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Celebrating trauma survivors.

Osceola Regional Medical Center honors doctors and former patients.



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OSCEOLA NEWS-GAZETTE

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Saturday, June 9, 2018

Serving Osceola County for 127 Years TOP STORIES

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Company makes historic airport investment

By Rachel Christian Staff Writer

The first aerospace company to receive recently-approved city financial incentives is set to invest \$4.5 million at Kissimmee Gateway Airport in the next two years.

The project plans to add 200,000 square feet of hangar space and 8,000 square feet of office space, making it the single largest and most expensive investment in the airport's history, according to Gateway Director Terry Lloyd.

Know 2 Solutions, a network solutions provider specializing in satellite communications, is set to consolidate three locations into one central hub operating from the currently vacant northwest corner of Kissimmee Gateway Airport.

See Airport, Page 2.



FILE PHOTO

Know 2 Solutions plans to add 200,000 square feet of hangar space and 8,000 feet of office space at Kissimmee Gateway Airport.

AROUND TOWN

Early morning angler



NEWS-GAZETTE PHOTO/MARTIN MADDOCK

The early bird gets the worm and the fish. A fisherman gets an early start out on one of the ponds by the East Lake Tohopekaliga lakefront.

Commissioners question math in massive reduction in county park requirements

By Charlie Reed For the News-Gazette

Osceola County Commission Chairman Fred Hawkins Jr. gave a nod to environmentalist Valerie Anderson at Monday's afternoon board meeting.

Hawkins and Anderson became strange allies for a moment while the board discussed a measure that would reduce the population-to-park-ratio requirement in Osceola County by more than 63 percent.

Proposed by county staff, the measure would reduce the number of parks required per 1000 residents from 4.0 to 1.5.

"Valerie, I'm gonna give you credit," Hawkins said from the dais to Anderson, who sat in the audience.

The St. Cloud land analyst and founder of the grassroots environmental nonprofit Friends of Split Oak Forest spoke in the time allotted for public comment ahead of the commission's discussion on the topic.

Hawkins and Anderson have been working on opposite sides of future plans for Split Oak Forest, a public conservation area that officials and developers want to use for the eastward extension of Osceola Parkway. Anderson opposes building the road through the forest while Hawkins, also

See Commissioners, Page 5.

Kissimmee man wins 2nd place in Canadian beard contest



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Kissimmee resident and barber Ron Wolek won second place in the Vancouver Men's Facial Hair Club Championship.

By Rachel Christian Staff Writer

Until three months ago, Ron Wolek didn't know professional beard competitions existed.

That's not to say the 35-year-old Kissimmee resident was unfamiliar with growing one. As a third-generation barber who's penned a book on facial hair, there's no doubt Wolek knows how to grow a great beard.

"I just didn't know anything like that existed," he said. "It's right up my alley, but I wasn't aware competing for best beard was even a thing."

Wolek became enlightened earlier this year, when a group of zealous Canadians reached out to him on Instagram. They dug his locks and encouraged him to compete in the Vancouver Men's Facial Hair Club Championship June 1.

See Beard, Page 3.

LOCAL

Bingo event to benefit Special Olympics in Osceola

By Jennifer DiDomenico
A&E Editor



Special Olympics Florida

Special Olympics of Osceola County is hosting Designer Bag BINGO on Saturday, June 23, to benefit its many sports programs for people with special needs.

It will be at the Knights of Columbus, 2000 Neptune Road, Kissimmee, from 6 to 10 p.m.

Individuals can win genuine bags (with original tags), while playing a fun game for a great cause. Tickets include a booklet of eight bingo sheets, with six cards per sheet (one sheet per game). Additional bingo sheets and daubers will be available for purchase.

Feeling extra lucky? People can also have the chance to win the 50/50 jackpot drawing, plus other raffle prizes.

Doors open at 6 p.m., and the first bingo game starts at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$30 in advance online before June 22, and \$35 at the door. Designer Bag BINGO offers reserved seating for parties of 10 or more guests. Desserts and wine will be available for a donation.

For more information about Designer Bag BINGO, contact Ann at ajlm7777@aol.com.

Special Olympics of Osceola County is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization that provides year-round sports training and competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for people

with disabilities. Anyone who qualifies from highly functioning to severely challenged is welcome to join, with no fee to participate in the program.

The organization is part of Special Olympics Florida which serves more than 44,000 athletes in the state, and offers training and competition in a variety of both team and individual sports. Special Olympics Florida is supported by more than 31,000 dedicated coaches and volunteers statewide. For more information on Special Olympics of Osceola County, visit www.SpecialOlympicsOsceola.org.

LGBT center nears goal for new Kissimmee location

By Rachel Christian
Staff Writer

An established Orlando LGBT resource center was honored with a proclamation by city officials Tuesday night as it prepares to open a second location in Kissimmee this August.

News of the community center's expansion has garnered support from residents and local officials since plans were announced earlier this year. Executive Director George Wallace said the new LGBT Center of Kissimmee will fill a significant need for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community by providing free HIV and sexual transmitted disease testing, support groups and counseling to an area where such services are in short supply.

Wallace estimates that 5 to 30 percent of those who visit the Center in Orlando each week are Osceola County residents.

"Orlando is right next door, but the drive is still tough," he said. "We want to move those services closer to the people who need them."

The center has almost reached its \$75,000 fundraising goal, which will cover basic facility and operational expenses for a year, Wallace said. In April, the group received a \$26,000 grant from Contigo Fund, a South Florida nonprofit that emerged from the 2016 Pulse Nightclub shooting.

But anyone, regardless of sexual orientation, can utilize Center services.

Once it arrives in Kissimmee, the facility plans to cater to its new

community by reaching out to Osceola County's growing Hispanic population. Hiring a bi-lingual manager, providing materials in Spanish and offering all LGBT group sessions in both languages are some of the initiatives Wallace plans to implement at the new location.

"Offering bi-lingual materials is something we don't even do in Orlando right now, but once we establish it in Kissimmee, I'd like to integrate it up here," the director said.

Support from Kissimmee residents has been tremendous, Wallace said, noting the enthusiasm he felt from those who stopped by the center's table at Gay Days last weekend.

See **Center**, Page 5.

AIRPORT

Continued from Page 1

The niche company, which provides networking services and custom engineering to other aero industry businesses, began talks with Kissimmee economic development staff in October.

Know 2 Solutions is the first to receive a set of special financial incentives as part of the Aerospace Advancement Initiative,

a measure approved by Kissimmee commissioners in April.

Know 2 Solutions will benefit from \$172,000 in waived impact, permit and mobility fees, as well as performance-based incentives if the company hires local and meets established criteria.

The Aerospace Advancement Initiative is

a push by local officials to attract companies to the more than 100 acres of unused or underused land at Gateway Airport and spur economic development.

Providing those benefits made Gateway an attractive option for Know 2 Solutions, said Belinda Kirkegard, director of Kissimmee economic development.

"It definitely played a part in their decision-making process, I'm sure," Kirkegard said. "I know they were looking at a couple different facilities outside of Florida before choosing Gateway."

All incentives are performance-based, and the \$172,000 figure could still go up or down, Kirkegard said.

The company is currently operating in an existing building at the airport with plans to start construction soon. The new facility should be complete in 18 to 24 months, said the airport's director.

"Know 2 Solutions looks forward to integrating into this community, becoming a successful business,

creating job opportunities for citizens of Kissimmee, and becoming a leading aerospace and engineering business in the Central Florida area," Chief Operations Officer Pat Geddes told city commissioners Tuesday night shortly before financial incentives were approved as a consent agenda item.



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Kissimmee man faces life in prison on drug charges

By Brian McBride
Editor

A Kissimmee man faces life in prison after pleading guilty recently to drug distribution charges.

United States Attorney Maria Chapa Lopez announced that Harold Omar Vargas-Delgado, 33, of Kissimmee, Cary Michelle Vargas-Delgado, 34, Orlando, and Angel Ruben Maldonado, Jr., 42, of Orlando, pleaded guilty to their involvement in multiple conspiracies to distribute heroin throughout Central Florida.

In addition, Harold Omar Vargas-Delgado pleaded guilty to possessing with the intent to distribute a kilogram or more of heroin, possessing a firearm as a convicted felon, and possessing a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. He faces a maximum penalty of life in federal prison.

Cary Michelle Vargas-Delgado faces a maximum penalty of 40 years in federal prison, and Maldonado, Jr. faces a maximum sentence of 20 years in federal prison.

Previously, two other members of the drug trafficking organization, Eliazar Cruz, 52, of Kissimmee, and Hector Pabellon Nunez, 51, Kissimmee, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute heroin. Cruz

faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in federal prison, while Nunez faces a maximum penalty of 40 years in federal prison.

According to the defendants' plea agreements, in March 2016, law enforcement received an anonymous tip about a heroin drug trafficking organization operating in the Central Florida area. On six occasions, between October 2016 and May 2017, an undercover officer purchased approximately 111 grams of heroin from Cary Michelle Vargas-Delgado, Harold Omar Vargas-Delgado's sister. During one of those transactions, Cary Michelle Vargas-Delgado, speaking in Spanish, discussed with the officer the high quality of the heroin and that it was "uncut." She said that since the heroin was "pure," the officer would be able to "work it" and make more money.

Law enforcement also learned that the drug organization distributed kilogram amounts of heroin weekly to other groups and individuals around Florida.

Harold Omar Vargas-Delgado provided large, distribution amounts of heroin to his sister. She then distributed gram amounts of heroin to others, including Maldonado, Cruz, and Nunez, who would then further aid in the

distribution of that heroin to other users.

On Oct. 20, 2017, law enforcement officers executed a search warrant at Harold Omar Vargas-Delgado's home in Kissimmee and seized 2.8 kilograms of heroin laced with fentanyl, along with a brick/kilogram press; a heat sealer; approximately \$16,000 in cash; men's jewelry, including watches, valued at over \$100,000; six cellphones; two 50-round ammunition magazine drums; two respirator masks; a hydraulic jack; and a money counter. They also seized eleven firearms, three of which had been reported stolen, and several additional magazines of ammunition. Some of the firearms were recovered from secret compartments that had been custom built into several of the vehicles parked at the home.

Also on Oct. 20, 2017, law enforcement officers arrested Cary Michelle Vargas-Delgado and seized from inside her home \$6,238 in cash, a .380 caliber firearm, a scale, several small baggies and several cellphones.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation, the Osceola County Bureau of Investigation, and the Kissimmee Police Department.

BEARD

Continued from Page 1

Wolek, a Poinciana High School graduate, didn't think much of the offer at first, but the Canadians were persistent.

"That's when I started thinking, 'Well, I might actually win,'" he said.

Wolek ultimately placed second at the event, losing by a hair to a Vancouver native with a clear hometown advantage. But the experience proved positive for the Osceola County resident, who dedicated the win to his grandfather Hank.

"I never met my grandfather, but out of all my relatives, I look like him the most," Wolek said. "And I've always had a curiosity to know what he was like."

His curiosity piqued a few years ago when Wolek's uncle told him Hank had run a popular mustache club at a family-owned bar in Syracuse, N.Y., in the 1940s and 50s. Wolek eventually stumbled on a grainy 1963 newspaper clipping featuring his grandfather and 11 other members of the club a few days before a charity shave-off.

The vintage black-and-white aesthetic of the photo, which featured checkered ties, thick wire frame glasses, and of course, neatly clipped mustaches, appealed to Wolek, who had just launched a niche online business selling professional quality faux beards to theater and TV production companies.

The custom wig and facial hair site, www.mustacheparlor.com,

launched five years ago. Wolek has since crafted custom pieces for entertainers, costume designers, Santa Claus impersonators and even Pittsburgh soccer club members competing in an annual charity tournament.

The designer traces his interest in hair and make-up all the way back to his childhood and his mother, Janet, who worked on the hair and makeup design team at Disney World. "My mom would come home, and my sister and I were kind of her guinea pigs for new ideas," he said. "I grew up around it, and it always interested me."

Wolek initially majored in graphic design before attending the barberry and cosmetology program at Academy of Advanced Training in Kissimmee.

Wolek cut hair with an ex-Navy barber for his first professional gig after graduating. Over the years, he's held a series of film and stage jobs before landing the biggest barberry gig of his career.

From 2012 to 2014, Wolek worked as the official special effects artist, barber and mustache-maker for a national tour of the Broadway play War Horse. The tour spanned 35 states with additional stops in Canada and Japan.



NEWS-GAZETTE PHOTO/MARTIN MADDOCK

Ron Wolek holds up his second place award he won in the beard competition.

The actors in War Horse played both English and German soldiers during World War I, and the length of their mustache were a key identifier in what group they belonged.

"The actors loved my mustaches," Wolek said. "After that, I started my website, and it helped bring all my skills full circle."

Wolek's website continues to turn a healthy profit, though the design artist said he still picks up side projects throughout the year to supplement his income. His next big job is stage and make-up work for Howl-o-Scream haunted house at SeaWorld in Texas.

As for the hair-raising world of professional beard competitions, Wolek isn't sure if he will pursue any other contests in the future.

"I think I'm good with second place," he said. "Then again, there's this competition coming up soon in Toronto. So we'll see."

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St. Cloud Residents:

Any person seeking to be a candidate for the St. Cloud Municipal Election may do so by qualifying starting June 18, 2018 at 12 p.m. and until June 22, 2018 at 12 p.m. at the Supervisor of Elections Office (2509 E. Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy., Kissimmee). The election will be held November 6, 2018 (with a primary election date of August 28, 2018, if necessary). Council Member Seat #4 and Council Member Seat #5 are to be elected by the qualified electors of the city of St. Cloud. For more information, visit www.voteosceola.com or call 407-742-6000.



Residentes de St. Cloud:

Cualquier persona interesada en ser candidato(a) en la Elección Municipal de St. Cloud puede registrarse para calificar desde el 18 de junio del 2018 (12 p.m.) hasta el 22 de junio del 2018 (12 p.m.) en la Oficina de la Supervisora de Elecciones (2509 E. Irlo Bronson Memorial Hwy., Kissimmee). La elección se llevará a cabo el 6 de noviembre del 2018 (con una fecha de elección primaria pautada para el 28 de agosto del 2018, si es necesaria). Silla #4 de Miembro del Concilio y Silla #5 de Miembro del Concilio serán elegidas por los electores calificados de la ciudad de St. Cloud.

Para más información, visite www.voteosceola.com/es/ o llame al 407-742-6000.



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VIEWPOINT

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AS I SEE IT

Protecting homes and families using PACE financing

By Cheryl Grieb and Michael Larson

As Florida Realtors, we know that one of the most important moments in a person's life is holding the keys to their new home for the first time. Homeownership goes hand-in-hand with the American dream. But as severe storms intensify and our state's housing stock ages, homeowners need new ways to protect their homes and families from ever-stronger storms.

One solution to the problem of stronger storms is PACE financing. Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing is a fast-growing form of financing that eliminates the upfront cost barrier of storm resilience home upgrades. When a homeowner chooses PACE financing to make such an improvement to their home, like installing impact-resistant windows and doors, stronger roofs or energy-efficient appliances, he or she does not need to put any money down up front. Instead, a private PACE company pays all costs at the time of the upgrade, and then the homeowner pays for these upgrades as a new line item on their property tax bill for up to 25 years, at a fixed interest rate.

The use of PACE for hurricane-proofing homes is extremely valuable to homeowners in a hurricane-prone state like Florida. PACE costs nothing

to Florida taxpayers, is completely voluntary and does not involve any government subsidies. Yet PACE can keep Florida families safe by financing the strengthening of their homes. These are some of the reasons PACE financing has been praised as a top-20 "idea that can change the world" by Scientific American.

With PACE financing, families are able to harden their homes against dangerous storms. No family should wonder if their windows and roofs will withstand the next storm - and with PACE-financed property upgrades, they don't have to.

For these reasons, the PACE industry merits expansion in Florida. Because PACE operates in partnership with local governments, each county or municipality government must "opt in" to PACE before their residents are able to use the financing tool. Currently, about half the state has access to a residential PACE program, and approximately 20,000 Florida homeowners have taken advantage of this opportunity. PACE should be welcomed to operate in the remaining half of Florida. No family should be denied financing for safety measures because they live in the wrong municipality. PACE should be available statewide.

Beyond the benefits PACE financing provides individual homeowners, PACE has been an economic boon for many

communities, including ours. Across the country, residential PACE has created more than 40,000 jobs due to increased demand for home improvements. And when homeowners make upgrades with PACE financing, their property values increase, according to analysis by Morningstar. This also improves Florida's housing supply.

PACE financing is one of the decade's most significant developments in home improvement. It is already benefitting Florida residents, and these benefits only stand to grow in time. As we all prepare once again for hurricane season, those Floridians who have access to PACE should consider whether the financing tool might help them harden their homes against storms. It is proper that all Florida homeowners have the freedom and choice to do the same.

Cheryl Grieb is an Osceola County commissioner and a local Realtor. Michael Larson is a Realtor from Key West.



Want to write a letter to the editor?

Email it to Editor Brian McBride at bmcbride@osceolanewsgazette.com.

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SOUND OFF OSCEOLA

We want to hear from you!

With the recent school shooting in Texas, do you think there are effective security measures to take to ensure it would never occur in Osceola County? If yes, what are they? If no, why?

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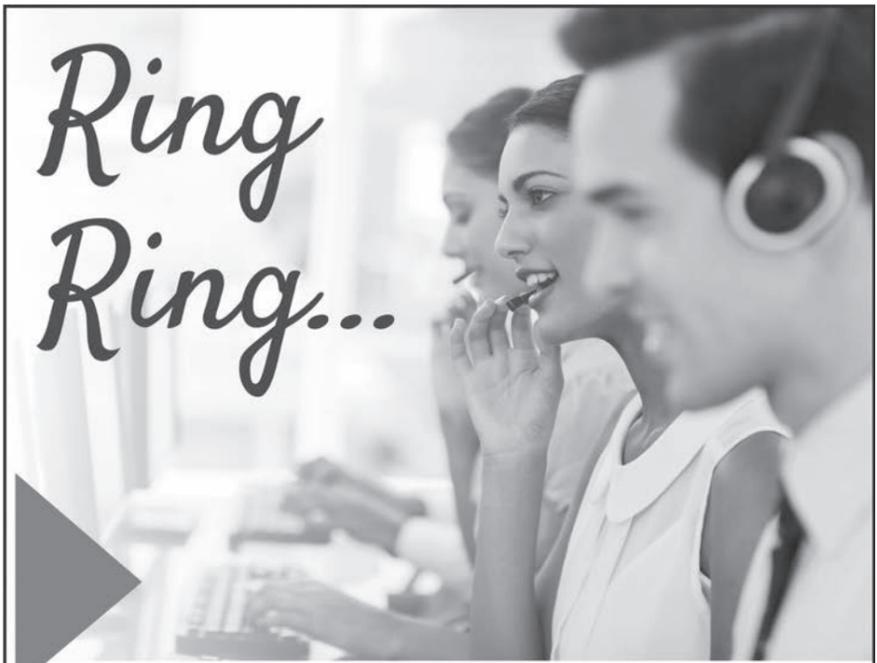
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LOCAL

COMMISSIONERS

Continued from Page 1

the chairman of a Central Florida regional toll-road authority, supports a plan that would sacrifice a part of the public forest for the road that's needed for future development in the works.

"You're allowing the population to grow while shrinking the requirements for parks - essentially letting existing parks absorb more and more use," Anderson told the board.

Friends of Split Oak Forest has filed a lawsuit against the county, essentially to protect Split Oak from being used for the toll road expansion.

Osceola County is having difficulty keeping up with the established parks requirement so county staff is trying to make the requirement easier to obtain, she said.

"That's an affront to the citizens of this county. We rely on you to provide services that the private sector does not and cannot provide. Parks and conservation land is one such amenity. Your job is to provide those amenities and maintain our quality of life as the county grows in population. Natural resource-based recreation is vital to our quality of life," Anderson said.

County Manager Don Fisher defended the proposed decrease.

"The drop is justified because the 4.0 standard that was set by the Osceola County Commission 10-15 years ago was "remarkably ambitious and not logical

in terms of post-reflection of what was done," Don Fisher told the board Monday.

"We're trying to become more reasonable and more standard with the industry and not have requirements that can't be maintained and so on," Fisher said.

County staff told Commissioner Cheryl Grieb that while the requirement was lower it would result in an overall higher percentage of parks per person in Osceola, she said.

Grieb said that if the overall goal of the measure proposed county staff is to increase parks rather than decrease parks, then she would support it.

Commissioner Viviana Janer agreed with Grieb but asked for even more clarification on the math.

"I want to see how the 1.5 was calculated," Janer told Fisher and county staff in the audience. Janer said county staff must confirm that the "end result (of the proposed lower requirement) is increasing recreational opportunities."

Confusion arose during the discussion when county staff could not confirm the figures they used in calculating the 1.5 parks-per-1000 residents proposal.

Janer suggested tabling the vote until next week's commission meeting.

"We'll all feel better if we understood that our people aren't being short-changed in terms of our parks and our recreational facilities," Janer said.

English language arts test shows student growth

The following summary compares Osceola County student performance between 2017 and 2018 on the Grade 3 Florida Standards Assessment English Language Arts test (FSA ELA):

► Thirteen elementary schools showed growth or stayed the same.

► Eight schools showed improvement of four or more percentage points:

Chestnut Elementary School for Science and Engineering, Kissimmee Elementary, Narcoossee Elementary, Partin Settlement Elementary, Poinciana Academy of Fine Arts, St. Cloud Elementary, Ventura Elementary, and Westside K-8.

► Four schools had 70 percent or more of their Grade 3 students at Level 3 or higher: Narcoossee

Elementary, St. Cloud Elementary, Harmony K-8, and Celebration K-8.

Ten schools met or exceeded the state average (57 percent): Chestnut Elementary School for Science and Engineering, East Lake Elementary, Hickory Tree Elementary, Lakeview Elementary, Michigan Avenue Elementary, Narcoossee Elementary, St.

Cloud Elementary, Bellalago Academy, Celebration K-8, and Harmony K-8.

"The majority of our elementary schools continue to show student growth," said Osceola School District Superintendent Debra Pace. "While there remains room for improvement, I am extremely confident in the direction of the Osceola School District."

Three Poinciana shooting suspects sought

Authorities are searching for three suspects wanted for a Poinciana shooting on Tuesday.

The Polk County Sheriff's Office is investigating the shooting that left a 19-year-old male critically injured.

According to a Polk Sheriff's Office report, at about 7 p.m., the Polk Emergency Communications Center received 911 calls in

reference to the shooting that occurred outside a Squirrel Court home in Poinciana. According to witnesses, the 19-year-old victim stopped at the home with friends in a white SUV. He exited the SUV and was standing in the front yard talking to a 21-year-old resident of the home when a silver four-door car drove up and parked. Three unknown suspects got out of the car and

fired multiple rounds from an unknown style handgun at the parked SUV, striking the victim several times, the report stated.

The silver car then fled the scene, last seen heading northbound on Gazelle Drive. The suspects were described as Hispanic males.

The victim was taken to Poinciana Medical Center by his friends in the white

SUV. He was then airlifted to Osceola Regional Medical Center due to the severity of his wounds.

Anyone with information about this incident is urged to contact the Polk County Sheriff's Office at 863-298-6200. To remain anonymous and be eligible for a cash reward, contact Heartland Crime Stoppers at 1-800-226-TIPS (8477).

CENTER

Continued from Page 2

Local government officials are also rallying behind the center's anticipated August arrival. Earlier this week, Wallace accepted a special proclamation from the city of Kissimmee in recognition of Pride Fest today and the center's contribution to the local LGBT community.

County Commissioner Cheryl Grieb, Osceola's first publicly gay elected official, is working with Wallace in his continued search for a physical building to act as the Center's new home. Grieb, who has a background in real estate, said she is looking for a centrally located facility near downtown, but the competitive market is proving difficult.

"They may have to go with a smaller site and grow to a larger location later," she said. "We're still exploring options."

Grieb said she was glad to help any way she could. As a youth growing up in Osceola County, Grieb said she questioned her sexual orientation, but a lack of resources and openness about LGBT issues kept her from coming out until her 20s.

"It was something you just didn't talk about around here," she said. "I think the center is going to be a great opportunity, especially for youth who are questioning things. It will give them a safe, supportive outlet to



Cheryl Grieb

hang out and meet like-minded individuals."

She may hold a personal connection to the center, but as a public official, Grieb said she also sees its arrival as a positive sign of local growth.

"Metropolitan areas tend to be huge melting pots, so it's easier to be out and proud if you're in a larger city," she said. "The fact that the center is coming to Kissimmee, I take that as a healthy sign of growth."

Wallace and volunteers from the LGBT Center of Orlando will be at Pride Fest in downtown Kissimmee today as the group works to raise the final \$3,000 of its \$75,000 goal.

Wallace said it seemed fitting to collect the remaining money in the same community the center would soon serve.

For more about the Center of Kissimmee or to donate to the effort, visit www.thecenterorlando.org/kissimmee.

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Please fill out at least 15 businesses to be considered valid. One per person.

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- 11 Dance/Gymnastic _____
- 12 Day Spa _____
- 13 Dentist Office _____
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- 16 Hardware Store _____
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- 36 Deli _____
- 37 Family Diner _____
- 38 Friendliest Wait Staff _____
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- 40 Hamburger _____
- 41 Hot Dog _____
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- 43 Latin Restaurant _____
- 44 Local Restaurant _____
- 45 Mexican Restaurant _____
- 46 Pizza _____
- 47 Sports Bar _____
- 48 Steakhouse _____
- 49 Subs _____
- 50 Wings _____

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Mail in ballots must be postmarked by July 2, 2018 or you can drop them off at the office by July 5, 2018 at 5 p.m.

You can also cast your vote online at www.aroundsceola.com

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BACK TO SCHOOL SPECIAL SECTION

ATTENTION BUSINESS OWNERS

Students are returning to school Monday, Aug. 13, and the Osceola News-Gazette will help you show the parents your paramount products and services they will need this time of year.

So, it's time to get back on the bus and advertise in our Back-to-School special section. The section is packed full of vital information, schedules, the latest trends and cool tips to help students have a successful school year. It's a road map of what students and parents can expect this year as they prepare for their new journey. You will find that is a valued

2018 high school football preview included

We are also combining this issue to include the 2018 high school football preview. The issue will cover 8 of the Osceola high school football teams, upcoming games and more. What a great way for local companies to support their community and invite residents to do business with

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SPORTS



HOH fishing

\$14K up for grabs in tournament.

Page 8

Local & National Sports • Sports Commentary



CONTACT

KEN JACKSON

OSCEOLA NEWS-GAZETTE SPORTS EDITOR

EMAIL KJACKSON@OSCEOLANEWSGAZETTE.COM

TWITTER @OSCEOLASPORTS

MIDDLE SCHOOL ALL-SPORTS CHAMPIONS

Can't stop the Seahawks

▶ With six county championships, Neptune wins eighth straight middle school County Cup

By Ken Jackson
Sports Editor

Once again, Neptune Middle School captured the Osceola County middle school all-sports team championship in 2017-18.

Osceola School District Athletic Director Ryan Adams may soon want — or have — to rename the award the Seahawks Cup.

Neptune, under the leadership of coach and athletic director Judi Arnold and her dedicated coaching staff, has won the Osceola County Middle School Athletic Conference title every year since Adams introduced it in the 2010-11 school year in the image of the Orange Belt Conference All-Sports championship fought for by the county's public high schools.

But where Osceola, St. Cloud and Harmony have passed that trophy around over the last decade, the middle school championship has never left Neptune Road. And, not surprisingly, Neptune athletes usually attend those three high schools or Gateway.

Adams said he designed the middle school competition to provide competitive athletic opportunities for as many students as possible and not so much to identify a dominant program.

"The whole staff of Neptune coaches put in the time to prepare their athletes for the expectations of them if they choose to continue athletics in high school," he said. "Their dedication to their athletes



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Above, Neptune Middle School's 150 or so athletes pose with the County Cup, which the Seahawks won in 2017-18 for the eighth time in a row in runaway fashion. At right, Jacob Pare shows off gold medals from the cross country, soccer and track teams and his first-place award for being a part of the Seahawks' winning 4x800 relay team.

is phenomenal, and I've seen Judi go above and beyond to make it a positive experience for her kids."

In the points race, where

teams earn five points for a county championship, three points for being runner-up and one point for reaching the semifinals, Neptune scored 49, outpacing Narcoossee (27), which was the county team academic champion, Celebration (26), St. Cloud (21) and Horizon (19).

The Seahawks claimed county championships in boys cross country, soccer and track, girls and boys basketball and competitive cheer. They were runners-up in girls soccer, golf, boys flag football and wrestling and softball, and semifinalists in girls cross country, flag football, wrestling (not scored for points since fewer than half the schools compete) and track and boys volleyball. Only girls volleyball did not qualify for the Final Four.

"Our kids and coaches are competitors, and we push our coaches to challenge the kids," said Arnold, who has been Neptune's AD since 1995. "At the beginning of every year we wonder if we'll be good enough to win it again, and then the kids go out and do things we don't expect. Our boys track team broke six school records this year."

Arnold coaches cross country and track, which have been dominant programs among the middle schools since the school opened in 1988. Her coaching staff includes John Prow (boys soccer), Sam Wion (girls soccer, boys track), Wilson Rodriguez (boys basketball), Justin Marino (girls basketball, flag football), Donny Shroyer (golf, softball), Joshua Chatten



(wrestling), Sylmari Mendez (cheerleading), Angelo Cruz (boys volleyball) and Edgar Colon (girls volleyball).

According to Arnold's math, over the eight years of defending the county cup, Neptune has 44 county championships, 28

See **Neptune**, Page 9.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Seventh graders Isaac Nieves, Jolaney Quinones, who also broke Neptune's 200-meter school record in 24.41 seconds, and Luis Melendez finish a sprint at the county middle school meet.

All-County girls tennis: Jeanne Marie got the Bulldogs the lead

By Ken Jackson
Sports Editor

St. Cloud High's Jeanne Marie Gearity will be playing a lot of tennis this summer.

It won't be around here, so her tennis racket won't melt. It's actually part of a college tour of some interesting campuses — Ole Miss, Southern Miss, Creighton, Duke, Notre Dame, Harvard, Brown and Rollins.

Why the whirlwind tour? Because, with two high school

seasons left after a very solid sophomore year, she wants to spend her whole summer break getting better.

That could be trouble for Orange Belt Conference and District 4A-5 foes — she was already 12-3 in singles this season, with losses only to district finalists Freedom and Lake Nona, and combined with a 5-1 OBC doubles record earned this year's Osceola News-Gazette Girls Tennis Player of the Year nod.

Gearity said after her freshman year playing a high school schedule,

she felt like her competitive edge was better, maybe the best it's ever been after taking up the game six years ago.

"I had great coaching this year," Gearity said, a nod to Coach Jeff Bean and assistant Matt Peele. "Tennis is fun for me, so I know it's going to be a fun summer."

Gearity rode a big serve to the No. 1 spot in the Bulldogs lineup and a reliable win in matches, Bean said.

See **Gearity**, Page 8.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Bulldog sophomore Jeanne Marie Gearity only lost matches this year to regional playoff-qualifying teams

GIRLS TENNIS

Player of the Year:
Jeanne Marie Gearity (SCHS, Soph.)

All-county team:

Celebration: Beatrice Coehlo, Daniela Torres.

Gateway: Sabrina Rodriguez.

Harmony: Mary Jacobson, Jacqueline Ryals, Tanea Spurill.

St. Cloud: Samantha Singleton.



SPORTS

THE REEL DEAL

Help Our Heroes tournament results show importance of a properly-functioning livewell

NOTICE OF OCX MEETING

Notice is hereby given for a Public Hearing of the Osceola County Expressway Authority (OCX) on June 12, 2018, for the adoption of the FY 18/19 Budget. This meeting will begin at **9 a.m.**, or as soon thereafter as practical and will be held in the Osceola County Administration Building, Commission Chambers, 4th Floor, 1 Courthouse Square, Kissimmee, FL 34741.

Materials relating to the above will be available online at <http://www.osceolaxway.org>. Any person requiring special accommodations at the public meeting because of a disability or physical impairment should contact the Office of the Clerk of the Board 407-742-2100, at 1 Courthouse Square, Kissimmee, FL 34741, prior to the meeting.

The 5th Annual Toho Marine Help Our Heroes The Reel Deal is in the books. After almost two solid weeks of wind and rain, the sun finally came out and the weather held hot and steady throughout the day. Take off started at 6:15 am with 83 teams blasting off across the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes in search of the winning bag. At stake was over \$14,000 in prize money, a host of prizes, as well as bragging rights until next year's tournament. The payout was broken down



to 16 places, not including the Big Fish Pot, or prizes awarded for 2nd Big Fish and the team that finished "first out of the money." Boats started arriving for check in at 3pm and the Kissimmee Chain showed out as it has all year. There were over 15 Florida Trophy catches recorded for an additional bonus to those registered in the program as well as 23 teams that had bags in excess of 20 pounds. A total of 283 bass came across the scales for a total weight of 1101.14 pounds and 53 teams brought in a five-fish limit.



From left, Help Our Heroes winners Russ Osbourne and Micah Silverman with Tournament Director Neal Lazarus.

Winning back-to-back Help Our Heroes titles was the team of Micah Silverman and Russ Osbourne, after the team of Eric Conant and Michael Foster had a pound deducted off their total weight as a penalty for having two dead fish at weigh-in. Micah and Russ won the \$5,325 first place payout (Wow!) with 34.94 pounds that included a trophy catch of 8.41 pounds. Second place and \$2,000 went to Eric and Michael whose official weight was 33.99 pounds after the penalty. They did bring in the Second Big Fish of the day, a sweet 9.83-pounder, and were awarded two entries into the 2019 Bass Pro Shops Big Bass Tour Tournament on the Harris Chain of Lakes.

Third place went to the duo of David Howell and Bob Wojcich ("WoJo") with their limit of 31.95 pounds that included the Big Fish of the day, a 9.87-pound Lake Kissimmee Donkey. They took home \$1,200 for the win and an additional \$1,640 for the Big Bass, as well as a nice trophy to be on display at Wojo's Bait and Tackle. Fourth Place and \$850 was claimed by Kyle Walters and Jeremy Shekell. They caught 30.89 pounds that also included a documented Trophy Catch of 8.57 pounds. Fifth place went to Charlie Harrelson and Logan Murphy, who also made the top five last year. They brought 29.47 pounds to the scales and a Trophy Catch of 8.98 pounds as well earning them \$500.

It's safe to say this tournament could of had different results had two fish brought in by one team not died. Any tournament angler knows to win a tournament you need a five-fish limit and it is their responsibility to keep five alive to avoid penalties. Nothing is more devastating then seeing a fish not survive a long day in the fisherman's livewell. When fish die, they lose weight, too. A dead or stressed fish releases ammonia that can affect the rest of the fish in the livewell.

Keeping bass alive after being caught can be a challenge especially in the heat. Dissolved oxygen levels drop when the water temperature soars causing the fish to stress. The summer heat can kill livewell-kept bass especially if caught from deeper cooler water and placed into hot livewells.

Most tournaments start at sunrise and last until 3 p.m., and there is a good chance you are going to catch your limit or trophy bass before mid-morning. Here are a few tips if you are a new tournament angler to help keep your prized catch healthy for the weigh-in and for the release.

To minimize stress on the fish, anglers should handle them as little as possible, including removing the hook from the fish's mouth while it is still in the water if possible. This limited handling helps reduce the loss of slime coat, which is the

fish's main defense against infection and disease.

Maintain healthy oxygen and water quality in the livewells. Know the capacity and don't exceed the ration of more than one pound of bass per gallon of water. Make sure your recirculating pump works before you arrive at the tournament and use it continuously if you have more than five pounds of bass in the livewell. Know your tournament rules as to the amount of bass allowed to be held at any time. Keep the livewell water about 5 to 10 degrees below the lake surface temperature by adding block ice. Ice cools the water, which slows down the metabolism of the bass. You can also include some livewell additives.

Toho Marine Lake Toho Wednesday Night Shootout results for May 30: 14 Teams came out despite the rains and 58 Bass and 10 limits were caught for an overall total of 176.04 pounds to come across the scale. Making headlines and in first place with their limit was the team of Mark Lundgren and Charlie Harrelson with 21.03 pounds earning them \$170. Back in the money again with a second place finish was the duo of Skip Stowers and Mark also with a limit. They had 19.20 pounds and went home with \$110. Earning \$70 for the Denali Rods big bass of the night was the team of Brandon and Sam with a 7-pounder.

Have a wonderful weekend and Tight Lines!

GEARITY

Continued from Page 7.

"I took over this year and knew we were going to be good, but had no idea this good," said the coach. "Jeanne Marie was the one I turned to knowing she was coming back, and she did everything expected of her. We had confidence in our OBC matches; 'Okay, Jeanne Marie is getting us the lead, let's take it from there.'"

With Gearity, Bean subscribed to the coaching theory of, "Coach talent,

but let players play."

"She is business like in her game but we'll get a smile every now and then," Bean said. "When her game wasn't meeting expectations, I would ask her what she was doing wrong and she would know and she knew exactly what it was and then that would calm her down. When she was rolling along I would tell her, 'Here is my coaching tip, blah blah blah, you're doing great!

The best thing is she is only a sophomore and we have even higher goals next year."

While she's on that whirlwind summer tour — she left last weekend — Gearity said she'll be working on improving her speed and agility in order to become a well-rounded player and make a splash at the district and regional tournaments.

"I'm already excited for next season," she said.

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SPORTS

Orlando chosen to host national 2022 Special Olympics USA Games

On May 18, Special Olympics North America and Special Olympics Florida announced that Orlando has been named as the host city for the 2022 Special Olympics USA Games.

Taking place from June 5-10, 2022, more than 4,000 athletes, 10,000 volunteers, 1,500 coaches, and 75,000 fans from all 50 states and the District of Columbia will travel across the U.S. to unite and participate in one of the world's most cherished sporting events – the Special Olympics USA Games.

For the first time, an invitation will be extended to Special Olympics Programs in the Caribbean to also participate in the Games.

The Games will be comprised of 15 Olympic-type team and individual sports, as well as five potential demonstration sports. The Games are expected to be hosted at various venues across the

Orlando area including, the YMCA Aquatic Center, the U.S. Tennis Association campus in Lake Nona, the Walt Disney World Resort and Boardwalk Bowl.

“Central Florida has long been known as a welcoming destination for families and boasts some of the world's most famed attractions, including world-class experiences and sporting venues. Beyond that, Florida itself is renowned for its hospitality, making it the ideal location for the unifying and inspiring Special Olympics Games,” a Special Olympics release noted.

The 2022 Special Olympics USA Games will also celebrate the 50th anniversary of Special Olympics Florida.

“After a year-long bid process, we are proud that so many of our athletes, coaches, volunteers, families and fans will get to visit Florida for the 2022 Special Olympics USA Games,” said Joe Dzaluk,

President and CEO of 2022 Special Olympics USA Games. “The USA Games will open our hearts and minds towards people with intellectual disabilities. This monumental endeavor will create a pivotal stage for Special Olympics and brings to light the passionate work Floridians have long been doing, including helping the outstanding athletes achieve their dreams and promote their health, education, inclusion and acceptance.”

Hosting the Games in the Orlando area has the potential to generate as much as \$61 million dollars in economic impact for the Orlando area, the release said.

“We are beyond delighted here at Special Olympics Florida that so many Special Olympics athletes and families will be coming to our awe-inspiring city of Orlando,” said Sherry Wheelock, President and CEO of Special Olympics Florida.

“For years, the USA Games have inspired thousands of people through the power of sports, and it is our goal here in Florida to continue the tradition by connecting, promoting and motivating individuals by showcasing our commitment to those with intellectual disabilities and our passion for education, health and sports.”

Gov. Rick Scott said, “Each year, the Special Olympics provides an opportunity for thousands of Floridians to stay active and healthy, and every four years, the nation comes together to celebrate these incredible athletes. As Florida prepares to host the 2022 Games, we will be celebrating the progress we've made toward diversity and inclusion, but we will also be supporting and creating jobs here in Orlando. We couldn't be more excited about hosting the Special Olympics USA Games in 2022.”

NEPTUNE

Continued from Page 7.

runner-up finishes and 16 semifinalists.

Arnold said there's some playful ribbing among the county's coaches about Neptune's “evil empire”-like run of championships.

“They accuse us of steroids and stuff, and they're joking, they call us ‘Preptune’ Middle,” she said. “But our kids come into school knowing about what we've created, we talk about it during fifth-grade orientation.”

Among the other county champions, Narcoossee won a school-record four

titles: girls flag football and cross country and girls and boys volleyball (the school's first-ever boys' team title); Celebration took golf and girls track; St. Cloud won girls soccer and softball, Bellalago won boys and girls wrestling and Discovery took home the boys flag football trophy.

For 2018-19, Adams said the county's middle schools will be split into two divisions based on size, giving smaller and charter schools a better chance to compete and win championships.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Correction

A photo of the District 3 champion St. Cloud Little League girls Junior softball team ran in the June 7 edition with the list of names from the Osceola County champion St. Cloud Middle School team. The correct photos and names will run in the Thursday June 14 edition.

Narcoossee summer volleyball camps

Narcoossee Middle School will hold a series of summer volleyball clinics through the months of June and July. The June clinics (11-13, 18-20, 25-27 from 7-9 p.m.) are skill based; the July camps (9-10 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., 16-18 and 23-25 from 9 a.m.-noon) are tournament-style play. Pre-registration fee is \$35 per session per player (\$15 extra walkup fee if spots available, sessions limited to 36 players). The camps are open to all incoming 6th through 9th graders. Signups available at school front desk. Proceeds benefit the

school's volleyball and other athletic programs. For information email randall.schafer@osceolaschools.net or call 321-624-6230.

Larry Goodwin Education Foundation Golf Classic

The annual Larry Goodwin Memorial Scholarship for Kids Golf Classic, hosted by Education Foundation Osceola, will be Nov. 9 at the Walt Disney World Palm and Magnolia golf courses. Teams that sign up by July 4 will have the chance to win a “Around Town Golf Package” for four that will include multiple golf courses throughout Central Florida. Playing spots and sponsorships are available, starting at \$40 and \$160 (single player and teams) up to \$10,000 presenting sponsorships. The money raised is used to provide scholarships for Osceola County students. Registration is available online at <https://www.foundationosceola.org/p/68/golf-classic#>. WvRdcYgvzIU or go [foundationosceola.org](https://www.foundationosceola.org).

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ORDINANCE NO. 2018-24

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of St. Cloud, Florida, at a meeting to be held on June 14, 2018, in their Chamber at City Hall, 1300 9th Street, St. Cloud, Florida at 6:30 p.m., will consider enactment of Ordinance No. 2018-24 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ST. CLOUD, FLORIDA, TO ANNEX INTO THE CITY OF ST. CLOUD APPROXIMATELY 44.56 ACRES IDENTIFIED AS THOMPSON GROVE, LOCATED EAST OF HICKORY TREE ROAD, SOUTH OF E. IRLO BRONSON MEMORIAL HIGHWAY, WEST OF LIVE OAK LAKE ROAD, AND NORTH OF LIVE OAK LAKE; IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER 171.044, FLORIDA STATUTES.



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. The complete legal description by metes and bounds and the 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)

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ORDINANCE NO. 2018-22

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the City of St. Cloud, Florida, at a meeting to be held on June 19, 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. 2018-22 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ST. CLOUD, FLORIDA, AMENDING ARTICLE V, “PAIN MANAGEMENT CLINIC AND PHARMACY LICENSING”, OF THE CITY CODE, AND AMENDING ARTICLE III, “ZONING REGULATIONS”, DIVISION 6, “A-AGRICULTURE DISTRICT” AND DIVISION 17, “INDUSTRIAL DISTRICTS 1, 2, AND 3” AND AMENDING TABLE III-5 AND III-7 OF THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE, AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, CONFLICTS, CODIFICATION AND 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 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)

Jessie Light, Planning Commission Secretary
1300 9th Street, St. Cloud, FL 34769
(407) 957-8427

THE DAILY PLANNER

CONTACT
BRIAN MCBRIDE EDITOR
EMAIL BMCBRIDE@OSCEOLANEWSGAZETTE.COM
 THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR A SUBMISSION.

Weekly and Monthly Events

The City of Kissimmee and The Center Orlando, who will serve as the City's official advocacy partner, will host PrideFest Kissimmee. This event that seeks to unite the community, will feature live music and entertainment, food trucks, a variety of vendors, the KUA Kids Zone, and advocacy and support organizations. This event is free and open to the public.

WHO Everyone is invited!
WHAT PrideFest Kissimmee
WHEN Saturday, June 9 from noon to 5 p.m.
WHERE Kissimmee Lakefront Park
TICKETS Free



DAILY SATURDAY 06-09

PRIDEFEST KISSIMMEE

City of Kissimmee and The Center Orlando will host PrideFest Kissimmee at Kissimmee Lakefront Park beginning at noon. This event that seeks to unite the community, will feature live music and entertainment, food trucks, a variety of vendors, the KUA Kids Zone, and advocacy and support organizations. The event is free and open to the public.

VANYA AND SONIA AND MASHA AND SPIKE.

Osceola Arts presents 2013 Tony-Award winning "Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike." The comedy finds middle-aged siblings Vanya and Sonia bickering and complaining about the circumstances of their lives in their Bucks County, PA home. The performance is Saturday, June 9, at 7:30 p.m., with more performances through June 18. General admission tickets are \$15. Visit OSCEOLAARTS.ORG

HONOR THE OCEAN

Orlando Science Center is bringing the community together to celebrate and honor the ocean. Learn how we can protect and nurture our shared ocean, and check out reef restoration. Plus Seafood Watch activities, special demos in the NatureWorks exhibit, a recycled marine debris art display and much more. The event runs 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Orlando Science Center.

BOK TOWER'S SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Violinist Ashley Liberty and pianist Daniel Strange will perform an entire program of smokin' fast, exciting, foot-stomping music in their show 'Hot Fiddle,' in part of Bok Tower's summer concert series. For tickets visit BOKTOWERGARDENS.ORG

HUGE ANNUAL YARD SALE

The Vine Church is hosting its huge annual yard sale to benefit its Honduras mission of 13 years to help build an orphanage that currently houses 60 children. Sale items include furniture, appliances, clothing, shoes, electronics, tools, dishes, home decor and more. The sale starts at 7 a.m., at 1003 S. John Young Parkway in Kissimmee.

THURSDAY 06-14

THE LITTLE MERMAID

Opening night of The Little Mermaid, adapted by Brandon Roberts, based on Hans Christian Andersen's fairytale. The performances will run through July 29 at Orlando Shakespeare Theater. Families of all ages welcome. ORLANDOSHAKES.COM

SUPERHERO WEEK

Orlando Science Center is turning KidsTown into a superhero metropolis for Superhero Week. The special events run daily from Saturday, June 14 through Sunday, June 17, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Superhero Week activities are included with general admission. Visit OSC.ORG or call 407-514-2000.

ENCHANTED

Winter Park invites you to see the movie "Enchanted" in part of its Popcorn Flicks in the Park series. The movie will begin at 8 p.m. in Central Park.

COFFEETALK

COFFEETALK featuring City Manager Randy Knight, from 8 to 9 a.m. at the Winter Park Country Club.

PICTURING CONTEMPORARY LANDSCAPE EXHIBITION

Join us on the second Thursday of the month for guided lunchtime tours of the Enchanted Florida: Picturing Contemporary Landscape exhibition. Bring a picnic lunch to enjoy in our gardens afterward. The tour is noon to 12:30 p.m.

FRIDAY 06-15

SEUSSICAL THE MUSICAL

Seussical the Musical is in town all weekend at ME Theatre: 1300 LaQuinta Drive #3 in Orlando. Performances are June 15 at 7 p.m., June 16 at 1 & 7 p.m., and June 17 and 1 p.m. Tickets range \$15-\$22. Visit SHINEINTHELIMELIGHT.COM

SATURDAY 06-16

FAMILY SUMMER SATURDAYS

Family Summer Saturdays at Maitland's Art & History Center, every other Saturday in June and July. On June 16, explore kinetic art, flying art and paint with air. Families of all ages invited. 10 a.m. to noon.



PICNIC WITH FATHER

Picnic with Father — a family fun event, in honor of Father's Day. The picnic is noon to 3 p.m. at the Kraft Azalea Garden in Winter Park.

WINTER GARDEN CRUISE-IN CAR SHOW

Classic cars and other show cars will line the streets of historic Winter Garden at the Winter Garden Cruise-In Car Show. Guests are asked (but not required to) bring items for the homeless, including socks, sample size toiletries, canned goods, boxed items, etc. Each person who donates will receive a raffle ticket and is eligible for a \$50 drawing at 8 p.m.

ANDERSON COOPER AND ANDY COHEN

An Intimate Evening with Anderson Cooper and Andy Cohen, at the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts in Orlando. Join the late night talk show host and journalist, longtime friends, as they interview each other and take questions from the audience. Tickets are available in person at the Dr. Phillips Center Box Office or by phone: 844-513-2014.



RHYTHMS AT THE ROOST

Rhythms at the Roost presents a free live concert at Cranes Roost Park in Altamonte Springs, featuring music by NOLA Brass. Food, beer, wine and spirits. Doors open at 6 p.m., the concert begins at 7 p.m. No coolers, glass or pets. Visit UPTOWNALTAMONTE.COM or call 407-571-8180.

MONDAY 06-18

PHYSICIAN LECTURE

Dr. Pasquale Reino, orthopedic surgeon at Poinciana Medical Center, will conduct a lecture about understanding total joint replacement. A physical therapist will also be present to explain physical therapy and answer questions. After the lecture, Dr. Reino will hold an open Q&A. The lecture runs 5:30-6:30 p.m., dinner will be served. RSVP to 1-888-253-8117. Call 407-530-2013 for more information.

FRIDAY 06-22

ROMANTIC DATE NIGHT

Tired of the same old date night? Come to the romantic Maitland Art Center and get creative. Each night features a different project designed for fun, laughter and getting to know each other, plus time for drinks and to enjoy the scenery. Guidance provided, as well as room to experiment and play. Each attendee takes home their own original artwork. Tickets are \$35 per couple. Wine, beer and snacks are available for purchase. To register, visit [ARTANDHISTORY.ORG/](http://ARTANDHISTORY.ORG/EVENT/2711/2018-06-22)

SATURDAY 06-23

BBQ AT THE HISTORIC NARCOOSSEE SCHOOLHOUSE

5026 Yukon Street. BBQ meal (pulled chicken or pork sandwich and sides), \$8.00 per plate. Baked goods sold separately. Eat-in or carry-out available. Sponsored by the Narcoossee Area Chapter of the Osceola County Historical Society. Contact by email info@narcoosseehistory.org or by phone 407-891-0010. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

LAKE WALES MUSEUM

The Lake Wales Museum is celebrating summer with a host of new activities and special guest programs on Saturdays from June 9 to August 11, 2018. On June 23, families can read to a dog, make a book, plus story time and kite making. For more information on the Lake Wales Museum & Cultural Center, call 863-676-1759 or visit CITYOFLAKEWALES.COM/439/DEPOT-MUSEUM

DESIGNER BAG BINGO BENEFITTING SPECIAL OLYMPICS OF OSCEOLA COUNTY

Special Olympics of Osceola County is hosting Designer Bag BINGO. Win genuine bags from your favorite designers while supporting a great cause. Tickets are \$30 in advance and include a booklet of eight BINGO sheets. Contact Ann with questions: ajlm7777@aol.com. SPECIALOLYMPICSOSCEOLA.ORG

SUNDAY 06-24

FESTIVAL INTERNACIONAL

Festival Internacional is happening at the Silver Spurs Arena. Tickets are on sale now at TICKETMASTER.COM

FRIDAY 06-29

MENNELLO MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART

The Mennello Museum of American Art presents the work of multi-media nKorean-American artist Jiha Moon in a solo exhibition, Jiha Moon: Double Welcome, Most Everyone's Mad Here. The exhibition will be on view from June 22 through August 12, 2018, with an Artist Talk and Opening Reception on June 29. For more information, visit MENNELLOMUSEUM.ORG

SATURDAY 06-30

R&B TUNES

Colors Presents: R&B Only. The California-based event encourages attendees to talk, dance and enjoy company with one another, while listening to R&B tunes. Tickets are available online or at the door, if the show has not sold out.

ROBO MUD RUN

SCPD and the City of St. Cloud will host the Robo Mud Run at Peghorn Park. The run will feature a 5K and 10K route, with more than 50 obstacles including swamp swims and monkey bar challenges. Registration is \$65. Government and group rates available. Visit ROBOMUDRUN.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.

ELKS CLUB CRIBBAGE, KAROKE

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

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.

MONDAY 07-02

UNITED STATES NAVY BAND

America's Navy is coming to Lake Buena Vista, Florida, one of seven cities in the state to host a performance by the United States Navy Band during its 2018 tour — one of the signature outreach programs of the U.S. Navy. The United States Navy Band Cruisers performance will take place at 7 p.m. at Disney Springs' Marketplace Stage. The performance is free and open to the public.

TUESDAY 07-03

RED, HOT & BOOM!

Red, Hot & Boom! at Cranes Roost Park in Altamonte Springs. Live performances by big name artists like Alyssa Raghu, MAX, Logan Henderson, In Real Life, Lauv, Jack & Jack and Echosmith. The event is free and open to the public. Performances will run 4 to 11 p.m., with a special fireworks show at 9:30 p.m. Visit UPTOWNALTAMONTE.COM or call 407-571-8180 for more information.



AROUND OSCEOLA

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5 reasons why kids should attend 4-H camp

By Jessica Sprain

Camp is one of those experiences that I will never forget. It has been 18 years since I attended 4-H Camp as a camper, and I remember the good and the bad as if it were yesterday. When I arrived at camp, I remember being scared. It was going to be the first time I was away from home for multiple nights. I didn't know anyone except for my sister. And I didn't know what to expect. I thought the week was going to be horrible. I would have no friends. I would miss my parents and most of all, I would be bored.

To my surprise, and my parents' joy, camp was amazing. I tried kayaking, got to do archery, created works of art during arts and crafts, learned camp songs, met new friends and most of all, had lots of fun. When I returned home, I immediately asked my parents if I could go back next year.

Many parents and youth are hesitant about going to camp. It is a new experience with many challenges. However, camp is great opportunity for all. If you or your child is questioning whether or not to go to camp, here are five reasons that may change your mind.

1. Camp helps develop social and life skills.

Camp activities encourage youth to work together. They share responsibilities, resolve disagreements, take care of one another, and are challenged to communicate within and outside their social circles.

Along with this, camp builds skills necessary to prepare youth to assume roles as successful adults. It promotes creativity, problem solving, critical thinking, independence and self-confidence; all the skills that are needed as youth grow.

2. Camp helps youth make new friends that last a lifetime.

Friendships made at camp are different than those made elsewhere. Camp friendships are strong. Youth get the opportunity to live with others and experience things without the distractions of daily life. Campers get to spend time getting to know each other, making memories and communicating face-to-face. 4-H Camp is a cell phone free zone. Therefore, relationships are built in person with those around them.

Also, camp is open to every youth. Youth has the opportunity to meet peers from outside their school and after-school environment. They get to meet youth from other neighborhoods, cities and even counties.

3. Camp allows youth to explore and learn new things.

Camp is about learning: learning about oneself, others and new ways to see the world. It's about trying new things and overcoming fears. Moving out of one's comfort zone to a place in which they are challenged. This movement leads to the development of self-confidence and resilience.

Camp also promotes unstructured learning, free play and exploration. At camp, youth gets to experience new things, such as, kayaking, fishing, hiking, swimming, archery and many more activities. These experiences help guide personal interests, hobbies and potential future career choices.

4. Camp is a great place to enjoy nature. Camp provides a natural outdoor learning environment. It is a place to see,

See **4-H Camp**, Page 12.

Hospital celebrates trauma survivors

In celebration of National Trauma Awareness Month, the Trauma Center at Osceola Regional Medical Center recently held an event to honor former patients and their families.

In emotional reunions, 11 survivors and their medical teams celebrated recovery stories and bonded over past experiences.

The hospital's Level II Trauma Center has treated more than 4,900 critically injured patients since it was designated a Provisional Level II Trauma Center in May 2015, according to a hospital press release. Additionally, since August 2017, the hospital's trauma education team has trained more than 3,600 people on critical bleeding-control skills through the national "Stop The Bleed" initiative.

"This year, our trauma team has already treated close to 850 patients, and for eleven survivors to be here with us at today's event is an opportunity that we do not take for granted," said Dr. Racy Bilski, trauma medical director at Osceola Regional Medical Center. "Working with traumatic injuries is challenging, but events like this are inspiring and show the



PHOTO/OSCEOLA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

In emotional reunions, 11 survivors and their medical teams celebrated recovery stories and bonded over past experiences at Osceola Regional Medical Center.

dedication of our trauma and hospital team to our patients."

The leading cause of death among Floridians under age 44, traumatic injuries are severe and sudden in nature, and require urgent medical attention. The only trauma center in Osceola County, Osceola Regional plays a critical

role not only in treatment, but also in the recovery from such injuries, the press release stated. The hospital's Inpatient Acute Physical Rehabilitation Center is designed specifically for patients with traumatic injuries, debilitating diseases and spine injuries.

"Our trauma center elevates

our hospital to a higher level of care, which is critical to our community's growing population," said Davide Carbone, CEO of Osceola Regional Medical Center. "Every survivor here today has a story, and we are privileged to play a small part in each and every one of those stories."

Osceola Reads introduces 1st technology station at PMC

The Osceola Reads literacy initiative, which offers the Footsteps2Brilliance reading app to all Osceola County children at no cost, has installed its first-ever technology station in partnership with the Poinciana Medical Center.

This table features two iPads available for children to access the Footsteps2Brilliance app while waiting at the Poinciana Medical Center emergency room. In its first 22 days, the station has already seen over 28 hours of usage. The official launch took place on April 20 at Poinciana Medical Center where Osceola School District Superintendent Debra Pace, Osceola County Commissioner Brandon Arrington and School Board Member Tim Weisheyer and Poinciana Medical Center CEO Chris Cosby came together to commemorate the first station's installation.

Prior to the launch, the station was showcased at an event to stakeholders, and there was an overwhelming response to have more stations throughout the community with Osceola Reads' new Sponsor-a-Station program. This program will provide community organizations and businesses the opportunity to sponsor a technology station in and around their business or another location of their choosing in Osceola County. At this time, Osceola Reads is working on



NEWS-GAZETTE PHOTO/MARTIN MADDOCK

From left are Poinciana Medical Center CEO Chris Cosby, Osceola School District Superintendent Dr. Debra Pace, Osceola County Commissioner Brandon Arrington and School Board Member Tim Weisheyer with Poinciana Medical Center's first Osceola Reads station.

committing more stations which will benefit readers in kindergarten and younger.

In the two years that Osceola Reads has been an active initiative in Osceola County, over 7,000 users have been registered on the Footsteps2Brilliance app in the community and local VPK programs, not including all students VPK through 2nd grade who have been registered in the

district's elementary schools in Osceola County. With the Sponsor-a-Station program, Osceola Reads will be able to bring this initiative to areas of the community that will reach families who lack the resources to utilize the free reading app.

If you are interested in sponsoring an Osceola Reads Station or know of someone who might be interested, visit

www.OsceolaReads.com/SponsorAStation or contact info@osceolareads.com.

To register a child for Footsteps2Brilliance, parents may visit www.OsceolaReads.com and complete the registration process. For the latest information, follow the initiative on social media at [Facebook.com/OsceolaReads](https://www.facebook.com/OsceolaReads), @OsceolaReads on Twitter, and @OsceolaReads on Instagram.

Schoolhouse restoration project honored with award

The Florida Trust for Historic Preservation recently honored the 1886 Narcoossee Schoolhouse restoration project for outstanding achievement.

The award was given during

the 40th annual Preservation Conference, Stories, Structures and Soul.

The oldest schoolhouse remaining in Osceola County, this structure was built by Narcoossee's British

founders. Constructed as a simple, one-room building, it is an important example of a regional vernacular of the Late Victorian Gothic style, known as Carpenter or Rural Gothic, with beautiful,

simple wood-crafted detail.

In disrepair and slated to be moved out of the area with the 2012 widening of Narcoossee Road, concerned

See **Schoolhouse**, Page 12.

OSCEOLA

Screening exams can help catch breast cancer early

Dear Mayo Clinic:

Every year when I get my mammogram, the results are that the breasts are too dense to see small cancers. Why should I keep getting mammograms? Should I instead ask for an ultrasound to look for cancer?

Also, are self-exams still recommended? You don't hear much about them anymore.

Answer:

Increased breast density can make interpreting mammograms difficult. Even if your breasts are dense, however, Mayo Clinic recommends an annual mammogram starting at age 40. Some women who are at a high risk for breast cancer may need to start screening earlier. Depending on your situation, your doctor may recommend additional

screening tests, too. Breast self-exams are no longer formally recommended, but it is important for you to be familiar with your breasts' typical appearance.

Breast tissue that is not dense contains fat and appears dark on a mammogram. Dense breast tissue is composed of milk glands, milk ducts and supportive breast tissue. Dense tissue appears white on a mammogram. There are four levels of breast density: fatty, scattered fibroglandular, heterogeneously dense and extremely dense. If you have heterogeneously or extremely dense breasts, your breasts are considered "dense." Some states require the level of breast density to be documented on your mammogram report.

Because both dense tissue and cancer appear white on mammogram images, a high level of breast density can obscure cancer on a mammogram. Mammograms, however,

See **Cancer**, Page 15.

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EXTENSION SERVICES

► Wednesday, June 13, 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>

► Thursday, June 14, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., A Home of Your Own, First Time Homebuyer – 1-Day Class (Spanish), at UF/IFAS Extension Osceola County. Registration opens May 14. Fee: \$10.

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.

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

► Tuesdays, June 19 to July 24, from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m., FIT Wellness Series, at UF/IFAS Extension – Mary Jane Arrington Center, 625 Country Club Drive, Kissimmee. The FIT (Forever Improving Through) Wellness Series helps individuals adopt strategies for long-term health and wellness. A new wellness topic is discussed each week,

along with a snack prep component throughout. Each paying individual can bring one guest for free (age 14 and older). This is a partnership between UF/IFAS Extension in Osceola County and Polk counties.

Pre-registration is required at <http://ocfcs.eventbrite.com> and the cost is \$15.

► Thursday, June 20, from 5:45 to 8 p.m., SafeStaff Training and Recognition, at UF/IFAS Extension Osceola County. SafeStaff is a food handler recognition program for foodservice employees, volunteers needing this level, and Cottage Food business owners who prefer this level of recognition. Once class is completed, participants will receive a certificate showing SafeStaff recognition, and hold recognition for three years.

Pre-registration is required at <http://ocfcs.eventbrite.com> by June 17.



LOCAL



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The Osceola News-Gazette has been serving our community for 126 years. We are a part of the fabric of our local community bringing you the news and information that impacts your daily life. From blue ribbons to state championships. From cattle drives to home runs, environmental issues to volunteering opportunities. From county and city government to arts and entertainment. We bring you the most relevant, up-to-date information about our community to keep you informed on issues that impact you.

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WE ARE OSCEOLA

OSCEOLA NEWS-GAZETTE

Informing readers. Helping build a stronger community.

INHOUSEADS

4-H CAMP

Continued from Page 11

touch, hear and smell the outdoors. It helps youth see the outdoors as a place for recreation and fun.

5. Camp is a great place to have fun.

There is nothing better about camp than the fun you have. 4-H Summer Camp offers swimming, campfire, group games,

kayaking, fishing, archery, dancing, free time and much more. Camp is filled with fun activities. Each year campers and counselors return because of the fun that they have had in past years.

If you or your child is hesitant or have questions about attending summer

camp, please feel free to contact me.

To learn more about 4-H Summer Camp, contact Jessica Sprain at jsprain@ufl.edu.

Jessica Sprain is a 4-H agent with University of Florida/IFAS Extension Osceola County.

SCHOOLHOUSE

Continued from Page 11



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The 1886 Narcoossee Schoolhouse restoration project was honored for outstanding achievement.

local residents formed the Narcoossee Area Chapter of the Osceola County Historical Society and

successfully negotiated to purchase and keep this historic landmark at its original site and to

restore and maintain it as a schoolhouse museum for residents and visitors for years to come.

Why pets must be supervised with their toy

By Cathy M. Rosenthal

Dear Cathy,

I look forward to your weekly column in my paper, however, I'm afraid I must disagree with your mention of foam and aluminum foil as good toys for our cats to play with.

Foam is easily bitten into and swallowed, as is aluminum foil, both of which can cause intestinal problems and blocked colons (where the object can't be passed). Aluminum foil is also deadly. Ask any veterinarian and they will agree of the dangers. In fact, most cat toys out there are harmful to cats. Pom-pom balls and feathered toys should be used under close supervision.

If the consumer reads the warning label on our cat toys, they would see that it says under warning, "product could cause harm if ingested." The best toys are handmade crafted organic pet toys in Chesterton, Ind. I've bought my cat toys from them for many years, and my "girls" are perfectly happy and safe, giving their cat-mom peace-of-mind. This "helicopter mom" thanks you for letting me voice my opinion. - Bonnie, Demotte, IN

Dear Bonnie,

Thanks for your insights. I followed your suggestion that I ask "any veterinarian," and reached out to the American Veterinary Medical Association. They basically said they have no official policy on cat toys or comments on aluminum foil, and that one should contact their local veterinarian for advice. That doesn't help us, so I contacted a few veterinarians whom I know, and while there are better toys for a cat, aluminum foil balls are not generally a big concern, they say. (They did say never to use foil that had been used with food, since the food smells could be tempting to dogs.)

I also called two national animal groups, but they couldn't give me a definitive answer either. If I hear something in the next few weeks from the groups or from readers that contradicts my comments here, I will follow up on this topic.

In the meantime, almost every toy on the market has a tag on it that says the item could be harmful if digested. Anything eaten in large amounts, including food, can cause an intestinal blockage.

Of course, if one has a cat that likes to bite or rip things apart, an aluminum foil ball is not a good choice for a toy. While cats are less likely than dogs to chew apart and swallow their toys, there are a few felines that are up to the task. All dogs and cats should



be supervised when playing with their toys, and the toys should be taken away if they start to eat or destroy them.

Dear Cathy,

My 7-year-old brown Shih Tzu has a black "hot spot" on his right-hind quarter. It was a small dot but has grown to over three-inches and is raised. The vet said not to worry about it, but we are concerned. Is it a mole, is it cancer, is it nothing? While it doesn't appear to bother Theo, we would like a definitive answer. - Nick, Medford, New York, NY

Dear Nick,

Has your veterinarian seen the hot spot since it turned big and ugly? It may have started out as nothing but could be morphing into something. The change in shape and size is worth a second trip to your veterinarian's office to find out what's going on. Even if it's not serious, your veterinarian may recommend a different course of treatment.

Dear Cathy,

I have a 6-year-old indoor cat. He was rescued from the shelter several years ago by my daughter. He is incredibly sweet and affectionate and very attached to me. However, clipping his nails is almost impossible. He just won't allow it. I must bring him to a pet store to have it done. Is there anything I can give him to relax him? Taking him out to the pet store is extremely stressful for him. Melatonin, perhaps? If so, how much? - Linda, East Northport, NY

Dear Linda,

It's normal for cats to get anxious and tense in new situations. While melatonin can be administered to cats for anxiety and fear, cats are not like dogs and humans and metabolize things differently. So, please consult your veterinarian on dosage and maybe a recommended brand.

Until then, look for an over-the-counter calming aid, especially for cats, that has melatonin listed as an ingredient. Often these products will contain other ingredients like thiamine, L-Tryptophan, ginger, and chamomile, which can also ease your cat's anxiety. The proper dosage will be on

Supporting Emmy hopefuls steal scenes

By Gregory Ellwood

Don't tell the lead actors out there battling for Emmy consideration, but we've got a little secret to share. It turns out that sometimes it's their supporting co-stars who are actually the real reason viewers are obsessed with their programs.

Take, for instance, the legendary Rita Moreno who plays the feisty grandmother Lydia on Netflix's "One Day at a Time," a role that appeals to viewers of all ages. "When people see it, they become a diehard fan," Moreno says with a laugh. "But what absolutely amuses the hell out of me is that she's the favorite character of many of the younger kids, which means teens and particularly even younger ones, which absolutely astonishes me."

In the second go-around of the Gloria Calderon Kellett and Mike Royce reboot of Norman Lear's '70s sitcom, Lydia, a Cuban immigrant, gets

her American citizenship and ends the season with a dramatic hospital scare. The show tapes before a live audience and Moreno says the directors who come on board are surprised that each episode often has at least one scene composed of 15 pages of dialogue.

"I don't know how other shows do it, but it's a lot, and when you're 86 it's really a lot," Moreno says. "Let me tell you, there are times when it's really hairy for me. But I think to myself, 'OK, you better work on this real hard over the weekend because this is not an easy scene. And you are 86, dearie.' But, you know what? By the end of the season, I'm so alert it's scary."

In 2017 Nicole Kidman won an Emmy for lead actress in a limited series for her work as an abused wife on HBO's "Big Little Lies." This season she drew the audience's attention in the supporting role of Julia, an intellectual who has an estranged relationship

with her adopted teenage daughter in the acclaimed mystery-drama "Top of the Lake: China Girl."

The Australian native has known series creator Jane Campion since she was 15, and they had previously worked together on 1997's "The Portrait of a Lady." Not surprisingly, that factor was a "huge attraction" for Kidman in ultimately taking the part.

"She had written the role for me and promised me a character role, which I love," Kidman says. "It was a territory I had never entered before. To play this intellectual Australian woman who is in love with another woman, and she leaves the man she adopted her daughter with, is wonderfully complicated. Just a ripe, rich character. And she was funny. Which I rarely get to be. Well, at least I thought she was."

It's hard to steal the show from five energetic and charismatic teenage kids, but David Harbour

continued his stellar work as police chief Jim Hopper in the second season of "Stranger Things." Harbour, who earned an Emmy nom last year for the role, sees Hopper as a man who will sacrifice everything in the name of justice. It's one reason his character goes to extremes to keep the super-powered Eleven (Millie Bobby Brown) out of government hands.

"There's a certain hardness in Hopper that I myself don't have as much of, which is somewhat difficult for me to play. So, I was pleased that I was able to do that and that no one, from what I've heard, questions that relationship or what it was about," Harbour says of Hopper and Eleven.

"There was just a rock-solid foundation. That was tricky line for me to ride as an actor, and I felt like I did accomplish that, so I was happy and proud of that."

See **Emmy**, Page 15.

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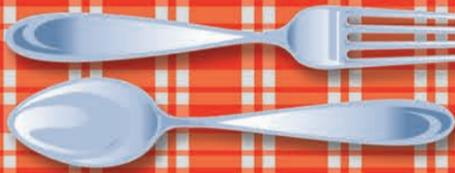
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OSCEOLA NEWS-GAZETTE

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. You can follow her @cathymrosenthal.

GOOD EATS



Tips for perfectly grilled vegetables

One of the highlights of the summer season is the incredible bounty of fresh produce, and grilling these vegetables gives them a smoky, delicious dimension. Chef BBQ Naz, a grilling expert from Broil King, shares some simple tips for flavor perfection.

- ▶ When preparing vegetables, slice them to expose as much of the vegetable to the grill surface as you can.
- ▶ Coat vegetables with olive oil before placing them on the grill. This will help prevent them from sticking to the grill.
- ▶ Use the right tool for the job. Accessories like grill toppers and skewers are perfect for keeping smaller foods like cherry tomatoes and onions from rolling around or falling through the grate.
- ▶ Don't leave vegetables unattended. Vegetables are delicate and can easily overcook if not monitored.
- ▶ Grill extras. Leftover grilled vegetables are great in soups, salads, sandwiches and on pizzas and pasta.

When grilling vegetables, consider this popular recipe.

Explore new flavors over an open flame

Just about anything can be cooked over an open flame. No matter the type of grilling they're using, cooks who prepare meals over an open flame can't help but notice the distinctive flavor that's unique to grilled foods.

Trying something new this grilling season can open cooks' eyes to a host of flavors they might not instantly associate with grilling. The following recipe for "Ginger Soy Chicken Breasts" from Eric Treuille and Birgit Erath's "Grilling" (DK Publishing) is one such meal that can open cooks' eyes to the many wonderful foods that can be cooked over an open flame.



Orange-Ginger Baby Back Ribs

Ingredients: 5 pounds baby back ribs

Sauce:

1 cup ketchup	1/2 cup hoisin sauce	4 tbsp. soy sauce
2 tbsp. grainy mustard	3 tbsp. honey	2 tbsp. orange juice
2 tbsp. Asian chili sauce	1 tbsp. Worcestershire sauce	4 cloves garlic, minced
1 tbsp. ginger	Grated zest of an orange	Salt and pepper

Directions:

Preheat the grill to medium and turn down to low. Prepare ribs for grilling by removing the membrane from the underside of the ribs. Prepare several foil envelopes and place 2 strips of ribs into each envelope, with 1/4 cup of water and seal tightly. Cook for 2 to 2 1/2 hours on low (300°F) with the lid closed. Check the thermometer on the front of the grill lid frequently and adjust the cooking temperature accordingly. This may require turning one or two burners off and cooking indirectly.

To prepare the sauce: Combine all ingredients in a saucepan and set aside until the ribs are ready to remove from the foil. Gently heat the sauce on the side burner for 10 to 15 minutes before using.

Carefully remove the ribs from the foil and place on grids. Baste generously with sauce, and grill for 10 minutes per side, leaving the lid open, turning several times, and basting with sauce after each turn.

Heat remaining sauce to a boil and then allow it to simmer for 5 to 10 minutes. Serve on the side as a dipping sauce.

Ginger Soy Chicken Breasts

Serves 4

2 tbsp. grated fresh ginger	3 garlic cloves, crushed
2 tbsp. dark brown sugar	2 tsp. sesame seeds
2 tsp. toasted sesame oil	1 tbsp. medium dry sherry
1/2 cup soy sauce	4 boneless chicken breast halves, slashed (see below)
Salt	Black pepper

Combine ginger, garlic, sugar, sesame seeds, sesame oil, sherry, and soy sauce. Add chicken and toss to coat evenly. Cover and refrigerate for 30 minutes, turning once. Grill according to instructions below. Sprinkle with salt and pepper.

To slash chicken breasts: With a sharp knife, cut 3 parallel slashes through skin, about 1/4-inch deep.

Outdoor grill: Grill skin-side down on medium-hot coals until crisp, about 7 minutes. Turn and continue grilling until chicken is opaque with no trace of pink, another 5 minutes.

Indoor grill: Preheat broiler. Broil skin-side up until skin is crisp, about 7 minutes. Turn and continue cooking until chicken is opaque with no trace of pink, another 5 minutes.

4 popular grilling techniques

Just like some people insist that charcoal grills trump gas grills or vice versa, some backyard barbecue devotees swear by particular grilling techniques. Such lighthearted debates may never end, and novice grillmasters who want to join the fray can study up on the various grilling techniques before trying them out and forming their own opinions.

1. Smoking

Smoking is one grilling technique that is growing in popularity, as products such as the Big Green Egg inspire more people to smoke their foods. Smoking involves cooking foods in closed chambers at low temperatures. Smoking is not the quickest way to whip up a meal, as the low temperatures require foods be cooked for lengthy periods of time. People who prefer their foods have a smoky flavor would no doubt prefer smoking over any other grilling technique.

2. Spit roasting

Also known as rotisserie grilling, spit roasting may call to mind pig roasts in which food placed in a chamber with a rotating, often motorized spit. Indirect heat is used to cook the foods placed on the spit or skewer, and spit roasting is often a go-to method for cooking whole birds or ribs.

3. Indirect grilling

When employing this technique to grill foods, cooks will not place their foods over a direct heat source, such as an open flame. Instead, the foods are placed in a chamber away from the heat source before the lid is closed. The lid will remain closed while the food cooks, which can take a long time. Some people prefer indirect grilling because it tends to produce foods that are well cooked on the inside but do not have the charred exterior that foods grilled by other means may have.



4. Plank grilling

Popular among people who like to grill fish, plank grilling involves putting food on top of a plank of wood and then placing the plank over a direct heat source. In addition to the flavor imparted to the food from the heat source, such as charcoal, the plank itself can add its own unique flavor. Though fish is perhaps the food most widely associated with plank grilling, this technique also can be a great way to grill vegetables.

Tips for grilling the perfect burger

Hamburgers are a staple at backyard barbecues. Though burgers are a relatively simple food, mastering the technique to grill burgers is no small feat, as there is more to great grilled burgers than simply firing up the grill and dropping down a patty.

▶ Choose fresh ground beef that has a decent percentage of fat. The fat-to-lean meat ratio should be around 20 percent fat to 80 percent meat. Spend a little more to get freshly ground meat that has not been previously frozen.

▶ Don't overwork the burgers with a lot of handling. This will warm up the fat in the burger, which causes it to emulsify and could make the meat rubbery.

▶ Reconsider adding a lot of herbs, spices or add-ins to the burgers, as such items can detract from the flavor of the meat. Extra herbs and spices also may require extra mixing, which can lead overhandling.

▶ Push a dimple into the top of the burger, which will help prevent the burger from expanding upward and out while cooking and rounding out in the process. The dimple will keep the top of the burger flat, which facilitates easy topping.

▶ Make sure the grill is hot. Burgers do well with high heat and will cook relatively quickly.

▶ Resist the urge to push down on the patty with your spatula. This will cause the juices to spill out and may result in a dry, tough burger.

▶ Let burgers rest before serving. This lets the juices redistribute throughout and makes for a moist and tasty first bite.

Grilled Zucchini Rolls

Ingredients

3 medium zucchinis, sliced 1/4-inch thick, lengthwise	1 tbsp. olive oil
4 oz. chevre (soft goat cheese), at room temperature	Pinch of kosher salt
2 tbsp. sun-dried tomatoes, oil-packed and minced	Pinch of freshly ground black pepper
1 tsp. oil from the sun-dried tomatoes	1 tsp. fresh thyme, minced
2 tbsp. Parmesan cheese, freshly grated	

Directions

Preheat the grill on medium.

Brush both sides of sliced zucchini with olive oil and sprinkle with salt. Place on the grill and cook for 4 minutes per side.

When cooked, set on a wire rack to cool.

In a small bowl, combine the chevre, salt, pepper, sun-dried tomatoes, oil and thyme.

Using a small spatula, spread the cheese mixture thinly over one side of the zucchini. Lightly roll the zucchini, and place seam side down on a small, parchment-lined baking sheet. Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese. Place baking sheet on top rack of the grill for 15 minutes.

Remove to a platter and serve.

Calling all cooks!

Do you have a delicious recipe you want to share with the community? Email it to Editor Brian McBride at bmcbride@osceolanewsgazette.com. Please include the name of the dish, your name, your city and a phone number so we can confirm you sent in a recipe.



VOLUNTEER ZONE

THIS WEEK'S VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

▶ **Bookmark Buddies**

P.M. Wells Charter Academy (<http://www.pmwellscharter.org/>) is a public charter school-serving students in grades K-8. The school is in need of volunteers to serve as Bookmark Buddies at the school. Bookmark Buddies is a mentor reading program that helps third grade students improve their reading skills and score at Level 2 or higher on the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA).

The program recruits volunteer mentors each year that help to improve the reading skills of low performing students. Mentors meet at the P.M. Wells Charter Academy for 30 minutes a week, one-on-one, throughout the school year. No prior tutoring experience is necessary and all the tutoring materials are provided, making for an easy and fun volunteer experience. The Bookmark Buddies mentor builds a strong friendship and takes great satisfaction in their student's success as they begin to gain confidence and improve their reading and writing skills.

P.M. Wells is looking for volunteers to help elementary school art teacher work with students, and clean tables, desks and work surfaces. The school also is seeking volunteers to help tutor middle school students in math. Volunteers interested in becoming Bookmark Buddies at P.M. Wells Charter Academy can contact Principal Alan Ramos at 321-697-1020 or Mrs. Ingrid Hernandez, volunteer coordinator, at ihernandez@pmwellscharter.org.

▶ **The Backyard Project**

The Backyard Project is a local organization that strives to enhance community awareness and support by providing resources to those in need. The Backyard Project regularly provides meals to the homeless community in Kissimmee and we are looking for volunteers ages 16 and up to help with meal preparation and delivery. Those interested can email The Backyard Project at bypfvolunteer@gmail.com.

▶ **Meals on Wheels drivers needed**

The Osceola Council on Aging needs Meals on Wheels delivery drivers. Volunteers must have a valid license, an insured vehicle, and pass a background check. Deliveries are made Monday through Friday mornings and

Mother's Day and Thanksgiving Day. Contact Marie Blackford at 407-933-9532 or blackfm@osceola-coa.com. Meals on wheels is a 501 (c) 3, nonprofit, private charitable organization dedicated to providing services to enable independence and self-sufficiency for seniors, disabled adults, the disadvantaged and families in poverty. www.osceola-generations.org.

▶ **Osceola District Boy Scouts**

Osceola District of Central Florida Council Boy Scouts of America covers all of Osceola County and currently serves 1076 youth and over 550 adult volunteers in 52 (units) packs, troops, and crews. Osceola District Boy Scouts are looking for adult volunteers to assist on our district committee and district commissioner staff. Scouting background is preferred but all volunteers must be over the age of 21, pass a criminal background check, and take a youth protection course. All district level volunteers must also be approved by a nominating committee before their approval.

A prospective member of our district committee would assist the Boy Scouts in planning and executing county wide programs and initiatives as well as fund-raise and assist recruiting new youth to one of our 52 packs, troops or crews. Applicants can contact Cory Dewell, Osceola district executive Boy Scouts of America Central Florida Council, at 407-624-2101 (cell), 407-703-0258 (work) or email at Cory.Dewell@cflscouting.org.

▶ **St. Cloud Friends of the Library**

The St. Cloud Friends of the Library needs new members and volunteers to help with their upcoming book sale Thursday, July 5, from noon to 8 p.m.; Friday, July 6, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and Saturday, July 7, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The St. Cloud Friends of the Library welcomes new members. The group meets the third Thursday of each month at 11 a.m. in the St. Cloud Veterans Memorial Library at 810 13th St., St. Cloud. For more information, visit the library or its website or contact:

ginger40@earthlink.net or call 407-892-7428.

▶ **School District needs volunteers**

All of the Osceola County School District schools need volunteers to help with book fairs, picture days, in the media center, cafeteria, athletics, band, career day speakers, and more. For the upcoming 2018-19 school year, School District officials want people to apply as a new volunteer or renew if they were a volunteer during the 2017-18 school year after July 1. In addition, Take Stock in Children (for high school students) and Bookmark Buddies (for third graders) programs always need mentors. Both of these programs require a yearlong commitment and a brief training session. These two programs are run through the Education Foundation. To volunteer or for more information, call Robin Davis, district volunteer liaison specialist, at 407-870-4080, Ext. 66250.

▶ **Volunteer at SNIP-it Clinic**

The SNIP-it Clinic is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization working to: Reduce the pet overpopulation in our shelters. Educate the public on the benefits of spay/neuter. Provide low cost, high quality spay/neuter services. Service TNR and Animal Rescue Organizations. The clinic provides high quality spay/neuter services for cats and dogs to help dramatically reduce the number of animals entering in to shelters each year. More than 30,000 animals were euthanized in Central Florida last year. Reducing the pet population is the only way to guarantee that animals won't have to suffer or die because of the lack of homes. The clinic has many opportunities for all levels 18 years or older. Normal business hours are Tuesday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The clinic can use help with laundry, sterilizing surgical packs, cleaning, filing, answering phones, fundraising and marketing. It also has weekend opportunities that include special events and feral cat trapping for TNR. Contact Susan Muncy: email: 2snipit@gmail.com or by phone: 407-476-4748.

▶ **TO SUBMIT YOUR REQUEST, CONTACT BRIAN MCBRIDE**

EMAIL bmcbride@osceolanewsgazette.com

THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR A SUBMISSION.

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

MOMENTS IN TIME

▶ On June 13, 1895, Emile Levassor drives a Panhard et Levassor car with a two-cylinder, 750-rpm, four-horsepower engine to victory in the world's first real automobile race.

▶ On June 15, 1917, two months after America entered World War I against Germany, Congress passes the Espionage Act. The act made it a crime to convey information intended to

interfere with the U.S. armed forces prosecution of the war or to promote the success of the country's enemies.

▶ On June 12, 1940, Edsel Ford agrees to manufacture 9,000 Rolls-Royce-designed engines to be used in British and U.S. airplanes in World War II. A biography about Edsel's father, Henry, later revealed that Henry had

already accepted a contract to work with the German government. He eventually reversed his position.

▶ On June 14, 1951, the U.S. Census Bureau dedicates UNIVAC, the world's first commercially produced electronic digital computer. Weighing 16,000 pounds, UNIVAC used 5,000 vacuum tubes, and could perform about 1,000 calculations per second.

CANCER

Continued from Page 12

are still very useful for detecting breast changes that could indicate cancer, even in women who have dense breast tissue. Mammograms remain one of the most important tools in the fight against breast cancer. Studies of women in their 40s and 50s have shown that screening mammograms decrease breast cancer deaths by 15 to 20 percent.

Along with your annual mammogram, talk with your doctor about your individual breast cancer risk. Women with dense breasts may benefit from supplemental imaging, such as 3D digital breast tomosynthesis or molecular breast imaging. Women with a high risk for breast cancer may benefit from breast MRI.

Be mindful that there is a downside to some supplemental screening tests. The test could find an abnormality that requires further investigation which ultimately turns out benign, therefore subjecting you to the risk of an unnecessary medical procedure. Also, your insurance may not cover the cost of some supplemental screening

studies, leaving you with an out-of-pocket expense. And finally, at this time research remains inconclusive about whether supplemental breast imaging reduces the rate of breast cancer deaths overall.

Some healthcare facilities do use handheld ultrasound testing to scan the whole breast. However, consistent, high-quality handheld ultrasound examinations of the entire breast are difficult to perform. Mayo Clinic does not use ultrasound as a supplemental screening tool to scan the entire breast for cancer. Mayo Clinic does use diagnostic ultrasound to investigate specific areas of the breast that look or feel abnormal or appear abnormal on a mammogram image.

In addition to screening exams, breast self-awareness can be key to catching breast cancer early. The breast self-exams that used to be routinely recommended are no longer used as part of breast cancer screening.



Mayo Clinic Q & A is an educational resource and doesn't replace regular medical care. E-mail a question to [MayoClinicQ&A\(AT SIGN\)mayo.edu](mailto:MayoClinicQ&A(AT SIGN)mayo.edu). For more information, visit www.mayoclinic.org.

EMMY

Continued from Page 13

He also credits his performance to the creative culture of the Netflix series, noting, "I've never worked on a show where there's been more freedom, more fun, more collaboration and more creativity. The fact that it's so successful you'd think that come season two people would hunker down and be like, 'OK, we have a formula, let's not f*** it up.' And instead, it's just constantly taking risks."

Alex Borstein's road to playing fledgling comedy manager Susie Myerson, who takes on the title client in "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel," was truly unexpected. The veteran actress had just moved her family across the Atlantic and put her kids in school in Barcelona when she was asked to audition for Amy Sherman-Palladino's pilot in New York.

"I had just made a decision to kind of leave and not really do any more on-camera stuff and then Amy sent me that script and I was like, 'This is good. I gotta do this,'" she says.

As Susie, Borstein not only plays a character breaking down doors for a 1950s housewife with

impressive standup comedy skills, the "marvelous" Midge (Rachel Brosnahan), but someone battling the inherent patriarchy of the entertainment world, particularly the comedy scene.

"Our show is hugely optimistic, which is rare right now," Borstein says. "This little girl, Midge, is such a rubber-tree plant mover. High hopes and a big dreamer and to root for her, I feel like that might be a welcome respite from a lot of this. A lot of shows are just such downers. A lot of grit now. A lot of realism and a lot of reality."

The only standout in this group who had the pressure of playing a real-life historical figure is Vanessa Kirby who portrayed Princess Margaret in "The Crown." And her role is noted in the past tense, as creator Peter Morgan has stuck by his original plan to recast the series every two seasons. (In the third season, Oscar nominee Helena Bonham Carter will take over the role.)

Kirby admits part of her wanted to play Margaret during her unraveling later in life, but soon realized she

That's because research hasn't shown a clear benefit. Still, you should be aware of the general appearance and feel of your breasts.

If you notice any of the following changes, report them to your doctor right away: a breast lump; a change in the texture of your breast tissue; breast skin changes, such as dimpling or redness; a change in the position of a nipple; change in breast symmetry; or discharge from a nipple.

For the best breast care, talk with your doctor about your cancer screening options. Together, you and your doctor can decide based on your individual risk factors what specific breast cancer screening tests are right for you.

- Dawn Mussallem, D.O., Diagnostic Breast Specialist at The Robert and Monica Jacoby Center for Breast Health, Hematology/Oncology, Mayo Clinic, Jacksonville, Fla.

was helping to chronicle a side of Queen Elizabeth II's sister long forgotten.

"I knew that I had to sort of hold back because I felt like my job and obligation really was to really show up her young life," Kirby says. "I'd heard so much about her, and in her later life she has been kind of a tragic figure; I was like, 'People aren't born tragic.' And what happened to her in life so that she sort of hardened and became bitter or difficult or angry in a way?"

Kirby did a tremendous amount of research for the role, including speaking to ladies in waiting who knew Margaret in the '50s and early '60s when her portion of "The Crown" takes place. She says that she fell in love with Margaret and felt a duty to capture her essence at the time, especially considering she'd passed away in 2002.

"One of the ladies in waiting said that I was more Margaret than Margaret, which I can't believe is possible," Kirby says. "I've never told anyone that, but that was probably the nicest thing anyone said about it."

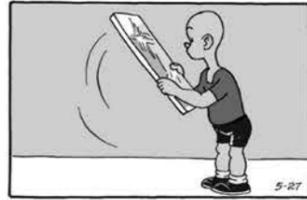
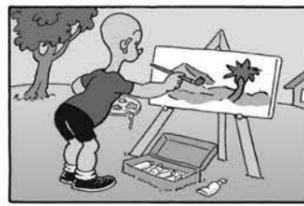
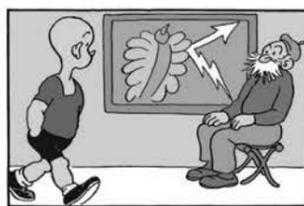
Gregory Ellwood is a writer for Variety.

BRAIN FOOD

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EMAIL BMCBRIDE@OSCEOLANEWSGAZETTE.COM



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 from MASTER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

- | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------|---------------------|-----------|
| 1. Insulated container | ___ L ___ | "High Noon" star | ___ P ___ |
| 2. Wander aimlessly | ___ I ___ | Air current | ___ A ___ |
| 3. Bird's roost | ___ C ___ | Australian city | ___ T ___ |
| 4. Give in to | ___ B ___ | Apex | ___ M ___ |
| 5. Employee's windfall | ___ U ___ | Skeleton components | ___ E ___ |
| 6. Eagle's claw | T ___ | Hairdresser's shop | S ___ |
| 7. Bemoan | ___ M ___ | Underlying | ___ T ___ |
| 8. Robbery | ___ E ___ | Lift a crane | ___ O ___ |
| 9. Bat an eye | ___ R ___ | Fire-making stone | ___ N ___ |
| 10. Local brogue | ___ N ___ | Agree to take | ___ P ___ |

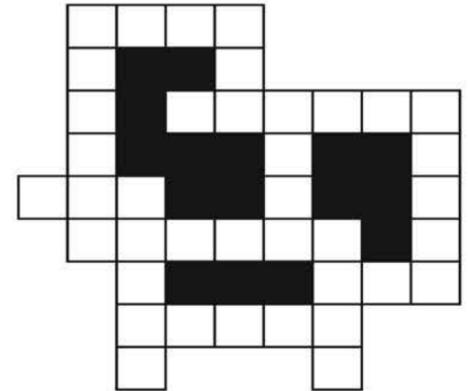
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FEAR KNOT

By: rj johnson

DOUBT? ... OR DARE!

- PPU
- PITMLE
- TERPI
- ♥ SPLA
- SPYHUT
- IDH
- ♥ EPNO
- TEYPI
- YSA
- ULTFOP
- SEDPI
- HMTE



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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.

NEW! 30 Fear Knot puzzles \$3.50 • Six Volumes • Order at rbmall.com

MAGIC MAZE • FACIAL EXPRESSIONS

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

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

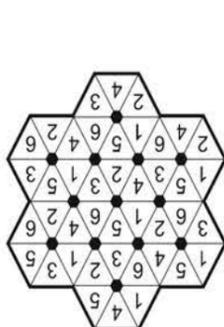
- | | | | |
|-------|-----------|-------|-------|
| Beam | Grimace | Scowl | Sneer |
| Blush | Grin | Shock | Sulk |
| Frown | Long face | Smirk | Wince |
| Glare | Pout | Snarl | |

10. Accent, Accept
 9. Flirt, Flint
 8. Heist, Hoist
 7. Lament, Latent
 6. Talon, Salon

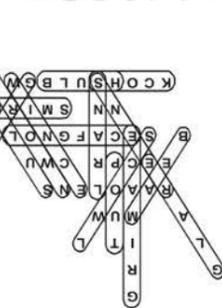
5. Bonus, Bones
 4. Submit, Summit
 3. Perch, Perth
 2. Drift, Draft
 1. Cooler, Cooper

Even Exchange

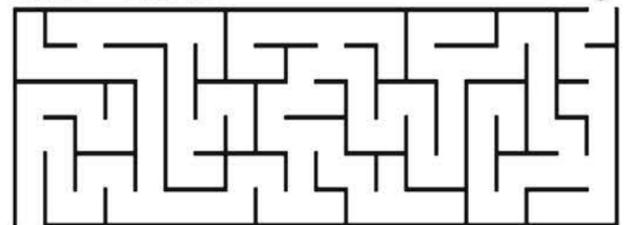
Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



Solution



Kids' Maze

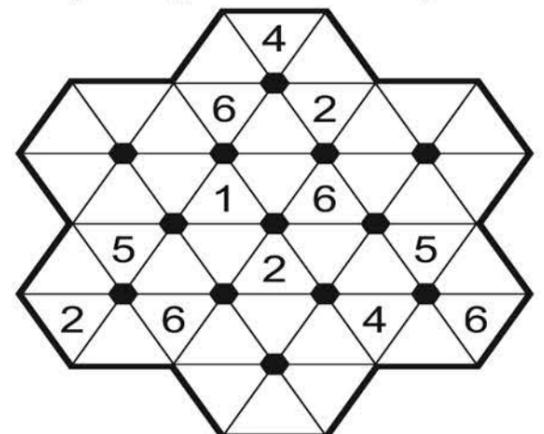


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SNOWFLAKES

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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Kids' Maze Solution

FACIAL EXPRESSIONS

WHERE TO WORSHIP

CHURCHES IN OSEOLA COUNTY

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

Casa de Bendicion, Inc
2525 Fortune Road,
Kissimmee
407-483-7845
<https://www.facebook.com/cbendicion/>

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

Catalyst Community Church
14500 Landstar Blvd
Orlando, 32824
<http://www.catalystcommunitychurch.net/>

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

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

Church Alive
3674 Old Canoe Creek Road
St. Cloud

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

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

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.
4000 Holopaw Road
Holopaw

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

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

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

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

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

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

Gateway Baptist Church
2601 Partin Settlement Rd.
Kissimmee; 407-846-8595

Grace Lutheran Church and Preschool
1123 Louisiana Ave.
St. Cloud; 407-892-4653
gscfla.org

Iglesia Cristiana Casa de Vida
1215 Old Hickory Tree Road, St. Cloud
st.cloud@gmail.com
407-241-9045

Iglesia de Cristo en Fortune Road
2431 Fortune Road
Kissimmee; 813-473-9075

Iglesia de Dios de Kissimmee
2550 Flamboyant St.
Kissimmee; 407-348-8788

Iglesia de los Hermanos: Nuevo Comienzo
301 Commerce Center Dr.
St. Cloud; 84-319-1195

Impact Community Church
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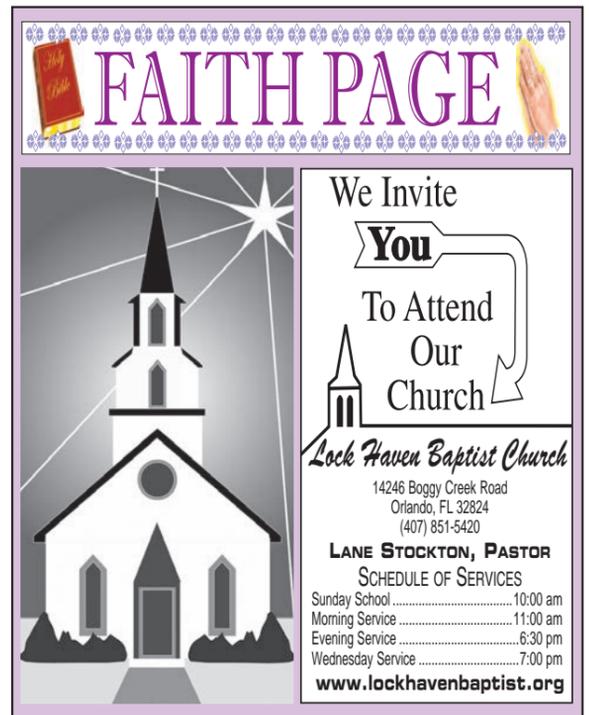
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Existing-Home Sales Slide 2.5 Percent in April

After moving upward for two straight months, existing-home sales retreated in April on both a monthly and annualized basis, according to the National Association of Realtors. All four major regions saw no gain in sales activity last month.

Total existing-home sales, which are completed transactions that include single-family homes, townhomes, condominiums and co-ops, decreased 2.5 percent to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 5.46 million in April from 5.60 million in March. With last month's decline, sales are now 1.4 percent below a year ago and have fallen year-over-year for two straight months.

Lawrence Yun, NAR chief economist, said this spring's staggeringly low inventory levels caused existing sales to slump in April.

"The root cause of the underperforming sales activity in much of the country so far this year continues to be the utter lack of available listings on the market to meet the strong demand for buying a home," he said. "Realtors say the healthy economy and job market are keeping buyers in the market for now even as they face rising mortgage rates. However, inventory shortages are even worse than in recent years, and home prices keep climbing above what many home shoppers are able to afford."

The median existing-home price for all housing types in April was \$257,900, up 5.3 percent from April 2017 (\$245,000). March's price increase marks the 74th straight month of year-over-year gains.

Total housing inventory at the end of April increased 9.8 percent to 1.80 million existing homes available for sale, but is still 6.3 percent lower than a year ago (1.92 million) and has fallen year-over-year for 35 consecutive months. Unsold inventory is at a 4.0-month supply at the current sales pace (4.2 months a year ago).

Properties typically stayed on the market for 26 days in April, which is down from 30 days in February and 29 days a year ago. Fifty-seven percent of homes sold in

April were on the market for less than a month.

"What is available for sale is going under contract at a rapid pace," said Yun. "Since NAR began tracking this data in May 2011, the median days a listing was on the market was at an all-time low in April, and the share of homes sold in less than a month was at an all-time high."

According to Freddie Mac, the average commitment rate for a 30-year, conventional, fixed-rate mortgage increased for the seventh straight month to 4.47 percent in April (highest since 4.49 percent in September 2013) from 4.44 percent in March. The average commitment rate for all of 2017 was 3.99 percent.

"With mortgage rates and home prices continuing to climb, an increase in housing supply is absolutely crucial to keeping affordability conditions from further deterioration," said Yun. "The current pace of price appreciation far above incomes is not sustainable in the long run."

First-time buyers were 33 percent of sales in April (highest since last July), which is up from 30 percent last month but down from 34 percent a year ago. NAR's 2017 Profile of Home Buyers and Sellers - released in late 2017 - revealed that the annual share of first-time buyers was 34 percent.

"Especially with mortgage rates going up in recent weeks, prospective buyers should visit with more than one lender to ensure they are getting the lowest rate possible," NAR President Elizabeth Mendenhall, a sixth-generation Realtor from Missouri and CEO of RE/MAX Boone Realty. "Receiving a rate quote from multiple lenders could lead to considerable savings over the life of the loan. Ask a Realtor for a few recommendations of lenders to contact to get a quote."

All-cash sales were 21 percent of transactions in April, which is up from 20 percent in March and unchanged from a year ago. Individual investors, who account for many cash sales, purchased 15 percent of homes in April (unchanged from last month and a year ago).

5 tips for financing the next home improvement project

(BPT) - Whether it's transforming a fixer-upper into your dream home or just giving a makeover to your kitchen or bathroom, home improvement projects are on the minds of many new homeowners across the country.

While many things about renovating your home are flexible, your budget might not be. In general, not a single floorboard is laid, or a new countertop installed without money, which is why every home renovation project should begin with careful financial planning.

To help homeowners with their renovation projects, Marcus by Goldman Sachs is working with home renovation expert, JoJo Fletcher, to share her budget-friendly home renovation tips.

"Think about small changes you can make if you don't have the time to take on a big project right now, like freshening up any kitchen by refinishing your cabinets with a bright white coat of paint," said JoJo Fletcher, ambassador for Marcus by Goldman Sachs(R). "When it comes to financing a larger project, however, I recommend homeowners explore all their options in order to get the most out of their budget."

There are several ways to finance these projects and it's important to explore your options to find the one that's right for you. Below are five important tips to keep in mind when deciding how to fund your next home project.

1. Shop around. The better you plan, the better chance you'll save money. Before anything gets torn out or installed, you should spend time consulting with contractors and getting estimates. Look at the work they've done to see if they would be a good fit. Most importantly, don't be afraid to ask a lot of questions to make sure you're working with the right people and paying the right price.

2. Consider financing options. There are several options when financing a home improvement project and it is important to choose the right fit for you. Home equity loans and home equity lines of credit (HELOC) require you to borrow against the value of your home, with home equity loans offering a lump sum while home equity lines of credit provide you with a credit line you can borrow against. An unsecured home improvement loan can be used based on your creditworthiness and ability to pay, not tied to a piece of collateral.

JoJo Fletcher added, "I recommend homeowners consider a home improvement loan if they are looking to borrow money and have good credit. For instance, Marcus by Goldman Sachs offers no-fee, fixed rate home improvement loans up to \$40,000, which could be a better option than putting renovation costs on a higher interest credit card, or borrowing against your home's equity. Applying for



a loan is easy and you can see your offers in as little as five minutes."

3. Create a budget. Because of the nature of remodels, things often end up costing more than you might think. No matter how big or how small the project, you need to have a solid sense of what your "all in" budget number is. This should not only account for hard and soft costs for things like labor, materials and designers, it should also account for contingency costs. Experts typically recommend budgeting an additional 15 to 20 percent for unexpected scenarios that might arise. A thoughtful budget will help keep your priorities in front of you and prevent you from spending more than you want.

4. Remember, this is an investment! Not all

home renovations will pay off in the long term. It's important to consider cost vs. value before you start making changes, especially for homeowners looking to sell in the near future. If you plan on putting your house on the market sooner rather than later, be sure to keep track of the top home features to get the best return on your investment.

5. Work with a designer. This might sound like a luxury or an added expense, but in many cases, a designer could actually help save money by finding deals or providing suggestions for less expensive alternatives, such as using quartz or white concrete instead of marble. Above all, their expertise can help avoid costly mistakes that can often arise when people try to cut corners on their own.

OSCAR committee gives check to help feed the hungry

Members from the Realtors Care Committee of the Osceola County Association of Realtors (OSCAR) have donated \$1,000 to the Presentation Brothers Associates in Central Florida to help them pay for food storage needed to feed hungry children in the area.

It's just one of the many outreach efforts the active committee has

undertaken in recent months, demonstrating an association-wide commitment to the community, according to an OSCAR press release.

The Presentation Brothers Associates was established in the 1980s to serve Osceola County. Their mission is to provide local children who are hungry and impoverished with a backpack of food each week, making it their goal to alleviate hunger within the community.

"We are happy to be able to lend our assistance to this cause," stated OSCAR CEO Twis Lizasuain. "No child should go hungry, and we applaud the Presentation Brothers' endeavors to see that that doesn't happen here in our area. Helping them access adequate storage for their food items is just a small contribution on our part to help them in their selfless cause. We are grateful for what they do for the community and glad we could play a role in their humanitarian efforts."

If you would like to help



From left are Becky Chirillo, Leslie Zimmerly, Marge Eddy, Richard Sikorski, Sharon Sikorski, Kim Algero, Twis Lizasuain, Tina Campbell and Karen Dierickx.

the organization, there is a need of volunteers for food delivery, fundraising assistance and marketing assistance. Call 321-624-6978 for more information.

The Osceola County Association of Realtors is the largest trade association in Osceola County and represents

over 3,500 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.



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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
Case #: 2016-CA-001421 MF
THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, F/K/A THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE, ON BEHALF OF THE HOLDERS OF THE ALTERNATIVE LOAN TRUST 2007-HY2 MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-HY2, Plaintiff,
vs.
ROSA H. MALDONADO; et. al.,
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
Pursuant to CHAPTER 45 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sale will be made pursuant to an Order Resetting Sale entered on April 11, 2018, in Civil Case No. 2016-CA-001421 MF, of the Circuit Court of the NINTH Judicial Circuit in and for Osceola County, Florida, wherein, THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, F/K/A THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE, ON BEHALF OF THE HOLDERS OF THE ALTERNATIVE LOAN TRUST 2007-HY2 MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-HY2, is the

Plaintiff, and ROSA H. MALDONADO; JOEL J. LAURIANO; THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, F/K/A THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATE HOLDERS OF CWHEQ, INC., HOME EQUITY LOAN ASSET BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-S8; POINCIANA VILLAGE TWO ASSOCIATION INC.; ASSOCIATION OF POINCIANA VILLAGES, INC.; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS are Defendants. The Clerk of the Court, Armando Ramirez, will sell to the highest bidder for cash at the Osceola County Courthouse, 2 Courthouse Square, Suite 2600/Room # 2602, Kissimmee, FL 34741 on JULY 10, 2018, at 11:00 A.M.. EST the following described real property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit: **LOT 10, BLOCK 570, OF**

POINCIANA, NEIGHBORHOOD 1, VILLAGE 2, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE(S) 69 THROUGH 87, 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.

IMPORTANT
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 to reach the Telecommunications Relay

Service.
DATED on this 1st day of June 2018,
ALDRIDGE I PITE, LLP
Attorney for Plaintiff
1615 South Congress Avenue, Suite 200,
Delray Beach, FL 33445
Telephone: (561) 392-6391
Facsimile: (561) 392-6965
By: /s/ Andrew Scolaro
ANDREW SCOLARO, Esq.
FBN #: 44927
Primary E-Mail:
ServiceMail@aldridgepite.com
1012-2621B
June 9, 16, 2018

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
On 06/24/2018 at 09:00 A.M., an auction will take place at 1720 ALEXANDER ST., KISSIMMEE, FL 34746. The vehicles which will be auctioned include:
1994 TOYOTA
VIN: 4T1GK12EXRU00337
Please be advised, per F.S. 713.78 that a newspaper ad must be published for 1 day in a newspaper of general circulation (daily or weekly circulation) which has been in circulation for at least 1 year. The advertisement must be published at least 10 calendar days prior to the date of sale, in a newspaper of general circulation in the county

in which the sale is to be held. The 10 calendar days do not include the date of the advertisement nor the date of the sale.
June 9, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA
Case No. 2017 CA 001848
SILVER GROUP FINANCIAL, LLC, a Florida Limited Liability Company Plaintiff,
vs.
OSCEOLA MEDICAL PLAZA, LLC, a Florida Limited Liability Company, FAIZ A. FAIZ, AMMAR FAIZ, ACUTE PATIENT CARE, INC., a Florida Corporation, OSCEOLA INJURY CENTER, LLC, a Florida Limited Liability Company, AJAZ AFZAL, M.D., and ANY UNKNOWN PARTIES IN POSSESSION, Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sale will be made pursuant to the Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated May 16, 2018, and entered in Case No. 2017-CA-001848, of the Circuit

Court of the Ninth Judicial Circuit in and for Osceola County, Florida wherein SILVER GROUP FINANCIAL, LLC, is the Plaintiff, and OSCEOLA MEDICAL PLAZA, LLC, FAIZ A. FAIZ, AMMAR FAIZ, ACUTE PATIENT CARE, INC., OSCEOLA INJURY CENTER, LLC, and AJAZ AFZAL, M.D., are the Defendants. The Clerk of the Court, Armando Ramirez, will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at 2 Courthouse Square, Suite 2600/ Room # 2602, Kissimmee, Florida 34741 on JULY 3, 2018, at 11:00 a.m., the following real property set forth in said Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure, to wit: **Beginning 290.15 feet West and 350.0 feet North of the Southeast corner of Lot 26, FLORIDA LAND AND IMPROVEMENT COMPANY SUBDIVISION, according to the Official Plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book "A", Page 24, of the Public Records of Osceola County, Florida; run thence East 132.58 feet, run thence North 50.0 feet, run thence West 132.58 feet, run thence South 50.0 feet to the Point of Beginning.** ANY PERSON OR ENTITY CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN

THE SURPLUS, IF ANY, RESULTING FROM THE FORECLOSURE SALE, OTHER THAN THE PROPERTY OWNER AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS, MUST FILE A CLAIM ON THE SAME WITH THE CLERK OF THE COURT WITHIN SIXTY (60) DAYS AFTER THE FORECLOSURE SALE.

IMPORTANT
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 to reach the Telecommunications Relay Service.
Dated: May 29, 2018.
BOWEN/SCHROTH
Attorneys for Plaintiff
600 Jennings Avenue
Eustis, Florida 32726

E-mail Address:
sgarcia@bowenschroth.com
Telephone (352) 589-1414
Facsimile (352) 589-1726
/s/ Sasha O. Garcia
SASHA O. GARCIA
Florida Bar No. 0112923
June 2, 9, 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: **KISSIMMEE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY** located at: 415 N. Main Street, in the County of Osceola, in the City of Kissimmee, Florida 34744, intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations of the Florida Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida.
That the corporation interested in said business enterprise is as follows:
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH AT KISSIMMEE
DATED at Kissimmee, Osceola County, Florida on this 6th day of June, 2018.
June 9, 2018

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE 9th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA
 Case No.: 2015-CC-001730
 HARMONY RESIDENTIAL OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., a not-for-profit Florida corporation, Plaintiff,
 vs.
 BERNARD LANDRY WALSH III; CHRISTINA OWEN WALSH; AND UNKNOWN TENANT(S), Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, pursuant to the Final Judgment entered in this cause, in the County Court of Osceola County, Florida, Armando Ramirez, Clerk of Court, will sell all the property situated in Osceola County, Florida described as: **Lot 171, BIRCHWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD C-2, according to the Plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 17, Pages 10-11, of the Public Records of Osceola County, Florida, and any subsequent amendments to the aforesaid.**
A/K/A 6979 Bluestem Road, Harmony, FL 34773
 at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash, in Suite 2600/Room # 2602, of the Osceola County Courthouse, 2 Courthouse Square at 11:00 A.M. on JULY 10, 2018.

IF THIS PROPERTY IS SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION, THERE MAY BE ADDITIONAL MONEY FROM THE SALE AFTER PAYMENT OF PERSONS WHO ARE ENTITLED TO BE PAID FROM THE SALE PROCEEDS PURSUANT TO THIS FINAL JUDGMENT. IF YOU ARE A SUBORDINATE LIENHOLDER CLAIMING A RIGHT TO FUNDS REMAINING AFTER THE SALE, YOU MUST FILE A CLAIM WITH THE CLERK NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE. IF YOU FAIL TO FILE A CLAIM, YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO ANY REMAINING FUNDS.

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) 742-2417, within two (2) working days of your receipt of this Notice of Sale; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 1-800-955-8771.
 MANKIN LAW GROUP
 By: /s/ Brandon K. Mullis
 BRANDON K. MULLIS, ESQ.
 Attorney for Plaintiff
 E-Mail: Service@MankinLawGroup.com
 2535 Landmark Drive, Suite 212
 Clearwater, FL 33761
 (727) 725-0559
 FBN: 23217
 June 9, 16, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA
 Case No.: 2017-CA-003023
 EAGLE LAKE PHASE 1 SUBDIVISION HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., Plaintiff,
 vs.
 EDWIN VEGA, et al., Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE
 Pursuant to CHAPTER 45 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated May 29, 2018, in Case No. 2017-CA-003023, of the Circuit Court, in and for Osceola County, Florida, wherein EAGLE LAKE PHASE 1 SUBDIVISION HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., is the Plaintiff, and EDWIN VEGA, MARIA SERRANO and UNKNOWN PARTIES IN POSSESSION, N/K/A BENJAMIN SANTIAGO, are the Defendants. 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 JUNE 28, 2018, the following described property set forth in the Order of Final Judgment: **Lot 67B, of EAGLE LAKE Phase 1, according to the plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 14, Pages 141 through 43, 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 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, 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 (7) SEVEN DAYS; IF YOU ARE HEARING OR VOICE IMPAIRED, CALL 711.
 DATED: May 30, 2018.

By: /s/ Laura M. Ballard
 Laura M. Ballard, Esquire
 Florida Bar No.: 10227
 ARIAS BOSINGER, PLLC
 140 North Westmonte Drive
 Suite 203
 Altamonte Springs, FL 32714
 (407) 636-2549
 June 2, 9, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROBATE DIVISION
 File No.: 2018-CP-000144.
 Division: Probate.

IN RE: ESTATE OF GRACE E. HASTON, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS (Summary Administration)
 TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST THE ABOVE ESTATE:

You are hereby notified that an Order of Summary Administration has been entered in the estate of **GRACE E. HASTON**, deceased, File Number 2018-CP-000144, 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 June 9, 2017, that the total value of the estate is EXEMPT, and that the names and addresses of those to whom it has been assigned by such order are: **Name:** Johnny G. Haston **Address:** 5150 Boggy Creek Road, Lot # 31, St. Cloud, FL 34771
Name: Judy Tittsworth **Address:** 3974 Blue Springs Road, Sparta, TN 38583
 ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE NOTIFIED THAT:

All creditors of the estate of the decedent and persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702. ALL CLAIMS AND DEMANDS NOT SO FILED 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: June 9, 2018.

Person Giving Notice:
 /s/ Johnny G. Haston
 Johnny G. Haston
 5150 Boggy Creek Road
 Lot # 31
 St. Cloud, Florida 34771

Attorney for Person Giving Notice:
 /s/ Kathy D. Sheive
 Kathy D. Sheive, Esquire
 Attorney
 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: kathyshieve@gmail.com
 June 2, 9, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA
 Case #: 2013-CA-003161 MF
 WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., Plaintiff,
 vs.
 LUIS NIEVES-COLON, A/K/A LUIS NIEVES; et al., Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
 Pursuant to CHAPTER 45 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sale will be made pursuant to an Order Resetting Sale entered on April 11, 2018, in Civil Case No. 2013-CA-003161 MF, of the Circuit Court of the NINTH Judicial Circuit in and for Osceola County, Florida, wherein, WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., is the Plaintiff, and LUIS NIEVES-COLON, A/K/A LUIS NIEVES; ALBA RODRIGUEZ; CYPRESS RESERVE AT FLORA RIDGE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION INC.; UNKNOWN TENANT 1, N/K/A ADA TSE; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS, are Defendants.

The Clerk of the Court, Armando Ramirez, will sell to the highest bidder for cash at Osceola County Courthouse, 2 Courthouse Square, Suite 2600/Room # 2602, Kissimmee, FL 34741, on JULY 10, 2018, at 11:00 A.M., EST the following described real property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:
LOT 100, OF CYPRESS RESERVE PHASE 1, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 16, PAGE 108, 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.

IMPORTANT
 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 to reach the Telecommunications Relay Service.

DATED on this 1st day of June 2018.
 ALDRIDGE | PITE, LLP
 Avenue, Suite 200,
 Delray Beach, FL 33445
 Telephone: (561) 392-6391
 Facsimile: (561) 392-6965
 By: /s/ Andrew Scolaro
 ANDREW SCOLARO, Esq.
 FBN #: 44927
 Primary E-Mail: ServiceMail@aldridgepите.com
 1175-3576B
 June 9, 16, 2018

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION
 The following vehicles will be sold at auction free of all prior liens for cash.
 1) 2004 Honda Accord EX 4 Door - Black
VIN: 1HGCM56664A151145
 2) 1996 Honda Civic EX 2 Door - Red
VIN: 1HGCEJ7229T073186
Sale Date: JUNE 20, 2018
 A N D
 1) 2005 Nissan Sentra 4 Door - Black
VIN: 3N1CB51D05L525871
Sale Date: JUNE 21, 2018
 A N D
 1) 1995 Honda Accord EX 4 Door - Tan
VIN: 1HGCE6667SA018961
Sale Date: JUNE 25, 2018
Sale Time: 10:00 A.M.
Sale Location: Magic Tows, LLC -1201 Sawdust Trail - Kissimmee, Florida 34744
 June 9, 2018

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
 FELD WRECKER SERVICE gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicles on the following dates at 8:00 a.m., JUNE 22, 2018, at 907 Garden Street, Kissimmee, FL 34744-1405, pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes.

FELD WRECKER SERVICE reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.
 1) 2002 FORD
VIN: 1FAFP55S92A207079
 June 9, 2018

NOTICE OF SALE
 JOE'S AUTO SERVICE CENTER INC., 1123 13th STREET, ST CLOUD, FL 34769
Towed-05/17/2018
Year-2002
Make-FORD
VIN: 3FAFP31372R240753
Date of Sale-06/25/2018
Time-10:00 A.M.
Location of Sale - Joe's Auto Service Center INC., 1123 13th Street, St. Cloud, FL 34769
 June 9, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION
 File No.: 2018-CP-000121
 Division: _____

IN RE: ESTATE OF ANTHONY WAYNE COCHRAN, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 The administration of the estate of ANTHONY WAYNE COCHRAN, deceased, whose date of death was December 20, 2017, is pending in the Circuit Court for OSCEOLA County, Florida, Probate Division, the address or 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 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 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 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: June 2, 2018.

Personal Representative:
 DARRELL E. COCHRAN
 580 Ott Street
 Franklin, Indiana 46131
 BRINSON AND BRINSON
 ATTORNEYS AT LAW, P.A.
 Attorneys for
 Personal Representative
 28 North John Young Parkway,
 Kissimmee, FL 34741
 Florida Bar No. 663050
 June 2, 9, 2018

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
 PRESTON'S TOWING gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicles on the following dates at 09:00 a.m. at 605 E. Donegan Avenue, Kissimmee, FL 34744, pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes.
 PRESTON'S TOWING reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.
JUNE 26, 2018
VIN: 5FNRL38657B006719
JUNE 27, 2018
VIN: 2009 CHEVROLET
VIN: 2G1WT57K991135512
 June 9, 2018

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
 RK TOWING, INC. gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicles on JUNE 22, 2018 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.
1) 2001 INFINITI
VIN: JNKKCA31A91T030535
 June 9, 2018

LEGAL NOTICE
 The IDEA Grant application is being formulated for Osceola District Schools. To provide input, please call Linda Schroder-King at (407) 343-8718.
 June 2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23, 28, 30, 2018

PUBLIC NOTICE
 AT&T Mobility, LLC is proposing to construct nine small-cell facilities in Kissimmee, Osceola County, FL. Five facilities will consist of a concrete pole with a top-mounted canister antenna at an overall height of 32 feet above grade at the following locations: +/-400 feet east of Greenwald Way N and John Young Pkwy (Node 30); +/-165 feet north of W Osceola Pkwy and Triathlon Dr (Node 32); +/-40 feet north of Greenwald Way N and W Osceola Pkwy (Node 33); +/-40 feet northwest of Center View Blvd and W Osceola Pkwy (Node 34); +/-400 feet northeast of Center View Blvd and W Osceola Pkwy (Node 35). Four facilities will consist of a concrete pole with a top-mounted canister antenna at an overall height of +/-50 feet above grade at the following locations: +/-600 feet southeast of Marta Cir and Centerview Blvd (Node 36); +/-80 feet west of Laurel Run Ln and Whitestone Cir (Node 38); +/-25 feet north of Bartlett Dr and Cypress Reserve Blvd (Node 39); +/-40 feet west of W Carroll St and N Orange Blossom Trl (Node 40). Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending comments to: Project **6118003891** - JD c/o EBI Consulting, 6876 Susquehanna Trail South, York, PA 17403, or via telephone at (203) 231-6643.
 June 9, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA
 General Jurisdiction Division
 Case #: 2017-CA-001052 MF
 U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Structured Asset Investment Loan Trust Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-BNC2, Plaintiff,
 vs.
 JEANNE M. CELLI, et al., Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated March 28, 2018, entered in Case No. 2017-CA-001052 MF of the Circuit Court of the Ninth Judicial Circuit, in and for Osceola County, Florida, wherein U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Structured Asset Investment Loan Trust Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-BNC2, is the Plaintiff, and Jeanne M. Celli, a/k/a Jeanne Celli; Unknown Spouse of Jeanne M. Celli, a/k/a Jeanne Celli, 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 26th day of JUNE, 2018, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:
LOT 11, BLOCK "V", ORANGE GARDENS SECTION FOUR, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 367, 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 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 to reach the Telecommunications Relay Service.

DATED on this 4th day of June 2018.
 ALDRIDGE | PITE, LLP
 Attorney for Plaintiff
 1615 South Congress Avenue, Suite 200,
 Delray Beach, FL 33445
 Telephone: (561) 392-6391
 Facsimile: (561) 392-6965
 By: /s/ Andrew Scolaro
 ANDREW SCOLARO, Esq.
 FBN #: 44927
 Primary E-Mail: ServiceMail@aldridgepите.com
 1468-699B
 June 9, 16, 2018

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT pursuant to a Writ of Execution (s) issued on the 6TH day of MARCH, 2018 A.D. issued in the COUNTY COURT OF OSCEOLA COUNTY, Florida, in the cause wherein CACH LLC is plaintiff, and GEORGE ALMODOVAR is/are defendant(s), being **Case No. 2015-CC-147 CL** in said Court 2015, Russell Gibson, as Sheriff of Osceola County, Florida, have levied upon all the right, title and interest of the defendant(s) GEORGE ALMODOVAR in and to the following described PERSONAL property to wit;

2008 White Mercedes Benz GL 450 4MATIC VIN # 4JGBF71E08A322729
 On the 3rd day of JULY 2018 A.D. at the KISSIMMEE AUTO SALVAGE in the City of KISSIMMEE Florida 34741, 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 GEORGE ALMODOVAR 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:
 LT DAN WEIS
 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 Irlo 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.
 June 9, 16, 23, 30, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA
 Case #: 2016-CA-001462 MF
 CITIMORTGAGE, INC., Plaintiff,
 vs.
 EDWIN FONTANEZ; et al., Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
 Pursuant to CHAPTER 45 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sale will be made pursuant to an Order Resetting Sale entered on April 11, 2018 in Civil Case No. 2016-CA-001462 MF, of the Circuit Court of the NINTH Judicial Circuit in and for Osceola County, Florida, wherein, CITIMORTGAGE, INC., is the Plaintiff, and EDWIN FONTANEZ; WALQUIRIA T FONTANEZ; POINCIANA VILLAGE FIVE ASSOCIATION, INC.; ASSOCIATION OF POINCIANA VILLAGES, INC.; UNKNOWN TENANT 1; UNKNOWN TENANT 2; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS, are Defendants. The Clerk of the Court, Armando Ramirez, will sell to the highest bidder for cash at 2 Courthouse Square, Suite 2600/Room # 2602, Kissimmee, FL 34741 on JULY 10, 2018, at 11:00 A.M., EST the following described real property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:
LOT 13, BLOCK 2127, OF POINCIANA NEIGHBORHOOD VILLAGE 5, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 144-158, 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 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 to reach the Telecommunications Relay Service.

DATED on this 4th day of June 2018.
 ALDRIDGE | PITE, LLP
 Attorney for Plaintiff
 1615 South Congress Avenue, Suite 200,
 Delray Beach, FL 33445
 Telephone: (561) 392-6391
 Facsimile: (561) 392-6965
 By: /s/ Andrew Scolaro
 ANDREW SCOLARO, Esq.
 FBN #: 44927
 Primary E-Mail: ServiceMail@aldridgepите.com
 1468-699B
 June 9, 16, 2018

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated May 23, 2018, in the above action, the Osceola County Clerk of Court will sell to the highest bidder for cash at Osceola, Florida, on SEPTEMBER 20, 2018, at 11:00 A.M., at 2 Courthouse Square, Suite 2600, Kissimmee, FL 34741 for the following described property:
Lot 10, of Anthem Park Phase 2, according to the Plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 19, at Page 53 and 54, 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 sixty (60) days after the sale. The Court, in its discretion, may enlarge the time of the sale. Notice of the changed time of sale shall be published as provided herein.

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 ADA Coordinator Osceola County, Court Administration at (407) 742-2417, Fax #: 407-835-5079 or at ctadm2@ocnjcc.org, Osceola County Courthouse.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 9th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA.
 Case #: 2016-CA-002878 MF
 U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE STRUCTURED ASSET INVESTMENT LOAN TRUST, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-9, Plaintiff,
 vs.
 ANHTHU THI TRAN, A/K/A ANTHU T. TRAN; HECTOR JUARBE A/K/A HECTOR M. JUARBE; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF ANHTHU THI TRAN A/K/A ANTHU T. TRAN; UNKNOWN TENANT 1; UNKNOWN TENANT 2; ASSOCIATION OF POINCIANA VILLAGES, INC.; POINCIANA VILLAGE FIVE ASSOCIATION, INC., Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE
 Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered on February 22, 2018, in this cause, in the Circuit Court of Osceola County, Florida, the Office of Armando Ramirez, Clerk of the Circuit Court, shall sell the property situated in Osceola County, Florida, described as:
LOT 13, BLOCK 2132, POINCIANA VILLAGE 5 NEIGHBORHOOD 1, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 144, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA.
 a/k/a 1111 LAFAUR CT, KISSIMMEE, FL 34759-3465
 at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash, at the Osceola County Courthouse located at 2 Courthouse Square, Suite 2600, Room 2602, Kissimmee, FL 34741, on JUNE 26, 2018, beginning at 11:00 A.M.

If you are a person claiming a right to funds remaining after the sale, you must file a claim with the clerk no later than 60 days after the sale. If you fail to file a claim you will not be entitled to any remaining funds.

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 ADA Coordinator Osceola County, Court Administration at (407) 742-2417, Fax #: 407-835-5079 or at ctadm2@ocnjcc.org, Osceola County Courthouse.

disability who needs accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, for 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 at St. Petersburg, Florida, this 29th day of May 2018.
 eXL Legal, PLLC
 Designated Email Address: efling@exllegal.com
 12425 28th Street North, Suite 200,
 St. Petersburg, FL 33716
 Telephone #: (727) 536-4911
 Attorney for the Plaintiff
 By: /s/ David L. Reider
 DAVID L. REIDER
 FBN #: 95719
 888130394-ASC
 June 2, 9, 2018

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
 KISSIMMEE AUTO SALVAGE gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicles on JUNE 19, 2018, at 8:00 A.M., 1400 Harreison Lane, Kissimmee, Florida 34741; (407-847-5197), pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes.
 KISSIMMEE AUTO SALVAGE reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.
 1) 2002 SUBARU
VIN: 4S3BH675727616701
 June 9, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA.
 CASE NO.: 49-2015-CA-001438 MF
 WILMINGTON TRUST, NA, 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.
 ILIANA RUIZ RODRIGUEZ, A/K/A ILIANA RUIZ RODRIGUEZ, ET AL, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated May 23, 2018, in the above action, the Osceola County Clerk of Court will sell to the highest bidder for cash at Osceola, Florida, on SEPTEMBER 20, 2018, at 11:00 A.M., at 2 Courthouse Square, Suite 2600, Kissimmee, FL 34741 for the following described property:
Lot 10, of Anthem Park Phase 2, according to the Plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 19, at Page 53 and 54, 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 sixty (60) days after the sale. The Court, in its discretion, may enlarge the time of the sale. Notice of the changed time of sale shall be published as provided herein.

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 ADA Coordinator Osceola County, Court Administration at (407) 742-2417, Fax #: 407-835-5079 or at ctadm2@ocnjcc.org, Osceola County Courthouse.

Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office. You may review these documents upon request. You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. (You may file Designation of Current Mailing and E-Mail Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915). Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed or e-mailed to the address on record at the clerk's office.

WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and information. Failure to comply can result in sanctions, including dismissal or striking of pleadings.
 DATED: June 4, 2018.
 (CIRCUIT COURT SEAL)
 ARMANDO RAMIREZ
 CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
 By: /s/ S.C. Debuty
 As Deputy Clerk
 June 9, 16, 23, 30, 2018

NOTICE OF

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION File #: 2018-CP-0000358 PR Division: _____

IN RE: ESTATE OF JOSE A. ROSADO, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of JOSE A. ROSADO, deceased, whose date of death was March 28, 2018, 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 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 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 iss: June 9, 2018.

Personal Representative:

/s/ Edwin Rosado EDWIN ROSADO 10502 Chambers Drive Tampa, Florida 33626

Attorney for Personal Representative: /s/ Timothy L. Finkenbinder Timothy L. Finkenbinder Attorney Florida Bar No.: 0025480 100 Church Street Kissimmee, Florida 34741 Telephone: (407) 847-5151 Fax: (407) 847-3353 E-Mail: tfinkenbinder@kisslawyer.com Secondary E-Mail: tmorgan@kisslawyer.com June 9, 16, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION File #: 2018-CP-000235 PR Division: 22

IN RE: ESTATE OF CARLOS ALBERTO DIAZ, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of CARLOS ALBERTO DIAZ, deceased, whose date of death was December 9, 2015, 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 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

Personal Representative:

having claims or demands against decedent's estate 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: June 9, 2018.

Personal Representative: Nancy Diaz 4716 Doyle Drive Kissimmee, Florida 34758
Attorney for Personal Representative: /s/ Maureen A. Arago MAUREEN A. ARAGO, Attorney Florida Bar Number: 835821 Arago Law Firm, PLLC 230 E. Monument Avenue Suite A Kissimmee, FL 34741 Telephone: (407) 344-1185 Fax: (407) 350-3985 E-Mail: maureenarago@aragolaw.com June 9, 16, 2018

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING RESOLUTION NO. 2018-103R

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the City of St. Cloud, Florida, at a meeting to be held on June 19, 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 Resolution No. 2018-103R entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ST. CLOUD, FLORIDA, GRANTING A CONDITIONAL USE TO OPERATE A "CHILD CARE CENTER" AT 503 BROWN CHAPEL ROAD, ST. CLOUD, FLORIDA, AS DESCRIBED IN THE BODY OF THIS RESOLUTION.

Interested parties may appear at the meeting at which time this RESOLUTION is to be considered and shall be heard with respect to the proposed RESOLUTION at the Public Hearing thereon. This RESOLUTION, 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)

Jessie Light, Planning Commission Secretary 1300 9th Street, St. Cloud, FL 34769 Telephone: (407) 957-8427 June 9, 2018

same has been amended, from time to time, including the Amendment to Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for Natchez Trace Subdivision recorded on November 26, 1990 in Official Records Book 994, Page 2046, of the Public Records of Osceola County, Florida (the "Declaration").

3. That the Board of Directors of the Association caused a statement in substantially the form required by Section 712.06(b), Florida Statutes, to be mailed to the members of the Association not less than seven (7) days prior to the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Association held on May 22, 2018 at which the Board of Directors voted (unanimously or approved by two-thirds vote) to preserve the covenants and restrictions contained in the Declaration. A copy of the Board's notice containing that statement is attached to the Notice of Preservation as **Exhibit B**.

NATCHEZ TRACE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., a Florida non-profit corporation By: /s/ Steven Haupt, President

STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF OSCEOLA

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 22nd day of May 2018, by Steven Haupt, as President of NATCHEZ TRACE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., a Florida non-profit corporation, on behalf of the corporation; who is personally known to me or has produced _____ as identification.

(NOTARY SEAL) /s/ Kathleen Tanner Notary Public Signature KATHLEEN TANNER (Name typed, printed or stamped)

EXHIBIT B (To the Notice of Preservation) NOTICE OF BOARD MEETING FOR PRESERVATION OF COVENANTS AND RESTRICTIONS

The Board of Directors (the Board) of the Natchez Trace Homeowners Association, Inc. (the "Association") will consider on the 22nd of May 2018, at 6:00 p.m., at Park, an action to preserve the Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions for NATCHEZ TRACE, recorded on June 20, 1988, in Official Records Book 0881, Page 1357, of the Public Records of Osceola County, Florida, as the same has been amended from time to time, including the Amendment to Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for Natchez Trace Subdivision recorded on November 26, 1990 in Official Records Book 994, Page 2046, of the Public Records of Osceola County, Florida. (the "Declaration").

Copies of the Notice of Preservation and this Notice of Board Meeting and its attachments are available through the Association pursuant to the Association's governing documents regarding official records of the Association. Further, this notice is being timely mailed or hand-delivered to the members of this Association, consistent with §712.05, Florida Statutes, i.e. not less than seven (7) days prior to the above referenced Board meeting.

The following Statement is hereby given to all Members as required by the provisions of Section 712.05 and 712.06, Florida Statutes:

STATEMENT OF MARKETABLE TITLE ACTION
The Natchez Trace Homeowners Association, Inc. (the "Association"), 697 Adriane Park Circle, Kissimmee, FL 34744, has taken action to ensure that the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for NATCHEZ TRACE, recorded on June 20, 1988, in Official Records Book 0881, Page 1357, of the Public Records of Osceola County, Florida, as the same has been amended, from time to time, including the Amendment to Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for Natchez Trace Subdivision recorded on November 26, 1990 in Official Records Book 994, Page 2046, of the Public Records of Osceola County, Florida (the "Declaration") and which currently burdens the property of each and every member of the Association, retains its status as the source of marketable title with regard to the transfer of a member's residence; and to preserve such claim of right of such covenants and restrictions for a period of not longer than thirty (30) years after filing of this notice. To this end, the Association shall cause this notice required by Chapter 712, Florida Statutes, to be recorded in the public records of Osceola County, Florida. Copies of this notice and its attachments are available through the Association pursuant to the Association's governing documents regarding official records of the Association. The land affected by this Notice and Statement is as set forth in Exhibit 1 of the Notice of Board Meeting.

STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF OSCEOLA

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 22nd day of May, 2018, by Steven Haupt, as President of NATCHEZ TRACE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., a Florida non-profit corporation, on behalf of the corporation; who is personally known to me or has produced _____ as identification.

(NOTARY SEAL) /s/ Kathleen Tanner Notary Public Signature

KATHLEEN TANNER (Name typed, printed or stamped)

EXHIBIT A (To the Notice of Preservation) AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF OSCEOLA

Before me, the undersigned authority, this day personally appeared Steven Haupt ("Affiant"), who having been duly sworn, did depose and say as follows:

1. That Affiant is the President and is a Director of NATCHEZ TRACE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., a Florida non-profit corporation (the "Association").

2. That the Association is the homeowners association which governs the community known as NATCHEZ TRACE a/k/a NATCHEZ TRACE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC, located in Osceola County, Florida, pursuant to that certain Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions Natchez Trace recorded on June 20, 1988, in Official Records Book 0881, Page 1357, of the Public Records of Osceola County, Florida, as the

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

A.R.C. TOWING Inc. gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicles on JUNE 22, 2018, 08:00 a.m., at 7421 W. Irlo Bronson Highway, Kissimmee, FL 34747, pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes.

A.R.C. TOWING Inc. reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.

- 1) 2010 DODGE
- VIN: 1B3CB4HA6AD552769
- 2) 2009 DODGE
- VIN: 1D8HN44E39B501467
- 3) 2013 CHEVROLET

- VIN: 1G11H5SA6DU131635
- 4) 2001 SATURN
- VIN: 1GBZH52891Z324121
- 5) 2006 NISSAN
- VIN: 1N4AL11D46C136017
- 6) 2017 NISSAN
- VIN: 1N4AL3AP5HN362984
- 7) 1997 GEO
- VIN: 1Y1SK5266VZ408289
- 8. 2014 CHRYSLER
- VIN: 2C4RC1BG0ER398371
- 9) 1998 CHEVROLET
- VIN: 2G1WL52MXW9286669
- 10) 2002 VOLVO
- VIN: YV1RS61R622125636
- 11) 2004 VOLVO
- VIN: YV1TS59H841370460

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION NO.: 2009-CA-11781.

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, F/K/A THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATE-HOLDERS CWALT, INC., ALTERNATIVE LOAN TRUST 2006-HY-13, MORTGAGE THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-HY-13, Plaintiff,

vs. THOMAS MEURY, A/K/A THOMAS WILLIAM MEURY; CELEBRATION RESIDENTIAL OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.; MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INCORPORATED AS NOMINEE FOR COUNTRY-WIDE BANK, N.A.; KELLY MCCARTHY, A/K/A KELLY MARIE MCCARTHY; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF KELLY MCCARTHY, A/K/A KELLY MARIE MCCARTHY; UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure dated May 29, 2018, and entered in CASE NO: 2009-CA-11781, of the Circuit Court of the 9th Judicial Circuit in and for Osceola County, Florida wherein THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, F/K/A THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATE-HOLDERS CWALT, INC., ALTERNATIVE LOAN TRUST 2006-HY-13, MORTGAGE THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-HY-13, is the Plaintiff, and THOMAS MEURY, A/K/A THOMAS WILLIAM MEURY; CELEBRATION RESIDENTIAL OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.; MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INCORPORATED AS NOMINEE FOR COUNTRYWIDE BANK, N.A.; KELLY MCCARTHY A/K/A KELLY MARIE MCCARTHY; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF KELLY MCCARTHY A/K/A KELLY MARIE MCCARTHY; UNKNOWN TENANT IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, are the Defendants, the clerk will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, at Suite 2600/Room 2602 of the Osceola County Courthouse, 2 Courthouse Square, Kissimmee, FL 34741 on the 30th day of OCTOBER, 2018 at 11:00 am, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

LOT 301 OF CELEBRATION NORTH VILLAGE UNIT 2 ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 9, PAGE(S) 165 THROUGH 180, INCLUSIVE, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA.

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

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in a court proceeding or event, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact ADA Coordinator, Court Administration, Osceola County Courthouse, 2 Courthouse Square, Suite 6300, Kissimmee, FL 34741, (407) 742-2417, Fax #: 407-835-5079, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving notification if the time before the scheduled court appearance is less than 7 days. If you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711 to reach the Telecommunications Relay Service. This 4th day of June, 2018.

Respectfully, /s/ Debbie Satyal Debbie Satyal Fla. Bar No. 70531 Adams and Reese, LLP 350 E. Las Olas Boulevard, Suite 1110 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301 Direct: 954.541.5390 June 9, 16, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 9th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION:

CASE NO.: 2016-CA-002376 U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR BANC OF AMERICA FUNDING 2008-FT1 TRUST, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2008-FT1, Plaintiff,

vs. UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JOYCE I. HIERS, A/K/A JOYCE EVELYN HIERS, DECEASED WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIM AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE; UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JOSEPH DOUGLAS HEIRS JR., DECEASED WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIM AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; JOSEPH DAVID HIERS; JAMES DOUGLAS HIERS; OSCEOLA COUNTY A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA; JOSEPH DAVID HIERS; JAMES DOUGLAS HIERS; UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JOYCE I. HIERS A/K/A JOYCE EVELYN HIERS, DECEASED WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIM AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; and 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 AM on the 10th day of JULY, 2018, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit: **LOTS 12, 12B, 13, 13B, 14, 14-B, 15 AND 15-B, BLOCK B, ORANGE BLOSSOM ADDITION, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 296, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF OSCEOLA COUNTY, FL, LESS ROAD RIGHT OF WAY FILED IN O.R. BOOK 572, PAGE 522, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated the 23rd day of May, 2018, and entered in Case No. 2016-CA-002376, of the Circuit Court of the 9TH Judicial Circuit, in and for Osceola County, Florida, wherein U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR BANC OF AMERICA FUNDING 2008-FT1 TRUST, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2008-FT1, is the Plaintiff, and FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE; OSCEOLA COUNTY A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA; JOSEPH DAVID HIERS; JAMES DOUGLAS HIERS; UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JOYCE I. HIERS A/K/A JOYCE EVELYN HIERS, DECEASED WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIM AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, CREDITORS, TRUSTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; and 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 AM on the 10th day of JULY, 2018, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit: **LOTS 12, 12B, 13, 13B, 14, 14-B, 15 AND 15-B, BLOCK B, ORANGE BLOSSOM ADDITION, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 296, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF OSCEOLA COUNTY, FL, LESS ROAD RIGHT OF WAY FILED IN O.R. BOOK 572, PAGE 522, PUBLIC RECORDS OF OSCEOLA COUNTY, FLORIDA.**

ANY PERSON CLAIMING AN INTEREST IN THE SURPLUS OF 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 a court proceeding or event, 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, Fax #: (407) 835-5079, 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 to reach the Telecommunications Relay Service. DATED on this 30th day of May 2018.

By: /s/ Pratik Patel Pratik Patel, Esquire Bar Number: 98057

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@clelegalgroup.com 17-00619 June 2, 9, 2018

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ORDINANCE NO. 2018-38

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the City of St. Cloud, Florida, at a meeting to be held on June 19, 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. 2018-38 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ST. CLOUD, FLORIDA, ASSIGNING A ZONING DISTRICT OF "HB" HIGHWAY BUSINESS, COMPATIBLE WITH A "COMMERCIAL" FUTURE LAND USE DESIGNATION, FOR APPROXIMATELY 0.092 ACRES, LOCATED SOUTH OF FRIARS COVE LANE, WEST OF CANOE CREEK ROAD; PROVIDING FOR ENTERING THE DESIGNATION ON THE OFFICIAL ZONING MAP, FILING OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION AND PROOF OF PUBLICATION, SEVERABILITY 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)

Jessie Light, Planning Commission Secretary 1300 9th Street, St. Cloud, FL 34769 Telephone: (407) 957-8427 June 9, 2018

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ORDINANCE NO. 2018-40

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the City of St. Cloud, Florida, at a meeting to be held on June 19, 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. 2018-40 entitled:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ST. CLOUD AMENDING ARTICLE III, "ZONING REGULATIONS", DIVISION 20 "SUPPLEMENTAL DISTRICT REGULATIONS", SECTION 3.20.3 "ACCESSORY STRUCTURES", SUBSECTION A "RESIDENTIAL DISTRICTS", 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)

Jessie Light, Planning Commission Secretary 1300 9th Street, St. Cloud, FL 34769 Telephone: (407) 957-8427 June 9, 2018

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING RESOLUTION NO. 2018-062R

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the City of St. Cloud, Florida, at a meeting to be held on June 19, 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 Resolution No. 2018-062R entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ST. CLOUD, FLORIDA, GRANTING A CONDITIONAL USE TO OPERATE A "BOAT, MAJOR REPAIR" AND "VEHICLES FOR HIRE (I.E., U-HAUL, RYDER, ETC.)" AT 3701 FRIARS COVE LANE, ST. CLOUD, FLORIDA, AS DESCRIBED IN THE BODY OF THIS RESOLUTION.

Interested parties may appear at the meeting at which time this RESOLUTION is to be considered and shall be heard with respect to the proposed RESOLUTION at the Public Hearing thereon. This RESOLUTION, 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)

Jessie Light, Planning Commission Secretary 1300 9th Street, St. Cloud, FL 34769 Telephone: (407) 957-8427 June 9, 2018

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING RESOLUTION NO. 2018-107R

Notice is hereby given that the Planning Commission of the City of St. Cloud, Florida, at a meeting to be held on June 19, 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 Resolution No. 2018-107R entitled:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ST. CLOUD, FLORIDA, GRANTING A CONDITIONAL USE TO OPERATE AN "ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY" USE AT 17TH STREET, SOUTH OF ITS INTERSECTION WITH PINE LAKE DRIVE, ST. CLOUD, FLORIDA, AS DESCRIBED IN THE BODY OF THIS RESOLUTION.

Interested parties may appear at the meeting at which time this RESOLUTION is to be considered and shall be heard with respect to the proposed RESOLUTION at the Public Hearing thereon. This RESOLUTION, 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)

Jessie Light, Planning Commission Secretary 1300 9th Street, St. Cloud, FL 34769 Telephone: (407) 957-8427 June 9, 2018

STEAM DAY AT HART MEMORIAL LIBRARY



The Hart Memorial Library in downtown Kissimmee hosted STEAM day on Wednesday morning. Children were able to explore the world of science, technology, engineering, the arts and math at 11 different hands-on activity stations. Top row: Youth Specialist Michelle LaPlant explains how solar panels store light energy and converts it to electricity. Jael Francis watches her robot track over a colored grid pattern she designed. Second row: Children learn about current and opened and closed circuits while playing a giant game of Operation. Soleil Anderson uses a smart phone to navigate her robotic ball through a maze. Outside the library, children ran on a specially designed hamster wheel to make snow cones for themselves. Third row: Christina Wilson started her presentation of Super Cool Science with demonstrating the three states of matter using liquid nitrogen. Wilson demonstrated the super absorbency of some substances. Right: Children are thrilled to see it snow inside thanks to the “magic” of chemistry.

News-Gazette Photos by Martin Maddock



OSCEOLA NEWS-GAZETTE Triple E

Fed goals

The Federal Reserve seeks to manage interest rates to achieve its two major policy goals – maximum employment and stable prices. Unemployment has been falling during this nine-year expansion and is now at a 18-year low and well below the Fed’s long-term goal for unemployment of 4.5 percent.

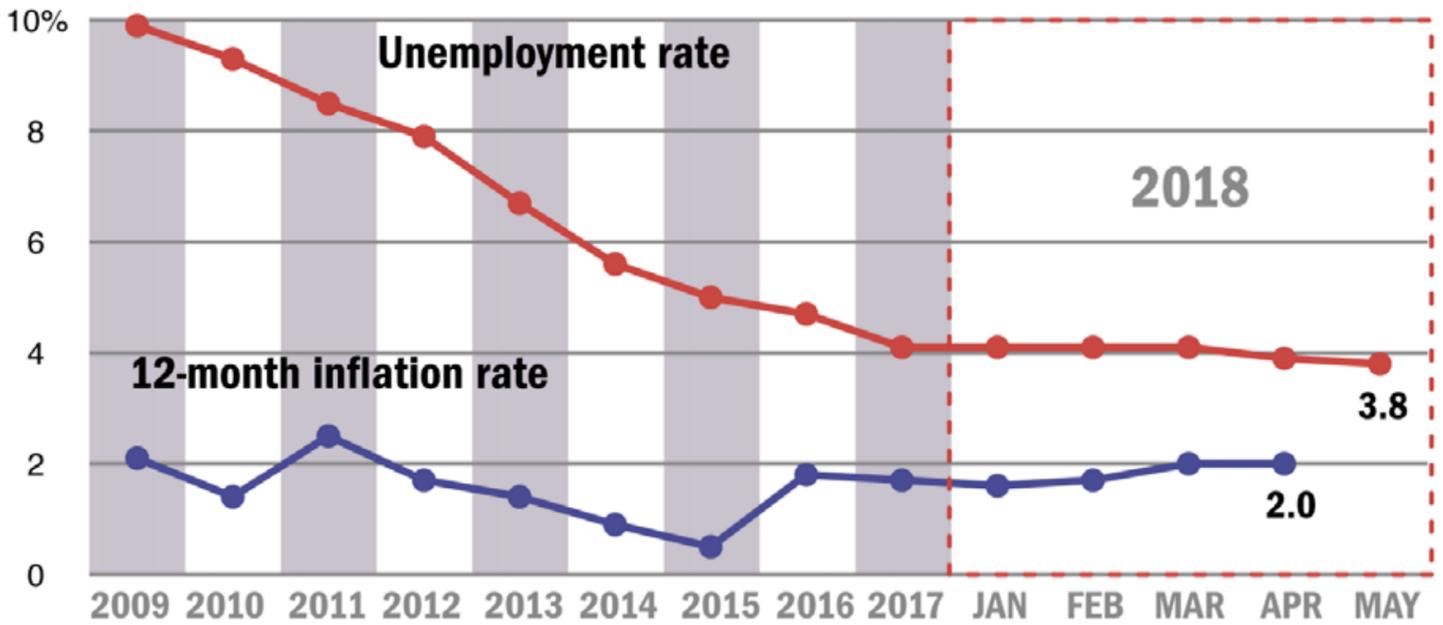
But the goal of stable prices, which the Fed defines as annual gains of 2 percent, has proven to be a tougher challenge. The deep 2007-2009 recession, the worst since the 1930s, has kept a lid on wages and the ability of businesses to boost prices. After six years of missing the 2



percent target, inflation has finally risen to the Fed’s goal, as measured by its preferred inflation gauge.

The country briefly hit that inflation level last year, but it didn’t last. The Fed’s hope is that this year, inflation will stabilize around 2 percent and stay there.

Here is a look at unemployment at year’s end since 2009 and the 12-month change in the Fed’s favorite inflation measure during the same period, plus monthly changes so far this year.



Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics; Bureau of Economic Analysis

Martin Crutsinger; Jenni Sohn • AP

Company Spotlight In a jam

Smucker’s shares fell after the maker of jams, jellies and other foods reported a disappointing quarter and said it’s facing difficulties including higher raw materials and freight costs and rising interest rates.

The J.M. Smucker Co.’s profit and revenue fell short of market expectations in the fourth quarter. CEO Mark Smucker, a great-great-grandson of the company’s founder, blamed the weak



profit partly on “industry-wide headwinds,” but said Smucker is adjusting its portfolio to offset them. The

Orrville, Ohio-based maker of Jif peanut butter and Folgers coffee has cut costs, bought new brands and added new products to help respond to changing consumer tastes.

The company’s shares have fallen 19 percent since the beginning of the year, while the Standard & Poor’s 500 index has risen almost 4 percent.

J. M. Smucker (SJM)

Thursday’s close: **\$100.80**

Total return 1-yr 3-yr* 5-yr*

52-WEEK RANGE

Price-earnings ratio: **9**
(Based on past 12-month results)

SJM -20.9 -0.9 2.3

\$96 \$134

Div. yield: 3.1% **Dividend:** \$3.12

AP

*annualized

Source: FactSet

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Company Spotlight **Tesla board stays intact**

Tesla CEO Elon Musk has overcome a shareholder attempt to overhaul the electric car company's board and strip him of his role as chairman.

CtW Investment Group, an activist firm that represents labor union pension funds, had spearheaded a rebellion seeking to oust the trio from the board amid concerns about Tesla's shaky finances and inability to meet its production goals.

All three directors seeking to remain on Tesla's nine-member board were re-elected



during the company's annual meeting. The company said a majority of shareholders also rejected a proposal to force Musk to step down.

Musk said he expects Tesla to post a quarterly profit during the July-September period, something it has rarely pulled off in a 15-year history marked by steady losses and heavy investments in technology and manufacturing. He also said he expects Tesla will be cash flow positive during the second half of the year.

Tesla (TSLA)		Wednesday's close: \$319.50		Price change	1-yr	3-yr*	5-yr*
52-WEEK RANGE		Price-earnings ratio: Lost money		TSLA	-9.5	8.6	26.8
\$245		\$390	(Based on past 12-month results)				
AP					*annualized		Source: FactSet

Volatility is back

Stock markets careened again last week, with the S&P 500 swinging by more than 1 percent in three of the four trading days.

If such a stretch had happened last year, it would have been big news, but it's closer to typical for this year. The S&P 500 has already had 35 days this year where it's moved up or down by at least 1 percent. That puts it on pace for its most volatile year since 2011, when panic around the European debt crisis and the downgrade of the U.S. credit rating whipsawed stocks.

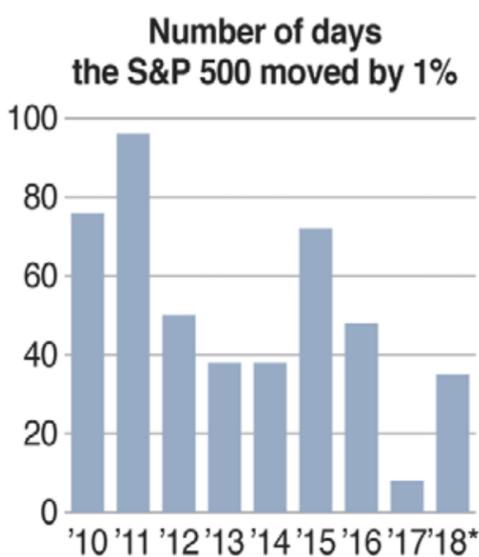
Besides inducing a sense of nausea, increased volatility can also be a warning sign for investors. Volatility, as measured by the VIX index, tends to be at its lowest point when an economic expansion is in its middle years, before it

picks up in the last year and then spikes higher after a recession begins, according to Credit Suisse strategists. The VIX is currently at about 13, which is above its average of 11.1 last year, but it's well below its level from February, when it was approaching 40.

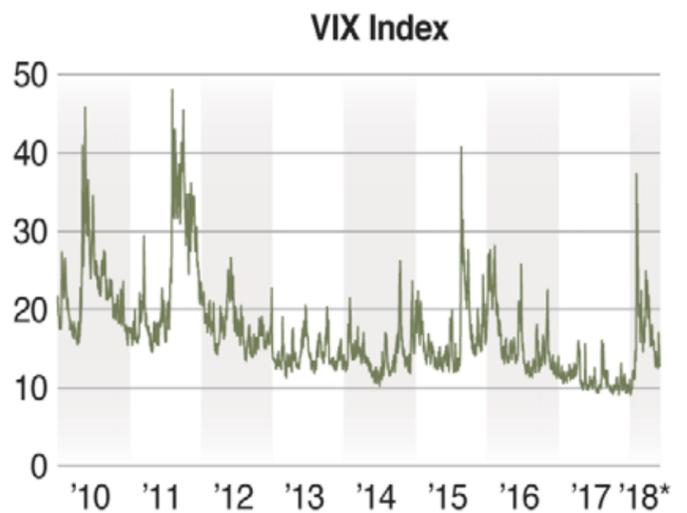
Lately worries have centered on the possibility of a global trade war hurting economic growth and of

the impact of higher interest rates. Last week, stocks also rose and fell with worries about whether Italy's government may push to leave the euro currency.

One piece of solace for investors is the resilient job market, which has continued to power higher. On Friday, the government said the unemployment rate fell to an 18-year low, which should help support the economy.



Jittery? This year is on course to be the most volatile since 2011.



Source: FactSet *data through June 5

Stan Choe; J. Paschke • AP

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Not voting could jeopardize future votes in some US states

CINCINNATI (AP) — Do you have to vote even if you don't want to? Not doing so could put you on the path to losing your vote in some states.

The U.S. Supreme Court is expected to rule soon on a lawsuit filed against Ohio's secretary of state over the practice of flagging registered voters after they've missed one federal general election. They get a mailed notification asking them to confirm their address. If they don't respond and don't vote during the next two federal general elections, they could be purged.

In oral arguments Jan. 10, an attorney for civil rights groups said Americans not only have the right to vote, they have the right not to without worry about losing their registration. Attorneys for Ohio and the United States — President Donald Trump's administration reversed the position by former President Barack Obama by siding with Ohio — contended they are only trying to ensure the integrity of voting rolls. Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted has said repeatedly that the state wants to "make it easy to vote and hard to cheat."

Some questions and answers about the case:

WHY SHOULD I CARE IF I DON'T LIVE IN OHIO?

Attorneys told the high court that at least six other states — Georgia, Montana,

Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania and West Virginia — have similar practices. A ruling upholding Ohio's practices could lead to more states adopting similar procedures.

Those in favor say states are mandated to maintain up-to-date voter lists. Those opposed to Ohio's system see it as among moves by Republican officials in different states to add requirements such as presenting photo IDs or proving citizenship that tend to reduce voting among minorities and low-income people more likely to vote Democratic.

"All of us should be concerned if you have people who are running the electoral system who instead of trying to promote as much democracy as possible are trying to distort it in subtle ways to gain political advantage," said attorney Paul Smith, of Washington, who argued against Ohio's law before the justices in January.

Some states allow same-day voter registration and voting, but most don't.

BUT DON'T WE WANT TO BE SURE ONLY LEGAL VOTERS VOTE?

State election officials and voting experts agree that having accurate registration lists is important to running smooth, fair elections. Removing people who have died, moved out

of state, or are in prison for felony crimes helps reduce opportunities for fraud.

"Properly done, efforts to clean up voter rolls are important for election integrity and efficiency. Done carelessly or hastily, such efforts are prone to error, the effects of which are borne by voters who may show up to vote only to find their names missing from the list," Jonathan Brater, counsel for the Brennan Center for Justice's Democracy Program at New York University, wrote in a report earlier this year.

A 2013 Supreme Court decision cleared the way for local election officials in some parts of the country to make changes to election procedures without having to submit those plans for Justice Department review. Civil rights groups say that loss of protections has led to instances like one in 2015 in Hancock County, Georgia, where some black residents received summonses requiring them to appear in person to prove their residence or be removed from voting rolls.

President Trump's unsupported assertions that millions voted illegally in the 2016 presidential election have added to uneasiness among voting rights groups about what steps states might take to add voter requirements. Trump hoped to prove widespread fraud when he appointed a commission to study the issue, but abandoned it as states refused to cooperate with

expansive demands for personal voter data.

IS IT REALLY THAT BIG OF A DEAL IN OHIO?

The secretary of state's office said Ohio has followed similar procedures for seeking voter confirmation of their status under both Democratic and Republican administrations since 1994.

Ohio records show more than 3 million notices seeking voter confirmation of their addresses beginning in 2011, when Husted, who is Republican, took office as secretary of state. Numbers under his Democratic predecessor weren't available. Smith told the justices that some 70 percent of those receiving mailed notifications didn't respond, often throwing them away without reading.

The numbers of voters listed as stricken or ready for striking — Ohio halted purges after the federal lawsuit was filed two years ago — were in the tens of thousands in urban counties such as Cuyahoga, Franklin, Hamilton and Lucas, where Democrats tend to do better than in much of the state.

However, it's not clear how many voters lost their registrations even though they should have remained eligible. Associated Press calls to more than 100 people listed as removed in five mostly urban counties found that in the vast majority of cases, the people were no longer at the address

where they lived when registered.

Some voters in the Ohio case say they were given provisional ballots, which are subject to verification, but believe their ballots weren't counted.

Miami University political scientist Christopher Kelley said in a closely divided swing state like Ohio, anything done to "put your finger on the scales" can be decisive. He pointed to the 2004 election, when voting under a Republican secretary of state was plagued by long lines, faulty equipment and other problems in Ohio. President George W. Bush won by some 118,000 votes to carry Ohio and clinch his re-election, four years after he won election with a disputed 537-vote margin in Florida.

WHAT DO AFFECTED VOTERS SAY?

Joseph Helle, an Army veteran, was removed from the rolls while serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

He called voting a fundamental right that ensures all of the other ones protected by the Constitution.

"It affects me and it affects any veteran," said Helle, now the mayor of Oak Harbor, Ohio. "But it also affects anyone who has never served. It affects everyone equally. It takes away our voice ... I was incredibly emotional when I was taken off the rolls ..."

Helle, who attended the Supreme Court arguments in January, said that not voting also is a right of free expression; it can be a way to express dissatisfaction with the candidates or the way the system is working.

Lisa Keil, of Toledo, found out she had been removed from the list of eligible voters when she tried to cast a ballot in a special mayoral election in 2015.

"It made me look really stupid. I felt humiliated," she said.

She remembered that she tried to vote in 2012, but she showed up to find long lines and was worried she wouldn't have enough time to get to her job, so she skipped voting. Keil said she never knew that could lead to her being removed from the voting rolls. She was separated from her husband for a short time and doesn't recall getting a notification from the secretary of state.

Jennifer Arlinghaus, of Cincinnati, was listed in Hamilton County records as subject to removal for not voting or responding.

She acknowledged that sometimes she doesn't vote if she's not that interested in the candidates or issues. She said removing people for voting isn't "necessarily good."

But she cast her ballot without problem in 2016, for Trump. And she's "very pleased" that she could exercise that choice.

Ex-Senate aide charged with lying about reporter contacts

WASHINGTON (AP) — A former employee of the Senate intelligence committee has been arrested on charges of lying to the FBI about contacts he had with multiple reporters, federal prosecutors said Thursday.

James A. Wolfe, the long-time director of security for the committee — one of multiple congressional panels investigating potential ties between Russia and the Trump campaign — was indicted on three false statement counts after prosecutors say he misled agents about his relationships with reporters.

Though Wolfe is not charged with disclosing classified information, prosecutors say he was in regular contact with multiple journalists who covered the committee, including meeting them at restaurants, in bars, private residences and in a Senate office building. He also maintained a yearslong personal relationship with one reporter, which prosecutors say he lied about until being confronted with a photograph of him and the journalist.

Wolfe, 58, of Ellicott City, Maryland, is due in court Friday. It wasn't immediately clear if he had a lawyer.

Each false statement count is punishable by up to five years in prison, though if convicted, Wolfe would almost certainly face only a fraction of that time.

The criminal case arises from a December 2017 FBI interview with Wolfe in which he denied having relationships with journalists or discussing committee busi-

ness with them. At one point, he was presented with a news article containing classified information and was asked, in a written questionnaire, if he had had contact with any of the piece's three authors. He checked "no" even though records obtained by the government show that he had been in communication with one of them.

In a separate instance, after one journalist published a story about a witness who'd been subpoenaed to appear before the committee, Wolfe wrote to say, "Good job!" and "I'm glad you got the scoop."

The indictment was announced soon after The New York Times revealed that the Justice Department had secretly seized the phone records and emails of one of its journalists, Ali Watkins, as part of the same leak investigation involving Wolfe. The newspaper said Watkins was approached by the FBI about a three-year relationship she had had with Wolfe when she worked at other publications. The newspaper also said that Watkins said that Wolfe was not a source of classified information for her during their relationship.

In a statement Thursday night, Watkins' attorney, Mark MacDougall, said: "It's always disconcerting when a journalist's telephone records are obtained by the Justice Department — through a grand jury subpoena or other legal process. Whether it was really necessary here will depend on the nature of the investigation and the scope of any charges."

The prosecution comes



In this May 9, 2018, file photo, CIA nominee Gina Haspel, center seated, testifies during a confirmation hearing of the Senate Intelligence Committee on Capitol Hill in Washington.

amid a Trump administration crackdown on leaks of classified information. President Donald Trump and Attorney General Jeff Sessions have decried such disclosures, with Sessions saying in August that the number of leak of criminal leak probes had more than tripled in the early months of the Trump administration.

"The Attorney General has stated that investigations and prosecutions of unauthorized disclosure of controlled information are a priority of the Department of Justice.

The allegations in this indictment are doubly troubling as the false statements concern the unauthorized disclosure of sensitive and confidential information," Assistant Attorney General John Demers, the Justice Department's top national security official, said in a statement.

The Obama administration had its own repeated tangles with journalists, including secretly subpoenaing phone records of Associated Press reporters and editors during a 2012 leak investigation into a story about a bomb plot. The

Justice Department amended its media guidelines in 2015 to make it more difficult for prosecutors to subpoena journalists for their sources, though officials in the last year have said they are reviewing those policies.

Senate Intelligence Committee Chairman Richard Burr and the top Democrat on the committee, Sen. Mark Warner, said in a joint statement that they were troubled by the charges. Wolfe had worked for the committee for roughly 30 years, and his position as security director

meant that he had access to classified information provided to the panel by the executive branch.

"While the charges do not appear to include anything related to the mishandling of classified information, the committee takes this matter extremely seriously," the senators said. "We were made aware of the investigation late last year, and have fully cooperated with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Department of Justice since then."

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2 members of secretive NC sect charged with fraud conspiracy

Two members of a secretive evangelical church in North Carolina were charged Thursday with conspiracy to commit wire fraud in an alleged unemployment benefits scheme that former congregants have said was meant to keep money coming into the sect.

Marion Kent Covington, 63, and Diane Mary McKinny, 65, both of Rutherfordton, North Carolina, were indicted in U.S. District Court in Asheville.

Prosecutors say Covington and McKinny decided to lay off employees at Covington's business so they could collect unemployment benefits in 2008 when the company was struggling financially. But the employees continued to work at the company, Diverse Corporate Technologies. They later put the scheme into place at Covington's other business, Integrity Marble & Granite. Covington then put in place a variation of the scheme at Sky Catcher Communications, Inc., a company he managed, prosecutors say.

The scheme resulted in more than \$250,000 in fraudulent claims between November 2008 and March 2013, according to court records. The charges carry a maximum penalty of 30 years in prison and a \$1 million fine. Prosecutors are seeking the forfeiture of at least \$309,660. Both defendants will be arraigned on June 18.

Most employees were members of the Word of Faith Fellowship in Spindale, North Carolina. Prosecutors say Covington used his leadership position in the church to force them to comply.

No one responded to telephone messages left for Covington's attorney, Stephen Cash, and McKinny's lawyer, Charles McKeller, Thursday afternoon.

As part of an ongoing investigation into claims of physical and emotional abuse at the Word of Faith Fellowship Church in Spindale, North Carolina, The Associated Press re-



In this May 19, 2017, file photo, Brooke Covington, right, a member of the Word of Faith Fellowship church in Spindale, N.C., leaves a hearing at Rutherford County Courthouse in Rutherfordton, N.C., accompanied by her husband, Marion Kent Covington, far left, and attorney Joshua Valentine. Marion Kent Covington, 63, and Diane Mary McKinny, 65, two members of the secretive evangelical church in North Carolina, were charged Thursday, June 7, 2018, with conspiracy to commit wire fraud in an alleged unemployment benefits scheme that former congregants have said was meant to keep money coming into the sect.

ported in September that authorities were looking into unemployment-claims practices of congregants and their businesses.

Kent Covington spent eight months in a North Carolina prison in 1974 for breaking and entering, and larceny, and later joined the church. His wife, Brooke Covington, is one of the most trusted confidants of church founder Jane Whaley, who members consider a prophet.

By September 2009, several other businesses run by members of the church

were also struggling financially so Covington and McKinny "promoted the fraud" to others, according to the indictment. At least five businesses implemented the scheme, the indictment said.

Two other ministers, Dr. Jerry Gross, 72, and his son, Jason Lee Gross, 51, pleaded guilty on May 25 to wire fraud related to unemployment benefits at a podiatry clinic in Forest City, North Carolina. As part of his plea deal, Jerry Gross agreed to cooperate with the government.

In September, 11 former congregants told the AP that dozens of church members filed bogus unemployment claims between 2008 and 2013 at the direction of church leaders. Former members said Whaley promoted the scheme as "God's plan" to help the businesses survive the economic downturn and keep money coming into the church.

The unemployment allegations were uncovered as part of the AP's ongoing investigation into Word of Faith, which had about

750 congregants in rural North Carolina and a total of nearly 2,000 members in its branches in Brazil and Ghana and its affiliations in other countries.

In February 2017, the AP cited 43 former members who said congregants were regularly punched and choked in an effort to beat out devils. The AP also revealed how, over the course of two decades, followers were ordered by church leaders to lie to authorities investigating reports of abuse.

AP later outlined how

the church created a pipeline of young laborers from its two Brazilian congregations who say they were brought to the U.S. and forced to work for little or no pay at businesses owned by church leaders.

Those stories led to investigations in the U.S. and Brazil. In March, Brazilian labor prosecutors filed suit to close one of the churches and its school in Sao Paulo, saying its leaders "reduced people to a condition analogous to slavery."

Kim Kardashian West the star is now also the reformer

NEW YORK (AP) — As Kim Kardashian West put it to her 60 million-plus followers on Twitter, the call she made to Alice Marie Johnson "will forever be one of my best memories."

It was the reality star and makeup mogul who brought the 63-year-old Johnson first word of her freedom after more than two decades in federal prison on 1996 drug convictions related to a Memphis-based cocaine trafficking operation.

Johnson wasn't eligible for parole, but the TV star met with the former reality TV boss, President Donald Trump, in the Oval Office after learning of Johnson's plight online. Soon after, Trump commuted her sentence — and the tears flowed.

"Telling her for the first time and hearing her screams while crying together is a moment I will never forget," offered Kardashian West, long a social media influencer with a legion of dedicated supporters.

Kardashian West has expanded her reach in ways

some might have thought unlikely. Johnson's release Wednesday came two days after Kardashian West accepted an influencer award from the Council of Fashion Designers of America before a star-studded crowd, joking she considered the honor ironic "since I'm naked most of the time."

With the help of her attorney, Shawn Holley, and Trump's son-in-law, Jared Kushner, Kardashian West has been hailed as a hero for pushing hard in Johnson's case. There seems to be no downside, for herself or the president, observers said. Kardashian West, they said, could have easily done nothing.

"I think that it's great she's using her influence in this way," said Ashley Edwards, senior news and politics editor at the millennial-focused lifestyle site Refinery29. "I'm not sure if there's anything she can't do with the amount of clout she has."

In a way, Edwards noted, the 37-year-old's move to action in Johnson's case could

be seen as a natural follow up to troubles in her own life.

"She said after her robbery (in a Paris hotel) she realized that material things don't mean as much to her as they used to. She can go to the store and spend \$40,000 on a necklace or a shirt and it doesn't really fulfill her in the same way that it used to. And I think now that she's the mother of three, she's older now and realizes there's more to life than material things and she is using her celebrity for a bigger purpose."

For Kardashian West and Trump, was the alliance a risk?

"She's looking at the bigger picture. She had to work with the administration even if she doesn't agree with everything he stands for," Edwards said. "It is a risk for her on one level since a lot of her fans are liberal, a lot of people do not like Donald Trump, but I think a lot of those people now realize we can't just say that on issues like this."

Holley has known Kardashian West since she was a child; the star's late father,

Robert Kardashian, was a lawyer who was on O.J. Simpson's successful defense team in his double murder case, as was Holley.

Holley said the Johnson release is just the beginning for her famous client, who paid to retain lawyers in the effort. The two spent about 20 minutes with Trump last week before he took action to free Johnson, but they had put wheels in motion months ago, back in October.

"There were stops and starts," Holley said of the lead up to her and Kardashian West's sit down with the president. "There were times we didn't want to get too pushy but didn't want to go off the radar. I have no illusions about the fact that we would not have been there without her star power. She has always been interested in criminal justice. She and I have talked many times over the years about her interest in criminal justice as a whole."

Kardashian West "definitely" will continue to work on criminal justice issues, Holley said.

People magazine's deputy editor, DJ Heyman, said Kardashian West's success marked a shining "singular achievement" and the best use of her influence in the face of massive prison reform challenges in the United States, but she's certainly not the first celebrity to lend their name, money and clout.

"Look, I think it is amazing and laudable that she was able to achieve this in this case and I think it says a lot about power of celebrity at this moment in time that she, a reality star, an influencer, obviously appeals to a reality star president who obviously felt great about meeting with her and acted, it would seem to be, in a very positive way," he said.

"I applaud her efforts," Heyman said. "(But) there are other celebrities like John Legend, who are really intensely, on an almost cellular level, working on criminal justice reform and prosecutorial reform in this country and who take it very seriously. Since they're friendly, I hope that she works with

him and others to really address what I think is a much bigger issue."

Heyman acknowledged that every influencer has limitations, even the force that is Kim Kardashian West.

"I don't necessarily think that if she were to come to the president next week with another case that she would necessarily get the same hearing. Maybe she would. And also, good for all those people who are less famous working on these issues."

Among the less famous: Vanessa Potkin, director of post-conviction relief for the Innocence Project, a non-profit dedicated to exonerating the wrongly convicted.

"It was so great to hear, but it shouldn't have to take Kim Kardashian getting involved to get justice in this country," she said. "The fact that it took the involvement of Kim Kardashian to obtain (Johnson's) release demonstrates the extent of the problem and how, especially after one is convicted it takes Herculean efforts to obtain justice."

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On 'Jerusalem Day,' Gaza anti-blockade protest near Israel

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — Palestinians burned tires and Israeli troops fired heavy volleys of tear gas Friday to push back large Gaza crowds from the area of the fence separating the blockaded territory from Israel.

It was the latest in a series of protests against the decade-long blockade of Gaza by Israel and Egypt. Friday's march also coincided with the annual "Jerusalem Day," instituted by Iran to protest against Israeli rule of the holy city. Israel and Iran have been arch enemies since Tehran's 1979 Islamic Revolution.

In the capitals of Iran and Iraq, thousands of Shiite Muslims marched in Jerusalem Day protests, some chanting "Death to Israel" or burning Israeli flags and effigies of President Donald Trump.

Friday's Gaza protest was accompanied by concerns about renewed bloodshed. At least 115 Palestinian protesters, the vast majority unarmed, have been killed and close to 3,800 have been wounded by Israeli army fire since the marches began in late March.

After Muslim noon prayers Friday, thousands of Gaza residents began streaming toward five protest tent camps that had been erected more than two months ago, each several hundred meters (yards) from Gaza's perimeter fence. From there, smaller groups walked closer to the fence.

In a camp east of Gaza City, activists burned tires, releasing thick black smoke into the air. Israeli troops fired heavy tear gas volleys, including from drones, sending protesters running for cover.

One man with a bullhorn shouted, "America is the biggest evil."

The mass protests have been aimed at a border blockade imposed by Israel and Egypt in 2007, after the Islamic militant group Hamas overran the territory. The marchers have also pressed demands for a "right of return" for the descendants of Palestinian refugees to ancestral homes in what is now Israel.

More than 700,000 Palestinians were expelled or fled in the 1948 Mideast war over Israel's creation. Two-thirds of Gaza's 2 million residents are descendants of refugees.

Protester Fadi Saleh said the frequent marches have helped revive sympathies in the Arab world for the Palestinians, but that more could be done. "We need real Arab support and solidarity with our cause," said Saleh, a student of Arabic literature who wore a medical mask against the tear gas.

In previous border protests, activists have also sent kites with incendiary materials attached toward Israel with the aim of setting fields there on fire. Others have thrown fire bombs or tried to damage the fence. Israeli soldiers, including snipers perched behind earthen berms, have fired live bullets and tear gas.

Israel's use of potentially lethal force against the protesters has drawn international criticism. Rights groups have said Israel's open-fire rules are unlawful.

Israel has accused Hamas of trying to carry out attacks and damage the fence under the guise of the protests. Hamas leaders have threat-



AP Iranian protesters attend the annual anti-Israeli Al-Quds, Jerusalem, Day rally in Tehran, Iran, Friday, June 8, 2018. Iranians attended the rallies across the country to condemn Israeli occupation of Palestinian territories.

ened possible mass border breaches, raising concerns in Israel that communities near Gaza might be at risk.

The protests have largely been organized by Hamas and to some extent by the smaller Islamic Jihad militant group. Both have received political and financial backing from Iran, but also pursue their own agendas. Growing despair in Gaza over blockade-linked hardships, including daily hours-long power cuts and rising poverty, have driven turnout.

Israel and Egypt argue that they must maintain the

blockade to contain Hamas and other militant groups, which have built weapons arsenals over the years, including short-range rockets. Israel and Hamas have fought three cross-border wars since 2008.

The Jerusalem Day protests are being held each year on the last Friday of the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan. The day is known in Arabic as "Al Quds Day," a reference to the city's historic Arabic name.

Israel captured east Jerusalem in the 1967 Mideast war and annexed it to its

capital, a move not recognized by most of the international community. Israel's current government has said it will not accept a partition of the city as part of a peace deal with the Palestinians.

The eastern sector houses major shrines revered by Muslims, Christians and Jews. The Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in east Jerusalem, the third holiest site in Islam, is built on the spot where tradition says the Prophet Muhammad ascended to heaven. The compound sits on the ruins of biblical temples and is revered by Jews as the holiest

site of their religion.

In Iran's capital of Tehran, thousands joined a Jerusalem Day march on Friday, chanting "Death to Israel" and burning a Trump effigy.

In Iraq, thousands of Iran-backed Shiite militiamen in uniform marched through the streets of the capital of Baghdad on Friday, setting an Israeli flag on fire and carrying posters of the late Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and Supreme Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

Cossacks under scrutiny as they prepare to guard World Cup

ROSTOV-ON-DON, Russia (AP) — Russia plans to deploy thousands of Cossacks to guard the World Cup, but the traditional paramilitary groups face criticism for their strident nationalism and attacks on protesters.

During a parade Tuesday under the hot sun of southern Russia, a politician and a police chief lectured assembled Cossacks on how to "keep order" and remain polite with foreign fans, before a priest sprinkled their ranks with holy water. They'll patrol alongside police during the World Cup in Rostov-on-Don, two Cossacks to each cop.

"They are taught in the art of war from childhood, they obey their elders and serve the motherland," Cossack elder Igor Barannikov told The Associated Press. During the World Cup, "we will help in any way to prevent any attempt at destabilization."

Authorities hope Cossacks will protect fans while adding local color. Some will wear traditional fur hats, and a group of stunt riders will perform on horseback. Cossacks generally can't arrest or fine people, but some are notorious for using excessive force.

Men in Cossack uni-

forms used their fists and traditional whips to attack Russians protesting against President Vladimir Putin last month in central Moscow. Police did little to stop them. At the Sochi Olympics in 2014, Cossacks whipped members of the punk protest group Pussy Riot.

Barannikov said his Cossacks would be tolerant of outsiders.

"We are happy to welcome everyone here regardless of their ethnic background and faith, regardless of their gender," he said. "We are happy for all our guests and we ask them to respect and keep to the traditions of the region and the country they are visiting."

Cossacks are often hostile to LGBT rights. Barannikov told Radio Free Europe this week that his Cossacks would report same-sex couples to police if they saw them kissing during the World Cup. His group didn't respond to AP requests to clarify the comments.

Cossacks were historically a mix between colonists and a military caste on the Russian Empire's south and eastern frontiers. After decades of Soviet persecution, groups claiming to be Cossacks have multiplied

under Putin, often with government funding.

While some Cossacks trace their ancestry back to the paramilitary groups broken up by the Soviet Union after the Russian Civil War, others have more tenuous links. Recent years have seen government-backed "Cossack" groups spring up in World Cup host cities like Moscow, St. Petersburg and Kaliningrad on the Baltic Sea, far from traditional heartlands. Some have gone to fight with Russia-backed rebels in eastern Ukraine.

Cossacks' legal status varies. Some groups are official police auxiliaries but others are essentially costumed social clubs. There's little oversight for Cossacks who work with police if they face accusations of using excessive force, typically against migrants or opposition activists.

Modern Cossacks' image as Christian warriors fighting for a strong Russian state isn't always backed up by history.

Cossacks crushed protests against the czars in the early 20th century, but led several earlier rebellions when they felt their autonomy was under threat.



AP In this photo taken on Sunday, May 13, 2018, Don Cossacks practice on the bank of the Don river near the World Cup stadium before the Russian premier league soccer match between Rostov and Ural, in Rostov-on-Don, Russia. Russia plans to deploy thousands of Cossacks to guard the World Cup, but the traditional paramilitary groups face criticism for their strident nationalism and attacks on protesters.

They sometimes allied with Muslim ethnic groups against czarist forces, while many Kalmyks — members of an ethnically Mongolian minority who mostly follow Buddhism — lived as Cossacks and were widely accepted as such until the 20th century.

In Rostov-on-Don, Cossack official Sergei Stroganov said his patrolmen are learning English phrases to talk with fans.

"We're preparing for it so we don't end up humiliating ourselves. We're learning standard phrases of greeting so that the Cos-

sack patrol can sort things out and provide the necessary help to any foreign citizen," he said. "We want our foreign guests to have only positive memories of us both as a people and as patriots of our country, and as people who love order."

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Taking on the World



In this Dec. 1, 2017 file photo, Dan Reynolds of Imagine Dragons performs during the Vegas Strong Benefit concert in Las Vegas. AP

How to prep for a world tour, according to Imagine Dragons

BY MESFIN FEKADU
AP Music Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — If you see Imagine Dragons lead singer Dan Reynolds out in public and you think he's ignoring you — he isn't, he's just trying to stay ready for his live concerts.

"I'll wear a sign typically that says 'vocal silence,' then like a frowny face, and I'll put that on anytime that I have a day off," said the 30-year-old rocker, whose band kicked off the second leg of its Evolve World Tour this week.

"Two-hour shows that many days a week is just intense. Intense."

The Grammy-winning quartet is known for their powerful live performances, with Reynolds working the entire stage with full energy during hits like "Radioactive" and "Believer."

"It's just like being a professional athlete, except for your voice. You have to take it that seriously at this level. I don't know how artists maintain (themselves) on the road and live an unhealthy lifestyle. Actually they don't. Those are the bands I think that break up, they cancel a lot of show dates, or they just sound really bad live," he said. "I don't want any of those options."

He said his band has "cancelled, I think, one show in our career and we've played thousands and thousands of shows."

Reynolds breaks down what he does to stay healthy and fit on the road and discusses how tour life has changed since Imagine Dragons started performing shows together a decade ago.

IT'S NOT FOOD, IT'S FUEL

Reynolds could easily afford a personal chef while on the road — but it would be a waste of money: His diet is super basic and doesn't change.

"I'm such a creature of habit. When I'm on the road I really become so boring. ... Food is just fuel for me. It's not like an enjoyable thing," he said. "When I'm on the road it turns into, 'What is the cleanest source of energy for me? I eat really the same thing every day,'" he said.

He'll have oatmeal and eggs for breakfast, while lunch and dinner could range from chicken, fish or lamb, along with brown rice, vegetables or sweet potatoes. He cuts out all sugar, bread and dairy.

Reynolds says he'll eat every 90 minutes until about three-to-four hours before he hits the stage because he prefers to sing on an empty stomach.

"That gives me a lot more to pull from, so you're not burping onstage and you're not having any acid reflux or anything," he said.

"I don't eat when I get off stage either," he added. "I try to go to bed right



The American pop rock band Imagine Dragons with lead guitarist Wayne Sermon, percussionist and lead vocalist Dan Reynolds and drummer Daniel Platzman performs at the Xfinity Center, Wednesday, June 6, 2018, in Mansfield, Mass. AP

after."

EXERCISING THE DEMONS

Now a personal trainer is something Reynolds needs on the road.

Part of the reason for that is because the singer has ankylosing spondylitis, a form of arthritis that causes inflammation of the spinal joints that can lead to severe, chronic pain and discomfort.

"One of the best ways to thwart it off without taking immunosuppressants is to really get your blood flowing through your whole body and all your joints every single day. You have to be really active, long story short," he explained.

"A two-hour show every night, it's not enough for me to keep the inflammation at bay. Really what does that is a lot of power lifting, a lot of Olympic lifting, so that's really what I'm focused on with my trainer," he added.

Reynolds says he also works out daily "for my mental sanity; just because it keeps me happy."

NO, NO, NO TO H2O

When Beyonce slayed at Coachella this year, some noted that she performed for nearly two hours with a single drop of water.

But Reynolds said that may have been on purpose.

"Even though that might sound like ... she couldn't find time for it, it also very well may be a conscious choice just as a singer," he said. "For instance, if you're drinking too much water, your diaphragm, it makes it harder to sing. It's kind of an old wives' tale that you need to drink water when you're singing to sound better."

However, before shows Reynolds says he drinks lots of water — about a

gallon a day — which helps him when he's not taking water breaks during his shows.

Keeping his voice strong is his priority.

"You have to really maintain a strict regimen," he said. "Especially when what you're singing requires a lot of power and air, which Imagine Dragons songs definitely do."

PIMP MY RIDE

When Imagine Dragons first hit the road as a band, they didn't even have a tour bus — they used their own car. That's why, now, it's OK for the group to splurge on a fancy tour bus.

"When we started it was our own car, a Subaru and then upgraded — we bought an airport shuttle vehicle. We built a little bed into the back of that and we'd all take turns sleeping in that," he recalled.

"And that upgraded to a sprinter van, and then from there it went to a real (expletive) bus ... just really bumpy, the bare minimum, you have a couple bunks and that's it," he added.

He says now "we try to get the top-class tour bus because that's your home so you try to make the best of it."

Their current bus is decked out with a kitchenette and a living room, though Reynolds said "you spend such little time in a tour bus."

"Every day we try to get out of the tour bus as quick as we can to hit the town to kind of see what's around you, and breathe a little fresh air," he said.

Compared to flying, the bus is convenient when Reynolds' three young daughters join him on the road.

"They go to bed at like 6:30 p.m. Sometimes my five-year-old goes to bed at 9 p.m., so she'll watch part of the show," he said.

Around the Industry

Kate Spade's husband says she suffered from depression

NEW YORK (AP) — The husband and business partner of designer Kate Spade, who died in an apparent suicide, said she suffered from depression and anxiety for many years.

She was seeking help during the last five years, "seeing a doctor on a regular basis and taking medication for both depression and anxiety," Andy Spade said in a statement released on Wednesday.

He said there were "personal demons she was battling."

The designer was found hanged in the bedroom of her Park Avenue apartment on Tuesday. She was 55 years old and had a 13-year-old daughter.

Spade was working as an accessories editor at Mademoiselle magazine when she launched her company with her husband in their apartment in 1993.

Andy Spade, the brother of comedian David Spade, said she "sounded happy" the night before her suicide.

"There was no indication and no warning that she would do this," he said. "It was a complete shock."

He said he and his wife had been living separately for the past 10 months but saw each other or spoke every day. He said they were not legally separated and never discussed divorce.

Coach, now known as Tapestry, bought the Kate Spade brand last year for \$2.4 billion. The couple recently had started a new handbag company, Frances Valentine.

"We were best friends trying to work through our problems in the best way we knew how," Andy Spade said.

Americana Awards to honor k.d. lang as trailblazer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — The Americana Music Association will honor Canadian singer-songwriter k.d. lang, a four-time Grammy winner with hits in country and pop, with their trailblazer award at this year's Americana Honors and Awards show in September.

After getting the honor during the awards show in Nashville, Tennessee, on Sept. 12, she will perform at the Ryman Auditorium on Sept. 16 as part of her Ingénue Redux tour that is celebrating the 25th anniversary of her critically acclaimed 1992 album.

The well-known vocalist, who also acted and composed soundtracks, broke into country music in the early '80s, earning recognition for her duet with Roy Orbison on "Crying," and songs like "I'm Down to My Last Cigarette." In the '90s she had a pop hit with "Constant Craving" and partnered with Tony Bennett.

Reese Witherspoon confirms 'Legally Blonde 3'

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Reese Witherspoon confirms there will be a "Legally Blonde 3."

The actress on Thursday posted a video on Instagram of her floating in a pool wearing a pink bikini. The caption read: "It's true...#LegallyBlonde3."

Witherspoon starred as Elle Woods in the 2001 comedy, in which the fashion merchandising student enrolls in Harvard Law School to try to win back her ex-boyfriend.

The movie led to the 2003 sequel "Legally Blonde 2: Red, White & Blonde."

Lady Gaga, Bradley Cooper sing in 'A Star Is Born' trailer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper sing in the first trailer for the upcoming remake of the 1937 film "A Star Is Born."

Cooper, who co-wrote and directed the film, stars as country singer-songwriter Jackson Maine. He's struggling with alcoholism until he meets Lady Gaga's character, Ally. They fall in love but face an uncertain future.

There have been several versions of the movie. The 1937 film featured Janet Gaynor and Frederic March. Judy Garland and James Mason starred in the 1954 version, and the 1976 rock musical featured Barbra Streisand and Kris Kristofferson.

The upcoming movie is scheduled to reach theaters Oct. 5.

Barbara Bush's Wellesley speech coming out as a book

NEW YORK (AP) — Barbara Bush's widely praised commencement address at Wellesley College is being released as a book.

Scribner told The Associated Press on Thursday that "Your Own True Colors" comes out June 12. An audio edition of the 1990 speech will be published the same day. The former first lady died in April at age 92.

Bush was invited by Wellesley after the first choice, author Alice Walker, dropped out for personal reasons. Some students at the women's school protested that Bush's life had been defined by her husband's achievements. Acknowledging the objections, Bush called on the graduates to respect differences and search for "their own true colors." Noting that someone in attendance might become a presidential spouse, she received loud applause when she added, "And I wish him well."

J.J. Abrams, Bareilles team for Apple series 'Little Voice'

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Apple is ordering a comedy-drama series from J.J. Abrams that will feature original music by Sara Bareilles.

"Little Voice" is described by Apple as a romantic tale of searching for one's true voice as a young adult.

The show received a 10-episode order, Apple said Wednesday. The cast and the release date were not announced.

Abrams, whose credits include "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" and "Lost," will serve as executive producer for "Little Voice."

The Grammy-nominated Bareilles earned a Tony Award bid last year for her music for "Waitress."

Jessie Nelson, who collaborated with Bareilles on "Waitress," will be the show runner and an executive producer for the Apple series.

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Ryan contradicts Trump's claim that the FBI planted a 'spy'

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a break with President Donald Trump, House Speaker Paul Ryan said Wednesday that he agrees there is no evidence that the FBI planted a "spy" in Trump's 2016 presidential campaign in an effort to hurt his chances at the polls.

He also issued a careful warning about Trump's recent assertion that he has the authority to pardon himself.

"I don't know the technical answer to that question, but I think obviously the answer is he shouldn't and no one is above the law," Ryan told reporters on Wednesday.

The comments come after Trump insisted in a series of angry tweets last month that the agency planted a spy "to help Crooked Hillary win," referring to his Democratic opponent Hillary Clinton.

There is a growing sense that Republicans are uncomfortable with those statements. Ryan, R-Wisc., is one of three congressional Republicans who have now contradicted Trump on the spying matter, including House Oversight and Government Reform Committee Chairman Trey Gowdy, R-S.C., and Senate Intelligence Committee Chairman Richard Burr, R-N.C.

Ryan, Gowdy and Burr all attended classified briefings on the matter late last month, following reports that the FBI used an informant in its Russian election meddling investigation to speak to members of the Trump campaign who had possible

connections to Russia. The Department of Justice held two briefings on Trump's orders after House Intelligence Committee Chairman Devin Nunes, R-Calif., had asked for documents concerning the informant. Trump said it was "starting to look like one of the biggest political scandals in U.S. history."

Gowdy said afterward that the FBI was doing its duty.

"I am even more convinced that the FBI did exactly what my fellow citizens would want them to do when they got the information they got," Gowdy said on Fox News last week. "And that it has nothing to do with Donald Trump."

Gowdy added, in a separate interview on CBS, that such informants are used all the time and "the FBI, if they were at the table this morning, they would tell you that Russia was the target and Russia's intentions toward our country were the target."

Ryan told reporters on Wednesday that he thinks Gowdy's "initial assessment is accurate," and he has seen "no evidence to the contrary" of what Gowdy said.

Hours after Ryan's comments, Burr told The Associated Press that he, too, agreed with Gowdy.

"I have no disagreement with the description Trey Gowdy gave," Burr said.

Democrats made similar comments immediately after the briefing. In a joint statement, the four Democrats who attended said "there is no evidence to support any allegation that



In this May 10, 2018 photo, Speaker of the House Paul Ryan, R-Wis., meets with reporters during his weekly news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington. AP

the FBI or any intelligence agency placed a 'spy' in the Trump Campaign, or otherwise failed to follow appropriate procedures and protocols."

That statement was issued by Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer, House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi, and the top Democrats on the Senate and House intelligence panels, Sen. Mark Warner of Virginia and Rep. Adam Schiff of California.

Despite the statements, some House lawmakers may continue to pursue the issue. Ryan said Con-

gress has "more digging to do" and that he wished they had gotten the information earlier. Nunes has said the committee is still waiting for documents, and Ryan backed him on that Wednesday.

"We have some more documents to review, we still have some unanswered questions," Ryan said.

Burr, however, appeared ready to move on, saying the briefing he attended "sufficiently covered everything to do with this right now."

The Justice Department

said late Wednesday it would extend an offer to top congressional lawmakers to brief them further and to provide another opportunity for the lawmakers to review "certain supporting documents" made available during the May 24 briefing. In a statement, the Justice Department said the department and the FBI "are prepared to brief members on certain questions specifically raised by the Speaker and other members." The department said the briefing could take place Monday or Tuesday

On the pardon issue, Ryan joined Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell in sending a subtle message to Trump. Trump recently said he has the "absolute right" to pardon himself if it were necessary — which Trump says it won't be, because "I have done nothing wrong." McConnell said Tuesday the question of whether Trump has legal authority to pardon himself is "an academic discussion," but Trump "obviously knows that would not be something that he would or should do."

Trump rarely conducts business as usual with foreign leaders

WASHINGTON (AP) — He hectoring Mexico's leader over border wall funding. Lobbed statistics at the Canadian leader without checking his facts. Cajoled the British prime minister to crack down on protesters. Had a tête-à-tête with Russia's head of state on a whim. Bonded with France's president over military parades.

President Donald Trump rarely conducts business-as-usual diplomacy when he interacts with world leaders.

Heading into his expected summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, Trump has a record on the international stage that suggests he'll seek to charm the dictator and look for an agreement that he can pitch as a win — even if it's more a triumph of appearance than policy. But never bet against the possibility that he'll just walk away.

Trump's unpredictable negotiating style has been on full display in the run-up to the historic June 12 summit in Singapore.

After months spent deriding Kim as "Little Rocket Man" and boasting about the size of his nuclear button, Trump has shifted tone in recent months, suggesting that a friendship was possible

and agreeing to an unprecedented meeting.

Even when Trump temporarily backed out of the talks, he spoke of a "wonderful dialogue" building between the two leaders. And now that the talks are back on, Trump is shelving the "maximum pressure" phrase he coined to describe his sanctions against the North.

As he approaches the Kim talks, Trump's avowed "America First" attitude has come increasingly to resemble "America alone." His eagerness for a deal has unsettled Japan and South Korea. Elsewhere, talk of tearing up trade agreements and his imposition of tariffs to protect the American steel and aluminum industries have angered longtime partners.

An overriding theme of the president's first 18 months of foreign policy has been his willingness to go it alone as he seeks to fulfill his nationalistic campaign promises — even if it unsettles allies.

"He just doesn't care as much," said Ian Bremmer, a foreign affairs columnist and president of the Eurasia Group. "In terms of postwar American history, no one has done more damage to American alliances than Trump has. All

you have to do is talk to American allies."

Critics have labeled Trump an inconsistent force, prone to publicly hectoring friendly partners, embracing foes and resistant to much advice or counsel. His loyal supporters see it all as a mark of Trump's willingness to hold firm to his promised policies even when the conversations get awkward.

After nearly two years spent trying to understand the political novice, many world leaders are still struggling with how to engage Trump, though they have learned he is not easily moved from fulfilling the policies he promised to his most loyal voters during the campaign.

Foreign diplomats in the U.S. and leaders overseas have gone to great lengths to charm Trump, a rookie president schooled in New York negotiating who promised a major shift in foreign policy. Those efforts have included getting their messages on to Trump-friendly TV shows like "Fox and Friends" and rolling out the red carpet when Trump visits.

In France, President Emmanuel Macron invited Trump to view a spectacular military parade on Bastille Day, one that inspired

Trump to order up his own parade in Washington. In Japan, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe fêted Trump with golf and American-style hamburgers.

But those overtures haven't always yielded policy results.

Macron tried unsuccessfully to keep Trump in the Paris climate accord and the Iran nuclear deal. Abe wanted Trump to stay in the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal and has encouraged a more skeptical approach to Kim's overtures.

White House officials privately assess that the world leaders most solicitous toward Trump are rarely the most effective. Germany's Angela Merkel and Britain's Theresa May, for instance, have both largely refused to play into Trump's love for pageantry and have been candid about their disagreements with the president.

Indeed, even those who were inclined to buddy up to Trump appear to be changing course. During an April summit at Trump's Mar-a-Lago, Abe and Trump engaged in what U.S. officials described as a heated economic dialogue over Trump's tariffs.

Just last week, Trump imposed new tariffs on the European Union, Canada

and Mexico, despite furious lobbying from those countries. Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said: "These tariffs are an affront to the long-standing security partnership between Canada and the United States."

Trump, meanwhile, has focused much of his attention on adversaries rather than allies, seeking to sit down with Kim and routinely praising Russian President Vladimir Putin. Fixated on his celebrity and tough-guy image, Trump cares deeply about the pageantry of his interactions with world leaders and also values what he considers respectful treatment.

That tone was set on Trump's first international trip, when Saudi Arabia gave him an opulent welcome. More than a dozen horses flanked the presidential limousine as Trump was slowly driven to the Royal Court in Riyadh. Trumpets played and soldiers stood at attention as the president arrived.

Trump declared the spectacle "very impressive."

A key theme in Trump's calls with foreign leaders has been his need for respect.

He badgered Mexico's president over funding

for his border wall, which he views as a face-saving fulfillment of a campaign promise. He nudged the British prime minister to do something about potential protests should he visit the U.K., a potential embarrassment for a diplomatic visit.

Trump rarely sweats the small stuff.

When it comes to policy meetings and delicate negotiations, Trump is more likely to follow his instincts than stick to a scripted plan. His admission of stretching his information about trade in a call with Trudeau was in keeping with a seat-of-the-pants style that can leave advisers nervous.

Advisers say Trump avoids spending extensive time in preparation. He grew frustrated with former national security adviser H.R. McMaster and his briefing style, though he is said to listen more to Secretary of State Mike Pompeo. Still, Trump is not a fan of detailed briefing books, preferring limited preparation and instinct.

Those close to Trump say he is approaching the Kim meeting the same way.

Hawaii volcano gives experts clues to boost science

HONOLULU (AP) — Hawaii's Kilauea volcano may be disrupting life in paradise with its bursts of ash and bright-orange lava, but it also has scientists wide-eyed, eager to advance what's known about volcanoes.

The good news is: Volcanoes reveal secrets when they're rumbling, which means Kilauea is producing a bonanza of information.

While scientists monitored Big Island lava flows in 1955 and 1960, equipment then was far less sophisticated. Given new technology, they can now gather and study an unprecedented volume of data.

"Geophysical monitoring techniques that have come online in the last 20 years have now been deployed at Kilauea," said George Bergantz, professor of earth and space sciences at the University of Washington. "We have this remarkable opportunity ... to see many more scales of behavior both preceding and during this current volcanic crisis."

Starting May 3, Kilauea has fountained lava and flung ash and rocks from its summit, destroying hundreds of homes, closing key highways and prompting health warnings. Kilauea is one of five volcanos that form the Big Island, and is a "shield" volcano — built up over time as lava flows layer on top of layer.

Technically speaking, it has been continuously erupting since 1983. But the recent combination of earthquakes shaking the ground, steam-driven explosions at the top, and lava creeping into a new area some 12 miles (20 kilometers) from the summit represents a departure from its behavior over the past 35 years, said Erik Klemetti, a volcanologist at Ohio's Denison University.

What's happening now is a bit more like the Kilauea of nearly a century ago. In 1924, steam explosions at the summit lasted for more than two weeks.

Scientists are looking into what caused the change and whether this shift in the volcano's magma plumbing system will become the new normal.

Radar allows researchers to measure the height of ash plumes shooting from the summit, even when they occur at night. Plume heights are an effect of how much heat energy is released and



In this May 19, 2018, file photo released by the U.S. Geological Survey, lava flows from fissures near Pahoehoe, Hawaii. Technically speaking, Kilauea has been continuously erupting since 1983. But the combination of earthquakes shaking the ground, steam-driven explosions at the top, and lava flowing into a new area some 12 miles from the summit represents a departure from its behavior in recent decades.

the explosion's intensity.

"It's one of the key factors that dictates how far ash will be dispersed," said Charles Mandeville, volcano hazards coordinator for the U.S. Geological Survey. The other is where the winds are blowing. Such knowledge is useful in alerting the public.

Scientists can also monitor where gas is emerging, as well as determine its composition and volume. They can even measure the subtle rise and fall of the ground over a broad area and time — down to seconds — which suggests when and where magma is pooling underground.

Discovering variations or correlations between past and present activity provides more clues on what's happening. It also helps scientists understand past lava flows,

anticipate what could occur next, and pinpoint signs or patterns before an eruption.

"You're sort of zeroing in on finer and finer levels of detail into how the volcano works," said Michael Poland, a U.S. Geological Survey volcanologist. "The more stuff you put on the volcano to make measurements, the more you realize there's stuff going on that you never knew."

Better technology has also meant U.S. Geological Survey scientists have been able to accurately forecast Kilauea's behavior as it sputters over Puna, the island's most affected district.

"They've been spot on," said Janine Krippner, a volcanologist at Concord University in West Virginia. "It's incredible — they're looking at things happening below the

surface, using the monitoring equipment that they have, the knowledge they have of past eruptions, and have been able to get people to not be in a deadly area."

This is unfortunately not always possible, as nature can be unpredictable. On June 3, Guatemala's Volcano of Fire sent a mixture of hot gas, rock and other material racing down its slopes and inundating the valley, killing nearly 100 people.

Krippner compared the Guatemala eruption to opening a can of soda after shaking it vigorously. Volcanic gas underneath created bubbles that expanded, increasing pressure that blew magma apart when it reached the surface, spewing cooled lava rocks ranging from the size of sand grains to boulders.

Explosions can be bigger, or occur differently, than expected, and that presents a learning opportunity for scientists, who work on computer models to map out areas that may be at higher risk in the future. "Looking at the footage afterward, we can start to tease out how these things actually work," Krippner said, as it's often too dangerous for experts to physically get close to an eruption.

Volcanic eruptions happen fairly regularly — as many as 60 occur worldwide each year — but many are in isolated areas, according to the U.S. Geological Survey.

After Kilauea's 1924 summit explosions, the volcano entered a decade of piddly rumbles, followed by 18 years of silence. Experts say

Kilauea may be heading toward years — even decades — of little or no activity.

For now, volcanologists feel a "tremendous amount of responsibility" to learn as much as possible from the volcano, Poland said. Its latest activity has destroyed about 400 homes — including about 280 over the last several days — and displaced thousands of residents. Lava from Kilauea has also downed power lines and knifed across highways.

"It's coming at a great cost in terms of impact on the lives and livelihoods of so many people — we owe it to the people of Puna to make sure that we learn the lessons the volcano is teaching us," Poland said.

Refugee Syrian chef turns nocturnal in Ramadan

WASHINGTON (AP) — The streets of Washington are dark and empty when Majed Abdalraheem first arrives at Union Kitchen, a shared commercial cooking space in a warehouse on the city's northeast side. By 4 a.m., he has already made headway on preparing a meal for 150 people.

Just before dawn, the 29-year old pauses to gulp down water and say a brief prayer under his breath before getting back to mixing a large bowl of chopped chicken with spices for a popular Syrian dish called shawarma.

During Ramadan, the holy month that began on May 16 and ends on June 14 when devout Muslims abstain from all food and drink between dawn and sunset, Abdalraheem works a customized nocturnal schedule. The Syrian refugee, who cooks for a meal delivery service called Foodhini, starts his working day around 2 a.m. That way he doesn't have to spend his

days over a hot stove without being able to drink water.

"The grill makes you thirsty," Abdalraheem said. "That kind of work while you're fasting is very difficult."

Abdalraheem has faced far greater challenges: A native of the Syrian city of Deraa — the birthplace of the Syrian revolution — he was working as a chef in Damascus when he decided to flee his war-torn homeland in 2013. He ended up as a refugee in neighboring Jordan, where he married his wife, Walaa Jadallah, a distant relative from Syria and a fellow refugee.

"Three years in Jordan felt like 30," Jadallah said.

Conditions in the Zaatari refugee camp were atrocious. Life in Jordan was expensive, and as a refugee, Abdalraheem wasn't allowed to work legally. He took under-the-table odd jobs as a chef, cashier and newspaper deliveryman.

At one point, he was

rounded up by police while on a newspaper run and spent 10 days in jail for working illegally. Jadallah was pregnant with their first child and thought the whole family would be deported back to a disintegrating Syria.

"I was tearing my hair out. It was the worst day of my life," she said.

In June 2016, months before the American presidential election, the family was approved to come to Tucson, Arizona. As the campaign reached full swing, so did the rhetoric surrounding immigrants and refugees, propelled by presidential candidate Donald Trump.

"I don't know ... Trump maybe not like refugee," Abdalraheem says he remembers thinking at the time. "I thought people would be hostile and wouldn't accept us. In Jordan, we would hear that (Americans) don't like refugees, especially Syrians."

But those misgivings were quickly dismissed the first

time Abdalraheem wandered out to learn the Tucson bus system and buy some household supplies.

"I was amazed that the first people I met on the street smiled at me without even knowing me," he recalled. "Then the people after that smiled and said 'Hi.' It was strange to me."

After eight months, Abdalraheem, Jadallah and their two daughters moved to a small apartment in Riverdale, Maryland, just outside of Washington.

Shortly afterward, Abdalraheem found work with Foodhini.

Company founder and CEO Noobtsaa Philip Vang, the son of Hmong refugees from Laos, felt connected to stories of migration and asylum.

After arriving in Washington for graduate school, Vang found himself missing his mother's home-cooked Laotian meals. So he decided to find someone in the local

community who could cook just as well. From there, the idea expanded to include immigrant and refugee chefs from other countries to develop their own personalized menus that Washington residents can order for meals or catering services.

"People are aware of the situations that are abroad, but maybe they haven't really been able to even connect with a refugee," Vang said. "I think what's cool is we can kind of bridge those two worlds."

Customers say they get the satisfaction from a tasty meal and a deeper understanding of stories like Abdalraheem's.

"It's a win-win. I get his food and I also can feel that I'm helping him through what must be just an incredibly difficult, difficult time," said Danielle Frum, who frequently orders from Foodhini.

Abdalraheem may run his own operation at work, but at home he jokes that his job is

to be the sous chef for Jadallah.

"Manager kitchen — my wife," Abdalraheem says in broken English with a hearty laugh.

The two dance around each other in the close quarters of their small home, as they bring out dishes of fattah, kabsa and fattoush to the table.

Just before iftar time — the evening meal to break the Ramadan fast — a neighbor knocks on the door. It's the son of the Iraqi immigrant family upstairs. He's brought several dishes to share, a gesture of Ramadan kindness that will be reciprocated by Abdalraheem and his wife in the coming days.

Their whole apartment complex is filled with immigrants and refugees from around the world. A sign outside the gate proclaims, "We Welcome Refugees."



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Dining Russian-style at the World Cup

MOSCOW (AP) — For many fans of food and football, a World Cup in Russia is unfamiliar territory.

Russian cuisine has a reputation for being stodgy, unimaginative fare. While that may have been true for many in the days of Soviet supply shortages, a new generation of Russians in the World Cup's host cities mix together influences from across Europe and Asia.

Russia's imperial past also makes it a great place to encounter unfamiliar dishes from neighboring countries like Georgia's spicy stews or Central Asia's hearty rice-and-lamb concoctions.

Here's a look at what you can eat in Russia:

SANCTIONS

Russia's food scene was shaken in 2014 when the government banned the import of most foodstuffs from the European Union and the United States. That was in response to international sanctions against Russia over its annexation of Crimea from Ukraine.

That's driven up prices for some ingredients, particularly fruit and dairy products, but also stimulated a revival of Russia's agricultural sector.

Cheesemaker Oleg Sirota wants to use the World Cup to sell his tilsiter, parmesan and gouda from his creamery near Moscow.

"We will be testing our cheese on football fans who are coming to the World Cup. There will be lots of them, the French national team will be staying two kilometers (1.25 miles) away from us," he told the Associated Press. "I hope that even the most sophisticated clients won't tell our cheese from European ones."

Sanctions also mean top-end restaurants, particularly in Moscow, have started reimagining obscure Russian dishes, working with meats like boar, venison and even bear.

TRADITION

In a country with a cold climate, Russian food is big on what you might think of as winter ingredients — cabbage and root vegetables — and pies filled with beef, potato or fish.

The beetroot soup known as borscht is actually a traditionally Polish and Ukrainian dish, but expect to find it all over Russia.

Another soup, shchi, is more traditionally Russian. Don't be put off by the intimidating name — pronounced "shi" with a soft "sh". Cabbage is the one constant ingredient, but beef, onion and mushroom can be added.

In traditionally Muslim Kazan, expect to find local delicacies such as echnpochmak, triangular lamb dumplings like samosas which are the local snack food.

MODERN TWIST

Russia's traditionally gone easy on seasoning because of the high cost of spices in earlier eras, but that's starting to change.

While you might still see a menu which flags dishes up as "spicy" if they contain so much as a little paprika, restaurants are starting to experiment with a little more spice.

Still, chili sauce definitely isn't a standard condiment



In this Friday, Nov. 11, 2011 file photo, businessman Yevgeny Prigozhin, left, serves food to then-Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, center, during dinner at Prigozhin's restaurant outside Moscow, Russia.



In this Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2017 file photo, Russian cheese maker Oleg Sirota holds a cheese wheel while speaking to the Associated Press, in Istra district, about 80 kilometers outside Moscow, Russia.

and some dishes may seem a little bland to fans of Mexican or South Asian food.

For a reserve option, most big Russian cities have other options like Italian or sushi restaurants, or a European-style gastropub with gourmet burgers and craft beer.

SOVIET SNACKS

After a thirsty day at the game, what do you eat along with your beer?

Ever since the Soviet era, Russians go crazy for beer snacks, typically dried fish and seafood. Some of the best selections are in Volga River cities like Samara, Volgograd and Kazan — all of which are hosting World Cup games.

Potato chips and beef

jerky have gained popularity too in recent decades.

EMPIRE EATS

Just like the British Empire absorbed food influences from India, the Caribbean and Africa, so Russia's imperial past has introduced its citizen's taste buds to new flavors.

The South Caucasus countries of Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan specialize in spice, along with juicy meat-filled dumplings and succulent grilled meat known as shashlyk. Each country has its own specialties and the diasporas mean numerous restaurants across the host cities.

Central Asian cultures like Uzbekistan introduced

Russians to the juicy, greasy lamb-and-rice stew that is plov, now a firm favorite. Moscow has some more unusual options like huge, kimchi-stuffed Korean-style dumplings from the Far East called pyan-se, and Mongolian restaurants specializing in quality organic lamb.

RESTAURANT CULTURE

Russian restaurant service has improved hugely in recent years, with a greater focus on the customer. Don't expect staff to check in regularly during a meal — Russians prefer to eat and chat in peace.

Moscow and St. Petersburg prices will be comparable to other European cap-

itals, a reflection of higher rents and wages, but in provincial cities like Saransk a main course at a restaurant could easily come in below \$10.

One quirk of Russian restaurateurs — they prefer printing a few elaborate, leather-bound menus over a greater number of simpler ones. Don't be surprised if you're left waiting to see a menu when you arrive.

DRINKS

Vodka's definitely still popular in Russia, especially for ritual toasts at celebrations like weddings — when everyone's expected to down a shot in one. Still, there's more to the drink scene.

South-western Russia pro-

duces a lot of wine, though many Russians favor sweet or fortified reds which can be a little unusual to Western drinkers.

Varieties from Georgia like the saperavi red or rkatsiteli white offer something dry with a little more depth.

When the ruble plunged in 2014, it sent the price of imported beer soaring and gave a jolt to Russia's nascent craft beer industry. Most big cities now have two or three breweries churning out citrusy IPAs and coffee stouts.

Non-alcoholic options include mors, a traditional drink made from cranberries offering a characteristic sweet-and-sour experience.

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COOKING ON A DEADLINE

A BLT showcases dueling dynamics

BY KATIE WORKMAN
Associated Press

As summer nears and the promise of perfect tomatoes peeks up over the horizon, the prospect of an excellent BLT shines brightly. What is interesting to me about a BLT is the dueling dynamics of how the ingredients join together in this sandwich.

On the one hand, the bread, bacon, lettuce and tomatoes all become one better-than-the-sum-of-its-parts whole. On the other hand, the ingredients still manage to remain distinct. You're aware of the crisp-tender bread, the juicy lush tomatoes, the crunchy lettuce, the salty frizzled-up bacon and the mayonnaise pulling the components together. E pluribus unum.

I've ratcheted up the classic BLT a notch or two here by adding tarragon to the mayo, not only inside the sandwich but also on the outside of the bread before it's griddled, to give extra flavor and caramelizing.

What makes it a California BLT is the addition of avocado and sprouts.

Buy good bacon. Use good mayo. Find a great tomato. Make sure your avocado is ripe. After that, all you have to do is assemble, and you will have a fantastic sandwich.

CALIFORNIA BLT'S

Servings: 4 sandwiches
Start to finish: 25 minutes



This October 2017 photo shows a California BLT in New York. AP

<p>8 slices thick-cut bacon, halved crosswise 1/2 cup mayonnaise 2 teaspoons minced tarragon 2 teaspoons fresh lemon juice Kosher salt and freshly ground pepper to taste 8 slices good bread, country white, sourdough, multigrain, your choice 1/2 teaspoon finely minced garlic 1 large tomato, sliced 1 avocado, peeled, pit removed, and sliced</p>	<p>4 slices romaine heart lettuce, sliced crosswise 1/3 cup sprouts, such as broccoli sprouts</p> <p>Preheat the oven to 400 F, and place a wire cooling rack in a rimmed baking sheet.</p> <p>Lay the bacon on the wire rack and bake for 15 to 20 minutes, until crisp (the bacon will crisp up a bit more as it cools, so take it out when it still has some pliability).</p> <p>Meanwhile, in a small bowl, combine the mayonnaise, tar-</p>	<p>ragon, lemon juice, and salt and pepper. Spread a thin layer of the mayonnaise mixture on one side of each of the slices of bread. (You should use less than half the mayo mixture). Heat a large skillet over medium heat. Place as many of the bread slices in the skillet as will fit, mayo side down. Allow to cook until very lightly brown, about 2 minutes, then remove from the skillet and repeat with the remaining slices. Set aside.</p> <p>Stir the minced garlic into the rest of the mayo mixture. Divide</p>	<p>the remaining mayo mixture over the bread slices, on the untoasted side. Layer the tomato, avocado, lettuce and a generous pinch of sprouts on top of the bread. Top with the remaining slices of bread, toasted side up. Cut in half, and serve.</p> <p><i>Nutrition information per serving: 473 calories; 229 calories from fat; 25 g fat (5 g saturated; 0 g trans fats); 18 mg cholesterol; 899 mg sodium; 52 g carbohydrate; 5 g fiber; 8 g sugar; 14 g protein.</i></p>
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What the secret to making great whoopie pies? Brown sugar

By AMERICA'S TEST KITCHEN

Made up of two cookie-like chocolate cakes stuffed with the gills with fluffy marshmallow filling, the whoopie pie is a sweet indulgence.

For the cake component, we drew inspiration from devil's food cake, creaming butter with sugar, adding eggs and buttermilk for tenderness, and using all-purpose flour and baking soda for the right amount of structure.

For the chocolate flavor, we preferred the darker color and flavor that Dutch-processed cocoa provided. One-half cup of cocoa delivered a balanced flavor, especially when boosted with a splash of vanilla extract.

We tried replacing some of the granulated sugar with brown sugar, and found that it deepened flavor and added moisture. In fact, we liked the results so much we wound up using all brown sugar.

Using a 1/3-cup dry measuring cup, we portioned the batter onto two baking sheets to give the cakes plenty of room to spread. For the filling, we eschewed the traditional sugar and lard in favor of marshmallow creme, which we enriched with butter for a mixture that was fluffy yet firm. Don't be tempted to bake all the cakes on one baking sheet; the batter needs room to spread while it bakes.

WHOOPIE PIES

Makes: 6 sandwich cookies
Start to finish: 1 hour



This undated photo provided by America's Test Kitchen in May 2018 shows whoopie pies in Brookline, Mass. AP

<p>Cakes</p> <p>2 cups (10 ounces) all-purpose flour 1/2 cup (1 1/2 ounces) Dutch-processed cocoa powder 1 teaspoon baking soda 1/2 teaspoon salt 8 tablespoons unsalted butter, softened</p>	<p>1 cup packed (7 ounces) light brown sugar 1 large egg, room temperature 1 teaspoon vanilla extract 1 cup buttermilk</p>	<p>1 1/4 cups (5 ounces) confectioners' sugar 1 1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract 1/8 teaspoon salt 2 1/2 cups marshmallow creme</p> <p>Filling</p> <p>12 tablespoons unsalted butter, softened</p>	<p>For the cakes Adjust oven racks to upper-middle and lower-middle positions and heat oven to 350 F. Line two baking sheets with parchment</p>	<p>paper. Whisk flour, cocoa, baking soda, and salt together in bowl.</p> <p>Using stand mixer fitted with paddle, beat butter and sugar on medium speed until pale and fluffy, about 3 minutes. Add egg and beat until incorporated, scraping down bowl as needed. Add vanilla and mix until incorporated. Reduce speed to low and add flour mixture in 3 additions, alternating with buttermilk in 2 additions. Give batter final stir by hand to ensure that no flour pockets remain. Using 1/3-cup dry measuring cup, scoop 6 mounds of batter onto each prepared sheet, spaced about 3 inches apart. Bake until centers spring back when lightly pressed, 15 to 18 minutes, switching and rotating sheets halfway through baking. Let cakes cool completely on sheets.</p> <p>For the filling Using stand mixer fitted with paddle, beat butter and sugar on medium speed until fluffy, about 3 minutes. Beat in vanilla and salt. Add marshmallow creme and mix until combined, about 2 minutes. Refrigerate until slightly firm, about 30 minutes. (Filling can be refrigerated for up to 2 days.) Place 1/3 cup filling on bottom of half of cakes, then top with remaining cakes, pressing to spread filling to edge. Serve. (Whoopie pies can be refrigerated for up to 3 days.)</p> <p><i>Nutrition information per serving: 923 calories; 364 calories from fat; 41 g fat (25 g saturated; 2 g trans fats); 141 mg cholesterol; 555 mg sodium; 131 g carbohydrate; 2 g fiber; 81 g sugar; 9 g protein.</i></p>
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Obama-era license aimed to let Iran convert money in dollars

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration secretly sought to give Iran access — albeit briefly — to the U.S. financial system by sidestepping sanctions kept in place after the 2015 nuclear deal, despite repeatedly telling Congress and the public it had no plans to do so.

An investigation by Senate Republicans released Wednesday sheds light on the delicate balance the Obama administration sought to strike after the deal, as it worked to ensure Iran received its promised benefits without playing into the hands of the deal's opponents. Amid a tense political climate, Iran hawks in the U.S., Israel and elsewhere argued that the United States was giving far too much to Tehran and that the windfall would be used to fund extremism and other troubling Iranian activity.

The report by the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations revealed that under President Barack Obama, the Treasury Department issued a license in February 2016, never previously disclosed, that would have allowed Iran to convert \$5.7 billion it held at a bank in Oman from Omani rials into euros by exchanging them first into U.S. dollars. If the Omani bank had allowed the exchange without such a license, it would have violated sanctions that bar Iran from transactions that touch the U.S. financial system.

The effort was unsuccessful because American banks — themselves afraid of running afoul of U.S. sanctions — declined to participate. The Obama administration approached two U.S. banks to facilitate the conversion, the report said, but both refused, citing the reputational risk of doing business with or for Iran.

"The Obama administration misled the American people and Congress because they were desperate to get a deal with Iran," said Sen. Rob Portman, R-Ohio, the subcommittee's chairman.

Issuing the license was not illegal. Still, it went above and beyond what the Obama administration was required to do under the terms of the nuclear agreement. Under that deal, the U.S. and world

powers gave Iran billions of dollars in sanctions relief in exchange for curbing its nuclear program. Last month, President Donald Trump declared the U.S. was pulling out of what he described as a "disastrous deal."

The license issued to Bank Muscat stood in stark contrast to repeated public statements from the Obama White House, the Treasury and the State Department, all of which denied that the administration was contemplating allowing Iran access to the U.S. financial system.

Shortly after the nuclear deal was sealed in July 2015, then-Treasury Secretary Jack Lew testified that even with the sanctions relief, Iran "will continue to be denied access to the world's largest financial and commercial market." A month later, one of Lew's top deputies, Adam Szubin, testified that despite the nuclear deal "Iran will be denied access to the world's most important market and unable to deal in the world's most important currency."

Yet almost immediately after the sanctions relief took effect in January 2016, Iran began to complain that it wasn't reaping the benefits it had envisioned. Iran argued that other sanctions — such as those linked to human rights, terrorism and missile development — were scaring off potential investors and banks who feared any business with Iran would lead to punishment. The global financial system is heavily intertwined with U.S. banks, making it nearly impossible to conduct many international transactions without touching New York in one way or another.

Former Obama administration officials declined to comment for the record.

However, they said the decision to grant the license had been made in line with the spirit of the deal, which included allowing Iran to regain access to foreign reserves that had been off-limits because of the sanctions. They said public comments made by the Obama administration at the time were intended to dispel incorrect reports about nonexistent proposals that would have gone much farther by letting Iran actually buy or sell things in dollars.



In this April 16, 2018, file photo, Sen. Rob Portman, R-Ohio, speaks during a news conference in Cincinnati. The Obama administration secretly sought to give Iran brief access to the U.S. financial system by sidestepping sanctions kept in place after the 2015 nuclear deal, despite repeatedly telling Congress and the public it had no plans to do so.

The former officials spoke on condition of anonymity because many are still involved in national security issues.

As the Obama administration pondered how to address Iran's complaints in 2016, reports in The Associated Press and other media outlets revealed that the U.S. was considering additional sanctions relief, including issuing licenses that would allow Iran limited transactions in dollars. Democratic and Republican lawmakers argued against it throughout the late winter, spring and summer of 2016. They warned that unless Tehran was willing to give up more, the U.S. shouldn't give Iran anything more than it already had.

At the time, the Obama administration downplayed those concerns while speaking in general terms about the need for the U.S. to live up to its part of the deal. Secretary of State John Kerry and other top aides fanned out across Europe, Asia and the Middle East trying to convince banks

and businesses they could do business with Iran without violating sanctions and facing steep fines.

"Since Iran has kept its end of the deal, it is our responsibility to uphold ours, in both letter and spirit," Lew said at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in March 2016, without offering details.

That same week, the AP reported that the Treasury had prepared a draft of a license that would have given Iran much broader permission to convert its assets from foreign currencies into easier-to-spend currencies like euros, yen or rupees, by first exchanging them for dollars at offshore financial institutions.

The draft involved a general license, a blanket go-ahead that allows all transactions of a certain type, rather than a specific license like the one given to Oman's Bank Muscat, which only covers specific transactions and institutions. The proposal would have allowed dollars to be

used in currency exchanges provided that no Iranian banks, no Iranian rials and no sanctioned Iranian individuals or businesses were involved, and that the transaction did not begin or end in U.S. dollars.

Obama administration officials at the time assured concerned lawmakers that a general license wouldn't be coming. But the report from the Republican members of the Senate panel showed that a draft of the license was indeed prepared, though it was never published.

And when questioned by lawmakers about the possibility of granting Iran any kind of access to the U.S. financial system, Obama-era officials never volunteered that the specific license for Bank Muscat in Oman had been issued two months earlier.

According to the report, Iran is believed to have found other ways to access its money, possibly by exchanging it in smaller quantities through another currency.

The situation resulted from the fact that Iran had stored billions in Omani rials, a currency that's notoriously hard to convert. The U.S. dollar is the world's dominant currency, so allowing it to be used as a conversion instrument for Iranian assets was the easiest and most efficient way to speed up Iran's access to its own funds.

For example: If the Iranians want to sell oil to India, they would likely want to be paid in euros instead of rupees, so they could more easily use the proceeds to purchase European goods. That process commonly starts with the rupees being converted into dollars, just for a moment, before being converted once again into euros.

U.S. sanctions block Iran from exchanging the money on its own. And Asian and European banks are wary because U.S. regulators have levied billions of dollars in fines in recent years and threatened transgressors with a cutoff from the far more lucrative American market.

Trustees report warns Medicare finances worsening

WASHINGTON (AP) — Medicare will run out of money sooner than expected, and Social Security's financial problems can't be ignored either, the government said Tuesday in a sobering checkup on programs vital to the middle class.

The report from program trustees says Medicare will become insolvent in 2026 — three years earlier than previously forecast. Its giant trust fund for inpatient care won't be able to fully cover projected medical bills starting at that point.

The report says Social Security will become insolvent in 2034 — no change from the projection last year.

The warning serves as a reminder of major issues still languishing while Washington plunges deeper into partisan strife. Because of the deterioration in Medicare's finances, officials said the Trump administration will be required by law to send Congress a plan next year to address the problems, after the president's budget is sub-

mitted. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said in a statement that there's time to fix the problems. "The programs remain secure," Mnuchin said. Medicare "is on track to meet its obligations to beneficiaries well into the next decade."

"However, certain long-term issues persist," the statement added. "Lack-luster economic growth in previous years, coupled with an aging population, has contributed to the projected shortages for both Social Security and Medicare."

Social Security recipients are likely to see a cost of living increase of about 2.4 percent next year, said government number-crunchers who produced the report. That works out to about \$31 a month.

At the same time, the monthly Medicare "Part B" premium for outpatient care paid by most beneficiaries is projected to rise by about \$1.50, to \$135.50.

Both the cost-of-living

increase and the Medicare outpatient premium are not officially determined until later in the year, and the initial projections can change.

More than 62 million retirees, disabled workers, spouses and surviving children receive Social Security benefits. The average monthly payment is \$1,294 for all beneficiaries. Medicare provides health insurance for about 60 million people, most of whom are age 65 or older.

Together the two programs have been credited with dramatically reducing poverty among older people and extending life expectancy for Americans. Financed with payroll taxes collected from workers and employers, Social Security and Medicare account for about 40 percent of government spending, excluding interest on the federal debt.

But demands on both programs are increasing as America ages.

Unless lawmakers act, both programs face the prospect of

being unable to cover the full cost of promised benefits. With Social Security that could mean sharply reduced payments for retirees, many of whom are already on tight budgets. The report said the total annual cost of Social Security is projected to exceed total annual income in 2018 for the first time since the Reagan era, meaning the program will have to tap into reserves.

For Medicare, insolvency would mean that hospitals, nursing homes and other providers of medical care would be paid only part of their agreed-upon fees.

Medicare is widely seen as a more difficult problem that goes beyond the growing number of baby boomers retiring. It's also the unpredictability of health care costs, which can be jolted by high-priced breakthrough cures, and which regularly outpace the overall rate of economic growth.

The Cabinet secretaries for Treasury, Health and Human Services, and Labor usually

participate in the annual release of the report, along with the Social Security commissioner, and take questions from reporters. None of those top officials was present Tuesday; an aide cited scheduling conflicts.

The four top officials serve as the Social Security and Medicare trustees, along with two independent trustees who are supposed to represent the public. The public trustees are usually more candid, but those posts remain unfilled.

President Donald Trump campaigned on a promise not to cut Social Security or Medicare, but he hasn't offered a blueprint for either program.

Democrats, meanwhile, want to extend the social safety net by spending more on health care and education. Advocates for the elderly said Tuesday there should be no cuts to Social Security benefits.

But federal deficits keep rising, and the recent Republican tax-cut bill is expected to add to the debt.

Last year's tax law, which cut taxes on Social Security benefits, helped exacerbate the shortfall. So too did repeal of the individual mandate in so-called Obamacare, which promises to increase the number of people without health insurance and therefore Medicare payments for uncompensated medical care.

Higher deficits mean less maneuvering room for policymakers when the day of reckoning finally arrives for Social Security and Medicare.

In principle, the U.S. is supposed to be paying forward its Social Security and Medicare obligations by building up trust funds to cover future costs. That money is invested in special government securities, which also collect interest. But when the money is actually needed to pay for benefits, economists say a government deep in debt could be hard pressed to make good.

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Hawaii volcano lava destroys hundreds of homes overnight

HONOLULU (AP) — Lava from Hawaii's Kilauea volcano destroyed hundreds more homes overnight, overtaking two oceanfront communities where residents were advised to evacuate last week, officials said Tuesday.

No injuries were reported as most residents heeded the advice to leave.

The latest lost homes were in addition to at least 117 others that were previously reported by officials since lava began spilling last month from cracks in the ground in a mostly rural district of the Big Island.

"We don't have an estimate yet, but safe to say that hundreds of homes were lost in Kapoho Beach Lots and Vacationland last night," Janet Snyder, a spokeswoman for Hawaii County, said Tuesday.

A morning overflight confirmed that lava had completely filled Kapoho Bay, inundated most of Vacationland and covered all but the northern part of Kapoho Beach Lots, scientists with the U.S. Geological Survey's Hawaiian Volcano Observatory said.

Despite earlier reports that lava claimed Big Island Mayor Harry Kim's second home in Vacationland, an aerial flyover confirmed his home is still standing, Snyder said.

County Managing Director Wil Okabe said his own vacation home in Kapoho Beach Lots was threatened. Okabe described the area as a mix of vacation rentals and year-round residences.

"For us it's more of a vacation area, but for those who live there permanently, they're trying to figure out where they're going to be living," he said. Kim and Okabe live in Hilo, the county's seat, which is more than an hour drive from the Kapoho area.

One shelter was full Tuesday, officials said.

Gov. David Ige signed a second supplemental emergency proclamation Tuesday that gives the county more options for shelters and sets criminal penalties for violating emergency rules, such as failing to evacuate and interfering with emergency workers.

Lava claimed Harry Pomerleau's home in Vacationland.

"It's a necessary evil. It's not our land. It belongs to Pele," he said, referring to the Hawaiian volcano goddess. "I have to imagine she knows what she's doing."

Kapoho resident Mark Johnson was coming to terms with the possibility of losing his home and 5-acre citrus farm.

"I'm really kind of at peace actually," he said. "I've had 28 years of wonderful experience down there in Kapoho."

Johnson and Pomerleau evacuated last week when authorities with bullhorns arrived at 1 a.m. saying it was time to get their things and leave.

They didn't expect the lava flow to head their way.

"God only knows what it's going to do next," Johnson said.



In this May 19, 2018 photo, lava from Kilauea volcano can be seen lighting the night sky from Kapoho resident Mark Johnson's citrus farm near Pahoa, Hawaii.

He wants to return if lava spares his home on a ridge overlooking the ocean. But it's unclear how long it would take to re-open access to the area, he said.

Pomerleau said all of the vacation homes he did handyman work for are gone.

Thousands of people in the Puna area had to evacuate after the first fissure opened May 3. Officials issued man-

datory orders for residents of Leilani Estates, and those in Kapoho Beach and Vacationland were advised to leave last Friday or risk being trapped and unreachable by emergency crews.

Homes in Kapoho Beach Lots and Vacationland are on smaller lots and closer together than those in other parts of the Puna district. Okabe estimated there are sev-

eral hundred homes in each of the two subdivisions.

Those who live or vacation in the area were mourning the loss of popular tide-pools where kids enjoyed swimming.

"That coastline is really important to us— a place where we spent time with our family," said Franny Brewer who lives in upper Puna.

She reminisced about taking her daughter to swim in the ocean for the first time in a local swimming spot known as Champagne Ponds.

"I've been crying a lot," she said. "It's hard because obviously a lot of people have lost a lot more than just a beautiful place to visit and memories."

Spade remembered as vibrant and colorful, like her creations

NEW YORK (AP) — Bright. Vibrant. Colorful. And, most essentially, fun.

The same words used so often to describe Kate Spade's enormously popular handbags — "It" bags that were both aspirational and affordable — were an apt description of the woman herself, say many in the fashion world. And that only contributed to the sense of shock and loss in the industry upon hearing the news Tuesday that Spade had apparently taken her own life at 55.

"She was always just as happy and delightful as her collection was," said Fern Mallis, industry consultant and former director of the Council of Fashion Designers of America during Spade's rise to success in the 1990s. "She was every bit the representation of that brand, and the fun of it all."

Indeed, Spade had said it herself: "I hope that people remember me not just as a good businesswoman," she told Glamour magazine in 2002, "but as a great friend — and a heck of a lot of fun." Spade was found hanged in the bedroom of her Park Avenue apartment Tuesday morning in an apparent suicide, law enforcement officials said.

Spade liked to say that she wasn't obsessed with fashion, or interested in trends. She tried jeans, for example, decided they didn't look good on her, and moved on. "I grew up in the Midwest, where you have to have (a fashion item) because you like it, not because you're supposed to have it," she told The AP in 2004. "It's an adornment, not an obses-

sion."

And a Kate Spade bag was an adornment that was, crucially, affordable, unlike other iterations of "It" bags whose status seemed to hinge on the price tag. "It was a real shift," Mallis said. "Everybody had Kate Spade bags. You could afford them, and happily buy more than one. They were affordable AND terrific AND fabulous."

Having a Spade bag "was a sign that you were in the know," said Eric Wilson, fashion news director at InStyle. "You associated yourself with this fun, cool, with-it, hip brand that wasn't snobbish or so exclusive that it felt like a European luxury brand."

And the bags seemed to effortlessly appeal to a variety of women. "She had a quirky visual language that captivated Bat Mitzvah girls and artists alike," wrote actress Lena Dunham on Twitter. "She was also a staple of NYC who spread goodwill."

Born Katherine Brosnahan, Spade grew up in Kansas City, Missouri. She was working as an accessories editor at Mademoiselle magazine when she launched her company with husband Andy in their New York apartment in 1993, based on six shapes of bags she thought every working woman needed. She called them her "stepping stones" — and said years later that they were still her favorites.

As her brand expanded, "the fun, colorful, bright designs she created added an element of cheerfulness others have tried to emulate," said Deidra Arrington, associate



A woman carries her Kate Spade shopping bag outside the fashion designer's Madison Avenue store, Tuesday, June 5, 2018, in New York.

professor of fashion design and merchandising at Virginia Commonwealth University. "She was a visionary." One obvious measure of her influence was the number of counterfeit Kate Spade bags one could find on the streets, Arrington said. "Most women remember their first Kate Spade bag. I still have mine."

Indeed, on social media, many women were recalling their first Spade bag. "My grandmother gave me my first Kate Spade bag when I was in college," Chelsea

Clinton wrote on Twitter. "I still have it." Jenna Bush Hager wrote: "I will never forget the first Kate Spade bag I got for Christmas in college."

Spade was not only about bags: she would expand into shoes, apparel, luggage and other accessories, and stationery. "Everyone loves to get a letter," Spade told the AP in 2006, explaining that she never used computers and had her staff print out emails. "I love sending them. I love getting them."

Spade, who won multiple CFDA awards and was named a "giant of design" by House Beautiful magazine, walked away from her company in 2007, a year after it was acquired from the Neiman Marcus Group for \$125 million by the company then known as Liz Claiborne Inc.

Coach, now known as Tapestry, bought the Kate Spade brand last year for \$2.4 billion. Spade and her husband — who is the brother of comedian David Spade — started a new handbag

company recently, Frances Valentine.

Wilson, of InStyle, recalled often finding her in her store, helping shoppers. "Often I would walk in and I'd see her there serving customers, not telling them 'I'm Kate Spade' or 'Kate Valentine, her other alias, but just helping people,'" he said. "I found her to be just down to earth, a normal mom, talking about the trials and tribulations of raising a child and life in the city."

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North Korean military may benefit from Kim's charm offensive

TOKYO (AP) — While raising hopes for denuclearization and a peace treaty to finally end the Korean War, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's newly found focus on diplomacy comes with an ironic flipside: It could be a godsend for his generals.

Kim's thinking on how his military fits in to his plans to foster detente on the Korean Peninsula and negotiate security guarantees from Washington may become clearer when he sits down with President Donald Trump next week in Singapore.

But one thing is already clear. Kim cannot survive without his loyal troops. Whatever grand strategy he has in mind will strongly reflect their interests — and that includes the ability to make lots of money.

Along with the nuclear bombs and intercontinental ballistic missiles that have gotten the world's attention, the Korean People's Army is deeply involved in everything from raising mushrooms and apples to running its national airline and selling the country's mineral resources abroad.

So they stand to benefit greatly if Kim succeeds in depleting support for sanctions by negotiating with Trump and the North's affluent neighbors.

Rivaled only by the ruling party itself, with which it is carefully intertwined, the military is the biggest and most formidable organization in North Korea. It consumes roughly one-third of the country's annual budget and employs 1 million-plus personnel, making its standing army one of the world's largest despite the North's small population of less than 25 million.

From the reign of Kim's father, one of North Korea's most important slogans has been "Military First." And since he took power, Kim has set his sights on simultaneously developing the nation's nuclear forces and its economy. His current diplomatic overtures to China, Seoul and Washington are based on his claim, laid out to party elites in April, to have already "completed" the development of his nuclear arsenal.

With the nuclear development mission accomplished, his argument goes, it's time to adopt a "new strategic line" that emphasizes the economy and the strategic use of diplomacy.

That should not be seen as a move against his military.

Just as shifts in the economy since Kim assumed power in late 2011 have created a growing income gap in the civilian sector, so have they contributed to growing disparity within the military ranks, suggests William Brown, an adjunct professor at Georgetown University and former analyst with the U.S. State Department and CIA.

"Some units and some soldiers are making good money doing construction work and others are making essentially nothing doing their foxhole duty. Same for the officers," he said. "Some are coming out of their 10-year tour of duty with marketable skills, like driving and fixing taxis, and others with no skills at all."

Brown said that, in the long run, diplomatic success could free Kim to cut costs by reducing the military's bloated ranks. But he stressed that for now "keeping soldiers happy when others seem to be getting



In this Aug. 14, 2017, file photo distributed by the North Korean government, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un acknowledges a welcome from the military officers during his visit to Korean People's Army's Strategic Forces in North Korea. Independent journalists were not given access to cover the event depicted in this image.

rich is of paramount importance."

"I get the sense that Kim is getting ready for another massive state wage increase to make state workers, including the military, a little more happy," he said.

The military's involvement in such a wide variety of side-businesses also means it is in its interest to see an increase in trade well beyond sales of nuclear technology or missile parts that will likely remain the target of international non-proliferation watchdogs no matter how well Kim's talks go.

"They own a large num-

ber of enterprises, and their share in the mining sector is probably one of the largest. So they've definitely lost out as sanctions have made North Korean coal and mineral exports plunge," said Benjamin Katzeff Silberstein, an associate scholar with the non-profit Foreign Policy Research Institute.

Silberstein added that the most important role of the military in the economy is its ability to readily provide manpower where needed, doing construction and road repair work, helping out with the harvest and working in the mines.

"That role is hard to quantify," he said, "but it is likely massive."

Unconfirmed reports this week out of Seoul and Washington that Kim recently replaced his top three military officials could suggest he is already trying to ensure the military is properly positioned to handle more foreign investment and to toe his new line without being lured by an influx of money into corruption or insubordination.

Symbolic of the military's dual role, one of the three new generals, Kim Su Gil, was at Kim's side during a recent trip to the Won-

san-Kalma tourism zone, a massive development project along the east coast that Pyongyang hopes will become a major attraction for South Korean visitors if sanctions are lifted.

The area, crawling with troops known as "soldier-builders" erecting luxury hotels and paving new roads, was popular with South Korean visitors during a previous period of detente.

Its popularity ended abruptly when a North Korean soldier fatally shot a South Korean woman who strayed into a restricted area.

'Nobody is left': Guatemala volcano ravaged entire families

ESCUINTLA, Guatemala (AP) — Lilian Hernandez wept as she spoke the names of aunts, uncles, cousins, her grandmother and two great-grandchildren — 36 family members in all — missing and presumed dead in the explosion of Guatemala's Volcano of Fire.

"My cousins Ingrid, Yomira, Paola, Jennifer, Michael, Andrea and Silvia, who was just 2-years-old," the distraught woman said — a litany that brought into sharp relief the scope of a disaster for which the final death toll is far from clear.

What was once a collection of verdant canyons, hillsides and farms resembled a moonscape of ash, rock and debris on Tuesday in the aftermath of the fast-moving avalanche of super-heated muck that roared into the tightly knit villages on the mountain's flanks, devastating entire families.

Two days after the eruption, the terrain was still too hot in many places for rescue crews to search for bodies or — increasingly unlikely with each passing day — survivors.

By afternoon a new column of smoke was rising from the mountain and Guatemala's disaster agency said volcanic material was descending its south side, prompting an evacuation order and the closure of a near-

by national highway. Rescuers, police and journalists hurried to leave the area as a siren wailed and loudspeakers blared, "Evacuate!"

The new evacuation order set off a panic even in areas that were not under it. Dozens of people could be seen walking down roadsides carrying children or a few belongings beside paralyzed traffic in parts of Escuintla township south of the volcano.

A lucky few, like retiree Pantaleon Garcia, was able to load his grandchildren into the back of a pickup with a jug of water and some food, to go to stay with relatives in another town.

"You have to be prepared, for the children," he said.

Even in more distant central Escuintla, which hosts most of the shelters for those evacuated from other areas, businesses were closed as people left.

On Sunday, when the volcano exploded in a massive cloud of ash and molten rock, Hernandez said her brother and sister ran to check on their 70-year-old grandmother on the family's plot of land in the village of San Miguel Los Lotes.

"She said that it was God's will, she was not going to flee," Hernandez said. "She was unable to walk. It was hard for her to get around."

Her brother and sister made it to safety, but their

grandmother has not been seen again.

Hernandez and her husband, Francisco Ortiz, survived because they moved out of Los Lotes just two months ago to begin a new life on a small plot of land.

The couple has been staying at a Mormon church in the nearby city of Escuintla and going to a morgue there to await news. So far only the body of one relative, her 28-year-old cousin, Cesar Gudiel Escalante, has been recovered and identified.

"The people ended up buried in nearly 3 meters of lava," Ortiz said. "Nobody is left there."

Other families experienced similar tragedies.

As President Jimmy Morales toured the area and met with survivors on Monday, a woman begged him to help her loved ones in Los Lotes.

"Mr. President, my family is missing. Send a helicopter to throw water over them because they are burning," she said. "I have three children, a grandchild, and all my brothers, my mother, all my family are there. ... More than 20 have disappeared."

The fast-moving flows with temperatures as high as 1,300 degrees Fahrenheit (700 Celsius) and hot ash and volcanic gases that can cause rapid asphyxiation caught many off guard.

On Tuesday, it was clear

that the official death toll was sure to climb and fears spread that anyone still stuck in the buried houses was dead and would remain entombed there.

Guatemala's National Institute of Forensic Sciences raised the death toll Tuesday evening to 75. The institute said that 23 of those recovered bodies had been identified.

Sergio Cabanas, director of the disaster agency, said Tuesday night at a news conference that 192 people were listed as missing. He said it was not immediately clear if some of those could be among the unidentified bodies.

Officials are cross-checking census data with aerial photos of homes, registers of people in shelters and lists of the missing and injured, Cabanas said. The only thing they did not yet have was information on the unidentified bodies, but would be adding that as it became available, he said.

At a roadblock, Joel Gonzalez complained that police wouldn't let him through to see his family's house in the village of San Juan Alotenango, where his 76-year-old father lay buried in ash along with four other relatives.

"They say they are going to leave them buried there, and we are not going to know if it's really them," the 39-year-

old farmer said. "They are taking away our opportunity to say goodbye."

A spokesman for Guatemala's firefighters said that once it reaches 72 hours after the eruption, there will be little chance of finding anyone alive.

"We don't rule out the possibility of some person alive, but the condition in which the homes are makes that possibility pretty unlikely," said the spokesman, Julio Sanchez, adding that some of the ash was still at temperatures between 750 and 1,300 degrees Fahrenheit (400 and 700 degrees Celsius).

In the devastated town of El Rodeo, gray soot coated trees and homes and an ash-covered deer lay dead in the debris. Rescuers wearing hard hats, masks and goggles used shovels to dig through homes, unearthing at least one body burned beyond recognition.

Amid the destruction, there was one glimmer of hope: The rescue of a black-and-white dog found alive in a home where four people lay dead.

"He is called Rambo," said volunteer firefighter Sergio Vazquez, who carried the dog on his shoulders to safety. "It may be that this dog no longer has a family."

Vazquez had no explanation for how the dog survived while the people died.

Sanchez, the Conred spokesman, said many dogs and cats had been rescued with burns on their paws from the mud and ash, some blinded from the volcanic gases.

"Animals have a different sort of resistance ... and different behavior when it comes to finding refuge," Sanchez said.

Only 17 of the bodies recovered so far have been identified due to the extreme heat that charred their features and burned off fingerprints, and authorities hope other means such as DNA testing can help.

Authorities say at least 46 people were injured in the eruption, and 12 shelters were housing 1,877 people.

The Guatemalan military said a U.S. Air Force plane was flying in Tuesday to take about a half-dozen children who suffered burns for treatment in Galveston, Texas.

Lacking electricity in the hardest hit areas, emergency crews were carrying out rescue efforts during daylight hours and calling them off for safety reasons when darkness fell.

As dawn broke Tuesday, the volcano continued to rattle with what Guatemala's Volcanology Institute said were eight to 10 moderate eruptions per hour — vastly less intense than Sunday's big blasts.



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