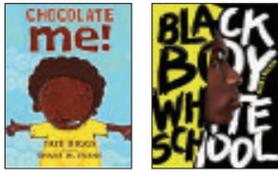


NEWS-SUN

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On his way

Local MMA fighter wins title belt in fifth fight

SPORTS, 1B

Corvette contest

Kenilworth Lodge site of muscle car mania Saturday

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Reading list

Black History Month books for young readers

PAGE 14B

Friday-Saturday, February 10-11, 2012

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Volume 93/Number 21 | 50 cents

Inside



The Unknown Soldiers
By Tom Sileo

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Forecast



Variable cloudiness with some showers

High **79** Low **62**

Complete Forecast
PAGE 14A

Online



Question: Should the Monday after the Super Bowl be made a holiday?



Total votes: 133

Next question: Should County Administrator Rick Helms keep his job?

Make your voice heard at
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Obituaries

Leroy B. Hartle Jr.
Age 93, of Avon Park

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Man accused in Polk Co. murder captured in Sebring

By ED BALDRIDGE
ed.baldrige@newssun.com

SEBRING — Statewide attention turned towards Highlands County on Thursday after the Sheriff's Office apprehended a 20-year-old man accused of brutally murdering his grandmother.

Jasper Aristotle-Brian Smiddie of 4890 Wales St. in Lake Wales was captured around 11 a.m. Wednesday after he left an abandoned home located at 5100 San Juan Dr. in Sun 'n Lake in Sebring.
A press release from Polk

County Sheriff's Office Public Information Officer Carrie Eleazer stated that the abandoned home was near his girlfriend's house.

Smiddie was being sought on a warrant for first degree murder in connection with the
See MURDER, page 7A



Courtesy photo
Accused murderer Jasper Smiddie is transported to the Polk County Jail on Thursday after being captured in Sebring on Wednesday.

Church ringing in 90th year



News-Sun photo by KATARA SIMMONS

The large bell in front of First Baptist Church of Sebring dates back to 1938.

Sebring First Baptist grateful for the past, excited about the future

By CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY
christopher.tuffley@newssun.com
SEBRING — With the City of Sebring celebrating its 100th birthday this year, it stands to reason some of the local churches will also be celebrating venerable anniversaries.

First Baptist of Sebring is one of those churches. It will celebrate its 90th anniversary this weekend.

Wednesday morning, Pastor David Richardson sat down with the News-Sun to review a little of its history. He had Gene Sauls, 80, on hand with memories — Sauls' mother, Dorothy Albritton, was the first baby baptized into the church, and Sauls himself has been a life-long member.

The community is invited to a special worship celebration at

10:20 a.m. Sunday, Pastor Richardson said. Stay for the pot luck meal afterwards, just bring a dish.

Called the Gospel Church in the beginning, the congregation formed in February of 1922. Initially, they held services in the unfinished Presbyterian Church Sunday after-

See FIRST, page 3A

Helms says he never intended to seek raise

By ED BALDRIDGE
ed.baldrige@newssun.com

SEBRING — County Administrator Rick Helms kept his job Tuesday, but informed commissioners that he was not seeking any discussion about a raise.

Helms told the commissioners that a newspaper story, which was published on Tuesday, was a little misleading and that he was not seeking a raise at this time, despite the fact that his contract stipulates a salary review after his evaluation.

"Unfortunately, in the online version of the newspaper article, there was a caption underneath the photo of myself there that did speak to the amount of money that was a salary change when I negotiated my contract initially. Unfortunately, that has been picked up as an amount that I am requesting from the board as a change in what my current salary is," Helms explained.

Helms is currently being paid \$135,000 and received a \$12,645 raise when he took the top administrator job in January of 2011.

"I had not intended to ask for any change in what my compensation is under the salary portion of my contract," Helms asserted. "I would not

See HELMS, page 7A



Helms

Online education a special focus

By CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY
christopher.tuffley@newssun.com

SEBRING — With a new world that requires computer literacy for success, and continuing concerns from businesses that current high school graduates do not have that literacy, the state legislature passed a law requiring the completion of an online course in order to graduate high school.

"This requirement shall be met through an online course offered by the Florida Virtual School; an online course offered by the high school; or an online dual enrollment course," the statute says.

"An online course is one which is delivered via online or using distance learning



News-Sun photo by CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY
School Superintendent Wally Cox talks about the benefit of having a classroom course on how to take on-line courses.

technology in an interactive learning environment."

The requirement takes effect with ninth graders entering high school this year (2011-2012). They must fulfill an online course in order to graduate in 2015.

See ONLINE, page 7A

Roaring 20's Festival celebrates historic Sebring Saturday

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR
sgholar@newssun.com

SEBRING — Artists, craftsmen and food vendors will line the downtown Circle Saturday for the annual Roaring 20's Festival from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The festival is in its 29th year and plans to bring much celebration in honor of Sebring's heritage.

Early Sebring was described as "a church city" by Sebring historians. The Downtown area was a mere

five blocks in each direction, according to historians, and Lake Jackson was surrounded by forest.

The Roaring 20's Arts & Crafts Festival is dedicated to preserving the historical feel of what once was while embracing the ideas and attitudes of today.

The festival will allow attendees the opportunity to view and purchase unique items throughout the day.

One hundred vendors will
See ROARING, page 6A

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Kenilworth hosting Corvette contest

Special to the News-Sun

SEBRING – The historic Kenilworth Lodge will be a bevy of excitement on Saturday as nine classes of Corvettes compete for a wide variety of trophies. The 'Vettes at Sebring 2012 car show is sponsored by the Alan Jay Automotive Network and the Kenilworth Lodge. Other sponsors include Ole South Auto Parts and the Cusworth Arms Pub & Wine Bar.

The show will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., rain or shine, at the Kenilworth Lodge, and Towne Square Shopping Center.

Premium Car Shows is organizing the event. Premium has been producing car shows in Florida since 1991. The show is professionally judged. Corvette owners from almost every Corvette club in the state will be entering the car show. There will be nine classes of 'vettes, including early classics up to current year models. Alan Jay Automotive will have some of its brand new Corvettes on display at the show.

Attendance to the show is free and open to the public. There will be music throughout the day. Food and beverages will be available at the show. This is



Nine classes of Corvettes will compete Saturday for a wide variety of trophies at the 'Vettes at Sebring 2012 car show, planned to be held at The Kenilworth Lodge from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

anticipated to be the largest professionally judged Corvette show in Central Florida. It should be a lot of fun for car exhibitors and show attendees. Corvette owners can get more registration information at the Kenilworth Lodge or on the hotel's website, www.kenilworthlodge.com, or by contacting Premium Productions at (727) 547-8062 or by e-mail at Premiumcarshows@verizon.net.

information at the Kenilworth Lodge or on the hotel's website, www.kenilworthlodge.com, or by contacting Premium Productions at (727) 547-8062 or by e-mail at Premiumcarshows@verizon.net.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Women Veterans to host recruitment social on Saturday

SEBRING — All women veterans are cordially invited to attend a meet and greet social on Saturday at the Veteran Services Office Conference Room. Please use the side entrance. Refreshments will be served at the 1 p.m. meeting.

The purpose of the meeting is to encourage all women veterans to become members of the only "women only" veteran group in Highlands County, Women of the Sea Services. This is a service organization dedicated to the education and enrichment of women veterans and to assist other veterans in times of need.

Betsy Waddell, spokesperson, has determined several goals for the service organization.

Waddell would like to establish a time and place for all women veterans from all of the U.S. Military branches of service to come together and share in issues pertaining particularly to the needs of female veterans. This provides the opportunity to learn about VA benefits to which female veterans may be entitled. Further, the women may learn of ways to assist other veterans in the community not so fortunate.

Sebring Youth Football holding car wash, BBQ and bake sale

SEBRING — Sebring Youth Football and Cheer will hold a car wash, barbecue and bake sale on Saturday at Advanced Auto Parts at 8 a.m.

They will also be holding their first registration for spring and fall football and cheerleading. Bring a copy of the child's birth certificate and \$35 for spring and \$75 for fall, or pay \$90 for both.

Any questions, call Amy 381-4801.

The new Executive Board Members for the 2012 season are: Ron Shiflet, president; Ross Edmunds and Bronson

Smith, vice presidents; Luke Ancrum and Jeremy Daugherty, league commissioners; Melissa Lane, secretary; Amy Alcorido, treasurer and Derreck Thomas, PR director.

Shony Tannon Band at Duffers

AVON PARK — The Shony Tannon Band will be playing at Duffers Sports Grille from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. on Saturday.

They will be playing a variety of rock, pop, country and classic dance tunes. Band members are Shannon Reed doing lead vocals and auxiliary percussion; Will Bunnagar doing bass and vocals; E. Otis Love on drums and vocals; and Tony Suazo doing lead guitar and vocals. There is no cover charge.

Hit songwriter Rick Arnold will be on stage from 6-9 p.m. today. He sings a variety of country music. Reservations are encouraged. Southern Style Entertainment will be playing dance music and offering karaoke afterwards from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

All entertainment at Duffers is free. Duffers is at 2451 U.S. 27 South, Avon Park. Call 452-6339.

Homeowners Association to meet

SEBRING — The Highlands County Homeowners Association will hold its monthly meeting at 9 a.m. on Monday at 3240 Grand Prix Drive, Sebring. They will have a presentation on the updated flood zone maps.

Representatives from the Highlands County Planning Department, the Central Florida Regional Planning Council, the South Florida Water Management District and the Southwest Florida Water Management District will be presenting the program and answering questions.

Gospel concert at Homer's

SEBRING – A gospel music concert with So

Continued on page 5A

A box of flowers

Sheyanne Baker was sitting down to dinner with her husband when she heard someone at the door. With a daughter deployed to Afghanistan and a son in Iraq at the time, knocks on the door made both their hearts jump. Her husband ran to the door to see who was there.

To their relief, it was not a military messenger carrying bad news. It was a delivery man carrying a box.

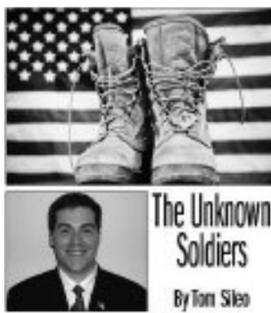
"They were flowers," Sheyanne told the Unknown Soldiers. "I said, 'Honey, you shouldn't have' (to my husband). He said, 'Read the card.'"

A few months later, just before this past Christmas, there was another knock on the door of their Shelton, Wash., home. This time, Sheyanne was at work. The Walmart employee was about to take her lunch break when a co-worker asked her to come to the store manager's office.

When Sheyanne arrived, the door was closed, prompting her to knock.

"As one of the managers opened the door, I saw the two servicemen," the mother painfully recounted. "'Oh my God, which one?' I said. Then they had me take a seat and told me who it was."

It was Sheyanne's oldest daughter, Spc. Mikayla Bragg, who was just a few days away from leaving



Afghanistan. According to the Pentagon, the 21-year-old soldier died in Khowst Province on Dec. 21, 2011. Her mother said that as of Feb. 2, an Army investigation into Mikayla's death was still in progress, although she has been told that her daughter — a qualified sharpshooter — died in a guard tower.

Sheyanne last spoke to her daughter on Dec. 19, two days before her death. Mikayla said that while the previous day had actually been fun, she was looking forward to coming home soon.

"I'd always tell her I love her and to be safe," the grieving mom said. "Her last words to me were 'I love you too and I always am.'"

In the middle of a grief-induced blur, Sheyanne found herself on a six-hour flight from the Pacific Northwest to Dover, Del., where the soldier's loved ones, including her father, Steve Bragg, welcomed



Spc. Mikayla Bragg, 21, of Longview, Wash., was killed on Dec. 21, 2011, in Afghanistan's Khowst Province.

Mikayla home. The flag-draped casket carrying the remains of Spc. Bragg would be escorted back to Washington state by her half-brother, Sgt. Allen Davids, 26, who returned from Iraq shortly before Mikayla's death in Afghanistan. He was driving home from his base to surprise his family for Christmas when he got the tragic news.

"I don't know how he held it together, but he said, 'Nobody else is going to bring home my sister,'" Sheyanne recalled.

Instead of a celebration

under the gold star on top of the Christmas tree, Sheyanne was forced to adjust to life as a Gold Star mother. While she called the

See SOLDIER page 5A

	Lottery Center		Feb. 8	3 12 20 22 31 52 x:2	Next jackpot \$3 million
			Feb. 4 Feb. 1	9 16 34 39 41 46 x:2 15 23 38 48 52 53 x:3	
	Feb. 8	4 18 30 34 36		Feb. 8 (n)	0 6 7 7
	Feb. 7	1 4 14 22 29		Feb. 8 (d)	7 2 2 6
	Feb. 6	5 8 9 13 18		Feb. 7 (n)	3 6 6 1
	Feb. 5	10 21 23 26 27		Feb. 7 (d)	2 1 7 2
	Feb. 7	12 13 25 39 6		Feb. 8 (n)	8 5 9
	Feb. 3	15 20 23 35 17		Feb. 8 (d)	1 8 3
	Jan. 31	2 7 14 31 18		Feb. 7 (n)	8 3 5
	Jan. 27	4 30 38 41 2		Feb. 7 (d)	0 4 5
	Feb. 8	17 28 38 39 51 PB: 33	Note: Cash 3 and Play 4 drawings are twice per day: (d) is the daytime drawing, (n) is the nighttime drawing. PB: Power Ball		
	Next jackpot \$310 million				
	Feb. 4 Feb. 1	15 23 43 45 56 PB: 7 8 13 17 34 59 PB: 35			

Both sign ordinances passed by Sebring council

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR
sgholar@newssun.com

SEBRING — The Sebring City Council passed two sign ordinances, one unanimously, Tuesday evening.

Both ordinances drafted by City Attorney Bob Swaine amended previous ordinances and were changed after numerous discussions between council members and Planning and Zoning Director Jim Polatty.

The first ordinance (No. 1329) amended the ordinance regarding residentially zoned districts. The amended section of the ordinance reads: "Only one identification sign, not exceeding six square feet in area, shall be allowed on any one property...If the identifying sign describes a home occupation, the sign must be attached to the wall of the home and may not

exceed more than three (3) feet out from the wall of the home."

The second ordinance (No. 1330) regulates lighted or illuminated signs in public zoned districts within the city limits. Three sections of this ordinance were amended, each of which regulate placement of a lighted sign, the size of a lighted sign and public zoned property guidelines.

The lighted sign ordinance was originally amended for the purpose of the Highlands County Fair Association. The rezoning of the property allows the HCFA to place a lighted sign as long as it is in regulation with the remaining ordinance amendments.

Council member John Clark made it clear from day one that he was unhappy with the rezoning of the HCFA

from commercial to public for the sake of installing a sign.

"I'd like to voice for the record that I'll vote against this again. I don't believe the Firemen Inc. property or the Highlands County Fairgrounds Association property should be zoned public property," said Clark.

Council member Andrew Fells echoed Clark's remark. President Scott Stanley clarified that the ordinance and the vote had little to do with the zoning but was for the sign being placed in the area.

"The issue was created by them bringing a sign for approval," Clark said.

The ordinance was passed with a 3-2 vote, Clark and Fells casting the dissenting votes.

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House approves \$69.2B budget

Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE — State lawmakers in the Florida House are signing off on a nearly \$69.2 billion budget.

The Florida House on Thursday voted 79-38 along partisan lines in favor of the budget, which will set the stage for negotiations during the final month of the annual session.

The Senate is moving slower on its budget proposal for 2012, but Senate President Mike Haridopolos said this week he expects his chamber to wrap its budget by sometime next week.

FAMU announces anti-hazing committee

TALLAHASSEE — Florida A&M University has gathered a panel of outside experts to investigate and recommend ways to end hazing on campus.

FAMU president James Ammons announced the school's new anti-hazing committee on Thursday at a board of trustees meeting.

The seven-member committee includes a former federal judge, a clinical psychologist, two hazing researchers, a former Los Angeles schools superintendent, another university's band leader and a director of a minority-oriented nonprofit.



News-Sun photo by KATARA SIMMONS

The First Baptist Church of Sebring sanctuary was built in 1987.

First Baptist Church of Sebring celebrating 90th

Continued from page 1A

noons at 3 p.m. while waiting for their sanctuary to be completed. It was a small wooden framed building opened in 1923.

As the congregation grew, so did the buildings sheltering them.

In 1938, the original church house was turned into the parsonage and The Red Brick Church, with a bell vault, was built.

By 1958 the congregation had outgrown that building too, and another one was raised. It was called the Glass Church because it was made entirely of windows.

In 1987 the current sanctuary was completed at 200 East Center Ave.

One of Sauls' earlier memories is playing in holes being dug for the foundation of the new Red Brick Church. As fast as the holes were emptied, boys would jump in, filling them.

"That was the worst whipping I ever got," Sauls said, recalling when his father

caught him.

The punishment didn't slow Sauls down, though.

Once built, the church was never locked. He admitted a favorite practical joke for neighborhood children was sneaking in and pulling the bell cord — the later at night the better.

Sebring was tiny in those days, Sauls said. "Four blocks off the Circle and you were in the woods practically. If you went around the lake you were in the woods.

"Our lives revolved around the church. We would meet there. It would hold good, strong revivals that would last a good week long. There were also city wide revivals we all participated in together.

"We didn't have T.V. — although my family did have a radio, believe it or not, and I was born in a hospital, believe it or not."

In 1958, The Glass Church opened. While bright and beautiful, it was not without its distractions.

Located near the fire

house, every time the alarm went off during a service the congregation couldn't help but watch through the windows as the engines roared away.

"It was hard to focus," said Sauls. "We had 15 volunteer firefighters (he was one of them). The fire alarm would go off and we'd get up and leave."

One pastor, Bob Baberman, just warming to his sermon, ended the service abruptly one Sunday when the volunteers all rose together at the sound of the alarm. "I lost all my concentration," he told Sauls later.

"And I never will forget the streaker running by outside during a service," Sauls said laughing. "That was an exciting Sunday morning."

The First Baptist has been important to the community, too, helping new churches establish themselves over the years — Faith Baptist in Lake Placid, and those on Lake Josephine Road, Sparta Road and in Whispering Pines.



News-Sun photo by KATARA SIMMONS

First Baptist Church of Sebring celebrates 90 years this weekend.



News-Sun photo by KATARA SIMMONS

Decorative plates hang near the sanctuary entrance featuring images of First Baptist Church of Sebring over the years, the bottom right plate shows the building the church started in 1922.

BUSINESS

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EDITORIAL & OPINION

TODAY'S EDITORIAL

Thanks, Joe, for a job well done

The announcement that Supervisor of Elections Joe Campbell was not seeking re-election was definitely news, but not good news for Highlands County voters.

Campbell has run a very efficient and very friendly office since his election in 1996, providing quick answers to questions and immediate transparency to any question the public, or the media, asked.

Campbell was the walking example of open government at all times.

Even when things did not run correctly — and with a process that is as complicated and restrictive like voting, something is always going to happen — Campbell and his staff always worked within the rules to produce an effective solution.

The goal was to make the election process work efficiently and effectively, and they accomplished that goal every election and despite what

changes were mandated from the state.

Each person in Campbell's office will pick-up a question from the public and run with it, asking for help sometimes, but

never dismissing any citizen with any question and staying with them until their question is answered.

That dedication to making sure the voting process moves forward in the heat of the current political discourse of smear and sling is something to be admired.

To do one's job while the hurricane winds of politics blows constantly around you is tough, but Campbell and crew

were ever the eye of the storm — calm, quiet and protective of the process.

Campbell stressed excellence in the inner workings of his office, but still made sure that everyone took the time to educate the public or those seeking office without prejudice.

The phrase "I'll just ask Joe," was heard from many sources when it came to elections questions. Campbell and his staff are the experts. And when they do not know, Campbell has always been eager to tackle Tallahassee to find out.

Well, soon will come the day when we as voters will no longer be able to "Go ask Joe." Whoever takes his spot has to be able to replace him, his competence and his tenacity to get the job done, or the county will lose out.

Many on his team have been trained and cross-trained to fill his shoes, but no one will carry the same quiet and confident professional presence.

We know there is some time

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863-385-6155

NEWSROOM

ROMONA WASHINGTON
Publisher/Executive Editor
Ext. 515
editor@newssun.com

SCOTT DRESSEL
Editor
Ext. 516
scott.dressel@newssun.com

DAN HOEHNE
Sports Editor
Ext. 528
daniel.hoehne@newssun.com

ADVERTISING

VICKIE JONES
Ext. 518
vickie.jones@newssun.com

CIRCULATION

TONY MCCOWAN
Ext. 522
anthony.mccowan@newssun.com

BUSINESS OFFICE

JANET EMERSON
Ext. 596
legals@newssun.com

Parkway's next phase would be counter-productive

Guest Column

Dr. Catherine Cornelius

Based upon the newspaper reports and earlier discussions, I do not believe that either members of the Board of County Commission or the county staff have had access to important information concerning the Sebring Parkway and the impact it would have on College Drive. If they did, they would realize how counter-productive to the long-range future of Highlands County and the college putting the Parkway through the middle of the college would be. Another location must be found.

First, the college is vital to the growth and development of Highlands County. It is the single most important asset we have. When the college became community-focused 28 years ago and began offering employer-specific training, expanded degree programs and the Cultural/Artist Series, wonderful things began to happen. Both the college and the county experienced major growth leading to the establishment of the Lakeshore Mall, chain restaurants, a new hospital and many, many new businesses, none of which existed before. Existing businesses experienced new growth.

The college is now poised to begin the next major phase of its development with the addition of four-year college degrees. The growth will be phenomenal and will have a tremendous impact on the future of Highlands County.

The college owns all of the land on both sides of College Drive between U.S. 27 and Memorial Drive except for two small parcels, the Ridge Area Arc and the Cluster Homes. The college also owns the land beneath College Drive. The county maintains College Drive at no cost to the college as part of an interlocal agreement dating back to the 1960s, which was Highlands County's inducement for the college to be located in Highlands County instead of Hardee County. The

county has continued to honor its commitment through the years.

In the future, the college will need to continue to develop the land with facilities on both sides of College Drive with even more students crossing College Drive to reach other parts of the campus. A heavily traveled Parkway bisecting the campus would be a horrible and dangerous impediment to development. In fact, if you look at what has happened on other campuses across the state, once public thoroughfares have been vacated/abandoned and those roads turned into campus-only roads. I can easily see the same future for College Drive.

When the initial planning was being done for the Parkway years ago, no one from the county ever approached SFCC with the idea of putting the Parkway through the campus. We read about it in the newspaper. When I scheduled a meeting at the county office, I was told that it would be cheaper than having to cross the railroad track just north of College Drive. No consideration seemed to be given to the extremely negative effect it would have on the college. Since that time, the College Board of Trustees and the administration have been firmly against having the Parkway bi-sect the campus.

We need to focus on long-range planning that will make wise use of our tax dollars — not quick fixes that will be both destructive and wasteful and have to be replaced in a few short years. Further, we need to protect and enhance the college and its ability to grow rather than create hindrances to the goose that lays the golden eggs.

Dr. Catherine Cornelius is President Emerita of South Florida Community College.



Campbell



TODAY'S LETTERS

EDITORIAL PAGE POLICY

Make sure to sign your letter and include your address and phone number. Anonymous letters will be automatically rejected. Please keep your letters to a maximum of 400 words.

Send your letter to 2227 U.S. 27 South, Sebring, FL 33870; drop it off at the same address; fax 385-1954; or e-mail editor@newssun.com.

To make sure the editorial pages aren't dominated by the same writers, letters are limited to two per month and a guest column can be submitted once every three months.

Opinions expressed in letters or columns are solely the opinion of that author and not necessarily the opinion of the staff or editors of the News-Sun.

First president to appoint 45 czars to replace elected officials in his office.

First president to golf 73 separate times in his first two and a half years in office, 90 to date.

First president to hide his medical, educational and travel records.

First president to win a Nobel

Peace Prize for doing nothing to earn it.

First president to go on multiple global "apology tours".

First president to go on 17 lavish vacations, including date nights and Wednesday evening White House parties for his friends; paid for by the taxpayer.

First president to have 22 personal servants (taxpayer funded) for his wife.

First president to keep a dog trainer on retainer for \$102,000 a year at taxpayer expense.

First president to repeat the Holy Qur' and tells us the early morning call of the Azan (Islamic call to worship) is the most beautiful sound on earth.

So how is this hope and change working out for ya?

John Payne
Sebring

Sprinkle the fairy dust

Common sense, may it rest in peace. Was it the Green Hornet who learned the art of clouting man's mind? Congress has learned that secret.

How else can you explain that year after year they told us they have the wisdom to make socialism work. Year after year the unintended consequences of socialism are

ignored.

Or is it the fairy dust (the promise of bread and circus) that clouds our minds. The nine supreme wizards could wave their magic wand and the fairy dust would disappear. But they too have ignored the wishes of the founding fathers.

Russell Errett
Sebring

Bouquet

Passer-by helps concerned woman

Editor:

On Saturday, Jan. 28, I had a dizzy spell while at my mailbox. I usually carry my phone with me, but I didn't have it that day. I was unable to move from the mailbox so I held on to it. I didn't want to fall.

Since I live on a busy street, I thought I could get somebody's attention if I flagged them down ... to no avail. I think they thought I was saying hello to them.

After what seemed like a long, long time, a gentleman named Joey, in a black truck, stopped. I told him my problem and held on to him until he could get me to my door, safely. I didn't want to fall.

I will be forever grateful to him for his assistance.

Thank you.

Julia McGirr

Obama a president of firsts

Editor:

Who said Obama hasn't done anything?

An impressive list of accomplishments:

First president to apply for college aid as a foreign student, then deny he was a foreigner.

First president to have a Social Security number from a state he has never lived in.

First president to preside over a cut to the credit-rating of the United States.

First president to violate the War Powers Act.

First president to be held in contempt of court for illegally obstructing oil drilling in the Gulf of Mexico.

First president to defy a federal judge's court order to cease implementing the Health Care Reform Law.

First president to require all Americans to purchase a product from a third party.

First president to spend a trillion dollars on "shovel-ready" jobs when there was no such thing as "shovel-ready" jobs.

First president to abrogate bankruptcy law to turn over control of companies to his union supporters.

First president to by-pass

Congress and implement the Dream Act through executive fiat.

First president to order a secret amnesty program that stopped the deportation of illegal immigrants across the United States, including those with criminal convictions.

First president to demand a company hand over \$20 billion to one of his political appointees.

First president to terminate America's ability to put a man in space.

First president to have a law signed by an auto-pen without being present.

First president to arbitrarily declare an existing law unconstitutional and refuse to enforce it.

First president to threaten insurance companies if they publicly spoke-out on the reasons for their rate increases.

First president to tell a major manufacturing company in which state they are allowed to locate a factory.

First president to file lawsuits against the states he swore an oath to protect (Arizona, Wisconsin, Ohio, Indiana).

First president to withdraw an existing coal permit that had been properly issued years ago.

First president to fire an inspector general of Ameri-corps for catching one of his friends in a corruption case.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Continued from page 2A

Loved, featuring Bill and Judy Williams will be held at Homer's Buffet Monday at 6 p.m.

Dinner and show are \$10 per person. Tickets will be sold at the door.

Wacasters in concert today

AVON PARK — The Wacaster Family Benefit Concert will be from 7-9 p.m. today at The Grogan Center at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church.

A free will offering will be collected for Ridge Area Arc which provides services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. There will be refreshments served during intermission at 8 p.m.

The Wacasters are award-winning Nashville recording artists who sing Christian country and southern gospel music.

The church is at 595 E. Main Street, Avon Park. For more details, call 452-1295.

Sock hop at Reflections

AVON PARK — Reflections on Silver Lake will host a 1950s and '60s sock hop from 7:30-10:30 p.m. today. Wear your favorite poodle skirt and plan to have fun.

There will be games, hula hoop contests, and prizes for the best costumes.

Reflections residents Jim Stopa and Doug Grant will DJ and Emcee. Cost is \$5.00. Bring your own drinks and snacks, ice will be provided.

For more information call 452-5037

Red Hatters playing bunco

SEBRING — The Red Hatters monthly bunco/luncheon will be held today at the Caddy Shack Restaurant on Golfview Road at 11:30 a.m. Lunch is Dutch treat and bunco is a \$2 donation towards bunco prizes. All Red Hatters are welcome.

Any questions, call Mary at 382-9882.

Dance club hosting Skylarks

SEBRING — The Highlands Social Dance Club hosts dancing from 7-9:30 p.m. today at the Senior Center on the Sebring Parkway.

Have fun and dance the night away to the music of the Skylarks Orchestra. All club dances are open to the public. Appropriate dress required.

Bring your own beverage. Ice is provided by the club. Snack bar opens at 6 p.m.

Admission is \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members.

For more information, call 385-6671.

Spaghetti dinner at St. Catherine's

SEBRING — There will be a Spaghetti Dinner at St. Catherine Parish Hall on Saturday from 4:15-7 p.m. The hall is at 827 Hickory St. in Sebring, across from the church.

The meal consists of salad, spaghetti with meat sauce, meatballs, bread stick, dessert and beverages at a cost of \$8 for adults and \$4 for children.

Boy Scouts hosting pancake breakfast

AVON PARK — Boy Scouts Troop 156 in Avon Park is having a Pancake Breakfast from 7-10 a.m. Saturday at Reflections on Silver Lake Clubhouse.

Tickets are \$4 for all-you-can-eat pancakes and coffee, single serving of sausage and orange juice. For each ticket a Scout sells, they earn \$1.50 in Scout bucks to help them pay for camping trips or uniforms. You can also pick up meals to take home if you don't want to eat at the clubhouse.

Run Your Heart Out Family 5K Run/Walk Saturday

SEBRING — Come out to Highlands Hammock State Park on Saturday for the third annual Junior Achievement of Highlands Valentines "Run Your Heart Out" Family 5K Run/Walk presented by Midflorida Credit Union

Registration will be from 7-7:45 a.m.; race begins at 8 a.m.

Adult registration is \$20; student registration is \$5; a family (up to six) registration is \$50.

Coin show planned Saturday

SEBRING — Ridge Coin Club of Sebring is holding their 55th annual coin show from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday.

The show is open to the public and free of charge at the Sebring Senior Center (previously the Lion's Club) st 3400 Sebring Parkway.

Appraisals, buying, selling, refreshments available.

Saturday Morning Market in LP

LAKE PLACID — The Lake Placid Saturday Morning Market will be held this Saturday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Stuart Park, in beautiful uptown Lake Placid.

Vendors offer a wide variety of items including, but not limited to jewelry, plants, decorative clay pots, vegetables, produce, wine, breads, jams and much more.

Great food available from Hartzell's Meat Market and Catering and Jaxsons Restaurant. Eat at the Park or take out available.

Brewster's in Blue on Saturday

SEBRING — Brewster's in Blue, night of Gypsy Jazz Music, will be held on Saturday at 7 p.m. at Brewster's Coffee House, U.S. 27 just South of Home Depot in Sebring.

The show will feature Marcelo Damon on guitar. Damon received a BA from Arizona State University in jazz and classical guitar and is the author of "Mastering Gypsy Jazz Improvisation," an instructional book about this style of guitar.

For more information contact Fred Leavitt, 402-8238, -mail info@heartlandculturalalliance.org or contact Travis Garcia, (863) 201-3089, travisbgarcia@gmail.com.

For more information on the Heartland Cultural Alliance visit www.heartlandculturalalliance.org/.

Pancake breakfast at Sebring Hills

SEBRING — There will be a pancake breakfast from 8-10 a.m. on Saturday at the Sebring Hills Clubhouse, 200 Lark Ave. All the pancakes, sausage, orange juice, coffee or tea you want for only \$3 for members and \$3.50 for non-members.

The Sebring Hills monthly business meeting will be held starting at 7 p.m. with

board members and the rest of the members at 7:30 p.m. on Monday.

The Sebring Hills bingo is held every Thursday with doors opening at 3:30 p.m.; snack bar at 4 p.m.; ticket sales at 5 p.m. and games at 6 p.m. The jackpot is \$250.

Clermont County reunion is Sunday

SEBRING — Clermont County 55th Annual Reunion will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday at the Sebring Civic Center, 355 W. Center Ave. This will be their fifth year meeting in Sebring.

No alcoholic beverages allowed. Potluck dinner will be at noon. Each family needs to bring their favorite covered dish and the reunion committee will provide fried chicken, meat tray, cheese, bread and condiments, plus we will be furnishing the place settings. Coffee and ice tea will be provided also.

Any questions, call Bill Singleton, president, at 655-1948.

Four Preps performing at Tanglewood

SEBRING — On Sunday, "The Four Preps," an American popular music male quartet from the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s, will perform at Tanglewood. The group amassed eight gold singles and three gold albums. It's million-selling-signature tunes included "26 Miles," "Big Man," "Lazy Summer Nights" and "Down by the Station."

The Four Preps' numerous television and motion picture appearances included four years on Ozzie and Harriet backing heartthrob Ricky Nelson and with Sandra Dee in the Gidget movie. Their most recent television appearance was with the award-winning PBS special "Magic Moments."

Their show is currently an amalgamation of singing everything from doo-wop to Tin Pan Alley standards and comedy.

Doors and snack bar at 6:15 p.m. show at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$12. Tanglewood is across from Denny's on U.S. 27 N. For information, call 402-0763.

Valentine's party Under the Oaks

SEBRING — A Valentine's party will be held Sunday at Under The Oaks Opry at 3414 Beck Ave. There will be country, bluegrass, blues and ospel from 1 to 4 p.m., followed by an anniversary celebration for Jack and Barb Gustafson.

For more information, call 253-0771.

Poker run on Sunday

SEBRING — A poker run sponsored by the Sebring Moose Riders Moose Lodge 2259 will be from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., on Sunday. Breakfast will be available from 8:30-10:30 a.m. All proceeds benefit Wrede's Wildlife Rehabilitation Center Inc.

There will be music by Redneck Joe from 6-9 p.m., 50/50 and a Tub of Fun raffle. Cost of \$15 per rider includes meal, choice of fresh fish basket or one-quarter hot-dog basket with fries and baked beans.

Call J.T. at 655-1814 for more details.

OBITUARIES

LEROY BRUMBAUGH HARTLE, JR.

LeRoy B. Hartle, Jr., 93, of Avon Park, passed away Monday, Feb. 6, 2012, in Sebring. He was born Dec. 27, 1918, to LeRoy and Cecil (Reightler) Hartle in Baltimore, Md.

He was the beloved husband of the late Doris Franklin Hartle; loving father of Carol Hartle Davis and the late LeRoy B. Hartle III (Pete); brother to Dorothy Hartle Weir and brother of the late Cecil Ray Hartle (Johnny); loving grandfather of Melissa Davis Seltmann; Ethan Roy Davis and Christine Hartle Kaufman and great-grandfather to Carter Davis Seltmann; Angelina Kaufman and Clint Kaufman.

LeRoy was a corporal in the 106th Army Air Force during the victory of World War II. He was employed as a machinist building

parts for the Apollo Moon Mission. He served 50 years as a volunteer to the Baltimore Longitudinal Study of Aging at Johns Hopkins Hospital and was a 59 year member of the Sharon Lodge No. 182 of AF and AM, serving as Worshipful Master in 1969.

LeRoy was a passionate gardener and a skilled craftsman who loved woodworking and fishing with his son, Pete. After living all his life in Maryland, he spent the last several years living with his daughter, Carol, in Avon Park.

Services will be held at a later date in Maryland. Arrangements have been entrusted to:

Stephenson-Nelson Funeral Home
Sebring, Florida 33870
863-385-0125

www.stephensonnelsonfh.com

Soldier took time to remind mom how much she loved her

Continued from page 2A

holidays "somber," it was during the painful season when she resolved that her daughter would always be remembered.

"I set up a table with her pictures on it and a candle," Sheyanne said.

As the candle's light flickered, the grieving mother thought of how Mikayla appreciated the "little things in life," such as trips to the store with her mom when she was a child. Sheyanne later heard stories that summed up, in her mind, how her daughter lived.

"At one of the services we had, a guy stood up and said he didn't know her, but he remembered seeing her walk through the halls of their high school," she said. "There was a girl sitting there crying, and Mikayla ... sat there with her and asked what she could do to make it better."

Spc. Mikayla Bragg flew halfway around the world to

help make things better in Afghanistan. She missed her family, including her sister, Kandyce, 17, with whom she shared a very close bond. And she always looked forward to getting care packages from her mom.

A few months earlier, when Sheyanne's eyes began scanning through the card that came with her flowers, they welled up with tears when she quickly realized

that her daughter, even in the middle of a deployment to Afghanistan, had taken the time to send a care package home.

"Thanks for being my mom," the card read.

To find out more about Tom Sileo or to read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com/.

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Holly Anderson	Frank Franze	Sandy Marcum	Vivian Scott
Doug Andrews	Paul Frazier	Anthony McGann	LaVaar Scott
Elizabeth Andrews	Roger Geigerich	Sarah McKee	Carolyn Sellers
Mary Ascitutto	Jane Hancock	Glenn McNorton	Jeff Senn
Kimberly Batty-Herbert	Irene Handley	Joyce Moretz	Deanne Shanklin
James Bible	Bettye Hart	Thomas Nunnallee	Kristie Sottile
Gary Binns	Marjan Haviland	MaryJane O'Brien	Jon Spencer
Paul Blackman	Doris Hawthorne	Gail Odom	Angela Spencer
Theodore Boehme	Kim Heintz	Michele Percy	Lauretta Stephens
Bill Brantley	Marie-Claire Hoy	Ann Pollard	Diane Stokes
Ruth Ann Brown	William Hutchison	Lyle Pontious	Sue Taylor
Jessie Causey	Nat Imsdahl	Lana Puckorius	Loretta Thompson
Jean Cormier	Tara Jefferies	Winifred Quesenberry	Jaqueline Tillman
Manuel Cortazal	Booker Johnson	Barbara Quinby	Zola Truitt
Eddie Cuencas	Pam Karlson	Beatriz Ramirez	Arlene Tuck
Dawn Dell-Gillilan	Michael Keiber	Gabriel Reud	John Varady
Janice DelSesto	Shannon Kelly	Mike Rider	John Vincent III
Nancy Deyrup	William Kist	Kris Rider	Laura Wade
Felecia Dozier	MaryAnn Lewis	Elisavet Rios	Cindy Warrick
Jon Draper	Anne Lindsay	Annie Rodriguez	Joyce Watters
Ruth Dorzinski	Steve Livingston	Jeff Roth	Ada Weeks
Robert Duncan	Charlotte Lohrer	Richard Rucker	Allison Willey
Michael Durham	Tommy Lovett, Sr.	Marilyn Schnell	Dustin Woods
Debra Elliott	Janet Lynch	Lynda Schock	Deena Wright
Sureka Flemming	Linda Lynch	Mark Schrader	Eric Zwayer

You can take part by donating one hour a week as a mentor. For more information, please call the South Florida Community College Foundation at 453-3133.



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Young Eagles Flight Rally is Saturday

Special to the News-Sun
SEBRING — Area young people ages 8-17 will have a chance to take to the skies on Saturday as Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) Chapter 1240 and the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) hosts a Young Eagles Flight Rally at Sebring Regional Airport and Pancake Breakfast. A \$5 donation is requested for the breakfast.

The rally is part of the EAA Young Eagles Program, created to interest young people in aviation. Since the program was launched in 1992, Volunteer EAA pilots have flown more than 1.4 million young people who reside in more than 90 countries.

“Free airplane rides are just part of the Flight Rally,” said John Rousch, spokesman for the event. “We hope to build one-to-one relationships between pilots and young people, giving a new generation a chance to learn more about the possibilities that exist in the world of aviation.”

Pilots at the event will also explain more about their airplanes allowing young people to discover how airplanes work and how pilots ensure safety is the prime concern before every flight.

Following the flight, each young person, will receive a certificate making them an official Young Eagle. Their name will then be entered into the “World’s Largest Logbook,” which is on permanent display at the EAA Air Adventure Museum in Oshkosh, Wisc. The Logbook is also accessible on the web at www.young eagles.org.

Other activities scheduled for the Flight Rally include guided tour of aircraft and how activities at an airport are Along with flight rallies, EAA members also fly Young Eagles on an individual basis. Each pilot volunteers their time and aircraft so the flights can be provided free of charge for interested young people.

Those attending the flight rally on Saturday are asked come the Sebring Airport, and take a left turn on Hendricks Lane and follow the signs to the CAP hanger hosting Young Eagle registration starting at 7:30 a.m. to register for their flight. Flights will begin at 8 a.m. with registration closing at 11 a.m. Young Eagles must have a parent or legal guardian sign the registration form to be able to fly.

Additional information about EAA and the EAA Young Eagles program is available by contacting John Rousch Chapter EAA 1240 Young Eagle Coordinator at 863-273-0522, jhr@strato.net, or on the Internet. Access to EAA’s Home Page is available at www.eaa.org. The Young Eagles web page is www.young eagles.org.



News-Sun file photo

Plenty of vendors will line the streets of downtown Sebring on Saturday to keep the crowd at the Roaring 20’s Festival happy.

Roaring 20’s Festival is Saturday

Continued from page 1A

be in attendance this year as well as a wide selection of outdoor accessories. Several natural, hand-made soap vendors will be at the festival along with a children’s section.

There will be other items

such as purses, clothing and stained-glass items. The festival will also feature a photographer, according to a Community Redevelopment Agency spokesperson.

Other items, including wood carvings, paintings and artwork will also be available. The festival will feature

numerous food selections, everything from hot dogs to funnel cakes.

One of the vendors will be selling artisan coffee. He will be brewing it on site. That’s a new addition from last year. There will also be barbecue.

For more information call 471-5104.

Helms: ‘Always room for improvement’ in performance

Continued from page 1A

want the board to even consider that. I just wanted to make that clear to the board today,” Helms said.

Helms recently came under fire because of a poor evaluation from the board, and at the end of the Tuesday meeting, Commissioner Barbara Stewart called for a vote of no confidence and made a motion to put Helms on administrative leave as the first step in firing him.

Helms responded last week to the poor evaluations he received from three of the five board members in an email and stated Tuesday he had sit down with each commissioner on a one-on-one basis before the Tuesday meeting.

“I was puzzled by some of the comments contained in the evaluations of my job performance since February of last year. I have enjoyed the opportunity to discuss the evaluations with each of the Commissioners. Evaluations provide an opportunity to identi-

fy ways to improve job performance. There is always room for improvement,” Helms wrote.

“Many of the problems are long term and cannot be solved instantly by a single silver bullet. Employees from all business sectors are disappointed and frustrated. It is difficult at best to improve employee morale in the current business environment.

The measure of success will be in how we respond to adversity,” continued Helms.

“I am confident that I can continue to address the short and long term problems that we are facing. Anyone that truly knows me will echo my commitment to fairness, a fierce competitiveness that drives me to succeed, ethical performance even when the chips are down, and the desire to always do what is right,” Helms said in his e-mail.

Stewart recanted her motion after discovering she did not have a majority needed to terminate Helms.



Stewart



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Lily Tomlin

Wednesday, Feb. 29 7:30 p.m.

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Tickets: \$40, \$50, \$60

Sponsor: Florida Hospital Heartland Medical Center

Buy Online performances.southflorida.edu

Box Office 863-784-7178

Hours: Mon.- Fri., 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.




New Buy Main Street program keeps money in AP

Special to the News-Sun
AVON PARK — The Avon Park Community Redevelopment Agency Main Street District has launched a new consumer incentive program designed to spur economic activity and help consumers save money. This program, called Buy Main Street Avon Park, officially launched on Jan. 1.

By simply connecting the Avon Park Main Street businesses with the buying power of the local community, this multi-year program will keep more dollars and jobs in our community. According to an economic analysis, for every \$100 spent at a locally owned business, \$45 goes back into the community and

local tax base and for every \$100 spent at a non-local chain store, only \$13 comes back to the local area.

Participating Buy Main Street Avon Park merchants, which are listed at www.AvonParkCRA.com are offering exclusive discounts and instant savings to all consumers who have a Buy Main Street Avon Park card.

The wallet-sized cards are free and can be picked up at participating merchants, the CRA office in City Hall (110 E. Main St.), the Avon Park Chamber of Commerce offices (28 E. Main St.), the Highlands County CVB (501 S. Commerce Ave.) or print one online at www.AvonParkCRA.com.

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<p>31.99</p> <p>Glenmorangie The Original Scotch</p> <p>10 year, 750 ml</p> 	<p>17.99</p> <p>Jack Daniel’s Whiskey</p> <p>Or Tennessee Honey, 750 ml</p> 
<p>18.99</p> <p>Dickel #12 Tennessee Whisky</p> <p>750 ml</p> 	<p>59.99</p> <p>Crown Royal Cask 16</p> <p>750 ml</p> 
<p>17.99</p> <p>Canadian Club</p> <p>1.75 L</p> 	<p>36.99</p> <p>Patrón Silver Tequila</p> <p>750 ml</p> 
<p>19.99</p> <p>Bombay Sapphire Gin</p> <p>750 ml</p> 	<p>33.99</p> <p>Remy Martin V.S.O.P</p> <p>750 ml</p> 

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Online education program to be in-house

Continued from page 1A

"I certainly understand why the law was created," Becky Fleck, assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction, told the school board Tuesday night.

While significant numbers of students are comfortable and competent with computers, Fleck said, just as many are not. In a county where some homes do not even have a telephone, not all students have access to computers. It is critical for schools to provide access and instruction, Fleck said.

Beyond that, there are many students who are competent with machines and software but do not know how to study online.

The experience is very different from classroom learning where students have teachers in the flesh to keep them focused and answer questions. Studying online requires self-direction and self-discipline, not just computer skills.

So students will not simply take a subject online. First they will be taught how to learn online.

Fleck said this is why the district is combining its leadership course — taken by all freshmen — with the new Computer Applications I.

The district plans to use Highlands County teachers both in the class and as the online facilitators. They will develop as much of the program in-house as they can.

This is so, "we can have a course to fit our students' needs. By doing this ourselves we control the content. By using our teachers we can build a professional cadre (capable of developing new programs in the future)," Fleck said. "That will bring additional curriculum into the classroom."

There are financial considerations, too.

Schools give away full-time equivalent (FTE) funding when a student takes an online course from an out-of-district provider.

Another advantage of in-house online courses is no waiting lists. The Florida Virtual School is so overbooked with students there are waiting lists for specific subjects.



News-Sun photo by CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY
Becky Fleck, assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction, presents the new on-line course to members of the school board, at their regular meeting. Darrell Layfield, who oversees instructional technology, stands in the background.

School Superintendent Wally Cox enthusiastically endorsed the plan.

"We have some (students) who are self-motivated, and some whose parents motivate them, but I think there are a

lot of kids who will benefit," he said.

More advanced ninth graders will be able to take more advanced courses during the time allotted for Computer Applications I.

What is Computer Applications I?

By CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY

christopher.tuffley@newssun.com

SEBRING — With a new state statute requiring completion of an online course to graduate high school, a pre-test measuring computer skills is administered to all incoming freshmen, not just in Highlands County.

"We're very proud that (our scores) are higher than the state's or region's," said Becky Fleck, assistant superintendent of schools for curriculum and instruction. "But we're really not where we want to be. We really have to take this opportunity to boost student skills."

When ninth-grade students were given an opportunity to take an online course this school year, however, very few did.

Of the 900 students countywide who will need to fulfill the requirement by 2015, only 61 signed on — 13 in Avon Park, 24 in Sebring and 14 in Lake Placid.

This is one reason the school board has approved a protocol that goes beyond the state statute.

To pass the course called Computer Applications I, students will have to show mastery of: Basic concepts of

computers and telecommunications, including use of the Internet, the keyboard and Boolean search strategies; production of documents using specified functions of appropriate word processing software; setting up a spreadsheet file — organizing, analyzing and manipulating collected data — and producing a report; setting up a database; manipulating graphic images by using a variety of applications; and finally, demonstrating knowledge of the impact computers have on society, as well as the need for ethical use.

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Murder suspect caught

Continued from page 1A

stabbing death of his grandmother, Gloria M. Helfrich of Lake Wales, on Tuesday. The report states that with Smiddie was with his 14-year-old friend and neighbor, Charles "Charlie" Giem.

Helfrich's autopsy results showed that she received a crossbow arrow shot to the back of the head along with 58 stab wounds to the back, 34 stab wounds to the back of the head, one stab wound to the face and bruising to the face by a pipe wrench.

The arrest affidavit stated that Smiddie called his biological father, David Asbery in Tampa and stated he "did something stupid" and admitted that he had stabbed his grandmother.

When Asbery inquired how many times he had stabbed Helfrich, saying "One, two, 47?" Smiddie responded "closer to 47."

Asbery encouraged

Smiddie to meet him in Tampa and then turn himself into the authorities, but Smiddie never showed, according to the warrant.

Smiddie was booked into Highlands County Jail Wednesday and was held in isolation under 15-minute suicide watch.

Smiddie was released into the custody of the PCSO at 9:09 a.m. Thursday morning, according to HCSO Public Information Officer Nell Hays.

"Polk county is taking the lead in handling this case, as they should," Hays added.

Hays said that finding Smiddie was a combined effort of several agencies within Polk County and Highlands County, and Smiddie was discovered while detectives were searching abandoned homes. The PCSO press release states that Smiddie is cooperating with detectives.



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NEWS IN BRIEF

Pentagon rules catching up with reality on women in combat

WASHINGTON (AP) — Pentagon rules are catching up a bit with reality after a decade when women in the U.S. military have served, fought and died on the battlefields of Iraq and Afghanistan.

On Thursday, the Pentagon is recommending to Congress that women be allowed to serve in more jobs closer to the front lines.

According to defense officials, the new rules are expected to continue the long-held prohibition that prevents women from serving as infantry, armor and special operations forces. But they will formally allow women to serve in other jobs at the battalion level, which until now had been considered too close to combat.

In reality, however, the necessities of war have already propelled women to the front lines — often as medics, military police or intelligence officers. So, while a woman couldn't be assigned as an infantryman in a battalion or in a company going out on patrol, she could fly the helicopter supporting the unit, or move in to provide medical aid if troops were injured.

The officials said the new rules will formally allow women to be assigned to a battalion and serve in jobs such as medics, intelligence officers, police or communications officers. The changes would have the greatest effect on the Army and Marine Corps, which ban women from more jobs than the Navy and Air Force do, largely because of the infantry positions.

Analysis: Obama birth control policy has political cost

The Obama administration's new mandate that religious organizations pay for their workers' birth control has become a bludgeon for Republican culture warriors, as social issues have surged to the forefront in the presidential campaign.

Conservatives who believe religious freedom always trumps gender equity in the public arena are outraged. But so too are Roman Catholic and evangelical moderates who have stuck with President Barack Obama, an abortion rights supporter, because of his 2008 pledge to reduce the abortion rate and find common ground among religious and secular Americans. These backers say the administration could have easily avoided the controversy by including broader religious exemptions already in place at some federal agencies.

After two weeks of unrelenting condemnation led by the nation's Catholic bishops, the White House has responded by hinting at some compromise in how the requirement is enforced. Administration officials insist any accommodation for religious groups will leave in place contraceptive coverage, although they haven't said how. But even the suggestion of a revision, no matter how limited, has infuriated Democrats the president hoped to please with the regulation. As the debate rages, women's



U.S. Marines 1st Lt. Adrien Thom, 25, of Lafayette, Louisiana, waits for an M1 tank to clear the road before a tank retriever can proceed about 50 miles south of Baghdad in 2003. The U.S.-Iraq war was the first time female Marines were associated with combat units far forward past the line of departure or forward edge of the battle area.

MCT

groups, liberal religious leaders and health advocates are rallying in favor of the broadest contraceptive coverage that would include Catholic employers.

"We believe that women and men have the right to decide whether or not to apply the principles of their faith to family-planning decisions, and to do so they must have access to services," read a statement Wednesday from liberal religious leaders representing Reform and Conservative Jews, Methodist and Episcopal groups, among others. "The administration was correct in requiring institutions that do not have purely sectarian goals to offer comprehensive preventive health care."

The conflict is erupting as GOP candidates compete for the title of the true conservative in the presidential race. The contraception debate is tailor-made for the fight.

Deputies were dispatched to Powell home nearly 8 minutes after call

TACOMA, Wash. (AP) — Emergency call logs show that nearly eight minutes elapsed between when a social worker called 911 to report that Josh Powell's children were in danger and when sheriff's deputies were dispatched. By the time officers were on their way, the home was exploding in a gas-fueled inferno, with Powell and his two young boys inside.

The priority of the dispatch Sunday was "routine" instead of "emergency," which cost several minutes of response time, and when the deputies arrived 14 minutes later, there was nothing they could do.

The Associated Press obtained the logs Wednesday night under a public records request.

Recently released audio recordings of the 911 calls raised questions about how the dispatch center handled the social worker's call regarding Powell, who was a person of interest in the disappearance of his wife two years ago.

The worker detailed how Powell had locked her out of his house during what was supposed to be a supervised

visit with his sons, that she could smell gas, and that she feared for their lives.

Gingrich hopes to hold off Santorum

CLEVELAND (AP) — Newt Gingrich, suddenly in danger of losing his perch as Mitt Romney's strongest GOP challenger, is fine-tuning his presidential campaign to place more emphasis on raising money, guarding his home turf and trying to avoid nasty quarrels with the front-runner.

Rick Santorum's stunning success in this week's elections in Colorado, Minnesota and Missouri has fueled his claim that he, not Gingrich, is best qualified to rally conservatives who feel Romney is too moderate and unreliable.

Gingrich, the former

House speaker, again faces a dilemma that has dogged him for much of the election. Should he show his feistier,

meaner side at the risk of turning off voters who want pragmatic solutions more than expressions of anger? Or should he use a tamer, high-minded tone and risk losing economically anxious, resentful Republicans such as those who handed him his only victory, in South Carolina?

Iran to top of US worry list

WASHINGTON (AP) — The prospect of conflict with Iran has eclipsed Afghanistan as the key national security issue with head-spinning speed. After years of bad blood and an international impasse over Iran's disputed nuclear program, why does the threat of war seem so suddenly upon us?

The short answer is that Iran has used the years of deadlock over whether it was pursuing a bomb to get with- in roughly 12 months of being able to build one. Iran claims its nuclear program is not aimed at building a

bomb, but it has refused to drop suspect elements of the program.

Time is running short for Iran to back down without a fight. Time is also running short for either the United States or Israel to mount a preemptive military strike on Iran's nuclear sites, something that seemed far-fetched until fairly recently. It is still unlikely, and for the U.S. represents the last worst option to stop an Iranian bomb.

The United States has a "very good estimate" of when Iran could produce a weapon, President Barack Obama said this week. He said that while he believes the standoff with Iran over its nuclear program can still be resolved through diplomacy, the U.S. has done extensive planning on a range of options.

"We are prepared to exercise these options should they arise," Obama said during an interview with NBC. He said Israel has not made a decision about whether to launch its own strike.



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States, Feds announce mortgage settlement

By **DEREK KRAVITZ**

AP Real Estate Writer

WASHINGTON — Federal officials say a deal has been reached between states and the nation's biggest mortgage lenders over foreclosure abuses.

Five major banks — Bank of America, JPMorgan Chase, Wells Fargo, Citigroup and Ally Financial — will pay roughly \$26 billion to reimburse American homeowners and overhaul their industry.

The nationwide settlement stems from abuses that occurred after the housing bubble burst.

Many companies that process foreclosures failed to verify documents. Some employees signed

papers they hadn't read or used fake signatures to speed foreclosures — an action known as robo-signing.

The deal would be the biggest involving a single industry since a 1998 multistate tobacco deal.

It would force the five largest mortgage lenders to reduce loans for about 1 million households.

The reduced loans would benefit homeowners who are behind on their payments and owe more than their homes are worth.

In addition, another 750,000 Americans — about half of the households who might be eligible for assistance under the deal — would likely receive checks for about \$1,800 each.

The banks and U.S. state attorneys general agreed to the deal late Wednesday after 16 months of contentious negotiations.

New York and California came on board late Wednesday, according to a person close to the negotiations. The source was not authorized to disclose the agreement before Thursday's announcement.

California has more than 2 million "underwater" borrowers, whose homes are worth less than their mortgages. New York has some 118,000 homeowners who are underwater.

The settlement ends a painful chapter that emerged from the financial crisis, when home values

sank and millions edged toward foreclosure. In addition to the payments and mortgage write-downs, the deal promises to reshape long-standing mortgage lending guidelines. It will make it easier for those at risk of foreclosure to make their payments and keep their homes.

Those who lost their homes to foreclosure are unlikely to get their homes back or benefit much financially from the settlement.

The settlement would apply only to privately held mortgages issued from 2008 through 2011.

Banks own about half of all U.S. mortgages — roughly 30 million loans.

Some critics say the proposed

deal doesn't go far enough. They have argued for a thorough investigation of potentially illegal foreclosure practices before a settlement is hammered out.

Under the deal:

— \$17 billion will go toward reducing the principal that struggling homeowners owe on their mortgages.

— \$5 billion will be placed in a reserve account for various state and federal programs; a portion of that money will cover the \$1,800 checks sent to those homeowners affected by the deceptive practices.

— About \$3 billion will help homeowners refinance at 5.25 percent.

LA school in sex abuse case gets entire new staff

By **CHRISTINA HOAG and GREG RISLING**

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — An entirely new staff of teachers will greet students Thursday at an elementary school rocked last week by the arrests of two longtime teachers on lewdness charges.

The case of a third-grade teacher accused of feeding children his semen during bizarre "tasting games" in his classroom over a five-year period has garnered international headlines and roiled the nation's second-largest school district.

Amid outrage from parents, Los Angeles Unified School District officials closed Miramonte Elementary School for two days to completely turn over the 120-member staff, from janitors to principal.

The new staff comprises a retired principal, 88 teachers and also support staff who were recently laid off and were on a rehiring list.

The school's reopening follows revelations Wednesday of 200 more inappropriate photos of children and that one teacher sent warmly written birthday cards and presents to students who participated in his "games."

According to three lawsuits filed against the district, teacher Mark Berndt sent birthday cards to some of the girls, asking how they were adjusting to the fourth grade.

He also wrote warm notes such as "surely no teacher could ever have a more wonderful student than you!" and "P.P.S. The Roaches Say 'Hi!'"

He signed the notes: "Mr. B."

The cards were provided as exhibits in the lawsuits, which were filed Tuesday on behalf of three former students of Berndt.

They allege that the district and Principal Martin Sandoval failed to adequately safeguard them against Berndt and a second teacher arrested, Martin Springer, who faces three lewdness charges in connection with the fondling of a second-grader.

Chili Cook-Off winners



Courtesy photo

The Avon Park Breakfast Rotary team took first place at the first Sebring Rotary Crazy Pepper Chili Cook Off on Jan. 21. Pictured are Michael Sheldone, Donna Vinson, Paul Vinson and Nancy Willard.

Supreme Court asked to save Calif. war memorial

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Supporters of a war memorial cross deemed unconstitutional last year by a federal court plan to ask the Supreme Court to reverse the decision, amid a growing fight nationwide over the use of religious symbols to honor fallen troops.

A nonprofit legal firm, Liberty Institute in Washington D.C., planned to file its petition Thursday to preserve the 43-foot cross on federal land atop San Diego's Mt. Soledad — the same day the group called on combat veterans and supporters to demonstrate at the picturesque site overlooking the Pacific Ocean in the suburb of La Jolla.

The Supreme Court has signaled a greater willingness to allow religious symbols on public land, and the U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill last month that writes into law the propriety of displaying such markers at war memorials.

Last year's ruling by the 9th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals capped two decades of legal challenges over the 1913 monument, which became a memorial to Korean War veterans.

A number of other military memorials on public lands across the country have been challenged in recent years by civil liberty activists and atheists who say they violate the separation between church and state.

The Supreme Court in 2010 refused to order the removal of a congressionally endorsed war memorial cross from its longtime home atop a remote rocky outcropping in California's Mojave Desert.

But Rep. Duncan Hunter, R-San Diego, said he is not relying on the courts.

He introduced the bill passed by the House in January that would codify the existing practice of allowing religious symbols at military monuments established or acquired by the federal government.

Hunter said he drafted the bill with the Mt. Soledad monument in mind but it goes beyond that.

"This isn't just about San Diego," Hunter told The Associated Press.

"This about the rights of members of the military to adorn gravestones and war memorials to honor those who fought in wars with whatever the heck they want to have there, period."

Group uses billboard to chide Gov. Scott on immigration

By **LAURA WIDES-MUNOZ**

AP Hispanic Affairs Writer

MIAMI — A Florida group that wants tougher laws against those in the country illegally is "thanking" Gov. Rick Scott for welcoming illegal immigrants.

The Pompano Beach-based nonprofit Floridians for Immigration Enforcement is delivering the tongue-in-cheek message on a billboard that went up Wednesday on Interstate 75, between the Georgia border and Interstate 10.

The billboard reads: "Welcome Illegal Immigrants: We offer jobs, health care, education and benefits." It suggests that illegal immigrants thank the Republican governor.

It also features the iconic yellow-and-black graphic of a family running that often appears on roads near the U.S.-Mexican border to alert motorists to immigrants crossing.

The governor's office declined to comment on the sign.

Scott supported the legislation during the 2011 session, but has not appeared to push for it this year.

The group is angry that bills that would require companies in Florida to use an online federal program to identify whether a potential new hire can legally work have stalled in Tallahassee. The E-verify program is voluntary at the federal level. Yet a small but growing number of states now require many employers use it. Critics say the error rate is

too high. They also note that the program does little to identify those who use a name and Social Security number belonging to someone else.

But the group's legislative director, Jack Oliver, says the program is constantly being improved, and the system is now incorporating passports and other photo identification to reduce the ability of illegal immigrants' to use Social Security numbers acquired through identity theft.

State Rep. Gayle Harrell, R-Port St. Lucie, has sponsored a bill (HB1315) this year that would require pri-

vate employers in Florida to use the federal database E-Verify to check the status of new employees. But the legislation has yet to be heard in committee in the Florida House.

House Speaker Dean Cannon, R-Winter Park, said he would not comment on an individual piece of legislation, but said it was up to Harrell to convince committee chairman to hear her bill. As for groups that may be upset at the Legislature for a perceived lack of action, he said: "There are always groups upset with the Legislature about what we pass or don't pass."

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1050 Legals

NOTICE OF SALE
 Notice is hereby given that Sebring Mini Storage, Too and Sebring Mini Warehouse intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed on said property under the Florida Self Storage Facility Act Statutes (section 83.80-83.809). The owner will sell at public auction on or after February 24, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at 1500 Lakeview Drive, 1251 Hawthorne, 542 Lemon, and 531 O-mul-la-oee.

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Steven Hanlin	A11
Thomas Urbanski	E2
Lisa Long	107
Ronnie Strickland	110
Kamisha Lowman	21
Kenneth Sorrels	22
Charles Carlson	56
Frankie Smith	63
Shontanique Roux	81
Catherine Hart	90
Shelley Caulder	27

Units are said to contain household goods. The sale may be cancelled in the event of settlement. Should it be impossible to dispose of the goods on the day, the sale will be continued on such succeeding sale days thereafter as may be necessary to be completed.

February 3, 10, 2012

1050 Legals

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
 Case No. 11-657CCS

IN RE: UNCLAIMED FUNDS IN THE APPROXIMATE AMOUNT OF \$2,600.00 US CURRENCY:
 GOSSETT LAW OFFICES, P.A., Petitioner,
 v.
 CHARLES F. O'HARA c/o SHERRI K. (O'HARA) SAXTON, SALLY ANN HOSEIN a/k/a SALLY ANN MIKATI, JEANNIE WIEGAND, CHRISTOPHER CIANCIMINO, LUANN SMITH, EDMUND MARTINO, III, PRUDENTIAL SANDERS REALTY and UNKNOWN JOHN DOES, Respondents.

NOTICE OF ACTION
 TO: EDMUND MARTINO, III, JEANNIE WIEGAND/JEANNIE WEIGAND, AND ALL OTHER PARTIES CLAIMING AN INTEREST BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE ABOVE NAMED PARTIES IN THIS ACTION OR AGAINST THE FUNDS ON DEPOSIT WITH THE COURT HEREIN.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that this action brought under Fla. Stat. 49.011(8), Florida Statutes, seeking an Interpleader Action, Petitioner, GOSSETT LAW OFFICES, P.A. has been filed against you, and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Gossett Law Offices, P.A. whose address is 2221 U.S. 27 South, Sebring, Florida 33870 on or before 30 days from the date of the first publication of this notice and to file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

Dated on February 7, 2012.

ROBERT GRMAINE
 As Clerk of the Court
 By: /s/ Toni Kopp
 As Deputy Clerk
 February 10, 17, 2012

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CASE NO. 28-2011-CA-000719

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
 Plaintiff,
 v.
 TERRY K. COLLIER, ET AL.
 Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION
 TO: BENJAMIN K. COLLIER, and all unknown parties claiming by, through, under or against the above named Defendants, who are not known to be dead or alive, whether said unknown parties claim as heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, lienors, creditors, trustees, spouses, or other claimants
 Current residence unknown, but whose last known address was:
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YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in Highlands County, Florida, to-wit:

LOT 16, IN BLOCK 10, OF SYLVAN SHORES ESTATES, SECTION A, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGE 81, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on DOUGLAS C. ZAHM, P.A., Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 12425 28th Street North, Suite 200, St. Petersburg, FL 33716, on or before March 6, 2012 or within thirty (30) days after the first publication of this Notice of Action, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court at 590 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, FL 33870-3867, either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint petition.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Court on this 26th day of January, 2012.

ROBERT GERMAINE
 Clerk of the Circuit Court
 By: /s/ Toni Kopp
 Deputy Clerk
 February 3, 10, 2012

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION
 FILE NO. PC 11-537

IN RE: ESTATE OF MARGARET R. TAYLOR, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 The administration of the estate of MARGARET R. TAYLOR, deceased, whose date of death was September 1, 2011, is pending in the Circuit Court for Highlands County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 590 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida 33870-3867. The names and addresses of the co-personal representatives and the co-personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is required to be served must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE LATER OF 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 February 3, 2012.

Co-Personal Representatives:
 /s/ Margaret Anna Beach-McLaughlin
 229 Dickinson Road
 Webster, New York 14580
 /s/ Paul A. Taylor
 450 Hollybrook Road
 Rochester, New York 14623

Attorney for Co-Personal Representatives:
 /s/ Natalie R. Wilson
 WILSON LAW, P.L.
 NATALIE R. WILSON
 Florida Bar No. 0027231
 Attorney for Co-Personal Representatives
 1125 Bartow Road, Suite 300
 Lakeland, Florida 33801
 Telephone: (863)682-6828
 Fax: (863) 680-2000

February 3, 10, 2012

1100 Announcements

CHECK YOUR AD

Please check your ad on the first day it runs to make sure it is correct. Sometimes instructions over the phone are misunderstood and an error can occur. If this happens to you, please call us the first day your ad appears and we will be happy to fix it as soon as we can.

If We can assist you, please call us:

314-9876

News-Sun Classified

Classified ads get fast results

2000 Employment

2100 Help Wanted

BUSY EYE CLINIC has openings in all positions. Full time/part time. Send resume to : P.O. Box 991 Lake Placid 33852.

FIRST BAPTIST Pre-school is hiring for a PT Pre-School Teacher & Substitute Teacher, Christian, and fun loving. Apply at First Baptist Pre-School. 200 E Center Ave, or call 863-385-4704.

HIGHLAND COUNTY - PT
 Outside Sales
 15-25 hrs.
 \$200-\$300 per/wk.
 Ed 352-217-9937

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES
 Lake Placid has an opening for an Experienced Full Time Night Auditor. 11pm to 7am. Applicant must have previous hotel night auditor experience. Apply in person at 608 S. Lakeview Rd., Lake Placid

OPERATOR - Local Custom Commercial Fertilizer Application Company is looking for an operator, Agriculture background not necessary, but a plus. Seeking a Responsible / Mature / Dependable person. Clean driving record a must. Hard working / Dedicated drivers welcome to apply. Call 863-453-4459.

OPHTHALMIC ASSISTANT
 Experienced Ophthalmic Assistant Positions available, COA preferred but not required. Please send resume to: **Eye Specialists of Mid-Florida Attn: Human Resources 5032 US 27 N Sebring, FL 33870** or Fax to 863-385-7442 or Email to cgrice@EyesFL.Com

PATIENT CARE TECHNICIAN
 Needed for dialysis clinic - Certified Hemodialysis Technician preferred, but will train right Phlebotomist. Must be able to pass a Background and Drug Screen check. Call Peggy at (863) 382-9443 or fax resume (863) 382-9242

SATELLITE INSTALLATION TECH
 Needed, will train. Send resume to florida-totalcom@verizon.net

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CIVIL ACTION
 CASE NO.: 28-2011-CA-000772
 DIVISION:
 NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE LLC,
 Plaintiff,
 vs.
 FREDY WILES, et al,
 Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF ACTION
 To: FREDY WILES
 GLADYS WILES
 Last Known Address: 9053 NW 189th Terrace
 Hialeah, FL 33018
 Current Address: 9053 NW 189th Terrace
 Hialeah, FL 33018

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, GRANTEEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS

Last Known Address: Unknown
 Current Address: Unknown

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in Highlands County, Florida:

LOT 31, BLOCK 57, OF SUN 'N LAKE ESTATES OF SEBRING, UNIT 5, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 9, PAGE 51, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

A/K/A 3831 EL RADO AVE, SEBRING, FL 33872-2386 has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses within 30 days after the first publication, if any, on Albertelli Law, Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is P.O. Box 23028, Tampa, FL 33623, and file the original with this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney, or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint or petition.

This notice shall be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in the News-Sun.

WITNESS my hand and seal of this court on this 2nd day of February, 2012.

Clerk of the Circuit Court
 By: /s/ Annette E. Daff
 Deputy Clerk
 February 10, 17, 2012

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CASE NO. 28-2011-CA-000713

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.
 Plaintiff,
 v.
 THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, GRANTEEES, DEVISEES, LIENORS, TRUSTEES, AND CREDITORS OF DEVEDA E. MARTIN; JAMES A. MARTIN, DECEASED, ET AL.
 Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION
 TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, GRANTEEES, DEVISEES, LIENORS, TRUSTEES, AND CREDITORS OF DEVEDA E. MARTIN, JAMES A. MARTIN, DECEASED, AND ALL CLAIMANTS, PERSONS OR PARTIES, NATURAL OR CORPORATE, AND WHOSE EXACT LEGAL STATUS IS UNKNOWN, CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST DEVEDA E. MARTIN, JAMES A. MARTIN, DECEASED, OR ANY OF THE HEREIN NAMED OR DESCRIBED DEFENDANTS OR PARTIES CLAIMING TO HAVE ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN AND TO THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED

Current residence unknown, but whose last known address was:
 109 ROBIN AVE., SEBRING, FL 33870-8534

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in Highlands County, Florida, to-wit:

LOT 18, SEBRING HILLS SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGE 2, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on DOUGLAS C. ZAHM, P.A., Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 12425 28th Street North, Suite 200, St. Petersburg, FL 33716, on or before March 13, 2012 or within thirty (30) days after the first publication of this Notice of Action, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court at 590 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, FL 33870-3867, either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint petition.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Court on this 3rd day of February, 2012.

ROBERT GERMAINE
 Clerk of the Circuit Court
 By: /s/ Toni Kopp
 Deputy Clerk
 February 10, 17, 2012

1050 Legals

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Pursuant to a WRIT OF EXECUTION issued out of the Circuit Court of the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit in and for Broward County, Florida, on the 13th day of January, 2010, in the cause wherein ADRINO & YOSS, LLP., a limited liability partnership, is Plaintiff, and FRED STERNBERG, an individual, BONNIE STERNBERG, an individual, BBNBENTLEY, CORP., I/K/A Baxter International Corp., a dissolved Florida profit corporation, and BBBaxter LLC., a dissolved Delaware limited liability company, are Defendants, being Case No. 09-020781-09 in the said Court, I, Susan Benton, Sheriff of Highlands County, Florida, have levied upon all of the Defendant, BONNIE STERNBERG's right, title and interest in and to the following described REAL property in Highlands County, Florida, to-wit:

LOT 4, PLANTATION HILL SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 16, PAGE 56, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA

STREET ADDRESS FOR THE SUBJECT PROPERTY IS: 1706 West Stryker Road, Avon Park, FL 33825 and on the 13th day of March, 2012, at the Commerce Avenue entrance to the Highlands County Courthouse, in the City of Sebring, Highlands County, Florida, at the hour of 11:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as possible, I will offer for sale all of the said defendant, BONNIE STERNBERG's, right, title and interest in the aforesaid property at public outcry and will sell the same, subject to all prior liens, encumbrances and judgments, if any, to the highest and best bidder or bidders for CASH, the proceeds to be applied as far as may be to the payment of costs and the satisfaction of the above-described execution.

Dated this, February 7, 2012
 SUSAN BENTON, SHERIFF OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
 By: /s/ Lt. Jack Bailey, Jr.
 Lt. Jack Bailey, Jr.,
 DEPUTY SHERIFF

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons with disabilities needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the agency sending this notice at 434 Fernleaf Ave., Sebring, FL 33870. Telephone 863/402-7228 not later than seven days prior to the proceeding. If hearing impaired, (ITD) 1-800-955-8771, or Voice (V) 1-800-955-8770, via Florida Relay Services.

February 10, 17, 24, March 2, 2012

CITY OF SEBRING

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The City of Sebring is recruiting for the following position(s):

School Crossing Guard Closes: 2-27-11

For an application contact City of Sebring Police Department
 307 N. Ridgewood Dr., Sebring, FL, 33870. (863) 471-5108
 or visit us on our website at: www.mysebring.com

Drug Free Workplace, EOE, Vet. Pref.

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with Section 121.055 F.S. the Highlands County Sheriffs Office intends to designate the following positions under the Senior Management Service Class: 0148 Dispatch Director.

Drug Free Workplace/E.O.E./A.D.E.A./Veterans

LOOKING FOR THAT SPECIAL HOME?

Search the News-Sun Classifieds every Sunday, Wednesday and Friday.

Subscribe to the News-Sun Call 385-6155

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
 Notice is hereby given that ON 3/7/12 at 10:30 am the following vehicles will be sold for towing & storage charges pursuant to F.S. 713.78.
 1997 FORD SW # 1FMDU24E3VUB93523
 ALL Sales to be held at Alan Jay Automotive Network 441 US 27N Sebring, Fl 33870 863 402 4210

February 10, 2012

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE DIRECTORY

2100 Help Wanted

MEDICAL ASSISTANT F/T Exp. only. Work with all patient care. Learn X-Ray. Please fax resume to: 863-299-4352

SEBRING BIG 3 Family Sale! Fri. 8 - 5pm. Sat. 8 - 7. 6824 Concord St. In Spring Lake. Something for Everyone!

SEVERAL TUTORS NEEDED for students in kindergarten through 8th grade. Monday - Thursday 2:30-5:00. Mileage paid @ \$.50/mile. Compensation is \$25/hour. Year round position. To start as soon as possible Call 786-326-5179. Please email resume to: inspired2think@aol.com

WE ARE seeking someone interested in serving as a Music Minister for our congregation. The position would be a "volunteer ministry." We are also seeking a volunteer to work with our Youth program. If you are interested please contact our office at 863-453-5334.

3000 Financial

4000 Real Estate

4060 Homes for Sale Avon Park

AVON PARK Large 2/3 Home, in nice neighborhood. \$125,000. Call 863-452-5265

4100 Homes for Sale Lake Placid

LAKE PLACID Sylvan Shores 2/2. Pool, remodeled kitchen, ADT alarm, privacy fence, fireplace, guest cottage. \$10,000. down. Owner financing. \$99,500. Call 863-465-7838

4120 Villas & Condos For Sale

SEBRING - Villa's At Pine Key. By Owner! 3BR, 2BA, 2CG, enclosed FL. Room. Gated Community w/ Clubhouse & Pool. Close to Everything! \$149,900. 863-402-1934

4260 Acreage for Sale

SEBRING BEAUTIFUL 5 acres on Selah Rd. Excel neighborhood. Double wide 3/2. 2 Barns, 2 wells w/pumps. Large Oak trees. Close to Golf courses & Highlands Hammock. Lots of Wildlife to observe & enjoy. Private, yet close to everything. \$150,000. 863-402-1934

TAKING BIDS For rental of 640 acres in Central Highlands County (Sec8, T35S, R29E) Suitable for Recreational use or cattle farming No Hunting Owners reserves all timber rights Submit written bids to: Koshier Law Offices PO Box 363 Winamac, In. 46996

5000 Mobile Homes

5050 Mobile Homes For Sale

AVON PARK **PRICE REDUCED** Furn. 2BR, 2BA, With Land. Rent Free. Renovated / Painted / New Laminate / Carpets. Kit Cupboards. Just bring toothbrush. 863-453-4338

LAKE PLACID Furnished Single Wide Mobile Home. Great Quality! 1 Lg. bdrm., lg. closets, utility room w/washer & dryer. Great floor plan, new appl. Florida Room w/white a bed, carpet w/storage shed. Located in Lake Garden Mobile Home Park. Water & trash incl. Low lot rent. Great Club house. Lake setting, close to shopping. \$18,000 negotiable. Call 863-699-2333.

PALM HARBOR HOMES 4/2 From 499 Mo Loaded 3/2 From 399 Mo Loaded Homes on Your Lot 0 Down 800-622-2832 EXT 210

SEBRING - **PARK MODEL** 15' X 35' with 10' X 22' Enclosed Florida Room, 55 Plus Park. 1BR, 1BA, Heat & Air., New Roof, 15' X 15' Shed. Excellent Condition! 765-603-7764

SEBRING - SAFE, SECURE, GATED COMMUNITY. 2BR, 1BA Central Heat & Air, W/D, Deck. Totally Furnished, Like New \$26,000 obo. Comes w/ Golf Cart. Low Lot Rent. Very Well Located. Call 863-414-5284

5150 Mobile Homes For Rent

HANDYMAN SPECIALS! Quiet mobile home community has older mobile homes FOR SALE. Close to Historic Downtown Sebring, shopping, lakes & schools. Repairs are required but have great potential for minimal cost. HOMES MUST REMAIN IN PARK-very affordable lot rent. Must pass a criminal background check. Own your home for as little as \$500.00. You read right! Homes won't last. Call for appointment. 786-255-3188

SEBRING - (2) Double Wide, C/H/A, Quiet Area, Children OK. No Pets. (1) 3BR, 1 1/2BA & (1) 2BR, 2BA. Call 863-840-0494 or 863-465-1451

6000 Rentals

6050 Duplexes for Rent

LAKE PLACID 2/2 Duplex in Sun N Lakes, back yard & patio, on Deerwalk Ave. \$450 mo., \$500 security, equals \$950. Move In. Call Tim, 954-829-1641

6100 Villas & Condos For Rent

SEBRING PINE Key Villa. Gated Community. 2/2, Pool. Very Nice. \$750/mo. + \$500 security. Call 863-382-2812

6200 Unfurnished Apartments

AVON PARK ** Highlands Apartments 1680 North Delaware Ave. 1BR, 1BA & 2BR, 2BA Available. Central Heat & Air, Extra insulation. 1st & Sec. Call 863-449-0195

AVON PARK - Apartment with Balcony Overlooking Lake Verona and City Park. 100 E. Main St. Laundry Facilities. SPECIAL: \$325/mo. 863-453-8598

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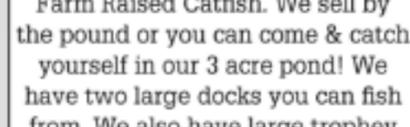
News-Sun

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AVON PARK - LEMONTREE APTS 1BR \$495 mo. + \$200 Sec. Deposit, available immediately. Washer/Dryer & WSG included. Call Alan 386-503-8953

6300 Unfurnished Houses

AVON PARK - 2BR, 1 1/2Ba, Single Family , Appliance, W/D Hook-up, C/H/A, 1 car gar., Completely renovated. \$650 mo., 1st./last/ deposit. Avail. March 15th. No Pets. 863-443-0392

AVON PARK HOME Lake Front Estate, Private Setting. 2/1 All Appliances, Water, Garbage & Lawn Care. \$600/mo. 863-452-2299

AVON PARK LAKES - 3BR, 2BA, 2Car garage, Fenced in back yard. \$800 per month. Call 863-453-9544 Leave message.

AVON PARK RENT SUBSIDIZED

1,2,3,& 4 BR Apts in a Central Location, Separate Family & Elderly/Disabled properties; Ridgedale Apts, Lakeside Park & Delaney Hgts. Based on household income.

No Application Fee!

Please Call 863-452-4432 TTY 800-955-8771

PLACID LAKES - 3BR, 2BA, Newer home. Quiet area, Green Belt. Near Lake June. No smoking or pets. \$795/mo. 863-699-1119 or cell. 863-840-3698.

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North Central Heights Homes, a new "Rent Restricted" single family home development in Avon Park. Rents average in the low to mid 500's & 600's! 2, 3 and 4 BR Available!

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SEBRING - 2 STORY TOWN HOME 3BR, 2.5BA, 1CG \$800/mo. No Smoking, no pets. 863-402-1142

6550 Warehouses for Rent

SEBRING - STORAGE RENTALS 12' X 30' with 10' X 10' Doors. 602 Park Street, Sebring, FL. Call 863-385-7486

ZOLFO SPRINGS - ADMINISTRATIVE ASST./OFC. MANAGER General Office Duties, Phones, Data Entry. PAPER-WORK. Attention to detail a must. 30-40 hrs/week. \$9.00/hr to start. Call 863-773-4202 or fax resume to: 863-773-6193

6750 Commercial Rental

SEBRING 640 Park St. 6400 sq ft, \$1600/mo: A/C, office, BA, 8 overhead doors, 3 phase electric, fenced yard, near Sebring Parkway. Call Chip Boring 863-385-0077 or Call 863-381-1298

7000 Merchandise

7260 Musical Merchandise

DIGITAL PIANO Kawai 2005. Concert performance CP115. Mahogany console. Excel.cond. Asking \$2,500 obo. Call 863-655-0290

7300 Miscellaneous

DIRT DEVIL - Room mate sweeper \$20. MAGELLAN - Roadmate GPS #1412 used 3 times \$50. AUDIOVOX two way radios \$10. BUG ZAPPER, \$5. 5 gal. gas can \$5. 1 gal. gas can \$2. ADKO, TYVEK R.V. cover, NEW, fits trailers 28'7" to 31'6" \$125. BED EXTENDER, NEW, for Ford F-150, aluminum pipe, \$50. SEARS 51/2" cordless trim saw 19.2 volt, no battery, \$25. SEARS 19.2 volt cordless JIG SAW, no battery, \$25. Call 863-453-7027.

FIBERGLASS TOPPER for 8' truck \$100/ 4 wheeled electric scooter w/ basket \$300 / Electric lift for van to haul scooter \$100 / Wheelchair \$25 / Pedal boat \$25. Call 863-655-6212

HORSE TRAILER / 2000 Sundowner Valueite 3 Horse Slant Load Bumperpull w/ Ramp. \$6500 obo. Great condition! ** Must See ** 863-655-1990 or 561-346-5696

7310 Bargain Buys

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FISHING EQUIPMENT 4 new 6' Ugly Stik w/reels. \$100 Call 863-273-1846.

FRAMED ART PRINT Leroy Neiman's "Show Jumping" 33" x 27". \$100 Call 863-699-1119

LAMP - Antique Brass w/ mother of pearl shade, 10" high. \$20. 863-402-2285

MATTRESS, TWIN, w/box spring & headboard. \$50 Call 703-909-1133

REFRIGERATOR FRIGIDAIRE Locking Wine/Beverage refrigerator. Black, excel cond. \$100 Call 863-399-1977

REFRIGERATOR WHIRLPOOL 12 cu. ft. White. \$75 Call 863-385-3596

RYOBI - Attachments - Trimmer, Whipper, vacuum bagger, edger. All for \$35. 863-402-2285

TABLE & 4 CHAIRS Wooden, Early American Style. \$40 Call 863-242-3529.

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7320 Garage & Yard Sales

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AVON PARK LAKES Fri. - Sat. 8 - ?. Stryker to Berkely to 2385 W Cavalier. Large Sale!!

HIGHLAND OAKS RV RESORT ANNUAL YARD SALE FEB. 11, 2012, 7:30 A.M. TO 2 P.M. AT 7001 OLD PLANTATION AVE., SEBRING

LAKE PLACID Alpine Village, Bake & Rummage Sale, RAIN or SHINE! (mostly enclosed), 18 Center St, US 27 S. to 70 E., 1/4 mi on left, Fri, Feb 10, 7am-2pm, Sat, Feb 11, 7am-Noon. Furniture, Major & Minor appliances, Microwaves, CD's, Gas Grill, Many Household items, Camping & Fishing Equip, Garden Tools, Like new Dish Washer, Crafts & Magnetic Picture Frames, Plants, Flowers, Produce & Refreshments.

LAKE PLACID Fri. - Sat. 8 - 2pm. 1635 Cedarbrook St. Multi-Family Sale!

LAKE PLACID Sat. - Sun. 8 - ?. 600 Spruce Ave. Unit F3. Warehouse Sale! Furn., fishing, collectibles & misc.

LAKE PLACID Sun In Lakes Fri. - Sat 2/10 & 2/11. 7 - 2pm. 140 Ida Ave. 2003 Open Road Fifth Wheel as is, needs work. Too much to list.

PLACID LAKES - 8840 Placid Lakes Blvd. Thur-Fri-Sat, Feb 9-10-11, 8am to 3pm. Household items, collectibles, sm. appl., Furn., Xmas decor, Something For Everyone / Too Much To List!

SEBRING - 1617 Myrtle Avenue Thur. - Fri. - Sat. Feb 9 - 10 - 11, 7am - ? Furniture, Tools, Household Items and Some Jewelry.

7320 Garage & Yard Sales

SEBRING - 2911 Las Vegas Blvd., Fri & Sat, Feb. 10th & 11th, 8am - 1pm. Clothing (men's women's & childrens), Toys & Misc. Too Much To List!

SEBRING - VERY HUGE SALE! 1501 Riley Ave.Thur- Fri-Sat, Feb 9-10-11, 8am to 3pm. Clothes, purses, shoes housewares, tables, figurines, cd's, RCA 27" TV, entertainment ctr, costume jewelry, & Much More!

SEBRING - Woody's RV Park 4414 US Hwy 27 S. Sat. Feb 11th, 8AM - 1PM. Furn., Household, Junk, Treasures, Needlework, Tools. Baked Goods Donuts - Coffee - Hot Dogs

SEBRING FRANCIS II MHP ANNUAL GARAGE SALE, 2800 Real McCoy Dr, Sat, Feb 11th, 8am-2pm. Crafts, Bake Sale, Raffle, Snack Bar also available.

SEBRING THUR. - Fri. 9 - 5pm. 4804 Desoto Rd. Padded chairs, table & hutch, dishes, craft supplies, adult clothes & much more.

SEBRING ** ESTATE SALE ** Fri - Sat, Feb 10 & 11, 8am - 4pm. Sebring Country Estates / Community Center 3240 Grand Prix Dr. 33872. (behind Wal Mart on Rt. look for purple signs) Years of accumulated Antiques - Collectibles, Lamps of all kinds; marble / Aladdin / art deco. etc., Wood, Metal, Arts & Crafts, Assortment of New costume jewelry, Ladies clothes (various sizes / mostly New w/ tags), Old paper items; post cards / trade cards / programs / magazines, Victorian items, Cochran Rocker 1890's, Lg. colorful TV cabinet / storage unit, Old wicker, Everyday Items Too! Saturday, Many 1/2 Priced! No Early Sales. Donna Collins Estate Sales www.estatesales.net

7340 Wanted to Buy

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7520 Pets & Supplies

NOTICE

Florida statute 585.195 states that all dogs and cats sold in Florida must be at least eight weeks old, have an official health certificate and proper shots and be free of intestinal and external parasites.

8000 Recreation

8050 Boats & Motors

BOAT- SCOUT 2001 - 155 center console, never in salt water (fresh water only!) Yamaha 50 hp w/ stainless steel prop / Tilt & Trim / Trailer / New Birmini top / New Minn Kota Edge 55 lb trolling motor. \$6995 obo. 863-655-1990 or 561-346-5696

8400 Recreational Vehicles

ROAD KING 2012. Pull type Travel Trailer. Front kitchen, king bed, w/d, d/w, table w/4 chairs. 2 power slides. No pets, non smoker. Clean! Can deliver. \$24,500 obo. Call 630-862-6956

ROAD KING 44', 5th Wheel, 2012. 4 slide outs, 2 bdrm/2 bath. All options. Must sell! \$44,000. Call 860-331-5208.

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9000 Transportation

9100 Motorcycles & ATVs

SCOOTER 2008 - SUZUKI BURGMAN 400, pin stripping,matching trunk, 3,400 miles, in great condition. Call 863-453-7027

TRIKE 2003 Yamaha, 650cc. 5400 mi. Lots of extras. \$8900. Call 863-655-4528

9450 Automotive for Sale

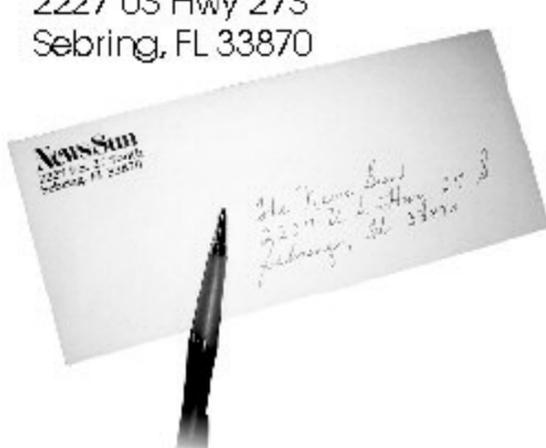
CROSLY HOT SHOT 1951. Beautiful cond. \$12,000. Call 386-479-7086

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Five-Day forecast for Highlands County

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Variable clouds with a shower 79° / 62° Winds: ENE at 4-8 mph	Morning showers; some sun returning 71° / 44° Winds: NNW at 10-20 mph	Partly sunny and breezy 64° / 42° Winds: N at 10-20 mph	Partly sunny 72° / 53° Winds: E at 7-14 mph	Partly sunny and nice 79° / 59° Winds: SSE at 6-16 mph



Almanac

Temperature
Readings at Archbold Biological Station in Lake Placid

High Sunday	82°
Low Sunday	59°
High Monday	82°
Low Monday	64°
High Tuesday	78°
Low Tuesday	61°
High Wednesday	81°
Low Wednesday	54°

Heat Index
For 3 p.m. today

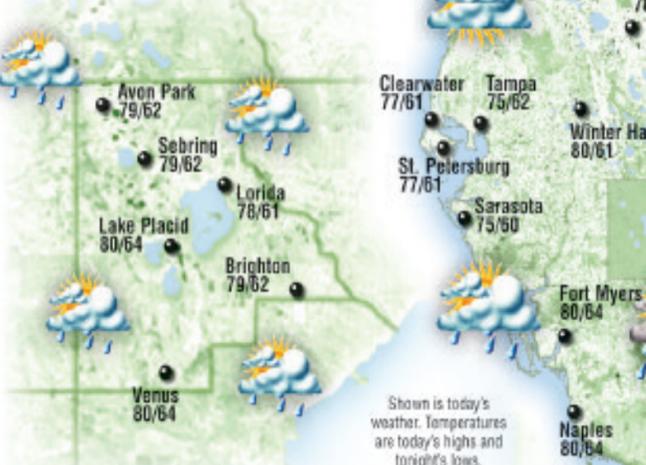
Relative humidity	64%
Expected air temperature	76°
Makes it feel like	78°

Barometer
Monday: 29.98
Tuesday: 30.03
Wednesday: 30.09

Precipitation
Monday: 0.09"
Tuesday: 0.00"
Wednesday: 0.00"
Month to date: 0.14"
Year to date: 0.43"

Regional Summary

Variable clouds today with a shower. Rather cloudy tonight with a couple of showers. Showers tomorrow morning; otherwise, breezy with clouds yielding to some sun. Sunday: partly sunny and breezy.



Farm Report

A shower today. Winds north-northeast 4-8 mph. Expect less than 2 hours of sunshine with a 55% chance of precipitation and average relative humidity 70%.

Water Restrictions

- Even addresses may water on Thursday and Sunday.
- Odd addresses may water on Wednesday and Saturday.
- All watering should take place before 10 a.m. and after 4 p.m.

Weather History

On Feb. 10, 1980, snow closed interstate highways in Alabama and Dallas. Exactly one year later, spring-style tornadoes damaged schools and shopping centers from Texas to Alabama.

Sun and Moon

Today	Saturday
Sunrise	7:06 a.m.
Sunset	6:15 p.m.
Moonrise	9:23 p.m.
Moonset	10:26 p.m.

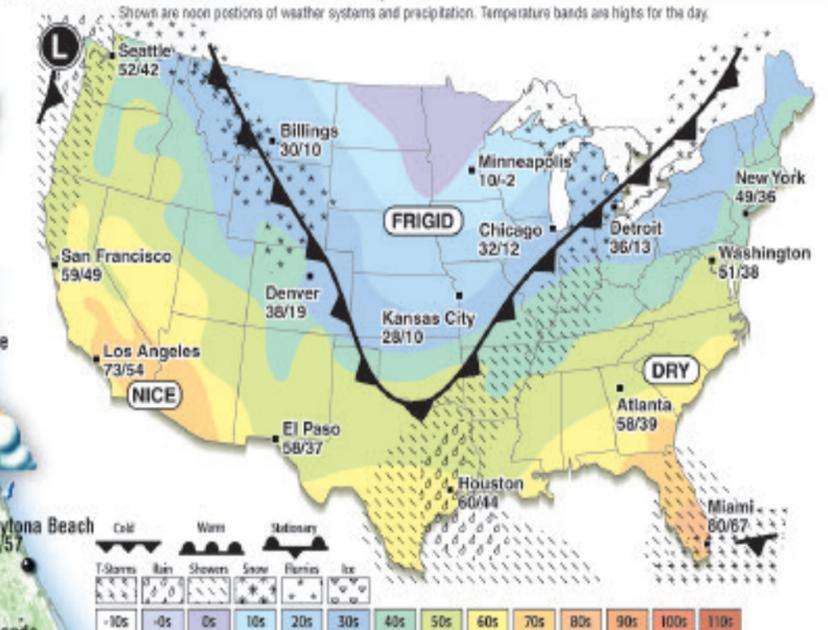
Florida Cities

City	Today	Sat.	Sun.
Cape Coral	80/64/c	73/47/s	68/44/pc
Clearwater	77/61/c	71/48/sh	62/46/pc
Coral Springs	81/67/s	74/54/s	71/54/pc
Daytona Beach	76/57/c	69/41/sh	58/40/pc
FL. Laud. Bch.	79/69/s	75/59/s	71/57/pc
Fort Myers	80/64/c	73/48/s	69/46/pc
Gainesville	76/53/c	68/34/s	56/28/pc
Hollywood	80/69/s	75/53/s	72/53/pc
Homestead AFB	79/65/s	76/54/s	70/54/pc
Jacksonville	72/51/c	67/33/pc	54/28/s
Key West	78/69/s	76/61/s	69/60/pc

World Cities

City	Today	Sat.	Sun.
Acapulco	78/70/sh	88/72/s	90/76/s
Athens	45/11/sh	52/45/r	55/45/sh
Beirut	58/50/r	61/53/s	66/58/pc
Berlin	14/6/s	21/7/pc	24/19/c
Barruda	68/82/c	70/68/sh	62/65/sh
Calgary	22/4/pc	20/8/pc	34/24/s
Dublin	48/38/sh	45/37/pc	45/38/pc
Edmonton	15/-9/s	14/5/s	24/14/s
Freeport	75/71/s	72/60/s	68/57/pc
Geneva	27/8/s	22/7/s	26/10/s
Havana	63/63/pc	61/60/sh	74/60/pc
Hong Kong	66/58/c	68/63/c	70/66/pc
Jerusalem	49/49/pc	52/41/pc	61/50/c
Johannesburg	77/59/s	70/57/s	80/59/pc
Kiev	8/-4/c	4/-7/pc	10/4/s

National Forecast for February 10



National Summary

A strong arctic cold front will allow frigid air to dive into the Northern states today. Snow showers and flurries will accompany the cold front in the northern Rockies and parts of the Great Lakes. A weak storm will bring much needed rain to central and eastern Texas. The Southeast will be dry as clouds mix with sunshine. Showers will break out across Florida due to a stalled front south of the state. The Northeast will be dry and pleasant before colder air sweeps in Saturday. Rain will fall in the Pacific Northwest.

U.S. Cities

City	Today	Sat.	Sun.
Albuquerque	54/33/pc	58/35/pc	54/32/s
Atlanta	58/39/pc	47/21/pc	46/25/s
Baltimore	50/36/s	38/18/s	36/22/pc
Birmingham	57/35/pc	47/19/pc	45/25/s
Boston	49/23/s	33/19/s	21/8/pc
Charlotte	58/29/s	50/19/pc	46/22/s
Cheyenne	36/13/pc	27/18/s	39/25/c
Chicago	32/12/s	23/14/pc	27/18/s
Cleveland	38/17/s	25/17/s	29/19/c
Columbus	38/23/s	26/14/s	31/17/pc
Dallas	54/30/c	50/28/pc	48/38/pc
Denver	38/19/pc	31/17/s	39/24/c
Detroit	36/13/s	24/14/pc	29/20/pc
Harrisburg	46/22/s	34/18/s	30/21/pc
Honolulu	80/88/s	82/88/pc	81/88/pc
Houston	60/44/r	63/39/pc	56/43/pc
Indianapolis	40/14/r	29/12/pc	31/17/s
Jackson, MS	53/37/s	50/24/pc	49/29/pc
Kansas City	28/10/pc	21/8/pc	31/23/s
Lexington	42/21/c	28/14/s	32/19/s
Little Rock	50/29/c	42/21/pc	41/28/pc

Tides

Readings at St. Petersburg

High	3:03 a.m.
Low	9:36 a.m.
High	3:40 p.m.
Low	9:51 p.m.

Readings at Palm Beach

High	10:16 a.m.
Low	3:42 a.m.
High	10:44 p.m.
Low	4:07 p.m.

Lake Levels

Readings as of 7 a.m. yesterday

Lake Jackson	78.36'
Lake Okeachobee	13.22'
Normal	14.51'

UV Index Today

The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index® number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.



10 a.m. 2 p.m. 4 p.m.
0-2 Low; 3-5 Moderate; 6-7 High; 8-10 Very High; 11+ Extreme
Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2012

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A NOT FOR PROFIT FACILITY

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Where: Oaks at Avon
When: February, 11th, 2012
Time: 10am-4pm

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97 COUNTRY

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Sebring

Lady Streaks are working out the kinks



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE

Dino Lower launched this two-run, first-inning home run in Tuesday's season opener against Hardee.

By LAUREN WELBORN
News-Sun correspondent

The Sebring varsity softball team premiered their new threads and fresh team as they hosted Hardee for their first home game of the regular season Tuesday night.

After losing a couple of key starters from last year, the Lady Streaks are still working out the usual kinks that come with position changes and accommodations.

This was a factor as they saw a 14-4 loss to the Lady Wildcats.

Starting pitcher Haley Pack almost escaped a tough first inning, loading the bases but getting to two outs and two strikes.

But an ensuing single to left brought two in before the inning ended.

The Streaks, however, tied it up on a two-out, two-run Dino Lower home run in the

bottom of the frame.

But it was all downhill from there.

As play continued, Sebring's nerves got the best of them as a few errors showed on the field.

Hardee broke out the big bats and got into the swing that would continually increase their lead.

"The fundamentals just weren't there," Pack said. "We made way too many mental errors and shot ourselves in the foot."

Despite the loss, Sebring looks forward to a successful season as their team grows stronger together.

They plan to work hard and become a force to be reckoned with in the future.

The Lady Streaks are on the road today to take on LaBelle High school with high hopes of bringing home the win.



News-Sun file photo by DAN HOEHNE

Marcus Dewberry and the Red Devils got past Frostproof Tuesday to reach the District 10-4A tournament title game tonight.

Devils head to title game

By DAN HOEHNE
daniel.hoehne@newssun.com

Avon Park has made it to the title game of the District 10-4A tournament, winning their sixth in a row Tuesday night.

The Devils held off a feisty Frostproof squad for a 71-55 win at Mulberry, setting up tonight's championship clash with DeSoto.

In two December meetings with the Bulldogs of Arcadia, Avon Park had little trouble, cruising to a 76-61

second-district schedule win and a 96-59 beat down in the Taveniere Tournament at Sebring.

But it was on Friday, Jan. 20, that DeSoto surprised the visiting Devils with a 77-70 win that began a three-game losing streak.

A 67-51 loss at Chipley followed the next day and an 80-70 loss at Hardee took place five days later. Since then, however, AP

has righted the ship, finishing off their season district slate with a 97-55 win over Mulberry, before topping Southeast of Bradenton, Clearwater Central Catholic, Fort Myers and Windermere Prep — top notch competition as a team-stealing tune-up for tournament time.

Tuesday's contest started slow with the Bulldogs keeping it even after one at 13-13.

But the Devils sparked in the second, outscoring Frostproof 17-10 by halftime.

Ricky Cobb, however, heated up in the third to help his squad cut the lead to just four by the end of the third.

Cobb would go for a game-high 25, but Reggie Baker and Michael Rhoden went for six and four points, respectively, over the final eight minutes, helping Avon Park win going away.

Avon Park
71
Frostproof
55

Noah Weed is on his way

By DAN HOEHNE

daniel.hoehne@newssun.com

SEBRING — Making his way through the amateur ranks of mixed martial arts fighting, Sebring native Noah Weed is seeing steady progress.

That progress took a big step — thanks to a roundhouse kick — Saturday, Jan. 28, when Weed took out his opponent in 31 seconds to win the Kick International All Martial Arts Super Fights championship belt in Melbourne.

"It was actually more like 23 seconds," said Weed's

trainer, manager and father Steve Weed, who runs the Universal Center of Natural Martial Arts. "When he connected with the kick, that guy was out on his feet. He went down but was still moving and, like you see in Ultimate Fighting, you're supposed to go and finish him. Noah got him in a choke hold and I was up yelling for them to stop the fight, which they finally did."

The latest win moved Weed's amateur record to 3-2, with things looking up. "He lost his first two fights, but has now won three in a row," Steve Weed said. "In the state of Florida, you

have to have five amateur fights before you turn pro."

But that's not in the immediate future for Noah, though he might want it to be.

"If all goes well I'd like to shoot for this summer," he said.

But his father has a different idea.

"I told him 2013," Steve said. "I really want to groom him to gain confidence and make sure he is comfortable and fully knows what to do in the ring."

And while the anxiousness of youth propels the 19-year-old, he too realizes what he

needs to work on.

"I'm an all-around fighter, on my feet and on the ground," he said. "I'm working on my takedowns and my nervousness in the ring. I don't know what it is, but right now it's a totally different feeling when I get in there."

He is obviously improving, as his last fight would indicate, with his next fight on tap for Saturday night at the King of the Castle tournament in Kissimmee, in hopes of adding another belt to his growing collection.

His progress is also being noticed as he was sent a letter by promoters to take part in a World Cage Warriors event in

"I don't know what it is, but right now it's a totally different feeling when I get in there."

NOAH WEED
Mixed Martial Arts fighter



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE

Noah Weed shows off the Kick International Sports All Martial Arts belt he won at the Super Fights even in Melbourne on Saturday, Jan. 28 — with a 31-second knockout.

Ocala this May.

"I can't get much information on the guy I'll be fighting," Noah said. "All I know is he's 10-1 and we've both lost to the same guy, who is still undefeated."

Before that, Weed will have to defend his KIAMA belt in April.

A tough and busy road, for

sure, but one that will help him progress further toward reaching that next level.

"I've been training with my dad since I was 4," Weed said. "And I've wanted to fight since I was 15. I'd like to perform in the cage like I do in the gym to succeed."

He certainly seems to be on his way.

Chippys celebrates 94 with LP Seniors win

Special to the News-Sun

LAKE PLACID — Question: What do Rita Hayworth, Nelson Mandela, Sam Walton, Art Carney, Paul Harvey, Ted Williams, and Al Chippys all have in common?

Answer: They were all born in 1918. Only Mandela and Chippys are still alive.

Chippys, the ever-smiling catcher for Lockhart Service Center, celebrated his 94th birthday this week with his fellow players in Lake Placid Senior Softball.

A large sheet cake with his picture was presented in his honor.

Players shook his hand and wondered what was his secret to longevity.

A former tobacco farmer near London, Ontario, Chippys said he never smoked in his life.

"I would have an occasional rum and coke in my youth," admitted the patriarch of eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

He still shoots 18 holes of golf a week, and hopes to someday have his score lower than his age.

"I shot 100 last week, he said. "Only six more years to go!"

In league action on Wednesday, Feb. 8, Chippys smashed a solid single to help Lockhart (4-5) upend Central Security (6-4) 21-20.

The loss ended Central's five-game winning streak that has catapulted them into first place.

All four of their losses have been by one run.

Lockhart manager Darrel Richards led the way with five hits (double, triple).

Bill Gallagher homered, Paul Brand doubled and tripled, Norm Grubbs had two doubles and Ian McCuaig tripled for the winners.

For Central, Fred Moore had five hits.

The Three Hit Club included Jim Hensley (double), Jim Lorne (double), Glenn Minnick (double) and "Wild Bill" Destefano.

In the other contest of the day, Seminole Tire (4-6) collected 42 hits on their way to a 24-17 win over slumping Yates Insurance (5-4).

Leading the 'Noles were Jim Guild and Larry Oser with six hits, Glenn Wearsch with five, and Ray Wilson, Dick Cook, Hugh Grimaldi and Gallo Gonzalez with four hits each.

Chuck O'Hara made two

sparkling plays at second base.

For Yates, losers of four of their last five, Ed Engler had five hits (three doubles) and an unassisted double play on defense.

Manager Doran Quigg, Bill Card and Joe Hedges had four hits each, with Hedges hitting for the cycle.

Ron Hanish and Gary Pixley had three hits apiece in the loss.

On Monday, Chippys' Lockhart team played to a 9-9 tie with Yates Insurance, before the contest was suspended by rain.

It will be continued the

next time the two teams play.

Manager Darrel Richards had three hits for Lockhart, while "Wahoo" Stanley doubled and homered for Yates.

On the other field, Central Security pounded Seminole Tire 25-10.

"Wild Bill" Destefano and Glenn Minnick had five hits each, while Jim Lorne and Fred Moore anchored the defense with stellar glove-work for the winners.

For Seminole Tire, Jim Guild and Chet Johnson each contributed three hits.

THE SCOREBOARD

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	18	8	.692	—
Boston	14	10	.583	3
New York	11	15	.423	7
New Jersey	8	19	.296	10½
Toronto	8	19	.296	10½

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	19	7	.731	—
Atlanta	17	9	.654	2
Orlando	16	10	.615	3
Washington	5	21	.192	14
Charlotte	3	22	.120	15½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	22	6	.786	—
Indiana	17	8	.680	3½
Milwaukee	11	14	.440	9½
Cleveland	10	14	.417	10
Detroit	7	20	.259	14½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	18	9	.667	—
Dallas	15	11	.577	2½
Houston	15	11	.577	2½
Memphis	13	13	.500	4½
New Orleans	4	22	.154	13½

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oklahoma City	20	5	.800	—
Denver	15	11	.577	5½
Utah	13	11	.542	6½
Portland	14	12	.538	6½
Minnesota	13	13	.500	7½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Clippers	15	8	.652	—
L.A. Lakers	14	11	.560	2
Phoenix	11	14	.440	5
Golden State	8	14	.364	6½
Sacramento	9	16	.360	7

Tuesday's Games

Indiana 104, Utah 99
 Boston 94, Charlotte 84
 Miami 107, Cleveland 91
 Minnesota 86, Sacramento 84
 Phoenix 107, Milwaukee 105
 Oklahoma City 119, Golden State 116

Wednesday's Games

Cleveland 99, L.A. Clippers 92
 Milwaukee 105, Toronto 99
 Orlando 102, Miami 89
 New York 107, Washington 93
 San Antonio 100, Philadelphia 90
 Atlanta 97, Indiana 87
 Detroit 99, New Jersey 92
 Chicago 90, New Orleans 67
 Memphis 85, Minnesota 80
 Dallas 105, Denver 95
 Houston 103, Portland 96

Thursday's Games

L.A. Lakers at Boston, late
 Golden State at Denver, late
 Houston at Phoenix, late
 Oklahoma City at Sacramento, late

Friday's Games

Chicago at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
 Boston at Toronto, 7 p.m.
 Atlanta at Orlando, 7 p.m.
 Miami at Washington, 7 p.m.
 L.A. Clippers at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
 Milwaukee at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
 New Jersey at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
 Portland at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
 Dallas at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
 Indiana at Memphis, 8 p.m.
 L.A. Lakers at New York, 8 p.m.
 Oklahoma City at Utah, 10:30 p.m.

LEAGUE LEADERS

	Scoring	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Bryant, LAL	266	163	733	29.3	
James, MIA	257	182	713	28.5	
Durant, OKC	249	146	682	27.3	
Love, MIN	192	175	601	25.0	
Aldridge, POR	245	115	606	23.3	
Ellis, GOL	177	94	474	22.6	
Anthony, NYK	165	134	491	22.3	
Westbrook, OKC	211	119	557	22.3	
Rose, CHI	182	111	506	22.0	
Griffin, LAC	202	87	492	21.4	
Howard, ORL	197	153	547	21.0	

Rebounds

	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG
Howard, ORL	94	307	401	15.4
Love, MIN	100	228	328	13.7
Bynum, LAL	70	190	260	12.4
Varejao, CLE	107	176	283	11.8
Cousins, SAC	104	173	277	11.5
Griffin, LAC	71	183	254	11.0
Humphries, NJ	100	166	266	10.6
Gortat, PHX	64	190	254	10.2
Gasol, MEM	56	208	264	10.2

Assists

	GAMES	AST	AVG
Nash, PHX	23	230	10.0
Rondo, BOS	16	157	9.8
Paul, LAC	18	163	9.1
Rubio, MIN	26	228	8.8
Calderon, TOR	27	232	8.6
D. Williams, NJN	26	223	8.6
Lowry, HOU	24	190	7.9
Rose, CHI	23	179	7.8
Parker, SAN	27	207	7.7
Wall, WAS	26	183	7.0
Conley, MEM	24	167	7.0

Steals

	GAMES	STL	AVG
Conley, MEM	24	60	2.50
Paul, LAC	18	44	2.44
Rubio, MIN	26	63	2.42
Shumpert, NYK	22	45	2.05
Lowry, HOU	24	48	2.00
Westbrook, OKC	25	50	2.00
Allen, MEM	23	42	1.83

Blocked Shots

	Games	BLK	AVG
McGee, WAS	26	76	2.92
Jordan, LAC	23	65	2.83
Ibaka, OKC	25	67	2.68
Gasol, MEM	26	58	2.23
Howard, ORL	26	57	2.19
Smith, ATL	26	53	2.04
Dalembert, HOU	26	53	2.04

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
N.Y. Rangers	33	13	5	71	141	103
Philadelphia	30	16	7	67	173	157
New Jersey	31	19	3	65	150	148
Pittsburgh	30	19	5	65	163	141
N.Y. Islanders	22	22	8	52	126	150

Northwest Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	33	17	2	68	180	117
Toronto	28	20	6	62	168	157
Ottawa	27	22	7	61	162	174
Buffalo	23	24	6	52	132	154
Montreal	21	24	9	51	140	147

Southeast Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	28	21	4	60	149	149
Florida	24	17	11	59	131	149



LIVE SPORTS ON TV

AUTO RACING

SATURDAY

11 p.m. O'Reilly Auto Parts Winternationals . . . ESPN2

BOXING

FRIDAY

9 p.m. Demetrius Andrade vs. Derek Ennis . . . ESPN2

SATURDAY

9 p.m. Victor Ortiz vs. Andre Berto SHOW

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

SATURDAY

11 a.m. Butler at Cleveland State ESPN2
 Noon Louisville at West Virginia ESPN
 1 p.m. Connecticut at Syracuse CBS
 1 p.m. Miami at Florida State 44
 1 p.m. Arkansas-Little Rock at Mid-Tennessee ESPN2
 2 p.m. Kansas State at Texas ESPN
 2 p.m. Utah at Arizona SUN
 3 p.m. New Mexico State at Utah State ESPN2
 4 p.m. Tennessee at Florida 38
 4 p.m. Maryland at Duke ESPN
 4 p.m. Clemson at Wake Forest SUN
 5 p.m. Wichita State at Creighton ESPN2
 6 p.m. Michigan State at Ohio State ESPN
 7 p.m. Alabama at LSU ESPN2
 9 p.m. Kentucky at Vanderbilt ESPN
 9 p.m. Xavier at Temple ESPN2

GOLF

FRIDAY

10:30 a.m. EuroPGA – Dubai Desert Classic GOLF
 12:30 p.m. ISPS Handa Women's Australian Open GOLF
 3 p.m. PGA – AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am GOLF
 6:30 p.m. PGA – Allianz Championship GOLF

SATURDAY

10 p.m. ISPS Handa Women's Australian Open GOLF
 1 p.m. PGA – AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am GOLF
 3 p.m. PGA – AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am CBS
 3 p.m. EuroPGA – Dubai Desert Classic GOLF
 6:30 p.m. PGA – Allianz Championship GOLF

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

FRIDAY

7 p.m. Gonzaga Prep at DeMatha Catholic ESPN2

NBA

FRIDAY

7 p.m. Atlanta at Orlando SUN
 8 p.m. L.A. Lakers at N.Y. Knicks ESPN
 10:30 p.m. Oklahoma City at Utah ESPN

NHL

SATURDAY

7 p.m. Tampa Bay at Buffalo SUN

Times, games, channels all subject to change

Winnipeg	25	24	6	56	131	151
Tampa Bay	23	24	5	51	148	176
Carolina	20	25	10	50	139	168

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	36	17	2	74	176	131
St. Louis	31	14	7	69	129	106
Nashville	32	17	5	69	152	140
Chicago	29	18	7	65	171	163
Columbus	15	32	6	36	123	175

Northwest Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Vancouver	33	15	5	71	171	133
Minnesota	25	20	8	58	122	136
Calgary	25	22	7	57	130	147
Colorado	27	25	3	57	140	153
Edmonton	21	28	5	47	143	162

Pacific Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose	29	16	6	64	148	121
Los Angeles	26	18	10	62	118	117
Phoenix	25	21	8	58	143	143
Dallas	27	23	2	56	137	148
Anaheim	21	24	8	50	138	158

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Tuesday's Games

N.Y. Islanders 1, Philadelphia 0, SO
 Montreal 3, Pittsburgh 2, SO
 Vancouver 4, Nashville 3, SO
 New Jersey 1, N.Y. Rangers 0
 Washington 4, Florida 0
 Columbus 3, Minnesota 1
 St. Louis 3, Ottawa 1
 Los Angeles 3, Tampa Bay 1
 Winnipeg 2, Toronto 1
 Phoenix 4, Dallas 1
 Colorado 5, Chicago 2

Wednesday's Games

Buffalo 6, Boston 0
 Detroit 4, Edmonton 2
 Anaheim 3, Carolina 2, OT
 Calgary 4, San Jose 3

Thursday's Games

St. Louis at New Jersey, late
 Montreal at N.Y. Islanders, late
 Tampa Bay at N.Y. Rangers, late
 Toronto at Philadelphia, late
 Winnipeg at Washington, late
 Dallas at Columbus, late
 Nashville at Ottawa, late
 Los Angeles at Florida, late
 Vancouver at Minnesota, late
 Calgary at Phoenix, late

Friday's Games

Dallas at Buffalo, 7:30 p.m.
 Anaheim at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
 Carolina at Colorado, 9 p.m.
 Chicago at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

SCORING LEADERS

Player	Games	G	A	PTS
Malin, PIT	47	29	33	62
Giroux, PHI	49	20	30	60
Stamkos, TB	52	35	23	58

Kessel, TOR	54	30	28	58
H. Sedin, VAN	53	11	46	57
Lupul, TOR	54	21	35	56
Datsyuk, DET	54	14	41	55
Eberle, EDM	50	24	30	54
D. Sedin, VAN	52	23	30	53
Tavares, NYI	52	22	31	53
Hossa, CHI	53	20	33	53
Toews, CHI	53	27	25	52
Elias, NJ	52	18	34	52
Spezza, OTT	56	20	31	51

Magic hit 17 3-pointers in 102-89 win over Heat

By KYLE HIGHTOWER
Associated Press

ORLANDO — It's been an open secret for several seasons how much the 3-point shot has become an indispensable part of the Orlando Magic's offense.

They reminded the Miami Heat just how punishing they can be when they get it going from long range.

Dwight Howard had 25 points and 24 rebounds, Ryan Anderson scored 27 and the Magic hit 17 3-pointers in a 102-89 victory Wednesday night.

'If somebody starts rolling, then all the attention's going to be on them.'

RYAN ANDERSON
Magic forward

Anderson had five 3s — all in the first half — and grabbed 11 rebounds to lead the Magic.

Howard posted his 20th double-double of the season. Orlando fell two shy of its season high for 3s and set a team record with 42 attempts.

Anderson said as much as it might have looked as though the Magic were just jacking up 3s, there is a definite method to their attack when they get hot from the outside.

"If somebody starts rolling, then all the attention's going to be on them. Then we'll swing it around and we've got another shooter," Anderson said. "I think when the crowd gets into it, when we have great energy as a team and we're being really unselfish and moving the ball, it is contagious."

The Magic have won four of five since their season-high four-game losing streak.

They have also beaten Miami in nine of their last 11 meetings in Orlando.

Dwyane Wade led the Heat with 33 points, but had only 11 after halftime.

LeBron James added 17 as the Heat had their three-game winning streak snapped.

Miami continues its six-game road trip Friday at Washington.

"They set the tone this game, right from the get-go," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "We were able to get into a little bit more of an aggressiveness and attack. A little bit more of a disposition in the second quarter, but they were able to sustain it longer and more consistently than we were able to."

In the middle of a stretch of 20 games in 32 days before the All-Star break, the Magic got a rare day off from game action Tuesday.

They seemed energized from the opening tip against the Heat, racing out to a 17-point lead in the first half.

That cushion was 16 at the start of the fourth quarter thanks to all those 3s.

The Heat got within 89-80 on a basket by Chris Bosh before Jameer Nelson's 3 from the corner pushed the Magic's advantage back to 12 with 3:53 to play.

The Heat never got any closer.

Magic coach Stan Van Gundy said it was a solid first effort against a Southeast Division rival they will face three more times this season.

"I thought we did a good job of gathering ourselves," Van Gundy said. "We held our composure and nobody seemed the least bit worried. We just kept making plays."

Orlando was shooting better from the 3-point line than from the field at one point in the fourth quarter.

The Magic finished the night at 42 percent from the

floor (35 for 83) and 40 percent (17 for 42) from 3-point range.

Miami shot 47 percent from the field (36 for 76) but had only five 3-pointers.

The Heat also held a 40-30 advantage on points in the paint, but Orlando led 23-9 in second-chance points.

Anderson's 3-pointer gave the Magic their biggest lead of the first half at 44-27.

The Heat responded by closing the half with a 24-9 spurt — including the final 12 points by Wade — to go into halftime trailing by only three.

Wade finished the half with 22 points, while Anderson's five 3s and 24 points paced the Magic.

Howard had 13 points and 13 rebounds in the opening 24 minutes.

"They shot the 3 extremely well and the big fella in the middle took care of his 20 and 20 once again," James said. "Sometimes you have to pick your poison, but we gave up both tonight. They are an extremely tough team to beat when they are making the 3s and the big fella is doing what he wants."

Magic forward Glen Davis, who played his second game since a two-game team suspension for a verbal spat with Van Gundy, said he thought the biggest takeaway for the team was how it was able to stay together down the stretch and withstand the Heat's late run.

In the preseason, it was Davis who preached to his new teammates following his trade from Boston about how important a true family atmosphere would be to prolonged success this season.

He thought Wednesday was a big step toward that.

"That's what it's about, taking the punch and keep fighting," Davis said. "That's what we did. We knew



MCT photo
The Orlando Magic's Dwight Howard, center, and Quentin Richardson, at right, celebrate a 3-pointer from J.J. Redick during the first half against the Miami Heat at the Amway Center in Orlando, on Wednesday, February 8.

(Miami) was going to make their run because they're great team. But we just made sure we didn't buckle or get out of control. We stayed in control and we executed to the end."

Notes: It was Howard's sixth game this season with at least 20 points and 20 rebounds. ... Heat point guard Mario Chalmers missed his first start of the season with a sprained left hand.

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Robertson scores 18, USF stops Pitt 63-51

By FRED GOODALL
Associated Press

TAMPA — South Florida's Hugh Robertson combined a perfect night offensively with a stellar defensive performance that helped the Bulls rebound from their worst-ever Big East loss.

Robertson had a season-high 18 points and helped USF (14-10, 7-4) hold Pittsburgh star Ashton Gibbs to a season-low four points in a 63-51 victory over the Panthers on Wednesday night.

Augustus Gilchrist added 10 points for the Bulls, who lost by 30 points at Georgetown last weekend.

"Pitt's been on a roll, winning four games straight. Playing great coming into this game," Gilchrist said. "So we knew we had to bring our 'A' game."

The Bulls limited Pitt (15-10, 4-8) to 35-percent shooting, with the Panthers' high-scoring backcourt of Gibbs and Tray Woodall going a combined 6 of 22 from the field.

The loss ended the winning streak Pitt had put together following an 0-7 start in conference play.

Woodall led the Panthers with 11 points, but made just 4 of 13 shots.

Gibbs missed his first four shots and finished 2 of 9, with Robertson spearheading the effort to shut him down.

"It wasn't just me, it was a team effort," Robertson said. "I just tried staying with him, just take him out of the game."

Gibbs averaged nearly 19 points during Pitt's winning streak and entered the night with a 16.6 average overall.

He was held below double

figures for the just the third time this season.

"I think they frustrated all of us," Woodall said. "It's a team game; it wasn't just one guy they frustrated. (Gibbs) just didn't hit some shots, and they did a good job of crowding him and making him take tougher shots. He just didn't get any great looks."

Gibbs was 0-for-4 in the opening half and remained scoreless until finally making a jumper five minutes into the second half.

"We're extremely disappointed because we haven't been playing like this," Pitt coach Jamie Dixon said.

Pitt shot less than 35 percent in the first half and turned the ball over nine times, yet only trailed 27-23 at halftime.

Unfortunately for the Panthers, it didn't get any better the rest of the way.

Toarlyn Fitzpatrick's 3-pointer put USF up 41-31 with 14 minutes to go.

Pitt cut its deficit to eight on two occasions, but each time the Bulls answered with a basket to stay in control.

When Robertson, Fitzpatrick and Collins scored during a quick 6-0 burst, the lead grew to 14 with 8 minutes to go.

Pitt kept battling, but never got into a rhythm offensively.

Lamar Patterson's 3-pointer trimmed USF's lead to 53-45 with 2:41 remaining, however, the Panthers didn't get closer than eight down the stretch.

Woodall's return from an abdominal injury ignited Pitt's winning streak.

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8oz Marinated Chicken Breas.....\$8
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Shrimp (Fried or Grilled).....\$10

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Fried Pickles.....6

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Add Grilled Chicken Breast.....4

Wings

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Golf Hammock

The Golf Hammock Ladies had their Valentines Tournament Wednesday, Feb. 8.

First place winners were Pat Reid, Wanda Hastie, Roxie McMillon and Jean Edwards with a 61.7

Second place winners were Marian Passafume, Trudy Stowe, Nancy Porcari and Gladys Zitelli with a 62.7

Third place winners were Lorraine Friend, Shirley Enochs, Cindy Dall and Eleanor Short with a 65.3

Fourth place winners were Jeanie Fivecoat, Joyce Stanley, Marge Pederson and Audrey Walther with a 66.4

Closest to the Pin on No. 3 was Jeanie Fivecoat, on No. 7 was Joan Armbruster and on No. 17 was Roxie McMillon.

Last Monday, Feb. 6, the Mezza Group played Individual Pro-Am golf at Golf Hammock.

Congratulations to Jim Gulick who shot a 71 in A group and made plus 7 and Harver Kecskes in second place with plus 5.

Joe Martini was at plus 6, that was good for first place in B group, and David Mulligan in second place with plus 2.

In C group, first place went to Joe Hyzny, who scored plus 1 and Bobby Culbert was even for second place.

Doug Haire shot a plus 5 for first place in D group and Bob Kecskes was in second place with plus 1.

Bob Topel scored plus 5 in E group and Wayne Meyer took second place with plus 4.

Bob Morrison shot a plus 9 for first place in F group and Bob Hughes was in second place with plus 6, and there was a tie in third place between Doc Thomas and Don Meitz at even.

In G group Bill Bedford in first place with plus 8 and Larry Hedley with plus 5 for second place.

Jim Reed scored plus 5 for first place in H group and Jerry Patterson was in second place at minus 1.

There was a tie for first place in I group between Joe Hamilton and Gordon Outman at plus 7.

Larry Giangreco made plus 8 in J group and Trudy Perkins was at plus 6 for second place.

Tom Nelligan was in first place in K group with plus 6 and Karl Mellor in second place with plus 3.

Next week the Mezza Group will play at Golf Hammock with a shotgun beginning at 8 a.m.

Please arrive early to register.

The Mezza Group banquet is scheduled for Monday, March 12.

For more information, call 382-1280 or 414-2110.

Harder Hall

The Ladies League played a Pro-Am Points event on Monday, Feb. 6.

The winners were: Lorraine Forcier and Pat Rowbotham with plus-1 each.

Carol Grimm, Diane Darroch, Elaine Hettinga, Patty Foorest and Sue Herriman with plus-2 each.

Kay Maher with plus-3. Nancy Jankovic with plus-5. Pat Chance with plus-7.

Chip-ins: No. 5, Pat Rowbotham; and No. 12, Carol Grimm.

The Ladies League played a game on Monday, Jan. 30.

The winners were: First place, Mary Ryan with plus-4. Tying for second/third places were Joyce Himler and Carol Grimm with plus-2 each.

On Thursday, Jan. 26, a Low Putts event was played.

The winners were: First place, Billie

Aydelotte with 28 putts. Tying for second through sixth places were Joyce Flemming, Marilyn Armstrong, Helen Sayre, Donna Maki and Diane Darroch with 33 each.

Lake June West

The Ladies League played a game on Monday, Jan. 30.

Winning first place was the team of Kim Fiers, Margaret Schultz, Barbara Cash and Charlotte Mathew with 36; second place, Annie Hall, Elaine Orr, Donna Palmatier and Nancy Reaney with 39; and third place, Wanda Jones, Doris Weeks, Betty Bevard and Pat Asmus with 40.

Closest to the pin: No. 2, Charlene Schofield, 10-feet-3-inches; No. 4, Kim Fiers, 5-feet-1-inch; and No. 8, Kay Kalusniak, 5-feet-3-inches.

Placid Lakes

The MGA President's Cup (Day One) was played on Wednesday, Feb. 1.

(1) Tom Lacy def., (16) David Raciti, 4 and 3.

(15) Larry Kress def., (2) John Moss, 5 and 4.

(14) David Moiles def., (3) John Goble 3 and 2.

(5) Frank Fisher def., (12) Bud Snyder, 2 and 1.

(6) Bob McMillian def., (11) Jeff Harstine, 1 up.

(10) John Rosettis def., (7) Darrell Horney, 5 and 3.

(8) Ed Bartusch def., (9) Gene Ransom, 2 and 1.

A Two-Person Scramble was played on Tuesday, Jan. 31.

The winners were: First place, Linda Archambault and Janice Geiger with 52.2; second place, Gloria Ziegler and Barb Moriarity with 56.8; and third place, Sue Mackey and DeeDee Harstine with 57.8.

Closest to the pin: Hole No. 11, Joan Sniffen, Linda Archambault and Barb Moriarity.

SpringLake

Panther Creek was the course for the Individual Pro-Am Points - Flighted Tournament held on Wednesday, Feb. 8.

This was our Breast Cancer Awareness week and everyone was given a pink ribbon ball to use for play.

If you completed your entire 18 holes without losing the ball, you were awarded an additional five points to

your point total for the day.

Flight A winners were Linda Pflieger with plus 5 (she made her exact points but returned with her original ball and got the additional 5 points, putting her in first place).

Second place was won by Marsi Benson who was minus 2 and returned with her original ball, leaving her with a plus 3.

Terrie Austin took third place with plus one.

In the B Flight, Gail Whiting won first place with plus 4, Roberta Briggs won second with plus 2 (was minus 3 but returned with bonus ball for 5 points to win the tiebreaker over Judy Dunn who also ended with plus 2).

Flight C was won by Carolyn Irvine who had plus 7 for first place, Judy DeVries won the tiebreaker over Sharon Warner for second with plus 6, leaving Sharon in third place.

The D Flight was won by Sally Rice who returned with her logo ball to finish the day with plus 5, Joann Deweese was second with plus 3 and Dottie Williams came in third place with plus 2.

A fun time was had by all and thanks to all of the ladies for the contributions made in support of our Breast Cancer Awareness drive.

On Wednesday, Feb. 1, the SpringLake Women's Golf League played a 4 person Team Net Score Tournament on the Cougar Trail course.

The A Flight first-place team consisted of Carol Rath, Sharon Warner, Joan Gann and Judy DeVries with a net score of 283.

The team of Gail Whiting, Roberta Briggs, Judy Dunn and Kay Gorham took second place with 288.

In Flight B, the team of Terrie Austin, Carole Frederick, Carolyn Irvine and Patty Miller had a 286 and claimed first place while 288 got second place for the team of Jan Nelson, Ann McWilliams, Sally Rice and a blind draw.

Golf Fore a Cure

Special to the News-Sun

The 7th annual Golf Fore a Cure Tournament was held under sunny skies at Sun n Lakes' Deer Run Course on Saturday, Feb. 4.

A great field of 144 golfers filled the course and the Tanglewood Residents' Cancer Benefit coffers.

This year more than \$9,000 was raised for Breast Cancer Research.

The tournament, sponsored by Alan Jay Automotive Network and Edward Jones/Alan J Holmes, was meant to be fun.

In that regard, it was a huge success.

Novice golfers and Tanglewood's best had a great day as they enjoyed the benefit of saving strokes with the purchase of mulligans as well as three-foot lengths of string.

With the string, teams could take a gimme on a second putt by using up a portion of the string.

In the men's category, there were two teams at 59: Tom Digrazia, Bob Flower, Gene Hart and Mike Sharkey tied with Tommy Bell, Jim Flaitz, Walt and Barb Snyder.

The ladies' division was won by the foursome of Linda Cirillo, Mary Beth Cordray, Bonnie Nixon and Joanne Roy who carded a 70.

The couples winners were



Courtesy photo

Golf Fore the Cure couples winners Ed and Carol Allenbaugh, Norma and Lee Mayer.

Carol and Ed Allenbaugh along with Norma and Lee Mayer who turned in a score of 56.

Other prizes went to Tom DiGrazia for the longest putt on hole No. 18, a 36-footer.

Linda Morsey was one-quarter of an inch from the chalk line on hole No. 1, while on hole No. 15, Jan Stevenson was only an inch off the mark.

Winners of the closest to the hole contests were Grant McLaughlin (No. 2), Gene Davis (No. 8), Dick Miller (No. 13) and Dennis

Rowland (No. 18).

Following the morning round of golf, lunch was enjoyed in the Sun 'N Lake clubhouse where prizes were presented to the winning teams.

More than 30 raffle prizes were also up for grabs.

Several items were auctioned off and there were four winners in the 50/50 draw.

Thanks to great weather, a lot of very dedicated volunteers and the support of many local businesses, a good time was had by all in support of a very worthy cause.

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**The February 12th event will be held during Fair Hours. Entrance fee will be due. Contestants will be free. Seniors will be reduced price.*

Deanna Flowers, of Dee's Designs will be photographing the Semi-Finals and Finale' she will be taking random action shots of the contestants and possibly the crowd and will email the shots at \$1 per shot to pre-paid participants. We are glad to welcome her to the Idol family, check out her Facebook page "Dee's Designs".

RULES POSTED AT:

Heartland Idol Facebook Page

Come out & Cheer on Your Favorites!

RELIGION

Where in my schedule did January go?

I take a certain amount of well deserved, if I say so myself, pride in keeping to a well organized schedule; my to-do-list. If it is on that list, I am going to do it, regardless of the difficulty attached. The trick is to get on that list which I guard with my very life.

Not that I worship my to-do-list, but I do reverence it with a great deal of deep personal appreciation. I think long and hard before anything appears on my to-do-list. Once something is on my to-do-list, there it is for all and sundry to gape upon it. It is a deep honor for anything to be put on my to-do-list.

Another reason I take my time in putting something on that list is that the only way it can come off is if I actually do it. After all, that list is not supposed to be stared at but rather to inspire activity on my part.

The other night I was busy with my to do list going over each and every item with the utmost care hoping that St. Nick would soon be there. Each item on that list needs to be carefully scrutinized and sometimes even underlined for emphasis. Often I have to recalculate and sort out the items and give them new priorities. I must have been busily engaged for I did not hear the Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage address me.

Finally, it dawned on me that somebody, other than my inner conscience, was addressing me. I looked in her direction and said, "Huh?"

"I just said," she quipped, "what are you so intently engaged in?"

"I'm working on my December to-do-list," I said with a touch of irritation in my voice for being interrupted during such delicate meditation.

"You're working on what?"

"My December to-do-list," I said trying to get back into my sphere of supersensitive concentration.

There was silence for a bit and then my residential companion broke said silence by saying, "You do know what month it is, don't you?"

With an air of sarcasm in my voice I answered, "Of course I know what month it is. It's December and I'm trying to sort out my to-do-list for the month. I think I've got just about everything covered."

Again, there was that silence that you could cut with a butter knife if you had one on your person.

"So," she said rather thoughtfully. "You are completing your December's to-do-list. Is that right?"

I grunted my approval and continued with my ultra-concentration work at hand. I really have no time for non-sensical chitchat. My time is valuable; I have work that needs to be done. I cannot be side tracked by every little noise that comes up.

I take great pride in working through my to-do-list each month. It gives me a great sense of satisfaction knowing that I am actually accomplishing something and I have the records to prove it. If somebody would ever come up to me and ask me to prove that I have been busily engaged in profitable activity, all I would have to

Guest Column

Rev. James L. Snyder

do is show them my well documented to-do-list.

"I hate to bust your bubble, but..."

I hate when people say they hate to do something and then they go right ahead and do it. I wanted to tell her to save herself a bucket of hate and refrain from busting my bubble, or whatever she was trying to bust at the time.

Then, being the gentleman that I am, I allowed her to say what was on her mind.

"I hate to bust your bubble, but it is February not December."

Now there was silence from my end of the room. Being the good-natured person that I am, I just burst out laughing.

"Boy," I said heartily, "you almost got me with that one. I'll give that one to you." Then I went back to my work.

"But it is February," she said more sternly than I have heard her say anything for a long time. "It is now February, not December."

I had to pause. Normally she does not play tricks on me like this. Most of the time she is an upstanding person and always tells me the truth, even when there are times I do not want to hear the truth.

"You're sure it's February?"

She smiled one of those smiles that really irritates me and simply shook her head in the affirmative. I know I am an easy turkey to pluck, but this was actually serious. With the rather stunned tone to my voice I ask, "Whatever happened to January?"

It was then the laughter started. I must say it has not subsided appreciably since. She has a way of rubbing things in when I am wrong. If the tables were turned, and they never are, I would not take advantage of such a situation.

I swallowed my pride, which I have had a lot of practice doing, and began to realize I had been working on a false premise. It was actually February, time had gone by so quick and I was so busy I did not realize how fast it was going.

In Ecclesiastes 3:1, the man of God says, "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven."

If you are too busy to know what time it is, you are too busy.

The Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, PO Box 831313, Ocala, FL 34483. He lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at 352-687-4240 or e-mail jamesnyder2@att.net. The church web site is www.whatafellowship.com/.

Guest columns are the opinion of the writer, not necessarily those of the News-Sun staff.

Atonement Lutheran Church

SEBRING — This Sunday is the sixth Sunday after Epiphany. The Sunday morning worship service with Communion will be led by Deacon David Thoresen. Worship assistant will be Jim Fiedler, Eucharist assistant is Ron Fitzpatrick and lector is Donna Klemm.

Lent schedule is as follows: Ash Wednesday, Feb. 22 at 7 p.m., Rev. Jefferson Cox. Service will include Imposition of Ashes and Holy Eucharist.

Christ Lutheran Church - LCMS

AVON PARK — Pastor Scott McLean on Sunday will preach a sermon titled "When Jesus Touches You, Jesus Heals You."

The church is at 1320 County Road 64, east the Avon Park High School. For more information, call 471-2663 or search the Internet for christlutheranavonpark.org.

Christian Science Church

SEBRING — The lesson sermon on Sunday morning is titled "Soul." The keynote is from Isaiah 45:6, "...I am the Lord, and there is none else."

The church is at 146 N. Franklin St.

Christian Training Church

SEBRING — Associate Minister Casey L. Downing will bring the message titled "Finding Room In Your Inn" at the Sunday morning service. The Wednesday night Bible study is studying the Gospel of John.

Eastside Christian Church

LAKE PLACID — The Agape Cafe opens for coffee, snacks and fellowship at 9:45 a.m. Sunday before services.

Eastside Christian Church is at 101 Peace Ave., two miles east of U.S. 27 on County Road 621. Phone number is 465-7065.

Emmanuel United Church of Christ

SEBRING — Rev. George Miller will deliver the Sunday morning sermon, "Choice," with Scripture from Mark 1:40-45.

The church is 1.7 miles west of U.S. 27 on County Road 634 (Hammock Road). Call 471-1999 or visit sebringemmanuelucc.com.

Faith Lutheran Church

SEBRING — Sunday morning the church celebrates Sixth Sunday after Epiphany. Pastor Gary Kindle will deliver his sermon titled "Faith in the Word of the Lord" from the Old Testament. Lesson of the Day - 2 Kings 5:1-14.

Church News

Bible Study with the pastor is from the Book of John.

Thursday, Feb. 16 the Faithful Followers meet. Potluck lunch is at noon with fellowship to follow. Bring a favorite meal to share and enjoy others favorite meal items also.

Friday, Feb. 17 is pizza/activity night at 6 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Tables will be set up for cards, etc., in the multi-purpose room as well as the fellowship hall. There will be a pool table set up, foos ball, Wii, air hockey and much more. Cost is \$3; children under 10 are free.

Mid-high school youth will meet after Sunday afternoon at the church to make plans for the months to follow. The group will hold the 30-Hour Famine from Friday to Saturday, Feb. 24-25.

First Christian Church - Avon Park

AVON PARK — "Living God's Love" is the sermon Sunday morning where the pastor will share how we are to live our lives with the kindness God has shown. Join the congregation as it looks into how we are to live our life in God's love, then join in for a fellowship dinner and ministry fair. Bring in a favorite side dish and dessert to share.

What is a ministry fair? It is a time that members look at the ministry opportunities that the church provides for to give back to God with the talents and abilities that He has so richly blessed one with.

First Christian Church of Avon Park is at 1016 W. Camphor (behind the Wachovia Bank). Call 453-5334 or e-mail firstchristianap@embarqmail.com with any questions or to request information. The church website is www.firstchristianap.com.

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

SEBRING — At the Lord's Table this Sunday morning will be Howard Lewis and Linda Ellis. Communion will be served by Carol Graves, Chris Baker, Carol Chandler and Teresa Williams.

Greeting the congregation Sunday morning will be Joe and Joyce Winstel. The children will worship with the adults Sunday.

Pastor Ron and Rev. Juanita Roberts will present a joint sermon on Stewardship this Sunday. The title is "Understanding Stewardship" with Scripture taken from Psalm 24:1-5.

For more information, call 385-0352. The church is at 510 Poinsettia Ave.

First Presbyterian Church of Avon Park

AVON PARK — Sunday morning's guest speaker will be Alan Avera. His message will be directed to the congregation as to how

they should proceed in their witnessing and outreach in the next 50 years after having just celebrated the first 50 years on Feb. 5. The choir's introit will be "Joyful Thanks" and the anthem will be "Shine, Jesus Shine."

The adult Sunday school class is continuing their study of David in II Samuel Chapter 22 in which David writes a song of deliverance. Wendy Garcia teaches the youth class and they discuss how the Bible applies to issues today.

The Family Gathering meets at 6 p.m.

At 10:30 a.m. Wednesday the pastor will lead the Bible study on the topic "The Basics of the Faith." At 6 p.m. the family potluck will be held in fellowship hall. Guest speaker Sheila Osborne will speak on missions.

The church is at 215 E. Circle St. (with two entrances on Lagrande Street). For questions, call 453-3242.

First Presbyterian Church of Sebring

SEBRING — "Christian Victory Part III" is the title of Sunday morning's sermon taken from the Scripture Galatians 5:24-25. There will be a Good Works Festival and fingerfood luncheon in fellowship hall immediately following worship. Home-baked goods will be for sale to raise funds for our retreat.

Thursday is the Bonclarken Gift Workshop at 9:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall.

First United Methodist Church of Sebring

SEBRING — Rev. A.C. Bryant will bring the message "Peter Defends God's Grace" with Scripture from Acts 11:19-30.

United Methodist Women's Circles will meet Tuesday.

Call the church office at 385-5184. The church is downtown at 126 S. Pine St. Visit our website at www.sebringfirstumc.com.

Grace Pointe Church

SEBRING — Grace Pointe Church is at 200 Lark Ave., Sebring Hills Association Clubhouse.

Tuesday home Bible study is "Unveiling New Testament Mysteries." The word "mystery" is used 21 times in the New Testament. Unveil the truths that lie behind the mysteries. Call 658-2534 for directions.

Making the Wilderness a Pasture, the river renewal series, continues Sunday. Just a few more stops along the way - a few more pathways to victory.

The Chili Challenge winner is Larry Greenfield. All the men did a great job.

Call 658-2534. Visit www.gracepointemini-nistries.net. Word-Spirit-Power Conference in California Tuesday through Thursday, Feb. 14-16.

Heartland Christian Church

SEBRING — Pastor Ted Moore's sermon this Sunday will be "Pornography Lies," with Scripture from James 1:13-15.

The service will also include Mary VanHooreweghe, Flossi Moore, and George Kelly singing "In the Midst of a Storm;" Heartland Singers singing "Can He, Could He, Would He;" and George Kelly singing "The Long Black Train."

Adult Bible study on Tuesday is Evolution - Creation - "The Big Bang Theory" taught by Pastor Ted Moore.

The church is at 2705 Alternate Route 17 South (behind Publix); phone 314-9693.

Memorial United Methodist Church

LAKE PLACID — Sunday members will celebrate the 90th Anniversary of the church. A church-wide potluck will be held in the Rob Reynolds Fellowship Hall after the worship service. Charles Reynolds will lead singing after the meal. Children and Youth activities will also follow the dinner.

Bill Lewis Concert is at 6 p.m. Sunday.

The church is at 500 Kent Ave. Call 465-2422.

Parkway Free Will Baptist Church

SEBRING — The Sunday morning Bible lesson, "Freed from the Law through Faith in Christ," is taken from Galatians 3 (King James Version).

St. John United Methodist Church

SEBRING — The Rev. Shiela Swanger will preach at all three services Sunday morning. Her sermon topic will be "Daring to Touch" with biblical reference from Mark 1:40-45.

Small steps 4 Health meets Monday at 10 a.m. Spaghetti dinner is at 4, 5 and 6 p.m. Tuesday. HALLO meets Thursday at 12 p.m.

Spring Lake United Methodist Church

SEBRING — Spring Lake United Methodist Church is at 8170 Cozumel Lane. The pastor's sermon is titled "Be God's Chosen Vessel."

The Way Church

SEBRING — Pastor Reinhold Buxbaum's message will be "The Christian and his Money, Part 2" Sunday morning.

The Difference Makers Youth meet Sunday and Wednesday evenings.

The Way Church is at 1005 N. Ridgewood Drive. The church phone is 471-6140; the pastor's cell is 273-3674. For church information and the pastor's messages, go to www.thewaychurch.org.



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What is the Buy Downtown Sebring Program?

As part of the Sebring Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)'s mission is to spur economic activity in Downtown Sebring, the goal of Buy Downtown Sebring is to simply connect the Downtown Sebring Businesses with the buying power of our local community. This is a multi-year program that supports and strengthens Downtown Sebring's businesses and local jobs and keeps more dollars spent in our community.

Consumer Benefits

In addition to helping support the local economy and Downtown Sebring, participating in the **Buy Downtown Sebring** program offers the following consumer benefits:

- No fee to join.
- Instant savings through merchant discounts & special offers.
- Periodic emails informing you of local events, new merchant members & special offers & discounts.
- Consumers can pick up a free "Buy Downtown Sebring" card at participating merchants, the CRA office, both Sebring Chambers of Commerce and the Highlands County CVB Office.



Sebring Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)

368 S. Commerce Avenue
Sebring, FL 33870

www.DowntownSebring.org

P: (863) 471-5104

F: (863) 471-5165

www.BuyDowntownSebring.com

Special Offers and Discounts

Registered Downtown Sebring merchants are encouraged to offer special offers and discounts exclusive to Buy Downtown Sebring card-carrying consumers. Thousands of FREE wallet-sized Buy Downtown Sebring consumer cards are being distributed to consumers and visitors, encouraging them to support registered businesses and take advantage of the Buy Downtown Sebring special offers and discounts. Shoppers will present their Buy Downtown Sebring card to the merchant when making their purchase to benefit from the offer. Merchants participating in the programs will be indicated by window stickers.

Get A Free Buy Downtown Sebring Card

Get your Buy Downtown Sebring card for free at participating merchants, the CRA office (368 S. Commerce Avenue), the Greater Sebring Chamber of Commerce offices (227 US Highway 27 North or 309. E Circle Park), the Highlands County CVB (1121 US Highway 27 South) or print one online at www.BuyDowntownSebring.com

Already have a card? Register it to receive the Downtown Sebring monthly E-Newsletter designed to keep you updated on events, special offers and discounts happening in the Downtown Sebring Area

www.BuyDowntownSebring.com

Participating Buy Downtown Sebring Merchants

Brenner's Pottery

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Handmade Stoneware Pottery & Fine Crafts
104 Circle Park Drive; 385-1333
Offer: 10% off any purchase

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101 Circle Park Drive; 449-1155
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Children's Museum of the Highlands

(www.ChildrensMuseumHighlands.com)
Hands-On, Interactive Area for Children & Families to Play & Learn
219 N. Ridgewood Drive; 385-5437
Offer: \$1 off admission - limit five people maximum

Cusworth Arms Pub & Wine Bar at the Kenilworth Lodge

(www.CusworthArms.com)
Pub & Wine Bar
1610 Lakeview Drive; 381-5959
Offer: \$1 off any domestic beer or house wine

Etcetera Ladies Boutique

113 S Ridgewood Drive; 385-3854
Offer: 10% discount on any purchase

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510 Maple Avenue; 382-1140 (inside Scosta Supply & Interiors)
Offer: 10% discount on any regular priced item

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1601 Commerce Avenue; 382-3333
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Highlands Art League

(www.HighlandsArtLeague.org)
Fine Art & Crafts
1989 Lakeview Drive; 385-5312
Offer: 10% discount on any purchase

Highlands Little Theatre

(www.HighlandsLittleTheatre.org)
356 W. Center; 385-2175
Offer: \$1 off drinks in Anthony's Lounge

Highlands Office Supply

(www.HighlandsOfficeSupply.com)
Office Supplies and Office Furniture
121 S. Commerce Avenue; 385-7748
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Hobby Hill Florist

(www.HobbyHillFlorist.com)
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Barber Shop & Hair Cuts
107 Circle Park Drive; 471-2749
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Website Certification (Open during Gallery Walk & other Downtown Special Events)
100 Circle Park Drive; 258-1125
Offer: \$25 off Arkansas Walking Stick

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(www.ScostaSupply.com)
Interior and Exterior Home Products & Design Consulting
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New & Used Furniture
325 N. Ridgewood Drive; 386-1119
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112 N. Ridgewood Drive; 402-2442
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(www.PalmsofSebring.com)
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725 S. Pine Street; 385-0161
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Twin Oaks Tea Room & Gifts

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For the most up-to-date information, visit www.BuyDowntownSebring.com.*

RELIGION



Courtesy photo

The ladies of Faith Baptist Church in Lake Placid have been busy making dog booties to be handed out at the Iditarod race in Alaska.

Lake Placid church makes impact at Iditarod

Special to the News-Sun

LAKE PLACID — If you were to take a peek into the fellowship hall at Faith Baptist Church in Lake Placid, on a Thursday in January or February you would see a rather strange sight. You would see a group of WMU Ladies working away at cutting tables and sewing machines making dog booties.

Dog booties, whoever heard of such a thing? Even as a fashion statement it seems like a silly thing to do to a dog. Not so silly, though, if you have a team of sled dogs running in the Iditarod Race in Alaska. Dog booties are a necessity for those intrepid dogs as they make their way across the snow and ice. Without them ice would build up in their paws and injure their feet.

The dog booties the WMU Ladies are making, however, are not for the dogs running in the race, but rather for the

people attending the race.

Brenda Crim, a North American Mission Board Missionary in Alaska, was a speaker at Faith Baptist Church during the Week of Prayer for Missions last year and one of the things she talked about was the mission stations she sets up at both the start and finish line of the Iditarod every year. She told the ladies how wonderful it would be to have souvenir dog booties to use as a witnessing tool.

The WMU Ladies were so impressed with Brenda and the work she is doing that they took up the challenge and managed to make 394 dog booties for last year's race.

This year they hope to do even better. In addition to making the booties, the WMU Ladies also participated in a month long prayer emphasis. Every lady took one or more days in the

month of March to pray for

each person who would receive a bootie and for the worker that would be talking to that person.

One of the items contained in each bootie was a specially designed tract that included the plan of salvation. As a souvenir bootie was handed out, the recipient was asked to either read the tract out loud or listen as it was read to them. They were also asked to promise to read it to at least one other person. As a result of this ministry, more than 40 people made decisions for Christ.

Crim was thrilled to receive the dog booties from Faith Baptist last year but she said she could use hundreds more. She and her helpers see thousands of people a day during the race.

If you are interested in helping Brenda with this very effective and worthwhile project, please contact her at Brenda.Crim@akmissions.com/.

Amazing grace, the gift of gifts

Perhaps no better summary could be found than 1 Corinthians 15:10: "But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me."

This faithful servant, Paul, realized that his very physical existence/life, spiritual life/blessings in Christ and his apostleship were all wrapped up in this amazing grace. His life as a disciple of Jesus reflected his total commitment to living and proclaiming this grace which was and is needed and available to all mankind. (Titus 2:11; Hebrews 2:9)

There are three things involved in a gift: the giver, the gift itself and the receiver. One is incomplete without the other two. The amazing thing about this amazing gift is that it was in the plan of the Great I AM before creation: "who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began." (2 Timothy 1:9) Therefore, this gift is unmerited, unearned and undeserved in God's scheme of things.

Since we learn best by

Guest Column

Frank Parker

example, the book of Acts is filled with accounts of precious souls accepting the gift of salvation through Jesus, the Christ. The conversion of the eunuch recorded in chapter 8:26-39 is a thrilling example of the power of the Good News.

As the eunuch was returning to Ethiopia from Jerusalem, he was reading from the prophet Isaiah (chapter 53) regarding the one who would be offered like a sheep and lamb. Perhaps they had been discussing this very message back in Jerusalem. He was still searching for the true meaning of this prophecy. In God's providence, Philip met this serious student of the Word and beginning at this scripture, preached Jesus to him. His eyes of understanding were opened to the point that he asked, "See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?" Then Philip answered him by the power of the Holy Spirit, "If you believe you with all your heart, you may."

Since the evangelist preached Jesus to him (i.e. amazing grace), the eunuch came to the understanding, "I believe that Jesus Christ

is the Son of God." In order to complete his acceptance of the gift, "So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him." This heart stirring account closes with the observation "and he went on his way rejoicing."

True, there is nothing anyone can do to earn, merit or deserve this gift, but as we have seen in the example of the eunuch, the gift is received by obedient believers. The Holy Spirit declares this fact: "But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness." (Romans 6:17,18) This statement of praise echoes the teachings of the Master Teacher: "But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do the things which I say?" (Luke 6:46)

The Gift of all gifts commands the following declaration: "Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift." (2 Corinthians 9:15)

Frank Parker can be reached at frankparker27@yahoo.com/. Guest columns are the opinion of the writer, not necessarily those of the News-Sun staff.

RELIGION GUIDELINES: The News-Sun publishes religion news on Fridays.

The submission deadline is 5 p.m. Monday to be considered for publication in the following Friday's paper.

Submit items to the News-Sun's from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays; fax to 385-2453; send e-mail to editor@newssun.com; or mail to Lifestyle Editor, News-Sun, 2227 U.S. 27 South, Sebring, FL 33870. For information, call 385-6155, ext. 516.



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RELIGION

Jacobs Brothers to perform Sunday

LAKE PLACID — The Jacobs Brothers, veterans of gospel music since 1962, will be sinning and sharing on Sunday during the 10:45 a.m. service at Lesiure Lakes Baptist Church.

The trio, from Dillsburgh, Penn., have produced more than 50 albums during their career. Their traditional and sacred music is welcomed by churches across American and is seen regularly on their weekly television program.

Following the service, all are invited to stay for an old-fashioned dinner on the grounds in the fellowship hall.

The church is at the west end of Lake June. From U.S. 27, take Lake June Road to Miller, turning north on Wildflower. Call 699-0671 for more information.

Brenda Walsh visits Adventist Church

AVON PARK — Brenda Walsh, director of Kids Time on television, channel 3ABN, will be at Avon Park Seventh-day Adventist Church on 1410 Avon Blvd., today and Saturday.

She will meet with the youth at 7 p.m. today. On Saturday, she will speak during the study hour at 9:30

a.m. and again at 11 a.m. and again at 5 p.m. for Vespers. Everyone is invited to come and enjoy her presentations.

FBC of Sebring celebrates 90th on Sunday

SEBRING — A 90-year anniversary celebration for the founding of First Baptist Church of Sebring will take place Sunday.

There will be a 10:30 a.m. celebration service. The celebration will end with dinner on the grounds at the ROC building on Pine Street immediately after the worship service.

There will not be an evening service.

Bible Fellowship presents weekend seminar

SEBRING — Bible Fellowship Church will present the "Valentine's Day Weekend Seminar" simulcast with Jimmy and Karen Evans from 8-10:30 p.m. today and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. This weekend simulcast is for couples or individuals preparing for marriage and topics to be discussed are: The Four Foundational Laws of Marriage; Understanding/Meeting Your Spouse's Needs; Parents: Past and

Snapshots

Present; Destructive Husbands/Wives; and Sexual Fulfillment in Marriage.

The Evans' reveal how you can have an intimate, passionate, fulfilling and healthy marriage. This event can transform marriages and change lives.

Tickets are \$5 per person.

Child care and snacks will be provided. Contact the church at 385-1024. Bible Fellowship Church is at 3750 Hammock Road, midway between the YMCA and Highlands Hammock State Park.

LIFE Youth Group plans yard sale

SEBRING — The LIFE Youth Group of First Assembly of God will hold a giant yard sale, bake sale and car wash beginning at 8 a.m. Saturday at the church, 4301 Kenilworth Blvd. Call 385-6431 for information.

Run With Fire Ministries brings event

SEBRING — Music director and song writer Roy Fields of Run With Fire Ministries will bring the services at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12 at 10 a.m. and again at 6 p.m. at Crossroads

Fellowship Church. Run With Fire Ministries is out of Kathleen. We will be taking a love offering.

Run With Fire Ministries can be summed up in one word. Mobilize. "Our heart is to Save Lives and Transform Cities with The Fire of Revival. Our definition of revival is restoring the joy of salvation and giving people the opportunity to fall in love with Jesus all over again or for the first time."

'In the Garden' hymn fest is Sunday

LAKE PLACID — A hymn fest, "In the Garden", is set at First Presbyterian Church, 117 N. Oak Ave., for 4 p.m. Sunday. Sweets in the garden at 3:30 p.m.

The event will feature The Worship Singers, First Kids, GospelHeirs, Tim and Barbara Sewell (Praise Team leader), organists Mary Karlson, Joshua Klatt, and Joy Toll Chandler; FPC Orchestra and congregational singing.

Come and hear the story of the prayer garden.

'So Loved' in concert Sunday

SEBRING — "So Loved," a gospel music duet composed of Bill and Judy Williams of Lebanon,

Ind., will be in concert at 11 a.m. Sunday at First Assembly of God, 4301 Kenilworth Blvd.

The Williams' have many friends in the Sebring area and everyone is invited to join them for this special concert.

For information, call the church office at 385-6431.

Sebring Spanish Aglow to meet March 10

SEBRING — Sebring Spanish Aglow will have a special meeting on Saturday, March 10, at the Spring Lake Community Center (209 Spring Lake Blvd. B). The guest speaker will be Pastor Carmen Robles.

Gather at 9 a.m. for breakfast (donations welcomed); meeting will be afterwards (with singing, sharing and surprises).

For information, call Rosa Gutierrez Benton at 655-9163.

Prime Timers gather for lunch

LAKE PLACID — The Prime Timers of First Baptist Church of Lake Placid, 119 E. Royal Palm St., will host a covered dish luncheon at noon Monday in the fellowship hall.

Attorney Roy Wilkes will speak on senior services.

PLACES TO WORSHIP

Places to Worship is a paid advertisement in the News-Sun that is published Friday and Sunday. To find out more information on how to place a listing in this directory, call the News-Sun at 385-6155, ext. 502.

APOSTOLIC

■ **Greater Faith Apostolic Church**, 24 Rainer Drive, Lake Placid, FL 33852. invites you to come worship with us in spirit and truth at 10:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. Sunday, and at 7:30 p.m. Thursday. For information contact (239) 671-0390. Pastor Travis Vanderford.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

■ **Christ Fellowship Church (Assembly of God)**, 2935 New Life Way, Bearing His Name; Preaching His Doctrine; and Awaiting His Coming. "Worshipping God in Spirit and in Truth." Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10 a.m.; Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday: Worship, 7 p.m. Pastor Eugene Haas. Phone 471-0924.

■ **First Assembly of God**, 4301 Kenilworth Blvd., Sebring. The Rev. Wilmont McCrary, pastor. Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship and KIDS Church, 11 a.m.; Evening Worship, 7 p.m. Wednesday Family Night, (Adult Bible Study), LIFE Youth Group, Royal Rangers, Missionettes, 7:30 p.m. Phone 385-6431.

BAPTIST

■ **Avon Park Lakes Baptist Church**, 2600 N. Highlands Blvd., Avon Park, FL 33825. George Hall, Pastor. Christ centered and biblically based. Sunday worship services, 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Nursery facilities are available. Bible studies at 9:45 a.m. Sunday and 7 p.m. Wednesday. Prayer Time 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday. Bible classes at 9:45 a.m. are centered for all ages. Choir practice at 5 p.m. Sunday. Church phone: 452-6556.

■ **Bethany Baptist Church (GARBC)** We are located at the corner of SR17 and C-17A (truck route) in Avon Park. Join us Sunday morning at 9:00 AM for coffee and doughnuts, followed with Sunday School for all ages at 9:30. Sunday morning worship service begins at 10:30 a.m., and evening worship service is at 6 p.m. On Wednesdays, the Word of Life teen ministry and the Catelyst class (20's+) begin at 6:30 PM. The adult Bible and Prayer Time begins at 7 p.m. For more information go to www.bethanybaptistap.com or call the church office at 863-452-1136.

■ **Faith Missionary Baptist Church**, off State Road 17 North of Sebring at 1708 LaGrange Ave. Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship, 11 a.m.; Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday Service, 7 p.m. Deaf interpretation available. Ken Lambert, Pastor. Phone 386-5055.

■ **Fellowship Baptist Church**, 1000 Maxwell St., Avon Park, FL 33825. Sunday: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10:45

a.m.; Wednesday: Evening Service, 7 p.m.; Children/Youth, 7 p.m. Telephone: 453-4256. Fax: 453-6986. E-mail: office@apfellowship.org; Web site, www.apfellowship.org.

■ **First Baptist Church of Avon Park**, 100 N. Lake Ave., Avon Park. Rev. Jon Beck, pastor; Charlie Parish, associate pastor/youth and families; Joy Loomis, music director; Rev. Johnattan Soltero, Hispanic pastor. Regular Sunday schedule: 8:30 a.m. orchestra rehearsal; 9 a.m. Library open; 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 11 a.m. Morning Worship; 11 a.m. Children's Church; 6 p.m. evening worship. Wednesday schedule: 5:15 p.m. supper; 6 p.m. Bible Study and Prayer; 6:30 p.m. Adult Choir Practice; 6 p.m. children's choir rehearsals; 7 p.m. mission programs. Hispanic Services: Sunday school at 9:30 a.m.; worship service at 11 a.m. and evening worship at 7 p.m. Wednesday Bible study at 7 p.m. Call 453-6681 for details.

■ **First Baptist Church of Lake Josephine**, 111 Lake Josephine Drive, Sebring (just off U.S. 27 midway between Sebring and Lake Placid). Your place for family, friends and faith. Sunday morning worship service is 11 a.m. Nursery is provided for both services with Children's Church at 11 a.m. Life changing Bible Study for all ages starts at 9:45 a.m. Associate Pastor Allen Altwater leads the youth in their quest to become more like Christ. Sunday night worship at 6 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer meeting at 7 p.m. along with youth worship in the youth facility, and missions training for all children. Call the church at 655-1524.

■ **First Baptist Church of Lake Placid**, Knowing God's Heart and Sharing God's Hope, 119 E. Royal Palm St., Lake Placid, FL 33852 (863) 465-3721, Website: www.fbclp.com. Email: information@fbclp.com. Sunday services - Traditional Service 9 a.m., Contemporary Service 10:30 a.m. Link Groups at 9 and 10:30 a.m., Senior Sunday Night at 6 p.m. Wednesday Activities: Family dinner at 5 p.m. (\$4 per person, reservations required). Prayer meeting, Youth Intersections, and MaxKidz Extreme meet at 6:15 p.m. The church is at 119 E. Royal Palm St., Lake Placid. For information, call 465-3721 or go to www.fbclp.com.

■ **First Baptist Church of Lorida** located right on U.S. 98 in Lorida. Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m. for all ages. Sunday worship services are at 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Preschool care is provided at the 11 a.m. worship service. Wednesday evening Bible Study and Prayer meeting is at 6:30 p.m., followed by adult choir rehearsal. From September the AWANA groups meet. First Lorida is the "Place to discover God's love." For more information about the church or the ministries offered, call 655-1878.

■ **First Baptist Church, Sebring**, 200 E. Center Ave., Sebring, FL 33870. Telephone: 385-5154. Dr. David E. Richardson, senior pastor; Rev. Joe Delph, associate pastor, minister of youth and activities; and Rev. Nuno Norberto, associate pastor, minister of music and senior adults. Group Bible Studies, 9:15

a.m.; Blended Service, 10:30 a.m.; Mision Buatista Hispana, 2 p.m.; Sunday Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday night programs at the ROC begin 5:30 p.m., at church begin 6:30 p.m. Preschool and Mother's Day Out for children age 6 weeks to 5 years old. Becky Gotsch, director. Call 385-4704.

■ **Florida Avenue Baptist Church**, 401 S. Florida Ave., Avon Park. Mailing address is 710 W. Bell St., Avon Park, FL 33825. Telephone, 453-5339. Rev. John D. Girdley, pastor. Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Sunday Worship, 11 a.m.; 11 a.m. Children's Church; Sunday Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday night programs for children, youth and adults at 7 p.m.

■ **Independent Baptist Church**, 5704 County Road 17 South, Sebring, FL 33876. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m. Sunday evening, 6 p.m. Wednesday service, 7 p.m. Fundamental, soul-winning, mission-minded, King James Bible Church. Larry Ruse, pastor. Phone 655-1899. Bus transportation.

■ **Leisure Lakes Baptist Church**, 808 Gardenia St., Lake Placid (just off of Miller at the west end of Lake June) "Where the old fashion gospel is preached." Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m.; Sunday Worship service at 11 a.m.; Sunday Evening Service is at 6 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Meeting and Bible Study at 7 p.m. Call the church at 699-0671 for more information.

■ **Maranatha Baptist Church (GARBC)**, 35 Maranatha Blvd., Sebring, FL 33870 (A half mile east of Highlands Avenue on Arbutle Creek Road.) Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10:15 a.m.; Evening Service, 6 p.m. Mid-week service, Wednesday, 6 p.m. Daily Prayer and Bible Study, 8 a.m., Hamman Hall. Pastor Gerald Webber and Associate Pastors Don Messenger and Ted Ertle. Phone 382-4301.

■ **Parkway Free Will Baptist Church**, 3413 Sebring Parkway, Sebring, FL 33870. Welcome to the church where the "Son" always shines. Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship, 11 a.m.; Sunday Evening Worship, 6 p.m.; and Wednesday Evening Worship, 7 p.m. End-of-the-Month-Sing at 6 p.m. on the last Sunday of each month. The Rev. J.S. Scaggs, pastor. Church phone: 382-3552. Home phone: 214-3025. Affiliated with the National Association of Free Will Baptists, Nashville, Tenn.

■ **Sparta Road Baptist Church, (SBC)** 4400 Sparta Road. Rev. Ken Geren, interim pastor. Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.; Sunday Morning Worship, 11 a.m.; Sunday Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday: Prayer/Bible Study, 6 p.m. Nursery provided. For information, call 382-0869.

■ **Southside Baptist Church (GARBC)**, 379 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring. David C. Altman, Pastor. Sunday School for all ages, 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship Service, 10:45 a.m.; Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday: Student ministry, 6:30 p.m.; Awana kindergarten through fifth grade, 6:30 p.m.; Adult Midweek Prayer and Bible Study, 7 p.m. A nursery for under age 3 is available at all services. Provisions for handicapped and

hard-of-hearing. Office phone, 385-0752.

■ **Spring Lake Baptist Church**, "Where the Bible is Always Open." Pastor Richard Schermerhorn, 7408 Valencia Road; 655-2610. Assistant Pastor Ronald Smith, 386-1610. On U.S. 98 at the Spring Lake Village II entrance. Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. for all ages; Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m.; Sunday Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday Mid-week Bible Study and Prayer Service, 6:30 p.m. Nursery available for all services.

■ **Sunridge Baptist Church, (SBC)** 3704 Valerie Blvd. (U.S. 27 and Valerie, across from Florida Hospital), Sebring. Tim Finch, pastor. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m.; and Sunday Evening Service, 6 p.m. Wednesday: Prayer, Bible Study, and Youth, 6:30 p.m. Nursery provided. For information, call 382-3695.

CATHOLIC

■ **Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church**, 595 East Main St., Avon Park, 453-4757. Father Nicholas McLoughlin, pastor. Saturday Vigil Mass is 4 p.m. in English and 7 p.m. in Spanish; Sunday mass 8 and 10:30 a.m. in English.

Weekday mass at 8 a.m. Confessions are at 3:30 p.m. Saturday. Religious Education Classes are 9-10:20 a.m. Sunday for grades K through 8th. Confirmation class is from 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday. Youth Nights grades 6th and up, 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday.

■ **St. Catherine Catholic Church**, 820 Hickory St., Sebring. Mailing address: 882 Bay St., Sebring, FL 33870, 385-0049; fax, 385-5169; email, office@stcathc.com; website, www.stcathc.com. Very Rev. José González, V.F., frjose@stcathc.com; Parochial Vicar, Rev. Victor Cavedes, 385-3993; Assisting Priest (retired), Rev. J. Peter Sheehan; Deacons, Rev. Mr. James R. McGarry and Rev. Mr. Max M. Severo. Parish office hours, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Masses — Daily Masses 8 a.m. and noon Monday-Friday; 9 a.m. Saturday. Weekend Masses 4 and 5 p.m. Saturday, 5 p.m. Saturday Spanish Mass (Holy Family Youth Center), 8 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday, noon Sunday Sunday Mass; 5 p.m. Sunday English Family Mass (Holy Family Youth Center). Confession: every Saturday 3-3:45 p.m. or first Friday of the month 7:15-7:45 a.m., or by appointment with any priest.

■ **St. James Catholic Church**, 3380 Placidview Drive, Lake Placid, 465-3215. Father Michael J. Cannon. Mass schedule: Summer (May 1 to Oct. 31) - Saturday Vigil, 4 p.m.; Sunday 8 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.; Weekdays 9 a.m. December thru Easter - Saturday, 4 p.m.; Sunday, 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.; Weekdays 9 a.m.; and Holy Days 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m., first Saturday at 9 a.m.

CHRISTIAN

■ **Eastside Christian Church**, 101 Peace Ave., Lake Placid, FL

33852 (two miles east of U.S. 27 on County Road 621), 465-7065. Ray Culpepper, senior pastor. Sunday: Bible classes, 9 a.m.; Worship Celebration with the Lord's Supper each week 10:15 a.m. Thelma Hall, organist; and Pat Hjort, pianist. Wednesday: Praise and Prayer, 6:30 p.m.; "Building God's Kingdom for Everyone." "Jesus Christ, the Way, Truth and Life!" "Alive and Worth the Drive!"

■ **Sebring Christian Church**, 4514 Hammock Road, Sebring, FL 33872. Tod Schwingel, Preacher; David Etherton, Youth Pastor. Sunday Worship, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 11 a.m.; Sunday Youth Service, 6 p.m.; Evening service at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday night meals, 5:30 p.m. followed by classes at 6:30 p.m. Changing Seasons, a men's grief support group, meets at 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays. Alzheimers Caregivers Support Group meets at 1 p.m. Thursdays. Office hours, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday-Friday. Phone 382-6676.

■ **First Christian Church**, 1016 W. Camphor St., Avon Park, FL 33825; (863) 453-5334; on the Web at www.firstchristianap.com. Our motto is "Jesus is First at First Christian Church." Greg Ratliff, Senior Minister; Bible School 9 a.m.; Worship 10 a.m.; Wednesday studies for all ages, 6 p.m. Nursery provided for all events.

■ **First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**, 510 Poinsettia Avenue, (corner of Poinsettia and Eucalyptus), Sebring, FL 33870. Phone: 385-0358 or 385-3435. The Rev. Ronald Norton, Pastor; Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Praise Breakfast, 10 a.m., Morning Worship, 10:30 a.m.; Children's Church, 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Praise and Worship, 6:45 p.m. Youth Fellowship, 7:15 p.m.; Midweek Bible Study, 7:15 p.m.

CHRISTIAN & MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

■ The **Alliance Church of Sebring**, 4451 Sparta Road, Sebring, FL 33875. Call 382-1343. Rev. Steve Hagen, pastor. Sunday services: Sunday School meets at 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Morning Worship Service meets at 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Evening Bible Study meets at 6 p.m. (off site); Wednesday Prayer Gathering meets at 6 p.m.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

■ **Christian Science Church**, 146 N. Franklin St. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. morning worship and Sunday school. Testimonial meetings at 4 p.m. each second and fourth Wednesday. A free public reading room/bookstore, located in the church, is open before and after church services. The Bible and the Christian Science textbook, 'Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures' by Mary Baker Eddy are our only preachers. All are welcome to come and partake of the comfort, guidance, support and healing found in the lesson-sermons.

CHURCH OF BRETHREN

■ **Church of the Brethren**, 700 S. Pine St., Sebring, FL 33870. Sunday: Church School, 9 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10:15 a.m. Wednesday: Temple Choir, 7:30 p.m. Phone 385-1597.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

■ **Avon Park Church of Christ**, 200 S. Forest Ave., Avon Park, FL 33825. Minister: Larry Roberts. Sunday Worship Services, 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Nursery facilities are available at every service. Bible Study: Sunday, 9:30 a.m. and Wednesday, 7 p.m. Bible centered classes for all ages. Church phone: 453-4692.

■ **Sebring Parkway Church of Christ**, 3800 Sebring Parkway, Sebring, FL 33870; 385-7443. We would like to extend an invitation for you and your family to visit with us here at Sebring Parkway. Our hours of service are: Sunday Bible Class, 9 a.m.; Sunday Worship Service, 10 a.m.; Sunday Evening Service, 6 p.m.; Wednesday Service, 7 p.m.

CHURCH OF NAZARENE

■ **First Church of the Nazarene of Avon Park**, P.O. Box 1118., Avon Park, FL 33825-1118. 707 W. Main St. Randall Rupert, Pastor. Sunday: Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. for all ages; morning worship at 10:45 a.m.; and evening service at 6 p.m. Wednesday evening service is at 7 p.m. with special services for children and adults. Special services once a month for seniors (Prime Time) and Ladies ministries. If you need any more information, call 453-4851.

■ **First Church of the Nazarene of Lake Placid**, 512 W. Interlake Blvd., Lake Placid, FL 33852. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Morning worship, 10:45 a.m.; Evening service, 6 p.m. Wednesday evening, 7 p.m. Classes for adult children and youth. Call 465-6916. Pastor Tim Taylor.

CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN CHRISTIAN UNION

■ **Community Bible Church - Churches of Christ in Christian Union**, (Orange Blossom Conference Center) 1400 C-17A North (truck route), Avon Park. Presenting Jesus Christ as the answer for time and eternity. Sunday morning worship service, 10:30 a.m. Nursery provided. Junior Church activities at same time for K-6 grade. Sunday School Bible hour (all ages), 9:30 a.m. (Transportation available.) Sunday evening praise and worship service, 6 p.m. Wednesday evening prayer service, 7 p.m. Children and youth activities at 7 p.m. Wednesday. Everyone is welcome, please come worship with us. Don Seymour, Senior Pastor. Phone 452-0088.

RELIGION

'I Believe' license plates available in SC, 2 years after ruling

Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C. — South Carolina drivers can buy religious license plates that feature three crosses and a sunrise, 2 1/2 years after a federal judge declared a previous legislative effort for the "I Believe" tags unconstitutional.

The new tags are sponsored by the nonprofit group www.IBELIEVEsc.net as allowed under state law.

The new tag is a nonpolitical way for Christians of all denominations to share their faith, said Adrian Grimes, spokeswoman for the group's upcoming rollout of the plate.

A federal judge ruled in 2009 that "I Believe" tags that legislators created through a state law violated the First Amendment ban on establishment of religion by government. That plate featured a cross and stained glass window.

The new plates show the nonprofit's name across the top, with the letters "JC" between the image of three crosses on a hill and the license number.

A spokesman for Americans United for Separation of Church and State, which was among groups that sued over the 2008 law, said it sees no constitutional problem with these plates.

"As long as all groups have the same

access to the process, it doesn't raise constitutional issues," said spokesman Joseph Conn. State law allows nonprofit groups to create specialty plates by either collecting 400 prepaid applications or making a \$4,000 deposit.

Fire destroys barn storing items salvaged from Ohio church

MARYSVILLE, Ohio — There's more bad news for members of a central Ohio church where authorities believe a man drove a stolen car into the building, set a fire and watched from a nearby playground swing as the facility burned last month.

WBNS-TV reports New Horizons Baptist Church in Marysville lost more when a fire was reported early Monday at a barn that contained items salvaged from the church site.

The state fire marshal's says the barn and its contents were destroyed. The fire has been ruled accidental and started in a wall near an electrical outlet.

Jail records show the 30-year-old Philadelphia man suspected in the January church arson remained in custody early Monday. No injuries were reported from either fire.

Drug gang banners appear in central Mexico city Pope will visit

MEXICO CITY — A drug gang unfurled banners in a Mexican city that Pope Benedict XVI is scheduled to visit next month, telling rival traffickers to keep out and keep the peace during the papal visit next month.

One of the banners was signed by The Knights Templar, a violent, pseudo-religious cartel from the neighboring state of Michoacan. The cloth banners with hand-painted messages were found and quickly removed on Tuesday, a few weeks after the local Roman Catholic archdiocese had issued a public plea to drug gangs not to mar the Pope's visit with violence.

"We just want to warn that we do not want more groups in the state of Guanajuato. Confrontations will be inevitable. You have been warned, New Generation, we want Guanajuato in Peace, so don't think about moving in and much less causing violence, precisely at this time when His Holiness Benedict XVI is coming," according to the sign. Municipal police sent a photo of the banner to The Associated Press.

"New Generation" refers to a rival gang

from the neighboring state of Jalisco, which is believed to be allied with the powerful Sinaloa drug cartel.

The two groups, along with the Zetas, have been locked in battles in all three states.

Radical Islamist sect claims Nigeria military strikes, denies sending state-run TV a message

LAGOS, Nigeria — A radical Islamist sect has claimed responsibility for attacks on military bases in a central Nigerian city at the heart of ethnic and religious unrest in the country.

A spokesman for the sect known as Boko Haram told The Daily Trust newspaper of Nigeria's Muslim north that it carried out Tuesday's attacks on an army and air force base in Kaduna. Military officials say only a bomber was killed in the attack, though witnesses saw soldiers in blood-drenched uniforms.

The sect also denied sending a video message aired Tuesday on the state-run Nigerian Television Authority in which they purportedly accepted an offer to negotiate for peace with the oil-rich nation's weak central government.

PLACES TO WORSHIP

EPISCOPAL

■ **The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer.** Service time is 9:30 with Holy Communion. Coffee hour following services. Newcomers welcome. Call 453-5664 or e-mail redemer1895@aol.com Web site: redeemeravon.com. The church is at 839 Howe's Way, Avon Park (two miles north of Sun 'N Lake Boulevard, across from Wells Dodge.)

■ **St. Agnes Episcopal Church,** 3840 Lakeview Drive, Sebring, FL 33870. Sunday Services: Holy Eucharist Rite I - 7:45 a.m., Holy Eucharist Rite II - 10 a.m. Midweek service on Wednesday at 6 p.m. Sunday School for all ages at 9 a.m. The nursery is open 8:45 a.m. until 15 minutes after the 10 a.m. service ends. Wednesday: Adult Bible study, 9:30 a.m. Visitors are always welcome. The Rev. Jim Kurtz, rector. Church office 385-7649, for more information.

■ **St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church,** 43 Lake June Road, Lake Placid, FL 33852. Phone: 465-0051. Rev. Elizabeth L. Nelson, Rector. Sunday Worship, 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesday evening: Holy Communion with Healing Service, 6 p.m. Child care available at the 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Sunday service. Come see what makes us different.

GRACE BRETHREN

■ **Grace Brethren Church,** 3626 Thunderbird Road, (863) 835-0869. Dr. Randall Smith, senior pastor. Sunday services at 9 a.m., 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday services at 7 p.m. We offer "Kid City" Children's Ministry throughout all services, and there are various other classes for teens, married couples, "prime-timers," and Bible studies in Spanish. "Kid City" Day Care, Preschool and After-School Monday-Friday: 7 a.m.-6 p.m. (For registration call: 385-3111). Check us out on the Web at www.sebring-grace.org.

INTERDENOMINATIONAL

■ **World Harvest and Restoration Ministries,** (non-denominational) 2200 N. Avon Blvd., Avon Park, FL 33825. Phone: 452-9777 or 453-3771. Sunday service: Sunday School, 10 a.m. and worship, 11 a.m. Wednesday services: 7 p.m. prayer meeting/Bible study. Pastor: W.H. Rogers.

LUTHERAN

■ **Atonement Lutheran Church (ELCA),** 1178 S.E. Lakeview Drive., Sebring. David Thoresen, Deacon, Spiritual Leader, on first, third and fifth Sunday each month, and Rev. Jefferson Cox on the second and fourth Sunday of each month. Jim Helwig, organist/choir director. Worship service at 9:30 a.m.; Holy Eucharist is every Sunday. Coffee hour on the first and third Sunday of each month. Council meeting on the first Monday of month; Ladies Group WELCA meets at noon second Monday of month with lunch. Bring a dish to pass. Church Vegetable Garden Club meets as needed. Labyrinth Prayer Garden open seven days a week to congregation and community. Like to sing? Come join the choir. Visitors always welcome. Come grow with us. Phone 385-0797.

■ **Christ Lutheran Church Avon Park – LCMS,** 1320 County Road 64, 1/2 mile east of Avon Park High School. Sunday Divine Worship is at 10 a.m. Holy Communion is celebrated every week with traditional Lutheran Liturgy, hymns and songs of praise. Fellowship time with coffee and refreshments follows worship. Come worship and fellowship with us. For information call Pastor Scott McLean at 471-2663 or see christlutheranavonpark.org.

■ **Faith Lutheran Church – LCMS,** 2740 Lakeview Drive, Sebring. Church phone: 385-7848, Faith Child Development Center, 385-3232. Rev. Gary Kindle, pastor. Traditional Worship service, 8 a.m. Sunday; Sunday Praise Worship Service, 10:30 a.m. Communion is served the first, third and fifth Sunday of the month. Sunday school and Bible classes: 9:15 a.m. Sunday. Worship service is broadcast at 8 a.m. on WITS 1340 AM each Sunday. Educational opportunities include weekly adult Bible studies. Faith's Closet Thrift Store (385-2782) is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday. All are warmly welcome in the Family of Faith.

■ **Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (AALC) American Association of Lutheran Churches,** 3240 Grand Prix Drive, Sebring, FL 33872. James Weed, pastor. Worship Service, 10:30 a.m. Sunday. Bible Study, 9 a.m. Nursery provided. Social activities: Choir, Missions, Evangelism. Phone 385-2346.

■ **New Life Evangelical Lutheran Church,** 3725 Hammock Road, a Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) in fellowship with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). Sunday Worship at 10 a.m.; Bible Study, 9 a.m. For more information, call Pastor Brian Klebig at 385-2293 or visit the Web site at www.newlife.sebring.com.

■ **Resurrection Lutheran Church – ELCA,** 324 E. Main St., Avon Park. Pastor: Rev. John C. Grodzinski. Sunday service at 9:30 a.m. Sunday school will resume in the fall. Coffee and fellowship hour follow the service. Midweek Fragrance Free Wednesday worship, (year round) 7 p.m. Office phone number is 453-6858.

■ **Trinity Lutheran Church - LCMS,** 25 Lakeview St., Lake Placid, FL 33852; 465-5253. The Rev. Richard A. Norris, pastor; Susan C. Norris, Trinity Tots Pre-School director; and Noel Johnson, minister of youth and family life. Worship schedule after Easter through December: Worship service 9 a.m., and Education Hour, 8:45 a.m. Worship schedule for January through Easter: Worship service, 8:30 and 11 a.m., Education Hour 9:45 a.m. Traditional Service with Holy Communion each first and third Sunday. Non-Traditional Service each second, fourth and fifth Sunday. Seasonal mid-week services Wednesday evenings during Lent and Advent. Call church office for additional Worship times and special holiday services. Other activities and groups include: Choirs; Ladies Guild and LWML; Men's Fellowship Group, Small Group Bible Studies as scheduled; Trinity Tots Pre-school, Youth Group activities (call for meeting times and dates). Visit us online at www.Trinitylutheranlp.com.

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

■ **Bible Fellowship Church,** 3750 Hammock Road, Sebring, FL 33872. Sunday: American Sign Language: First Worship sermon, songs signed first and second Worship services. First Worship service, 9 a.m.; Second Worship service, 10:45 a.m. Nursery (up to 2 years old) and Sunday school classes both hours. BFC Youth, 6 p.m.; Evening Service, 6 p.m. Wednesday: Children ages 4 years through fifth grade, 6 p.m.; Youth, 6-7:30 p.m.; Prayer time, 6:15 p.m. Todd Patterson, pastor; Andy McQuaid, associate pastor. Web site www.bfcsebring.com. Church office 385-1024.

■ **Calvary Church,** 1825 Hammock Road, Sebring, FL 33872; 386-4900. An independent community church. Sunday morning worship, 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.; Bible study, 11:15 a.m.; Sunday evening service, 6 p.m.; Wednesday Prayer and Bible Study, 6:30 p.m. Pastor Lester Osbeck. A small friendly church waiting for your visit.

■ **Christian Training Ministries Inc.,** on Sebring Parkway. Enter off County Road 17 on Simpson Avenue. Sunday service is at 10 a.m.; Wednesday Bible study at 7 p.m. A nursery and children's church are provided. The church is part of Christian International Ministries Network, a full gospel, non-denominational ministry. Linda M. Downing, minister, lindadowning@live.com. Casey L. Downing, associate minister, caseydowning@hotmail.com. Church phone: 314-0482. Web site: www.ctmforme.com

■ **Grace Bible Church,** 4541 Thunderbird Road, (second church on left) Sebring, FL 33872. Phone, 382-1085. Andrew Katsanis, senior pastor. Saturday Worship, 6:30 p.m. Sunday, 9 and 11 a.m. Tuesday 6 p.m. Grace Bible Academy Adult Investigating Truth; first and third Tuesday, Prayer Gathering, 7:15 p.m.; Wednesday, Children's & Youth Programs, 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 8:30 p.m., College Ministry. www.GBCconnected.org

■ **Highlands Community Church,** a casual contemporary church, meets at 3005 New Life Way. Coffee at 9:30 a.m.; Worship at 10 a.m. Nursery and Kid's World classes. Small groups meet throughout the week. Church phone is 402-1684; Pastor Bruce A. Linhart.

■ **The Lord's Sentinel Fellowship Church,** 148 E. Interlake Blvd., Lake Placid (at Lake Placid Christian School), Pastor Juanita Folsom. Sunday morning service, 10:30 a.m.; Monday, Sentinel School of Theology, 7 p.m.; Church service, Tuesday, 7 p.m. More information at www.juanitafolsomministries.com.

■ **Union Congregational Church,** 106 N. Butler Ave., Avon Park, FL 33825. Sunday worship services are at 8:45 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. in the Millennium Church. Sunday school for all ages is at 9:15 a.m. We also offer a Saturday service at 6 p.m. with Pastor Tiger Gullett in the Millennium Church. Nursery/child care is available for all services. Senior Pastor is Bill Breylinger. Office: 453-3345. Web page at www.weareunion.org. All teachings are taken from the Manufacturer's Handbook - The Holy Bible. Come join us.

■ **Unity Life Enrichment Centre,** new location, 10417 Orange Blossom Blvd. S., Sebring, FL 33875; 471-1122; e-mail unity@vistanet.net. Web site, www.unityofsebring.org. 10:30 a.m.

Sunday Celebration Service, Nursery and Children's Church. Weekly Classes, Christian Bookstore and Cafe, Prayer Ministry, Life Enrichment Groups. Rev. Andrew C. Conyer, senior minister transforming lives from ordinary to extraordinary.

■ **The Way Church,** 1005 N. Ridgewood Drive, Sebring. Sunday school and worship service at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Youth activities, 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays. The Way is a church family who gathers for contemporary worship, teaching of God's Word, prayer and fellowship. Come early and stay after for fellowship time. Child care and children's church are provided. Reinhold Buxbaum is pastor. The Way – A place for you. Office Phone:471-6140, Church Cell Phone:381-6190. Email: thewaychurch@hotmail.com. Web site: www.TheWayChurch.org

PRESBYTERIAN

■ **Covenant Presbyterian Church (PCA),** 4500 Sun 'N Lake Blvd., Sebring, 33872-2113. A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America. Sunday morning worship: Informal service, 8 a.m.; traditional service, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday school, 9:15 a.m.; evening service, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday evening Prayer Meeting, 6 p.m.; Children's/Youth Group, 5:30-7 p.m.; choir practice, 7:15 p.m. Phone: 385-3234; Fax: 385-2759; e-mail: covpres@strato.net; Web site: www.cpcsebring.org. Rev. W. Darrell Arnold, pastor. Office hours: 8:30-12:30 a.m. Monday-Friday.

■ **First Presbyterian Church ARP,** 215 E. Circle St., (two entrances on LaGrande), Avon Park, FL 33825. Phone: 453-3242. The Rev. Robert Johnson is the pastor. Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.; Sunday Worship, 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday Bible study, 10:30 a.m.; Potluck dinner, 6 p.m. third Wednesday; choir practice, 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday; Mary Circle business meeting, 1 p.m. second Wednesday; Sarah Circle business meeting, 4 p.m. second Thursday; Women's Ministries Combined Bible study, 4 p.m. third Thursday. Be a part of a warm, caring church family with traditional services, following biblical truth.

■ **First Presbyterian Church, ARP,** 319 Poinsettia Ave., Sebring, FL 33870. 385-0107. Sunday School, all ages, 9:30 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Tuesday: Grief Support Group, 1 p.m.; Youth Group (middle and high school), 3:30-6:30 p.m.; Wednesday: Adult Bible Study, 10:30 a.m.; Choir Rehearsal, 5:30 p.m. Nursery available during worship. Call the church office for more information and other classes. Rev. Darrell A. Peer, pastor.

■ **First Presbyterian Church, ARP,** www.fpclp.com, 118 N. Oak Ave., Lake Placid, 465-2742. The Rev. Ray Cameron, senior pastor; the Rev. Drew Severance, associate pastor. Sunday morning traditional worship is at 8 and 9:30 a.m. in the sanctuary; contemporary worship is at 11 a.m. Sunday school classes for adults is at 9:15 and 10:45 a.m. and for all ages, adults and children, at 9:45 a.m. in the educational building. Wednesday: 6:45 p.m., youth group (middle and high school), and nursery and children's ministry; 7 p.m., adult small group Bible studies. Children/youth music ministry (Thursday): grades 3-5 chimes, 2:30 p.m.; grades 3-5

choir, 3:15 p.m.; grades 6-12 handbells, 3:15 p.m. Bible Counseling available by appointment, 699-0132. Call the church office for more information about the classes offered. Nursery is provided for babies and toddlers; while young children up to second grade have a special Children's Church offered during the worship service to help them grow in their spiritual knowledge.

■ **Spring Lake Presbyterian Church (USA),** 5887 U.S. 98, Sebring, FL 33876. Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Worship Service, 10 a.m. Session meets at 6:30 p.m. the second Thursday of the month, September through June. Board of Deacon's meet at 5:30 p.m. first Monday of the month. Choir rehearses at 7 p.m. each Wednesday, September through April. Presbyterian Women meet at 10 a.m. the third Thursday of the month. Organist: Richard Wedig. Choir Director: Suzan Wedig. Church phone, 655-0713; e-mail, springlakepc@embarqmail.com, Web site, <http://slpc.embarqspace.com>.

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

■ **Avon Park Seventh-day Adventist Church,** 1410 West Avon Blvd., Avon Park. Phone: 453-6641 or e-mail: avonparksda@embarqmail.com, Sabbath School, 9:30 a.m. Saturday. Church Service 10:45 a.m. Saturday. Wednesday prayer meeting 7 p.m. Community Service hours on Tuesday and Thursday is from 9:00 a.m. till 2 p.m. A sale takes place the first Sunday of each month. Senior Pastor Paul Boling. Walker Memorial Academy Christian School offering education for kindergarten through 12th grades. ALL ARE WELCOME. Website is www.discoverjesus.org

■ **Sebring Seventh-Day Adventist Church,** 2106 N. State Road 17, Sebring; 385-2438. Worship Services: 9:15 a.m. Worship hour, 11 a.m. Prayer meeting, Tuesday, 7:15 p.m. Community service: every Monday 9-11 a.m. Health Seminar with Dr. Seralde, every Friday, 10:00 a.m. Pastor Amado Luzbet.

THE CHURCH OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

■ **The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints,** 3235 Grand Prix Dr., Sebring, FL 33872; (863) 382-9092 Steve Austin, Bishop; Mark Swift, 1st Counselor; Del Murphy, 2nd Counselor. Family History Center (863) 382-1822. Sunday Services: Sacrament Meeting, 10-11:10 a.m.; Gospel Doctrine, 11:20 a.m. to noon; Priesthood/Relief Society, 12:10-1p.m.; Primary for children, 11:15 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Youth Activities: Wednesdays, 7-8:20 p.m. Scouts: first and third Wednesday, 7-8:20 p.m. Activity Days: 8-11 yr old Boys and Girls, second and fourth Wednesdays, 7-8:20 p.m.

THE SALVATION ARMY

■ **The Salvation Army – Center for Worship.** Sunday: Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Holiness meeting, 11 a.m.; and Praise meeting and lunch, noon. Tuesday: Bible study, 6:30 p.m.; and Women's Ministries, 7 p.m. Wednesday:

Youth Ministries, 4 p.m. All meetings are at 120 N. Ridgewood Ave., Sebring. For more information, visit the Web site www.salvationarmy-sebring.com or call Major Bruce Stefanik at 385-7548, ext. 110.

UNITED METHODIST

■ **First United Methodist Church,** 105 S. Pine St., Sebring, FL 33870. The Rev. A.C. Bryant, pastor. Traditional Worship Service at 8:10 and 10:50 a.m. in the sanctuary, Contemporary Worship in the FLC at 9:30 a.m. Sunday School at 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. Methodist Youth Fellowship at 5:30 p.m. Sundays with Rick Heilig, youth director. The 10:55 a.m. Sunday worship service is broadcast over WITS 1340 on AM dial. There is a nursery available at all services.

■ **First United Methodist Church,** 200 South Lake Avenue, Avon Park, FL 33825. (863) 453-3759, R. James Weiss, Pastor, Sunday School - 9 a.m., Worship - 10:30 a.m. Bible study third Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry on the second and fourth Friday of the month at 2 p.m. for women who love God and crocheting. Visit us at our church Web site: www.fumcap.org.

■ **Memorial United Methodist Church,** 500 Kent Ave., (overlooking Lake Clay) Lake Placid, FL, 33852. The Rev. Fred Ball, pastor. Claude H.L. Burnett, pastoral assistant. Sunday schedule: Heritage Worship Service, 8:30 a.m.; Sunday School for all ages, 9:30 a.m.; Celebration Worship Service at 10:45 a.m.; New Song worship service at 10:45 a.m. Loving nursery care provided every Sunday morning. Middle School Youth, 4 p.m.; High School Youth, 5:30 p.m. We offer Christ-centered Sunday school classes, youth programs, Bible studies, book studies and Christian fellowship. Church office, 465-2422 or www.memorialumc.com. Lakeview Christian School, VPK to grade 5; 465-0313.

■ **St. John United Methodist Church,** 3214 Grand Prix Drive, Sebring, FL 33872. The Rev. Ronald De Genaro Jr., Pastor. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Adult Sunday School, 11 a.m.; Sunday Morning Worship, 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Nursery provided for all services. Phone 382-1736. www.stjohnsebring.org

■ **Spring Lake United Methodist Church,** 8170 Cozumel Lane, (Hwy 98) Sebring. The Rev. Clyde Weaver Jr., Pastor. Worship service starts at 9:55 a.m. Bible Study meets at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday. Choir Practice at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday. Church office phone: 655-0040.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

■ **Emmanuel United Church of Christ,** Jesus didn't reject people, neither do we. Join us for worship every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. and you'll be embraced by a compassionate congregation that is all-inclusive. We're at the corner of Hammock and Hope. Choir and Bell Choir practice on Wednesday; Bible studies throughout the week. 471-1999; sebringemmanuelucc.com.

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COHAN RADIO GROUP HIGHLANDS TODAY Comcast

FRIDAY, FEB. 10th ALAN JAY AUTOMOTIVE & HIGHLANDS TODAY DAY

5pm-12 Midnight	Midway	Reithoffer Shows ~ Arm Band \$20
5-10pm	Independent Midway	Exhibit Buildings & Convention Center Open
5-11pm	Pavilion	Beer Garden ~ Sponsored by Budweiser
5-10pm	Small Animal Barn	Poultry & Rabbit Display
7pm	Convention Center	Jr. Miss Highlands County 2012 Beauty Pageant
7pm, 9pm	Stage	Master Hypnotist Show
6pm, 8pm	Expo Stage	JJ McCoy
6pm, 8pm	Exhibit Stage	The Grizzly Experience

5-11pm	Pavilion	Beer Garden ~ Sponsored by Budweiser
7pm, 9pm	Stage	Master Hypnotist Show
5-15pm	Livestock Pavilion	Pee Wee Show
6pm	Livestock Pavilion	Market Steer Show & Showmanship
5:30pm, 8:30pm	Exhibit Stage	The Grizzly Experience
6pm, 8pm	Expo Stage	Sebring High School Choir

SATURDAY, FEB. 11th AXA Advisors Day & Lilly, O'Toole & Brown Day

1pm-12 Midnight	Midway	Reithoffer Shows ~ Arm Band \$20
1-10pm	Independent Midway	Exhibit Buildings & Convention Center Open
1-10pm	Small Animal Barn	Poultry & Rabbit Display
1-10pm	Livestock Barn	Steer & Commercial Heifer Display
1-11pm	Pavilion	Beer Garden ~ Sponsored by Budweiser
2pm	Expo	Opening Ceremony - Mayor George Hensley
4pm	Small Animal Barn	Poultry Judging & Showmanship
7pm	Convention Center	Miss Highlands County 2012 Beauty Pageant
7pm, 9pm	Stage	Master Hypnotist Show
3pm, 6pm, 8pm	Expo Stage	JJ McCoy
2pm, 6pm, 8pm	Exhibit Stage	The Grizzly Experience

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 15th News-Sun & Comcast Cable Day

Military & Veterans Day - Admitted for \$3.00 w/ Military ID

5-11pm	Midway	Reithoffer Shows ~ Arm Band \$20
5-10pm	Independent Midway	Exhibit Buildings & Convention Center Open
5-10pm	Livestock Barn	Swine, Steers & Commercial Heifer Display
5-10pm	Small Animal Barn	Poultry & Rabbit Display
5-10pm	Independent Midway	Chainsaw Carving Show
5-11pm	Pavilion	Beer Garden ~ Sponsored by Budweiser
7pm, 9pm	Stage	Master Hypnotist Show
6pm, 8pm	Exhibit Stage	The Grizzly Experience
6pm, 8pm	Expo Stage	The Florida Bluegrass Express
5pm-8pm	Expo Pavilion	Cooking Contest
6pm	Livestock Pavilion	Commercial Heifer Show & Showmanship

Open Heifer Show & Showmanship follows.

SUNDAY, FEB. 12th Agero Day

Senior Citizen Day - Admitted for \$3.00 w/ ID

1-9pm	Midway	Reithoffer Shows ~ Arm Band \$20
1-9pm	Independent Midway	Exhibit Buildings & Convention Center Open
1-9pm	Livestock Barn	Swine, Steers & Commercial Heifer Display
1-9pm	Small Animal Barn	Poultry & Rabbit Display
1-10pm	Pavilion	Beer Garden ~ Sponsored by Budweiser
3pm	Livestock Pavilion	Market Swine Show & Showmanship
5pm, 7pm	Stage	Master Hypnotist Show
2pm, 4pm, 6pm	Exhibit Stage	The Grizzly Experience
1-9pm	Convention Center	Heartland Idol at the Fair

THURSDAY, FEB. 16th Coca-Cola Day

Students Day - Admitted with Food Can from 5-7pm

5-11pm	Midway	Reithoffer Shows ~ Arm Band \$20
5-10pm	Independent Midway	Exhibit Buildings & Convention Center Open
5-10pm	Small Animal Barn	Poultry & Rabbit Display
5-10pm	Independent Midway	Chainsaw Carving Show
5-11pm	Pavilion	Beer Garden ~ Sponsored by Budweiser
6pm, 8pm	Exhibit Stage	The Grizzly Experience
6pm, 8pm	Expo Stage	The Florida Bluegrass Express
6:30pm	Livestock Pavilion	Jr. Livestock Auction

MONDAY, FEB. 13th Florida Hospital Heartland & Heartland Broadcasting Day

5-11pm	Midway	Reithoffer Shows ~ Arm Band \$20
5-10pm	Independent Midway	Exhibit Buildings & Convention Center Open
5-10pm	Livestock Barn	Swine, Steers & Commercial Heifer Display
5-10pm	Small Animal Barn	Poultry & Rabbit Display
5-10pm	Independent Midway	Chainsaw Carving Show
5-11pm	Pavilion	Beer Garden ~ Sponsored by Budweiser
7pm, 9pm	Stage	Master Hypnotist Show
7pm	Convention Center	Little Miss Highlands County 2011 Beauty Pageant
6pm	Livestock Pavilion	Rabbit Judging & Showmanship
6pm, 8pm	Exhibit Stage	The Grizzly Experience
6pm, 8pm	Expo Stage	Avon Park High School Choir

FRIDAY, FEB. 17th Highlands Independent Bank & Cohan Radio Day

5pm-12 Midnight	Midway	Reithoffer Shows ~ Arm Band \$20
5-10pm	Independent Midway	Exhibit Buildings & Convention Center Open
5-10pm	Livestock Barn	Swine, Steers & Commercial Heifer Display
5-10pm	Small Animal Barn	Poultry & Rabbit Display
5-10pm	Independent Midway	Chainsaw Carving Show
8-11pm	Pavilion	Beer Garden ~ Sponsored by Budweiser
7pm, 9pm	Stage	Master Hypnotist Show
6pm, 8pm	Expo Stage	Groovus
6pm, 8pm	Exhibit Stage	The Grizzly Experience

TUESDAY, FEB. 15th PROGRESS ENERGY DAY

5pm-12 Midnight	Midway	Reithoffer Shows ~ Arm Band \$20
5-10pm	Independent Midway	Exhibit Buildings & Convention Center Open
5-10pm	Livestock Barn	Swine, Steers & Commercial Heifer Display
5-10pm	Small Animal Barn	Poultry & Rabbit Display
5-10pm	Independent Midway	Chainsaw Carving Show

SATURDAY, FEB. 19th Highlands Regional Medical Center Day

1pm-12 Midnight	Midway	Reithoffer Shows ~ Arm Band \$20
1-10pm	Independent Midway	Exhibit Buildings & Convention Center Open
1-7pm	Small Animal Barn	Poultry & Rabbit Display
1-10pm	Livestock Barn	Commercial Heifer Display
1-10pm	Independent Midway	Chainsaw Carving Show
1-11pm	Pavilion	Beer Garden ~ Sponsored by Budweiser
5pm, 7pm, 9pm	Stage	Master Hypnotist Show
2pm, 6pm, 8 pm	Exhibit Stage	The Grizzly Experience
4pm, 6pm	Expo Stage	California Toe Jam
7pm	Convention Center	Josh Thompson

REVISED: 1/31/2012

HEALTHY LIVING

Panel votes against Xgeva for prostate cancer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A panel of cancer experts voted against a new use for Amgen's Xgeva in prostate cancer on Wednesday, saying the drug's ability to slow the spread of the disease did not translate into meaningful benefits for patients.

The Food and Drug Administration's cancer drug panel voted 12-1 that the benefits of the drug did not outweigh its risks, which included bone disease in about 6 percent of patients. The FDA is not required to follow the group's advice, though it often does.

Xgeva is already approved to prevent fractures in cancerous bones, and for osteoporosis, in a different formulation called Prolia.

Amgen Inc. has asked the FDA to approve the injectable drug as a preventive measure for men with recurring prostate cancer that is at high risk of spreading to the bone. At the public meeting Wednesday, Amgen scientists pointed to results of a company study showing patients taking Xgeva experienced a four-month delay in the spread of cancer to the bones around the prostate.

Panelists termed this a "statistical benefit," but not one that resulted in increased survival or higher quality of life for patients.

"The effect of the studied compound is quite weak with no effect on survival or the overall course of the disease in general," said Dr. Ronald Richardson of the Mayo Clinic. All of the panel's physicians voted against the company's application. The lone patient representative on the panel voted in favor.

Many cancer drugs approved by the FDA do not actually extend survival, but instead slow the growth of tumors or their spread to other parts of the body.

In recent years, cancer experts have debated the meaningfulness of these measures. Panel chair Dr. Wyndham Wilson acknowledged that delaying the disease's spread to the bone could be meaningful, but suggested the drug would have to do so for more than four months.

"If it was one year we probably wouldn't even be here today, no one is denying that that, but the magnitude here is quite low," said Wilson, a research chief at the National Cancer Institute.



Smokeless tobacco now comes in many more forms than the traditional dip and chewing tobacco.

Smokeless tobacco use on rise among county teens

Special to the News-Sun
SEBRING — Smokeless tobacco use among Highlands County high school students has increased significantly within the past few years, particularly among high school boys. This alarming trend is despite a positive decline in the prevalence of teen smoking. Smokeless tobacco includes chew, dip and a host of emerging products.

In Highlands County, 8.4 percent of high school students were current smokeless tobacco users in 2010, which was a 2.1 percent increase since 2006. Statewide, the prevalence of smokeless tobacco use was 6.4 percent among high school students in 2011, which is slightly lower than the Highlands County's average of 8.4 percent. Statewide, smokeless tobacco use among high school students increased 30.6 percent from 2005-2011.

To help combat this deadly addiction, Tobacco Free Partnership of Highlands County and The Florida Department of Health's Tobacco Free Florida will observe Through With Chew Week from Feb. 19-25. This national annual health observance was established by the American Academy of Otolaryngology — Head and Neck Surgery as an educational campaign designed to prevent and reduce the use of smokeless tobacco and is now recognized by public health groups across the country. The week includes the Great American Spit Out on Thursday, Feb. 23, which encourages smokeless tobacco users to plan in advance to quit using smokeless tobacco that day, or to use the day to make a plan to quit.

The changing face of smokeless tobacco

Traditionally, smokeless tobacco was used in the form of spit tobacco, or chew and

dip. Today, there are more choices of smokeless tobacco products. Adults should be aware that many of these new products are easy to conceal and use in areas where cigarettes are banned and are cheaper than traditional smokeless and cigarettes.

New tobacco products like orbs (dissolvable tobacco pellets), sticks and strips closely resemble gum, candy and breath strips. Often flavored to mask the bad taste of tobacco, these products are generally more appealing to youth.

Another new product growing in popularity among youth is snus, which are small, teabag-like pouches containing tobacco that users place between their upper gum and lip. Snus does not require spitting; therefore, can be easily concealed.

The dangers of smokeless tobacco

"Smokeless tobacco is not a safe alternative to smoking cigarettes and the rate at which youth are using these products is alarming," said Dr. Frank Farmer, Florida's state Surgeon General. "Many of these young people are substituting cigarettes with smokeless tobacco in places where they can't smoke, leading to a stronger nicotine addiction that makes it harder for them to quit. The variety and sheer volume of new smokeless products entering the marketplace that appeal to youth is equally alarming."

Due to the smokeless nature of these products, youth wrongly perceive them to be less harmful and disregard the negative health impacts these products can cause. But in reality, these products, which contain 28 cancer-causing agents (carcinogens), are dangerous to one's health. Users of these products have an 80 percent higher risk of oral cancers and a 60 percent higher risk

of pancreatic and esophageal cancer.

Aside from the increased risk of cancer, the use of smokeless tobacco can increase the risk of heart attack and stroke. It can also lead to other oral problems, such as mouth sores, gum recession, tooth decay, and permanent discoloration of teeth.

Compared to cigarettes, smokeless tobacco products can contain more nicotine, which often leads users to nicotine addiction and dependence. In fact, the amount of nicotine absorbed from a dip of moist snuff tobacco is three to four times the amount delivered by a cigarette.

Even though nicotine is absorbed more slowly from chew tobacco than from cigarettes, chew tobacco users absorb more nicotine per dose and it stays in the bloodstream for a longer time. Furthermore, evidence shows that adolescent boys who use smokeless tobacco have a higher risk of becoming cigarette smokers within four years.

For more on smokeless tobacco, visit www.tobaccofreeflorida.com.

Free quit resources

Tobacco Free Florida offers free and convenient resources to help Floridians quit all forms of tobacco.

- Phone: Call the Florida Quitline at 1-877-U-CAN-NOW to speak with a Quit Coach who will help you assess your addiction and help you create a personalized quit plan.

- Online: Enroll in the Web Coach®, which will help you create your own web-based quit plan that's right for you, visit <https://www.quitnow.net/florida>.

- In-person: Sign up for Quit Smoking Now group classes at your local Area Health Education Center (AHEC) by calling 1-877-QUIT-NOW6.

Free diabetes classes

SEBRING — The Highlands County Health Department (HCHD) is offering Diabetes Self-Management Education (DSME) classes as part of its Wellness and Diabetes Education Program. This program serves Highlands County residents of all ages, especially those with diabetes or at risk for developing diabetes. These classes are free of charge and provided by a Certified Diabetes Educator.

Classes in English are scheduled in Sebring Feb. 13-15 from 8:30-11:30 a.m. and on Feb. 20-22 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the Highlands County Health Department (7205 S. George Blvd., conference room A). Enrollment is limited and registration is required. To register and for more information, contact the HCHD Wellness and Diabetes Education Program, at 863-382-7228 or 863-382-7294.

Better Breathers Club to meet

SEBRING — The American Lung Association's Better Breathers Club is a Lung Health Support Club for adults with lung disease, and their families and friends. The club offers educational information on COPD, chronic bronchitis, emphysema, asthma, sleep apnea, and other lung diseases. We feature different speakers each meeting on topics ranging from living with lung diseases, equipment use, managing and coping with your disease, and more.

The next meeting is Friday, Feb. 24, at noon in Conference Room 3, upstairs at Florida Hospital Heartland Medical Center in Sebring, on Sun 'n Lake Boulevard. The guest

Snapshots

speakers will be Cathy Measner and John Peck, from Lincare Inc., a provider of oxygen and respiratory services at home. They will discuss portable oxygen therapy options, including liquid oxygen, oxygen tanks and concentrators.

A healthy snack and beverage will be provided. For more information about the support group call Mike Napper at 402-3450.

Outreach schedule

Ace Homecare will offer the following outreach events:

Feb. 10: 7 a.m., Health Fair, ARC Residence, Pleasant Street, Avon Park; 9 a.m., Health Fair, Avon Park Meal Site, Main Street, Avon Park.

Feb. 13, 8:30 a.m., Health Fair, Hammock Estates, Hammock Road, Sebring; 1 p.m., Caregivers Support Group, Crown Pointe assisted living Community, Sun 'n Lake Boulevard, Sebring.

Feb. 14: 7:30 a.m., Health Fair, Lakeside Gardens, C.R. 621, Lake Placid; 9 a.m., Health Fair, Heron's Landing, Heron's Landing Lane, Lake Placid; 10 a.m., Health Fair, Lake Placid Meal Site, Interlake Boulevard, Lake Placid; 1 p.m., Health Fair, Groves, behind Sebring Diner, U.S. 27 Sebring.

Feb. 15, 9 a.m., Health Fair, Avon Park Meal Site, Main Street, Avon Park; 10:30 a.m., Coping with Transitions, Crown Pointe, assisted living facility, Sun 'n Lake Boulevard, Sebring.

Feb. 16, 9 a.m., Health Fair, Maranatha Village, Arbuckle Ck. Road, Sebring; 10:30 a.m., Caregivers support group, Balmoral assisted living Facility 93 Balmoral Road, C.R. 621, Lake Placid.

White House attacks Romney on birth control

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House is taking on GOP presidential hopeful Mitt Romney over his criticism of President Barack Obama's birth control coverage mandate.

Press secretary Jay Carney says Romney is an "odd messenger" to be attacking Obama over the issue. The mandate requires that church-affiliated employers such as hospitals

or charities provide birth control coverage even if it runs counter to their religious beliefs.

Romney has accused Obama of an "assault on religion" over the issue. But Carney says a virtually identical policy is in place in Massachusetts, where Romney served as governor, and that it's ironic for Romney to criticize Obama over it.



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E/H/O

HEALTHY LIVING

Gifts of love for the heart

Dear Pharmacist: What medications and supplements do you recommend for heart health?

— J.S., Dallas, Texas

Answer: Your cardiologist has to pick your medicine based on your medical history, age and individual response. Common medication categories are the diuretics, calcium channel blockers, ACE inhibitors and others which seek to relax blood vessels, eliminate fluid and power up the heart beat.

Today I'll focus on two important supplements to consider for heart health, and there are more articles about this posted at my website. First and foremost, please commit to exercising to the degree your doctor permits. It turns on life extension genes, no matter how sedentary you've been.

Consider supplementing with Coenzyme Q10, or CoQ10. This is naturally produced in every cell of your body, and it's mostly concentrated in the heart so supplementing gives your heart a helping hand. CoQ10 is also found in your brain.

It's directly involved in the production of energy (ATP) which allows for cellular respiration; it keeps your heart "breathing" and/or beating in perfect rhythm. People with angina experience chest pain as the cells die in the heart and suffocate because they are not making ATP, meaning



Dear Pharmacist
Suzy Cohen

there is no cellular respiration. In other words, the ailing heart is literally starving for CoQ10 which generates oxygen.

There are hundreds of studies that demonstrate it supports heart health and a healthy cardiac rhythm. CoQ10 maintains muscle health when taking certain cholesterol medicines and female hormones. I recommend taking about 200 mg of CoQ10 (or 100 mg Ubiquinol) daily.

I also recommend fish oil supplements because they provide "omega 3 fatty acids" which are healthy fats. They are essential for optimal health even though the human body does not manufacture them. Omega-3s are also great at reducing inflammation-causing compounds like prostaglandins. Luckily we can supplement with omega-3 fish oil products, some of which are "burpless" and easy to swallow.

Omega 3s are well researched, and incredibly beneficial for a healthy heart.

The American Heart Association has dietary recommendations for EPA and DHA (the two primary heart-healthy compounds present in fish oils). They suggest at least two servings of fatty fish each week, or 500 mg of EPA and DHA if you do not eat fish. If you've had previous heart concerns or cardiovascular disease, then consume 1 gram EPA and DHA.

Those wishing to maintain healthy triglycerides can consume two to four grams of EPA and DHA per day. Check with your personal health care professional because some medications interact with higher doses of fish oil. Even the FDA allows a "supportive" claim regarding omega 3s and heart health benefits.

So if you love someone, skip the flowers and candy at Valentine's. Think in terms of fish and CoQ10, it does a tremendous amount to help circulation and can even mend a broken heart if you know what I mean. I hear you, the flowers and candy are far more romantic... but my ideas will keep your love alive a lot longer.

Suzy Cohen is a registered pharmacist and the author of 'The 24-Hour Pharmacist' and 'Real Solutions.' For more information, visit www.DearPharmacist.com. This information is not intended to treat, diagnose or cure your condition.

Getting caffeine fix as easy as taking deep breath

Associated Press

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — Move over, coffee and Red Bull. A Harvard professor thinks the next big thing will be people inhaling their caffeine from a lipstick-sized tube. Critics say the novel product is not without its risks.

The product, called AeroShot, went on the market late last month in Massachusetts and New York, and is also available in France. A single unit costs \$2.99.

Biomedical engineering professor David Edwards said AeroShot is safe and does not contain common additives, like taurine, used to amplify the caffeine effect in common energy drinks. Each grey-and-yellow plastic canister contains 100 milligrams of caffeine powder, about the amount in a large cup of coffee, plus B vitamins.

But Democratic U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer of New York wants the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to review AeroShot, saying he fears it will be used as a club drug so that young people can drink until they drop. Schumer's national press

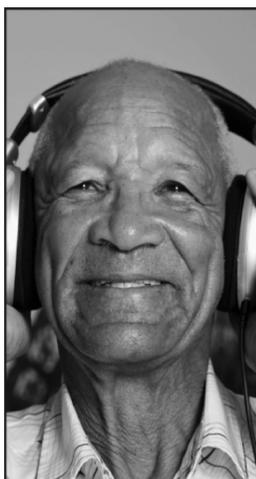
secretary did not immediately respond to calls for comment.

FDA spokeswoman Siobhan DeLancey declined to comment, saying the agency will respond directly to Schumer on the matter.

Edwards said Schumer's comments are understandable in the context of developments over the last few years, when students looking for a quick and cheap buzz began consuming caffeine-packed alcoholic drinks they dubbed "blackout in a can" because of their potency. But he said AeroShot is not targeting anyone under 18 and it safely delivers caffeine into the mouth, just like coffee.

"Even with coffee — if you look at the reaction in Europe to coffee when it first appeared — there was quite a bit of hysteria," he said. "So anything new, there's always some knee-jerk reaction that makes us believe 'Well, maybe it's not safe.'"

Once a user shoots a puff of calorie-free AeroShot into his or her mouth, the lemon-lime powder begins dissolving almost instantly.



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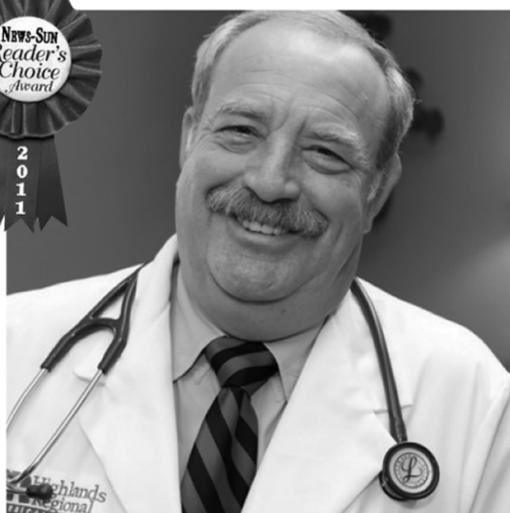
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Dr. House hangs up his Fox TV stethoscope

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Fox's medical drama "House" is ending its eight-year run this season.

The show's producers, including Emmy-nominated star Hugh Laurie, said it was a "painful" decision but that the time had come to bring "House" to a close.

The drama stars Laurie as Dr. Gregory House, a brilliant but troubled physician with a gift for unraveling medical mysteries. Omar Epps, Robert Sean Leonard and Charlyne Yi are part of the ensemble cast.

In a statement Wednesday, Laurie and his fellow producers said they imagined Dr. House as an "enigmatic creature," and that it was best for him to vanish while there was still mystery in the air.

The season finale date for "House," which airs 9 p.m. Monday, was not announced.

Jersey City clears 'Jersey Shore' spinoff

JERSEY CITY, N.J. (AP) — New Jersey's second largest city is rolling out the welcome mat for the women of the "Jersey Shore."

Jersey City has issued producers a permit to film a spinoff of the reality series featuring Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi and Jenni "JWoww" Farley. Filming is expected to begin later this month in the city's Grove Street Path neighborhood.

Nearby Hoboken last week denied the permit, citing safety and quality of life concerns for residents of the city along the Hudson River.

Jersey City Mayor Jerramiah Healy says he believes the show is an opportunity to promote the city.

City spokeswoman Jennifer Morrill says the cast and crew must obey all laws and the production company will be required to hire police to reduce any impact on the public.

CNN suspends Martin for 'offensive' comments

NEW YORK (AP) — CNN suspended political analyst Roland Martin on Wednesday for "offensive" tweets during the Super Bowl that some critics said were anti-gay.

Martin commented on Twitter about a commercial during the Super Bowl that showed soccer star David Beckham in underwear: "If a dude at your Super Bowl party is hyped about David Beckham's H&M underwear ad, smack the ish out of him."

The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation said the remark advocated violence against gays. Martin said that he was making a joke about soccer and that he doesn't support violence against anyone.

Martin also tweeted: "Who the hell was that New England Patriot they just showed in a head to toe pink suit? Oh, he needs a visit from (hash)teamwhipdatass."

Martin later issued an apology.



Rookie operative Matt Weston (Ryan Reynolds, left) tries to outwit legendary spy Tobin Frost (Denzel Washington) in the action-thriller, "Safe House."

'Safe House' offers generic thrills

By CHRISTY LEMIRE
AP Movie Critic

"Forgettable" probably isn't a word you'd expect to use to describe a film starring Denzel Washington, Ryan Reynolds, Vera Farmiga, Brendan Gleeson and Sam Shepard. But unfortunately, that's one of the most apt when pondering "Safe House."

Directed by Daniel Espinosa from a script by David Guggenheim (not to be confused with "An Inconvenient Truth" director Davis Guggenheim), this is a frenetically paced jumble of shaky-cam tricks and quick edits, dizzying car chases and deafening shootouts. You'd be forgiven for mistaking it for yet another action thriller from Tony Scott, given that it bears his aesthetic markings as well as the presence of Washington, his usual star.

This time, Washington plays the notorious Tobin Frost, a brilliant former CIA operative who's turned traitor, selling secrets to any nation or enemy cell willing to buy them. After years on the run, he turns himself in at the American embassy in Cape Town, South Africa. He's then taken to the local agency safe house where Reynolds, as the bored, rookie minder.

Matt longs to prove himself and see some real action in the field, and he gets it sooner than he expects when the house comes under a vicious, heavily armed attack and he and Tobin must go on the run together. Farmiga, Gleeson and Shepard play the suits back in the United States who are tracking their whereabouts and wondering whether they're in cahoots.

But everyone here is a potential rogue, because red herrings and double crosses abound; it's a tactic meant to keep us guessing and (theoretically) distract us from the fact that the movie doesn't have anything novel to do or say during its overlong running time. U.S. intelligence agents waterboard Tobin soon after bringing him to the house to get him to divulge what he knows (there's a potentially damaging file at stake). Initially, this seems like the film's attempt to shine a light on a divisive interrogation technique, but ultimately, "Safe House" reveals itself to be more interested in bombastic, bloody thrills than provocative, analytical thought.

Washington maintains his usual formidable presence but remains very much in his comfort zone. Sure, he's just showed in a head to toe pink suit? Oh, he needs a visit from (hash)teamwhipdatass." Martin later issued an apology.



Movie Review 'Safe House'

Rating: R (strong violence throughout and some language)

Running time: 115 minutes

Review: ★★ (of 4)

Oscar-winning work in "Training Day." He's smart and charming; he also may be right about some of his more untrustworthy colleagues. When he finally shaves off his shaggy, graying hair and goatee and flashes that dazzling smile of his, he's once again the safe Denzel we know and love.

Reynolds, meanwhile, looks discombobulated most of the time. It's a total waste of his charisma — although he does give it his all physically in a demanding, bruising role, which includes appearing shirtless within the first minute or so of the film.

Journey 2: The Mysterious Island

There's little mystery to this island. This 3-D sort-of sequel wears its formula-for-dollars purpose with pride, delivering a dash of cinematic nonsense that represents Hollywood calculation at its shrewdest and most shameless.

Again poking Jules Verne's remains with a sharp stick, the producers of the 2008 hit "Journey to the Center of the Earth" present their second modern take on the 19th-century fantasist's wild stories. And "Mysterious Island" is every bit the amusement park ride cloaked as a movie that the first "Journey" was, the new flick stranding a misfit band of adventurers on Verne's lost island of freakish creatures.

Dwayne Johnson stars this time as stepdad to a youth (Josh Hutcherson, reprising his role from the first movie) whose family has discovered Verne's sci-fi stories were true. Joining them as they rush from giant lizards and electric eels are Michael Caine, Luis Guzman and Vanessa Hudgens. Director Brad Peyton oversees a collection of impressive but annoying visuals, serving up gimmicky 3-D that's continually trying to poke things in your eye. Rated PG for some adventure action and brief mild language. 94 minutes. One and a half stars out of four. — David Germaine

Rampart

The crazy eyes and idiosyncratic drawl of Woody Harrelson are enough to carry this dirty cop study, but even such powers as those cannot make engaging this weary L.A. noir. Without Harrelson's inherent intrigue, the heavy-handed provocations of "Rampart" would be difficult to suffer. But Harrelson's intense and committed performance keeps Oren Moverman's film moving, even while the grim and overdone story wallows affectedly.

Harrelson plays police officer Dave Brown in 1999 Los Angeles, in the notoriously scandal-plagued Rampart division. The film from Moverman (who directed Harrelson to an Oscar-nominated supporting performance in 2009's "The Messenger") examines the nature of a thoroughly corrupt cop like Brown.

Brown has two ex-wives (Cynthia Nixon and Anne Heche, both looking lost) who are sisters and neighbors, with whom he has two daughters (Brie Larson, Sammy Boyarsky). When confronted by superiors or lawyers (Sigourney Weaver, Steve Buscemi), Brown responds with a hyper-literate torrent of dubious legalese and moral equivocation.

Harrelson dominates the picture, but Brown's unraveling feels increasingly unrealistic and uninteresting.

Rated R for pervasive language, sexual content and some violence. 108 minutes. One and a half stars out of four. — Jake Coyle

Husband behind the wheel is cruising for a bruising

Dear Abby: There is an ongoing issue between my husband and me. It's his disregard for my personal safety. Our large city is known for its heavy, fast traffic and impatient drivers. "Jon" is a good driver. He likes to drive in the left (passing) lane on the highway or tollway, usually about five miles above the posted speed limit.

This is considered too slow for many drivers, who become impatient and aggressive having to be behind us in the fast lane. They flash their headlights and tailgate us, trying to get him to move over into the right lane so they can pass, but Jon refuses to yield. If they start to pass us on the right, he will speed up and race them so they can't get ahead of him. He says he's "teaching them a lesson."

I have told my husband repeatedly that these games are dangerous and they scare me. Not only could we get into an accident, but we could get into an ugly confrontation or worse. I am terrified in these situations and he knows it, but he continues. I try to drive as often as possible, but I can't see as well at night as I used to, so Jon drives at night or when we're going long distances. With the price of gas and considering the inconvenience and inefficiency, it doesn't make sense to go in separate cars. Do you have any suggestions?

— On a Collision Course in Houston

Dear On a Collision Course

Course: Jon should be told that impeding the flow of traffic is a very dangerous practice. His childish behavior could incite road rage, and it is everyone's responsibility to minimize instances in which road rage can occur.

Contact the Department of Public Safety to get a copy of the Texas Drivers Handbook. That way you can show Jon in black and white that his behavior is not only wrong but dangerous. While some husbands are not receptive to a wife's comments about their driving, most will listen to what a state trooper has to say about good driving practices versus bad ones. Let's hope it doesn't come to that.



Dear Abby

And one more word of advice: Continue being the driver as often as possible. Your lives could depend on it.

Dear Abby: I was discussing with my 26-year-old daughter how parents punish their kids, when suddenly she told me that she hated that I would make her write "lines" when she was growing up. She mentioned that one day I made her do it when her friend was there to play with her. I felt really bad about this and wonder why she is bringing this up now.

— Wondering Down South

Dear Wondering: It came up now because punishment was the topic of conversation, and she flashed back on how humiliating it was to have been punished in front of a friend. Clearly it made an impact — and it would be interesting to know if the infraction was repeated after that.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069. To order 'How to Write Letters for All Occasions,' send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby - Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

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	4		8					
8	7					3		
			7		1			
	6	3		1		7		
2				9				
		9			2			1
6		2				5		7
	3							
	9				3	8		

Level: Advanced

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

9	1	8	5	7	2	4	6	3
4	6	2	9	8	9	7	3	1
7	5	5	6	4	1	2	8	9
1	8	4	2	9	3	6	5	7
3	5	9	7	6	4	8	1	2
6	2	7	2	1	5	3	9	4
8	4	6	1	5	7	9	2	3
5	2	6	1	5	7	9	2	3
5	9	3	4	2	6	1	7	8
8	7	6	1	7	2	6	1	7

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The Descendants R
(George Clooney, Judy Greer)
2:00 - 4:30 - 7:00 - 9:30

Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close PG-13
(Tom Hanks, Sandra Bullock)
2:00 - 4:30 - 7:00 - 9:30

The Iron Lady PG-13
(Meryl Streep, Harry Lloyd)
2:00 - 4:30 - 7:00 - 9:30

Haywire R
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Reading Black History

"We March"

Written and illustrated by Shane W. Evans, Roaring Brook Press, \$16.99, ages 3 and up



Author and illustrator Shane W. Evans doesn't use a lot of words — a little over 60 — in his book "We March." He doesn't have to.

His textured, full-color drawings do the work of telling the story of a young African-American family preparing for the August 1963 March on Washington.

Exploring the historical event through the family's eyes illustrates how much the civil rights struggle was about regular people uniting to peacefully demand change. Dr. King plays an important supporting role in the story. However, it's the family — standing together, comforting each other — who is the star.

— Eric Goodwin

"Chocolate Me!"

By Taye Diggs, illustrated by Shane W. Evans, from Macmillan books, \$16.99, ages 4 and up

"Chocolate Me" opens with an unhappy little boy, being taunted by neighborhood boys for his differences in appearance — everything from his curly hair to his wide nose to his seemingly extra-white teeth against his dark skin.

But his mother tells him why those things all make him special. By changing his attitude, which gives him a confidence boost, the boy returns to the other boys and teaches them about acceptance and appreciation of peoples' differences. The book is also wonderfully illustrated with full-page spreads depicting the boy's story, sometimes with just a few words per page, which help enrich the story for those too young to read on their own.

— Kim Ossi

"When Grandmama Sings"

By Margaree King Mitchell, illustrated by James E. Ransome, from HarperCollins books, \$16.99, ages 5-9

Eight-year-old Belle narrates "When Grandmama Sings" and tells the story of the summer she and Grandmama, who has an amazing singing



Recent book releases for kids and teens perfect for Black History Month

In February, we celebrate the history of black people in America — a history that we can sometimes find ourselves shying away from because of the shame of slavery and persecution. Luckily there are talented authors and illustrators to educate our children about the true-life tortures and triumphs of black people who were brought to this country in chains but have risen to a point where, today, one of their own represents all Americans as the president of the United States. Here are several recently released children's and young adult books that are perfect for Black History Month reading lists.

— McClatchy-Tribune

voice but can't read, went on a tour with a band. It's the first time Belle has traveled outside of Pecan Flats, Miss., and she helps her grandmother read while they travel throughout the South. The story talks about the segregation they experience in their travels. But the overarching message of the story, besides giving young readers a brief history lesson, is the power of music to bring people together. Grandmama also proves to be an excellent role model for Belle — and the reader — about not giving up on your dreams and achieving happiness, no matter your age or how unreachable they may seem when you start your journey.

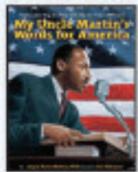
— Kim Ossi

"My Uncle Martin's Words for America"

By Angela Farris Watkins, PhD., illustrated by Eric Velasquez, Abram Books for Young Readers, \$19.95, ages 5 and up

Describing the importance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and the civil rights movement to a young child is a challenge. The average 6-year-old doesn't comprehend "Jim Crow" or "prejudice" right away. Parents may stumble to find analogies that frame the terms in the proper context. But where parents falter, "My Uncle Martin's Words for America" succeeds, explaining Dr. King's life and work in a way kids can readily grasp.

Written by his niece, Angela Farris Watkins, the book describes how Dr. King's philosophy of



love and nonviolence chipped away at U.S. segregation laws. The key pillars underlying Dr. King's beliefs — justice, freedom, brotherhood and equality — are highlighted in the text. Watkins then picks events from the civil rights movement that demonstrates how these pillars were made manifest.

— Eric Goodwin

"Freedom's a-Callin Me"

By Ntozake Shange, paintings by Rod Brown, HarperCollins, \$16.99, ages 8-12



"Freedom's a-Callin Me" tells the tale of a slave, following him from working in the cotton fields and getting beaten by his master to his harrowing escape to Michigan. The story is told through a series of poems and is written in Southern dialect, both of which may be obstacles for younger readers trying to digest

the story. But the tale is accompanied by full-page paintings that depict the narrator's experiences on his journey, and may help struggling readers comprehend the text better. That said, the story introduces readers to a new story form and simultaneously teaches them about the history of slaves in our country, and the brave souls — both black and white — who brought danger on themselves to help men and women escape to freedom.

— Kim Ossi

"The Mighty Miss Malone"

By Christopher Paul Curtis, Random House Children's Books, \$15.99, ages 9-12

The author of "Bud, Not Buddy," finally brings us a full-length story about Deza Malone, who fans will certainly remember from "Bud." The story follows 12-year-old Deza and her family's struggles during the Great Depression in Gary, Ind. Deza is an incredibly smart and capable young lady, but her parents have difficulties just putting food on the table when work becomes difficult to find. After a serious mishap that leaves



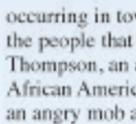
Deza's gregarious and loving father depressed, the Malones become homeless, riding the rails and living in a Hooverville outside Flint, Mich., fighting not to be crushed against the heel of poverty. "The Mighty Miss Malone" shows how this family supports each other and presents a united front against the everyday injustices and huge setbacks that so many families faced in the 1930s.

— Merrile Leininger

"The Silence of our Friends: The Civil Rights Struggle Was Never Black and White"

By Mark Long, Jim Demonakos, illustrated by Nate Powell, First Second books, 208 pages, \$16.99, ages 12 and up

This graphic novel tells a story set in 1968 in Houston. Mark Long's father, Jack Long, is a TV station race reporter, an eye witness to the violence and anger coming from whites and blacks. Jack is attempting to cover the events



occurring in town and do justice to the people that he's covering. Larry Thompson, an advocate for poor African Americans, saves him from an angry mob at an event. The two become friends and their lives intertwine. But when Long witnesses a shooting at a violent protest that leaves a police officer dead, what will he do?

The story is a bit longer than it needs to be — it is based on events in Long's real-life childhood — but it is quietly powerful.

— Merrile Leininger

"Black Boy White School"

By Brian F. Walker, from HarperCollins, \$17.99, ages 14 and up

In "Black Boy White School," readers follow the present-day story of Ant, from eighth grade through his freshman year of high school. Ant grew up in a violent neighborhood in East Cleveland, Ohio. With his mother's urging, Ant applies and is accepted to Belton, a boarding school in Maine.

The world at the boarding school there is so different from his home. Most of the children attending the school are rich and white. There are few other students of color.

Despite the story taking place in present-day, with Obama as president and when equality is all but expected, all is not well for many of the people both on campus and in the nearby town. And Ant finds he's struggling with identity.

The book forces readers to open their eyes to both subtle and blatant racism, still experienced today by many.

— Kim Ossi

More for the Black History Month reading list

- "Moses: When Harriet Tubman Led Her People to Freedom," by Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by Kadir Nelson, for ages 5-8. A poetic story of faith and sacrifice. Winner of the Caldecott Honor.
- "Martin's Big Words: The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.," by Doreen Rappaport, illustrated by Bryan Collier, ages 5 and up. This picture-book biography is an excellent and accessible introduction to one of the world's most influential leaders. Winner of the Orbis Pictus

- Honor, the Coretta Scott King Honor and the Caldecott Honor.
- "Wind Flyers" by Angela Johnson, illustrated by Loren Long, for ages 7-10. A child recounts the story of his uncle, who was one of the Tuskegee Airmen.
- "Zora and Me," by Victoria Bon and T.R. Simon. For ages 10 and up. A novel that explores the childhood of author Zora Neale Hurston. A winner of the 2011 John Steptoe New Talent Author Award.

