

The sixth annual event returns to Knights Plaza at UCF, from noon until 3 p.m. the free, interactive experience for kids, features a large line up of trucks, including big rigs, police vehicles, construction trucks, fire trucks and more. Prior to the event, UCF Men's Basketball will take on SMU in the arena at 11 a.m.

THE SEVEN SEAS FOOD FESTIVAL

Returns to SeaWorld Orlando weekends, Feb. 17-April 15. It reflects the park's commitment to sustainable foods and farming. Beyond delicious flavors, guests will discover dishes that are crafted with organic ingredients, cage-free eggs, regional produce and sustainable seafood.

SUNDAY

02-18

COMEDIAN ILIZA SHLESINGER

The Plaza Live, 425 N. Bumby Ave., Orlando, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25 to \$110. This event is for all ages. For tickets or for more information, visit THEPLAZALIVE.COM

THURSDAY

02-22

LIBRARY SALE

The Friends of the Veterans' Memorial Library, 810 13th St. St Cloud, will have a book sale, Thursday Feb 22, noon to 8 p.m., Friday, Feb. 23 and Saturday, Feb. 24, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. All three days are bag sale days.

FRIDAY

02-23

BOXEO TELEMUNDO CHAMPIONSHIP BOXING

Osceola Heritage Park. General admission tickets are \$30 and ringside seats are available for \$55. Children 3 and under free. Doors open at 7 p.m. First fight begins at 8 p.m. For more information, go to OHPARK.COM

ONGOING

BINGO

Fraternal Order of Eagles
 15 W Darlington Ave., Kissimmee
 4:00 p.m.; (2) \$200 games guaranteed
 (1) \$250 jackpot guaranteed. 407-846-4990; Everyone is welcome.

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Kissimmee Elks Lodge, 1655 Kings Highway, Kissimmee. Every Wednesday 5:30-9 p.m. Open to the public.

THURSDAY NITE CRUISE IN

Classic Cars, Hot Rods, Trucks are on display every Thursday night. Bring your own classic car to show. 4060 13th St. St. Cloud; 5:30-8 p.m.

TAI CHI FOR ARTHRITIS

Tai chi for arthritis and falling prevention. Mondays at Poinciana Library, 101 N. Doverplum Ave. 2 p.m.; and Wednesdays at Orlando Family Physicians, 1502 Village Oak Lane, Kissimmee 11 a.m.; 407-900-9003

TAI CHI FOR ENERGY

Tai chi for energy. Saturdays at Hart Memorial Library, 211 E. Dakin Ave. Kissimmee; 10 a.m.; 407-900-9003

SPRING BREAK CAMP

Registration is open for Camp LOL, a sketch comedy camp for kids at Osceola Arts is now open. Call 407-846-6257 for more information.

Editor's note: Due to space constraints, the News-Gazette cannot guarantee that all events submitted will be published in the Daily Planner in every Thursday and Saturday edition.



AROUND OSCEOLA

CONTACT
BRIAN MCBRIDE EDITOR
 EMAIL BMCBRIDE@OSCEOLANEWSGAZETTE.COM

TOOLS FOR BETTER LIVING

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4H food booth: It's more than just treats

By Jessica Sprain

What do you think of when you hear the words food booth? A temporary structure to sell food? County fairs? Concession stands? Hotdogs? In 4-H, a food booth is more than a physical location and food, it is an opportunity for youth to learn important skills that prepare them for life.

Osceola County 4-H Food Booth at the Osceola County Fair is a tradition. It has been a part of the Osceola County 4-H program for over 15 years. More than 450 youth and adult volunteers work at the food booths during the 10-day fair. All funds raised from the 4-H food booth are used to benefit the youth of Osceola County 4-H through scholarships, helping youth attend 4-H camp, program development such as STEM and Healthy Living, and School Enrichment where the 4-H program offers projects and curriculum to Osceola County teachers. The 4-H food booth is vital to the sustainability of the Osceola County 4-H program. However, the booth goes way beyond the money raised. It allows youth the opportunity to serve the public and learn valuable business skills.

Working in the food booth teaches many skills. It teaches customer service, food safety, how to work as a team, time-management, importance of community service and leadership skills. Every year youth and adults work together to make the 4-H food booth a success. Youths are trained in safe food handling procedures such as checking food temperatures, keeping booths clean and proper handwashing. They learn customer service, time management and how to work as a team when the booth gets busy and there is a line out the door. As they witness how the public monetarily supports their program they realize the importance of community. By giving youth the opportunities to learn valuable skills now, they are more prepared to enter the work force as young adults.

According to a study done by Casner-Lotto & Benner (2006), employers have shared that new workforce entrants are ill-prepared for today's workplace. The development of workforce preparation skills has been cited by researchers as a major outcome for positive youth development (Lippman, L., Atienza, A., Rivers, A., & Keith, J., 2008) programs such as 4-H. 4-H is the nation's largest positive youth development organization, empowering 6 million young people in the U.S. and about 3,000 youth here in Osceola County. Though typically thought of as an agriculturally focused organization, 4-H today focuses on citizenship, healthy living and science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). 4-H is a partnership between land-grant universities and the USDA, with programs in all 50 states and almost every country worldwide. The foundation of 4-H is to provide opportunities for youth that supplement formal education, enhance life skills development, and prepare youth for tomorrow's workforce.

Studies have found that youth who participated in 4-H are less likely to engage in at-risk behaviors (such as smoking, drinking, bullying, etc.), contribute more to their family and community, and state they are more likely to attend college (Lerner et al, 2012). All these factors lead to productive, well-adjusted citizens prepared for the workforce. By introducing youth to 4-H programs, youth are more likely to develop science, technology, engineering and math

See **Food booth**, Page 12.

Student vies for Girl Scouts top honor

▶ Teen paints mural at hospital

Brooke Forgiore spent countless hours in hospital waiting rooms while her twin sister underwent tests and treatments for a series of medical conditions during their teenage years.

"I used to sit in waiting rooms for hours, anxiously waiting for my sister, so I know what it's like to look for comfort within these walls," said Forgiore.

Today, the 18-year-old twins are both healthy, and Forgiore is giving back in a big way.

She recently completed a 19-by 17-foot mural at Florida Hospital Celebration Health, intended to comfort the families who visit the neonatal intensive care unit.

The mural — inspired by Psalm 139 — features a large fruit tree, birds, deer, a mother and baby, with the scripture: "You knit me together in my mother's womb."

"I wanted to create a serene environment that will hopefully comfort visitors," said Forgiore.

Forgiore, who has been a Scout for 13 years, hopes the project will also allow her to receive the organization's Gold Award — the highest achievement for a Girl Scout.

"Our patients and families comment on how beautiful [the mural] is," said Riki Scales, nurse manager of the NICU. "It creates a calming effect in the room. It's



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Girl Scout Brooke Forgiore recently completed a 19-by 17-foot mural at Florida Hospital Celebration Health, intended to comfort the families who visit the neonatal intensive care unit.

more peaceful, more inviting and more family-oriented than just a clinical wall."

Forgiore is studying film production and technology at Valencia College and hopes to become a film director and incorporate her art in future projects, both on-screen and off.

March 5K and Walk set for Saturday, March 17

The Osceola Council on Aging Meals on Wheels program will participate and host the national 2018 March for Meals campaign.

The Kissimmee Utility Authority presents March for Meals 5K & Walk event Saturday, March 17, (St. Patrick's Day) and will include a 5K (3.1 mile) run and walk for individuals and/or corporate and family teams, largest and most spirited team competition, a free Kid's Run, silent auction, and more.

The event will be in downtown Kissimmee at Kissimmee Lakefront Park, 201 Lakeview Drive, Kissimmee, starting at 7 a.m. (registration) and the run and walk begins at 8 a.m. Cost is \$25 before March 1 and \$30 between March 2 and 17 and \$35 the day of event.

In addition, anyone who brings non-perishable food items will be entered into a special prize drawing Plus, everyone who participates and finishes the race will receive a medal.

Team Challenge:

Sign up your team today in the Team Challenge. This will allow people to sign-up a team with five or more participants and compete for team awards in the following categories: most team spirit and largest team. A special discount will be offered with five or more entries (\$5 off).

"We have seniors right now in our community going hungry;



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The March 5K and Walk will be at Kissimmee Lakefront Park in downtown Kissimmee.

that is why it is so imperative to have the Meals on Wheels program," said Wilda Belisle, Meals on Wheels Director for the Osceola Council on Aging. "Meals on Wheels is much more than a meal a day; it also gives us an opportunity to check in on our seniors and say hello! We need individuals, corporate and family teams to come out and walk or run to help our seniors who are counting on us to provide them a hot and/or cold meal. We can't let them down."

March for Meals is a national campaign held during the month of March, initiated and sponsored by the Meals on Wheels Association of America to raise awareness of senior hunger and to encourage action on the part of local communities. Hundreds of Senior Nutrition Programs across the United States, like Meals on Wheels, promote Osceola Council on Aging March for Meals through public events, partnerships

with local businesses, volunteer recruitment and fundraising initiatives.

"This March, hundreds of local Meals on Wheels programs will rally their communities to build the support that will enable them to deliver nutritious meals, friendly visits and safety checks to America's most at-risk seniors all year long," said Ellie Hollander, president and CEO of Meals on Wheels America.

See **March 5K**, Page 12.

OSCEOLA

Why do some cats have a ridge of fur along their backs

By Cathy M. Rosenthal

Dear Cathy,

I rescued a 6-year-old part Siamese female about six months ago. I started noticing she has a long ridge of fur along her spine when she is relaxed or sitting, similar to that of a (Rhodesian) Ridgeback dog. I don't know if there is a connection, but she is also polydactyl on all four paws. I checked online, but there are no explanations for this trait. Do you have an answer for me? - Rose, Massapequa, NY

Dear Rose,

While there is no cat breed that has a "ridge" along its spine as a breed trait, there are other cat owners who report that their felines have a narrow ridge of hair that stands up neatly along their spines while resting. I have seen

this narrow ridge of hair, mostly on short-haired cats. So, while not a specific breed characteristic, it may be something genetic in how the hair grows that results in sort of "cowlick" for cats. This should not be confused with a cat raising its hackles, which is the hair around the shoulders, along the spine, and along the tail that stands up when a cat is aroused or in fear.

For my readers, polydactyly, which means "many digits," is the congenital anomaly of having more toes than normal. Typically, cats have 18 toes, five on their front paws and four on the back paws. The record for polydactyl cats, however, is 28 total toes. As far as I know, there is no genetic connection between polydactyl cats and the gentle ridge of hair along the spine.

Dear Cathy,

My husband and I rescued a 6-year-old yellow lab/ greyhound mix. He must have been abused because he has scars on his front legs and he was very skittish in the beginning. We love him so much, but he doesn't know how to play. We throw the ball or Frisbee and he just looks at us. He doesn't play with other dogs at the dog park. We feel so sorry for him. Can we still teach him to fetch a ball or stick? - Artie and Stella, Smithtown, NY

Dear Artie and Stella,

When dogs are stressed, they don't play. If your dog had a rough start, he probably didn't learn to play as a puppy. Not every dog will play fetch, but there are other ways you can teach your dog to play. Get a clicker at the pet

store, and start training him to "sit," "down," and "stay," so he learns that the "click" means he will get a treat for doing something you ask him to do.

Once he understands the meaning of the clicker, teach him how to play hide and seek. Hide somewhere in the house or out in the yard and call your dog's name. When he comes and "finds" you, give him a treat. He will begin to learn that running and playing with you is fun and rewarding.

Next, introduce a Kong wobbler or puzzle toy filled with treats that he can push around the house or paw open to retrieve a treat. Click and treat when he touches the toy. Or, give him a tennis ball with a little peanut butter on it. Click and treat when he touches it.

Eventually, toss the tennis ball with peanut butter a few feet away. When he goes to get it and touches it, click and treat. He may eventually bring the ball back to you for more peanut butter, thus learning fetch, but he also just might chomp on the ball for a while. Either way, you are showing him the many ways to play.



Dear Cathy,

I have two rescue cats that I spend a lot of time playing with them. One of our games is playing with a string that I drag around the floor, and they chase it. My question is, why do cats drag the string or toys to their water bowl? It's cute but curious. - Laura, Long Beach, NY.

Dear Laura,

It's not unusual for cats to transport play things to

their water or food bowls. No one knows for sure why they do this, but some people think cats are mimicking nurturing behaviors, like a mama cat carrying her kittens to safety.

Since both male and female cats do this, however, I think it might be an instinctive "hunting" behavior where they kill and carry their prey to a safe location. Cats consider their food area as safe territory. So for now, it's a "cute but curious" behavior.

▶ Cathy M. Rosenthal is a longtime animal advocate, author, columnist and pet expert who has more than 25 years in the animal welfare field. Send your pet questions, stories and tips to cathy@petpundit.com. Please include your name, city, and state.



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FOOD BOOTH

Continued from Page 11

(STEM) literacy; develop an interest in learning that will equip them to succeed in a rapidly changing society and global economy; teach youth responsibility, develop their ability to become leaders, and engage them in their communities.

MARCH 5K

Continued from Page 11

"With the demand for Meals on Wheels increasing along with our country's senior population, we need to ensure that seniors are not forgotten."

Thank you to everyone who supported the awesome work of the Osceola County 4-H program at the fair. The 4-H food booth was a success. Along with the other 4-H activities such as Share the Fun, a place where youth can share their musical and acting talents, and Fashion

Revue Show, where youth model the clothing that they created. It was great to see the community's support at the fair!

Jessica Sprain is an Osceola County 4-H Agent with UF/IFAS Extension, Osceola County.

▶ To register online, go to www.osceola-generations.org or on Eventbrite at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2018-march-for-meals-5k-runwalk-kids-run-registration-41719779985>.

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Neil Sandhu, MD, is a Board-Certified Dermatologist (ABD).. Dr. Sandhu served as Chief Resident at UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School. His training puts him at the cutting-edge in cosmetic dermatology and skin cancer surgery. Dr. Sandhu is also trained in cosmetic procedures including BOTOX and filler injections, chemical peels, and photorejuvenation. Dr. Sandhu attended the University of Wisconsin, where he graduated Summa Cum Laude before going on to attend the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine & Public Health, where he again graduated at the top of his class. Dr. Sandhu has authored multiple scientific articles, including one focusing on the use of laser procedures in dermatology. He is a member of the American Society for Dermatologic Surgery, American Academy of Dermatology, and the American Society of Mohs Surgery.



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EXTENSION SERVICES

► Wednesday, Feb. 21, from 5 to 8:30 p.m., Taking Control of Your Money at UF/IFAS Extension Osceola County. Stop wondering where money went and letting it control you. Instead establish financial goals, discover your financial potential and develop a plan to make your money work for you.

Register at <http://ocfcs.eventbrite.com>.

► Thursday, Feb. 22, from 6 to 8 p.m., Yes You Can! Food Preservation, at UF/IFAS Extension Services (OHP). Pre-registration is required at <http://ocfcs.eventbrite.com> by Feb. 19.

► Saturday, Feb. 24, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Intro to Beekeeping, at UF/IFAS Extension Osceola County. The fee is \$75 for individuals/\$125 for couples

Register at <http://ocagriculture.eventbrite.com>.

► Saturday, Feb. 24, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., All you need to know about Your Lawn, UF/IFAS Extension Osceola County, OHP.

Participants will learn about soil testing, turf grass selection, fertilization, weed control, proper mowing practice, when and how to irrigate lawn, and lawn disease prevention and control.

Register at <http://ocagriculture.eventbrite.com>.

► Wednesday, Feb. 28, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., New Technology for Commercial Crop Production-CEU Day, at UF/IFAS Extension Osceola County. Live video training includes: Weed Management in Vegetables, Alternative Specialty Crops, Peach Production Update. CEU's available: Certified Crop Advisors;



Pesticide Applicators.

Fees apply. Register at <http://occeu.eventbrite.com>.

► Florida Friendly Landscaping Series at Mary Jane Arrington Gym and Aquatic Center 625 Country Club Drive, Poinciana.

March 1: Part 1 – Right Plant, Right Place & Water Efficiently

March 8: Part 2 – Fertilize Appropriately, Mulch & Attract Wildlife

March 15: Part 3 – Manage Yard Pest Responsibly & Recycle Yard Waste

March 22: Part 4 – Reduce Stormwater Runoff & Protect the Waterfront

The times are 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Do you want to have a beautiful garden without spending too much money or spending a lot of time gardening? Come to learn the basic principles of Florida Friendly Landscaping. Every class will discuss two or more of the FFL Principles.

Register at <http://ocagriculture.eventbrite.com>.

► Saturday, March 3, from 10 to 11:30 a.m., Care and Management of Ornamental Plants in the Landscape, at UF/IFAS Extension Osceola County, OHP. Participants will learn site analysis, best time to plant trees and shrubs, plant selection, how to improve your soil, fertilization, irrigation and pruning.

Register at <http://ocagriculture.eventbrite.com>.

► Wednesday, March 7, from 2 to 5 p.m., Taking Control of Your Money, at UF/IFAS Extension Osceola County. Stop wondering where money went and letting it control you. Instead establish financial goals, discover your financial potential and develop a plan to make your money work for you.

Register at <http://ocfcs.eventbrite.com>.

► Wednesday, March 8 and 15, from 5 to 9 p.m., A Home of Your Own, First Time Homebuyer – Two Evening Classes (English), at UF/IFAS Extension Osceola County. This class addresses the ins and outs of buying/building a home.

Participants will learn how to prepare financially, select a home, negotiate price, review contract and what to expect at closing.

The fee is \$10. Register at www.tinyurl.com/myochome.

► Saturday, March 17, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Osceola County HCE Craft Day, at UF/IFAS Extension Osceola County.

Do you enjoy making and learning new Crafts? Com join us... Admission will include Continental Breakfast & Light Lunch. Come one, come all, and bring a friend. There will be multiple projects to take home. The fee is \$10 Register at www.tinyurl.com/myochome.

SCHOOL ZONE

THIS WEEKS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

► Deerwood Elementary School

Deerwood Elementary will host a FSA Parent Night on February 22 from 5 to 7 p.m. Parents will have an opportunity to ask questions and be informed regarding the FSA tests.

► Highlands Elementary School

The fifth grade at Highlands Elementary will be hosting a "Friends & Family" Dance on February 21.

► Lakeview Elementary School

Lakeview Elementary's 8th Annual Dash with Splash 5k will be on Saturday, March 10.

► Partin Settlement Elementary School

Spring Picture Day will be on Tuesday, February 20. Presales for the 2017-2018 yearbook are taking place now for \$14 per copy, and will end March 9.

You may purchase a dedication of up to 25 words for your child or for a staff member you would like to thank for an additional \$6. Order forms have been sent home, or you can pick one up in the front office. You can also order online at Schoolannual.com. Partin Settlement's PTO is hosting St. Cloud Gators Dockside Spirit Night from 4 to 8 p.m. on February 27.

► Thacker Avenue Elementary School

Thacker Avenue Elementary School for International Studies will present "A Night in Paris- Father/Daughter Dance" on Friday, February 15, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the cafeteria. Tickets cost \$8 per couple and \$2 per each additional guest. Refreshments will be available for purchase. All proceeds will benefit the PBIS fund for student events. If a dad cannot attend, feel free to invite any positive male role model or mom.

► Discovery Intermediate

The Book Fair at Discovery Intermediate will be held February 10-15 during school hours in the media center. The theme for this year's Book Fair will be "PAWS for Reading." OASIS Volunteers are welcome to assist throughout the day. Please contact Mrs. McGuire if you have any questions.

Discovery Intermediate will be holding its next

SAC/PTSO meeting on Thursday, February 15, from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the media center.

The Drama Club at Discovery Intermediate will be meeting every Tuesday in rooms 5-115 and 5-104 from 4:15 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. The Discovery Intermediate Student Council meets every Thursday in room 4-203 from 4 to 4:30 p.m. Discovery Intermediate has partnered with the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society to help raise money to fund research for therapies that save the lives of blood cancer patients with the Pennies for Patients. We will be running the three-week program from February 19 through March 9 to help raise \$750 in pennies. The top classroom will receive a celebration party sponsored by Olive Garden.

► Neptune Middle School

Neptune Middle will be hosting a State Testing Information Night on Tuesday, February 20, at 5:30 p.m. in the media center. The 2018 SAC meeting will be held February 20 at 5:30 p.m. in the media center. Every parent is invited to attend.

Students are invited to attend Neptune Middle School's Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE) Club meeting on Monday, February 19, in room 7002 from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

► Parkway Middle School

Parkway Middle will host a Progress Report Night on Monday, February 12, from 5 to 7 p.m. in the café. Parents or guardians can pick up their student's progress report and have a brief meeting with teachers during this time. Parents at Parkway Middle are invited to meet with the principal and other parents and guardians to help guide the school on the path to success. SAC meeting on February 15.

► St. Cloud Middle School

There will be a SAC meeting in the media center at St. Cloud Middle on Feb. 27 from 5 to 6 p.m.

► Celebration K-8 School

Spring picture and eighth grade class pictures will be taken February 12 at Celebration K-8. The second grade classes at Celebration K-8 will be going on a field trip to Sea World on February 15. The Father/Daughter Dance for Celebration residents will be Saturday, February 17, at 6 p.m. in the Celebration K-8 gym. This year's theme is An Evening in Paris.

► Gateway High School

Gateway High School's Theatre Department will present student written and directed one-acts from Thursday, February 22, through Saturday, February 24, at 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. each day. Gateway High's MCJROTC will host the Regional Drill Competition on February 10. Fourteen schools will be in attendance, and the winner will advance to the National Drill Competition in Topeka, Kansas. Parents, students, and community members are encouraged to attend Gateway High's monthly SAC meeting on February 13 at 5:30 p.m. in the TRC.

► Liberty High School

Liberty High Ambassadors 9th Annual Charger Dash 5k Scholarship Fun Run is on March 10, 2018. You can register for the fun run online at raceroster.com. The cost to participate is \$40 from February 1 through March 9 or \$50 the day of the race. Contact: Catherine M. Igo, Liberty High School – 407-933-3910

► Poinciana High School

Poinciana High students can get help with reading and math after school at Poinciana 220 on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Media Center. FSA, SAT and ACT help are available via Khan Academy and Plato credit recovery and grade forgiveness are available as well. The program runs on most Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:20 p.m. to 4:20 p.m. No registration is required and students may drop in on whatever day they need help. School bus transportation is available.

Fast growing vegetables for the impatient gardener

Stepping outdoors and picking a freshly grown vegetable is a joy for many homeowners who like to garden.

Growing vegetables at home offers many benefits. In addition to providing a worthwhile hobby that can increase your physical activity, having control over your own produce can reduce exposure to a number of chemical pesticides and fertilizers. This translates into foods that are healthier for the body and the environment. Gardens also can help the average person save money on often costly produce, all the while reducing gardeners' carbon footprints.

Waiting to reap the rewards of a harvest can try the patience of those accustomed to satisfying their needs on a moment's notice. This is especially true for young gardeners who have grown up in a society that increasingly provides immediate gratification.

While tomatoes, peppers

and watermelons require long growing seasons, many other fruits and vegetables grow much faster. This offers plenty of bounty in a short time for those who may have gotten a later start on their gardens or simply don't have the patience to wait on the more time-consuming growers.

► **Arugula:** Some people call arugula "rocket" because of just how quickly it grows. The green has been growing in popularity as a salad starter or vegetable side dish. Simply cut the leaves when they are large enough and as needed for recipes. Other fast-growing greens include kale, chard mustard greens and watercress.

► **Radishes:** Radishes are typically ready for harvest about one month after planting, making them among the fastest-growing vegetables around.

► **Snap beans:** Beans can be steamed, added to salads or eaten raw with dips. They're often a summer staple. Some of the

fastest producers are ready to harvest in about 50 days.

► **Turnips:** Both the roots and the leaves of turnips can be eaten, and this old-fashioned vegetable makes a great addition to soups and stews. Because the plants tend to be tolerant across many gardening zones, they're handy and easy-to-grow even as the weather cools.

► **Squash:** Don't mistake the squash in the garden for cucumber. Both look similar but green squash, or zucchini, can be much more versatile. Zucchini can be grilled, baked, sautéed, stuffed, fried, and even turned into noodles.

► **Green onions:** To add fresh flavor to foods, green onions (scallions) grow much more quickly than it takes onion bulbs to mature.

Speak with a garden center expert to learn more about which vegetables, fruits and herbs grow quickly and will thrive in your home garden.

FAITH PAGE



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www.lukeandpeter.org

St. Nicholas Anglican Church
1792 S. Orange Blossom Tr.
Kissimmee; 407-344-2700
www.stnicholasanglican.com

Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church
604 N. John Young Parkway
Kissimmee; 407-846-0544

Solid Rock Church of God
1904 Michigan Ave.
Kissimmee; 407-847-3500
solidrockchurchofgod.org

Tabernaculo de Poinciana
4937 Old Pleasant Hill Road
Kissimmee; 407-334-6508
Pastorjosesantiago.com

Trinity Lutheran Church
3016 W. Vine St.
Kissimmee; 407-847-4204

The Uperward Call Church
3272 Canoe Creek Road
St. Cloud; 407-593-2930

American Sign Language Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses
2281 N. Thacker Ave.
Kissimmee; 407-910-2067
www.jw.org

Bible Baptist Church
1500 E. Vine St.
Kissimmee; 407-847-4068
www.BibleBaptistKissimmee.com or www.BBC-HCS.org

Campbell City First Missionary Baptist Church
4463 Bryan Ave.
Kissimmee; 407-935-1802
or 865-566-8579

Canoe Creek Christian Church
4080 Pine Tree Drive
St. Cloud; 407-891-1492
www.canocreek.org

Casa Del Espiritu Santo
722 N Main St.
Kissimmee; 407-655-5816

Casa De Generaciones
1219 Ingram St., Kissimmee
407-914-6068

Christian Life Church
2750 Partin Settlement Road
Kissimmee; 407-847-7631

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
2821 Old Canoe Creek Rd.
St Cloud, FL 34772
407-892-5568; www.lds.org

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
1900 N. John Young Parkway
Kissimmee; 407-847-3978

Christ Our Savior Fellowship
915 New York Ave.
[VFW Hall], St. Cloud
407-922-2409

Community Church at Celebration
501 Celebration Place
Kissimmee; 407-494-4644
www.celebrationcommunitychurch.com

Community Presbyterian Church in Celebration
511 Celebration Ave.
Celebration; 407-566-1633
www.commpres.com

Church Of Spiritual Awakening
909 E. Oak St. Suite B
Kissimmee; 407-343-9062
www.churchofspiritualawakening.com

Church Of The Nazarene
1900 Michigan Ave.
St. Cloud; 407-892-8184
The Connection Church
700 Generation Point
Kissimmee
407-744-7007
www.connectionchurch.net

Cornerstone Baptist Church
2925 Canoe Creek Rd.
St. Cloud; 706-379-1571
www.inallthingspray.com

Cornerstone Fellowship Baptist Church
2916 Cialella Pass
St. Cloud; 407-498-8316

Corpus Christi Catholic Church
1050 Celebration Ave.
Kissimmee
321-939-1491
www.corpuschristi.church

Crossroads Baptist Church
3797 Edsel Ave.
St. Cloud; 407-891-8688
www.lifeatthecrossroads.com

Destiny Church Of Foursquare
101 W. Cypress St.
Suite H, Kissimmee
407-870-1594

The Dwelling Place Church
4730 W. Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy
Kissimmee
407-917-2354
www.tdpchurchfl.com/

Eastern Avenue Baptist Church
1001 Eastern Ave.
St. Cloud; 407-892-4644

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Due to space constraints, the News-Gazette cannot guarantee that all church listings submitted will be published in the Worship page every Saturday edition.

El Tabor Church
5625 Orange Ave.
Kissimmee; 407-343-9050

Emmanuel Baptist Church
2627 Lehigh Ave.
Kissimmee; 407-846-8230
www.ebckissimmee.com

Faith Community Church
1990 Neptune Road
Kissimmee; 407-846-0157

Faith Community Church of Holopaw.
5000 Holopaw Road
Holopaw

Faith Harvest Ministries
1537 Mill Slough Road
Kissimmee; www.faithharvestonline.org

First Apostolic Church
2317 Clay St.
Kissimmee; 407-348-6521

Faith International Baptist Church
7491 W. Irlo Bronson Memorial Highway
Kissimmee; 706-405-8134
www.faiuthorlando.com/site/cs/index.asp

First Baptist Church
1717 13th St., St. Cloud
407-892-7125
www.inallthingspray.com

First Missionary Baptist Church
760 S. Canoe Creek Rd.
Kenansville; 407-436-1104

First Presbyterian Church
15 Church St., Kissimmee
407-847-2807
www.preskiss.com

First United Church Jesus Christ
550 E. Jackson St.
Kissimmee
407-847-4009
www.firstunitedchurchojca.org

First United Methodist Church
101 W. Dakin Ave
Kissimmee
407-847-3700
www.kissimmeefumc.org

First United Methodist Church
1000 Ohio Ave.
St. Cloud; 407-892-3128
www.firstchurchstcloud.org

Fortune Road Church of Christ
2431 Fortune Road
Kissimmee; 407-348-0300
KissimmeeChurch.org

Freedom Life Church
1700 E. Irlo Bronson Memorial Highway
Kissimmee
407-944-1773
www.freedom-life.org

Free Methodist Church
1701 N. Thacker Ave.
Kissimmee; 407-847-4528

Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
1203 Orange Ave, St. Cloud
407-892-7665

OBITUARIES
For daily obituaries and services please visit www.aroundosceola.com

Bruce Owen Wilson Sr.



Bruce was born in Boston, Massachusetts on May 18, 1940. His mother was Mildred Brown Wilson (deceased 1972) and his father was Frederick Wilson (deceased 1959). Bruce attended St. Cloud High School and went on to serve his country in the United States Air Force where he was stationed in Africa.

After returning home from the military, Bruce worked for the local telephone company as a Cable Splicer and he managed the Kissimmee and St. Cloud movie theaters. Like a lot of us, he had the dream of working for himself and his creative portraiture was unmatched; in 1966 he started Bruce Wilson Photography. At one time, he and Cathy

were operating 3 studios, Kissimmee, Orlando, and Winter Park. During this time, they held accounts with Walt Disney World, the Naval Base in Orlando and Tupperware, just to name a few.

Bruce was a member of the First Christian Church of St. Cloud where he served as an Elder and a Deacon and was their Treasurer for 28 years. Most currently, he was a member of Kissimmee Christian Church.

Bruce was the past president of The Professional Photographer's Society of Central Florida.

Bruce was very passionate about our local Kissimmee Valley Livestock Show and Fair; he was their longest serving board member to date as well as serving as treasurer for 30 years.

Bruce leaves behind his wife of almost 60 years,

Catherine Drummond Wilson; two sons; Bruce Jr., and his wife, Kathy; Shawn F. Wilson; and one daughter, Kim Wilson Urban, and her husband, Scott; six grandchildren; Kolby Scott Urban (Allison), Konnor Urban, Samantha Urban, Saylor Urban, Allison Wilson, and Emily Wilson.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, February 10, 2018 at 11 a.m., Kissimmee Christian Church with Mr. Jim Book, Officiating. Interment will take place in the Osceola Memory Gardens Cemetery. Visitation will be held from 10 a.m. - 11 a.m., Saturday at the church.

Services are under the direction of Osceola Memory Gardens Cemetery and Funeral Home, 1717 Old Boggy Creek Road, Kissimmee, FL. (407) 847-2494; osceolamemgds.com.

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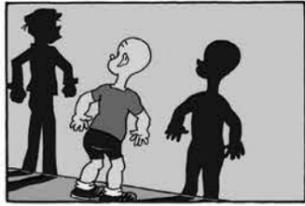
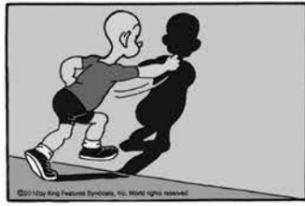
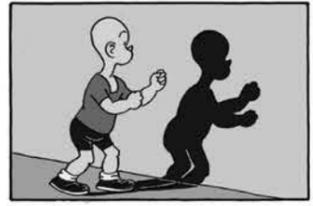
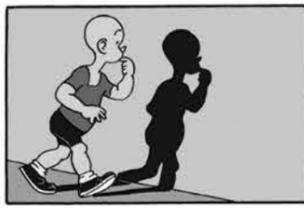
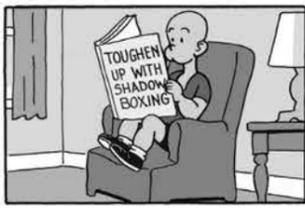
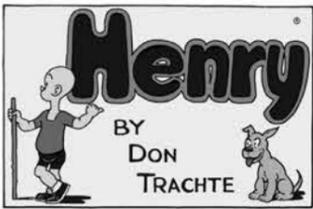
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BRAIN FOOD

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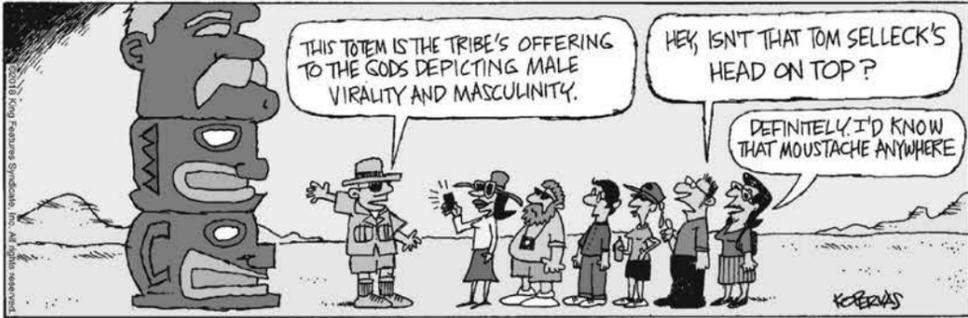
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Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



Even Exchange by Donna Pettman

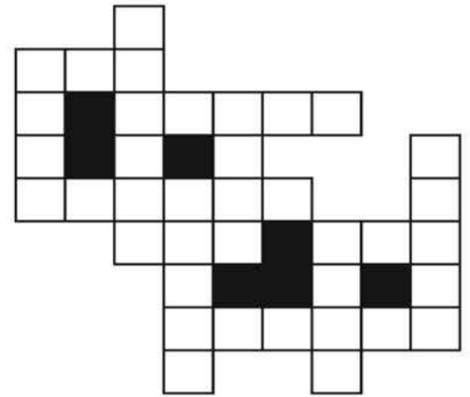
Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

- | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|
| 1. "High Noon" star | ___ O ___ | Penny metal | ___ P ___ |
| 2. Bat one's eyes | ___ I ___ | Dummy bullet | ___ A ___ |
| 3. Tightfisted | ___ G ___ | Like a gym sock | ___ K ___ |
| 4. Give the boot | ___ P ___ | Do particularly well | ___ C ___ |
| 5. Navigation map | ___ R ___ | Ritual incantation | ___ N ___ |
| 6. Curie or Trudeau | ___ R ___ | Poke with a knife | ___ C ___ |
| 7. Recluse | H ___ | "Sesame Street" frog | K ___ |
| 8. Woody or Ethan | A ___ | DeGeneres or Page | E ___ |
| 9. Ledger entry | ___ I ___ | Unveiling | ___ U ___ |
| 10. He takes orders | ___ T ___ | Forego one's rights | ___ V ___ |

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- USM
- HAMNET
- MAHNU
- ARBA
- SMOSBE
- ♥REA
- ♥HASM
- ♥ABZER
- ♥BSU
- APHISM
- MURSE
- HOCE



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Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. HAGNEC becomes CHANGE). Prepare to use only ONE word from any marked (♥) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. ♥RATHE becomes HATER or EARTH or HEART). Fit each string's word either across or down to knot all twelve strings together.

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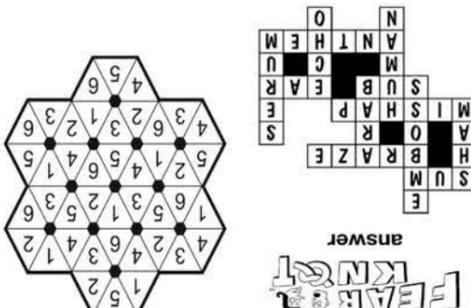
U E B X U Q N J G D B Z W T Q
 N K H D A X U R P M E J G D A
 X V S Q N K I S F D A A G X V
 T Q O M J H F K C S V E A S Y
 W U R P N S L C W J E H T F D
 B Z X V T R E O Q S R A O M K
 I H F S D B N L E E O Z Y S W
 V T M R Q N O K T B N P K T L
 K A L L I G A T O R S C P L I
 D H F M D N O R E H U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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally

- | | | | |
|------------|--------|----------|---------|
| Alligators | Fish | Locks | Snakes |
| Boats | Geese | Minnnows | Trash |
| Dams | Heron | Otter | Turtles |
| Ducks | Hippos | Silt | |

1. Cooper, Copper
 2. Blink, Blank
 3. Stingy, Stinky
 4. Expel, Excel
 5. Chart, Chant
 6. Pierre, Pierce
 7. Hermit, Kernit
 8. Allen, Ellen
 9. Debit, Debut
 10. Water, Waiver

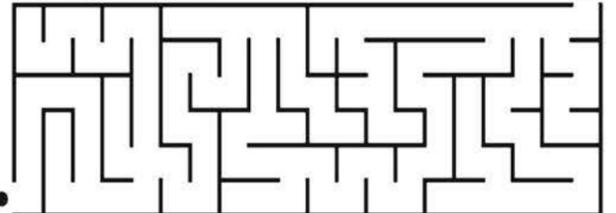
Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



- solution
 SNOWFLAKES



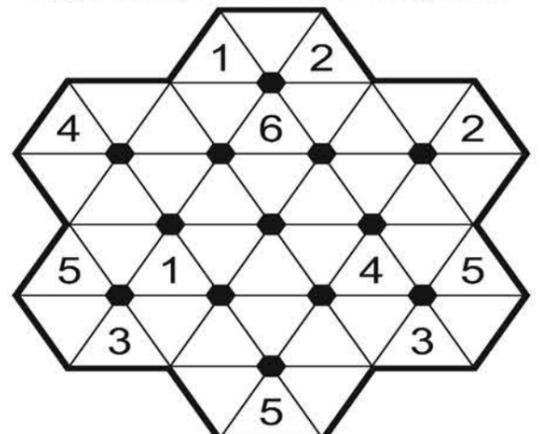
Kids' Maze



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SNOWFLAKES by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.



DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆
 ◆ Easy ◆◆ Medium ◆◆◆ Difficult

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Manufacturer Photos

KIA FORTE5 SX

Powerful Compact Hatchback



Manufacturer Photo

The 2018 Forte5 SX is different from its Forte siblings with its 201-horsepower, turbocharged four-cylinder engine that makes 195 lb.-ft. of torque. This 2018 version comes with a seven-speed dual-clutch automatic transmission with a manual shift mode. The Forte5 SX is equipped with a full load of modern safety, convenience and comfort features.

By **FRANK A. AUKOFRER**
Motor Matters

The Kia Forte5 offers enhancements as one of the best cars for 2018 — and especially so in the SX trim.

The Forte line is a part of a subset of compact sedans and hatchbacks from Kia, the full-line South Korean manufacturer. What makes the 2018 Forte5 SX different from its Forte siblings is its 201-horsepower, turbocharged four-cylinder engine that makes 195 lb.-ft. of torque.

The 2018 version now comes with a seven-speed dual-clutch automatic transmission with a manual shift mode. A six-speed manual gearbox also is available. As important, the SX is equipped with a

full load of modern safety, convenience and comfort features that would do justice to a luxury car.

The power, relatively light weight and the snap-shifting dual-clutch automatic transmission combine to deliver sprightly acceleration. Zero-to-60 mph arrives in about 6 seconds. All of this arrives in a tidy package weighing 3,123 pounds and delivering city/highway/combined fuel consumption of 25/30/27 mpg.

What is most endearing for buyers who are impressed by value and comfort as well as performance, is that my fully loaded test car came with a bottom-line sticker price of \$28,295, about \$6,000 less than the average price of a new car in these times. The starting price was \$24,695, which included full basic

safety equipment, rear-view camera, a sport-tuned suspension system, faster steering, bigger front brakes, 18-inch alloy wheels, pushbutton starting, SXM satellite radio, Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, Bluetooth connectivity, leather upholstery and heated front seats.

The Forte5 SX with the dual-clutch automatic transmission has a starting price of \$2,200 less than the model with the six-speed manual gearbox. However, the manual version comes with more standard equipment, though it doesn't include such things as blind-spot warning and rear cross-traffic alert.

From the outside, the Forte5 presents a handsome hatchback profile with sharp lines, distinct front and rear bumpers with fog lights, the alloy wheels, glossy black outside mirrors and chrome dual exhaust pipes. The interior design is handsome and welcoming, with good fit and finish, and comes with leather seats with contrasting piping.

At the top of the center stack, the 7-inch touchscreen that controls audio, navigation and other functions is a model of simplicity, intuitive and easy to use without extensive learning and frustration.

Front seats provide decent support and comfort. Outboard back seats provide plenty of head and knee room for average-sized adults.

There's 23 cubic feet of cargo space behind the rear seatbacks, which is nearly double that of some compact sedans. Fold the seatbacks and the cargo area more than doubles to 56 cubic feet. There's no spare wheel and tire under the cargo floor; the Forte5 uses a pump and repair kit.

On the road, the Forte5 SX acquires itself well against even some purpose-built sports sedans and hatchbacks. This SX trim is sporty in its own right with nicely weighted steering. Most drivers will find its supple ride a great daily driver.



SPECIFICATIONS 2018 KIA FORTE5 SX

VEHICLE TYPE
5-passenger FWD compact hatchback

BASE PRICE
\$24,695 (as tested: \$28,295)

ENGINE TYPE
Turbocharged 4-cyl. w/GDI

DISPLACEMENT 1.6-liter

HORSEPOWER (net)
201 at 6000 rpm

TORQUE (lb.-ft.)
195 at 1500-4500 rpm

TRANSMISSION
7-speed automatic

OVERALL LENGTH 171.3 in.

TURNING CIRCLE (curb-to-curb)
34.8 ft.

CURB WEIGHT 3,123 lbs.

FUEL CAPACITY
13.2 gal.

EPA MILEAGE RATING
25 mpg city, 30 mpg highway

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Inventory of homes fall in December



Inventory of single-family homes in Florida fell during December as shown in the recent release of Florida Realtors statistical market data.

In Osceola County, single-family homes have seen an inventory decline of 8.4 percent from December 2016 with 1,521 active listings recorded at the end of the month.

Condos and townhomes have fallen 4.1 percent from last year in this same area, showing only 697 active listings. Single-family homes are moving more quickly at three and a half months of supply, down 14.6 percent from last year.

In the Orlando, Kissimmee, Sanford metro area, the inventory of single-family homes has fallen 10.3 percent year-over-year to 7,304 active listings.

In Osceola County, single-family homes have seen an inventory decline of 8.4 percent from December 2016 with 1,521 active listings recorded at the end of the month.

Condos and townhomes have seen a 17.2 percent drop in inventory from December 2016 with a total of 1,966 units available. In this category there has been a 25 percent year-over-year decline putting the current value at 2.4 months of supply.

In a final look, Florida statewide data shows single-family home listings down by 7.1 percent from December of 2016. This inventory stands at 82,179 for the month. Meanwhile, condos and townhomes have seen similar declines with active listings falling by 4 percent to 51,720.

The Osceola County Association of Realtors is the largest trade association in Osceola County and represents over 3,400 Realtors in the area, bringing valuable training and support to its membership, and offering community services to the Osceola County area. The association is dedicated to members' success through personal development, advocacy, and community engagement.

Unique home improvements perfect for DIY

(BPT) - Here's a quick question for you: What's your favorite DIY project you've ever completed? Chances are the answer pops right into your mind, and even if you've completed hundreds of DIY projects over the years, you probably have some that truly stand out.

Those that weren't at the top of your list may fall lower for several reasons. Maybe the result wasn't what you hoped for, the project wasn't particularly rewarding or you've done it before.

If that's the case, don't worry. Here are five unique projects you probably have never tackled before. Try them on for size to improve your home and find a new answer to your most satisfying DIY project ever.

- ▶ Clean your water with a new filter system. Cut the costs and clutter of bottled water while being environmentally conscious with this project. Breach your current water line to solder in a new shut-off valve, drill a new faucet hole and attach this line to the filter and you'll be enjoying filtered water in no time. U.S. landfills are already overflowing with more than 2 million tons of discarded water bottles but you can enjoy peace of mind knowing that you're not adding to them.

- ▶ Breathe easier. Why stop at clean water in your home when you can also enjoy cleaner air? Renting an air scrubber can allow you to remove invisible - yet unhealthy - gases, particles and chemicals from your home's air. Your local rental supply store will help you find the right air scrubber for your area to be sure you're removing the pollutants that matter most.

- ▶ Update and refresh your ceilings. Popcorn is great at the movies. On your ceiling? Not so much. Spray your ceiling with warm water, and scrape away the popcorn



itself with a drywall scraper. Collect these contents on a tarp and toss them. You're then ready to patch any holes caused by overzealous scraping before priming and painting your brand-new ceiling.

- ▶ Give your furniture a facelift. If that upholstered furniture isn't looking as sharp today as it once did, don't settle for it or replace it. Rent an upholstery cleaner instead and give each piece of furniture a once-over. This simple project can dramatically improve the look of your most cherished pieces and save you considerable money over a costly replacement.

- ▶ Let there be light. If natural light is a problem in your home, it could be that your

window treatments are to blame. Large drapes and curtains can give your home a dated look and rob your rooms of the light they need. Instead, lose these old window treatments and install vertical blinds or shutters. These new, lighter treatments will give you better control of the light and privacy in your home than their older counterparts.

Five new projects. Which one speaks to you? There's nothing stopping your progress, and each project you complete benefits you, your family and your home.

To find rental locations near you that can supply you with the tools you need to complete your DIY projects, visit RentalHQ.com.

AV Homes wins five national 'Best of 55+ Housing' awards

ORLANDO, FL. (Jan. 30, 2018) — AV Homes Inc., Central Florida's fourth-largest homebuilder, recently won five 55+ Housing Awards presented by the National Association of Home Builders 55+ Housing Industry Council. The honors recognized AV Homes' Solivita and Vitalia at Tradition 55+ active adult communities located in Kissimmee and Port St. Lucie, respectively.

The Housing Industry Council's Best of 55+ Housing Awards, the industry's only national awards program, honors excellence in building design, marketing and lifestyles for active adult housing. The awards were presented Jan. 9 at the NAHB International Builders' Show in Orlando.

AV Homes received the following gold and silver awards:

Gold, Best 55+ Lifestyle Director — Sheri Wollschlager, Solivita.

Gold, Best 55+ Sales or Welcome Center — Solivita.

Gold, Best 55+ Interior Merchandising of a Model up to 2,000 Square Feet — Estero model, Vitalia at Tradition.

Silver, Best 55+ Interior Merchandising of a Model 2,001-2,500 Square Feet — Jensen model, Vitalia at Tradition.

Silver, Best 55+ Integrated Marketing Strategy or Campaign — Discovery Days program, Solivita.

"We're extremely proud of the work our team members put in at Solivita and Vitalia at Tradition and these awards validate their contributions as first rate," said Ken Thirtyacre, Central Florida division president of AV Homes.



Headquartered in Orlando, AV Homes' Florida Division oversees all operations, marketing, construction and land development throughout the state.

Rain barrels provide an eco-friendly opportunity to repurpose rain water while helping homeowners conserve water and save money.



But homeowners must exercise caution when using rain barrels in their lawns and gardens. Water collected by rain water should never be used for drinking, cooking or bathing. Pet owners should know that water collected by rain barrels also should not be used to bathe pets. Rain barrel lids should also be tightly secured to prevent mosquito infestations.

Secure rain barrels to also protect children and pets from falling in. Overflow valves should always direct water away from structures to prevent water damage to homes or sheds. In addition, to reduce risk of falls and injury, homeowners should be certain that water is not directed toward sidewalks, driveways or other areas where foot traffic is common.



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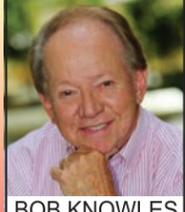


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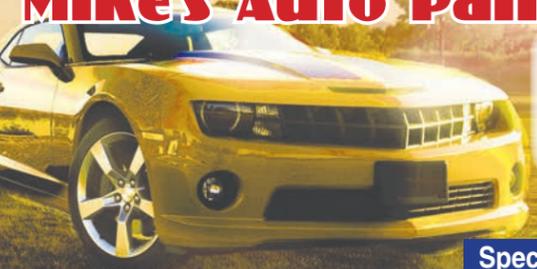
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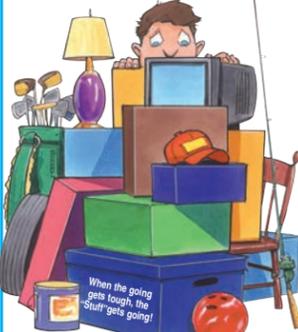


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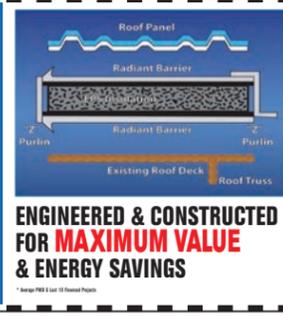
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 or
 (407)933-1448

FREELANCE WRITER

The Osceola News-Gazette is seeking the help of talented freelance writers in Osceola County. Freelancers must possess a valid Florida driver license, reliable transportation and be available to schedule assignments and deliver work on deadline. Additional skill: knowledge of written AP Style. If interested, please email a resumé and samples of any published writing experience you have to Editor Brian McBride at bmcbride@osceolanewsgazette.com.

INSIDE SALES REPRESENTATIVE/TELEMARKETING SALES

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We are looking for dynamic, highly motivated sales person to become part of our classified advertising sales team. This opportunity involves building relationships and selling our products to new and existing customers. Earning potential is excellent and unlimited. Full-time only, Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Compensation plan is an hourly position with aggressive commission, health/dental insurance, 401(k), and paid holidays and sick leave.

Qualifications: Customer service, sales experience and passion is a must. Strong computer skills and ability to learn new software. Excellent communication skills. Willingness to learn and the ability to work independently. **Required education:** High school or equivalent. **Required experience:** Sales: 1 year. Customer Service: 3-5 years.

Osceola News-Gazette
 Submit your resume to: BBerry@osceolanewsgazette.com or submit in person at:
 108 Church Street, Kissimmee, FL 34741
 The Osceola News-Gazette is an EOE.

CHECK OUT THESE LOCAL GARAGE SALES
 To place an ad, call Jody 321-402-0423

Garage Sales Kissimmee

GARAGE SALE
 1540 Regal Oak Drive 34744
 Feb 8,9, & 10, 8 a.m. - ??
 Tent, Luggage, Misc. Plumbing & Electrical Items.

GARAGE SALE
 7 South Lavon Avenue (34741)
 Feb 9&10, 8 a.m.-??
 Lots of Household Items!!
 To Much to Mention!!

MOVING SALE
 Fri-2/9-Sat-2/10-7:30am-4pm
 1729 Big Oak Lane(34746)
 Near Pleasant Hill/John Young (New)Kid's Trundle Bed w/matching desk, Small Sectional Couch, White Loveseat, White desk, Mahogany Dining Table, Oak Log Coffee Table

Garage Sales St. Cloud

HUGE YARD SALE
 in the Sawgrass Subdivision
 FEBRUARY 10th, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
 3244 Countryside View Drive 34772
 Home items, Furniture, Jewelry, Teen Girl Clothing, Homecoming and Prom Dresses, China, Crystal, and old vinyl records.

ESTATE SALE
 400 Virginia Avenue 34769
 Feb 16 & 17, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.
 Pride Scooter, Pride Lift-Chair, Tempurpedic King Bed, Asst. Furniture, Tools, Misc. Items.
EVERYTHING MUST GO!!!

PINE GROVE PARK Community Yard Sale (6289 Central Ave.-34771)
 Sat-2/10-8:00am-1pm
 Don't Miss it!

"IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN"
The Annual Rummage Sale of The St. Cloud Trailer Park 1269 Oregon Avenue (34769)
 Fri. 2/9/18 7am-3pm & Sat. 2/10 7am-1pm
 Door Prize Drawing at 1pm.

Garage Sales St. Cloud

3 FAMILY YARD SALE
 300 California Ave.(34769)
 Saturday 2/10-8am-2pm
 Antiques, Furniture, Household, Clothing, Rugs, Tools, Collectibles, Glassware, Computer Equipment, Holiday Decor, Books, etc.

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to work at our Marked Tree location. Successful candidates will have a positive attitude toward working in a team environment and serving customers. Working knowledge of basic computer programs is a must. Working knowledge of farm equipment and lawn equipment is a plus. Applicant must be able to lift 50 pounds to a pick-up bed height, have 4-5 years mechanical experience, and have their own tools. Expect long hours during peak seasons of planting and harvest.

The position will include:
 •Competitive salary PLUS Monthly Performance Pay Incentives
 •Matching 401K Plan
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102617.TNG

BIG YARD SALE

Community Yard Sale!
Pine Lake Estates St. Cloud
 Intersection of Pine Lake Dr and Old Canoe Creek Creek or Pine Lake Dr. & 17th St.
Saturday, February 10th
8 AM - 3 PM

No Early Birds! Items include Children's Things, CDs, Furniture, Household Goods, Books, File Cabinets and Book Cases etc!

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COMMERCIAL PRINT ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE/SALES

Sun Publications of Florida is a commercial web printing company located in Lakeland Florida. We produce newspapers, tabloids, coupon books and glossy stock magazines.

We are currently looking for the right person to lead our commercial print sales. This individual needs to be able to develop, expand and service our existing customer base. Sales would include direct contact with current customers, new and potential customers along with cold calling.

The right candidate should have the ability to multi-task with a professional and positive attitude, be a self-starter, and possess excellent customer service skills. Candidate would work together with Sun Publication's Print Coordinator and Plant Manager in scheduling and deliveries of printed publications. Knowledge of account management and print sales will be helpful.

Benefits include health, dental insurance, and 401K, paid time off.

Pay includes base plus commission.

Interested applicants should send resumes to ltaylor@sunpubfla.com



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This event is open to the public and will focus on finding talent for housekeeping roles. Qualified candidates will have the opportunity to apply and interview on site.

Don't miss this unique opportunity to learn more about what it's like to make unforgettable memories for our guests!

Be a part of something special!
 Apply to be a cast member today!

JOB FAIR

Tuesday, February 13
 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Wednesday, February 14
 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Walt Disney World Casting Building
 1515 East Buena Vista
 Dr. Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830

To register for this event and for more information about available roles, visit
WaltDisneyWorld.jobs/jobfair

PUBLIC NOTICES

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CONTACT: GARY LUGO EMAIL LEGALADS@OSCEOLANEWSGAZETTE.COM PHONE 407-846-7600

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA... General Jurisdiction Division Case #: 2015-CA-000487 MF CITIMORTGAGE Inc., Plaintiff, vs. BRENDA T. MUZEKA and ROBERT A. MUZEKA, et al., Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order dated December 14, 2017, entered in Case No. 2015-CA-000487 MF of the Circuit Court of the Ninth Judicial Circuit, in and for Osceola County, Florida, wherein CitiMortgage Inc. is the Plaintiff and Brenda T. Muzeka; Robert A. Muzeka; Caribbean Villas Condominium Homeowners Association, Inc. are the Defendants, that Armando R. Ramirez, Osceola County Clerk of Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at, Suite 2600/Room 2602, 2 Courthouse Square, Kissimmee, FL 34741, beginning at 11:00 A.M., on the 28th day of FEBRUARY, 2018, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

CONDOMINIUM PARCEL 36 CARIBBEAN VILLAS, A CONDOMINIUM ACCORDING TO THE DECLARATION OF CONDOMINIUM RECORDED IN O. R. BOOK 619, PAGE 2, AND AMENDMENTS, THERETO AND AS SHOWN IN CONDOMINIUM EXHIBIT BOOK 1, PAGES 83 THROUGH 87, ALL AMONG THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA, TOGETHER WITH AN UNDIVIDED INTEREST IN THE COMMON ELEMENTS ATTACHING THERETO ACCORDING TO THE AFOREMENTIONED DECLARATION AND TOGETHER WITH NON-EXCLUSIVE RIGHT OF WAY EASEMENT AS CONTAINED IN O. R. BOOK 758, PAGE 1505, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, Court Administration, Osceola County Courthouse, 2 Courthouse Square, Suite 6300, Kissimmee, Florida 34741, (407) 742-2417, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than seven (7) days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

Dated: on this 6th day of February 2018.

BROCK & SCOTT, PLLC Attorney for Plaintiff 1501 N.W. 49th Street, Suite 200 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309 Phone: (954) 618-6955 Ext. 6209 Fax: (954) 618-6954 FLCourtDocs@brockand-scott.com By: /s/ Jimmy Edwards Jimmy Edwards, Esq. Florida Bar No. 81855 File #: 13-F03275 February 10, 17, 2018

IN THE GENERAL COURT OF NORTH CAROLINA JUSTICE, GUILFORD COUNTY DISTRICT COURT DIVISION: 17-JT-89

RE: DCC A Male minor child,

UNKNOWN FATHER, Defendant

NOTICE OF SERVICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: To the above named Unknown Father, who goes by the first name Hakeem: TAKE NOTICE that a pleading seeking relief against you has been filed in the above-entitled action. The nature of the relief being sought is as follows: Petition for Termination of Parental Rights. The mother's name is Brittany Danielle Cretf.

You are required to make defense not later than March 19, 2018, said date being 40 days from the first publication of this notice, and upon your failure to do so the party seeking service against you will apply to the court for the relief sought. This notice shall be run on February 10, 2018, February 17, and February 24, 2018. You are hereby notified that a hearing is scheduled for March 19, 2018. Dated: February 8, 2018 Respectfully submitted, /s/ Lisa Stewart Lisa Stewart Attorney for Plaintiff 603F Eastchester Drive High Point, NC 27262 Email: lisa@lisastewartlaw.com (336) 886-1878 (ph) (336) 886-8235 (fax) NC State Bar No. 40105 February 10, 17, 24, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION Case #: 2016-CA-001780 MF PHH MORTGAGE CORPORATION Plaintiff, vs. THERESA ANDUJAR, et al, Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

RE-NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Granting Plaintiff's Motion to Reschedule Foreclosure Sale filed January 9, 2018, and entered in Case No. 2016 CA-001780 MF of the Circuit Court of the Ninth Judicial Circuit in and for OSCEOLA COUNTY, Florida, wherein PHH MORTGAGE CORPORATION, is Plaintiff, and THERESA ANDUJAR, et al, are the Defendants, the clerk, Armando R. Ramirez, will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, beginning at 11:00 A.M., Osceola County Courthouse 2 Courthouse Square, Suite 2600/Room Number 2602, Kissimmee, FL 34741, in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes, on the 13th day of MARCH, 2018, the following described property as set forth in said Lis Pendens, to wit: Lot 12, Block 319, BRIDGEWATER, according to the Official Plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 7, Page 14 through 16, Public Records of Osceola County, Florida.

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus funds from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, Court Administration, Osceola County Courthouse, 2 Courthouse Square, Suite 6300, Kissimmee, Florida 34741, (407) 742-2417, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than seven (7) days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

Dated: January 30, 2018. Phelan Hallinan Diamond & Jones, PLLC Attorneys for Plaintiff 2001 NW 64th Street, Suite 100, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309 Tel: 954-462-7000 Fax #: 954-462-7001 Service by email: FL.Service@PhelanHallinan.com By: /s/ Heather Griffiths Heather Griffiths Phelan Hallinan Diamond & Jones, PLLC Heather Griffiths, Esq. Florida Bar No.: 0091444 Emilio R. Lenzi, Esq., Florida Bar No. 0668273 PH #: 62223 February 3, 10, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA. Case #: 2017-CA-003147 FO IN RE FORFEITURE OF: \$5,610.00 in United States Currency

NOTICE OF FORFEITURE PROCEEDINGS

TO ALL PERSONS WHO CLAIM AN INTEREST IN THE FOLLOWING PROPERTY: \$5,610.00 United States Currency

Russell Gibson, as Sheriff of Osceola County, Florida, seized the above described property on or about November 29, 2017, in or about Kissimmee, in Osceola County, Florida. A Verified Complaint for Order of Probable Cause Finding and Final Order of Forfeiture pursuant to the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act, Sections 932.701-7062, Florida Statutes (2017), has been filed in the Circuit Court, in and for Osceola County. If no claimant appears and no claim is filed, a request will be made for an immediate hearing and Final Order of Forfeiture. /s/ Kirk S. Warren Kirk S. Warren, Esquire Post Office Box 151 Lakeland, FL 33802-0151 (863) 688-3400 FL Bar No. 439177 kswatty1@verizon.net Attorney for Petitioner, Russell Gibson, As Sheriff of Osceola County, Florida. February 10, 17, 2018

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given that the following vehicles will be sold at public auction pursuant to F.S. 713.78 on the sale dates at the locations below at 9:00 a.m. to satisfy towing and storage charges. 2010 FORD 3FAHP0HA4AR343610 Sale Date: 02/27/2018 Location: Center State Automotive Inc., 1170 H Greenskeep Drive, Unit H, Kissimmee, FL 34741. Lienors reserve the right to bid. February 10, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 9th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION Case #: 2015-CA-001640 MF WILMINGTON TRUST, N.A., SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE TO CITIBANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE, F/B/O HOLDERS OF STRUCTURED ASSET MORTGAGE INVESTMENTS II INC., BEAR STEARNS ALT-A TRUST 2006-8, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-8, Plaintiff, vs. JUAN CARLOS CAMPOS; LINDSEY CAMPOS; REUNION RESORT & CLUB OF ORLANDO MASTER ASSOCIATION INC.; UNKNOWN PERSON(S) IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, Defendant(s)

RE-NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale filed December 27 2017, and entered in Case No. 2015-CA-1640 MF, of the Circuit Court of the 9th Judicial Circuit in and for OSCEOLA County, Florida, wherein WILMINGTON TRUST, N.A., SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE TO CITIBANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE, F/B/O HOLDERS OF STRUCTURED ASSET MORTGAGE INVESTMENTS II INC., BEAR STEARNS ALT-A TRUST 2006-8, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-8, is Plaintiff, and JUAN CARLOS CAMPOS; LINDSEY CAMPOS; UNKNOWN PERSON(S) IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY; REUNION RESORT & CLUB OF ORLANDO MASTER ASSOCIATION INC., are the Defendants. ARMANDO RAMIREZ, the Clerk of the Circuit Court, will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in SUITE 2600/ ROOM 2602 OF THE OSCEOLA COUNTY COURTHOUSE, at 2 COURTHOUSE SQUARE, KISSIMMEE IN OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA 34741, at 11:00 A.M., on the 27th day of FEBRUARY, 2018, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

LOT 9, OF REUNION PHASE 2, PARCEL 1 & 1A, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 13, PAGE(S) 115-123, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA.

A person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, Court Administration, Osceola County Courthouse, 2 Courthouse Square, Suite 6300, Kissimmee, Florida 34741, (407) 742-2417, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

DATED on this 7th day of February 2018. By: /s/ Sheree Edwards Sheree Edwards, Esq. Bar. No.: 0011344 Submitted by: Kahane & Associates, P.A. 8201 Peters Road, Ste.3000 Plantation, FL 33324 Telephone: (954) 382-3486 Telefacsimile:(954) 382-5380 Designated service email: notice@kahaneandassociates.com File No. 15-01805-SPS February 10, 17, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION Case No.: 16-CA-001984 MF 492016CA1984

FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff, vs.

ANGEL RIVERA; LORI A. FITZGIBBON; CAVALRY SPV I, LLC; EAGLE POINTE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.; D.R.S. OF CENTRAL FLORIDA, INC.; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 2; and ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING INTERESTS BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST A NAMED DEFENDANT TO THIS ACTION, OR HAVING OR CLAIMING TO HAVE ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED, Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE

Pursuant to CHAPTER 45 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order or Summary Final Judgment of foreclosure dated January 18, 2018 and entered in Case

No. 16-CA-001984 MF 492016CA1984 of the Circuit Court in and for Osceola County, Florida, wherein FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION, is the Plaintiff, and ANGEL RIVERA; LORI A. FITZGIBBON; CAVALRY SPV I, LLC; EAGLE POINTE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.; D.R.S. OF CENTRAL FLORIDA, INC.; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 2; and ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING INTERESTS BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST A NAMED DEFENDANT TO THIS ACTION, OR HAVING OR CLAIMING TO HAVE ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED, are Defendants, ARMANDO RAMIREZ, Clerk of the Circuit Court, will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash Osceola County Courthouse, 2 Courthouse Square, Suite 2600 / Room 2602, Kissimmee, FL 34741, 11:00 A.M., on MARCH 6, 2018, the following described property as set forth in said Order or Final Judgment, to-wit: Lot 64, EAGLE POINTE, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 10, PAGE 1, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA.

ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE. If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, Court Administration, Osceola County Courthouse, 2 Courthouse Square, Suite 6300, Kissimmee, Florida 34741, (407) 742-2417, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

DATED: February 5, 2018. SHD Legal Group P.A. Attorneys for Plaintiff PO Box 19519 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33318 Telephone: (954) 564-0071 Facsimile: (954) 564-9252 Service E-mail: answers@shdlegalgroup.com By: /s/ Michael J. Alterman Michael J. Alterman Florida Bar No. 36825 1440-159622/DJ February 10, 17, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA Case #: 2016-CA-002022 MF WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, d/b/a CHRISTIANA TRUST AS OWNER TRUSTEE OF THE RESIDENTIAL CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES TRUST III, as substituted Plaintiff for Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, As Trustee for Stanwich Mortgage Loan Trust A, Plaintiff, vs.

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated January 18, 2018 entered in Civil Case No. 2016-CA-002022 MF of the Circuit Court of the 9th Judicial Circuit in and for Osceola County, Florida, wherein WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, d/b/a CHRISTIANA TRUST AS OWNER TRUSTEE OF THE RESIDENTIAL CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES TRUST III, is Substituted Plaintiff and BEATRICE STANLEY; et al., are Defendants. The Clerk, ARMANDO RAMIREZ, will sell to the highest bidder for cash, at the Main Entrance, 2600/Room # 2602, of the Osceola County Courthouse, 2 Courthouse Square, Kissimmee in Osceola County, Florida at 11:00 a.m. on MAY 22, 2018, on the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit: Lot 51, Block 221, Buenaventura Lakes Subdivision, Unit 10, according to the plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 5, Pages 81-83 of the Public Records of Osceola County, Florida. Property Address: 123 Sunwood Court, Kissimmee, Florida 34743 Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

If you are a person with a disability who needs accommodation in order to participate in this proceedings, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact: Court Administration at 2

Courthouse Square, Suite 6300, Kissimmee, Florida 34741, Telephone: (407) 742-2417, within two (2) working days of your receipt of this described notice; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 1-(800) 955-8771. DATED on this 30th day of January 2018. LAW OFFICES OF MANDEL, MANGANELLI & LEIDER, P.A. Attorneys for Plaintiff 1900 N.W. Corporate Blvd., Suite 305W, Boca Raton, FL 33431 Telephone: (561) 826-1740 Facsimile: (561) 826-1741 dmandel@dsmandellaw.com By: /s/ Daniel S. Mandel DANIEL S. MANDEL FLORIDA BAR NO. 328782 February 3, 10, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 9th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION: Case No.: 2017-CA-001377

FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff, vs. CARMEN NIEVES, A/K/A CARMEN N. NIEVES, A/K/A CARMEN MILAGROS NIEVES, F/K/A CARMEN M. CUSTODIO, A/K/A CARMEN CUSTODIO; DISCOVER BANK; LAS BRISAS VILLAS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.; ANGEL M. CUSTODIO, A/K/A ANGEL CUSTODIO; UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated the 13th day of November, 2017, and entered in Case No. 2017 CA 001377 of the Circuit Court of the 9th Judicial Circuit in and for Osceola County, Florida, wherein FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION, is the Plaintiff, and CARMEN NIEVES, A/K/A CARMEN N. NIEVES, A/K/A CARMEN MILAGROS NIEVES, F/K/A CARMEN M. CUSTODIO, A/K/A CARMEN CUSTODIO; LAS BRISAS VILLAS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.; DISCOVER BANK; ANGEL M. CUSTODIO, A/K/A ANGEL CUSTODIO; AN INACTIVE STATES OF AMERICA DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY; JAMES MITCHELL JR; MELINDA SILLMAN; UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated the 18th day of December, 2017, and entered in Case No. 49-2011-CA-003345-MF of the Circuit Court of the 9th Judicial Circuit in and for Osceola County, Florida, wherein U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, ON BEHALF OF THE HOLDERS OF THE C.S.M.C. MORTGAGE-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-1, is the Plaintiff, and CONCEPCION N.FRANCES; AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY AS SUBROGEE OF PAUL ELLIS; LAKESIDE ESTATES MASTER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.; MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INCORPORATED, AS NOMINEE FOR RESOURCE BANK; SHELBY PLACE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.; AN INACTIVE STATES OF AMERICA DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY; JAMES MITCHELL JR; MELINDA SILLMAN; UNKNOWN TENANT (S) IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, are Defendants. ARMANDO RAMIREZ, as the Clerk of the Circuit Court, shall sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the OSCEOLA COUNTY COURTHOUSE, SUITE 2600/ ROOM 2602, TWO COURTHOUSE SQUARE, KISSIMMEE, FL, 11:00 A.M., on the 7th day of MARCH, 2018, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

LOT 87, LAS BRISAS VILLAS, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGES 43 THRU 44, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA.

ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE.

If you are a person with a disability who needs accommodation in order to participate in this proceedings, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact: Court Administration at 2 Courthouse Square, Suite 6300, Kissimmee, Florida 34741, Telephone: (407) 742-2417, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 1-(800) 955-8771. DATED on this 31st day of January 2018. By: /s/ Jason Storrings Jason Storrings, Esq. Bar Number: 027007

Submitted by:

CHOICE LEGAL GROUP, P.A., P.O. Box 9908, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33310-0908 Telephone: (954) 453-0365 Facsimile: (954) 771-6052 Toll Free: 1-(800) 441-2438 DESIGNATED PRIMARY E-MAIL FOR SERVICE PURSUANT TO FLA.R.JUD.ADMIN 2.516 eservice@clegalgroup.com 17-00451 February 3, 10, 2018

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA Case #: 2017-CC-001197 CL

THE RESIDENCES AT LAGO BUENDIA ASSOCIATION, INC., Plaintiff, vs. VERONICA DOMINGUEZ-ROMERO, Defendants. NOTICE OF SALE Pursuant to CHAPTER 45 Notice is given that pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated February 5, 2018, in Case No. 2017-CC-001197 CL, of the County Court in and for Osceola County, Florida, wherein THE RESIDENCES

Lauderdale, FL 33310-0908 Telephone: (954) 453-0365 Facsimile: (954) 771-6052 Toll Free: 1-(800) 441-2438 DESIGNATED PRIMARY E-MAIL FOR SERVICE PURSUANT TO FLA.R.JUD.ADMIN 2.516 eservice@clegalgroup.com 16-61083 February 3, 10, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 9th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION: Case No.: 2017-CA-001377

FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff, vs. CARMEN NIEVES, A/K/A CARMEN N. NIEVES, A/K/A CARMEN MILAGROS NIEVES, F/K/A CARMEN M. CUSTODIO, A/K/A CARMEN CUSTODIO; DISCOVER BANK; LAS BRISAS VILLAS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.; ANGEL M. CUSTODIO, A/K/A ANGEL CUSTODIO; UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated the 13th day of November, 2017, and entered in Case No. 2017 CA 001377 of the Circuit Court of the 9th Judicial Circuit in and for Osceola County, Florida, wherein FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION, is the Plaintiff, and CARMEN NIEVES, A/K/A CARMEN N. NIEVES, A/K/A CARMEN MILAGROS NIEVES, F/K/A CARMEN M. CUSTODIO, A/K/A CARMEN CUSTODIO; LAS BRISAS VILLAS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.; DISCOVER BANK; ANGEL M. CUSTODIO, A/K/A ANGEL CUSTODIO; AN INACTIVE STATES OF AMERICA DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY; JAMES MITCHELL JR; MELINDA SILLMAN; UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated the 18th day of December, 2017, and entered in Case No. 49-2011-CA-003345-MF of the Circuit Court of the 9th Judicial Circuit in and for Osceola County, Florida, wherein U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE, ON BEHALF OF THE HOLDERS OF THE C.S.M.C. MORTGAGE-BACKED PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-1, is the Plaintiff, and CONCEPCION N.FRANCES; AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY AS SUBROGEE OF PAUL ELLIS; LAKESIDE ESTATES MASTER COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.; MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INCORPORATED, AS NOMINEE FOR RESOURCE BANK; SHELBY PLACE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.; AN INACTIVE STATES OF AMERICA DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY; JAMES MITCHELL JR; MELINDA SILLMAN; UNKNOWN TENANT (S) IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, are Defendants. ARMANDO RAMIREZ, as the Clerk of the Circuit Court, shall sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the OSCEOLA COUNTY COURTHOUSE, SUITE 2600/ ROOM 2602, TWO COURTHOUSE SQUARE, KISSIMMEE, FL, 11:00 A.M., on the 7th day of MARCH, 2018, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

LOT 87, LAS BRISAS VILLAS, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGES 43 THRU 44, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA.

ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE.

If you are a person with a disability who needs accommodation in order to participate in this proceedings, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact: Court Administration at 2 Courthouse Square, Suite 6300, Kissimmee, Florida 34741, Telephone: (407) 742-2417, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 1-(800) 955-8771. DATED on this 31st day of January 2018. By: /s/ Jason Storrings Jason Storrings, Esq. Bar Number: 027007

Submitted by:

CHOICE LEGAL GROUP, P.A., P.O. Box 9908, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33310-0908 Telephone: (954) 453-0365 Facsimile: (954) 771-6052 Toll Free: 1-(800) 441-2438 DESIGNATED PRIMARY E-MAIL FOR SERVICE PURSUANT TO FLA.R.JUD.ADMIN 2.516 eservice@clegalgroup.com 17-00451 February 3, 10, 2018

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA Case #: 2017-CC-001197 CL

THE RESIDENCES AT LAGO BUENDIA ASSOCIATION, INC., Plaintiff, vs. VERONICA DOMINGUEZ-ROMERO, Defendants. NOTICE OF SALE Pursuant to CHAPTER 45 Notice is given that pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated February 5, 2018, in Case No. 2017-CC-001197 CL, of the County Court in and for Osceola County, Florida, wherein THE RESIDENCES

AT LAGO BUENDIA ASSOCIATION, INC., is the Plaintiff, and VERONICA DOMINGUEZ-ROMERO, is the Defendant. The Clerk of Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at Suite 2600/ Room 2602 of the Osceola County Courthouse, 2 Courthouse Square, at 11:00 a.m., on MARCH 22, 2018, the following described property set forth in the Order of Final Judgment: Lot 68, LAGO BUENDIA PHASE I, according to the plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 18, Page 191-197, public records of Osceola County, Florida. Any Person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.

IF YOU ARE A PERSON WITH A DISABILITY WHO NEEDS ANY ACCOMMODATION IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROCEEDING, YOU ARE ENTITLED, AT NO COST TO YOU, TO THE PROVISION OF CERTAIN ASSISTANCE. PLEASE CONTACT THE ADA COORDINATOR, OSCEOLA COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 2 COURTHOUSE SQUARE, SUITE 6300, KISSIMMEE, FL 34741, (407) 742-2417 AT LEAST SEVEN DAYS BEFORE YOUR SCHEDULED COURT APPEARANCE, OR IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIVING THIS NOTIFICATION IF THE TIME BEFORE THE SCHEDULED APPEARANCE IS LESS THAN SEVEN DAYS; IF YOU ARE HEARING OR VOICE IMPAIRED, CALL 711.

DATED: February 7, 2018 By: /s/ Carlos R. Arias Carlos R. Arias, Esquire Florida Bar No.: 820911

ARIAS BOSINGER, PLLC 140 North Westmonte Drive Suite 203 Altamonte Springs, FL 32714 (407) 636-2549 February 10, 17, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA. PROBATE DIVISION File No.:2018-CP-000079 PR Division: Probate. IN RE: ESTATE OF: PAUL J. McNAMEE, A/K/A PAUL JOHN McNAMEE, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the Estate of PAUL J. McNAMEE, a/k/a PAUL JOHN McNAMEE, MARTENA S. deceased, whose date of death was December 28, 2017, is pending in the Circuit Court for Osceola County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is: 2 Courthouse Square, Kissimmee, Florida 34741. The names and addresses of the Personal Representative and the Personal Representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate, on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served, must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedents estate, must file their claims with this Court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIOD SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED. The date of first Publication of this notice is: February 10, 2018.

Personal Representative:

/s/ Maureen Cook MAUREEN COOK 328 New York Avenue St. Cloud, Florida 34769

Attorney for Personal Representative:

/s/ Lee H. Massey LEE H. MASSEY Attorney for Maureen Cook Florida Bar No. 36207 LEWIS AND MASSEY, P.A. 1021 Massachusetts Avenue P.O. Box 701654, St. Cloud, Florida 34770-1654 Telephone: (407) 892-5138 Fax #: (407) 892-1534 E-Mail: lmassey@lewis-masseylaw.com February 10, 17, 2018

NOTICE OF WORKSHOP CELEBRATION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

The Board of Supervisors of the Celebration Community Development District will hold a workshop on Tuesday, February 20, 2018, at 5:00 p.m. at the Office of the District, located at 313 Campus Street, Celebration, Florida 34747. The purpose of this workshop is to discuss a potential traffic plan for downtown events and to discuss proposals for the security system for the Celebration District office. The workshop is open to the public and will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Florida Law for Community Development Districts. The workshop may be continued to a date, time and location to be specified on the record at the workshop. A copy of the agenda for this workshop may be obtained from the District Management Office, located at 313 Campus Street, Celebration, Florida 34747.

There may be occasions when one or more Supervisors or staff will participate via telephone. Any person requiring special accommodations at this

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA

Case #: 2014-CA-000583 MF HAMMOCK TRAILS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., a Florida non profit corporation, Plaintiff,

vs. KEITH J. EDWARDS FLEMING, individually; and ALL UNKNOWN TENANTS/ OWNERS, N/K/A SHANIKIA WILLIAMS, Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE Pursuant to CHAPTER 45 NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to a Final Default Judgment of Foreclosure and Award of Attorneys Fees and Costs, dated June 25, 2014, and entered in Case Number: 2014-CA-000583 of the Circuit Court, in and for Osceola County, Florida, wherein HAMMOCK TRAILS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., is the Plaintiff, and KEITH J. EDWARDS FLEMING and ALL UNKNOWN TENANTS/ OWNERS, N/K/A SHANIKIA WILLIAMS, are the Defendants, the Clerk of the Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Osceola County Courthouse, 2 Courthouse Square, Suite 2600, Room # 2602, Kissimmee, Florida 34741, at 11:00 o'clock A.M. on the 3rd day of APRIL, 2018, the following described property as set forth in said Final Default Judgment of Foreclosure and Award of Attorneys Fees and Costs, to-wit:

Lot 196, Hammock Trails, a subdivision according to the plat thereof recorded at Plat Book 19, Pages 106 through 110, in the Public Records of Osceola County, Florida. A/K/A Property Address: 2769 Big Timber Drive, Kissimmee, Florida 34758

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact Court Administration at 2 Courthouse Square, Suite 6300, Kissimmee, Florida 34741, Telephone (407) 742-3421, within two (2) working days of your receipt of this document; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call (800) 955-8771.

DATED on this 6th day of February 2018. By: /s/ Brian S. Hess BRIAN S. HESS, Esq. Florida Bar No. 725072

CLAYTON & MCCULLOH 1065 Maitland Center Commons Blvd, Maitland, Florida 32751. Phone: (407) 875-2655 Fax #: (407) 875-3363 bshess@claytonmcculloh.com lfosceola@claytonmcculloh.com Attorneys for Plaintiff February 10, 17, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION File No. 2017-CP-000825-PR Division PROBATE

IN RE: ESTATE OF IRENE GILBERT, Deceased. NOTICE TO CREDITORS The administration of the estate of IRENE GILBERT, deceased, whose date of death was December 3, 2017, is pending in the Circuit Court for Osceola County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Osceola County Courthouse, 2 Courthouse Square, Kissimmee, Florida 34741. The names and addresses of the personal representatives and the personal representatives' attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate, on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served, must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate, on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served, must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

Personal Representatives: Linda Page 11220 Credo Court Orlando, FL 32837 Tina Anderson 1151 Schooner Drive Kissimmee, FL 34744 Attorney for Personal Representatives: David H. Slonim, Esq. Attorney for Petitioner Florida Bar No. 0583634 The Slonim Law Firm, P.A. 2230 N. Wickham Road, Suite A, Melbourne, Florida 32935 Telephone: (321) 757-5701 Fax: (866) 249-5702 Primary E-Mail: dslonim@slonimlaw.com Secondary E-Mail: brose@slonimlaw.com February 10, 17, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION File No. 2018-CP-000064

IN RE: ESTATE OF WILLIAM R. HOYLE, JR., Deceased. NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of WILLIAM R. HOYLE JR., deceased, whose date of death was October 30, 2017, is pending in the Circuit Court for Osceola County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 2 Courthouse Square, Kissimmee, FL 34741. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate, on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served, must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702 WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this notice is: February 10, 2018.

Personal Representative: /s/ Mary Hoyle MARY HOYLE 5123 Village Place Davenport, Florida 33896

Attorney for Personal Representative: /s/ Kathy D. Sheive Kathy D. Sheive, Esquire Florida Bar No.: 0752509 318 N. John Young Parkway, Suite 1, Kissimmee, FL 34741 Telephone: (407) 944-4010 Fax: (407) 944-4011 E-Mail: kdsheive@gmail.com Secondary E-Mail: kathysheive@gmail.com February 10, 17, 2018

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT pursuant to a Writ of Execution (s) issued on the 1st day of November, 2017 A.D. issued in the COUNTY COURT OF OSCEOLA COUNTY, Florida, in the cause wherein CHASE BANK USA, N.A. is plaintiff, and DAVID MORALES is/are defendant(s), being Case No. CC-07-CL-2638 in said Court, I, Russell Gibson, as Sheriff of Osceola County, Florida, have levied upon all the right, title and interest of the defendant(s) PAUL BRAXTON AND AMELIA BRAXTON and AMELIA BRAXTON and the following described PERSONAL property to wit;

2015 TOYOTA GOLD VIN#JTMVFREV0FD043331

On the 6th day of MARCH 2018 A.D. at (the) JOES AUTO SERVICE CENTER INC in the City of ST.CLOUD Florida 34769, at the hour of 11:00 A.M. o'clock or as soon thereafter as possible, I, Russell Gibson, Sheriff of Osceola County, will offer for sale all of the said defendant's David Morales right, title and interest in aforesaid property at public outcry and will sell the same, subject to all taxes, prior liens, encumbrances and judgments, if any, to the highest and best bidder or bidders for CASH IN HAND. No time will be allowed for anyone to leave the premises to acquire additional funds. The proceeds to be applied as far as may be to the payment of costs and the satisfaction of the above-described execution.

Russell Gibson SHERIFF OF OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA BY: Captain Jeff Curtis

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Persons with disabilities needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the Osceola County Sheriff's Office at 2601 East Ilo Bronson Memorial Highway, Kissimmee, Florida, 34744-4455, Telephone: (407) 348-2222, not later than seven days prior to the proceeding. If hearing is impaired, (TDD) 1-800-955-8771 or Voice (V) 1-800-955-6770, via Florida Relay Service, January 20, 27, 2018 February 3, 10, 2018

NOTICE UNDER FICTITIOUS NAME LAW Pursuant to Section 865.09 FLORIDA STATUTES To Whom It May Concern: NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of: PAIN FREE ORLANDO located at 1611 N. Main Street, in the County of Osceola, in the City of Kissimmee, 34744, intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations of the Florida Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida. That the party interested in said business enterprise is as follows:

CENTRAL FLORIDA ACCIDENT AND INJURY DATED at Kissimmee, Osceola County, Florida on the 6th day of February, 2018.

CLAIM OF LIEN NOTICE Claim of Lien and Sale of Motor Vehicles Lien Law F.S. 713.78, WILDER WRECKER Inc., 2021 N. Main Street, Kissimmee, FL 34744, (407) 846-1010, will sell for cash at above address the following vehicles: 1) 2001 HONDA 2 DOOR VIN: 1HGEM21941L112255 2) 2011 HONDA UTILITY VIN: 5J6TF1H51BL001414 Pursuant to Florida Statute 713.78, these vehicles will be sold at the public auction on FEBRUARY 23, 2018, at 9:00 A.M. Vehicles sold as is, seller reserves the right to bid and guarantees no titles. February 10, 17, 24, 2018 March 3, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION File No.: 2017-CP-000780 PR Division: Probate. IN RE: ESTATE OF MICHELE F. CHABROL, Deceased. NOTICE TO CREDITORS (Summary Administration) You are hereby notified that an Order of Summary Administration has been entered in the estate of Michele F. Chabrol, deceased, File Number: 2017-CP-000780 PR, by the Circuit Court for Osceola County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is: 2 Courthouse Square, Kissimmee, Florida 34741; that the decedent's date of death was November 7, 2017; that the total value of the estate is \$65,094.38, and the names and addresses of those to whom it has been assigned by such order are: Carol Ann Chabrol 624 Jerome Street Burlington, New Jersey 08016 ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE NOTIFIED THAT: All creditors of the estate of the decedent and persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent other than those for whom provision for full payment was made in the Order of Summary Administration must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN FLORIDA STATUTES SECTION 733.702. ALL CLAIMS AND DEMANDS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER APPLICABLE TIME PERIOD, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED. The date of first publication of this Notice is: February 3, 2018. Person Giving Notice: /s/ Carol Ann Chabrol Carol Ann Chabrol 624 Jerome Street Burlington, N.J. 08016 Attorney for Person Giving Notice: /s/ Bradley S. Cohen Bradley S. Cohen, Esquire cohoben@earpcohn.com Florida Bar No. 107316 Earp Cohn, P.C. 20 Brace Road, 4th Floor Cherry Hill, NJ 08034 February 3, 10, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION File No.: 2017-CP-000780 PR Division: Probate.

IN RE: ESTATE OF MICHELE F. CHABROL, Deceased. NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of Catherine Stonecipher, a/k/a Catherine A. Stonecipher, deceased, whose date of death was March 13, 2017, is pending in the Circuit Court for Osceola County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is: 2 Courthouse Square, Kissimmee, Florida 34741. The names and addresses of the Personal Representative and the Personal Representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate, on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served, must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIOD SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first Publication of this notice is: February 3, 2018.

Personal Representative: /s/ Judy McAbee Judy McAbee 703 Burleson Street Smithville, Texas 78957

Attorney for Personal Representative: /s/ Lee H. Massey Lee H. Massey Attorney for Judy McAbee Florida Bar No. 36207 LEWIS and MASSEY, P.A. 1021 Massachusetts Avenue P.O. Box 701654, St. Cloud, Florida 34770-1654 Telephone: (407) 892-5138 Fax #: (407) 892-1534 E-Mail: lmassey@lewis-masseylaw.com February 3, 10, 2018

NOTICE UNDER FICTITIOUS NAME LAW Pursuant to Section 865.09 FLORIDA STATUTES To Whom It May Concern: NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of: ALGSONIDOS located at: 2408 Lincolnshire Court, in the County of Osceola, in the City of Kissimmee, Florida 34743, intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations of the Florida Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida. That the party interested in said business enterprise is as follows:

ARMANDO LUNA DATED at Kissimmee, Osceola County, Florida, on this 6th day of February, 2018. February 10, 2018

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION Public Notice is hereby given that ACE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM LLC, d/b/a RUSSELL'S TOWING, will hold a public auction at 8:00 A.M., on MARCH 2, 2018, at: 2720 13th Street, St. Cloud, FL 34769. Pursuant to the laws of the state the following vehicles will be sold to the highest bidder: 1) 1997 DODGE VIN: 1B7HF1377VJ514891 Terms of the sale are cash and no checks are accepted. Seller reserves the right to final bid. All sales are final. No refunds will be made. Sale auto will be sold "as is" with no guarantee. February 10, 2018

SDOC PUBLIC NOTICE Pursuant to Section 1006.28 and 1006.283, Florida Statutes, the School Board of Osceola County Florida, hereby proposes to hold a Public hearing on the recommended 2017-2018 K-12 Science Instructional Materials Adoption. The public hearing will be held on Tuesday, March 6, 2018, at 5:30 pm in the School District of Osceola County Administrative Center Board Room located at 817 Bill Beck Boulevard, Kissimmee, Florida. Interested persons may offer input and review the proposed materials by visiting http://www.osceolaschools.net/textbookadoption February 10, 2018

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION The following vehicles will be sold at auction free of all prior liens for cash. 1) 2002 KEYSTONE Montana 26 Ft. Travel Trailer - White VIN: 4YDT3052X22076571 2) 2003 VOLKSWAGEN Jetta GLS 4 Door - Black VIN: 3VWSK69M23M053633 Sale Date: February 22, 2018 A N D 1) 2004 SUZUKI Verona EX 4 Door - Silver VIN: KL5VM52L74B096899 Sale Date: February 24, 2018 Sale Time: 10:00 A.M. Sale Location: Magic Tows, LLC - 1201 Sawdust Trail - Kissimmee, Florida 34744 February 10, 2018

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE POINCIANA TOWING & RECOVERY INC. gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicles on FEBRUARY 23, 2018, 8:00 a.m., at 1901 POINCIANA BLVD., SUITE 573, KISSIMMEE, FL 34758, pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes. POINCIANA TOWING & RECOVERY INC. reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids. 1) 2016 SGAC VIN: 54GVC16T9G020106 2) 1998 FORD VIN: 1FMYU22E2WUB66982 3) 2001 DODGE VIN: 1B4HR28251F540544 February 10, 2018

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Department Summons by Publication SUFFOLK Division Docket Number: 17W1775 YARILLI LOTTI-VELEZ, vs. ANGEL L. NARANJO HERNANDEZ To the above named Defendant(s): Angel L. Naranjo Hernandez A complaint has been presented to this Court by the Plaintiff, Yariili Lotti-Velez, seeking a Loinnt For Custody-Support-Parenting Time. You are required to serve upon - Yariili Lotti-Velez - whose address is: 95 R Segamore, Revere, MA 02151 - Phone #: (617) 902-8586, your answer on or before the 22nd day of February 2018. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer in the office of the Register of this Court at Boston. Witness, BRIAN J. DUNN, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this 14th day of December, 2017. /s/ A. Arroyo Register CJD-112 February 3, 10, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROBATE DIVISION File No.: 2018-CP-000067 PR Division: Probate. IN RE: ESTATE OF CATHERINE STONECIPHER, A/K/A CATHERINE A. STONECIPHER, Deceased. NOTICE TO CREDITORS The administration of the Estate of Catherine Stonecipher, a/k/a Catherine A. Stonecipher, deceased, whose date of death was March 13, 2017, is pending in the Circuit Court for Osceola County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is: 2 Courthouse Square, Kissimmee, Florida 34741. The names and addresses of the Personal Representative and the Personal Representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate, on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served, must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIOD SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first Publication of this notice is: February 3, 2018.

Personal Representative: /s/ Jeffrey P. Russo Jeffrey P. Russo 1300 Wood Lake Circle St. Cloud, Florida 34772

Attorney for Personal Representative: /s/ Lee H. Massey Lee H. Massey Attorney for Jeffrey P. Russo Florida Bar No. 36207 LEWIS and MASSEY, P.A. 1021 Massachusetts Avenue P.O. Box 701654, St. Cloud, Florida 34770-1654 Telephone: (407) 892-5138 Fax #: (407) 892-1534 E-Mail: lmassey@lewis-masseylaw.com February 3, 10, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROBATE DIVISION File No. 2017-CP-00790PR IN RE: ESTATE OF IRMA JEAN STORR, Deceased. NOTICE TO CREDITORS The administration of the estate of IRMA JEAN STORR, deceased, whose date of death was June 12, 2017, is pending in the Circuit Court for Osceola County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 2 Courthouse Square, # 2000, Kissimmee, Florida 34741. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS

dress of which is: 2 Courthouse Square, Kissimmee, Florida 34741. The names and addresses of the Personal Representative and the Personal Representative's attorney are set forth below.

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate, on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served, must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

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The date of first Publication of this notice is: February 3, 2018.

Personal Representative: /s/ Jeffrey P. Russo Jeffrey P. Russo 1300 Wood Lake Circle St. Cloud, Florida 34772

Attorney for Personal Representative: /s/ Lee H. Massey Lee H. Massey Attorney for Jeffrey P. Russo Florida Bar No. 36207 LEWIS and MASSEY, P.A. 1021 Massachusetts Avenue P.O. Box 701654, St. Cloud, Florida 34770-1654 Telephone: (407) 892-5138 Fax #: (407) 892-1534 E-Mail: lmassey@lewis-masseylaw.com February 3, 10, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROBATE DIVISION File No. 2018-CP-000050 PR Division: Probate. IN RE: ESTATE OF MARTENA S. MCLEAREN, Deceased. NOTICE TO CREDITORS The administration of the Estate of MARTENA S. MCLEAREN, deceased, whose date of death was November 17, 2017, is pending in the Circuit Court for Osceola County, Florida, Probate Division, the ad-

dress of which is: 2 Courthouse Square, Kissimmee, Florida 34741. The names and addresses of the Personal Representative and the Personal Representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate, on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served, must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WITHIN THE TIME PERIOD SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first Publication of this notice is: February 3, 2018.

Personal Representative: /s/ Judy McAbee Judy McAbee 703 Burleson Street Smithville, Texas 78957

Attorney for Personal Representative: /s/ Lee H. Massey Lee H. Massey Attorney for Judy McAbee Florida Bar No. 36207 LEWIS and MASSEY, P.A. 1021 Massachusetts Avenue P.O. Box 701654, St. Cloud, Florida 34770-1654 Telephone: (407) 892-5138 Fax #: (407) 892-1534 E-Mail: lmassey@lewis-masseylaw.com February 3, 10, 2018

NOTICE UNDER FICTITIOUS NAME LAW Pursuant to Section 865.09 FLORIDA STATUTES To Whom It May Concern: NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of: PAIN FREE ORLANDO located at 1611 N. Main Street, in the County of Osceola, in the City of Kissimmee, 34744, intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations of the Florida Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida. That the party interested in said business enterprise is as follows:

CENTRAL FLORIDA ACCIDENT AND INJURY DATED at Kissimmee, Osceola County, Florida on the 6th day of February, 2018.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROBATE DIVISION File No.: 2018-CP-000067 PR Division: Probate. IN RE: ESTATE OF CATHERINE STONECIPHER, A/K/A CATHERINE A. STONECIPHER, Deceased. NOTICE TO CREDITORS The administration of the Estate of Catherine Stonecipher, a/k/a Catherine A. Stonecipher, deceased, whose date of death was March 13, 2017, is pending in the Circuit Court for Osceola County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is: 2 Courthouse Square, Kissimmee, Florida 34741. The names and addresses of the Personal Representative and the Personal Representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate, on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served, must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Department Summons by Publication SUFFOLK Division Docket Number: 17W1775 YARILLI LOTTI-VELEZ, vs. ANGEL L. NARANJO HERNANDEZ To the above named Defendant(s): Angel L. Naranjo Hernandez A complaint has been presented to this Court by the Plaintiff, Yariili Lotti-Velez, seeking a Loinnt For Custody-Support-Parenting Time. You are required to serve upon - Yariili Lotti-Velez - whose address is: 95 R Segamore, Revere, MA 02151 - Phone #: (617) 902-8586, your answer on or before the 22nd day of February 2018. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer in the office of the Register of this Court at Boston. Witness, BRIAN J. DUNN, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this 14th day of December, 2017. /s/ A. Arroyo Register CJD-112 February 3, 10, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROBATE DIVISION File No.: 2018-CP-000067 PR Division: Probate. IN RE: ESTATE OF CATHERINE STONECIPHER, A/K/A CATHERINE A. STONECIPHER, Deceased. NOTICE TO CREDITORS The administration of the Estate of Catherine Stonecipher, a/k/a Catherine A. Stonecipher, deceased, whose date of death was March 13, 2017, is pending in the Circuit Court for Osceola County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is: 2 Courthouse Square, Kissimmee, Florida 34741. The names and addresses of the Personal Representative and the Personal Representative's attorney are set forth below.

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The date of first Publication of this notice is: February 3, 2018.

Personal Representative: /s/ Judy McAbee Judy McAbee 703 Burleson Street Smithville, Texas 78957

Attorney for Personal Representative: /s/ Lee H. Massey Lee H. Massey Attorney for Judy McAbee Florida Bar No. 36207 LEWIS and MASSEY, P.A. 1021 Massachusetts Avenue P.O. Box 701654, St. Cloud, Florida 34770-1654 Telephone: (407) 892-5138 Fax #: (407) 892-1534 E-Mail: lmassey@lewis-masseylaw.com February 3, 10, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROBATE DIVISION File No. 2017-CP-00790PR IN RE: ESTATE OF IRMA JEAN STORR, Deceased. NOTICE TO CREDITORS The administration of the estate of IRMA JEAN STORR, deceased, whose date of death was June 12, 2017, is pending in the Circuit Court for Osceola County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 2 Courthouse Square, # 2000, Kissimmee, Florida 34741. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court ON OR BEFORE THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE TIME OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS

dress of which is: 2 Courthouse Square, Kissimmee, Florida 34741. The names and addresses of the Personal Representative and the Personal Representative's attorney are set forth below.

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NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first Publication of this notice is: February 3, 2018.

Personal Representative: /s/ Jeffrey P. Russo Jeffrey P. Russo 1300 Wood Lake Circle St. Cloud, Florida 34772

Attorney for Personal Representative: /s/ Lee H. Massey Lee H. Massey Attorney for Jeffrey P. Russo Florida Bar No. 36207 LEWIS and MASSEY, P.A. 1021 Massachusetts Avenue P.O. Box 701654, St. Cloud, Florida 34770-1654 Telephone: (407) 892-5138 Fax #: (407) 892-1534 E-Mail: lmassey@lewis-masseylaw.com February 3, 10, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROBATE DIVISION File No. 2018-CP-000050 PR Division: Probate. IN RE: ESTATE OF MARTENA S. MCLEAREN, Deceased. NOTICE TO CREDITORS The administration of the Estate of MARTENA S. MCLEAREN, deceased, whose date of death was November 17, 2017, is pending in the Circuit Court for Osceola County, Florida, Probate Division, the ad-

dress of which is: 2 Courthouse Square, Kissimmee, Florida 34741. The names and addresses of the Personal Representative and the Personal Representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate, on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served, must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

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NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first Publication of this notice is: February 3, 2018.

Personal Representative: /s/ Jeffrey P. Russo Jeffrey P. Russo 1300 Wood Lake Circle St. Cloud, Florida 34772

Attorney for Personal

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION
 Case #: 2015-CA-000804 MF
 WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., Plaintiff,
 vs.
 DUSTAN L. SKORCZ, et al, Defendants.
RE-NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
 RE-NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Granting Plaintiff's Motion to Reschedule Foreclosure Sale filed January 9, 2018 and entered in Case No. 2015-CA-000804 MF of the Circuit Court of the NINTH Judicial Circuit in and for OSCEOLA COUNTY, Florida, wherein WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., is Plaintiff, and DUSTAN L. SKORCZ, et al, are Defendants, the clerk, Armando R. Ramirez, will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash. beinnina at 11:00

A.M., Osceola County Courthouse 2 Courthouse Square, Suite 2600/Room Number 2602, Kissimmee, FL 34741, in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes, on the 13th day of MARCH, 2018, the following described property as set forth in said Lis Pendens, to wit:
Lot 74 of LAGO BUENDIA PHASE 1, according to the Plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 18, Pages 191-197, of the Public Records of Osceola County, Florida.
 Any person claiming an interest in the surplus funds from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.
 If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, Court Ad-

ministraton, Osceola County Courthouse, 2 Courthouse Square, Suite 6300, Kissimmee, Florida 34741, (407) 742-2417, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than seven (7) days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.
 Dated: January 30, 2018
 Phelan Hallinan
 Diamond & Jones, PLLC
 Attorneys for Plaintiff
 2001 NW 64th Street
 Suite 100
 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309
 Tel: 954-462-7000
 Fax: 954-462-7001
 Service by email: FL.Service@PhelanHallinan.com
 By: /s/ Heather Griffiths
 Phelan Hallinan
 Diamond & Jones, PLLC
 Heather Griffiths, Esq.,

Florida Bar No. 0091444
 Emilio R. Lenzi, Esq.,
 Florida Bar No. 0668273
 PH #: 64885
 February 3, 10, 2018
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
 RK TOWING, INC. gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicles on the following dates at 8:00 a.m., 907 A Garden Street, Kissimmee, FL 34744, pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes.
 RK TOWING, INC. reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.
FEBRUARY 26, 2018
 1) 2010 DODGE
VIN: 2D4RN6DX9AR336324
FEBRUARY 27, 2018
 1) 2000 CHEVROLET
VIN: 1G1JC5249Y7267187
 February 10, 2018

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
 PERSONAL PROPERTY OF THE FOLLOWING TENANTS WILL BE SOLD FOR CASH TO SATISFY RENTAL LIENS IN ACCORDANCE WITH FLORIDA STATUTES. SELF STORAGE FACILITY ACT, SECTIONS 83-806 AND 83-807; CONTENTS MAY INCLUDE KITCHEN, HOUSEHOLD ITEMS, BEDDING, TOYS, GAMES, PACKED CARTON, FURNITURE, TOOLS, TRUCKS, CARS ETC. THERE'S NO TITLE FOR VEHICLES SOLD AT THE LIEN SALE. OWNERS RESERVE THE RIGHT TO BID ON UNITS. Lien sale to be held online ending **Monday, February 26, 2018**, at the times indicated below. Viewing and bidding will only be available online at www.storage treasures.com, beginning at least 5 days prior to the scheduled sale date and time.
PERSONAL MINI STORAGE VINE - 608 W. VINE ST., KISSIMMEE, FL 34741 AT 12:00 P.M.: 9004 Carlos Jimenez, 1983 Chevy, VIN: 2GCEK14H3D1135330 & 9004 Angel Soto, 1983 Chevy, VIN: 2GCEK14H3D1135330.
 February 10, 17, 2018

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ORDINANCE NO. 2018-23
 Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the City of St. Cloud, Florida, at a meeting to be held on **February 20, 2018**, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 1300 9th Street, St. Cloud, Florida at **6:00 p.m.**, will consider the issue and make a recommendation to the City Council relative to enactment of Ordinance No. 2018-23 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ST. CLOUD AMENDING ARTICLE I, "DEFINITIONS", SECTION 2.1.1 "GENERAL" AND ARTICLE III, "ZONING REGULATION", DIVISION 20 "SUPPLEMENTAL DISTRICT REGULATIONS", SECTION 3.20.3 "ACCESSORY STRUCTURES", SUBSECTION A "RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS" OF THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE; ADDING A DEFINITION FOR PORTE-COCHERE; AMENDING THE HEIGHT AND SIZE LIMITATIONS FOR ACCESSORY STRUCTURES IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS; PROVIDING THAT ACCESSORY STRUCTURE SHALL BE COMPATIBLE WITH THE PRINCIPAL BUILDING; PROVIDING FOR SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICT, CODIFICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

Interested parties may appear at the meeting at which time this ORDINANCE is to be considered and shall be heard with respect to the proposed ORDINANCE at the Public Hearing thereon. This ORDINANCE, in its entirety can be reviewed at the Planning and Zoning Department between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Committee/ Board, with respect to any matter considered at such hearing/ meeting, such person will need a record of the proceedings and that, for this purpose, such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based, and which record is not provided by the City of St. Cloud. (FS 286.0105)

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact the Secretary/ Clerk of the Committee/ Board (listed below), prior to the meeting. (FS 286.26)

Michelle Acosta, Planning Commission Secretary
 1300 9th Street, St. Cloud, FL 34769
 Telephone: (407) 957-7239
 February 10, 2018

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ORDINANCE NO. 2018-23

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of St. Cloud, Florida, at a meeting to be held on **February 22, 2018**, in their Chamber at City Hall, 1300 9th Street, St. Cloud, Florida at **6:30 p.m.**, will consider the adoption of Ordinance No. 2018-23 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ST. CLOUD AMENDING ARTICLE I, "DEFINITIONS", SECTION 2.1.1 "GENERAL" AND ARTICLE III, "ZONING REGULATION", DIVISION 20 "SUPPLEMENTAL DISTRICT REGULATIONS", SECTION 3.20.3 "ACCESSORY STRUCTURES", SUBSECTION A "RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS" OF THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE; ADDING A DEFINITION FOR PORTE-COCHERE; AMENDING THE HEIGHT AND SIZE LIMITATIONS FOR ACCESSORY STRUCTURES IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS; PROVIDING THAT ACCESSORY STRUCTURE SHALL BE COMPATIBLE WITH THE PRINCIPAL BUILDING; PROVIDING FOR SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICT, CODIFICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

Interested parties may appear at the meeting at which time this ORDINANCE is to be considered and shall be heard with respect to the proposed ORDINANCE at the Public Hearing thereon. This ORDINANCE in its entirety can be reviewed at the City Clerk's office between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. and between 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Committee/ Board, with respect to any matter considered at such hearing/ meeting, such person will need a record of the proceedings and that, for this purpose, such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based, and which record is not provided by the City of St. Cloud. (FS 286.0105)

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact the Secretary/Clerk of the Committee/ Board (listed below), prior to the meeting. (FS 286.26)

Linda P. Jaworski, City Clerk
 1300 9th Street, St. Cloud, Florida 34769
 Telephone: 407-957-7300
 February 10, 2018

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ORDINANCE NO. 2017-70

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of St. Cloud, Florida, at a meeting to be held on **February 22, 2018**, in their Chamber at City Hall, 1300 9th Street, St. Cloud, Florida at **6:30 p.m.**, will consider the adoption of Ordinance No. 2017-70 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ST. CLOUD, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM OF ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY (180) DAYS PROHIBITING THE PROCESSING AND CONSIDERATION OF SPECIFIED APPLICATIONS FOR COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENTS AND ZONING MAP AMENDMENTS, TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO PREPARE NEW GOALS, OBJECTIVES, POLICIES AND LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS; MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR NON-CODIFICATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Interested parties may appear at the meeting at which time this ORDINANCE is to be considered and shall be heard with respect to the proposed ORDINANCE at the Public Hearing thereon. This ORDINANCE in its entirety can be reviewed at the City Clerk's office between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. and between 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Committee/ Board, with respect to any matter considered at such hearing/ meeting, such person will need a record of the proceedings and that, for this purpose, such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based, and which record is not provided by the City of St. Cloud. (FS 286.0105)

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact the Secretary/Clerk of the Committee/ Board (listed below), prior to the meeting. (FS 286.26)

Linda P. Jaworski, City Clerk
 1300 9th Street, St. Cloud, Florida 34769
 Telephone: 407-957-7300
 February 10, 2018

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ORDINANCE NO. 2018-17

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of St. Cloud, Florida, at a meeting to be held on **February 22, 2018**, in their Chamber at City Hall, 1300 9th Street, St. Cloud, Florida at **6:30 p.m.**, will consider the adoption of Ordinance No. 2018-17 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE, OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ST. CLOUD, FLORIDA, EXTENDING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM ON THE OPERATION AND LICENSED MARIJUANA TREATMENT CENTERS AND LICENSED MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARIES WITHIN THE CITY OF ST. CLOUD FOR A PERIOD OF SIX (6) MONTHS UNLESS RESCINDED, OR EXTENDED, OR BY A SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENT TO THE CITY'S LAND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS REGARDING THE REGULATION OF MARIJUANA TREATMENT CENTERS AND LICENSED MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARIES; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS, SEVERABILITY AND AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE.

Interested parties may appear at the meeting at which time this ORDINANCE is to be considered and shall be heard with respect to the proposed ORDINANCE at the Public Hearing thereon. This ORDINANCE in its entirety can be reviewed at the City Clerk's office between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. and between 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

If a person decides to appeal any decision made by the Committee/ Board, with respect to any matter considered at such hearing/ meeting, such person will need a record of the proceedings and that, for this purpose, such person may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based, and which record is not provided by the City of St. Cloud. (FS 286.0105)

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact the Secretary/Clerk of the Committee/ Board (listed below), prior to the meeting. (FS 286.26)

Linda P. Jaworski, City Clerk
 1300 9th Street, St. Cloud, Florida 34769
 Telephone: 407-957-7300
 February 10, 2018

The Central Florida Expressway Authority (CFX) is holding public meetings for the concept, feasibility and mobility studies for the above-referenced group of projects. CFX is evaluating the four previously studied transportation corridors to determine if they are viable and fundable in accordance with CFX policies and procedures. The corridors are in Osceola County, with small portions in Orange and Polk Counties.

The meetings will be held in an open house format on Tuesday, Feb. 13, Thursday, Feb. 15 and Wednesday, Feb. 21 from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. at the locations listed below. Attendees will be able to come at any point during the advertised time to view the study exhibits, ask questions and provide comments. A looping audiovisual presentation will be available for viewing throughout the meeting. All meetings will present identical information and will allow for questions and discussion with the study team.

Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2018
 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. St. Cloud High School Cafeteria
 2000 Bulldog Lane
 St. Cloud, Florida 34769

Thursday, Feb. 15, 2018
 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Lake Nona Middle School Cafeteria
 13700 Narcoossee Road
 Orlando, Florida 32832

Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2018
 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Association of Poinciana Villages
 Community Center 445 Marigold Avenue
 Poinciana, Florida 34759

The overall goals of these study corridors are to: improve roadway connections from I-4/SR 429 to Florida's Turnpike, to US 192 and SR 417; provide additional traffic capacity within the study area; enhance mobility of the area's growing population and economy; reduce congestion and delays on local roads by providing a new limited-access transportation option; provide for the incorporation of transit options; and promote regional connectivity.

The work includes the evaluation and documentation of the physical, natural, social and cultural environments within the corridors and the potential impacts associated with the various mobility alternatives. Transportation demands for each corridor have been determined and a range of transportation mobility options and programs are being developed to adequately meet the future demands.

If you have any questions or would like more information about the studies, please contact Mary Brooks, Public Involvement Coordinator, by phone at 407-802-3210, or by email at ConceptStudies@CFXway.com or visit the study webpage at <http://www.cfxway.com/agency-information/plans-studies/project-studies/public-involvement/>. You also may follow the studies on Facebook.

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status. Persons who require accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act or persons who require translation services, free of charge, should contact Ms. Brooks as noted above at least seven (7) days prior
 February 8, 10, 2018

Aviso de Reuniones Públicas -
 CFX Estudios de Concepto, Viabilidad y Movilidad Extensión de Poinciana Parkway / Conexión de I-4, Conexión de Autopistas de Southport, Conexión de Autopistas de Noreste & Extensión de Osceola Parkway CFX Números de Proyecto: 599-224, 599-223, 599-222 & 599-221, respectivamente

La Autoridad de Autopistas de la Florida Central (CFX) anuncia reuniones públicas para los estudios de concepto, viabilidad y movilidad de los corredores mencionados anteriormente. CFX está evaluando los cuatro corredores de transporte previamente estudiados para determinar si son viables y financierables de acuerdo con las políticas y procedimientos de CFX. Los corredores están en el Condado de Osceola, con pequeñas porciones en los condados de Orange y Polk.

Las reuniones públicas de casa abierta se llevarán a cabo en tres lugares el martes, 13 de febrero; el jueves, 15 de febrero y el miércoles, 21 de febrero; a partir de las 5:30 p.m. hasta las 7:30 p.m. en las ubicaciones enumeradas abajo. Los asistentes podrán venir en cualquier momento durante el tiempo anunciado para ver las exposiciones del estudio, hacer preguntas y proporcionar comentarios. Una presentación audiovisual continua estará disponible durante toda la reunión. **Todas las reuniones presentarán información idéntica y permitirán la discusión y preguntas con el equipo del estudio.**

Reuniones Públicas
 martes, 13 de febrero, 2018
 5:30 p.m. a 7:30 p.m.
 Escuela Secundaria St. Cloud Cafeteria
 2000 Bulldog Lane
 St. Cloud, Florida 34769

jueves, 15 de febrero, 2018
 5:30 p.m. a 7:30 p.m.
 Escuela Intermedia Lake Nona Cafeteria
 13700 Narcoossee Road
 Orlando, Florida 32832
 miércoles, 21 de febrero, 2018
 5:30 p.m. a 7:30 p.m.
 Centro Comunitario de la Asociación de Poinciana Villages
 445 Marigold Avenue
 Poinciana, Florida 34759

Los objetivos generales de estos corredores de estudio son: mejorar las conexiones viales desde I-4 / SR 429 a Florida's Turnpike, a US 192 y SR 417; proporcionar capacidad de tráfico adicional dentro del área de estudio; mejorar la movilidad de la creciente población y economía de la zona; reducir la congestión y las demoras en las carreteras locales al ofrecer una nueva opción de transporte de acceso limitado; prever la incorporación de opciones de tránsito; y promover la conectividad regional.

El trabajo incluye la evaluación y documentación de los entornos físicos, naturales, sociales y culturales dentro de los corredores y los impactos potenciales asociados con las diversas alternativas de movilidad. Se han determinado las demandas de transporte para cada corredor y se están desarrollando una gama de opciones y programas de movilidad para transportar a fin de satisfacer adecuadamente las demandas futuras.

Si tiene alguna pregunta o desea obtener más información sobre estos estudios, comuníquese con la Sra. Mary Brooks, Coordinadora de Información Pública al 407-802-3210, o por correo electrónico a ConceptStudies@CFXway.com, o visite la página web del estudio en www.cfxway.com/agency-information/plans-studies/project-studies/concept-studies/. También puede seguir los estudios en Facebook.

Se solicita la participación pública sin tener en cuenta la raza, el color, el origen nacional, la edad, el sexo, la religión, la discapacidad o la situación familiar. Las personas que requieran acomodaciones bajo la Ley de Americanos con Discapacidades o personas que requieran servicios de traducción, deben ponerse en contacto con la Sra. Brooks como se mencionó anteriormente por lo me la reunión.
 February 8, 10, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA CIRCUIT - CIVIL (RESIDENTIAL FORECLOSURE)
 CASE NUMBER: 2016-CA-003157
 BRIDGEWELL INVESTMENT FUND LLC,
 Plaintiff,
 vs.
 YOGO REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT LLC, A FLORIDA LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY; SOMERSET AT REMINGTON HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., a Florida Not For Profit Corporation; UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION #1 AND UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION # 2,
 Defendants.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a **FINAL JUDGMENT** dated September 5, 2017 entered in Civil Action CASE NUMBER: 2016-CA-003157, Circuit Court of the Ninth Judicial, in and for Osceola County, Florida, wherein **YOGO REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT LLC, A FLORIDA LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY; SOMERSET AT REMINGTON HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., a Florida Not For Profit Corporation; UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION # 1, AND UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION # 2**, and all unknown parties claiming by, through or under or against the above named Defendants, who are not known to be dead or alive, whether said unknown parties claim as heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees, spouses or other claimants, are named Defendants, **ARMANDO RAMIREZ**, Clerk of the above entitled Court, shall sell the property described herein and in the Final Judgment on **February 27, 2018**, at the Osceola County Courthouse, **Suite 2600/Room # 2602 of the Osceola County Courthouse, 2 Courthouse Square, Kissimmee, Osceola County, Florida 34741 at 11:00 a.m.**, to the highest bidder, or bidders, for cash, after giving notice as required by Section 45.031, Florida Statute, to

Lot 25, SOMERSET, according to the map or plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 16, Page 178, Public Records of Osceola County, Florida.

Parcel Number: 29-25-3050-41000-10250
Street Address: 1053 BERKELEY DR., KISSIMMEE, FL 34744

ANY PERSON CLAIMING AND INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS FROM THE SALE, IF ANY, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER, AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MUST FILE A CLAIM WITHIN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE. If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, Court Administration, Osceola County Courthouse, 2 Courthouse Square, Suite 6300, Kissimmee, Florida 34741. Telephone: (407) 742-2417, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing impaired, call 1-(800) 955-8770. If you are voice impaired, call 1-(800) 955-8777.

DATED on January 29, 2018.
 /s/ Berry J. Walker Jr.
 Berry J. Walker, Jr., Esquire
 Florida Bar No. 0742960

Walker & Tudhope, P.A.
 225 South Westmonte Drive, Suite 2040,
 Altamonte Springs, FL 32714
 Phone: 407-478-1866
 Fax: 407-478-1865
 E-Mail Address:
 berryw@walkerandtudhope.com
 Alternate E-Mail:
 suzzette@walkerandtudhope.com
 February 3, 10, 2018

Request for Qualifications for Engineering Services FOR THE OSCEOLA CHAIN OF LAKES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
 RFQ for Engineering Services

The Osceola Chain of Lakes Community Development District ("District"), located in Osceola County, Florida, announces that professional engineering services will be required on a continuing basis for the District's sanitary sewer facilities, water distribution system, reuse water system, stormwater system, electrical service systems, conservation mitigation, onsite and off-site public roadway improvements, and other public improvements authorized by Chapter 190, Florida Statutes. The engineering firm selected will act in the general capacity of District Engineer and provide District engineering services, as required.

Any firm or individual ("Applicant") desiring to provide professional services to the District must: 1) hold applicable federal, state and local licenses; 2) be authorized to do business in Florida in accordance with Florida law; and 3) furnish a statement ("Qualification Statement") of its qualifications and past experience on U.S. General Service Administration's "Architect-Engineer Qualifications, Standard Form No. 330," with pertinent supporting data. Among other things, Applicants must submit information relating to: a) the ability and adequacy of the Applicant's professional personnel; b) whether the Applicant is a certified minority business enterprise; c) the Applicant's willingness to meet time and budget requirements; d) the Applicant's past experience and performance, including but not limited to past experience as a District Engineer for any community development districts and past experience with Osceola County; e) the geographic location of the Applicant's headquarters and offices; f) the current and projected workloads of the Applicant; and g) the volume of work previously awarded to the Applicant by the District. Further, each Applicant must identify the specific individual affiliated with the Applicant who would be handling District meetings, construction services, and other engineering tasks.

The District will review all Applicants and will comply with Florida law, including the Consultant's Competitive Negotiations Act, Chapter 287, Florida Statutes ("CCNA"). All applicants interested must submit eight (8) copies of Standard Form No. 330 and Qualification Statement by 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 27, 2018, to the attention of Gary Moyer, Osceola Chain of Lakes CDD, 313 Campus Street, Celebration, Florida 34747 ("District Manager's Office").

The Board shall select and rank the Applicants using the requirements set forth in the CCNA and the evaluation criteria on file with the District Manager, and the highest ranked Applicant will be requested to enter into contract negotiations. If an agreement cannot be reached between the District and the highest-ranked Applicant, negotiations will cease and begin with the next highest-ranked Applicant, and if these negotiations are unsuccessful, will continue to the third highest-ranked Applicant.

The District reserves the right to reject any and all Qualification Statements. Additionally, there is no express or implied obligation for the District to reimburse Applicants for any expenses associated with the preparation and submittal of the Qualification Statements in response to this request.

Any protest regarding the terms of this Notice, or the evaluation criteria on file with the District Manager, must be filed in writing, within seventy-two (72) calendar hours (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays) after the publication of this Notice. The formal protest setting forth with particularity the facts and law upon which the protest is based shall be filed within seven (7) calendar days (including Saturdays, Sundays, and state holidays) after the initial notice of protest was filed. Failure to timely file a notice of protest or failure to timely file a formal written protest shall constitute a waiver of any right to object or protest with respect to aforesaid Notice or evaluation criteria provisions. Any person who files a notice of protest shall provide to the District, simultaneous with the filing of the notice, a protest bond with a responsible surety to be approved by the District and in the amount of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00). Additional information and requirements regarding protests are set forth in the District's Rules of Procedure, which are available from the District Manager.

Publish on Saturday, February 10, 2018,
 Osceola News Gazette

NOTICE TO QUALIFIED CONTRACTORS

Osceola County has received Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for the purposes of connecting owner-occupied, single family housing units to new sewer-sanitation collection lines. This funding correlates with the Marydia Sewer Enhancement Project and will be utilized to service income-eligible (80% of area median income or below) individual and family households. All individual and family households that are found to be income eligible, owner-occupied and within the Marydia sewer service area, may fit the eligibility criteria to receive assistance can apply for assistance. These CDBG funds are designed to revitalize neighborhoods and assist program eligible individuals and families whose septic systems have failed, are on the precipice of failure or are prone to malfunction/at risk.

The Osceola County CDBG Program is seeking licensed, qualified utility installation contractors to assist in the implementation of sewer-sanitation connections as a part of the Marydia Sewer Enhancement Project. The CDBG project funding is designated solely to assist individual housing units qualified as a part of the Osceola County CDBG Program. Project scopes of work will include but not be limited to, the abandonment of existing failing and/or non-code compliant septic systems; correcting all Health Department and Florida Building Code violations related to the septic abandonment and sewer connection; correcting any health and/or safety violations that may be present as a result of faulty, and/or non-operational septic systems; and connecting the qualified homes to new sewer-sanitation lines within the boundaries of the Marydia Sewer Enhancement Project. Any-and-all work must comply with all current and any applicable Federal code requirements, Florida Building Codes, and all applicable local (County) ordinances and/or requirements. All work must occur on proper easement or right-of-way, including temporary easement or waiver to enter the property and make septic abandonment, any needed exterior plumbing adjustments and the sewer hook-up.

If you are a utility, or otherwise qualified, contractor licensed with the State of Florida and are interested in bidding for services related to this work, please complete a contractor qualification application packet. Application packets can be obtained at: 330 N Beaumont Ave. Kissimmee, FL 34741 Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. You may also download the application at: <http://www.osceola.org/agencies-departments/human-services/community-development-block-grant/cdbg-program-documents> from the Osceola County website or please contact: Cheryl Leonard at Cheryl.L Leonard@Osceola.org or 407-742-8402.

Contractor must be able to comply with any Davis Bacon requirements and must provide proof of workers compensation and liability insurance to be considered for this program.

Osceola County is an equal opportunity employer and encourages the participation and hiring of W/MBE and Section 3 businesses and individuals.
 February 10, 2018

AVISO A CONTRATISTAS CUALIFICADOS

El Condado de Osceola ha recibido fondos del Programa de Subvención de Desarrollo Comunitario (CDBG) del Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano de los Estados Unidos (HUD) con el propósito de conectar unidades de viviendas unifamiliares ocupadas por sus propietarios a nuevas líneas de alcantarillado sanitario. Este financiamiento se correlaciona con el Proyecto de Mejoramiento de Alcantarillas de Marydia y se utilizará para dar servicio a familias individuales y familiares elegibles para ingresos (80% del ingreso medio del área o menos). Todos los hogares individuales y familiares que cumplen con los requisitos de ingresos, ocupados por sus propietarios y dentro del área de servicio de alcantarillado de Marydia, que puedan cumplir con los criterios de elegibilidad para recibir asistencia, podrán solicitar asistencia. Estos fondos de CDBG están diseñados para revitalizar vecindarios y asistir a las personas y familias elegibles para el programa cuyos sistemas sépticos han fallado, están al borde de la falla o suon propensos a un mal funcionamiento / riesgo.

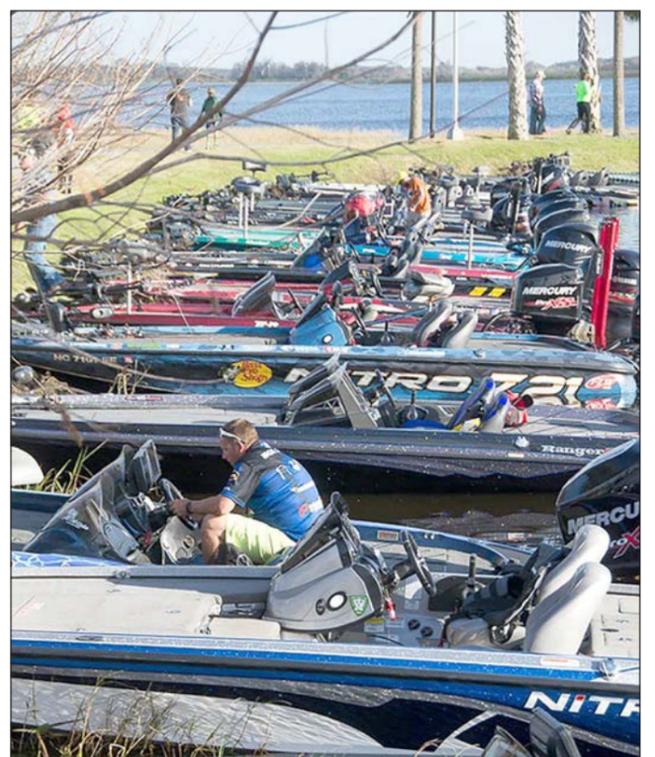
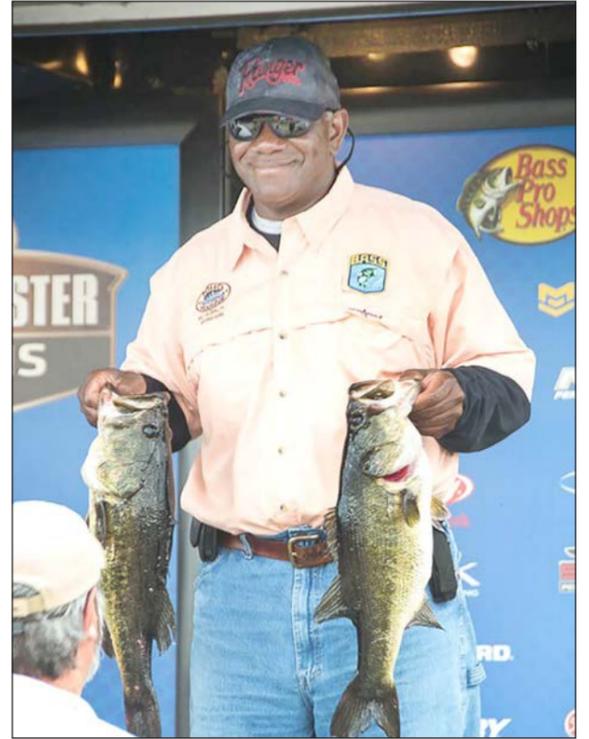
El programa CDBG del Condado de Osceola está buscando contratistas de instalación de servicios públicos autorizados y calificados para ayudar en la implementación de las conexiones de saneamiento y alcantarillado como parte del Proyecto de mejoramiento de alcantarillas de Marydia. El financiamiento del proyecto CDBG está designado únicamente para ayudar a las unidades de vivienda individuales calificadas como parte del Programa CDBG del Condado de Osceola. Los ámbitos de trabajo del proyecto incluirán, entre otros, el abandono de sistemas sépticos defectuosos y / o no compatibles con el código; corrigiendo todas las infracciones del Departamento de Salud y del Código de Construcción de la Florida relacionadas con el abandono séptico y la conexión al alcantarillado; corrigiendo cualquier violación a la salud y / o seguridad que pueda estar presente como resultado de sistemas sépticos defectuosos y / o no operativos; y conectar las viviendas calificadas con las nuevas líneas de saneamiento y alcantarillado dentro de los límites del Proyecto de Mejoras de Alcantarillado de Marydia. El trabajo de todos y cada uno debe cumplir con todos los requisitos del código federal vigente; los Códigos de construcción de la Florida y todas las ordenanzas y / o requisitos locales (del condado) aplicables. Todo el trabajo debe ocurrir en una servidumbre o derecho de paso adecuado, incluida la servidumbre temporal o exención para ingresar a la propiedad y realizar un abandono séptico, cualquier ajuste de plomería exterior necesario y el enganche de la alcantarilla.

Si usted es un contratista de servicios públicos o un contratista calificado con licencia del Estado de Florida y está interesado en participar en licitaciones por servicios relacionados con este trabajo, complete un paquete de solicitud de calificación para contratistas. Los paquetes de solicitud se pueden obtener en: 330 N Beaumont Ave., Kissimmee, FL 34741 Lunes a viernes de 9:00 a.m. a 5:00 p.m. También puede descargar la aplicación en: <http://www.osceola.org/agencies-departments/human-services/community-development-block-grant/cdbg-program-documents> del sitio web del condado de Osceola o comuníquese con: Cheryl Leonard en Cheryl.L Leonard@Osceola.org o llamar al 407-742-8402.

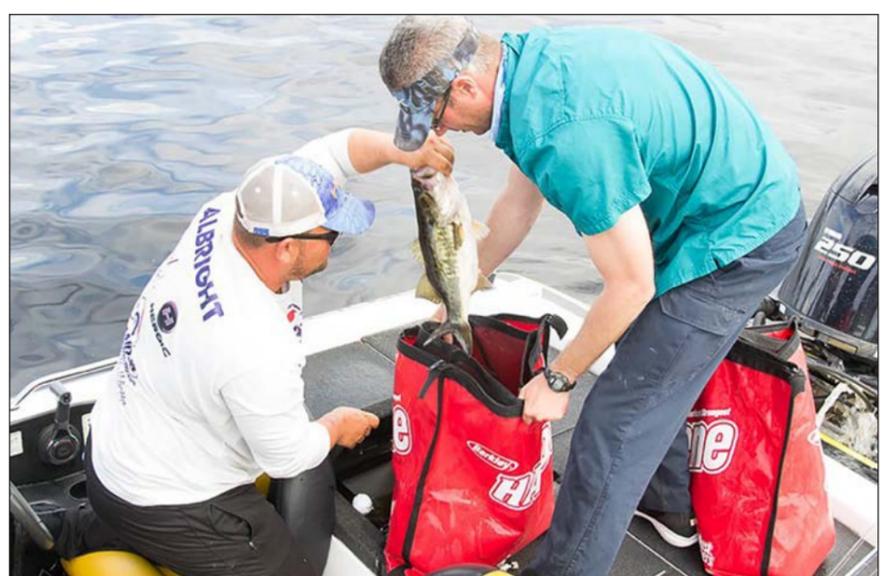
El contratista debe ser capaz de cumplir con los requisitos de Davis Bacon y debe presentar comprobante de compensación a los trabajadores y seguro de responsabilidad civil para ser considerado para este programa.

El Condado de Osceola es un empleador que ofrece igualdad de oportunidades y alienta la participación y la contratación de empresas e individuales W / MBE y Sección 3
 February 10, 2018

B.A.S.S. TAKES TO LAKE TOHO



The first Bass Pro Shops Bassmaster Eastern Open got underway at Big Lake Toho Marina last week. There were 418 anglers in 209 boats that participated in the first two days of the event and then the field was knocked down to 12 on the Pro and Co-Angler sides on Feb 3. Top row: Anglers pause for the national anthem at the start of weigh-in on day one. Don Eady, of St. Cloud, proudly shows off his catch, enough to put him in third place after day one. Second row: Spectators gathered around the stage for the live weigh-in held at the Kissimmee Lakefront Marina. Charlie Hartley from Ohio, is no stranger to the B.A.S.S. circuit. Third row: "Big Fish" Bobby Lane of Lakeland with a eight and nine pound bass gave him an 11 pound lead after day one. Lane, the overall winner on the Pro side, brought in 60 pounds earning him over \$52,000 in cash and prizes and on the Co-Angler side, Steve Robbins with 26 pounds, 8 ounces for a \$30,000 boat. The first flight of boats and anglers arrive and line up on the banks of the marina to kick off the 3 p.m. weigh-in. Bottom: Local anglers, Chuck Pippin and Jerrod Albright discussing strategy perhaps while awaiting bags to carry the fish to the scales.



News-Gazette Photos by Cindy Joint

OSCEOLA NEWS-GAZETTE Triple E

Section E

February 10, 2018

Company Spotlight Profit milestone at Twitter

Twitter made money for the first time in its nearly 12-year history, a milestone that satisfied investors in the short term but might not resolve the company's broader problems any time soon.

Twitter hadn't turned a profit until now because — competing with Facebook, Google and others for digital ad dollars — it didn't attract enough advertising revenue to make up for its expenses. But it's been cutting costs and focusing on new



revenue streams, such as live video.

The San Francisco-based company's net income — a first — was \$91 million, or 12 cents per share.

GBH Insights analyst Daniel Ives called the results "a breath of fresh air for investors that have patiently awaited for this turnaround story to manifest after years of pain."

Twitter shares closed up 12 percent Thursday at \$30.18, their highest price in about two-and-a-half years.

Twitter (TWTR)	Thursday's close: \$30.18	Price change	1-yr	2-yr*	3-yr*
52-WEEK RANGE	Price-earnings ratio: Lost money (Based on past 12-month results)	TWTR	61.2%	42.3	-14.3
\$14 \$35					
AP		*annualized			Source: FactSet

Fiat Chrysler's winning bet

Fiat Chrysler's 2016 decision to stop making cars in the U.S. and produce more trucks and SUVs is paying off.

FCA's U.S. sales fell 1 percent last year as overall demand softened. But profits were up as the company sold fewer

low-margin cars. Buyers paid 5 percent more than the prior year for Jeep SUVs and 1 percent more for Ram pickups, according to Kelley Blue Book.

FCA CEO Sergio Marchionne says FCA — the smallest of Detroit's automakers — could surpass Ford Motor Co. in operating profits this year. Ford is now

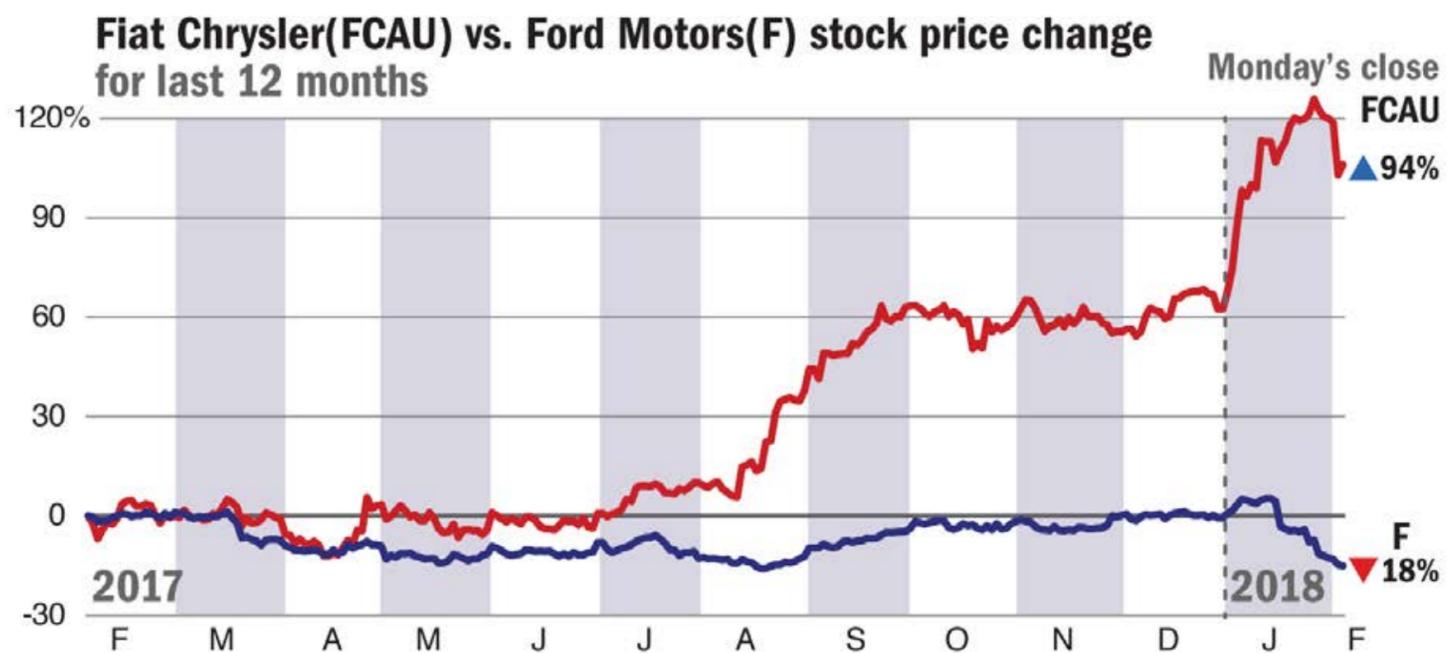


playing catch-up with a similar plan to cut cars from its lineup.

FCA could face trouble down the line. Ford is investing heavily in electric vehicles and self-driving cars, for example; FCA is not. Its Fiat brand continues to

struggle in North America, a critical market that accounts for 59 percent of FCA's revenues.

But for now, investors are applauding. FCA's stock price has more than doubled over the last year to \$24 per share. In that same time, Ford slipped 13 percent to below \$11.



Source: FactSet

Dee-Ann Durbin; Jenni Sohn • AP

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Correction detection

It's a term that has been bandied about a lot recently — correction.

What is it exactly? A correction happens when a stock, bond, commodity or index declines 10 percent from a recent peak.

The Dow Jones industrial average on Tuesday briefly fell 10 percent below its most recent record. But most market watchers wait until the market has closed for the day before declaring an official correction. As of Tuesday's close, the Dow, Standard & Poor's 500 and Nasdaq have not fallen enough to be called a correction.



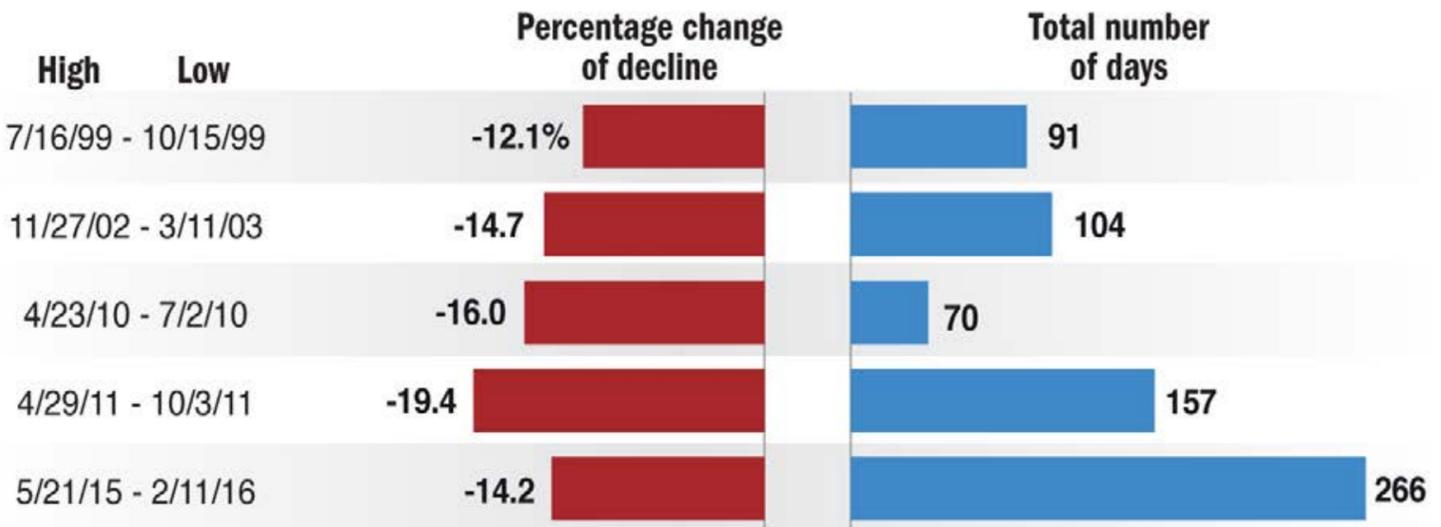
Economic conditions remain strong but there may be volatility ahead. And volatility is normal, says Brad McMillan, chief investment officer for Commonwealth Financial Network. He says we are simply out of practice watching the market go down, which makes those one-day drops scarier.

So would a correction be a bad thing? Not necessarily. Corrections are common during bull markets. This is the second-longest bull market on record, so some experts say we are overdue. And it might help normalize stock prices, which by many measures are considered expensive.

So would a correction be a bad thing? Not necessarily.

Corrections are common during bull markets. This is the second-longest bull market on record, so some experts say we are overdue. And it might help normalize stock prices, which by many measures are considered expensive.

Market corrections aren't unusual in a bull market. They also aren't uniform - varying often in depth and duration. Here's a look at several recent market corrections in the S&P 500 index.



Source: CFRA Research

Sarah Skidmor Sell; Alex Nieves • AP

Company Spotlight Oh Snap!

Nearly a year after its initial public offering and lackluster growth, the company behind Snapchat is making a comeback, calming investor fears that the disappearing photo and video app is a mere has-been destined to get trampled by Facebook.

Snap Inc. said its daily active users grew by 5 percent to 187 million in the fourth quarter, driving a 72 percent jump in revenue. Snap's losses widened, but that was due to costs for

its initial public offering.

Snap is working on redesigning its app to separate what friends share and what media organizations publish

in an attempt to appeal to a broader range of users. CEO Evan Spiegel said the redesign will be available to all Snapchat users in the first quarter.

Shares in the Venice Beach, California company jumped 48 percent to \$20.75 Wednesday, their highest level in nine months.



AP

Source: FactSet

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Kelly getting scrutiny after senior aide's resignation

WASHINGTON (AP) — Pressure mounted on White House chief of staff John Kelly as questions swirled Friday about his defense of a senior aide he fought to keep in a highly sensitive West Wing job despite accusations of spousal abuse from two ex-wives.

White House staff secretary Rob Porter, a member of President Donald Trump's inner circle and arguably Kelly's closest aide, cleaned out his desk on Thursday. But the aftershocks of his resignation reverberated amid concerns about his access to classified information and about how long senior staffers knew about the allegations.

Though the accusations against Porter became public this week, Kelly learned last fall that something was amiss with the staff secretary's attempts to get a security clearance, according to an administration official who insisted on anonymity to discuss internal matters.

The chief of staff had sought information about the status of security clearance applications for top aides, and it was then he learned there were allegations against Porter from his ex-wives, said the official. Porter and Kelly later discussed the allegations. Meanwhile, White House counsel Don McGahn was apprised of the allegation in early 2017, the official said.

The White House official said that staffers felt misled about how Porter downplayed the allegations, both to Kelly and McGahn. Kelly himself faced criticism for initially defending his aide — only to later shift course after the publication of photos showing one of Porter's ex-wives with a black eye.

"It's fair to say we all could have done better over the last few hours or last few days in dealing with this situation," said White House deputy press secretary Raj Shah, who faced a barrage of questions about Kelly during a press briefing.

Kelly sent a memo to staff late Thursday in which he wrote that "while we are all processing the shocking and troubling allegations made against a former White House staffer, I want you to know that we all take matters of domestic violence very seriously. Domestic violence is abhorrent and has no place in our society."

He added that resources would be available to any White House staffer who

would like to seek counseling.

When the allegations first emerged against Porter a number of senior aides rallied around him, and the White House acknowledged that personal relationships may have played a role in their response. Communications Director Hope Hicks, who was dating the staff secretary, helped draft the original statements defending him, according to three current and former White House officials.

Shah said Thursday that Hicks later "recused" herself from some aspects of the matter, but it was unclear from what. Kelly, meanwhile, was Porter's loudest defender, including in the first hours after the graphic photos of alleged abuse emerged.

Only later did the chief of staff, who had argued for Porter to keep his post, release a second statement in which he said he supported Porter's resignation.

Shah said that Trump was not aware until Tuesday of the accusations against Porter, who was a frequent presence in the Oval Office and helped craft last week's State of the Union address. By the time the president was fully briefed of the claims against Porter on Wednesday, the once-rising White House star had already resigned, according to the official.

A number of lawmakers criticized Kelly, and a leading women's group called for the chief of staff to resign.

The president, for his part, has not signaled to allies that he is on the verge of making a change. But his frustration with Kelly has grown in recent weeks.

Trump has long resisted Kelly's attempt to control him. In recent weeks, the president has complained about the chief of staff to his circle of informal advisers, according to two people who speak to the president regularly but are not authorized to publicly discuss private conversations. One of the people said Trump was angry that Kelly did not bring the Porter allegations to him sooner.

Kelly also drew Trump's ire last month when he seemed to suggest that the president was flip-flopping on his call for a border wall. Trump complained to aides that the chief of staff had portrayed him as a child who had to be managed, a contention that particularly



In this Jan. 20, 2017 file photo, White House Staff Secretary Rob Porter, center, hands President Donald Trump a confirmation order for James Mattis as defense secretary, in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington, as White House Chief of Staff Reince Priebus, right, watches. Porter is stepping down following allegations of domestic abuse by his two ex-wives.

irked the president in the wake of the way he was portrayed in the recent Michael Wolff book, "Fire and Fury."

Though Trump frequently vents about senior aides, he is often loath to fire staffers. A dismissal of Kelly would surely revive the narrative of a White House in crisis as it faces the ongoing Russia probe and the midterm elections.

But Kelly's handling of the Porter affair rattled some aides, who questioned his full-throated defense of an accused batterer, according to more than a half-dozen White House officials and outside advisers who were not authorized to speak publicly about private conversations.

Democratic swiftly called for an investigation into Porter's presence at the White House.

"If John Kelly is covering this up, he needs to be held accountable," Sen. Jon Tester, D-Mont., told CNN's "New Day," adding, "He better have a really good reason. Otherwise, he's gone,

too." Toni Van Pelt, head of the National Organization for Women, was more direct. She revisited the accusations that Trump himself has sexually harassed women, allegations he has denied.

"White House chief of staff John Kelly must resign," said Van Pelt. "His pathetic defense of staff secretary Rob Porter reveals his true nature — an enabler of sexual abusers, a betrayer of trust and an avoicer of responsibility."

The White House was also put on the defensive about Porter's interim security clearance, fielding questions about how someone could handle some of the nation's most sensitive documents while potentially being ripe for blackmail. In Thursday's briefing, Shah outlined the background check procedure, which is run by the federal law enforcement and intelligence agencies and was still underway for Porter.

Attorneys who specialize in security clearance said

Porter should have disclosed the allegations, including the protective order granted to one woman, when he filed his lengthy national security application. John V. Berry, who represents government employees and contractors, said the FBI would have notified the White House about the allegations but noted that the interim clearance would not have prohibited Porter from having access to sensitive information.

Both of Porter's ex-wives have detailed the nature of the abuse they said they suffered at Porter's hands and said they informed the FBI. One of them, Jennifer Wiloughby, posted about it in detail on Instagram in April 2017 and wrote of Porter that "When I tried to get help, I was counseled to consider carefully how what I said might affect his career."

She wrote again Thursday that she hoped her "story and my words can be a beacon forward for anyone who needs to be reminded: You are seen. You matter. You are enough."

Kelly was brought into the West Wing to bring calm to Trump's tumultuous operation but recently has created some of his own chaos, rattling aides and lawmakers with inflammatory remarks and political missteps.

For many staffers, Kelly had brought a much-needed sense of order to a White House that had been riven with rivalries and was frequently upended by the whims of a mercurial president. Kelly, along with Porter, helped organize the West Wing's policy and decision-making process and infused the staff with a clearer sense of purpose, officials said.

But that semblance of confidence has been eroded. Kelly's claim Tuesday that some immigrants are "too lazy to get off their [expletive]" and register for government protections stunned some aides who questioned the chief of staff's political instincts and were dismayed by his language.

Used to scuffles, Rand Paul takes on Senate, forces shutdown

WASHINGTON (AP) — The last time Sen. Rand Paul was in the news for a scuffle, it involved a neighbor who's admitted tackling him in his yard over a lawn dispute. Thursday night, the Kentucky Republican took on the entire U.S. Senate — and rather than fisticuffs, his weapons of choice were obstinacy and the chamber's weird rules.

With the clock ticking toward a midnight government shutdown, the 55-year-old lawmaker, ophthalmologist and veteran Senate pest made himself the sole obstacle to his chamber's quick passage of legislation keeping federal agencies open.

The measure — which would shower the Pentagon and domestic programs with

around \$400 billion in new spending — was destined for overwhelming Senate approval, no matter what Paul did. It was finally approved early Friday by a 71-28 vote.

But the libertarian, failed 2016 GOP presidential contender and "wacko bird" — a moniker an angry Sen. John McCain gave him years ago — said "I object" when Senate leaders tried speeding a vote on the measure. Under the chamber's rules, senators had to delay votes on the massive legislation past 1 a.m. Friday.

"I didn't come up here to be part of somebody's club. I didn't come up here to be liked," said Paul, whose actions during a seven-year Senate career make it likely that many colleagues would

silently answer, "Mission accomplished."

"I'm in a club that says we need to keep the government open," Sen. Thom Tillis, R-N.C., said on the Senate floor. With Paul standing just a yards away, he said the delays could continue "if we want to go for theater" but said the bill would pass notwithstanding.

Paul said he was demanding a vote on an amendment against breaking spending caps imposed by a bipartisan budget agreement in 2011. He complained the new budget accord would drive up federal deficits — but didn't mention that he backed a \$1.5 trillion tax bill in December that added red ink that was multiples larger than this week's spending agree-

ment.

"I ran for office because I was critical of President Obama's trillion-dollar deficits," he told the chamber's leaders, who stood silently as he derailed their hopes for an early evening vote. "Now we have Republicans hand-in-hand with Democrats offering us trillion-dollar deficits." He said he could not "look the other way because my party is now complicit in the deficits."

Paul said he was asking for a 15-minute debate and then a vote on his amendment, which was certain to lose. He said the 652-page measure was "printed at midnight" and was a bill that "no one has read."

Paul's fellow Kentuckian, Senate Majority Leader

Mitch McConnell, and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., had no intention of caving in, knowing that would inevitably spark demands for amendment votes by other senators. Instead, they offered him a procedural vote, which Paul declined.

"It's his right, of course, to vote against the bill," McConnell said around 6 p.m. EST. "But I would argue that it's time to vote."

"We're in risky territory here," Schumer said, noting that Paul was flirting with a politically damaging government shutdown.

They got nowhere. Neither did No. 2 Senate GOP leader John Cornyn of Texas, who at 10 p.m. EST tried and failed to get Paul's con-

sent for votes before 1 a.m. Cornyn said Paul's objections were "wasting everybody's time" and said the Kentuckian would "effectively shut down the federal government for no real reason."

Paul came to the Senate in 2009 after defeating a GOP primary opponent that McConnell had actively supported. The two men have made an effort to work together, and McConnell even backed Paul's abortive 2016 presidential run.

"We get along fine," Paul told reporters Thursday. Asked if McConnell was annoyed with him, Paul said: "Not that I know of. I think he takes policy disputes in hand."

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US flu season still worsening; now as bad as 2009 swine flu

NEW YORK (AP) — The flu has further tightened its grip on the U.S. This season is now as bad as the swine flu epidemic nine years ago.

A government report out Friday shows 1 of every 13 visits to the doctor last week was for fever, cough and other symptoms of the flu. That ties the highest level seen in the U.S. during swine flu in 2009.

And it surpasses every winter flu season since 2003, when the government changed the way it measures flu.

This season started early and has been driven by a nasty type of flu that tends to put more people in the hospital and cause more deaths than other more common flu bugs.

But its long-lasting intensity has surprised experts, who are still sorting out why it's been so bad. Flu usually peaks in February.

Some doctors say this is the worst flu season they've seen in decades. Some people are saying that, too.

Veda Albertson, a 70-year-old retiree in Tampa, was sick for three weeks with high fever and fluid in her lungs. She said she hadn't been this sick from the flu since the 1960s, when she was a young mother who couldn't get out of bed to

go to the crib of her crying baby.

"It was like 'Wham!' It was bad. It was awful," she said of the illness that hit her on Christmas Day.

Heather Jossi, a 40-year-old Denver police officer and avid runner, said her illness last month was the worst flu she's experienced.

"I don't remember aches this bad. Not for four days," said Jossi. "It took me out."

Last week, 43 states had high patient traffic for the flu, up from 42, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported. Flu remained widespread in every state except Hawaii and Oregon and hospitalizations continued to climb.

So far, however, deaths this season from the flu and flu-related pneumonia have lagged a little behind some recent bad seasons. There are as many as 56,000 deaths connected to the flu during a bad year.

The CDC said the amount of suspected flu cases at doctor office and hospitals last week matched that seen in 2009, when a new swine flu epidemic swept the country and panicked many people. Swine flu, also called pandemic H1N1, was a new strain that hadn't been seen before. It first hit that spring, at the tail end of



In this Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2018 file photo, a nurse prepares a flu shot at the Salvation Army in Atlanta. The U.S. government's Friday, Feb. 9, 2018 flu report showed the flu has further tightened its grip on the U.S. This season is now as intense as the swine flu epidemic nine years ago.

the winter season, but doctor visits hit their height in late October.

This flu season, hospitalization rates have surpassed the nasty season of the winter of 2014-2015,

when the vaccine was a poor match to the main bug.

Health officials have said this year's vaccine targets the flu viruses that are currently making people

sick. However, preliminary studies out of Australia and Canada have found the shot was only 10 to 20 percent effective in those countries. How well it is working the U.S. won't be

known until next week.

This year, illnesses are commonly being reported in people who got a flu shot. Albertson said she did in late October. Jossi didn't.

US stocks waver a day after entering a 'correction'

U.S. stocks wavered between small gains and losses in morning trading Friday, giving up some of a big jump that came right after the opening bell. The strong open came a day after the market entered a "correction" for the first time in two years.

The Dow Jones industrial average was modestly higher after briefly being up nearly 350 points in early trading. The blue chip average suffered its second 1,000-point drop in a week on Thursday.

The shaky morning rally barely put a dent in the weeklong sell-off that has punned stocks. The Standard & Poor's 500 index, the benchmark for many index funds, was on pace to finish its worst week since January 2016.

"When you have an early morning rally in a decline of this nature all that does is invite selling," said Bruce Bittles, chief investment strategist at Baird. "That's what we saw yesterday and we know where that ended up."

The S&P 500 rose 12 points, or 0.5 percent, to 2,593 as of 11:08 a.m. Eastern Time. The Dow Jones industrial average gained 72 points, or 0.3 percent, to 23,933. The Nasdaq composite added 37 points, or 0.6 percent, to 6,814.

On Thursday, the S&P 500 and Dow entered a correction — that is, a 10 percent decline from its latest peak. The indexes reached their latest record highs just two weeks ago.

Gains by technology stocks accounted for much of the market's advance Friday, outweighing losses

by consumer-focused companies, energy stocks and other sectors. Oil prices were down sharply.

Bond prices fell. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note rose to 2.84 percent from 2.83 percent.

Several companies rose sharply Friday after reporting quarterly results and outlooks that beat Wall Street's forecasts. Skechers USA jumped \$3.02, or 7.9 percent, to \$41.20. Chipmaker Nvidia climbed \$10.01, or 4.6 percent, to \$227.53.

Expedia slumped after its latest earnings fell short of analysts' expectations. The travel website's 2018 outlook also disappointed investors. Its shares sank \$19.81, or 16.1 percent, to \$103.23.

The early rally in U.S. stock indexes followed a broad slide in global markets.

In Europe, Germany's DAX fell 1.2 percent, while France's CAC 40 lost 1.2 percent. Britain's FTSE 100 shed 0.7 percent. Asian markets fell more sharply. Tokyo's Nikkei 225 lost 2.3 percent and Hong Kong's Hang Seng gave up 3.1 percent.

Investors also had their eye on the budget battle in Washington. President Donald Trump on Friday signed a \$400 billion budget deal that sharply boosts spending and swells the federal deficit, ending a brief federal government shutdown.

U.S. stocks started to tumble last week after the Labor Department said workers' wages grew at a fast rate in January.

Investors worried rising wages will hurt corporate



In this Nov. 13, 2015, file photo, the American flag flies above the Wall Street entrance to the New York Stock Exchange. The U.S. stock market opens at 9:30 a.m. EST on Friday, Feb. 9, 2018.

profits and could signal an increase in inflation that could prompt the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates at a faster pace, putting a brake on the economy.

On Wall Street, many companies that rose the most over the last year have borne the brunt of the selling. Facebook and Boeing have both fallen sharply.

Financial analysts regard corrections as a normal event but say the latest unusually abrupt plunge might have been triggered by a combination of events that rattled investors. Those include wor-

ries about a potential rise in U.S. inflation or interest rates and whether budget disputes in Washington.

The market, currently in its second-longest bull run of all time, had not seen a correction for two years, an unusually long time. Many market watchers have been predicting a pullback, saying stock prices have become too expensive relative to company earnings.

"We may have seen the worst, but it's too early to say for sure. However, our view remains that it's just another correction," said Shane Oliver of AMP Capital in a report.

Corrections of up to 15 percent "are normal," said Oliver.

"In the absence of recession, a deep bear market is unlikely," he said.

American employers are hiring at a healthy pace, with unemployment at a 17-year low of 4.1 percent. The housing industry is solid and manufacturing is rebounding.

Major economies around the world are growing in tandem for the first time since the Great Recession and corporate profits are on the rise. That combination usually carries stocks higher. But stock prices have climbed faster than

profits in recent years. Many investors justified that by pointing out that interest rates were low and few alternatives looked like better investments. Fast rising interest rates would make that argument much less persuasive.

In currency markets, the dollar fell to 108.71 yen from Thursday's 108.84 yen. The euro dipped to \$1.2243 from \$1.2263.

Benchmark U.S. crude lost \$1.30, or 2.1 percent, to \$59.85 per barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Brent crude, used to price international oils, slid \$1.27, or 2 percent, to \$63.54 in London.



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With extraordinary political optics, Winter Olympics begin

PYEONGCHANG, South Korea (AP) — In an extraordinary show of unexpected unity, North and South Korea sat side by side Friday night under exploding fireworks that represented peace, not destruction, as the 2018 Winter Olympics opened on a Korean Peninsula riven by generations of anger, suspicion and bloodshed.

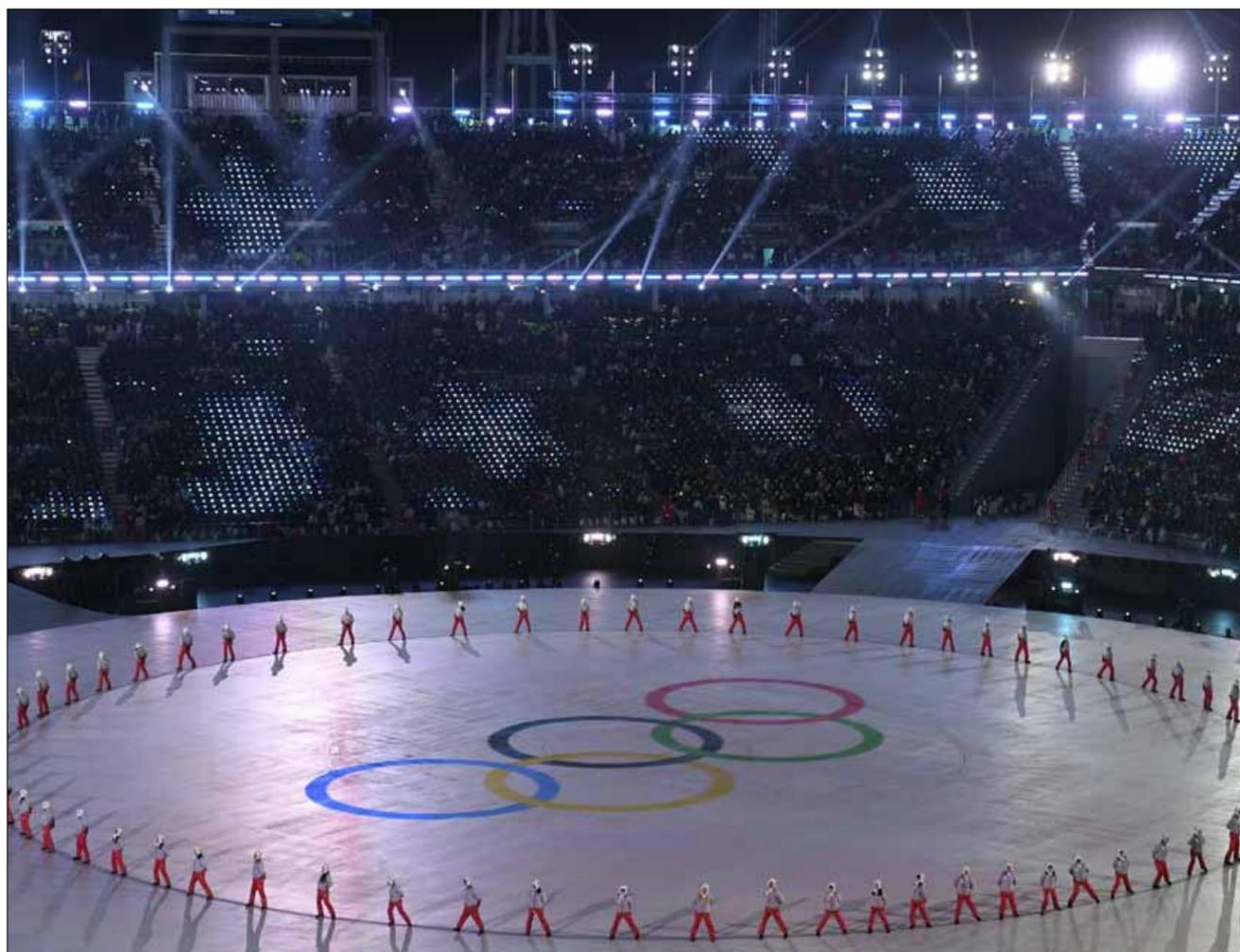
The sister of North Korea's leader, Kim Jong Un, shook hands with South Korean President Moon Jae-in — and appeared genuinely pleased — while they watched an elaborate show of light, sound and human performance. Minutes later came a moment stunning in its optics and its implications: the United States, represented by Vice President Mike Pence, sitting a row ahead of Kim's sister, Kim Yo Jong, and the North's nominal head of state, all watching the games begin — officials from two nations that many worry have been on the brink of nuclear conflict.

Not long after, North and South Korean athletes entered Olympic Stadium together, waving flags showing a unified Korea — the long-time dream, in theory at least, of many Koreans both North and South. It was the rivals' first joint Olympic march since 2007. International Olympic Committee President Thomas Bach then handed the podium to Moon, who declared the Olympics officially open.

The ceremony's signature moment delivered another flash of unity and deft political stage-managing, too. Two athletes from the joint Korea women's hockey team climbed stairs to the cauldron with the Olympic torch. At the last moment, though, they handed off the flame to former Olympic champion figure skater Yuna Kim, arguably South Korea's most famous person. She actually lit the cauldron as the home crowd roared.

Moon, in a statement, said athletes from North and South will "work together for victory." And Bach lauded the joint march of the two Koreas as a "powerful message."

"We are all touched by this wonderful gesture. We



Performers participate during the opening ceremony of the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea, Friday, Feb. 9, 2018. AP

all join and support you in your message of peace," Bach said.

After years of frustration, billions of dollars and a nagging national debate about their worth, the opening ceremonies took place before a world watching the moment not only for its athletic significance and global spectacle, but for clues about what the peninsula's political future could hold.

There is a palpable excitement in this isolated, rugged mountain town, as one of the poorest, coldest and most disgruntled parts of an otherwise prosperous South Korea kicks off two weeks of winter sports, spectacle and, from the looks of things, some inter-Korean reconciliation.

After a chaotic year of nuclear war threats and nuclear and missile tests from the North, the opening ceremony proved to be an evening of striking visual moments.

The significance of Pence and the North Koreans sitting in the same box was not immediately clear, though it seemed to run counter to the mission he was supposed to undertake. He'd been dispatched from Washington for the Olympics in part, he said, to make sure the world didn't forget that North Korea was a misbehaving and dangerous neighbor in the community of nations.

What did seem clear was that, deliberately or not, the North Korean government had managed to edge its way onto center stage during the South's biggest global moment in years.

A huge crowd gathered in the freezing Olympic Stadium as performances displayed the sweep of Korean history and culture. The march of athletes from the world's many nations saw them girded against a frigid Korean night with temperatures that dipped below freezing and biting winds.

Members of a delegation from North Korea, part of an Olympics partnership between the two Korean rivals, watched from high in the stadium a performance called "The Land of Peace" and as past South Korean athletes paraded a large southern flag. The North Koreans, dressed in identical garb, cheered in careful coordination.

The North has sent nearly 500 people to the Pyeongchang Games including officials, athletes, artists and cheerleaders after the Korea agreed to a series of conciliatory gestures to mark the games. More than 2,900 athletes from 92 countries will compete here, making it the biggest Winter Olympics to date.

Pyeongchang was not supposed to share the spotlight with Pyongyang. This was not supposed to be, as some in Seoul grumble, the "Pyongyang Games," a play on the North Korean capi-

tal's phonetic similarity to Pyeongchang.

After two failed Olympic bids that emphasized the high-sounding notion that the games could help make peace with North Korea, Pyeongchang finally sold its successful try in 2011 on the decidedly capitalistic goal of boosting winter sports tourism in Asia.

But North Korea has a habit of not letting itself be ignored when it comes to its southern rival.

Its agents blew up a South Korean airliner ahead of the 1988 Seoul Olympics in an attempt to dissuade visitors; then it boycotted its rival's Olympic debut on the world stage. A few years later, the discovery of the huge progress Pyongyang had been surreptitiously making on its nuclear programs plunged the Korean Peninsula into crisis. It has only deepened over the years as the North closes in on the ability to field an arsenal of

nukes that can hit U.S. cities.

And so, with a little help from a liberal South Korean president eager to engage Pyongyang, the 2018 Pyeongchang Games open.

They do so with as much focus on the North, which has zero real medal contenders, as the South, which in the three decades since its last Olympics has built a solid winter program as it went from economic backwater and military dictatorship to Asia's fourth-biggest economy and a bulwark of liberal democracy.

Could Pyeongchang's initial pitch — that it could contribute to peace on the Korean Peninsula — actually become reality? The opening ceremony offered at least some hints about that, and maybe more. What's certain is that these Games, more so than any in recent memory, are about far more than sports.

Appeals by 45 Russian athletes against Olympic bans rejected

PYEONGCHANG, South Korea (AP) — Russia's desperate attempt to get 45 banned athletes — including several medal favorites — into the Pyeongchang Olympics failed just hours before Friday's opening ceremony.

The International Olympic Committee had banned Russia because of a massive doping scheme at the 2014 Sochi Games, but gave individual athletes the chance to apply for admission to compete as "Olympic Athletes from Russia." There were 168 Russians who passed the vetting process. Dozens more filed appeals with the Court of Arbitration for Sport.

On Friday, the court upheld the IOC's right to decide who can compete.

Anti-doping officials praised the ruling, which is a heavy blow to Russian medal chances.

"That's it. The story is over," Russian delegation spokesman Konstantin Vybormov said. Shamil Tarpishchev, a Russian member of the IOC, said the CAS ruling may have been legally correct but he disagreed with the spirit of the ruling.

After two days of hearings, the CAS panel ruled that the commissions which evaluated whether Russian applicants were eligible did not act in a "discriminatory, arbitrary or unfair manner."

CAS secretary general Matthieu Reeb said the IOC process "could not be described as a sanction but rather as an eligibility decision."

Olympic and World Anti-Doping Agency officials welcomed the ruling, with the IOC saying the decision "supports the fight against doping and brings clarity for all athletes."

Among those excluded are six-time gold medalist Viktor Ahn, the short track speed-skater whose return to his native South Korea for the Olympics had been eagerly anticipated by local fans.

Also out are cross-country skiing gold medalist Alexander Legkov and skeleton gold medalist Alexander Tretiakov, as well as potential medal contenders in biathlon, luge and bobsled.

Three former NHL players — Sergei Plotnikov, Anton Belov and Valeri Nichushkin — also lost appeals, though it was widely considered unlikely they would have played even if they had been successful because the Russian roster is already full.

U.S. Anti-Doping Agency chief executive Travis Tygart said the decision was "a small glimmer of hope in an otherwise dark and sordid affair."

In a telephone interview, WADA president Craig Reedie told The Associated Press: "I am delighted at the decision and the way they expressed it."

The CAS panel has "clearly understood that there was systemic manipulation of the anti-doping process," Reedie said. "Athletes can get their heads down and go. This particular issue is behind us."

The IOC's vetting process was designed to exclude Russian athletes from the games if IOC officials weren't sure they were clean.

The "Olympic Athletes from Russia" will compete in neutral uniforms under the Olympic flag in a decision designed to balance the rights of individual athletes with the need for a strong deterrent to doping.

The Russians wore grey jackets with white scarves at

the opening ceremony, and were carrying the Olympic flag.

In Russia, the lower house of Russian parliament — the State Duma — issued a statement deploring the CAS verdict as a reflection of "crude pressure and political struggle in a sports field defying Olympic principles."

The IOC has refused to comment on individual Russian athletes but says it decided who to exclude using a newly obtained Moscow laboratory database with evidence of past doping offenses.

It refused to clear some Russians even after their disqualifications from the 2014 Olympics were lifted by CAS last week.

Stephen Hess, an international sports lawyer based in Colorado Springs, Colorado, said the decision was a vic-

tory for the IOC.

"There is no absolute right to get an invitation from the IOC to come to the Olympics," Hess said. "That was within the IOC's discretion. If Russia had an Olympic team, CAS might have said: 'IOC, the Russians can put them on their own team. You can't keep them out.' But Russia doesn't have an Olympic team."

Jim Walden, the lawyer for Russian whistleblower Grigory Rodchenkov, renewed calls for IOC President Thomas Bach to resign "for the sake of the Olympic ideal."

Walden has accused the IOC and CAS of being "complicit in enabling Russian doping" for not implementing strong punishments for Russian athletes, including a blanket ban.



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Jokes, and selfies with Kobe Bryant, at Oscar nominees lunch

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — The Oscar nominees' luncheon is like an exclusive clubhouse where every member is an outstanding artist and film super-fan.

So the production designer of "The Shape of Water" is free to geek out over meeting Mary J. Blige, who herself shared a moment with Gary Oldman.

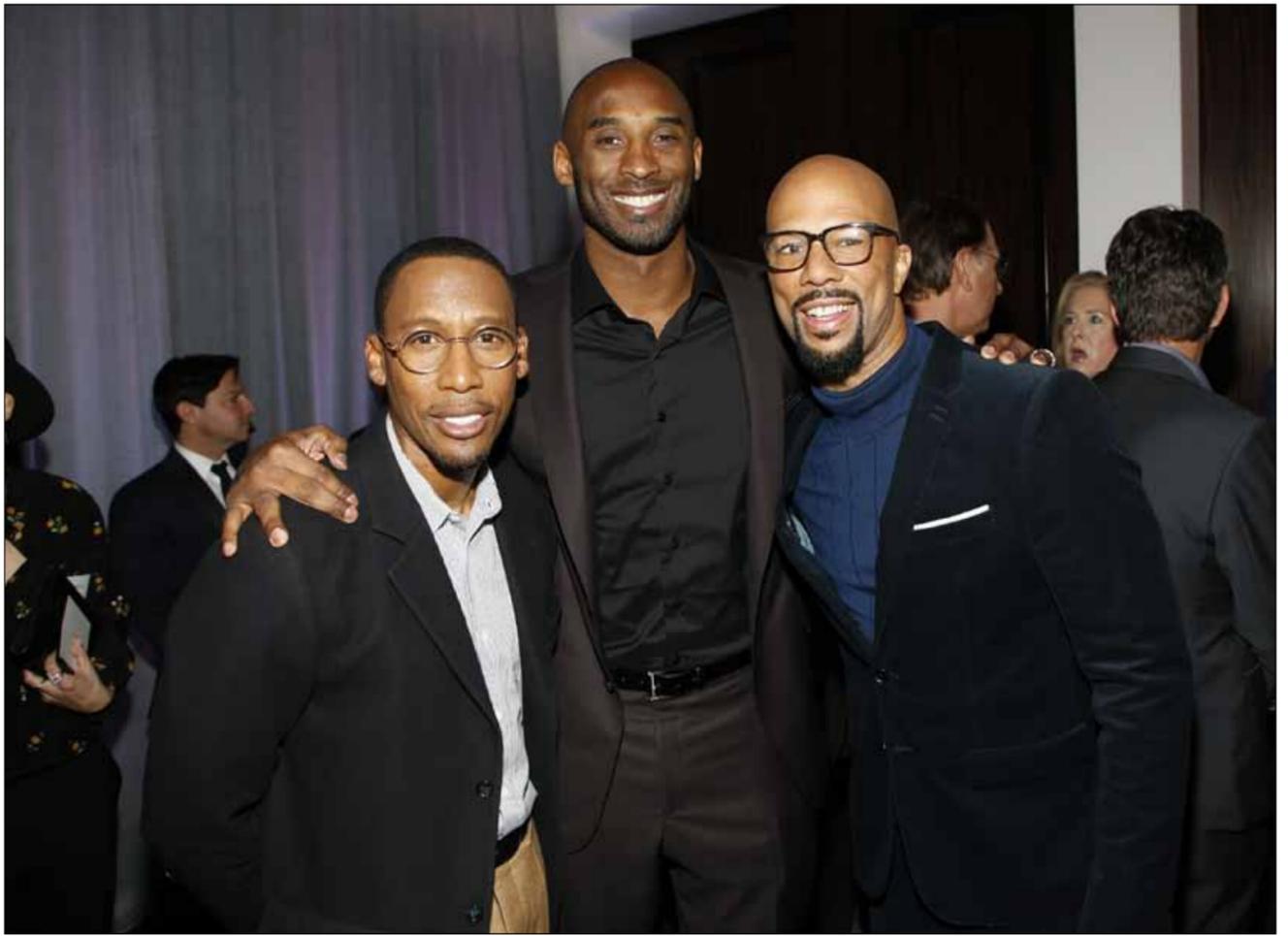
Actress Sally Hawkins embraced Margot Robbie while Greta Gerwig chatted with Meryl Streep. Jordan Peele talked shop with Willem Dafoe. First-time acting nominees Daniel Kaluuya and Timothee Chalamet high-fived every time they saw each other.

Even nominees who couldn't attend were there in spirit, or at least in cardboard-cutout form. Street artist JR brought a life-sized cardboard portrait of "Faces Places" co-director Agnes Varda. He brought the Varda cutout on the red carpet and into the risers for the annual Oscars "class photo."

But the person perhaps enjoying Monday's Oscar luncheon the most was retired Lakers star Kobe Bryant. Nominated for his contributions to the animated short "Dear Basketball," Bryant wore a beaming grin throughout the event, practically skipping his meal to pose for photos with his many fans in the room, including fellow nominees Allison Janney and "Logan" screenwriter James Mangold. Bryant said being in the Oscar mix is "better than all those championships put together."

"I don't know what's going on!" the 39-year-old said, practically giggling. "I love this."

An annual tradition since 1982, the Oscar nominees' luncheon brings together the year's nominated artists for a collegial meal, extended mingling and the group photo. This year's event drew 170 of



Raphael Saadiq, from left, Kobe Bryant, and Common attend the 90th Academy Awards Nominees Luncheon at The Beverly Hilton hotel on Monday, Feb. 5, 2018, in Beverly Hills, Calif. AP

the 200 artists nominated.

Film academy president John Bailey explained the history of the film academy before telling nominees that they each embody "this 90-year academy history." He dropped the words "envelope malfunction" in a passing reference to last year's best picture flub, but more pointedly offered a new hashtag to replace #OscarsSoWhite, a criticism that inspired sweeping changes for greater inclusion in the film academy. Bailey's new hashtag: "Oscars so 90th."

He said the academy re-inventing itself in "this era of greater awareness and responsibility in balancing gender, race, ethnicity and

religion."

Addressing those issues and perhaps the #MeToo movement, Bailey said, "I may be a 75-year-old white male, but I'm every bit as gratified as the youngest of you here that the fossilized bedrock of many of Hollywood's worst abuses are being jackhammered into oblivion."

Actress Laura Dern called for greater compassion and representation throughout the industry. She then announced every nominee's name as each took their places on risers for a group photo.

"Radicals, subversives and wild ones," Dern said, "Thank you for getting us through this last year with every one of your films

somehow reflecting the wealth of emotions that we are all going through."

Telecast producers Jennifer Todd and Michael De Luca briefly greeted the nominees, with Todd saying, "It's our honor to produce the show in a year where the nominations are finally starting to reflect the world that we live in and the way it looks, speaks and tells stories."

Then they brought actor-comedian Patton Oswalt out to give eventual Oscar winners tips for delivering memorable acceptance speeches.

"They've spared every expense bringing me here," he quipped.

His first tip? Hustle to the stage. "If you need

something to speed you up, think of the hot, murderous glares of your colleagues on your back as you're moving up there. Let it fuel you."

He also put the kibosh on "trips and falls" on the way to claim an Oscar. "We know it's adorable," Oswalt said. "Jennifer owns it. That's her thing now."

Jennifer Lawrence famously fell on her way to accept the best actress Oscar for "Silver Linings Playbook" in 2013.

Tip two? Be concise. And don't say you didn't expect to win.

"Yes you did," he said. "You were nominated."

He also cautioned against thanking manag-

ers and agents. "Just cover for yourself, all right?" he said. "You don't want to explain to your grandkids why you thanked someone that Dateline just did a four-part series on."

He told nominees they don't need to hunch over at the microphone.

"Think Freddie Mercury, not Tom Waits," Oswalt said. "Look up and project."

Finally, he said, "be heartfelt and be meaningful."

"And when I say that," he said, "I mean act that way."

Ick-factor

London fatberg goes from sewer to museum

LONDON (AP) — London's newest museum attraction is greasy, smelly — and a glimpse at the hidden underside of urban life.

The Museum of London on Thursday unveiled its latest display, a chunk of a 130-metric-ton (143-U.S.-ton) fatberg that but was blasted out of a city sewer last year.

It took sewage workers with jet hoses nine weeks to dislodge the 250-meter (820-foot)-long mass of oil, fat, diapers and baby wipes from beneath Whitechapel in the city's East End.

The museum has lovingly preserved a chunk the size of a shoe-box, whose mottled consistency a curator likens to parmesan crossed with moon rock. Close examination reveals the presence of tiny flies. Three nested transparent boxes protect visitors from poten-

tially deadly bacteria, and from the fatberg's noxious smell.

Curator Vyki Sparkes says the lump started out smelling like a used diaper "that maybe you'd forgotten about and found a few weeks later." The pong has now mellowed to "damp Victorian basement."

"It's disgusting and fascinating," she said of the fatberg. "And that's what's been great to work with — it has this impact on people."

The museum is so confident of the item's ick-appeal that the exhibition — titled Fatberg! — comes with a selection of merchandise including T-shirts and fatberg fudge.

Sparkes considers the fatberg a natural for the museum, which charts the city's ancient and modern history. The word itself, a hy-

brid of "fat" and "iceberg," is one of London's gifts to the world: It was coined by the city's sewer workers and entered the Oxford English Dictionary in 2015.

Fatbergs are a growing menace for cities around the world, but they remain mysterious.

"Fatbergs aren't really that well understood — how they form, how quickly they form and what they are," said Sparkes.

She said museum curators struggled to figure out how to preserve their volatile sample of the mass of detritus mixed with cooking fat, palm oil and oils found in products like hair conditioner and body lotion.

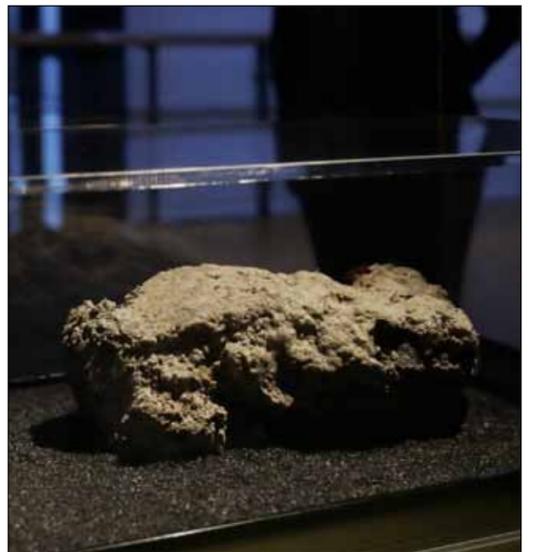
They debated pickling, but "decided no, it would probably dissolve and turn into toxic sludge." Freezing was also rejected. In the end, the sample was air

dried. The first chunk to undergo the process crumbled, but a second attempt succeeded.

The exhibition is a sobering look at the effects of daily waste, but it does contain some good news. Most of the Whitechapel fatberg was delivered to Argent Energy, a company that turns waste into biofuel. Some of the sludge that once choked the sewer system is now fueling London's red double-decker buses.

"There is an upside," said Argent spokesman Dickon Posnett. "(But) it would be nicer for us if we could collect the fat before it even goes into the sewers. It would be nicer for the people of London, as well. So there is a way to go."

The fatberg is on display from Friday until July 1. Admission is free.



The 130 ton, 250 meter long fatberg, removed from the sewers in the Whitechapel area of east London in the latter months of 2017, displayed during a media preview at the Museum of London in London. AP

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Senate leaders' budget deal faces opposition in both parties

WASHINGTON (AP) — Lawmakers pressed to enact a massive budget deal Thursday along with a temporary funding measure to prevent a government shutdown at midnight. GOP leaders moved to shore up support among conservatives for a plan to shower the Pentagon and domestic programs with an extra \$300 billion over the next two years.

"It's going to need bipartisan support. We are going to deliver our share of support," House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., told conservative radio host Hugh Hewitt Thursday morning. "I feel very good about Republicans. Our members who are focused on the military are very happy where we landed with that."

The measure was a triumph for Republican allies of the Pentagon and for Democrats seeking more spending on infrastructure and fighting opioid abuse.

But it represented a bitter defeat for many liberal Democrats who sought to use the party's leverage on the budget to resolve the plight of immigrant "Dreamers" who face deportation after being brought to the U.S. illegally as children. The deal does not address immigration. And some tea party Republicans shredded the measure as a budget-buster.

Beyond the \$300 billion figure, the agreement adds \$89 billion in overdue disaster aid for hurricane-slammed Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico, a politically charged increase in the government's borrowing cap, and a grab bag of health and tax provisions. Cotton growers and dairy farmers would get relief courtesy of the bipartisan leadership of the Senate Appropriations Committee, while popular funding for community health centers would be extended for two years, among myriad health provisions.

"I love bipartisanship, as you know," said Sen. Jeff Flake, R-Ariz. "But the problem is the only time we discover bipartisanship is when we spend more money."

Senate leaders pressed to approve the measure Thursday and send it to the House



House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi of Calif., is shown on television as she speaks from the House floor on Capitol Hill in Washington, Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2018, as a news conference that she was supposed to attend goes on in the background.

for a confirming vote before the government begins to shut down at midnight. But hurdles remain to avert the second shutdown in a month.

While Senate Democrats celebrated the rare moment of bipartisanship — Minority Leader Chuck Schumer called it a "genuine breakthrough" — progressives and activists blasted them for leaving immigrants in limbo. Top House Democrat Nancy Pelosi of California, herself a key architect of the budget plan, announced her opposition Wednesday morning and mounted a remarkable daylong speech on the House floor, trying to force GOP leaders in the House to promise a later vote on legislation to protect the younger immigrants.

"Let Congress work its will," Pelosi said, before holding the floor for more than eight hours without a

break. "What are you afraid of?"

The White House backed the deal — despite President Donald Trump's outburst a day earlier that he'd welcome a government shutdown if Democrats didn't accept his immigration-limiting proposals.

Trump himself tweeted that the agreement "is so important for our great Military," and he urged both Republicans and Democrats to support it.

But the plan faced criticism from deficit hawks in his own party. Combined with the party's December tax cut bill, the burst in military and other spending would put the GOP-controlled government on track for the first \$1 trillion-plus deficits since President Barack Obama's first term. That's when Congress passed massive stimulus leg-

islation to try to stabilize a down-spiraling economy.

"It's too much," said Rep. Scott Perry, R-Pa., a fiscal hawk.

The deal contains far more money demanded by Democrats than had seemed possible only weeks ago, including \$90 billion in disaster aid for Florida and Texas. Some other veteran Democrats — some of whom said holding the budget deal hostage to action on Dreamer immigrants had already proven to be a failed strategy — appeared more likely to support the agreement than junior progressives elected in recent years.

The budget agreement would give both the Pentagon and domestic agencies relief from a budget freeze that lawmakers say threatens military readiness and training as well as combating

opioid abuse and repairing the troubled health care system for veterans.

The core of the agreement would shatter tight "caps" on defense and domestic programs funded by Congress each year. They are a hangover from a failed 2011 budget agreement and have led to military readiness problems and caused hardship at domestic agencies such as the Environmental Protection Agency and the IRS.

The agreement would give the Pentagon an \$80 billion increase for the current budget year for core defense programs, a 14 percent increase over current limits and \$26 billion more than Trump's budget request. Nondefense programs would receive about \$60 billion over current levels. Those figures would be slightly increased for the 2019 budget year beginning Oct. 1.

The \$89 billion in disaster aid would bring the total appropriated in the wake of last year's hurricane season to almost \$140 billion.

The agreement would increase the government's borrowing cap to prevent a first-ever default on U.S. obligations that looms in just a few weeks. The debt limit would be suspended through March of 2019, Sanders said, putting the next vote on it safely past this year's midterm elections.

McCormack officially unveiled the 652-page measure late Wednesday. It contained previously unmentioned extensions of tax provisions, an array of fee renewals to partly defray the measure's cost, and almost 400 pages worth of health provisions.

Mueller memos illustrate media's great divide

NEW YORK (AP) — If Sean Hannity had been working in the 1970s, his Fox News Channel colleague Gerald Rivera believes that President Richard Nixon would have never needed to resign because of the Watergate scandal.

It's not clear whether Rivera thinks that's a good thing; Fox refused to let him speak about his recent assertion on Hannity's radio show. But it does speak starkly to the power of Fox's most popular figure and devoted supporter of President Donald Trump at a time when the media's partisan divide seems wider than ever.

The point is driven home by the continuing coverage of special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation of Trump and, in the past two weeks, about the Republican-written memo on the probe.

Fox, CNN and MSNBC, which are now more political talk than news channels, have been consumed by the story. On the day the GOP memo was released, the different worlds they inhabit

couldn't have been more clear.

"This is Watergate times a thousand," Hannity said, charging the FBI with deliberately misleading a federal judge. The "deep state," Hannity's term for government officials opposed to Trump, was undermining his presidency and democracy itself. The media, excepting him, have been sitting on the sidelines as the scandal unfolds, he said.

"This is so deep in its corruption that it should shatter the conscience of law-abiding American citizens," he said.

Flip over to MSNBC at the same time, and Rachel Maddow was laughing.

"That's it?" she asked. "That's all they got? That's what all the hype was about?"

Not only did the memo not live up to claims made about it, even by the president, it factually undermined the accusation that a dossier paid for by Trump opponents had triggered the investigation into the Trump team's Russian ties, she said. Then she turned to

Fox, whose headquarters is across a Manhattan avenue from Maddow's studio.

"They have been hyping and puffing, working their audience up into a frenzy for two solid weeks," she said. "They have literally built a right-wing public movement that this memo must be released, because this memo will fix the Trump presidency, it will fix the Russian scandal for President Trump. It will make the whole thing go away."

David Gergen disagrees with Gerald Rivera. The Harvard professor and CNN analyst worked in Nixon's White House and said his crimes were too serious to survive, and he had lost the support of the Republican party.

"The deeper danger now is that the erosion of trust and the paralysis in government is threatening our democracy," Gergen said.

The press had critics in Nixon's day — his first vice president, Spiro Agnew, memorably skewered reporters. The difference is the criticism was coming

from outside of the media, said Tom Bettag, a University of Maryland journalism professor and veteran television producer who worked at CBS News in the 1970s.

"There couldn't have been a Hannity in Nixon's time," Bettag said. "There wasn't an outlet with the reach that a Fox or MSNBC has that specializes in a specific political point of view."

Fox's opinion hosts are particularly effective in spreading their points of view and sometimes work hand in hand with the president. Hannity reportedly speaks regularly with Trump, the president watches "Fox & Friends" in the morning and often tweets reactions to their stories. There is time to emphasize talking points; the liberal watchdogs Media Matters for America counted 182 times Fox used the phrase "deep state" in December and January.

"Fake news" is Trump's epithet for stories he doesn't like; Hannity frequently criticizes the "anti-Trump media." In his monologue the day the memo was re-

leased, he said that "the media has been corrupt and lies to you, the America people. At the end of the day, they are nothing but propagandists."

Polls show the distrust in the media and other institutions pushed during Trump's time has had an effect. His supporters have remained steady, and suspicious. In an essay in New York magazine this week, Jonathan Chait explains how such "deep state" and "release the memo" talk can be successful strategically. For many Trump supporters, their man can't lose no matter what Mueller's investigation finds. If Trump is exonerated, that's to be expected. If he's accused of any crimes, many of his backers won't believe it.

There's no business incentive to change. Fox's appeal to conservative viewers has long made it a financial success. In the Trump era, the network has thrived despite crippling scandals with the loss of network chief Roger Ailes and personality Bill O'Reilly to sexual misconduct charges. Hannity's star

was once fading at Fox, now he's the most-watched host in all of cable news.

Once mild-mannered and bow-tied, O'Reilly's replacement Tucker Carlson is winning with a combative style, as illustrated when he took on former mentor William Kristol, who hired him as a 24-year-old magazine writer. Kristol accused Fox of a "gradual increasing of recklessness" in promoting birther-like coverage of issues, and said Carlson exhibits an ethno-nationalism that is "close to racism."

Carlson responded by calling Kristol "a former intellectual who now exists primarily on Twitter. Kristol discredited himself year ago, which is why he no longer has a full-time job."

The veteran Gergen hopes, for the sake of the country, that things will simmer down.

"We've reached a point where we need to be, as organizations, especially careful in how we report and talk about the news and not be incendiary," he said. "We're in a delicate place now."

Philly celebrates 1st Super Bowl title with parade

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Philadelphia's first Super Bowl parade stepped off Thursday as hundreds of thousands of deliriously happy Eagles fans jammed the city's main thoroughfares to celebrate an NFL title many of them never thought they'd see.

Fans clad in Eagles green lined up 20 deep in spots to catch a glimpse of the champs, who rode up Broad Street in open-top, double-decker buses. Bundled up against freezing winds, some fans from New Jersey walked across the nearly 2-mile long Benjamin Franklin Bridge just to get into the city.

"We were wondering if we would ever see the Eagles win a Super Bowl in our lifetimes, and we may not ever see another one," said John Thompson, 56, of suburban Downingtown. "That's why we're here today."

The players got into the Philly spirit. Center Jason Kelce walked the route in an outlandishly sequined Mummers getup — a nod to Philadelphia's raucous annual parade on New Year's Day — slapping fans' hands and leading them in a profane chant broadcast on live TV. Defensive end Chris Long wore a full-length, fake fur coat atop an Allen Iverson 76ers jersey.

Coach Doug Pederson carried the Lombardi Trophy past the cheering throngs, while franchise owner Jeffrey Lurie held a sign saying "THANK YOU FANS" while standing next to the team's three



Fans line Benjamin Franklin Parkway before a Super Bowl victory parade for the Philadelphia Eagles football team, Thursday, Feb. 8, 2018, in Philadelphia. The Eagles beat the New England Patriots 41-33 in Super Bowl 52.

quarterbacks: Super Bowl MVP Nick Foles, injured starter Carson Wentz and third-stringer Nate Sudfeld.

The parade caps a glorious week for jubilant fans celebrating an NFL title that had eluded them for nearly 60 years. Led by the backup quarterback Foles

and second-year coach Pederson, the Eagles beat the New England Patriots 41-33 on Sunday night.

Schools, museums, courts, government offices and even the Philadelphia Zoo were shut down so the city could fete an underdog Eagles team that few outside Philadelphia

thought had a prayer of beating the mighty Patriots led by superstar quarterback Tom Brady and coach Bill Belichick.

Thompson's friend, Craig Moyer, also of Downingtown, said he came to the parade to honor his late mother, a lifelong Eagles fan.

"My mother was from the coal regions, she passed at 91 years old," the 66-year-old said. "She was an Eagles fan who used to tell me about the old championship games. So this is for her. We're down here for her."

Organizers prepared for as many as 2 million

people to jam the parade route. No official estimate was released for the parade after the Phillies won the World Series in 2008, but experts have said that crowd likely didn't exceed 750,000.

Twitter makes money for first time ever, but problems remain

NEW YORK (AP) — Twitter made money for the first time in its nearly 12-year history, a milestone that satisfied investors in the short term but might not resolve the company's broader problems any time soon.

The company is still struggling to get people to sign up, despite the attention President Donald Trump's no-holds barred tweets have drawn to the service. One problem: Anyone can read tweets without signing up. As a result, Twitter's user base pales compared with Facebook and the Facebook-owned Instagram.

And that means fewer advertising opportunities.

Beyond that, Twitter has been dealing with policing hate speech and abusive comments, fake accounts and attempts by Russian agents to spread misinformation. Every time Twitter tries to respond to a problem, it's either not good enough, or some other problem emerges.

"They are playing whack-a-mole with these problems," said Michael Connor, whose Open Mic group helps investors push tech companies to address privacy, abuse and other is-

ssues. "They say they have the problem under control, but they don't know what the problem is exactly."

Add to that a revolving door of executives, including an influential chief operating officer leaving after Thursday's earnings report.

Twitter said it had an average of 330 million monthly active users in the final three months of last year, unchanged from the previous quarter and below Wall Street's estimate of 333 million. By contrast, Facebook has 2.2 billion and Instagram has more than 800 million.

Twitter hadn't turned a profit until now because — competing with Facebook, Google and others for digital ad dollars — it didn't attract enough advertising revenue to make up for its expenses. But it's been cutting costs and focusing on new revenue streams, such as live video.

In some good news, the company grew revenue by 2 percent to \$732 million in the final three months of 2017. That's above the \$687 million that analysts polled by FactSet were expecting. Its net income — a first — was \$91 million, or 12 cents per share.

Adjusted earnings were 19 cents, above analysts' expectations of 14 cents.

After the results came out, the company's stock jumped more than 17 percent in morning trading to \$31.64, its highest level since 2015.

The quarter "was a breath of fresh air for investors that have patiently awaited for this turnaround story to manifest after years of pain," said Daniel Ives, head of technology research at GBH Insights.

Nonetheless, Twitter has big challenges ahead. Connor said that while investors don't want to micromanage Twitter, they at least want the company "to show that there is a level of management and governance on the senior level in place willing to address these issues."

While Twitter is well-known, it remains difficult to use, making it difficult for the company to explain to people why they need it. Twitter also has an "image problem," Wedbush analyst Michael Pachter said in a recent research note, "as it has been slow to act on harassment and other hostile behavior."

The company has enacted a slew of new policies,

and Pachter says this renewed focus should help. But enforcing them will be a bigger hurdle.

Connor's group recently helped two large Twitter and Facebook shareholders file resolutions asking the companies to take more responsibility for fake news, abuse and hate speech. The companies have not formally responded, though Twitter has introduced a slew of new measures to weed out abusive account and has said that it "cares deeply" about misinformation and its harmful effect on civic discourse.

Then there's the issue of automated accounts made to look like real people. In the days after a New York Times report on the "shadowy global marketplace" of brands and celebrities buying fake retweets and followers, prominent Twitter users collectively lost more than a million followers, suggesting that Twitter either didn't know or didn't act until the exposure.

Fake accounts aren't a new problem. Last June, Twitter said it has been "doubling down" on its efforts to weed out such accounts by "expanding our

team and resources, and building new tools and processes." It estimates that less than 5 percent of monthly active users are fake. But the Times referenced a report saying it could be as high as 15 percent.

One chief problem: more fake accounts keep popping up, and those behind them are getting smarter, so Twitter's countermeasures haven't made much of a dent.

Forrester Research analyst Erna Alfred Liouas said that while rival social networks such as Facebook deal with fake accounts, too, it may be "more elevated for Twitter" because there has been so much focus on its monthly user numbers. Anything that could jeopardize advertisers' ability to see how many people they will reach, she said, "is going to cause concern."

Another concern: last month Chief Operating Officer Anthony Noto announced his resignation from the company following Thursday's earnings report. Noto, who was also finance chief until last July, has served an influential and important

role at the company and had led its venture into live video. Twitter said it is not replacing Noto, and instead will split his duties between executives.

"Now (that) he's gone, who's running the company?" Pachter said.

Technically, that's CEO Jack Dorsey. But Dorsey splits his time as head of payments company Square.

Twitter has "less than Jack's undivided attention," Pachter said, adding that nonetheless Dorsey runs the company with a "benevolent autocracy" that leaves little room for innovation.

By contrast, Pachter said Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg "is not afraid if they alter his baby, his invention, to make it better," even if in the end Zuckerberg may be the final arbiter.

Twitter declined to comment. But Dorsey said at a conference late last year that it's "not about the amount of time I spend on one thing but how I spend the time and what we're focused on."

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UK ready to tighten money taps despite Brexit uncertainty

LONDON (AP) — With the global economy growing strongly, the Bank of England has become more confident about Britain's prospects and indicated it could raise interest rates in coming months — even in the face of the welter of uncertainties related to the country's exit from the European Union.

Though it kept its main interest rate on hold at 0.5 percent Thursday, the bank indicated that it could make another three quarter-point hikes over the coming three years, one more than previously expected.

The next hike, many investors are betting, could come as soon as May, when the central bank will publish its next set of quarterly economic projections. The pound rose sharply on the news, gaining 1.1 percent to \$1.4033 as investors factored in the prospect of higher rates.

A hike in May would be the bank's second in six months following one in November, which was the first in a decade. It would also echo a global trend toward tighter monetary conditions after years of cheap cash that has spooked investors this week, particularly on Wall Street.

High inflation is the Bank of England's main reason for wanting to raise rates. Prices have risen sharply due to the pound's plunge after the June 2016 vote for Brexit, which simultaneously pushed up import costs, notably of food and energy, and weighed on economic growth by reducing households' purchasing power.

Though the outlook for the British economy is conditional on the outcome of the Brexit discussions, par-

ticularly what the future trading relationship with the EU will be, the central bank said "monetary policy would need to be tightened somewhat earlier and by a somewhat greater extent" than it anticipated in November.

That view includes an assumption that Britain will be able to get "a smooth adjustment" to a new trading relationship with the EU.

Bank Governor Mark Carney said "developments regarding the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union are the most significant influences on — and sources of uncertainty about — the economic outlook."

That means that forecasts are liable to change in light of what Carney has called the "twists and turns" of the Brexit process.

When more clarity emerges over what Brexit actually will entail when Britain leaves the EU in March 2019, Carney said the Bank of England will need to adjust its forecasts.

In recent weeks, the minority Conservative government has become increasingly split over how to handle Brexit. While some lawmakers in Prime Minister Theresa May's party want close ties with the remaining 27 EU nations and a period of transition, others want a more fundamental break that would see Britain diverge more profoundly on matters related to regulations and trade. Meanwhile, the views of the opposition Labour Party are also unclear.

May hopes to agree soon on the terms of a transition deal with the EU that would see Britain remain in the tariff-free European single market and customs union



Placards and banners opposing Brexit on railings as The European Commission's Chief Negotiator for the UK exiting the European Union, Michel Barnier is at 10 Downing Street for a meeting, outside the Houses of Parliament, London, Monday, Feb. 5, 2018.

for a period after Brexit day. That would give firms and households time to adjust to a new relationship with the EU — Brussels has said any transition period should finish by the end of 2020.

Carney has argued strongly that an agreement on a transition deal has to be secured by the end of the first quarter this year so businesses can plan ahead. Many firms have held back investment amid the uncertainty and some, particularly in the financial sector, have warned they could relocate some activities into the EU if there is no clarity soon.

For now, the Bank of

England has to deal with the economic backdrop as it is and that — despite this week's volatility in stock markets — is more benign than it anticipated just three months ago and certainly more so than after the Brexit vote in June 2016.

"It caught markets off-guard with its surprisingly bullish outlook for the economy and interest rates," said James Smith, developed markets economist at ING.

The central bank has raised its economic growth projection for the coming year to 1.8 percent from 1.7 percent last time, largely because it has raised its global growth forecast to 4

percent from 3.75 percent.

Though the anticipated growth level is modest in historical terms, it is expected to push up inflation gradually.

As a result, the central bank thinks inflation will remain higher than its 2 percent target rate over the coming three years and could even go above 3 percent in coming months. From 3 percent currently, the bank is projecting the annual rate to fall to 2.3 percent this time next year and 2.2 percent the year after.

That's why the Bank of England has joined the Fed as changing course after years of super-low interest

rates induced by the global financial crisis. Fears about the Fed raising rates faster than anticipated were one of the causes of Monday's savage drop on Wall Street.

Carney said it's "healthier" when markets have "two-way risks" even when trending up or down. Over the past year, stocks, particularly in the U.S., have seemingly been on a never-ending rise with little pull-back.

Given that, he said the return of volatility was "not an entirely surprising development."

Syria calls rare US strike an effort 'to support terrorism'

BEIRUT (AP) — Syrian state-run media said Thursday a rare U.S. strike on government-backed troops in eastern Syria killed and wounded dozens of tribal fighters, calling it a new effort "to support terrorism."

The U.S.-led coalition said its action was in "self-defense," citing a major attack on its allied forces and U.S. advisers in Deir el-Zour province by at least 500 fighters, battle tanks, howitzers and mortars.

The overnight attack, which a U.S. military official earlier said killed about 100 of the attackers, added another layer to the Syrian conflict that is once again plunging into a new and unpredictable spiral of violence.

The attack in Deir el-Zour province in northeastern Syria occurred in crowded battle space. A stronghold of Islamic State militants until late last year, the province also was the group's main source of oil revenue. U.S.-backed Kurdish-led forces have been fighting for control of Deir el-Zour with rival Russian-backed Syrian troops that are reinforced by Iranian-supported militias.

The U.S.-backed forces control areas east of the Eu-

phrates River and most of the oil and gas fields, while government forces are based in the west. Previous friction was reported before, but Wednesday's incident appeared to be the largest since last year. The IS militants have been dispersed in the province, which also has a number of U.S. bases.

In an email Thursday to The Associated Press, Col. Thomas F. Veale said the coalition reported to the Russians the buildup of the pro-government forces in the area before the attack, and communicated with them during and after it. The Russian officials offered assurances that they would not engage the coalition forces in the area, Veale said.

"Pro-regime forces initiated hostilities with artillery pieces (howitzers). Additionally, Syrian pro-regime forces maneuvered T-55 and T-72 main battle tanks with supporting mortar fire in what appears to be a coordinated attack on Syrian Democratic Forces approximately 8 kilometers (5 miles) east of the Euphrates River de-confliction line in Khusham, Syria," Veale said.

By crossing the river, the pro-government forces

would have violated the existing de-confliction agreement between Washington and Moscow, approaching U.S.-backed forces based near an oil field in the area. Russia is the main ally of Syrian President Bashar Assad.

Asked if Russia was responsible for not stopping the attack, Veale said: "The de-confliction effort has served its purpose. Just as the coalition does not direct the operations of the SDF, the Russians do not direct operations of the Syrian regime."

Veale said they suspect the Syrian pro-government forces were trying to seize terrain from the U.S.-backed forces liberated from IS militants last year, including major oil fields in the area.

The Russian Defense Ministry said the U.S. airstrike wounded 25 pro-Syrian volunteers. It alleged that the incident showed that Washington was not interested in fighting Islamic militants but wanted "to seize and hold Syrian economic assets."

Syria's state media said the coalition bombed government-backed troops in Khusham, describing them as tribal fighters. The media cited reports of dozens killed and wounded.

The official state news agency SANA said the local fighters were battling IS militants and the U.S.-backed SDF in the area.

SANA labeled it an "aggression" and a "new massacre."

The head of the SDF unit in the area, Ahmed Abu Khawla, told AP the attackers were government-backed local militias known as the National Defense Forces. He said they started the attack near oil fields on the east side of the Euphrates.

"It was a little bit stronger than the usual clashes in the area. Everyone is back to their bases," said Abu Khawla, the head of the Deir el-Zour Military Council. "It is now normal."

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, which monitors the war, said Deir el-Zour province continues to be tense following the foiled attack and the U.S. response, and said there were reports of a new mobilization to the area.

The Observatory, which relies on a network of activists in Syria, said the Khusham area, near one of the province's largest oil fields, saw intense clashes with heavy weaponry late Wednesday

between pro-Assad forces and the SDF.

The clashes prompted the coalition response with land-to-land missiles and airstrikes, the Observatory said. It added that at least 45 pro-government troops, including Arab and Asian fighters, were killed.

Last summer, the coalition shot down Iranian-made armed drones and aircraft affiliated with the Syrian government in southern Syria, after they came dangerously close to U.S.-backed forces and advisers.

The U.S. airstrike coincides with escalating violence in Syria.

Turkey, a NATO member, has been carrying out a military offensive to clear a U.S.-backed Kurdish militia from a northwestern border town, increasing tensions between Washington and Ankara.

The Syrian government also has been pressing its campaign against a rebel-held area near the capital of Damascus. On Thursday, the Syrian Civil Defense, known as the White Helmets, said 35 people were killed in a number of towns in the eastern Ghouta area, which has been pummeled by a combination

of artillery and airstrikes.

Activists have recorded at least 169 killed since Monday in eastern Ghouta.

Meanwhile, Turkish officials said the leaders of Turkey, Russia and Iran will meet in Istanbul to discuss peace efforts for Syria.

The officials said that Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Russian President Vladimir Putin agreed to the summit in a telephone call Thursday. It was not immediately clear when the Istanbul meeting would take place.

The Turkish officials said the two also agreed that efforts to create "observation posts" in Syria's Idlib province as part of a de-escalation agreement among Turkey, Russia and Iran should gain momentum. Turkey already has deployed troops in Idlib to such posts, and some of its soldiers have come under attack.

They also discussed the humanitarian situation in the Ghouta region.

The officials provided the information on condition of anonymity in line with government rules.

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A record 28 French restaurants get prized Michelin 3-stars

BY THOMAS ADAMSON
Associated Press

BOULOGNE-BILLANCOURT, France (AP) — A record 28 French restaurants were honored with the gastronomic world's most coveted prize Monday: a three-star rating in the Michelin Red Guide.

The unveiling of the industry's most closely guarded secret near Paris came amid great fanfare for French food — but also amid criticism that the elite index system needs rethinking after a top chef withdrew from the list citing the "huge pressure" and unwelcome scrutiny it brings.

The two new additions to the three-star club were Christophe Bacquie at the Castellet hotel and Marc Veyrat's La Maison des Bois, both in southern France. They cement France's place as the premier dining hub with the highest number of top-scoring restaurants in the world.

"It was a great year for gastronomy ... a huge win for Team France," Michelin Guides director Michael Ellis said.

French Prime Minister Edouard Philippe attended an event at the Seine Musicale convention center after the ceremony, underlining the importance of the book known as the food bible to France's national identity.

Michelin France is considered the most prestigious of the publication's 31 global editions by the fine food establishment.

But although the guide is famed for making the fortunes of chefs, it's equally

famous for breaking them with its system of rating top restaurants with one to three stars.

Michelin has defended itself over persistent claims that its stars reward pomp and presentation instead of food and that it brings unbearable scrutiny to its laureates.

One of the winners — Veyrat — doesn't seem to mind.

"We need the pressure and adrenaline because we are creatives. We love creativity and we are a little mad," he told The Associated Press.

Others disagree.

Last week, Michelin's reputation was tarnished when the three-star Le Suquet restaurant was withdrawn at the request of its owner, Sebastien Bras, who complained about inhuman stress levels linked to the accolade, such as the possibility of anonymous experts eating a meal unannounced at any given moment. Bras' move prompted widespread questions in the media over the usefulness of the index.

It's not the first time Michelin's rating system has been criticized.

In 2005, after 28 years, Alain Senderens transformed his three-star restaurant, the Lucas Carton, into a humble brasserie, saying he had had enough of the "senseless race" of the classifications.

Two years earlier, the owner of the famed Cote d'Or restaurant in Burgundy, Bernard Loiseau, fatally shot himself after receiving a lower rating in the Gault-Millau guide amid rumors



Three-star chef Christophe Bacquie at the Castellet Hotel, center, poses with Michelin Mascot known as Bibendum, left, and Michelin Guides Director Michael Ellis during the Michelin Guide ceremony in Boulogne-Billancourt.

he might lose his third Michelin star.

France's seriousness when it comes to good eating is a thing of legend. One of France's most famous chefs from the 17th century, Francois Vatel, killed himself because the day's delivery of fresh fish did not arrive on time at a banquet he was preparing in honor of King Louis XIV.

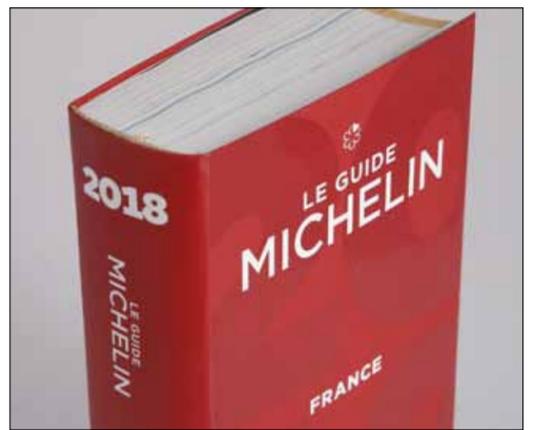
Of the 28 three-star Michelin restaurants, only one is run by a woman: Anne-Sophie Pic, who officiated at the Michelin ceremony

Monday.

She expressed optimism about the treatment of women in the famously male-dominated culinary world.

"I believe the female chefs are coming. ... They are already present in the restaurants, and the teams are mixed. The women chefs are very active and present in gastronomy," Pic said.

"That said," she added, hesitating, "maybe we need a bit more time for them to be recognized and to find their (rightful) place."



The Michelin Guide 2018.

Cooking on a Deadline

Slow-cooked pork roast with tons of flavor

BY KATIE WORKMAN
Associated Press

Slowly cooking a big hunk of tough, inexpensive meat isn't just the best way to cook this cut of meat. It's really the only way.

Most tough cuts of meat come from the hardest working parts of the animal, and therefore have a lot of collagen. This collagen needs to be broken down and converted to gelatin for the meat to become tender, and that is accomplished by low and slow cooking.

Here, if you want to rub the meat with the spice rub the night before and leave it loosely covered in the fridge overnight, the dry rub will season the meat a little more deeply. But this isn't a heavily seasoned roast, so it's a step that you can skip if you don't have time or fridge space.

This meat can be eaten just as it is, with any kind of starchy side from mashed or roasted potatoes to rice to orzo or another pasta. Or you can make it into tacos by wrapping the meat in warmed, soft corn or flour tortillas and adding in whatever feels right: avocados, shredded cheese, a dollop of crème fraiche or sour cream, salsas of any kind, fresh cilantro leaves, pickled onions, fresh onions, chopped tomatoes, shredded zucchini.

You could also use this meat in enchiladas, burritos or any kind of Mexican-inspired casserole. Finely shred it and add to huevos rancheros? Pork sandwiches with barbecue sauce, perhaps?

There is no such thing as left-over slow-cooker pork. There is



This January 2018 photo shows slow cooked pork roast in New York.

only another brilliant pork dinner waiting to happen.

SLOW COOKED PORK ROAST

Serves 12
6 hours start to finish

3 tablespoons brown sugar, light or dark
2 teaspoons minced garlic
2 teaspoons canola or vegeta-

ble oil
2 teaspoons chili powder
1 teaspoon paprika, hot or sweet
1 teaspoon coarse or kosher salt
½ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
1 5-pound boneless pork butt roast
½ cup dry white wine

Preheat the oven to 300 de-

grees F.

In a small bowl, combine the brown sugar, garlic, oil, chili powder, paprika, salt and pepper. Rub it all over the roast. Place the roast in a roasting pan, preferably in a wire rack. Add the wine.

Cook on low heat for five to six hours, until it has a nice crust and the meat is falling-apart tender.

Remove the roast from the

oven and let it sit for 15 to 20 minutes. Use a fork or two to shred the meat into nice-size pieces.

Nutrition information per serving: 273 calories; 154 calories from fat; 17 g fat (6 g saturated); 0 g trans fats; 82 mg cholesterol; 255 mg sodium; 4 g carbohydrate; 0 g fiber; 3 g sugar; 23 g protein.

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'Fancy Bear' hackers took aim at US defense contractors

WASHINGTON (AP) — Russian cyberspies pursuing the secrets of military drones and other sensitive U.S. defense technology tricked key contract workers into exposing their email to theft, an Associated Press investigation has found.

What ultimately may have been stolen is uncertain, but the hackers clearly exploited a national vulnerability in cybersecurity: poorly protected email and barely any direct notification to victims.

The hackers known as Fancy Bear, who also intruded in the U.S. election, went after at least 87 people working on militarized drones, missiles, rockets, stealth fighter jets, cloud-computing platforms or other sensitive activities, the AP found.

Employees at both small companies and defense giants like Lockheed Martin Corp., Raytheon Co., Boeing Co., Airbus Group and General Atomics were targeted by the hackers. A handful of people in Fancy Bear's sights also worked for trade groups, contractors in U.S.-allied countries or on corporate boards.

"The programs that they appear to target and the people who work on those programs are some of the most forward-leaning, advanced technologies," said Charles Sowell, a former senior adviser to the U.S. Office of the Director of National Intelligence, who reviewed the list of names for the AP. "And if those programs are compromised in any way, then our competitive advantage and our defense is compromised."

"That's what's really scary," added Sowell, who was one of the hacking targets.

The AP identified the defense and security targets from about 19,000 lines of email phishing data created by hackers and collected by the U.S.-based cybersecurity company Secureworks, which calls the hackers Iron Twilight. The data is partial and extends only from March 2015 to May 2016. Of 87 scientists, engineers, managers and others, 31 agreed to be interviewed by the AP.

Most of the targets' work was classified. Yet as many as 40 percent of them clicked on the hackers' phishing links, the AP analysis indicates. That was the first step in potentially opening their personal email accounts or computer files to data theft by the digital spies.

James Poss, who ran a partnership doing drone research for the Federal Aviation Administration, was about to catch a taxi to the 2015 Paris Air Show when what appeared to be a Google security alert materialized in his inbox. Distracted, he moved his cursor to the blue prompt on his laptop.

"I clicked on it and instantly knew that I had been had," the retired Air Force major general said. Poss says he realized his mistake before entering his credentials, which would have exposed his email to the hackers.

Hackers predominantly targeted personal Gmail, with a few corporate accounts mixed in.

Personal accounts can convey snippets of classified information, whether through carelessness or expediency. They also can lead to other more valuable targets or carry embarrassing personal details that can be used for



This combination of photos shows an Air Force F-22 Raptor stealth fighter jet, left, an MQ-9 Reaper/Predator B^{AP} drone, right, and an X-37B unmanned spacecraft, bottom. Data supplied by the cybersecurity firm Secureworks shows Fancy Bear's hacking targets included defense contractor employees at Lockheed Martin, General Atomics, and Boeing, involved in the development of these systems.

blackmail or to recruit spies.

Drone consultant Keven Gambold, a hacking target himself, said the espionage could help Russia catch up with the Americans. "This would allow them to leapfrog years of hard-won experience," he said.

He said his own company is so worried about hacking that "we've almost gone back in time to use stand-alone systems if we're processing client proprietary data — we're FedEx'ing hard drives around."

The AP has previously reported on Fancy Bear's attempts to break into the Gmail accounts of Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign, American national security officials, journalists, and Kremlin critics and adversaries around the world. U.S. intelligence agencies have concluded the hackers worked for the Kremlin and stole U.S. campaign email to tilt the 2016 election toward Donald Trump — all of which Russian leader Vladimir Putin has denied.

But the hackers clearly had broader aims. Fifteen of the targets identified by the AP worked on drones — the single largest group of weapons specialists.

Countries like Russia are racing to make better drones as the remote-control aircraft have moved to the forefront of modern warfare. They can fire missiles, hunt down adversaries, or secretly monitor targets for days — all while keeping human pilots safely behind computer controls.

The U.S. Air Force now needs more pilots for drones than for any other single type of aircraft, a training official said last year. Drones will lead growth in the aerospace industry over the next decade, with military uses driving the boom, the Teal Group predicted in November. Production was expected to balloon from \$4.2 billion to \$10.3 billion.

So far, though, Russia has nothing that compares with the new-generation U.S. Reaper, which has been called "the most feared" U.S.

drone. General Atomics' 5,000-pound mega-drone can fly more than 1,000 miles (1,600 kilometers) to deliver Hellfire missiles and smart bombs. It has seen action in Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria.

The hackers went after General Atomics, targeting a drone sensor specialist. He did not respond to requests for comment.

They also made a run at the Gmail account of Michael Buet, an electronics engineer who has worked on ultra-durable batteries and high-altitude drones for SunCondor, a small South Carolina company owned by Star Technology and Research. Such machines could be a useful surveillance tool for a country like Russia, with its global military engagements and vast domestic border frontier.

"This bird is quite unique," said Buet. "It can fly at 62,000 feet (18,600 meters) and doesn't land for five years."

The Russians also appeared eager to catch up in space, once an arena for Cold War competition in the race for the moon. They seemed to be carefully eyeing the X-37B, an American unmanned space plane that looks like a miniature shuttle but is shrouded in secrecy.

In a reference to an X-37B flight in May 2015, Russian Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin invoked the vehicle as evidence that his country's space program was faltering. "The United States is pushing ahead," he warned Russian lawmakers.

Less than two weeks later, Fancy Bear tried to penetrate the Gmail account of a senior engineer on the X-37B project at Boeing.

Fancy Bear has also tried to hack into the emails of several members of the Arlington, Virginia-based Aerospace Industries Association, including its president, former Army Secretary Eric Fanning. It went after Lt. Gen. Mark Shackelford, who has served in the military and aerospace industry

as a corporate board member. He has been involved with major weapons and space programs like SpaceX, the reusable orbital rocket company founded by billionaire tech entrepreneur Elon Musk.

Along another path, the hackers chased people who work on cloud-based services, the off-site computer networks that enable collaborators to easily access and juggle data.

In 2013, the CIA signed a \$600 million deal with web giant Amazon to build a system to share secure data across the U.S. intelligence community. Other spy services followed, and the government cleared them last year to move classified data to the cloud at the "secret" level — a step below the nation's most sensitive information.

Fancy Bear's target list suggests the Russians have noticed these developments.

The hackers tried to get into the Gmail accounts of a cloud compliance officer at Palantir and a manager of cloud platform operations at SAP National Security Services, two companies that do extensive government work. Another target was at Mellanox Federal Systems, which helps the government with high-speed storage networks, data analysis and cloud computing. Its clients include the FBI and other intelligence agencies.

Yet of the 31 targets reached by the AP, just one got any warning from U.S. officials.

"They said we have a Fancy Bear issue we need to talk about," said security consultant Bill Davidson. He said an Air Force cybersecurity investigator inspected his computer shortly after the 2015 phishing attempt but found no sign that it succeeded. He believes he was contacted because his name was recognized at the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, where he used to work.

The FBI declined to give on-the-record details of its

response to this Russian operation. Agency spokeswoman Jillian Stickels said the FBI does sometimes notify individual targets. "The FBI takes ... all potential threats to public and private sector systems very seriously," she said in an email.

However, three people familiar with the matter — including a current and a former government official — previously told the AP that the FBI knew the details of Fancy Bear's phishing campaign for more than a year.

Pressed about notification in that case, a senior FBI official, who was not authorized to publicly discuss the hacking operation because of its sensitivity, said the bureau was overwhelmed by the sheer number of attempted hacks. "It's a matter of triaging to the best of our ability the volume of the targets who are out there," he said.

A Pentagon spokeswoman, Heather Babb, said she could release no details about any Defense Department response, citing "operational security reasons." But she said the department recognizes the evolving cyber threat and continues to update training and technology. "This extends to all of our workforce — military, civilian and contractor," she added.

The Defense Security Service, which protects classified U.S. technology and trains industry in computer security, focuses on safeguarding corporate computer networks. "We simply have no insight into or oversight of anyone's personal email accounts or how they are protected or notified when something is amiss," spokeswoman Cynthia McGovern said in an email.

Contacted by the AP, Lockheed Martin, Raytheon, Boeing, Airbus and General Atomics did not respond to requests for comment.

Jerome Pearson, a space system and drone developer, acknowledged that he has not focused on security training at his company, Star

Technology, where Buet has consulted. "No, we really haven't done that," he said with a nervous laugh. "We may be a little bit remiss in that area." He said they may do training for future contracts.

Cybersecurity experts say it's no surprise that spies go after less secure personal email as an opening to more protected systems. "For a good operator, it's like hammering a wedge," said Richard Ford, chief scientist at the Forcepoint cybersecurity company. "Private email is the soft target."

Some officials were particularly upset by the failure to notify employees of cloud computing companies that handle data for intelligence agencies. The cloud is a "huge target for foreign intelligence services in general — they love to get into that shared environment," said Sowell, the former adviser to the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

"At some point, wouldn't someone who's responsible for the defense contractor base be aware of this and try to reach out?" he asked.

Even successful hacks might not translate into new weapons for Russia, where the economy is weighed down by corruption and international sanctions.

However, experts say Russia, while still behind the U.S., has been making more advanced drones in recent years. Russian officials have recently been bragging as their increasingly sophisticated drones are spotted over war zones in Ukraine and Syria.

At a 2017 air show outside Moscow, plans were announced for a new generation of Russian combat drones.

Rogozin, the deputy prime minister, boasted that the technological gap between Russia and the United States "has been sharply reduced and will be completely eliminated in the near future."

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Electric cars have benefits, but likely won't save you money

DETROIT (AP) — Electric cars have a lot of perks: zero emissions, a quiet ride and instant acceleration. But can they save you money? Probably not.

Electric car prices are falling, but they still cost more than equivalent gas models because of their expensive batteries. A \$7,500 federal tax credit — which survived the recent tax overhaul — helps erase that gap, but not entirely.

After that, the math gets more complicated. Some states and utilities offer incentives for electric vehicle owners. Plugging in an electric car is generally cheaper than filling up a gas-powered one, but that depends on the local price of gas and electricity. Some people can charge their electric cars at work, but others need to add a charging station to their garage.

For Ronald Montoya,

a consumer advice editor with the car shopping site Edmunds.com, the bottom line is price. With gas prices averaging \$2.56 per gallon, it's hard to make up the price premium of an electric vehicle — which can easily top \$10,000 — within a three-year lease period, he says. Electric car drivers are more likely to lease than gas car buyers; for example, 57 percent of Nissan Leaf electric cars are leased, compared to 30 percent of cars overall, Edmunds says. (Edmunds regularly provides content, including automotive tips and reviews, for distribution by The Associated Press.)

Still, electrics have benefits, both tangible — like lower maintenance costs — and intangible. Owners can drive them in high-occupancy vehicle lanes, for example, or simply feel good that they're causing less pollution.

"We are still a car cul-

ture, and some of our personal identity is tied up in our cars," said David Friedman, director of cars for Consumers Union, the policy division of Consumer Reports.

Here's a comparison of the 2018 Nissan Leaf electric car and the 2018 Honda Civic, a comparably sized small car.

COST: The Honda Civic four-door sedan with an automatic transmission starts at \$19,640. That's \$10,350 less than the starting price of the Nissan Leaf, which is \$29,990. Electric cars are eligible for a \$7,500 federal tax credit until an automaker has sold more than 200,000 electric vehicles in the U.S.; Nissan has sold around 150,000 Leafs, so buyers can still get that credit. Some states also offer incentives for electric vehicles; California, for example, will mail a \$2,500 rebate check to electric car buyers, while Colorado offers a \$5,000

tax credit. Friedman and Montoya say leasing is smart, since technology is changing so rapidly, but there is still a significant difference in monthly lease payments: \$229 for the Leaf or \$169 for the Civic for three years.

FUELING: Electric cars are cheaper to fuel. It costs \$600 per year to charge a Leaf, according to the U.S. government, which assumes drivers travel 15,000 miles per year and pay the national average of 13 cents per kWh for electricity. By comparison, you'll spend \$1,050 on gas to fill up the Civic. Those figures fluctuate depending on where you live; in Honolulu, for example, electricity is double the national average but gas is also expensive — 79 cents higher per gallon than the national average. There are other costs to take into consideration as well. If you're a first-time electric car buyer and you can't

charge at work or at a public charger, you'll likely want to install a 240-volt charging port in your garage. Expect to pay \$1,500 to \$2,000 for a charging station as well as installation fees, Montoya says.

MAINTENANCE: Because they don't have gas engines, electric cars don't require regular oil changes or engine filter replacements. Brakes get less wear, too, since the electric motor steps in to help slow the vehicle down. But some maintenance is the same, such as tire rotation or adding wiper fluid. Edmunds estimates owners will spend \$3,543 over five years on maintenance and repairs for the Leaf, and \$447 more — or \$3,990 — for the Civic. But electrics do have one significant looming cost: Battery replacement. The Leaf has an eight-year, 100,000-mile warranty on its battery, but if you keep the car past that time, you

could be facing an expensive repair. Nissan currently charges \$5,499 for a replacement battery if you turn in your old battery; installation is a few hundred dollars extra.

DEPRECIATION: This is a big disadvantage for electric car buyers, and one reason it's popular to lease them. The value of electric vehicles falls quickly once they're driven off the lot. AAA estimates electric vehicles lose \$5,704 in value each year they're owned, compared to \$2,114 for small cars like the Civic. Electric cars haven't yet proven their durability, and buyers of used electrics are worried about battery costs. Used electric vehicle buyers also aren't eligible for federal and state tax incentives. But the depreciation has a bright side: it makes used electric cars much more affordable for those willing to buy them, Friedman says.

Los Angeles Times sold to local billionaire for \$500 million

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Los Angeles Times is being sold to a local billionaire for \$500 million, ending its strained tenure under the owner of the Chicago Tribune.

Dr. Patrick Soon-Shiong is a major shareholder of Chicago's Tronc Inc., one of the richest men in Los Angeles and, according to Forbes, the nation's wealthiest doctor, with a net worth of \$7.8 billion.

The deal includes The San Diego Union-Tribune, various titles in the California News Group and the assumption of \$90 million in pension liabilities.

The announcement Wednesday means that for the first time in 18 years the Times will be under local ownership.

Soon-Shiong takes over in a time of turmoil at the paper. The Times just replaced its top editor, the third switch at the position in the newsroom in six months. Publisher Ross Levinsohn had been on unpaid leave after revelations that he was a defendant in two sexual harassment lawsuits elsewhere. Tronc announced Wednesday that Levinsohn has been cleared of any wrongdoing and would be reinstated as CEO of its newly reorganized Tribune Interactive division.

Journalists voted last month to unionize for the first time in the paper's 136-year history.

Clashes between The Los Angeles Times and Tribune Co., which changed its name to Tronc Inc., erupted not long after it acquired the West Coast paper in 2000. Staff at the Times bristled over what it considered a string of bad decisions made from hundreds of miles away in Chicago.

The editor of The Los Angeles Times, John Carroll, who led the paper to 13 Pulitzer Prizes, resigned under heavy pressure to cut staff. Before he left, he asked an old friend and billionaire philanthropist if he would consider buying the paper.

Publisher John Puerner stepped down at the Times, as did his successor, Jeffrey



This Jan. 9, 2007, file photo shows the Los Angeles Times buildings in downtown Los Angeles. It was announced Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2018, that the Los Angeles Times is being sold to Dr. Patrick Soon-Shiong, a local billionaire, for \$500 million, ending its strained tenure under the owner of the Chicago Tribune. Soon-Shiong is a major shareholder of Chicago's Tronc Inc., one of the richest men in Los Angeles and, according to Forbes, the nation's wealthiest doctor, with a net worth of \$7.8 billion.

Johnson, shortly after. Dean Baquet, who took over for Carroll, left after 15 months. He is now the executive editor at The New York Times.

The sale of The Los Angeles Times is in keeping with one of two trends in media ownership: big companies getting bigger and wealthy investors taking on newspapers as philanthropic endeavors, said Al Tompkins, a senior faculty member at the Poynter Institute.

In 2013, Amazon founder and CEO Jeff Bezos bought The Washington Post for \$250 million. Boston Red Sox owner John Henry bought the Boston Globe for \$70 million.

"We find ourselves returning to where we were a century ago when a hand-

ful of wealthy owners controlled big influential newspapers," Tompkins said. "Here's the difference: The ownership today does not promise lucrative returns. You take it over knowing it isn't nearly as profitable as it might have been 20 or 50 years ago. Today it's a thinner margin and it gets thinner every day."

Soon-Shiong also holds a minority interest in the Los Angeles Lakers, acquired in 2011 from Magic Johnson, the team's former superstar and current president of basketball operations.

In an interview with the Times last year, Soon-Shiong acknowledged that as a major stockholder, he was unhappy with the way The Los Angeles Times was being run and felt a

need to ensure its survival. "I am concerned there are other agendas, independent of the newspaper's needs or the fiduciary obligations to the viability of the organization," he said at the time. "My goal is to try and preserve the integrity and the viability of the newspaper."

After The Washington Post first reported a potential sale Tuesday, cheers spread through the Times newsroom.

Tronc said the deal will allow it to follow a more aggressive growth strategy focused on news and digital media. Acquisitions will continue to be a big part of its plan, Tronc said Wednesday, and the company announced that it's buying a majority stake in online product review company BestReviews for

an undisclosed amount.

The sale comes about a week after veteran Chicago journalist Jim Kirk was named editor in chief to replace Lewis D'Vorkin, whose short tenure was marked by clashes with staff.

Kirk, 52, had briefly served in the job during a management overhaul from August until November, when D'Vorkin joined the paper. D'Vorkin will stay on with Tronc as Chief Content Officer of Tribune Interactive, the company said Wednesday.

Reporters at the Times were alarmed by recent hiring of several news executives who reported to business executives, and not to news editors. That sparked fears the business side would wield undue

influence in editorial matters. Traditionally, the editorial and business sides of a paper work separately to maintain journalistic credibility.

A return to local ownership would restore pride at the Times, said veteran media business analyst Ken Doctor.

The question is whether a new owner will do more than halt cutbacks by reinvesting, as Bezos and Henry did at their newspapers, to set the Times on a new path.

"Given the huge challenges still faced by news publishing in the age of Google/Facebook ad duopoly and still-onrushing digital disruption, even a billionaire has his work cut out for him," Doctor said.



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Norovirus at Olympics has officials scrambling, worried

PYEONGCHANG, South Korea (AP) — Signs posted around the Olympic venues urge extreme caution. Nine hundred troops stream into the area to help. Worried organizers sequester 1,200 people in their rooms.

Officials are scrambling on the eve of the biggest planned event in South Korea in years — not because of anything related to North Korea and national security, but in an attempt to arrest the spread of norovirus at the Pyeongchang Games.

Local media are fretting over a "virus panic." South Koreans, always quick to air their views online, have poured scorn on the government's response and preparations. Are the games hygienic? What will people think about South Korea? Could this spread to the athletes?

Norovirus fears may turn out to be much ado about nothing. But with a national reputation on the line, officials are scrambling to contain its spread. No one here wants these games associated more with disease than athletics in the manner that Zika, a mosquito-borne disease that causes rare birth defects in a small proportion of cases, loomed over the Rio Olympics in 2016.

Norovirus is a common, infectious bug that causes unpleasant symptoms including diarrhea and vomiting but doesn't require medical treatment; most people recover on their own after a few days. Large outbreaks of the disease have previously been reported in restaurants, cruise ships, nursing homes, schools and building complexes that share a common water source.

According to Olympics organizers, the norovirus

spread began Sunday when private security workers staying in the Jinbu area of Pyeongchang started complaining of headaches, stomach pain and diarrhea.

About 1,200 people were kept in their rooms during tests for the contagious virus. Local and national health officials say they have investigated 1,023 people. Games organizers said Wednesday that 32 workers are being treated for norovirus and are in quarantine, including three foreigners.

Because the sick workers handled security, 900 military personnel have been brought in to work at 20 venues until the sick and sequestered can return to work. Officials are conducting an epidemiological survey to track the disease's spread. A preliminary five-day survey of water for cooking and drinking has come up negative for norovirus. Health officials say they are also inspecting restaurants and all food facilities linked to the Olympics.

Norovirus is typically spread via contaminated food or water, close contact with an infected patient or by touching contaminated surfaces or objects; the virus can survive outside the body for several days.

There is no specific medical treatment for the virus, although doctors advise people to drink plenty of fluids to avoid dehydration. To prevent further spread, health professionals recommend frequent hand-washing and thorough cleaning of any contaminated surfaces. They also advise patients to stay away from public places until at least two days after their symptoms have cleared.

Notices have been posted around the Olympics urg-



A man sanitizes his hands at the entrance to the media cafeteria in Gangneung, South Korea, Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2018. South Korean authorities deployed 900 military personnel at the Pyeongchang Olympics on Tuesday after the security force was depleted by an outbreak of norovirus.

ing regular, 30-second hand-washing sessions and the thorough boiling of water and washing of fruits and vegetables, among other precautions.

The virus spread appears to feed a lingering South Korean sense of worry that the games will be filled with glitches and mistakes. The lodgings and transportations will be shoddy; the food will be poor, the service spotty; the weather will be too cold and the venues inadequately heated. Instead of putting on the best games possible, there will be too much focus

by the liberal national government on efforts to engage rival North Korea and cater to their visiting athletes and cheering squads.

Despite the official response, South Koreans have criticized the allegedly poor preparations at the Olympics, and what they believe was a slow reaction to initial reports of the virus.

Local media have reported that the first symptoms began on Jan. 31 — not Sunday, as organizers say — long before officials launched a fact-finding investigation. There have also been reports of bad hy-

giene at the accommodations and complaints about meals and lodgings.

The liberal Hankyoreh newspaper published an interview with an anonymous civil security staff member who said that the tap water at the facility that accommodated the security workers "smelled fishy, or like something was decaying." The staff member was also quoted as saying that officials were remiss after workers began showing symptoms.

The conservative JoongAng Ilbo newspaper, meanwhile, said in an editorial that

the norovirus outbreak raises worries about hygiene at the Olympics, and whether the illness might reach the athletes because some of the security workers showing symptoms had reportedly worked at the athletes' villages.

"As the virus panic spreads fast, some of the infected people turned out to have handled security at the Olympic village," the editorial said, "which rings alarms over the management of hygiene conditions during the games."

Women at Brazil Carnival push back against harassment

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — Ana Lobo, who is six months pregnant, was at a pre-Carnival street party last weekend when a man started yelling and calling her names.

"Whore!" she remembered him saying, apparently because she was wearing a revealing top.

"Some men have this feeling that they can do whatever to your body," said Lobo, a 29-year-old artist who later that night attended one of the many feminist-themed parties. "It's time for women to take advantage of this moment" to push back.

Many women in Latin America's largest nation are doing exactly that during this year's Carnival celebrations, with block parties of all-female musicians, shirts, necklaces and crowns with messages like "my breasts, my rules" and several campaigns to report and crackdown on harassment.

The #metoo movement against harassment that is roiling the U.S. has yet to catch on in Brazil, which has one of the world's highest homicide rates for women, according to the Brazilian nonprofit Mapa da Violencia.

But while women's groups say that Brazil has a long way to go to address inequality and ingrained machismo, they see glimmers of a potentially bigger movement in the public dialogue about harassment during Carnival and what

authorities and several organizations are doing to crack down on it.

The massive party officially begins Friday and goes through Wednesday, but in some cities, such as Rio de Janeiro, it's a multi-week event. The hundreds of block parties often include heavy drinking and round-the-clock samba dancing and they come during the Southern Hemisphere's sweaty summer month of February, when the heat drives many to wear few clothes.

Debora Thome, who in 2015 co-organized a block party called "Mulheres Rodadas," or "Women Who Get Around," says Carnival is a good time to focus on fighting harassment because it forces the question of respect amid scantily dressed partygoers.

"A woman can be naked in the street and nobody should be allowed to touch her," said Thome, a former reporter currently working on a doctorate on female participation in Brazilian politics.

Mulheres Rodadas began as a reaction to photo that went viral on Facebook of a man holding a sign in Portuguese saying he "didn't deserve a woman who gets around."

Thome and co-founder Renata Rodrigues announced plans for a block party protest as a joke, and within 24 hours more than 1,000 women said would attend. They knew they had

struck a nerve. "Carnival is just a small piece of a much larger problem," said Rodrigues.

Since then, several other feminist-themed street party groups have been formed in cities nationwide.

They include all-female bands and edgy themes that push back at traditional gender roles and even make fun of derogatory names. At one recent feminist-themed block party, hundreds of women dressed up as animals they said they had been called on the streets: cows, piranhas, hens and cobras, among others.

Roma Neptune, a 29-year-old high school sociology teacher, says learning to play the agogo — a percussion instrument that, like all others during Carnival, is usually played by men — has been empowering. However, she is disillusioned by men who claim to be supportive but are not.

"They say they are against machismo but won't put their hands in the fire when a woman is in dangerous situation," said Neptune, who dressed as a cow and played in the band.

Anderson Semme, one of a few dozen men at the same block party, agreed.

"Men's role is to recognize we were wrong for a long time and now do the right thing," said Semme, a 34-year-old computer technician.

As she listened to the music with her 3-year-old daughter, Maria Marzal re-



In this Feb. 3, 2018 photo, women take part in the block party "Maria vem com as outras," or "Maria, join the other women," in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Many women in Latin America's largest nation are doing exactly that during this year's Carnival celebrations, with block parties of all-female musicians, popular accessories with messages like "no means no" and several campaigns to report and crackdown on harassment.

flected on why she wanted to join the party. The emergency room nurse said that every shift she sees at least one woman who has been raped.

"It's a real fear, a cruel fear," said Marzal, 27.

Last year, military police in Rio received 2,154 calls about violence against women during Carnival. Noting that figure means one woman was assaulted every few minutes, security officials and several non-government groups that

have launched campaigns against harassment.

Thousands of stickers are being handed out with messages like "No! is 'no!'" and "Grabbing me won't get you a kiss!" Websites encourage women report harassment and direct them to police stations.

Maj. Claudia Morais, a Rio police officer who focuses on crimes against women, says the discussion is a step in the right direction, but that women must go beyond that and make

reports when incidents happen.

Recent changes in the law have made it easier to prosecute aggressors for rape even if there wasn't intercourse, added Morais, who gave the example of a man who has been charged with rape for recently ejaculating on a woman in a public bus.

"At the very least, a guy who gets arrested and goes before a judge will think twice" about assaulting a woman in the future, she said.



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