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NEWS-SUN

Highlands County's Hometown Newspaper Since 1927

DIY Valentines

Handmade gifts to give that special someone

PAGE 1D

Reunited

Family back together after 50 years of separation

PAGE 2A

District Champs

Devils take title with hard-fought victory

SPORTS, 1C

Sunday, February 12, 2012 www.newssun.com Volume 93/Number 22 | 75 cents

Forecast

Partly sunny, breezy and chilly

High	Low
58	34

Complete Forecast

PAGE 8A

Online

Question: Should County Administrator Ricky Helms keep his job?

Yes 64.9%

No 35.1%

Total votes: **77**

Next question: Do you think this will be the last cold snap of the season?

Make your voice heard at www.newssun.com

Obituaries

Charles Jennessee Jr.
Age 81, of Lake Placid

Obituaries, Page 7A

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News-Sun photos by SAMANTHA GHOLAR

West Palm Beach resident Carolyn Duffy purchases an orchid at Etlings Exotic Plants tent Saturday morning during the Roaring '20s Arts and Craft Festival in Downtown Sebring.

Roaring 20's Fest a treat for attendees, vendors

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR
sgholar@newssun.com

SEBRING – Attendees roamed the Downtown Historic Circle in search of unique and trendy items Saturday morning at the annual Roaring '20s Arts and Crafts Festival.

Festival-goers had plenty to choose from at the festival; everything from plants to Puerto Rican coffee was available Saturday and attendees weren't hesitant to make purchases.

Guests from as far away as Ontario spent their morning strolling the 100 vendors on and around the Circle. Locals spent their morning entertaining out-of-town visitors and giving them a small taste of what Highlands County and Sebring has to offer.

See FESTIVAL, page 5A

Vicki and Bruce Baker consider making a purchase during the Roaring '20s Arts & Crafts Festival Saturday morning at the Circle in Downtown Sebring.

Is Choice the choice for recycling?

Company was only one to return a bid for curb-side pickup

By ED BALDRIDGE
ed.baldridge@newssun.com

SEBRING — Six out of seven competitors refused to bid on the county recycling program despite the extended Jan. 26 deadline, leaving Choice Environmental the only one to respond to the two-year-long process.

But questions about Choice's financials have kept them from being immediately awarded the bid proposal for curb-side recycling.

Gavarrete

The bid came late in the game for the county, which has set a goal of 40 percent recycling of solid waste by the end of 2012 and 75 percent of the waste recycled by 2020. But county staff is not positive about clearing the first hurdle.

Members of the County Recycling Selection Committee were unsure about how much time they had to look further into the financials, but staff informed them the time frame was not a factor this late in the game.

"We are not going to make the 2012 goal," said County Engineer Ramon Gavarrete Friday.

"We may have just one choice, but that doesn't mean you can't be as informed as possible," said committee member Bill Compton during a meeting on Friday.

Compton and others wanted a better look into Choice, not because of the company's ability, but because of its financial stability.

Choice currently holds the contract for solid waste disposal and has been doing a good job, according to Gavarrete, who supervises the Solid Waste Department.

"You cannot discredit them for their current performance," Gavarrete said. "And they have invested heavily in Highlands County, buying all new trucks when they started here."

Based on county staff analysis of Choice's financials, that investment in Highlands drained Choice of operating capital and height-

See COUNTY, page 6A

Florida Hospital part of Medicare fraud settlement

4 Adventist Health System hospitals in state to pay a total of $3.9 million

By ED BALDRIDGE
ed.baldridge@newssun.com

SEBRING — Florida Hospital Heartland is one of four Adventist Health System care facilities that will pay a total of $3.9 million in a Medicare fraud settlement, according to a press release from the U.S. Department of Justice on Thursday.

Florida Hospital of Orlando, Florida Hospital Fish Memorial, Florida Hospital-Oceanside along with the Sebring Florida Hospital are part of the Altamonte Springs Adventist Health System.

The U.S. Government alleged that the organization submitted false claims to Medicare between 2000 and 2008.

Florida Hospital was cited for claims related to a procedure called kyphopasty, the treatment for a spine fracture attributed to osteoporosis and prevalent in older women.

"This settlement is being handled by the Adventist Health Systems Corporate and no one is available for comment at this time," said Cathy Albritton, director of marketing and public relations for Florida Hospital Heartland Division on Saturday.

The DOJ claimed a less invasive and less expensive procedure could have been performed in many of the cases.

The DOJ settled with 14 hospitals in total for a total of $12 million, of which the Central Florida hospitals have to pay about a third.

According to an article in the

See MEDICARE, page 4A

Two charged in drug bust

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR
sgholar@newssun.com

SEBRING — The Highlands County Sheriff's Office Special Investigations Unit arrested Jonathan Rivera DeJesus, 27, and Marilyn Calderon, 31, at approximately 10:30 p.m. Thursday for several serious drug charges.

Calderon

DeJesus

Calderon and DeJesus both reside at 306 LeMans Drive off of Thunderbird Road in Sebring.

The two were each charged with possession of cocaine with intent to sell, trafficking in cocaine and possession of drug paraphernalia during a traffic stop Thursday at U.S. 27 and Stryker Road in Avon Park, according to a press release from HCSO Public Information Officer Nell Hays.

A search warrant for the couples' residence was granted following the traffic stop. At the home, investigators discovered 170 grams of cocaine, $2,400 in cash and more than five grams of marijuana during the search resulting in additional charges for both suspects.

"The investigation is still ongoing," said Hays Friday afternoon.

HCSO encourages anyone with information regarding the case to contact the Investigations Unit at 402-7250. Anyone with information is eligible for a cash reward.

Junior Miss Highlands County

News-Sun photo by SAMANTHA GHOLAR

Lake Placid Middle School seventh-grader Phoebe Phypers takes her first stroll as 2012 Junior Miss Highlands County Friday night at the Highlands County Convention Center.

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Centennial Notebook

Sweetheart Dance to be held on Feb. 14

On Tuesday, Feb. 14 (Valentine's Day), The Women's Club of Sebring and the Highlands County Social Singles Club invite all adults of Sebring, couples and singles alike, to "The One & Only Centennial Sweetheart Dance."

The 10-piece orchestra The Skylarks are providing big band entertainment for the entire evening, as well as other pleasures, such as professional photographer Photos by G. Anthony, with the Love Photo Booth. Artist James R. Hahn, original muralist for the Cabbage Patch Kids, with galleries in Vero Beach and Lake Wales, is painting live onsite for all to enjoy and more.

A $10 donation gets you all the fun, dancing, various wines, beverages and appetizers, including the chocolate fountain. Grab your Sweetheart, or singles come mingle, and enjoy "The One & Only Centennial Sweetheart Dance." The setting is indoor/outdoor from 7-10 p.m. at the Women's Clubhouse, 4260 Lakeview Drive, overlooking beautiful Lake Jackson.

The Highlands County Fair Association (781 Magnolia Ave.) is celebrating 75 years of heritage this Centennial year, and the Sebring Centennial Celebration Committee will be at the fair each day/night from Feb. 10-18 with a booth set up so you can stop by, say "hi" and get your Centennial T-shirt, tumbler, lapel pin, hat, grocery tote and more.

Items start at only $3, and the support from the community is greatly appreciated and needed. We all should be wearing the Centennial logo!

The event submissions are coming in, but we need more.

The Rotary Club of Highlands County submitted an event form for the Bike 12/24, Feb. 17-19. Two bike events held at Sebring Raceway for serious to avid cyclist to bike for either 12 hours, 24 hours, or 100 miles. Many local charities benefit from this event. More information at www.BikeSebring.org/.

Greater Mt. Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church, organized in March 1915, submitted an event form for the formal dedication ceremony of the church's historical garden, featuring paver brick plaza. Church clergy, officials and officers welcome the church members and the public to attend this historical celebration on Saturday, March 10 at 1 p.m. Mt. Zion Church is at 870 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd in Sebring. Call 386-1744 for more information.

The ninth annual Run to the Heartland will be celebrating 100 years of Sebring and 100 years of motorcycling Oct. 5-7. The Heartland Riders

See EVENTS, page 7A

Family puzzle solved after 50 years

Special to the News-Sun

SEBRING – A puzzle was recently solved when Laverta Ruth Kasper, who was separated from her family 50 years ago, was reunited with two of her sisters.

The doorbell rang shortly after 5 p.m., Monday, Feb. 6, at Kasper's Sebring home and as she opened the door, there was her oldest sister Caroline Joan Nelson in a wheelchair with her younger sister Carol Jean Salzman standing behind her. Joan Nelson's sons, Loren and Clarence, also made the trip to help drive the ladies down from Kansas so they could be reunited with their long lost sister. The Nelsons live in Lindsborg, Kan. and Salzman lives in Neosho, Mo.

Nelson was so overwhelmed with seeing Kasper that she raised up out of her wheelchair to extend her arms out to give her a big hug. They all took turns hugging each other, wiping tears and giving kisses.

"Hello Laverta, it's me your sister, Joan," Joan Nelson said as she reached out and hugged Kasper. She also presented her sister with a white teddy bear with a red heart-shaped balloon attached to it that said "I Love You."

"Hi Birdie, do you remember me? I'm Carol," Salzman said. "We used to call her Birdie when she was little," she explained.

"Do you remember us calling you Birdie?" Joan asked Kasper.

"Yea," Kasper chuckled.

"Look it's Carol," Kasper said with a wide grin that pushed her chubby little cheeks up to make her eyes squint.

Kasper, 72, who was born with a learning disability in Newton, Kansas, now resides in a group home owned by Ridge Area Arc. While growing up she had three sisters and one brother. Their brother, Daniel, has since passed away.

Courtesy photo

Laverta Kasper, of Sebring, receives a big hug from her oldest sister, Caroline Joan Nelson, while her younger sister Carol Jean Salzman watches. The sisters were recently reunited after being separated for 50 years.

Kasper's mother died in her 20s from leukemia. Their father remarried and the children were raised in a very abusive household.

"We had a very mean stepmother and an abusive father," Salzman said. They shared some of the horror stories that included beatings, cigarette burns and even being locked in a basement. Both have since passed away.

Joan, now 74, being the oldest of the siblings ran away in 1956 to get married. Salzman, now 68, followed suit and ran away shortly after her oldest sister left home. Daniel followed. Kasper was the second oldest with Daniel being next, then Salzman. Another baby sister, Emma, was the last in the family to be born.

According to Kasper's sisters, Emma took Kasper and ran away when they were in their 20s. Emma later married Don Vaughn and they had children. While visiting Don's family in Lake Wales, Emma decided she could no longer take care of her children and her sister at the same time so she placed Kasper in an institution.

"I talked to Emma and she felt so guilty about having to leave Laverta in the system," former Arc group home manager Linda Correll said. "We had no idea there were any other children in the family."

Kasper resided in two different state mental facilities – the Sunland Centers and G. Pierce Wood. Both were closed years ago due to health and safety reasons. After being institutionalized, Kasper was given the opportunity to live in a very large group home in Hardee County which also eventually closed.

On Jan. 15, 1993, Kasper and some of her friends at the Hardee home moved to Highlands County to live in a Ridge Area Arc group home and participate in the adult day training program. She now resides in a home with five other residents with learning disabilities.

Kasper's life immediately changed for the better. She became more involved in her community, church and Special STARS.

"When Emma would come to visit Laverta at the group home, I told her that she did her a favor. I think she finally felt at ease. She eventually quit coming to visit and moved away," Correll said.

Emma now lives in Griffin, Ga., according to the family. Although they have made several attempts, the oldest sisters have not been able to reach her.

Joan had a mission to track down her lost sisters. Although she ran into many dead ends, she was determined. "I said, before I go, I wanted to find my sisters."

With the help of her son, Joan was able to find Kasper on the Internet.

"Seriously, if it was not for the Internet, we would have never found her," Clarence Nelson said. His brother Loren used the People Search site by typing in Kasper's name, paid a small fee to get her phone number and address.

Last fall, Joan made a phone call to Ridge Area Arc's group home and found her sister. They have been conversing on the phone for several months. They finally saved up enough money to load up in a van and travel more than 1,000 miles to Florida for the first time in their lives.

"I've always wondered where she's at," Joan said as she tightly wrapped her arm around Kasper's waist as if she was never going to let go, "and now I have found her."

"Sing us a song Birdie," Salzman said.

Kasper did not hesitate to take the spotlight and sing "Let The Sunshine In," which seemed to be an appropriate tune for the moment at hand. Her home was shining full of love.

After the applause, Kasper followed up with "Jesus Love Me," which everyone joined in with tears trickling down their faces.

"She used to sing that song to us when we were kids," Salzman said.

The family stayed for dinner and visited with Kasper and all the other residents that evening before retiring to their motel. The next day, they toured Kasper's day program at Arc. They were determined to absorb as much information about their sister's past life as they could before they returned home.

Kasper took great pride in showing her sisters around the agency and introducing them to her friends and staff members.

"This is my sister Carol and Joan," Kasper proudly stated to each staff member who walked by her.

When Kasper's family left Florida, their minds were at ease to know they found the missing piece of their family's puzzle and she had been safely taken care of all these years.

Community Briefs

Just Country to perform today

SEBRING – Just Country will perform at the Sebring Recreation Club from 2-4 p.m. today. Refreshments will be available.

Enjoy great music and dancing.

Other events planned for the club include: Shuffleboard Scrambles, 1:15 p.m. Monday; County Shuffleboard Tournament in Avon Park, 9 a.m. Tuesday; Line dancing, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday; Mini Shuffleboard tournament, 1:15 p.m. Friday.

For details, call 385-2966.

Thrivent Financial hosts financial seminar

SEBRING – Thrivent Financial is hosting a financial seminar rom noon to 1 p.m. Tuesday at the Greater Sebring Chamber of Commerce, 227 U.S. 27 North. Learn how to identify what is important in your life and set goals. Make sharing, saving and spending decisions that align with your values. Apply basic money management tools to help you budget, reduce debt and find money to save.

Complimentary lunch will be served. RSVP required; call 385-8448

'Open Mike' at Scribes Night Out

SEBRING – Scribes Night Out, the twice-a-month event that allows local writers to read samples of their writings, takes place at 6:30 p.m. today at Brewster's Coffee House, just south of the Home Depot. It will be an "Open Mike" event.

SNO is for writers of all ages, published or not. The general public is also invited to attend and rub shoulders with the local writing community. Admission is free. Books from several area authors will also be on sale.

The Feb. 26 SNO will showcase a "featured reader," reading a longer sample of his or her works, followed by another "Open Mike."

For more information or to sign up as a "featured reader," call Larry or Elaine Levey, SNO coordinators, at 385-8618.

SNO, which gathers at the coffee house the second and fourth Sundays of each month at 6:30 p.m., is co-sponsored by the Heartland Cultural Alliance and Brewster's.

Placid Lakes homeowners meet Monday

LAKE PLACID — Placid Lakes Home and Property Owners Association, Inc. will host the general membership meeting and annual board election from 7-9 p.m. Monday at Town Hall on Placid Lakes Boulevard.

Important agenda items will include discussions of the following: board election; benches along Placid Lakes Boulevard; tree trimming Placid along Lakes Boulevard; new mowing and flower bed contracts; office manager; extending the concrete sidewalk along Placid Lakes Boulevard; Lake August and canals in Placid Lakes.

Continued on page 7A

Mark Kaylor

Kaylor & Kaylor P.A.
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Lottery Center

Florida Lotto							
Feb. 8	3	12	20	22	31	52	x:2
Next jackpot $3 million							
Feb. 4	9	16	34	39	41	46	x:2
Feb. 1	15	23	38	48	52	53	x:3
Fantasy 5 with ezmatch							
Feb. 10	3	20	22	23	30		
Feb. 9	10	18	21	30	36		
Feb. 8	4	18	30	34	36		
Feb. 7	1	4	14	22	29		
Play 4							
Feb. 10 (n)	4	3	6	1			
Feb. 10 (d)	4	4	4	0			
Feb. 9 (n)	7	6	8	1			
Feb. 9 (d)	7	9	8	0			
Mega Money							
Feb. 10	6	27	34	44	(High Ball)	14	
Feb. 7	12	13	25	39	(High Ball)	6	
Feb. 3	15	20	23	35	(High Ball)	17	
Jan. 31	2	7	14	31	(High Ball)	18	
Cash 3							
Feb. 10 (n)	0	0	7				
Feb. 10 (d)	6	1	1				
Feb. 9 (n)	1	5	8				
Feb. 9 (d)	4	2	8				
Florida Powerball							
Feb. 8	17	28	38	39	51	**PB:** 33	
Next jackpot $310 million							
Feb. 4	15	23	43	45	56	**PB:** 7	
Feb. 1	8	13	17	34	59	**PB:** 35	

Note: Cash 3 and Play 4 drawings are twice per day: (d) is the daytime drawing, (n) is the nighttime drawing. PB: Power Ball

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Mark Kaylor

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Romona Washington – *Publisher and Executive Editor*
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EDITORIAL & OPINION

ANOTHER VIEWPOINT

Food stamp restrictions not the answer

When you accept government money, it often comes with strings attached. If two Florida lawmakers have her way, those strings could lead all the way to certain supermarket aisles.

Rep. Scott Plakon, R-Longwood and Sen. Ronda Storms, R-Valrico, are sponsoring legislation that would prohibit food stamps from being used to purchase junk food, such as sugary soft drinks, candy, potato chips, ice cream and cookies. They argue that public assistance should be used only on nutritional essentials, not spent on unhealthy filler. The state budget has had to go on a leaner diet in recent years, and the legislators don't want scarce tax dollars spent on empty calories.

The idea isn't new. Just in the last year, legislation seeking to restrict food stamp purchases was introduced in Illinois, Oregon, California, Vermont and Texas; none passed. One reason is that the U.S. Department of Agriculture, which administers the food stamp program, has been unwilling to allow further restrictions on purchases, beyond traditionally ineligible items such as alcohol and tobacco.

Nevertheless, the proposal evokes widespread popular support, often from folks who otherwise would bristle at government telling people what they can and can't consume. The rationale behind the restriction — that because government is footing the bill, it should have a say in how that money is spent — can be applied as well to socialized health care.

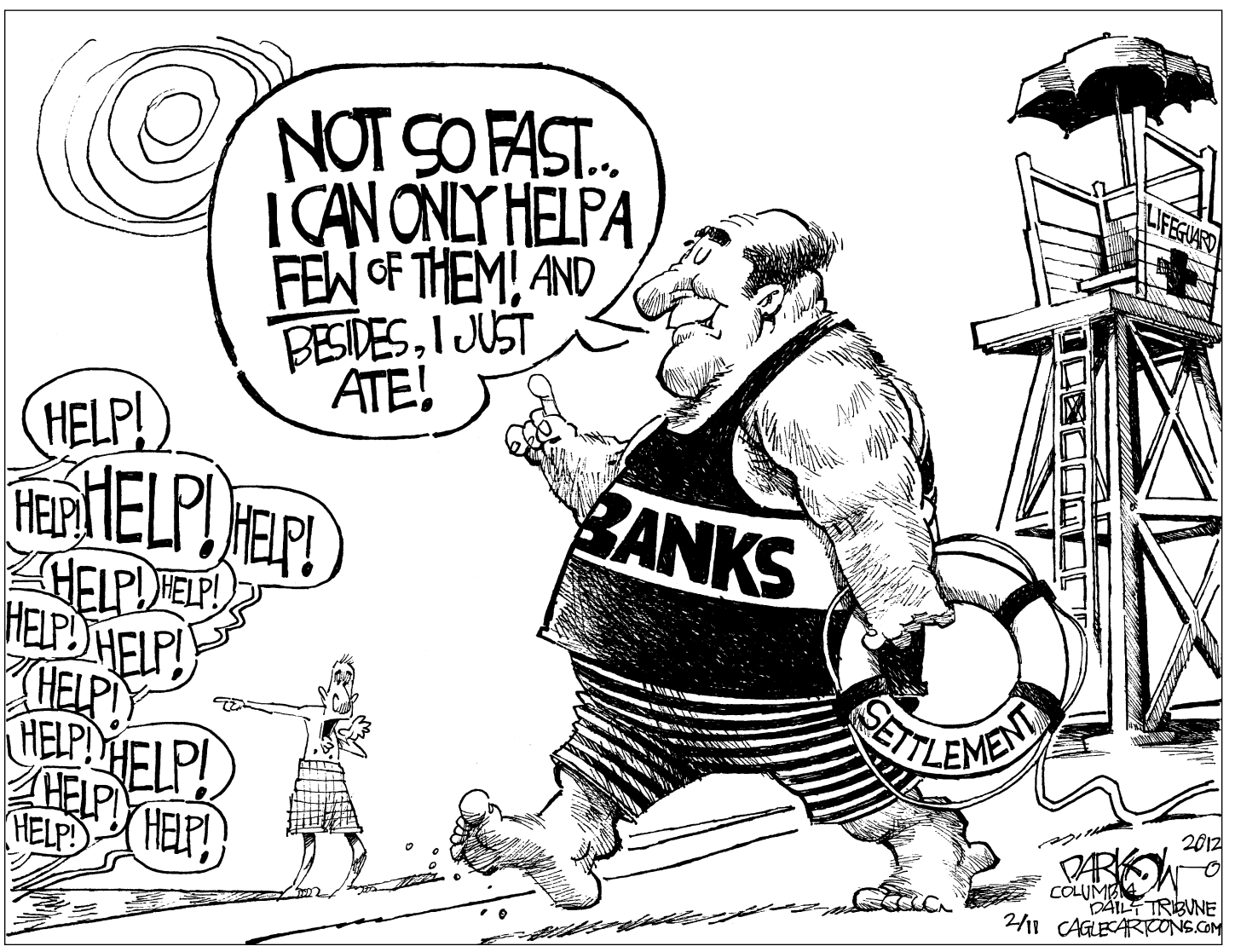
Proponents argue there is a "public interest" in ensuring that government health dollars are not wasted on unhealthy lifestyles that increase medical costs that must be borne by all of society. Thus, the state is justified in intruding on what used to be private, individual decisions on diet and exercise.

One difference is that socialized medicine involves compulsory obeisance. The choice is to comply or to be penalized. Public welfare is accepted voluntarily. If you don't like diet restrictions on food stamps, then seek assistance elsewhere (although for the poorest, their choices can be quite limited).

There are practical reasons, though, to oppose expanding food stamp restrictions. In 2007, the USDA issued a report that raised concerns that implementing such a program would be unwieldy. It said there were no clear standards for defining foods as good or bad, healthy or not healthy. ...

The bottom line, though, is that the solution shouldn't lie in expanding government control over individual lives. It should be in increasing ways of keeping people off the dole.

An editorial from the Panama City News-Herald.



TODAY'S LETTERS

Washington is a 'house divided'

Editor:

In my letter to the editor of the News-Sun on Feb. 1, 2012 I made this statement: "Romney is one of the wealthiest candidates in history to seek the U.S. presidency, so how can he relate to the working man?" Then on the very same day he proved he cannot when he stated "he wasn't concerned about the very poor because there is a safety net in place for them".

Typical Republican disdain for those who have to work for a living. It's off the cuff remarks such as the above that show a person's true feelings, not the scripted speeches written by someone else.

The present day Republicans would love to roll the clock back to those glorious days, for them at least, of the Robber Barons in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. At that time employers could pay employees anything they wanted, usually extremely low or unfair wages, and many times, they refused to pay them at all by trumping up charges against them. In 1915 the average American made less than $10 a week while America's richest families averaged, on a weekly basis, more than $20,000. That would be the equivalent today of $370,000 a week.

Typical weekly income for a Republican in Highlands County. Right?

During the past Bush Republican administration he tried to destroy Social Security by diverting part of its income to his Wall Street buddies, thankfully that plan failed. But say it had passed, what would Republicans on Social Security have done? Why, they would have done what comes naturally to them, not admit their own guilt for voting Bush into office and then blame the Democrats and President Obama for all his failures.

There is a saying that "A house divided falls". True. That is what we have in Washington these days.

With Republicans in control of the House, President Obama is fighting an uphill battle with one arm tied behind his back. The Republicans are worried more about their wallets than of the country.

There are those who disagree with my letters to the editor of the News-Sun, which is their right since we still have freedom of speech, but being unable to produce facts to refute my statements, they reduce themselves by using the childish schoolyard tactic of altering my name, which they no doubt think is hilariously funny.

Sad.

Sandy Oleesky
Sebring

Bouquets

Tropical Splendor a great success

Editor:

The Lake Placid Garden Club's 18th annual scholarship fashion show and luncheon, "Tropical Splendor," held at the Lake Placid High School auditorium on Saturday, Jan. 21, coordinated and presented by Luise Andrea.

More than 180 members and guests were welcomed by president Connie Watson to a delicious chicken salad luncheon catered by the Depot Resturant of Avon Park, and served by the Lake Placid High School Key Club. Numerous door prizes were donated by Lake Placid and Sebring merchants. Mary Meisenheimer coordinated the give away door prizes. Opportunity prizes were donated from Lake Placid and Sebring merchants as well as garden club members. Coordinators were Betty Jane, Barbara Nickels and Alice Stahr.

Moderator Sally Kinsey introduced 13 models and two guests modeling fashions coordinated by Peggy Alexander and provided by Chic Chick Boutique, Dress Barn, Elizabeth's Bridal & Formal Wear, Kasie's Collection, Lake Placid Feed & Western Wear, Steve & Co. and Sue's Cubby Hole Boutique. Models hair and make-up was done by Creative Hair Design. Music for the models was provided by D.J. Dolton Leslin.

The intermission entertainment featured songs by Nala Price, Heartland Junior Idol winner.

The stage was decorated in a tropical setting by members Sandy Otway and Mary Flummer. Plants on stage were from John and Polly Moody and orchids from Bill Ross. Floral centerpieces were designed and arranged by Peggy Branch and club members. Programs were designed by Shirley Puzey.

Club members gave a special thanks to guests for their support in helping to raise funds for scholarships and gave a heartfelt "Thank You" to the merchants for contributing door prizes and opportunity gifts to our fund raiser and helping make the show a "great success".

Betty Jane
Lake Placid

Pennies go to animal rescue fund

Editor:

A open letter to an Anonymous Donor:

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for your donation for the animal rescue. This will be deposited into our special rescue account. We will keep you posted on the progress through the media.

Your kindness and generosity is very much appreciated.

Thank you News-Sun for taking care of this.

Sheriff Susan Benton

Editor's note: This letter was sent to the News-Sun for the anonymous donor who dropped off a container full of pennies for the Sheriff's Office's animal rescue account.

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2227 U.S. 27 South • Sebring, FL 33870 • 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

Forgotten

Laura's Look

Laura Ware

I ran across the story of David Carter while surfing the Internet today. According to the article I read on www.hlntv.com, the West Allis, Wis. resident dropped out of sight at least four years ago. He apparently told some friends he was moving.

The utilities to his home were discontinued. His mail piled up; delivery was stopped. The city maintained his lawn and dealt with the snow, which was added to an ever growing tax bill.

No one asked if something were amiss. Some people gave Carter a passing thought over the years, but no one asked the police to check on things. No one really made an effort to look for him.

Finally, the outstanding tax bill led to the home being foreclosed. Carter's skeletal remains were found on the second floor landing. The authorities believe that he committed suicide by shooting himself in the head in late 2007.

Friends and family were distraught to learn of the news. Friends speculated that Carter was upset over a breakup with the mother of his child. Kevin O'Neill, a cousin, said that Carter had been deeply saddened by the death of his mother. He also said that he'd considered hiring a private detective to look for Carter but never did.

The story bothers me. Here was a man who had friends. He had a child. He had at least one family member who wanted to maintain contact with him.

Yet he could disappear from all their lives and no one really blinked. They didn't ask themselves why he didn't tell anyone where he was going. No one thought to check on him to make sure he was OK. For four years his body lay in that house, which is located in what the article called "a dense urban area" and no one had a clue.

How could that happen?

I think as human beings we all have a desire to be remembered. When my congregation held its annual Ladies Day this year, the theme was "How Shall I be Remembered?" We laugh at presidents who are concerned about their legacy, but we all have a desire to leave something behind – something that says somebody cares that we're not around anymore. Or that when we were around, we mattered.

I would like to think that I couldn't suddenly vanish without someone noticing. In fact, I'm almost certain that I couldn't do it. Unlike Carter, I don't live alone. If I tried to be gone from the house without letting someone here know what I was up to, I'm pretty sure Don or my mother-in-law would make an effort to track me down.

And then there is the desire to be remembered when the time comes that we leave this world for the next. What will people remember about me? My columns? My other writing? The fact I tried to be a good Christian woman? All of the above? None of the above?

Thoughts like that tend to give one perspective on the life one is leading. If I am going to be remembered, I want it to be for good things, not bad. It makes me want to look at my life and see how I can improve it.

And if you love someone, keep in touch with them. Don't let them drop off the radar like David Carter did. In the end, he was alone. And now he's remembered as the man who lay dead in his house for four years with no one knowing about it.

No one wants to be remembered like that.

Laura Ware is a Sebring resident. She can be contacted by e-mail at bookwormlady@embarqmail.com Visit her website at www.laurahware.com. Guest columns are the opinion of the writer, not necessarily those of the staff of the News-Sun.

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. Letters of local concern take priority.

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*.

All items will run on a first-come basis as space permits, although more timely ones could be moved up.

We believe your viewpoints are just as important as any community leader or government official, so consider this a personal invitation to get your two cents in.

News-Sun photo by CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY
Kelly Gilmore and Anthony Bostock were selected king and queen of the Visions 3rd Annual Fahion and Talent Show Friday.

Beauty and talent shine

At Visions ADT fashion and talent show

By CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY
christopher.tuffley@newssun.com

SEBRING — For three years, Visions ADT at 4141 U. S. 27 North has held an annual fashion and talent show starring the clients.

The show has become so popular that this year the venue was moved from Visions' site to the Sebring Middle School commons. The large space, while not filled to standing room only, contained a sizable, enthusiastic crowd pulling for the contestants.

Middle school students, from regular classrooms and special ones, turned out to help and join in.

There were three segments to the show — formal fashion, sporting fashion and talent — which means contestants had to manage quick costume changes.

There were judges to win over: Coach Buddy Hunter, Sally McDougall and Gilda Mixon.

There was a performance to complete.

There was an audience watching them.

In the face of all that, every contestant shone, even the ones who were shy.

The clients love being in the show and look forward it, said Latrell Morris, Vision's floor supervisor and the founder of the event. "They worked very, very hard."

Bobby Baker, who doesn't hear or talk, and Brian Bishop, who doesn't normally communicate at all, both insisted on being in the show.

Anthony Bostock showed everyone that a person doesn't have to be able to stand in order to dance. With a charismatic smile he moved to the rhythm in his wheelchair, wiggling his feet, as the crowd cheered.

News-Sun photo by CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY
Brian Harrison wowed the crowd with his imitation of Lady Gaga.

Julio Morales, using his entire body, was movement personified, dancing with energy and joy. Annie McHale brought down the house singing "My God How Great Thou Art." By the end of Tony Bock's number, "Take Me Out to the Ball Game," he had members of the audience singing along with him. Danny Navarro crooned "Que Sera, Sera." It is doubtful anyone will ever forget Brian Harrison's impersonation of Lady Gaga.

Visions is a day program for individuals coping with disabilities. It provides life skill lessons, teaching the students how to live in the community, as well as having a stimulating routine.

Morris said the show was especially challenging this year, because for the first time everyone had to be transported. Among many people, she thanked Colin Roberts, who prepared all the music and was responsible for the transportation. "We borrowed one van, it took several cars, but somehow he got all the kids over," Morris said Saturday morning. She sounded relieved.

Medicare fraud settlement involves Fla. Hospital Heartland

Continued from page 1A

Orlando Sentinel on Thursday, Gulf Coast Hospital, Lee Memorial Hospital, both of Fort Myers and Cape Coral Hospital also settled for lesser amounts.

Additionally, hospitals in New York, Mississippi, North Carolina, Washington, Indiana and Missouri were involved in the settlement, the Sentinel article stated.

"Patients want reassurance that their health care provider is making treatment decisions based on the patient's best interests, not an interest in maximizing profits," said Tony West, assistant attorney general for the Justice Department's Civil Division was quoted in the Sentinel. "By recovering taxpayer dollars lost to improper billing, this settlement will help support the vital public health care programs we depend on."

All of the care facilities were part of a whistleblower suit filed by two individuals who worked for a spinal surgery equipment company.

Those individuals will receive $2 million from the settlements, according to the DOJ, under the False Claims Acts. The False Claims Act also allows private citizens to share in the proceeds by bringing suits against facilities on behalf of the U.S. Government.

News-Sun photo by SAMANTHA GHOLAR

Attendees roam the aisle of vendors on Ridgewood Avenue Saturday morning during the annual Roaring 20's Arts and Crafts Festival. Many were bundled up for the windy and cooler conditions.

Festival brings many to Circle

Continued from page 1A

"I'm here with my friend; she's a local," said West Palm Beach resident Carolyn Duffy. Duffy was visiting Lake Placid resident and good friend Doris Weeks.

"I'm just entertaining, showing her around," Weeks said.

The pair were two of a large group hovering around Phil Elting's Exotic Plants stand on the Circle.

Elting's Exotic Plants, based out of Riverview, offered a variety of orchids, bromeliads, plumeria and other plants for attendees.

"I've been coming here for 20 years," Elting said. "I was down in Lake Placid last weekend for the fair and I completely sold out. It was good. This is a good show too."

Elting was quite busy explaining the up-keep on exotic orchids to Duffy as many others listened in and debated purchases.

A few vendors down, Bruce and Vicki Baker mulled over a solar-powered miniature lamp post at the Country Primitives and Homespun Crafts tent.

The Winter Haven-based company sells a variety of unique outdoorsy items, and the lamp posts were also drawing a large crowd around noon Saturday.

"We are from Ontario. We've been here about two months. We are trying to decide if we are going to stay permanently ... This is our first time at this event. It's great," Baker said.

The Bakers also caught wind of the Roaring '20s event at last week's fair in Lake Placid and decided to drop in and spend the morning out and about.

The Roaring '20s Festival also featured old, swing and early century music played by the Celebration Brass Band. Guests could be seen seated around the Memorial and throughout Circle Park enjoying the sights and sounds of the day.

Fla. Senate spending plan much larger than House

Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE — The GOP-controlled Florida Senate is calling for a nearly $70.8 billion state budget for the coming year.

The Senate late Friday rolled out its spending blueprint for 2012.

The proposed Senate budget is nearly $1.6 billion larger than the one passed this week by the Florida House.

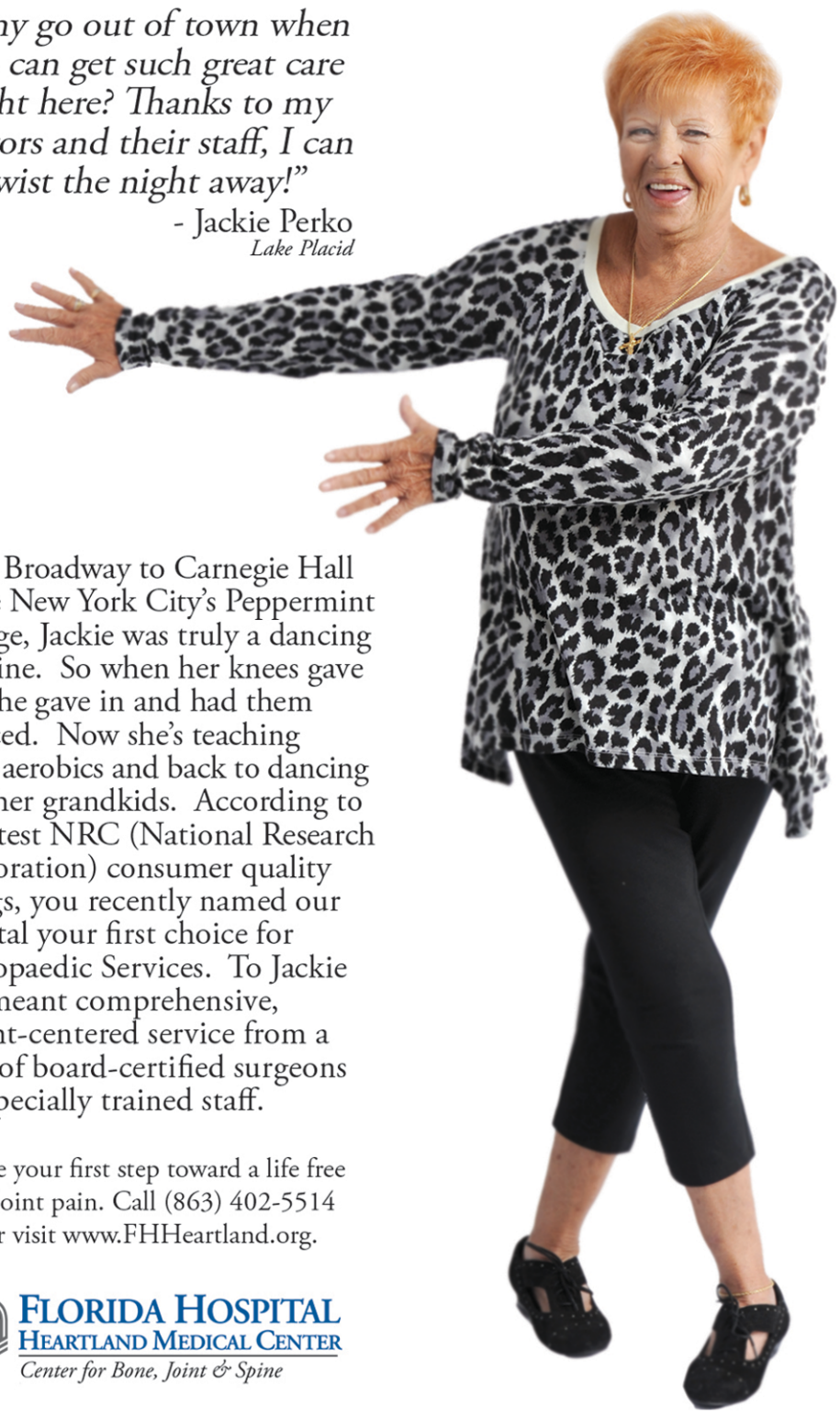
One reason for the bigger bottom line is that the Senate wants to place the budgets of expressway authorities in Orlando and Tampa under legislative control.

Both the Senate and House budgets boost state spending on public schools by more than $1 billion.

But the Senate is also dipping into an endowment set up by former Gov. Jeb Bush with proceeds from the state's landmark settlement with tobacco companies.

JACKIE'S DOUBLE KNEE REPLACEMENT ADDED A NEW TWIST TO HER DANCE MOVES.

"Why go out of town when you can get such great care right here? Thanks to my doctors and their staff, I can twist the night away!"
- Jackie Perko
Lake Placid



From Broadway to Carnegie Hall to the New York City's Peppermint Lounge, Jackie was truly a dancing machine. So when her knees gave out, she gave in and had them replaced. Now she's teaching water aerobics and back to dancing with her grandkids. According to the latest NRC (National Research Corporation) consumer quality ratings, you recently named our hospital your first choice for Orthopaedic Services. To Jackie that meant comprehensive, patient-centered service from a team of board-certified surgeons and specially trained staff.

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Heartland Riders give back while looking ahead

Special to the News-Sun

SEBRING – The Heartland Riders Association has been in existence in Highlands County for more than 10 years. It is the organizer of the single largest event in downtown Sebring and the second largest event in the county. With "Run to the Heartland" entering its ninth year, the organization is busy planning for what should be another successful event, "Celebrating 100 Years of Sebring with 100 Years of Motorcycling."

The group has not lost sight of the reason it wanted to have a family-friendly motorcycle event, here in the heart of Highlands County. Each year the Heartland Riders designate funds for charities in and around Highlands County.

"It's the whole reason for doing what we do. We want to bring people into Sebring. We want them to stay, eat, shop, explore and come back again and again," said Lora Todd, Heartland Riders Association board member and owern of Plan B Promotions. This past year the group was pleased to make contributions to the Christian Motorcyclist Association, Ridge Area Arc, The Children's Museum of Highlands County, The Last Chance Ranch, and Avon Park Relay for Life.

The Heartland Riders Association is a not-for-profit organization and is run entirely by volunteers. "We enjoy what we do and it's satisfying to know we've done something that makes a difference. We wanted to be involved in our community while sharing our love of motorcycling; we all live here and want the community to succeed. Three years ago the Heartland Riders Association decided to open an office in downtown Sebring to have a base for their operation and a more permanent meeting place. We felt it was time to put down some roots. Since our event is held in downtown it seemed logical to set up shop there," Todd said.

Courtesy photos

Jim Miggins, Heartland Riders Association treasurer, and J.D. Barrett, HRA trustee, present a check to Rawle Barnes of the Last Chance Ranch.

Lora Todd of the Heartland Riders presents a check for the Avon Park Relay for Life.

Having an event like Run to the Heartland is an expensive undertaking. Even after cutting expenses from previous years, it cost the group nearly $50,000 last year. The expenses include advertising, entertainment, insurance, safety equipment, port-a-lets, rental fees, licensing and permitting, city services ie: Police, Fire, EMS, Public Works, Sanitation and many incidentals that add up.

"Whatever profit we make goes to charities and the rest gets rolled back into the next year's event. We are not immune to inflation. It seems like the costs keep going up. We are starting early with fundraising this year. Without the CRA funding, we will have to tighten our belt and look for other sources of revenue," Todd said.

There are sponsorship opportunities available for the ninth annual "Run to the Heartland," which will take place on Oct. 5-7r. Heartland Riders Association is willing to work with sponsors by offering an installment plan.

If individuals would like to make a contribution they can mail their checks or money orders to: Heartland Riders Association, Inc. at P.O. Box 3611¸ Sebring, FL 33871-3611. All sponsors are recognized for their support. For further information, contact Todd at 381-6467 or email loratodd@hotmail.com .

County weighing recycling proposal

Continued from page 1A

ened its debt ratio outside of acceptable boundaries.

"It looks like they were fighting through some financial issues in 2009 and 2010. That is not necessarily a negative, but something you have to consider," said committee member Jim Belflower.

The recycling program, and the profits to be made in that industry, have been a hotly contested item, and the county decided early in 2011 to put the collection of reusable material out to bid, despite the fact that Choice offered the new recycling containers for free and offered to make the collection to be part of the current contract.

Choice asked for a five-year extension in 2011 to "pay for the capital investment," said Jim Wheatley, Regional Director for Choice Environmental.

Reposes from other potential haulers affirmed the committee's opinion about the current contract, giving Choice a leg up in the bidding process.

Mark Talbott, Business Unit Manage for Republic Services, sent an e-mail on Jan. 27 to the county that explained why his company did not respond to the county's request for bids.

"As discussed in the pre-bid meeting, the RFP was loaded with over $2.7 million ... of capital cost," Talbot wrote, which made the investment not cost effective.

Talbot placed emphasis on the commodity prices of the recyclables as well, and explained that if the value commodities collected were to drop below processing costs, the processor would still have to incur that large capital investment.

"The financial risk was heavily weighted on the processor with zero risk on (Highlands County)," Talbott added.

Since Choice has the solid waste contract and therefore has already made that initial investment, some on the Recycling Committee questioned if the bid process was fair.

"Without the solid waste contract, the other bidders said they could not make money on this proposal," Gavarrete said.

Several members of the committee pointed out the recent purchase of Choice by a much larger solid waste management company, Swisher Hygiene of North Carolina.

Swisher is listed on the New York Stock Exchange and is one of the largest waste management companies in the U.S.

"They essentially erased their debt when they purchased Choice and Swisher is a very solid company," said committee member John Nelson.

But Nelson and the rest of the committee were informed that in County Attorney Ross Macbeth's opinion, the committee cannot use the financials of a parent company to make a decision.

County staff agreed to follow up with the list of questions posed by the Recycling Committee, get those answers out quickly and to hold a meeting where members will have to turn in their scoring sheets on Feb. 23.

US urges for openness at Gulf oil spill trial

By CAIN BURDEAU
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — The federal government's lead lawyer in an upcoming trial over fault in the 2010 Gulf of Mexico oil spill urged judges on Friday to make public sensitive business documents and testimony.

Mike Underhill, a U.S. Justice Department lawyer, made his comments at a pretrial hearing before U.S. Magistrate Sally Shushan, who is working with the presiding judge, U.S. District Judge Carl Barbier, to determine what proprietary information should not be disclosed.

BP, Transocean, Halliburton and other companies involved in the spill are worried about trade secrets going public. For now, the more than 72 million pages of documents, hundreds of depositions and other evidence gathered in preparation for a Feb. 27 trial date remain confidential.

The trial will determine fault for the April 20, 2010 blowout of the Macondo well off the Louisiana coast.

Plaintiffs' attorneys have asked for all of the information to be made public and cleared of its confidential status. So far, the judges have declined to do that and said that material will only be made public once it is admitted at trial. They also are considering what to keep confidential even during the trial — such things as prices and formulas used for drilling muds.

Underhill said he was concerned about what might be held confidential.

"It is a public trial," he told Shushan. "This is not a slip and fall case. This is a case of national importance."

For instance, he questioned Transocean's attempt to have well-control manuals defined as confidential. He told Shushan that if they were deemed to be confidential, then Barbier would have to be "ready to hold up a sign saying, 'press and public out, back in 15."'

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GAMBLE WITH CARE

Community Briefs

Continued from page 2A

Persons living in the Placid Lakes subdivision are welcome to attend.

Only members who have paid their dues may vote. The agenda will be posted on the association's website at http://www.placidlakesonline.com.

For more agenda information contact Sam Bliss at 465-5291.

Queens in Abundance plan meeting

SEBRING – Red Hat Queens in Abundance luncheon meeting will be at 11:30 a.m. Monday in Dot's Restaurant's meeting room. "Valentines" is the theme for the day.

Lovingly cared for small red hat items will be on sale throughout the session. RSVP by calling 465-0161 or e-mail beckshel@embarqmail.com.

March 1 will be the deadline for purchasing luncheon tickets at $9.95 for the Green Spring Fling for Red Hatters at Brighton in the bingo hall. Doors open at 10 a.m. with decorated hats with a theme of casinos to be judged and paraded at 10:30 a.m. Luncheon will follow with bingo to round out the event.

The Bingo Crew will sell bingo paks at $13 during the event. To purchase tickets or for further information, contact 465-0161 or beckshel@embarqmail.com.

Downtown Merchants entertain Red Hatters

LAKE PLACID – The Lake Placid Downtown Merchants will entertain the Red Hatters of South Central Florida on Wednesday with a Dessert Diva Party, door prizes, scavenger hunt and lunch on your own at First Presbyterian Church.

For further information, call 465-0161 or beckshel@embarqmail.com

Sebring dental team with a heart in action

SEBRING — Baker Family Dentistry, 511 S. Eucalyptus St., opens at 8 a.m. and will treat truly needy people who lack the ability to pay for dental services for free Tuesday. Children are welcome and given priority for treatment needs.

Services covered will include oral hygiene, cleansings, extractions of painful or hopeless teeth, fillings, simple denture repairs and adjustments to appliances.

Persons having dental insurance and/or the ability to pay for dental services will be given a regular appointment time on another date.

The mission of the Theodore J. Baker DDS, General Dentistry Practice is to enhance the quality of life of patients through the wonderful benefits, oral health they may obtain through our quality products and services in our ethical, comprehensive, caring and concerned professional environment.

Gem and Mineral Club meets Tuesday

SEBRING — The next meeting of the Highlands Gem and Mineral Club will take place at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Church of Christ, 3800 Sebring Parkway, in the rear fellowship hall.

There are no membership dues or fees and the public is invited. The purpose of this club is for the education and scientific pursuit in the fields of lapidary, minerology, archaeology, geology and related subjects. Whether you are a rock collector or a gem enthusiast, you can find something of interest in attending our meetings. There are usually rocks and minerals and fossils available at each meeting for those who wish to augment their collections and at a very reasonable cost.

The guest speaker is Lee Fisher, noted anthropologist (retired) from Virginia, who will talk on a rather hotly-debated subject: Prehistoric man and animal extinction.

MARSP meets Tuesday

AVON PARK — The Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel will hold its meeting at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday at a new venue, the Avon Park Public Library, 100 N. Museum St. (turn left off Main Street) on the right side of the block.

The speaker will be Sandy Lopes of Potter's House of Lake Placid. This facility houses teenage girls as well as children of incarcerated women and women who have lost their homes due to the economy. Lopes will tell how she helps those in need.

Feel free to come and learn more about this service to the community. For further information call 655-6825.

Woman's Club hosts Sweetheart Dance

SEBRING — The GFWC Woman's Club of Sebring is a February sponsor of Sebring's Centennial Celebration - a Sweetheart Dance held from 7-10 p.m. Tuesday at the clubhouse at 4260 Lakeview Drive (across from Veteran's Beach). Big band entertainment will be provided by the Skylarks, preceded by the group Dixieland at 5 p.m.

The admission tickets are $10, which includes parking, appetizers, wine, soft drinks and lawn and patio activities for everyone. The attire is business casual.

Highlands County Social Singles, Greater Sebring Chamber of Commerce and the Sebring Centennial Celebration Committee are also sponsors for this event. For additional information and tickets, call 385-7268.

Lake Placid PD offers CPR classes

A CPR class will be offered at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Lake Placid Holiday Inn and another one at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 21 at the Inn on The Lakes, 3101 Golfview Road, Sebring.

Register by calling the Lake Placid Police Department at 699-3757. More information online at www.lppd.com.

Driver Safety offered this week

SEBRING — AARP Driver Safety Program will be offered from 1-4 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday at First Presbyterian Church, in their education building, 319 Poinsettia Ave. Participants must attend both days.

Cost is $12 for AARP members and $14 for non-members, payable to AARP. There is no written or driving test. The size of the class is limited.

Call Joyce Uebelhart at 471-6122 to sign up for the class.

Events planned at lodges, posts

AVON PARK

The Combat Veterans Memorial VFW Post 9853 will host a Steak-O at 2 p.m. today. Music by Big Freddie is set for 5-8 p.m. Friday and karaoke by Peg and Perry from 5-8 p.m. Saturday. For details, call 453-9853.

LAKE PLACID

The Lake Placid Moose 2374 will have karaoke with Wild Bill today. Call for time. The Legion meets at 6 p.m. Monday. Karaoke with Bama Jam from 6-10 p.m. Wednesday; by Franke from 6-10 p.m. Thursday; with Larry Musgrave from 6-10 p.m. Friday; and with Tom McGannon from 6-10 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call 465-0131.

The Lake Placid Elks Lodge 2661 BPOE Board meets at 7:30 p.m. Monday. The BPOE meets at 7 p.m. Tuesday. The ladies board meeting is at 7:15 p.m. Wednesday. Any questions, call 465-5707.

Jr. Miss Highlands hopefuls

News-Sun photo by SAMANTHA GHOLAR

The top five high scoring contestants await their rank during the 2012 Jr. Miss Highlands County Pageant Friday evening. (from left to right) Brianna Huergo, 1st Runner-Up; Gabrielle Dion, 3rd Runner-Up; Angel Nieto, 4th Runner-Up; Phoebe Phyper, 2012 Jr. Miss Highlands County; and Chyna Reeves, 2nd Runner-Up.

Obituaries

CHARLES JENNESSEE, JR.

Charles (Chuck) W. Jennessee Jr., devoted husband and father, 81, of Lake Placid, Fla. passed away at his home Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2012. Born in Pittsburgh, Pa. to parents, Charles W. Jennessee Sr. and Clara A. (Mataszczki) Jennessee, he has resided in Lake Placid, Fla. since 1989. Chuck, a retired pharmacist, moved to Hollywood, Fla. in 1956 where he managed Breeding's Drug Store, and later acquired and operated Cox Drug Store. He was an active member of St. James Catholic Church in Lake Placid and served as head usher for many years. He was instrumental in starting the Lake Placid Senior Softball Association and was active well into retirement. He was also a member of the Elks Lodge and Knights of Columbus in his home town of Weirton, W.V.

Chuck is survived by his loving wife of 60 years, Constance (Connie); children, Carol Douis (Val), Cheryl Legg (Larry), Cindy McCoy (Allan), and Craig Jennessee (Kim); grandchildren, Ashley and Alison Douis, Jeffrey and Kyle Legg, Christopher and Ryan McCoy, Emily and Wyatt Jennessee; and brother, Robert (Bob) Jennessee. He is predeceased by siblings, Rita Orler, Angela Palcic, and Joseph Jennessee.

A Mass of Christian Burial to celebrate the life of Chuck will begin at 11 a.m. Monday, Feb. 13, 2012 at St. James Catholic Church, 3380 Placid View Drive, Lake Placid, Fla. with Rev. Michael Cannon celebrating. Inurnment will be in St. James Memorial Garden at the church.

Arrangements entrusted to:
Scott Funeral Home
504 W. Interlak Blvd.
Lake Placid, FL 33852
(863) 465-4134

Events added to Centennial list

Continued from page 2A

Association invite the public on their submission form to this free three-day family friendly motorcycle event, featuring live music, vendors, food demonstrations, 100-mile scenic poker run, thrill shows, fashion shows, 'Born to Ride' bike show, vintage motorcycle show and a Sunday morning worship service.

For more information please visit www.HRA-Sebring.com/.

Mayor George Hensley urges all citizens, groups, clubs, societies and businesses to join in the year-long celebration. The Sebring Centennial Celebration Planning Committee meets the first Thursday of each month at 4 p.m. and the public is invited and encouraged to attend at the Jack Stroup (Sebring) Civic Center.

Thank you to all the terrific sponsors that are joining in our Centennial year. They are helping to move Sebring into the next 100 years.

Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/CelebrateSebringCentennial, go to www.Sebring100.com, call 655-5554 or email events@sebring100.com to get involved.

Special thanks to the News-Sun for the opportunity to keep everyone up to date and informed on Sebring's Centennial Celebration. Reference this article every Sunday for details and upcoming events and you won't miss a thing.

Jen Brown is a member of the Sebring Centennial Committee.

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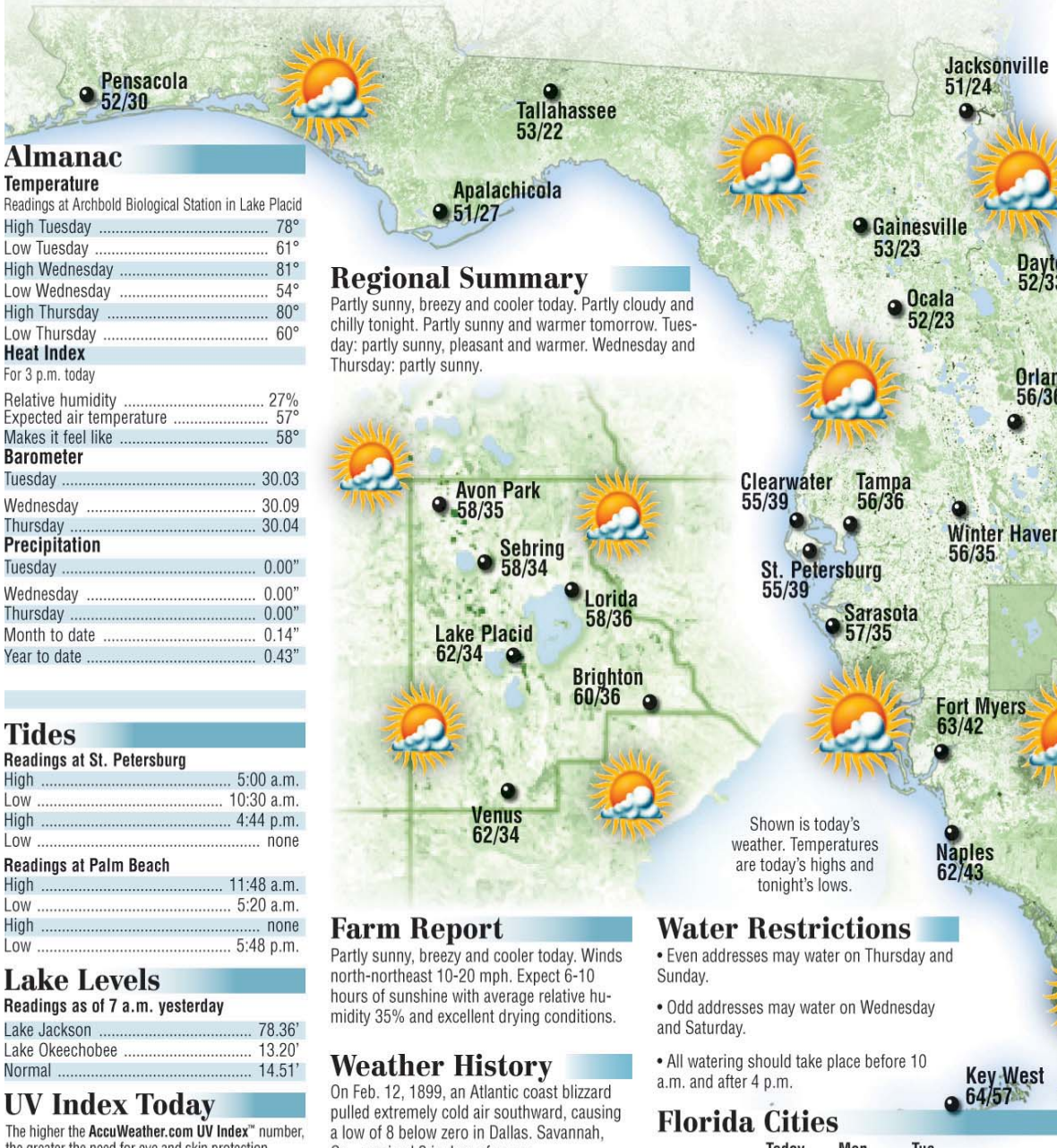
Five-Day forecast for Highlands County

TODAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Partly sunny, breezy and cooler	Partly sunny and warmer	Partly sunny, pleasant and warmer	Partly sunny	Intervals of clouds and sunshine
58° / 34°	67° / 48°	77° / 58°	81° / 59°	81° / 60°
Winds: N at 10-20 mph	Winds: ENE at 6-12 mph	Winds: S at 8-16 mph	Winds: SSW at 6-12 mph	Winds: SE at 7-14 mph



Regional Summary

Partly sunny, breezy and cooler today. Partly cloudy and chilly tonight. Partly sunny and warmer tomorrow. Tuesday: partly sunny, pleasant and warmer. Wednesday and Thursday: partly sunny.

Almanac

Temperature

Readings at Archbold Biological Station in Lake Placid

High Tuesday	78°
Low Tuesday	61°
High Wednesday	81°
Low Wednesday	54°
High Thursday	80°
Low Thursday	60°

Heat Index

For 3 p.m. today

Relative humidity	27%
Expected air temperature	57°
Makes it feel like	58°

Barometer

Tuesday	30.03
Wednesday	30.09
Thursday	30.04

Precipitation

Tuesday	0.00"
Wednesday	0.00"
Thursday	0.00"
Month to date	0.14"
Year to date	0.43"

Tides

Readings at St. Petersburg

High	5:00 a.m.
Low	10:30 a.m.
High	4:44 p.m.
Low	none

Readings at Palm Beach

High	11:48 a.m.
Low	5:20 a.m.
High	none
Low	5:48 p.m.

Lake Levels

Readings as of 7 a.m. yesterday

Lake Jackson	78.36'
Lake Okeechobee	13.20'
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.	Noon	2 p.m.	4 p.m.
4	6	4	1

0-2 Low; **3-5** Moderate; **6-7** High; **8-10** Very High; **11+** Extreme

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2012

AccuWeather.com

Farm Report

Partly sunny, breezy and cooler today. Winds north-northeast 10-20 mph. Expect 6-10 hours of sunshine with average relative humidity 35% and excellent drying conditions.

Weather History

On Feb. 12, 1899, an Atlantic coast blizzard pulled extremely cold air southward, causing a low of 8 below zero in Dallas. Savannah, Ga., received 2 inches of snow.

Sun and Moon

	Today	Monday
Sunrise	7:04 a.m.	7:03 a.m.
Sunset	6:17 p.m.	6:17 p.m.
Moonrise	11:30 p.m.	none
Moonset	10:01 a.m.	10:47 a.m.

Last	New	First	Full
Feb 14	Feb 21	Feb 29	Mar 8

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.

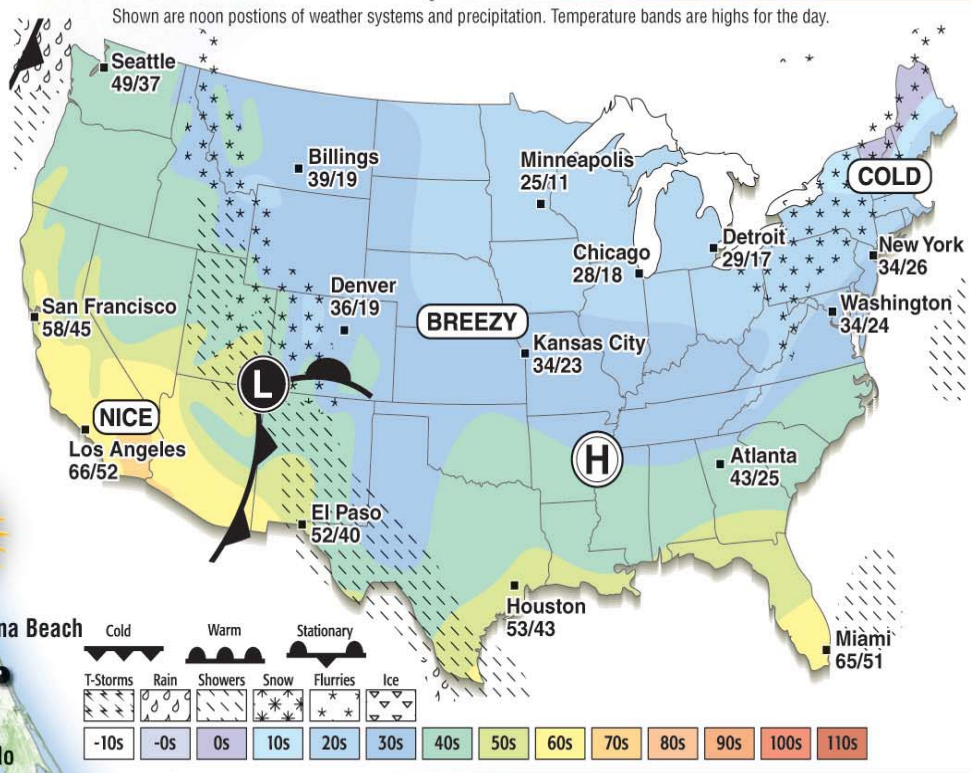
Florida Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Mon. Hi/Lo/W	Tue. Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Mon. Hi/Lo/W	Tue. Hi/Lo/W
Cape Coral	63/40/pc	70/51/pc	79/59/pc	Miami	65/51/pc	71/61/pc	77/66/pc
Clearwater	55/39/s	64/53/s	77/62/s	Okeechobee	59/39/pc	66/49/pc	76/58/pc
Coral Springs	64/49/pc	69/59/pc	77/64/pc	Orlando	56/36/pc	64/47/pc	77/58/pc
Daytona Beach	52/33/pc	61/45/s	73/58/pc	Pembroke Pines	65/49/pc	70/58/pc	77/63/pc
Ft. Laud. Bch	65/51/pc	70/62/pc	77/67/pc	St. Augustine	48/29/pc	56/44/s	68/58/c
Fort Myers	63/42/pc	70/53/pc	80/60/pc	St. Petersburg	55/39/s	64/52/s	77/62/s
Gainesville	53/23/pc	60/39/s	69/56/c	Sarasota	57/35/pc	65/49/pc	77/59/pc
Hollywood	65/49/pc	70/58/pc	77/63/pc	Tallahassee	53/22/pc	59/38/s	67/50/c
Homestead AFB	64/48/pc	70/58/pc	76/63/pc	Tampa	56/36/s	63/50/s	76/61/s
Jacksonville	51/24/s	58/38/s	68/55/c	W. Palm Bch	62/48/pc	69/58/pc	77/64/pc
Key West	64/57/pc	70/64/pc	76/69/pc	Winter Haven	56/35/pc	65/49/pc	77/58/pc

Weather (W): **s**-sunny, **pc**-partly cloudy, **c**-cloudy, **sh**-showers, **t**-thunderstorms, **r**-rain, **sf**-snow flurries, **sn**-snow, **i**-ice.

National Forecast for February 12

Shown are noon postions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.



National Summary

In the wake of an arctic front off the East Coast, cold air will continue to be ushered into the mid-Atlantic and Northeast today. As this frigid air moves over the warm waters of Lake Erie and Lake Ontario, a few snow showers will develop across the interior Northeast and down the spine of the Appalachians. Sprawling high pressure centered over the lower Mississippi Valley will bring dry and sunny weather from the Southeast into the northern Plains. Southern California enjoys nice and sunny weather.

U.S. Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Mon. Hi/Lo/W	Tue. Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Mon. Hi/Lo/W	Tue. Hi/Lo/W
Albuquerque	49/32/r	54/32/s	55/28/pc	Los Angeles	66/52/s	61/48/pc	64/50/pc
Atlanta	43/25/s	52/36/s	51/37/c	Louisville	35/19/s	38/32/pc	44/32/pc
Baltimore	32/20/pc	40/26/s	44/30/c	Memphis	39/21/s	44/31/sh	46/34/pc
Birmingham	41/23/s	52/39/pc	55/38/sh	Milwaukee	28/16/s	34/26/c	37/28/pc
Boston	26/10/pc	35/28/pc	42/32/c	Minneapolis	25/11/s	30/18/c	34/21/s
Charlotte	43/19/s	52/31/s	55/34/c	Nashville	36/19/s	44/32/pc	46/33/sh
Cheyenne	36/19/c	41/21/pc	40/17/pc	New Orleans	50/38/pc	62/57/sh	72/51/sh
Chicago	28/18/s	35/26/c	38/29/pc	New York City	34/26/pc	41/32/s	44/38/c
Cleveland	27/17/c	33/27/pc	38/29/sn	Norfolk	40/27/s	46/32/s	55/39/c
Columbus	28/17/pc	35/27/pc	42/31/c	Oklahoma City	42/29/pc	42/30/i	57/38/pc
Dallas	44/35/pc	53/38/sh	64/47/s	Philadelphia	35/24/pc	41/30/s	43/35/c
Denver	36/19/c	44/19/pc	40/17/pc	Phoenix	68/48/pc	68/51/s	63/45/sh
Detroit	29/17/pc	35/25/pc	37/28/sf	Pittsburgh	27/14/sf	35/25/pc	37/29/sn
Harrisburg	29/19/pc	39/26/s	38/28/c	Portland, ME	23/5/pc	26/14/pc	39/24/pc
Honolulu	81/69/s	81/68/s	80/67/s	Portland, OR	48/33/r	50/34/sh	48/33/pc
Houston	53/43/pc	63/50/r	73/55/s	Raleigh	41/22/s	52/30/s	59/39/c
Indianapolis	30/17/s	35/29/c	40/28/c	Rochester	27/18/sf	33/26/pc	39/31/c
Jackson, MS	46/28/pc	56/43/r	61/38/sh	St. Louis	36/17/s	35/29/sn	43/29/pc
Kansas City	34/23/s	38/24/sn	43/28/s	San Francisco	58/45/s	55/44/sh	54/44/c
Lexington	32/17/s	37/28/pc	44/29/sn	Seattle	49/37/r	47/34/c	48/35/pc
Little Rock	41/28/pc	38/28/sn	47/34/s	Wash., DC	34/24/pc	45/31/s	46/35/c

World Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Mon. Hi/Lo/W	Tue. Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Mon. Hi/Lo/W	Tue. Hi/Lo/W
Acapulco	90/76/s	89/74/pc	89/71/pc	London	39/36/c	45/39/c	45/39/c
Athens	55/50/r	60/43/s	54/37/pc	Montreal	9/-8/pc	16/5/pc	36/21/c
Beirut	68/54/pc	70/57/s	68/56/c	Moscow	-2/-14/c	-2/-4/c	9/1/sn
Berlin	25/21/pc	32/23/sf	34/27/c	Nice	47/32/sh	51/34/s	50/36/pc
Bermuda	66/56/sh	63/56/pc	63/59/pc	Ottawa	11/-6/c	20/12/pc	31/19/c
Calgary	38/21/s	31/14/pc	34/24/pc	Quebec	5/-13/pc	5/-4/pc	23/16/pc
Dublin	46/37/c	47/37/c	46/40/c	Rio de Janeiro	85/74/t	88/73/t	90/73/s
Edmonton	33/21/s	31/10/s	33/15/s	Seoul	37/23/s	43/28/c	46/23/pc
Freeport	63/53/pc	64/58/pc	72/64/pc	Singapore	86/75/sh	86/75/sh	85/75/r
Geneva	26/10/s	32/21/c	35/22/sn	Sydney	81/64/t	78/63/pc	77/63/c
Havana	72/58/c	72/57/c	80/61/pc	Toronto	24/15/sf	34/24/pc	31/26/c
Hong Kong	68/64/c	72/68/pc	73/69/sh	Vancouver	45/39/r	49/33/c	43/33/pc
Jerusalem	60/46/c	62/47/s	63/50/c	Vienna	25/15/s	30/20/pc	32/24/c
Johannesburg	78/56/s	80/59/pc	74/60/t	Warsaw	19/16/s	28/16/c	28/18/c
Kiev	9/3/s	20/18/c	24/14/sn	Winnipeg	23/5/s	27/6/pc	20/6/pc

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Sebring Chamber welcomes new member, business

Smooch-A-Pooch mobile pet grooming offers many services

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR
sgholar@newssun.com

SEBRING – New membership is continuing to grow at the Sebring Chamber of Commerce. Chamber president Kristie Sottile has recently welcomed a new business to the chamber as well as the community.

"We like to show our new businesses to the community whether they've been here for years or just relocated or holding a ribbon cutting," Sottile said.

Smooch-A-Pooch, a mobile pet grooming service, is owned by Karen McCarrell.

McCarrell has been in business for 40 years providing the care and quality services that pet owners desire. She uses personal touches to give her business a unique feel and makes sure to service the community with reasonable prices and costs.

Smooch-A-Pooch provides outstanding services that are a result of McCarrell's years of studies and training. The company offers the latest grooming techniques available and consist of pet massage therapy, skin and coat problems, communication, obedience, and nutrition. McCarrell also studied veterinary technician throughout her career. She studied under a handful of veterinarians for more than 30 years, learning the ins and outs of caring for a pet.

Courtesy photo
Smooch-A-Pooch, a mobile pet grooming service, is owned by Karen McCarrell.

"I learned how to draw blood and things like that. I began grooming when I was 13. I worked under a lady and she taught me how to scissor poodles. If you can scissor a

See SMOOCH page 2B

Take 'America Saves Week' to heart this year

Personal Finance
Jason Alderman

After four years of coping with a stagnant economy, probably the last thing you want to hear is how important it is to sock away money for a rainy day – you already know that. But hear me out, just in case.

Those who struggle with long-term unemployment or underemployment often simply don't have spare cash available to save. Others, worn out by years of being frugal, just want to buy things again.

Even as we wait for economic recovery it's still good to remember – or perhaps learn for the first time – why saving is so vital:

You could lose your job or see your wages cut. Most financial experts recommend having at least six to nine months' income saved for emergencies, but even $500 could help bail you

See AMERICA, page 2B

Lehotsky retires after 15 years at Cornerstone Hospice helm

Special to the News-Sun

SEBRING — Cornerstone Hospice President and CEO Pat Lehotsky has announced her plans to retire after 15 years of service. Cornerstone Hospice cares for patients and families facing a life-threatening illness in Highlands, Hardee, Polk plus four northern central Florida counties.

"So much has changed in our Central Florida service area in 15 years, and likewise, many changes have taken place in hospice," Lehotsky said. "I remember like it was yesterday, my first days with the former Hospice of Lake & Sumter. We were serving about 120 patients and had a staff of 70."

As she gazed out her office windows, Lehotsky shared memories of so many key milestones.

"We opened our first Polk County office in Haines City, September 2003. In 2004, the first Hospice license plate was sold thanks to a bill sponsored by Sen. Carey Baker, while he was serving in the military in Iraq. Proceeds from the sale of this plate continue to provide funds to advance hospice care in Florida. In October 2004, as we celebrated our 20th anniversary, we survived four hurricanes — that was quite the year," she said.

"ln 2005, Lehotsky won the Heart of Hospice Award Senior Executive from the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO).

"Today, as I head into retirement and devote a little time to some personal interests, Cornerstone Hospice & Palliative Care serves over 4,200 patients annually in seven counties, with over 600 employees from four offices, four hospice houses and one inpatient unit.

"New programming to better serve our communities include Serious Illness care-giving web resources, Pet Peace of Mind, Transitions Program, and a Cardiac Specialty Program as well as a planned Inpatient Unit in Polk County, to name a few," she said

"With confidence, I leave Cornerstone Hospice in the capable hands of its leaders and staff, who will continue to provide the best in end-of-life care to the communities we serve."

Since 1984, Cornerstone Hospice and Palliative Care, a not-for-profit community-based healthcare organization, has provided care and services to central Florida residents experiencing life-limiting illnesses. To learn more, call 382-4563 or toll-free (800) 503-5756 in Highlands and Hardee counties or visit www.cornerstonehospice.org or www.SeriousIllness.org/Cornerstone/.

Lehotsky

BUSINESS

Bernanke: Weak housing has hurt consumer spending

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON — Ben Bernanke says declines in home prices have forced many Americans to cut back sharply on spending and warns that the trend could continue to weigh on the economy for years.

The Federal Reserve chairman drew the connection between home values and consumer spending, which fuels 70 percent of economic activity, on Friday during a speech to the National Association of Home Builders in Orlando.

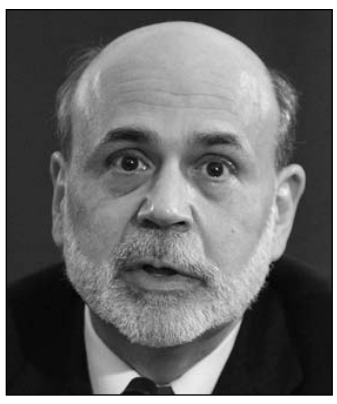
Bernanke says the broader economy won't fully recover until the depressed housing market turns around. People are spending less because they are stuck in "underwater" homes, which are worth less than what is owed on the mortgage. And home values are falling because of foreclosures and tight credit — even in areas with lower unemployment.

"Recent declines in housing wealth may be reducing consumer spending between $200 billion and $375 billion per year. That reduction corresponds to lower living standards for many Americans," Bernanke said.

The Fed chairman said there's no "silver bullet" to rescue the housing market. Renting out foreclosed homes and reducing or modifying mortgages are among steps that could help.

"Low or negative equity creates additional problems for households," Bernanke said. "It reduces financial flexibility: Homeowners who are underwater on their mortgages cannot tap home equity to pay for emergency health expenses or their children's college educations.

There have been modest signs of improvement in recent months. Sales of previously occupied homes rose in the last three months.


Ben Bernanke

Clark joins Re/Max in LP

Special to the News-Sun

LAKE PLACID — Sue Clark has joined Re/Max and brings with her a multi-million production in Highlands County since 1995. Clark closed on more than $5 million dollars of property in 2011 and has been a four-time recipient of the prestigious Realtor of the Year award from Lake Placid Board of Realtors, as well as Hall of Fame and Humanitarian Award.

Clark is a certified residential specialist and certified short sale professional. She is a huge supporter of the Humane Society of Highlands County through various fundraisers and is married with one grown child, two horses, six dogs, two pet pigs and five feral cats! Shecan be reached at 863-441-0969.

Clark

Friends and customers are invited to stop by and see her at her new location located at 801 U.S. 27 North, Lake Placid.

Smooch-A-Pooch on the road

Continued from page 1B

poodle then you can scissor anything; they're tough," McCarrell said.

McCarrell raised poodles most of her life before jumping into the veterinary and pet care field. She has owned two other mobile pet grooming businesses prior to joining the small business world in Highlands County.

"We would come back every winter and we had talked about starting up last year.

"When we came down in October we decided to stay and go for it. We started on Jan. 5," McCarrell said.

As for McCarrell and the Sebring chamber she hardly needed any incentive to join the chamber; it's something she has no problem doing.

"Every business I've ever had I've joined the chamber. It's just good business sense. Small business helping small businesses and joining together, that's what it's all about, right? At least that's what is for me," McCarrell said.

The dog-lover admits to being a people lover as well and makes it her business to do good business with others.

"I try to be of assistance to my fellow man and dogs, too, of course," McCarrell said.

Smooch-A-Pooch is open for business daily between the hours of 6 a.m. and 8 p.m. McCarrell takes dogs by appointment only and usually stays in one area until the work there is finished.

"I don't stop until I'm done working on a dog," McCarrell said.

Appointments can be set by calling 257-5477 or look for the Smooch-A-Pooch van around town.

Lambert joins ERA Advantage Realty

Special to the News-Sun

SEBRING — ERA Advantage Realty's newest team member is Mark Lambert, was raised in the Heartland and has deep roots in our area.

He has more than 30 years experience in agriculture and real estate from helping maximize his family nursery business, buying, selling and building homes and handling large agricultural properties like groves and ranches.

Being involved with real estate all his life, Lambert looks forward to helping customers with real estate needs on agricultural and residential properties.

Call Lambert at 386-1111.

———

Anita Zahn just completed her CDPE (Certified Depress Property Expert) designation. She has been licensed in Highlands county for almost 10 years, She is a short sale specialist and has been doing short sales since 2008.

"I am not the only a Realtor specializing in residential and commercial real estate sales, but I also bring with me almost 10 years of real estate experience and over 25 years of business experience," she said. "This has proven to be a very effective tool."

Call Zahn at 386-1111.

———

There is nothing slow about Darrin Mills. After acquiring his real estate license in 2008, he was nominated by his fellow Realtors with "Rookie of the Year" in 2009. In 2010, he was awarded the coveted "Spirit Award" from his ERA Advantage Realty teammates.

In 2009-10, Mills was a director for the Lake Placid Board of Realtors. Mills just completed the "Brokers" course and is now a Broker Associate with ERA Advantage Realty. He can be reached at 386-1111.

America Saves Week is set for Feb. 19-26

Continued from page 1B

out of a sticky situation.

Medical care, retirement and college tuition far outpace inflation. In fact, the average college graduate now carries $25,000 in outstanding loans – debt that can't be discharged through bankruptcy and has no statute of limitations.

If you're approaching or in retirement, your net worth has probably been hammered by plummeting home and retirement account values in recent years.

If nothing else, you can teach your children good financial habits that will serve them well during hard times.

So where can you learn sound savings habits? One great resource is America Saves (www.americasaves.org), a national campaign sponsored by more than 1,000 non-profit, government and corporate organizations. Their goal is to encourage people from all income levels to save money and build personal wealth using their free financial tools, savings services, advice and other resources, including:

— A Personal Wealth Estimator that helps you calculate your current net worth and estimate your future net worth.

— Monthly Savings Messages from national financial experts on topics such as money management, investment basics, building wealth through home ownership, saving during tax time and getting out of debt.

— Tips for saving money on everything from groceries to utilities to insurance premiums.

— Links to numerous websites offering financial education materials.

This year's America Saves Week, "Set a Goal, Make a Plan, Save Automatically," is slated for Feb. 19-26.

Here are some great ways to start saving that first $500:

Direct deposit part or all of your federal tax refund into a savings account or savings bond.

Avoid overdraft and late fees by regularly monitoring your bank and credit card accounts.

Brown-bag it to work more often. If you saved $5 a week, you'd be half-way there.

Kick bad habits. Smoking a pack of cigarettes a day might cost $2,000-plus a year.

If you have low-deductible homeowners, renters or auto insurance, consider raising the deductible to $500 or $1,000. Many save 15 to 30 percent or more on their premiums.

Saving can be a tough habit to start, but once you're hooked, you'll never go back.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs. On Twitter: www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney

Chalk Talk

Animal Alley Ministries gives lesson at Lakeview Christian

Special to the News-Sun

LAKE PLACID — Animal Alley Ministries performed a special chapel at Lakeview Christian School Tuesday morning. The program used live exotic animals to introduce, demonstrate and reaffirm good Christian character traits. Trust was the main thrust of this program, and that God is trustworthy.

It was an interactive program with students, parents and teachers participating by answering questions and petting the animals. With each animal the students learned about their habitat, diet and behavior. Some of the animals had not had good homes and are learning to trust again.

The softest animal in the program was the chinchilla. The students learned that it had 50 strands of fur per hair follicle and took its bath in dirt. Some of the other animals included a red fox (who had an all white coat), an iguana, a prairie dog, a cockatoo, an African tortoise and a tarantula.

Animal Alley Ministries was founded in 1999 by the Stewart Family. David Stewart was the host of the program. Animal Alley Ministries is based out of New York state, but travels across the country throughout the year to present programs.

Lakeview Christian School has classes for pre-kindergarten through the fifth-grade. Registration is available by contacting the school office at 465-0313. LVCS is a provider for the VPK program and is approved to accept Step Up for Students Scholarships.

Courtesy photo

Ian Taylor holds still as a display rack for a tarantula during Animan Alley Ministries' presentation at Lakeview Christian School.

The school is holding a prime rib dinner and silent auction on Saturday, Feb. 25, to help with partial scholarships for next year. Tickets are available for $25 at the school office.

Courtesy photo

David Stewart of Animal Alley Ministries talks about his pet iguana at Lakeview Christian School on Tuesday.

SFCC offers art classes

Special to the News-Sun

AVON PARK – South Florida Community College's Art Club announces two art classes in February.

A pottery class will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 22 from 6-8 p.m. in Building A, Room A-16, on the SFCC Highlands Campus. Students will receive one-on-one instruction and create four bowls on the pottery wheel. This class costs $20, all supplies are included, and students will be served pizza. Students will need to return Wednesday, March 7 at 6 p.m. to glaze their bowls.

An acrylic painting class will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 29 from 6-8 p.m. in Building A, Room A-16, on the SFCC Highlands Campus. Students will receive one-on-one instruction and learn how to paint a flower with acrylic paint. This class costs $20, all supplies are included, and students will be served pizza. Students will be able to take their paintings home that night. Call Cathy Futral, SFCC professor, art and SFCC Art Club advisor at 863-784-7195.

SFCC Community Education announces spring classes

Special to the News-Sun

AVON PARK — South Florida Community College Community Education is offering new classes this spring at the Highlands Campus.

♦ Aquabics is a moderately-paced aerobic water exercise class for toning and building strength in a heated pool. Water exercise is easy on the joints but still provides resistance. Morning and evening classes will be offered beginning Mar. 19 the course numbers (CRN) are 21643, 21644, and 21645. For detailed days and times, call 453-6661, ext. 7388 or email communityeducation@southflorida.edu/.

♦ Aquacize is a gentle water exercise class for people with arthritis and is sanctioned by the Arthritis Foundation. The classes are held in a heated pool. The class meets at the Golf Hammock Country Club Pool, Tuesdays and Thursdays, March 20-May 3, 1-2 p.m. The course number (CRN) is 21670 and costs $42.

♦ Lap Swimming is an excellent way to exercise and cross train. The class meets at the Golf Hammock Country Club Pool, Tuesdays and Thursdays, March 20-May 3, 11 a.m.-noon. The course number (CRN) is 21647 and costs $42.

♦ Do you suffer from Arthritis? The Walk with Ease class will teach you how to safely make physical activity part of your everyday life to relieve the pain. This class will help reduce pain, increase balance, strength and walking pace, and cover nutrition and support for Arthritis. The class meets at the SFCC Highlands Campus, Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, Feb. 20-April 6, 10:45-11:45 a.m. The cost is $86 and the course number (CRN) is 21693.

♦ Total Body Fitness will provide students the opportunity to work out on state-of-the-art, 10-station Nautilus equipment. A fitness instructor will design a program with the student's goals in mind. The class meets Monday and Wednesday, March 19-May 2, 5:30-6:30 p.m., on the SFCC Highlands campus. The cost is $42 and the course number (CRN) is 21650.

♦ Dance your way to Fitness! Zumba is fun and a great way to workout. It is designed for everyone, any shape or age, from beginners to advanced students. SFCC is offering two chances to join in on the Zumba fun. The first class is held Monday and Wednesday, 11 a.m.-noon, March 19-April 25, on the SFCC Highlands Campus. The cost is $57 and the course number (CRN) is 21649. The second class will be offered Monday and Friday, 5:30-6:30 p.m., March 19-May 4, on SFCC Highlands Campus. The cost is $53 and the course number (CRN) is 21833.

♦ Learn how to defend yourself from a violent encounter in the Defensive Tactics class. This class is taught by a certified law enforcement officer. You do not need any previous experience or physical abilities. This class meets Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5-6 p.m., March 20-May 3, on the SFCC Highlands Campus. The course number (CRN) is 21827, costs $72 and includes book.

♦ Conversational Spanish students will learn the fundamentals of speaking and understanding Spanish. The class meets Thursdays, March 22-May 3, 5:30-7:30 p.m., on the SFCC Highlands Campus. The course number (CRN) is 21162 and costs $67.

♦ American Sign Language I and II is an eight week course that teaches the necessities of interpreting for the deaf. Some techniques taught will be Fingerspelling ASL, word signing and learning descriptives on non-manual markers, i.e. facial expressions play an important role in the use and understanding of signs, ASL sentence structure learning, rhetorical questions, time adverbs and verbs, etc. and putting it all together to make it work. This class is held Tuesdays, March 20-May 1, 5:30-6:30 p.m., on the SFCC Highlands Campus. The course number is 21646 and costs $57.

♦ Basic Home Computer II learn to copy files and folders, use the desktop cleanup wizard, surf the internet, text layout and examine automatic updates. Prerequisite to this class is the Basic Home Computer I Class. Bring your Basic Home Computer I book with you to class. Class meets Tuesdays, March 20-May 1, 5:30-7:30 p.m., on the SFCC Highlands Campus. The course number is 21260 and costs $76.

♦ Classes fill up fast, so early registration is recommended. Register in Building B at the Highlands Campus or any SFCC campus or center. For more information, contact Lauren Redick at 453-6661, 465-5300, 773-2252, or 494-7500, ext. 7388 or by email at communityeducation@southflorida.edu/.

Did You KNOW?

In Florida, the bicycle is legally defined as a vehicle.

Bicyclists using a public roadway are considered operators of motor vehicles and are responsible for observing all traffic laws.

With few exceptions, there is only one road and it is up to motorists and bicyclists to treat each other with care and respect.

Adherence to the law is the foundation of respect.

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Bob Williams, Assoc. Director
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Thursday February 16th, 2012 • 7:30pm
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The Highlands County Concert Band is pleased to recognize South Florida Community College as the sponsor for this performance.
Donation $7.00 - Students $3.00
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Chalk Talk

SFCC offers Intermediate QuickBooks workshop

Special to the News-Sun

LAKE PLACID — South Florida Community College Corporate and Continuing Education department is holding an Intermediate QuickBooks Pro workshop, Tuesday, Feb. 14, and Tuesday, Feb. 21. The class will be held from 7-9 p.m. on both days in Building 100, Room 162, at the SFCC Lake Placid Center. The cost is $129.99.

Participants will learn how to use QuickBooks for time tracking, managing payroll, calculating job costs, purchasing, and tracking inventory, sales, and backorders. Other topics include creating financial statements, working with reporting, integrating QuickBooks with Microsoft Excel, and importing and exporting data.

For more information about these workshops, call Lorrie Key, CCE director, at 784-7033 or email corporatetraining@southflorida.edu/. Register at any SFCC campus or center, or call 453-6661, 465-3003, 494-7500, or 773-2252, ext. 7405.

SFCC's Corporate Education offers new computer science workshops in Hardee

Special to the News-Sun

WAUCHULA — South Florida Community College's Corporate Education is offering new Computer Science courses for the Spring 2012 term at the SFCC Hardee Campus.

Students will learn to create, format, save, and print basic spreadsheets, formulas, and charts in Intro to MS Excel 2010.

This workshop will be offered Friday, Feb. 24 and March 2 from 12:30-4:30 p.m. at the SFCC Hardee Campus.

The course number (CRN) is 21008 and costs $125.

Take Excel to the next level, learn to sort, filter, import data, and create pivot tables and much more with Intermediate MS Excel 2010. This workshop will be offered Friday, March 9 and 16 from 12:30-4:30 p.m. at the SFCC Hardee Campus.

The course number (CRN) is 21132 and costs $125.

Learn the basics of creating a new database with tables, reports and forms with Introduction to MS Access 2010. This workshop will be offered Friday, March 23 and 30, 12:30 - 4:30 p.m., SFCC Hardee Campus.

The course number (CRN) is 21855 and costs $125.

Take Access to the next level, learn how to create queries, link tables together, and customize all your database objects with Intermediate MS Access 2010. This workshop will be offered Friday, April 6 and April 13, 12:30 - 4:30 p.m. at the SFCC Hardee Campus.

The course number (CRN) is 21125 and costs $125.

These courses will all be held on the SFCC Hardee Campus, 2968 US 17 North, Bowling Green. Register in Building B at the Highlands Campus or any SFCC campus or center.

Contact Corporate Education at 453-6661, 465-5300, 773-2252, or 494-7500, ext. 7033 or email CorporateTraining @southflorida.edu.

New child development class offered at SFCC

Special to the News-Sun

AVON PARK — South Florida Community College's Corporate and Community Education Department is offering an Introduction to Child Care class in the Spring 2012 term.

The class is a 40-hour class that will cover child care facility rules and regulations, health, safety, nutrition, Identifying and reporting child abuse and neglect, child growth and development, behavioral observation and screening, special needs appropriate practices, early literacy and language development. This class will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays, Feb. 15-April 2, 5:30 - 9 p.m. The class will cost $240 and will be held on the SFCC Highlands Campus, 600 W. College Dr., Avon Park. This class's course number (CRN) is 21873.

Register in Building B at the Highlands Campus or any SFCC campus or center.

For more information, contact Corporate and Community Education at 453-6661, 465-5300, 773-2252, or 494-7500, ext. 7032 or by emailing gutierrd@southflorida.edu.

Senior citizen driver improvement class planned at the Bluffs of Sebring

Special to the News-Sun

SEBRING – South Florida Community College's Community Education Department is offering a driver improvement courses for senior citizens in our community. This course will teach students how to stay safe on the road, provide information on new highway rules, and can possibly help students receive a discount on car insurance.

The six-hour course will be held 3:30-6:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 27, and Friday, March 30 at The Bluffs of Sebring Clubhouse, 6750 US 27 North, Sebring. The course number (CRN) is 20292, costs $29.99. Pre-registration is required. Participants may register in Building B on the Highlands Campus or at any SFCC campus or center. Call 453-6661-7500 ext. 7388 or email at communityeducation@southflorida.edu/.

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. "Worshiping 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 Catylist 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 rehersal; 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 Altvater 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 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Worship service at 10:45 a.m.; Sunday Evening Service is at 6 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Meeting and Bible Study at 6 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 Arbuckle 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@stcathe.com*; website, *www.stcathe.com*. Very Rev. José González, V.F., frjose@stcathe.com; Parochial Vicar, Rev. Victor Caviedes, 385-3993; Assisting Priest (retired), Rev. J. Peter Sheehan; Decons, Rev. Mr. James R. McGarry and Rev. Mr. Max M. Severe. 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.

Scientists discover treatment for underground termites

News From The Watershed

Corine Burgess

Subterranean termites cause more damage each year than all combined natural disasters; fires, earthquakes and storms. According to Eco Systems Pest Control, they cause nearly $1 billion a year in structural damage.

These pests live under ground, thus their name, subterranean. They have been found just below the surface and as far as 12 feet down. Their territory generally extends several hundred feet from their home. Subterranean termites need moisture to survive. They prefer moist and warm environments and for the most part sandy soils. In addition, these pesky creatures are said to consume 2-3 percent of their body weight each day.

Fortunately, scientists from the Agricultural Research Service have recently discovered a substance that will control subterranean termites. The treatment consists of a foam that controls the pests biologically. This new discovery does not treat the termites as other foam products do, with slow-acting insecticide. The foam exposes the pests to the spores of the fungus Paecilomyces fumosoroseus. The fungus sends threadlike filaments into the termites' bodies. It then starts to feed and grow, killing the termite within days of contact.

Because the fungus used to treat the termites is host specific, it only affects certain types of insects. Research has shown that it does not affect humans, pets or wildlife.

One of the best things about the foam is that it kills the termites and uses all natural ingredients. The majority of termite treatments utilized today are chemical. This is a great option for the average homeowner who would prefer a biological based treatment to the chemical option. In addition, it is a good alternative for environmentally sensitive areas.

Many of the pesticides that are currently used to treat the pests simply repel the termites and they go elsewhere to feast. Generally, pesticides need to be applied over and over again to continually control termites. But in the case of this new fungal foam, even if the substance does not come in direct contact with the termites, the pests will eventually be infected with the spores while back in the nest by associating with the contaminated termites.

Courtesy photo

Subterranean termites live under ground. They cause more damage each year than all combined natural disasters.

Amazingly, Paecilomyces has been found to continually kill termites throughout a major hurricane. Even though subterranean termites are known to be resilient, the fungus continued to control the pests even after Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans. Researchers Mary Cornelius and Weste Osbrink placed research traps in various areas in the New Orleans area before the hurricane. After the storm had passed through, they found that 80 percent of the traps still had large numbers of termites. However, the areas that were treated with Paecilomyces showed very little or no termite activity.

Researchers continue to study the termites and the effects of Paecilomyces. But so far it is good news for all who have been plagued with these pests in the past.

Corine Burgess is and Environmental Specialist for the Highlands County Parks and Natural Resources Department. Guest columns are the opinion of the writer, not necessarily those of the News-Sun.

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 *redeemer1895@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 variosu 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 congretation 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 Faily 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.juanitafolsom ministries.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: *theway church@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.salvationarmysebring.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; sebringemmanuel ucc.com.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Anticipation High as Ohio Valley Gold and Silver Refinery Opens for Business Tuesday in Avon Park & Lake Placid!

By DAVID MORGAN
STAFF WRITER

Been following the gold and silver market lately? Well if you have a jewelry box or lock box full of gold or a coffee can full of old coins you should be according to Ohio Valley Refinery spokesperson John Miller. "The gold and silver markets have not been this strong for over 30 years" said Miller. Typically when the U.S. dollar is weak and the economy is flat gold and silver markets soar. "That's good news if you are sitting on a few gold necklaces or an old class ring" says Miller.

Starting Tuesday at 9am and every day through Saturday, the Ohio Valley Refinery will be setting up a satellite refinery right here in **Avon Park & Lake Placid** at the **The Hotel Jacaranda & Ramada**. During their stay, anyone can bring gold, silver or platinum items and turn them in for immediate payment, explains John Miller. "Just about everybody has some amount of gold or silver just lying around collecting dust and this week anybody can sell theirs direct to our refinery. Typically, selling direct to a refinery is reserved for larger wholesale customers like jewelry stores, pawn shops, and laboratories," says Miller. "We are changing how business is done," he explains. "We want to do business with everybody so we took our business to the streets. Our teams visits various cities around the country hosting events allowing the general public to take advantage of our services. The turnout has been overwhelming," says Miller. "Usually each day is busier than the previous day. It seems once people come to us and sell something, they are so amazed by what an old ring or gold coin is worth that they go home and start digging around for more and tell relatives, friends and neighbors. It's like a feeding frenzy by the third day. People line up with everything from gold jewelry to sterling silver flatware sets to old coins. I think during this bad economy everybody can use extra money but most people say they are taking advantage of selling direct to our refinery because of the higher prices we pay."

Above • Refinery representatives will be on hand starting Tuesday and continuing through Saturday to purchase all gold, silver and platinum items, as well as coins. Public welcome!

During this special event anyone is welcome to bring all types of gold, silver and platinum to the refinery and turn it in for instant payment. The types of items they will accept include: all gold jewelry, gold coins, gold ounces and dental gold. We also buy coins dated 1970 and before including: Silver Dollars, halves, quarters and dimes. Anything marked "sterling" is accepted including: flat ware sets, tea pots, silver bars, silver ounces and all industrial precious metals.

What should you expect if you go to the event to sell your gold and/or silver? Just gather up all gold silver and platinum in any form. If you are not sure if its gold or silver, bring it in and they will test it for free. When you arrive at the event you will be asked to fill out a simple registration card and will be issued a number. Seating will be available. When your number is called you will be escorted to a table where your items will be examined, tested and sorted. This only takes a few minutes using their knowledge and specialized equipment. Items will be counted and/or weighed. The value of the items will be determined based on up to the minute market prices. Live feeds will be available at the event displaying current market prices of all precious metals. If you choose to sell your items, they will be bagged and tagged and you will be escorted to the cashier to collect your payment. Waiting time to sell your items may range from just a few minutes to 1 hour so bring something to read.

If you are the owner of a jewelry store, pawn shop, dentist office or a dealer, you are encouraged to call ahead to make an appointment with the smelt master to discuss their special dealer programs. You can call our venue to make an appointment at **(217) 787-7767**.

Ohio Valley Refinery will open for business Tuesday from 9am-6pm. The event continues every day through Saturday. No appointment is needed.

If you go:

WHO OHIO VALLEY GOLD & SILVER REFINERY

WHAT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC TO SELL THEIR GOLD AND SILVER

WHERE **AVON PARK**
THE HOTEL JACARANDA
19 EAST MAIN STREET
DIRECTIONS: 863.453.2211

WHERE **LAKE PLACID**
RAMADA
2165 US HWY 27 SOUTH
DIRECTIONS: 863.465.3133

WHEN FEBRUARY 14TH - 18TH
TUES–FRI 9AM–6PM
SATURDAY 9AM–4PM

INFORMATION 217.787.7767

Silver and Gold Coin Prices Up During Poor Economy.

*Collectors and Enthusiasts in **Avon Park & Lake Placid** with $200,000 toPurchase Yours!*

By DAVID MORGAN
STAFF WRITER

Got Coin? It might be just the time to cash in. This week, starting Tuesday and continuing through Saturday, the International Collectors Association, in conjunction with the Ohio Valley Gold & Silver Refinery, will be purchasing all types of silver and gold coins direct from the public. All types are welcome and the event is free.

Collectors will be on hand to identify and sort your coins. Then the quality or grade will be determined. According to collectors I talked with, the better the grade the more they are worth. With the current silver and gold markets, prices are up for older coins too. Any coins minted in 1970 and before in the U.S. are 90% silver, except nickels and pennies.

The coins worth is determined by the rarity and the grade. Old silver dollars are worth a great premium right now. Even well worn and heavy circulated ones are bringing good premiums. Franklin and Kennedy halves, Washington quarters and Mercury and Roosevelt dimes are all worth many times their face value. While older types like Seated Liberty, Standing Liberties, and Barber coins are worth even more.

Gold coins are really worth a lot right now according to Brian Eades of the International Collectors Association. "This country didn't start minting coins until 1792," says Eades. "Before that people would trade goods using gold dust and nuggets. Some shop keepers would take more gold than needed to pay for items purchased. There was no uniform system of making change."

The government opened the first mints and began distributing the coins in 1792. By the beginning of the 19th century, coins and paper currency were wide spread and our monetary system was here to stay. In 1933, Roosevelt required all banking institutions to turn in all gold coins.

Once all banks turned in this gold, the president raised the gold standard from $20.00 per ounce to $33.00 per ounce. This was his way of stimulating the economy during the great depression. However, gold coins were never redistributed after the recall. Not all gold coins were turned in. Many folks during that time didn't completely trust the government and chose to keep their gold.

These gold coins are sought after by collectors today and bring many times the face value. Any gold coins with the mint marks of CC, D or O will bring nice premiums. Collectors at the event will be glad to show you where to look. Other types of coins will also be purchase including: foreign coins, Indian head cents, two cent pieces, half dimes, three cent pieces and buffalo nickels to name a few.

Collectors warn people against trying to clean their coins as significant damage can be done and the coins value lessened.

Items we will accept include:

Scrap Jewelry
Dental Gold
Sterling Silverware
Sterling Silver Tea Sets
Silver Dollars
All Coins Pre-1970
Industrial Scrap
All forms of Platinum

Items of Interest:

Vintage Guitars: Martin, Gibson, Fender, National, Rickenbacker, Gretsch, Mandolins, Banjos and others

Pocket Watches: Hamilton, Illinois, Waltham, Patek Phillipe, Ball, Howard, South Bend, Elgin and others

Wrist watches: Omega, Accutron, Longines, Hamilton, Breitling and many more

Old paper money: United States, Confederate States, Blanket Bills, $1000.00 bills and more

We Buy All Pre-1934 Currency

Antique Toys: Trains, Tin wind-ups, Mechanical Banks, Robots, Pressed Steel trucks, and many more

War Memorabilia: Swords, Bayonets, Helmets, German, Confederate, Union, USA, and others

Local records reveal to our research department that recent vintage guitar sold for $2400.00 and another for $12,000.00 to a collector that will be tied into the event this week via live database feed.

International antique buyers in town this week and ready to stimulate economy!

By DAVID MORGAN
STAFF WRITER

Hundreds of phone calls from local residents this week to the corporate office of the Ohio Valley Gold and Silver Refinery pour in inquiring about items to be purchased all this week by the team of antique buyers that is on site with OVGSR.

The team of buyers this week are purchasing a vast array of vintage items (see left) along with coins, gold jewelry, and sterling silver items the refinery deals in. It is a Local shot in the arm for our economy. The spokesperson for the event expects to spend in excess of $200,000.00 this week at the **The Hotel Jacaranda and Ramada** paying local residents on the spot. The spokesperson for the company explained that these collectors are paying collector price for vintage items. It's a great way for people to get a great value for their items.

Refinery representatives will be on hand starting Tuesday to purchase all gold, silver and platinum items, as well as coins. Public welcome!

Luhr flexes HPD Prototype's Muscle at Sebring Test

ALMS.com

SEBRING – Muscle Milk Pickett Racing had a successful roll-out of its new Honda Performance Development prototype Thursday with the fastest time of the annual Sebring Winter Test for the American Le Mans Series presented by Tequila Patrón.

Lucas Luhr set the fastest time in the HPD ARX-03a with a 1:48.192 at Sebring International Raceway.

Luhr drove with Klaus Graf and Simon Pagenaud.

Thursday marked the first time the 2012-spec HPD sports car turned a lap anywhere in the world.

"It's awesome. This is one of the best Wirth cars I've driven," said Pagenaud, who has driven three previous HPD/Acura prototypes, including last year's ARX-01e. "It's such a big evolution from last year's car. The engine gives us good power, the front splitter gives the car additional downforce and the new tub gives us better efficiency as well. It's generally the same aero package as the car we ran last year."

Graf and Luhr will contest the full ALMS season – starting with the 60th Anniversary Sebring Fueled by Fresh from Florida – in the Muscle Milk HPD with Pagenaud joining for Sebring.

Photo courtesy of ALMS.com

Level 5 Motorsports placed an HPD prototype on top in LMP2, as the HPD ARX-03b No. 55 entry set a best lap of 1:51.522.

The car already was within two seconds of last year's P1 pole position time.

Level 5 Motorsports placed an HPD prototype on top in LMP2 as well.

The HPD ARX-03b of Christophe Bouchut, Luis Diaz and Scott Tucker set a best lap of 1:51.522 in their No. 055 entry.

The No. 95 sister car – that version an ARX-01g from 2011 – was 0.192 seconds behind.

Pecom Racing's ORECA-Nissan of Soheil Ayari, Luis Perez Companc and Pierre Kaffer was just 0.612 seconds behind the lead Level 5 car.

The Pecom car was one of three FIA World Endurance Championship entrants testing during the two days.

The Level 5 ARX-03b was more than two seconds under last year's class pole time.

In the GT ranks, the Ferrari F458 Italia of Olivier Beretta, Gimmi Bruni and Toni Vilander set the fastest time at 2:00.532 (110.510 mph).

See TEST, Page 4C

Two in a row for Lady Streaks

By DAN HOEHNE
daniel.hoehne@newssun.com

On a somewhat cool afternoon, the Sebring girls tennis team stayed hot in winning their second match of the season.

Akin to Monday's season-opening sweep of Lake Gibson, the Streaks were shutout concious again, topping the visiting Lady Red Devils of Avon Park, 7-0.

Kaley Walter got it started, taking a 6-0, 6-1 win over Noor Aboul-Hasn at No. 1 singles and Nisha Patel kept it up with a 6-0, 6-0 win over Jessica Leitch at No. 2.

Joy Donglasan and Kelly Broen got easy wins at No. 3 and 4 singles, respectively, hammering out 6-0, 6-1 and 6-1, 6-0 scores.

And Morgan Heston finished up the singles matches, at No. 5, with a 6-0, 6-2 win over Katheryn Welch.

The strong showing continued in the two doubles matches, with Walter and Donglasan gettng a 6-0, 6-1 win at No. 1 and Patel and Michaela DeVane also going 6-0, 6-1 at No. 2.

Now at 2-0 on the young season, the team has another home match against Ridge Community Monday, Feb. 13, at 4 p.m.

Clewiston, Pasco no contest for Streaks

By LAUREN WELBORN
News-Sun correspondent

AVON PARK – Back-to-back wins definitely shined the potential of this years' Sebring varsity baseball team as they participated in the Avon Park First Pitch Classic tournament.

This is especially true considering both games were won by reasonable margins.

After applying the 10-run rule in their first at-bat against Clewiston Thursday night followed by Nate Greene's solo home run in a later inning, the Streaks took the field Friday against Pasco with the confidence boost of an 11-0 victory under their belt.

The boys were able to find the same groove against Pasco, slowly adding to their lead in the bottom of the second.

See SEBRING, Page 4C

News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE

Marcus Dewberry soars toward the rim for two of his game-high 27 points as Avon Park captured the District 10-4A tournament title Friday.

Devils take bite out of Bulldogs

By DAN HOEHNE
daniel.hoehne@newssun.com

MULBERRY – The exultation of a district championship was a bit subdued Friday night.

The feeling may have been there, but it was more the exhaustion and battered feeling of a hard-fought contest with DeSoto that was seen on the faces of the triumphant Red Devils after the 65-58 win to claim the District 10-4A tournament title.

"This might have been the most physical game we've had all year," forward Reggie Baker said afterward. "But everyone stepped up."

And it was an uphill battle, initially, as the Bulldogs took advantage of a size edge down low with 6-foot-5 senior center Jimmy Williams scoring inside and canning two free throws for an early lead.

Baker, however, hit a leaner and Marcus Dewberry drained a three to put the Avon Park up 5-4.

Back and forth it would go over the next several minutes, with Michael Rhoden, Baker and Dewberry scoring nine for the Devils.

Though an Adrian Harris trey would close the first quarter with Avon Park holding a 14-12 lead.

The Devils would never again relinquish the lead, but they would never fully pull away either.

Romello Roberts started the second quarter scoring off a feed inside from Dewberry, and after a Bulldog bucket, Dewberry hit three straight baskets, including a triple, to jump the lead to 23-14.

DeSoto would score the next four, with Baker and Williams then trading the next four scores for a 27-22 margin.

Dewberry then hit another trey and Baker got out on the break before two Bulldog free throws made it a 32-24 game at the half.

The tandem of Dewberry and Baker went for 15 and 11 in the first half, respectively, but Baker would soon go

See AP, Page 3C

Red Devils select new head coach

By ED BALDRIDGE
ed.baldridge@newssun.com

AVON PARK — The Red Devils hired a new coach last week, seeking talent from the Midwest to fill the top gridiron slot.

Lee Brown, a graduate from Lincoln University in Jefferson City, MO, comes to Avon Park with a lot of enthusiasm.

"It is about playing to the talents. I am very excited about the opportunity to coach here. There are a lot more opportunities in Florida than in the Midwest and I really want to thank everyone on the selection committee," Brown said.

That excitement has already carried over into the community, according to Avon Park Athletic Director Mort Jackson.

"The kids are really excited and I am really excited," he said. "They are even talking about him in the middle school."

And the proof is in the numbers, according to

See BROWN, Page 3C

News-Sun photo by ED BALDRIDGE

Avon Park's new head football coach, Lee Brown, was introduced Friday morning.

Lady Devils stopped short

Lake Placid falls at Tampa Catholic

By DAN HOEHNE
daniel.hoehne@newssun.com

AVON PARK – It was the next big stage of girls high school basketball, the state playoffs.

After Avon Park's strong performance to capture the District 10-4A tournament title over Lake Placid the previous Friday, the Lady Red Devils seemed ready for that stage.

It was, however, a bit too big of a step for this young Devil squad, as they couldn't shake their early jitters in Thursday's 39-25 loss to the Lady Jaguars of the Academy of the Holy Names.

"This wasn't the same team we saw on Friday," head coach Paulette Daley said. "We came out too tight, but the nerves should have dropped after two or three minutes. But they didn't."

And it seemed at any time, if they had dropped, this was a game Avon Park could well have won.

Amid the nerves, the Devils got six first-quarter points from Johntavia Perry.

This kept them close, despite the long-range shooting of Amanda McWilliams, who drained two three pointers, and Sarah Davis, who hit a trey as well.

News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE

Toryana Jones lead the Lady Devils with 12 points, but the Avon Park offense was off track much of the night in Thursday's 39-25 playoff loss.

Down just 12-8 after one, a charge at any time could have turned the momentum around.

Especially because the Jaguars were not connecting as well in the second.

But neither were the ladies in red, until freshman Toryana Jones found the bottom of the net with her own three-pointer at the 4:37 mark of the period.

Those three points, however, would be all the stalled offense would muster during the eight

See DEVILS, Page 3C

The Scoreboard

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	18	9	.667	—
Boston	14	12	.538	3½
New York	12	15	.444	6
Toronto	9	19	.321	9½
New Jersey	8	20	.286	10½

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	20	7	.741	—
Atlanta	18	9	.667	2
Orlando	16	11	.593	4
Washington	5	22	.185	15
Charlotte	3	23	.115	16½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	23	6	.793	—
Indiana	17	9	.654	4½
Milwaukee	12	14	.462	9½
Cleveland	10	15	.400	11
Detroit	8	20	.286	14½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	18	9	.667	—
Dallas	16	11	.593	2
Houston	16	11	.593	2
Memphis	14	13	.519	4
New Orleans	4	23	.148	14

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oklahoma City	21	6	.778	—
Portland	15	12	.556	6
Denver	15	12	.556	6
Utah	13	12	.520	7
Minnesota	13	14	.481	8

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Clippers	16	8	.667	—
L.A. Lakers	15	12	.556	2½
Phoenix	11	15	.423	6
Golden State	9	14	.391	6½
Sacramento	10	16	.385	7

Thursday's Games
L.A. Lakers 88, Boston 87, OT
Golden State 109, Denver 101
Houston 96, Phoenix 89
Sacramento 106, Oklahoma City 101

Friday's Games
Chicago 95, Charlotte 64
Toronto 86, Boston 74
Atlanta 89, Orlando 87, OT
Miami 106, Washington 89
L.A. Clippers 78, Philadelphia 77
Milwaukee 113, Cleveland 112, OT
Detroit 109, New Jersey 92
Portland 94, New Orleans 86
Dallas 104, Minnesota 97
Memphis 98, Indiana 92
New York 92, L.A. Lakers 85
Oklahoma City 101, Utah 87

Saturday's Games
L.A. Clippers at Charlotte, late
Denver at Indiana, late
Philadelphia at Cleveland, late
New York at Minnesota, late
San Antonio at New Jersey, late
Portland at Dallas, late
Orlando at Milwaukee, late
Phoenix at Sacramento, late

Sunday's Games
L.A. Lakers at Toronto, 1 p.m.
Chicago at Boston, 3:30 p.m.
Washington at Detroit, 6 p.m.
Miami at Atlanta, 7 p.m.
Houston at Golden State, 9 p.m.
Utah at Memphis, 9:30 p.m.

LEAGUE LEADERS

Scoring

	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Bryant, LAL	288	179	794	29.4
James, MIA	263	188	731	28.1
Durant, OKC	264	159	728	27.0
Love, MIN	201	189	633	25.3
Aldridge, POR	252	115	620	23.0
Westbrook, OKC	236	128	618	22.9
Anthony, NYK	165	134	491	22.3
Ellis, GOL	183	96	488	22.2
Rose, CHI	182	111	506	22.0
Griffin, LAC	210	87	508	21.2
Howard, ORL	205	155	565	20.9

Rebounds

	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG
Howard, ORL	96	323	419	15.5
Love, MIN	104	236	340	13.6
Bynum, LAL	80	210	290	12.6
Varejao, CLE	109	178	287	11.5
Cousins, SAC	108	178	286	11.4
Griffin, LAC	75	190	265	11.0
Humphries, NJ	101	171	272	10.5
Gasol, LAL	79	197	276	10.2
Gortat, PHX	66	197	263	10.1
Gasol, MEM	57	214	271	10.0
Monroe, DET	109	171	280	10.0
Chandler, NYK	91	178	269	10.0

Assists

	GAMES	AST	AVG
Nash, PHX	24	243	10.1
Rondo, BOS	18	171	9.5
Paul, LAC	19	167	8.8
Calderon, TOR	28	246	8.8
Rubio, MIN	27	236	8.7
D. Williams, NJ	27	227	8.4
Rose, CHI	23	179	7.8
Parker, SAN	27	207	7.7
Lowry, HOU	25	191	7.6
Wall, WAS	27	193	7.1
James, MIA	26	181	7.0

Steals

	GAMES	STL	AVG
Rubio, MIN	27	66	2.44
Conley, MEM	25	61	2.44
Paul, LAC	19	45	2.37
Westbrook, OKC	27	56	2.07
Shumpert, NYK	23	47	2.04
Lowry, HOU	25	49	1.96
Allen, MEM	24	43	1.79
Teague, ATL	27	48	1.78
Iguodala, PHL	27	47	1.74

Blocked Shots

	Games	BLK	AVG
Ibaka, OKC	27	79	2.93
McGee, WAS	27	77	2.85
Jordan, LAC	24	65	2.71
Gasol, MEM	27	61	2.26
Howard, ORL	27	58	2.15
Bynum, LAL	23	48	2.09
Smith, ATL	27	56	2.07
Thomas, CHA	19	38	2.00
Dalembert, HOU	27	54	2.00

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
N.Y. Rangers	34	13	5	73	145	106
Philadelphia	31	16	7	69	177	160
New Jersey	31	19	4	66	153	152
Pittsburgh	30	19	5	65	163	141
N.Y. Islanders	22	23	8	52	128	154

Northeast Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	33	17	2	68	180	117
Ottawa	28	22	7	63	166	177
Toronto	28	21	6	62	171	161
Buffalo	24	24	6	54	135	156
Montreal	22	24	9	53	144	149

Southeast Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Florida	25	17	11	61	134	150
Washington	28	21	5	61	151	152
Winnipeg	26	24	6	58	134	153
Tampa Bay	23	24	6	52	151	180
Carolina	20	25	11	51	142	172

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	37	17	2	76	178	132
St. Louis	32	14	7	71	133	109
Nashville	32	18	5	69	155	144
Chicago	29	19	7	65	174	168
Columbus	15	33	6	36	125	179

Northwest Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Vancouver	34	15	5	73	176	135
Colorado	28	25	3	59	144	156
Minnesota	25	21	8	58	124	141
Calgary	25	22	8	58	131	149
Edmonton	21	28	5	47	143	162

Pacific Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose	30	16	6	66	153	124
Los Angeles	26	19	10	62	119	120
Phoenix	26	21	8	60	145	144
Dallas	28	23	3	59	143	153
Anaheim	21	24	9	51	139	160

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

Thursday's Games
St. Louis 4, New Jersey 3, SO
Winnipeg 3, Washington 2, SO
Montreal 4, N.Y. Islanders 2
N.Y. Rangers 4, Tampa Bay 3, OT
Philadelphia 4, Toronto 3
Dallas 4, Columbus 2
Ottawa 4, Nashville 3
Florida 3, Los Angeles 1
Vancouver 5, Minnesota 2
Phoenix 2, Calgary 1, OT

Friday's Games
Buffalo 3, Dallas 2, SO
Detroit 2, Anaheim 1, SO
Colorado 4, Carolina 3, OT
San Jose 5, Chicago 3

Saturday's Games
Nashville at Boston, late
Florida at New Jersey, late
Los Angeles at N.Y. Islanders, late
N.Y. Rangers at Philadelphia, late
Edmonton at Ottawa, late
Winnipeg at Pittsburgh, late
Tampa Bay at Buffalo, late
Montreal at Toronto, late
Colorado at St. Louis, late
Columbus at Minnesota, late
Chicago at Phoenix, late
Vancouver at Calgary, late

Sunday's Games
Washington at N.Y. Rangers, 12:30 p.m.
Florida at N.Y. Islanders, 3 p.m.
Anaheim at Columbus, 6 p.m.
Los Angeles at Dallas, 6 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Pittsburgh, 7 p.m.
San Jose at St. Louis, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.

SCORING LEADERS

Player	Games	G	A	PTS
Malkin, Pit	47	29	33	62
Giroux, PHI	50	21	40	61
Stamkos, TB	53	36	24	60
Kessel, TOR	55	30	30	60
Lupul, TOR	55	22	36	58
H. Sedin, VAN	54	12	46	58
D. Sedin, VAN	53	24	31	55
Datsyuk, DET	55	14	41	55
Eberle, EDM	50	24	30	54
Tavares, NYI	53	22	32	54
Spezza, OTT	57	22	32	54
Hossa, CHI	54	20	33	53
Elias, NJ	53	19	34	53

2 tied with 52 pts.

Transactions

BASEBALL

American League

BALTIMORE ORIOLES–Agreed to terms RHP Luis Ayala to a one-year contract and 1B Nick Johnson on a minor league contract.

CLEVELAND INDIANS–Agreed to terms with INF Asdrubal Cabrera on a one-year contract.

KANSAS CITY ROYALS–Agreed to terms with with RHP Nate Adcock, RHP Kelvin Herrera, RHP Jeremy Jeffress, RHP Sean O'Sullivan, RHP Blake Wood, LHP Everett Teaford, LHP Ryan Verdugo, C Manuel Pina, 1B Clint Robinson, OF Jarrod Dyson, OF David Lough and OF Derrick Robinson on one-year contract.

National League

LOS ANGELES DODGERS–Assigned INF Russell Mitchell outright to Albuquerque (PCL).

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS–Agreed to terms with RHP Scott Linebrink on a minor league contract.

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

CLEVELAND CAVALIERS–Signed G Ben Uzoh.

FOOTBALL

National Football League

HOUSTON TEXANS–Named Karl Dorrell quarterbacks coach.

MIAMI DOLPHINS–Named Blue Adams assistant defensive backs coach, Charlie Bullen defensive assistant, Ben Johnson offensive assistant, Chris Mosley assistant offensive line coach. Retained services of Jeff Nixon running backs coach.

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS–Signed OL Breno Giacomini to two-year contract extension.

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS–Named Mike Sullivan offensive coordinator.

Live Sports On TV

Auto Racing

Sunday

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

College Basketball

Sunday

1 p.m. Illinois at Michigan . . . CBS
1 p.m. St. John's at Georgetown . . . ESPN

Monday

7 p.m. Syracuse at Louisville . . . ESPN
9 p.m. Kansas at Kansas State . . . ESPN

Tuesday

7 p.m. Florida at Alabama . . . ESPN
7 p.m. Texas A&M at Texas Tech . . . ESPN2
9 p.m. Ohio State at Minnesota . . . ESPN

Golf

Sunday

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
7 p.m. PGA – Allianz Championship . . . . . GOLF

NBA

Sunday

3:30 p.m. Chicago at Boston . . . ABC
7 p.m. Miami at Atlanta . . . ESPN
9:30 p.m. Utah at Memphis . . . ESPN

NHL

Sunday

12:30 p.m. Washington at N.Y. Rangers . . . NBC
7 p.m. Tampa Bay at Pittsburgh . . . SUN

Tuesday

7 p.m. Ottawa at Tampa Bay . . . SUN

Rugby

Sunday

4:30 p.m. USA Sevens . . . NBC

Women's College Basketball

Sunday

1 p.m. Duke at Florida State . . . SUN
2 p.m. Vanderbilt at Georgia . . . 38
2:30 p.m. Miami at Maryland . . . ESPN2
3:30 p.m. Mississippi at Mississippi State . . . SUN
5 p.m. Florida at South Carolina . . . ESPN2

Monday

7 p.m. Kentucky at Tennessee . . . ESPN2
9 p.m. Connecticut at Oklahoma . . . ESPN2

Women's College Gymnastics

Sunday

5:30 p.m. Auburn at Arkansas . . . SUN

Times, games, channels all subject to change

Local Schedule

Avon Park

MONDAY: Baseball hosts Bill Jarrett Ford Early Bird Tournament, TBD; Boys Tennis vs. Okeechobee, 4 p.m.
TUESDAY: Baseball hosts Bill Jarrett Ford Early Bird Tournament, TBD; Boys Tennis vs. Lake Placid, 4 p.m.; Girls Tennis at Lake Placid, 4 p.m.

Lake Placid

MONDAY: Baseball at Bill Jarrett Ford Early Bird Tournament, Avon Park, vs. Sebring, 7:30 p.m.; Softball at Tenoroc, 6 p.m.
TUESDAY: Baseball at Bill Jarrett Ford Early Bird Tournament, Avon Park, vs. Santa Fe, 5 p.m.; Boys Tennis at Avon Park, 4 p.m.; Girls Tennis vs. Avon Park, 4 p.m.

Sebring

MONDAY: Baseball at Bill Jarrett Ford Early Bird Tournament, Avon Park, vs. Lake Placid, 7:30 p.m.; Boys Tennis at Ridge Community, 4 p.m.; Girls Tennis vs. Ridge Community, 4 p.m.
TUESDAY: Baseball at Bill Jarrett Ford Early Bird Tournament, Avon Park, TBD; Softball vs. DeSoto, 5:30/7:30 p.m.; Boys Tennis vs. Clewiston, 4 p.m.; Girls Tennis at Hardee, 4 p.m.

SFCC

TUESDAY: Softball vs. Brevard, 4 p.m.
WEDNESDAY: Baseball vs. Indian River, 6 p.m.
THURSDAY: Softball vs. Pasco-Hernando, 4 p.m.
FRIDAY: Baseball at Miami Dade, doubleheader, 1 p.m.
SATURDAY: Baseball at Broward, doubleheader, Noon; Softball at Seminole State, 1 p.m.

Sports Snapshots

"Doc Owen" Golf Tourney

AVON PARK – The Avon Park Noon Rotary club will host its' Third Annual David "Doc Owen" Golf tournament on Saturday, Feb. 25, at Highlands Ridge North.

The two-person scramble-format entry fee is $60 per person with prizes in flight groups, lunch, goodie bag, and refreshments on the course.

Registration starts at 7 a.m. with an 8 a.m. shotgun tee time.

Entry information and check payable to Avon Park Noon Rotary mailed to Chet Brojek, 3310 Par Road, Sebring, Florida 33872.

Golfers should include their names and handicaps along with their check.

Those needing a form may email tourney director *cbrojek@comcast.net* or call him at 385-4736.

Business entry of two-persons plus a hole sign for a total of $200 is available for the first time this year.

Business hole signs for $100 are also available by contacting Chet via email or phone.

Hammock Scramble

SEBRING – Golf Hammock Golf and Country Club will be holding a 2-person scramble on Saturday, Feb. 25 at 1 p.m. Cost is $60 per team, with full payout for the top three places for men, ladies and co-ed teams.

A skins pot will also be available.

Call the pro shop or stop by for a registration form.

Must have your registration form in to pro shop by Thursday, Feb. 23.

McFarling Golf Scramble

SEBRING – SpringLake Golf Resort will be hosting the 6th Annual James McFarling Golf Scramble on Saturday, March 10, on the Panther Creek course.

Registration will begin at 7:30 a.m. with a 9 a.m. shotgun start.

Cost of the four-person, flighted scramble will be $50 per person, which includes team prizes, closest to the pin awards and lunch, which will follow in Michael's Restaurant.

There will be a $10,000 Hole In One prize on No. 16, as well as major prize packages on all Par 3s.

Proceeds benefit the Highlands County Sertoma Junior Golf Tour Scholarship Fund.

To register, or for more information, contact John Delaney at 655-3686.

Scholarship Golf

SEBRING – The Second Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament will be on Saturday, March 31, at the Country Club of Sebring.

The four-man scramble with handicap flights has a $65 entry fee per person.

Registration is at 7:30 a.m. with a shotgun start 8:30 a.m.

Entry fee includes greens fee, golf cart and lunch, along with great prizes for Hole-in-One, Closest to the Pin and Longest Drive.

Make checks payable to Wings of Faith CWC Scholarship Fund.

For questions contact Alvin Walters at 381-5706 or Jerome Matthews at 273-2533.

Submit entries by Monday, March 26.

All proceeds benefit college-bound senior graduates, Class of 2012.

Women's Club Tourney

SEBRING – The Sebring Women's Club will be hosting its' second annual Golf Tournament on Saturday, Feb. 18, on the Turtle Run Course at Sun 'N Lake.

Check-in is at 7 a.m. with a shotgun start at 8 a.m.

The tournament is a 4-person scramble format, open to both men and women.

Cost is $55 per player, or $220 per team, and includes 18 holes of golf, cart fee, lunch and prizes.

A putting contest is available, as well as a $2,000 Hole-In-One prize being sponsored by The Cohan Radio Group.

Entry forms are available at local pro shops and are to be sent to The Woman's Club of Sebring, P.O.Box 8174, Sebring, FL 33872 – registration deadline is Monday, Feb. 13.

To obtain an entry form or more information contact Johnell West at 382-0824.

The proceeds are to benefit the Women's Club of Sebring Scholarship Fund and numerous community service projects.

Florida Trail Association

The Florida Trail Association - Heartland Chapter has plenty of outings schedule for the month of February.

Saturday, Feb.18

Activity: Day Hike – approx. 5 miles
Location: KICCO Wildlife Management Area – off SR 60 east of Lake Wales. Meet at entrance to Westgate River Ranch Resort on right when traveling east.
Description: The trail is a part of the Florida National Scenic Trail system.

Wildlife is abundant and includes white-tailed deer, alligators, feral hogs, bald eagles , wild turkeys, hawks, wading birds, and sandhill cranes.

Bring: Hiking shoes, brimmed hat, water, snacks, lunch, sun and insect protection.

Contacts: David Waldrop at 605-3587, for meet-up time and other details.

Saturday, Feb. 25

Activity: Bike ride, approx 20 miles followed by lunch (optional) at "The Other Place" in Polk City.
Location: Van Fleet Trail, Berkley Rd. (CR 665), Polk City (This is a rails-to-trails paved trail, running through farm and woodlands.

Restrooms are available at the picnic shelter at the 10 mile mark where we will take a short break.

Bring: Bicycle, sun and bug protection, snacks, water, and helmet.

Cost: Only for your own lunch at the restaurant.

Contact: Eileen Valachovic, 956-2145, for meet time and other information.

Art League Golf Classic

AVON PARK – Pinecrest Golf Club will host the 2nd Annual Golf Classic to benefit the programs of Highlands Art League on Saturday, March 10.

Coffee and doughnuts will be available at the 7:30 a.m. registration, and play will begin with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m.

Cohan Radio Group is sponsoring the $2000 Hole-in-One contest, and team prizes are provided by Barben Fruit Company.

The cost is $55 per person with $5 mulligans available.

Players are flighted by handicap, individuals are welcome.

Free refreshments will be served during play with lunch and awards ceremonies to follow.

There will be door prizes and raffles with something to appeal to everyone!

To sign up, call Barb Hall at 452-0512 or the pro shop at 453-7555.

Devils downed in state playoffs

Continued from 1C

minutes, as McWilliams then hit another trey, Ashley McWilliams got a steal and lay-in and Kelli Cartwright hit one-of-two free throws to make it an 18-11 lead at the half.

The scoring drought continued in the third, with one-of-two at the line from Perry being all Avon Park would have as an answer to a Cartwright jumper, an Ashley McWilliams three and a Victoria Martinez score inside.

Jones again ended the dryspell with a three-pointer, but the Jaguars answered with a Brianna Wharton score inside and a Davis three to push it to 30-15, before a trade off of two free throws apiece made it 32-17 heading into the final eight minutes.

The Devils showed signs, with Jones hitting a pair at the line and scoring on a break.

But an inside score from Cartwright and five free throws down the stretch were enough to maintain the lead.

Jones would lead Avon Park with 12, though only Perry and Brekayla English would add to the scoring with nine and four points, respectively.

Amanda McWilliams paced six Lady Jaguar scorers with 11 points, while Cartwright and Davis each added eight.

"We've had our ups and downs this year, but we accomplished something that hadn't been done around here in a long time," Daley said of the district title. "We're a young team that will learn from this experience. We'll get back in the gym when it's time and work hard to get ready for next season."

Things didn't go any better in Tampa for the district runner-up Lady Dragons, as their remarkable turnaround came to an end Thursday as the Lady Dragons of Lake Placid fell at Tampa Catholic 78-46 in the Class 4A playoffs.

After taking a loss in the District 10-4A tournament title game to Avon Park last Friday, the Dragons were sent on the road for the regional opener against the defending Class 3A state champions.

"The girls played hard, but it was a very disciplined, experienced, well-coached team that capitalized on any small mistake," head coach Jackie Coyne said. "The girls did the best they could against a team that was simply better than them."

And though the season ended on a dour note for the girls, simply getting to this point was definitely a feat to relish.

After some down years for Lake Placid girls basketball, the 14-2 regular season record showed an amazing turnaround under the leadership of their new head coach.

"They worked hard all summer and all season," Coyne said. "They grew personally, academically and athletically. I couldn't be more proud of them."

And so another season comes to a close, though at a surprising stage, which can only buoy hopes for the next.

"I think this showed them how hard we have to work to compete regionally," Coyne said. "I will do everything I can to prepare them for next season."

News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE

Johntavia Perry goes in for a layup Thursday for two of her nine points.

AP to host playoff opener

Continued from 1C

silent, not scoring again until the games final moments.

Dewberry, though, would score six in the third, along with scores from Rhoden and Travis Lawton.

But Williams was again proving a force inside, scoring six and helping DeSoto to a 12-10 advantage for the period to shave the lead to 42-36 heading into the fourth.

The Devils would quickly push the margin with scores from Lawton and Rhoden to begin the final period, but Kavauris Polk hit on two straight to get it back to single digits.

Lawton scored again and Roberts had consecutive buckets to make it a 52-40 game, but again the Bulldogs fought back.

Williams and Polk scored four at the line, Harris canned a trey from the corner and Polk got a steal on the press to cut it to 52-49 with just over two minutes left to play.

Lawton would take another feed from Dewberry for an inside score and after a defensive stop, Rhoden found himself headed to the line for a one-and-one.

His first attempt hit the rim, bounced up and rattled on the back iron a few times before dropping in.

With that out of the way, Rhoden swished the next one, as well as two more later.

Dewberry himself would hit six-of-six down the stretch to offset two Harris drives and three at the line from Williams.

And Baker would hit one-of-two free throws for his lone point since the first half, and the last Devil point for the win.

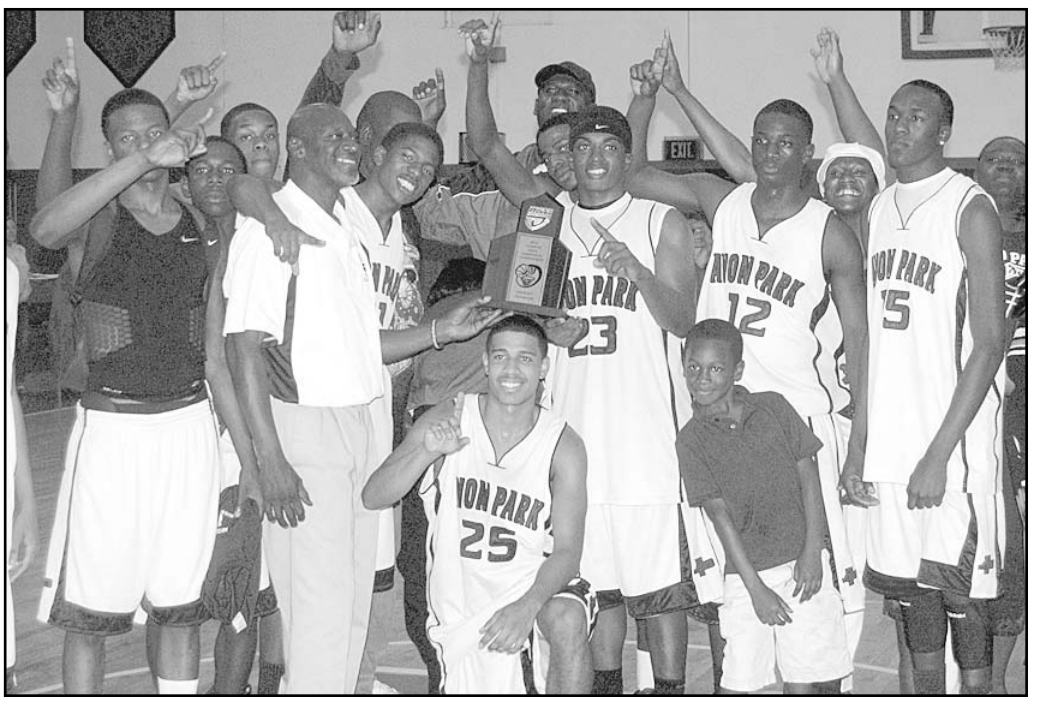
"We were going too fast at times," Baker said. " We had the lead and we needed to slow things down. My shots weren't falling, but we had guys step up."

Something head coach Luther Clemons took special notice of.

"Everyone did their job, played their part," he said. "But Michael Rhoden, he stepped up and had the game of his life. Those two free throws he hit were monsters.

"This was a tough match-up for us," he continued. "DeSoto has size on us and are a physical team. At times we were going lickety-split and I was trying to get them to slow down, but everyone did something that was crucial for the win. Now we get to play the next one at home, which was the goal."

By winning the District 10 championship, the Devils will play host to the District 9 runner-up Sarasota Booker Thursday at 7 p.m.



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE

The Avon Park Red Devils celebrate winning the District 10-4A tournament championship Friday night over DeSoto.

Sebring cruises to First Pitch wins

Continued from 1C

Dane Maddox singled up the middle and Alex Griffin doubled in the bottom of the second and both would cross the plate and put the first runs on the board as Pasco lost control of the ball.

As the Pirates struggled to regain their composure, walks and RBI singles, like those from Zach Osha and Greene, would add to the total of seven runs for Sebring.

Pasco would answer back with a run of their own in the third, but the stellar Streak defense would hold them to just one run for the night.

Again, walks and well-placed hits gave Sebring a few more insurance runs in the bottom of the fifth, but hopes of ending early in a mercy rule like the night before would fall just short.

Greene added to his RBI count to drive in Osha, as would Maddox as he brought Gunnar Westergom across the plate to leave Sebring at a 9-1 advantage.

Westergom came back in the next inning to earn his own RBI and to peak Sebring's lead at 10-1.

"We weren't perfect, but we pitched well and played good defense," said head coach Buck Rapp of the boys' success.

He also added that Sebring only allowed one hit during these two face-offs.

The combined effort of Aaron Hart, CJ Payne, and Kyle Cunningham earned a no-hitter against Pasco while pitchers Greene and Garrett Martinez lead the team the night before against Clewiston.

The Streaks will see Lake Placid on Monday in the Bill Jarrett Ford Early Bird Tournament at 7:30 in Avon Park with hopes of continuing their winning streak.

News-Sun photo by LAUREN WELBORN

Dane Maddox slides home safely with one of the slew of runs Sebring put on the board in their two wins late last week.

Brown to lead the Red Devils

Continued from 1C

Brown.

"We had 97 players at the team meeting, and my goal was 100 for the spring season. We now have 111 signed up for spring, so we had to adjust our goal to 120 players," Brown said. "Avon Park has a tremendous amount of history and tradition. We can build on that."

Brown's approach to football coaching has already led to two state championships, one in 1987 as offensive coordinator and one in 2008 as head coach during his 25-year term in Missouri high schools.

"It's about playing to their strengths," Brown said about his offensive philosophy. "We will try to convert a lot of the energy here into restoring the glory Avon Park had in 1987-88."

"I will make some changes to position after we evaluate the strengths. At this level, you have to play them where their strengths lie," Brown said. "We will challenge them horizontally and vertically on offense. Out number them at the point of attack and put our best guy on their worst guy"

Defensively, Brown looks to bring the crowd to their feet on every play.

"Fronts, stunts and blitz," he said. "We will excite the crowd with high energy play. You will notice them on their feet a lot."

"Again, it is playing the player to his strength to strengthen our weaknesses. We will have to have a lot of flexibility, creativity and ability," Brown said about the upcoming spring season.

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Millers cruises in Sebring 70s

Special to the News-Sun

SEBRING – The Sebring Seventy Softball League had a great day Tuesday, Feb. 7, at the Highlands County Sports Complex with the teams' bats being very active.

Millers Heating and Air Conditioning had no mercy on Buttonwood Bay by sweeping them 35-11.

Millers had one home run banged out by Doug Hammond, Don Sheets had a triple and Jim Longman and David Crostor each hit two doubles.

Having one double each were John Schmidt, Pete Mathews and Ray Concepcion.

Buttonwood Bay's most effective hitters were Ted Welch going 4-for-4 and Tom "Moose" Morrissette and Bob Myers with three hits each.

Silent Salesman played the undefeated Royal Palms Bowling Center determined to pull an upset.

Things looked good until the top of the 7th inning as the Salesman held a slim 15-13 lead.

That changed quickly in the bottom of the inning as a 3-run homer gave the Palms all the runs they needed to put the game in the win column, 16-15.

Salesman's Kyle Saunders, Bob Roth and Doran Quigg stroked three singles each and Ken Filppula had a triple with his two hits, which was the losers only extra base hit.

Palms top batters were Dick Schiltz with a double, then a 3-run home run in the 7th inning.

Each having a double were Cal Bready, Charlie Quinn, Bob Iott, Shaun Kilduff, Tom Royal and Tom Milan.

Allstate Insurance held the lead over Highlands Merchants ending 17-10.

Allstate's top hitters with two doubles each were Jerry Kaufman, Don Cunningham, Bill Todd and Rudy Pribble.

Having three hits each were John Penna, Russ Moody and Ross "Spider" McMinn.

Merchants Don Day was credited with a home run, and Dick Ostreck went 4-for-4.

Having two hits each were Bob Fahnestock, Glenn Wearsh, Ross Anderson, Jim Hensley, Harry Bell and Sid Collins.

Thursday was a nice day for catching fly balls as the sun was hidden and just a light breeze.

Highlands Merchants and Silent Salesman battled in what started out an even slugfest.

The score was tied 16-16 after five innings, but at that point the Salesman's bats went comparatively silent and they lost 33-20.

The Salesman's Gary Vanthournout had six hits including a lead-off home run in the first inning.

Doran Quigg banged out a double and a triple.

Kyle Saunders, Fred Moore and Ken Filppula each hit four singles.

Connecting for three hits were Mel Gross and Ken Crandall.

Merchants hitting 6-for-6 were Glenn Wearsh and Ross Anderson.

Bob Fahnestock and Jim Hensley each had a home run.

All having 5-for-6 were Harry Bell, Bob Fox and Don Day.

Allstate Insurance tallied up a score of 28-10 over Buttonwood Bay.

Allstate's lead batters were Eddie Lindberg and Gene Phillips each with a home run.

Rudy Pribble narrowly missed hitting for the cycle and Jerry Kaufman was 5-for-5.

Buttonwood Bay had three with 3-for-4 – Rick Vancuren, Jim Munroe and Tom "Moose" Morrissette.

Millers Heating and Royal Palms Bowling Center had a close ending with Millers on top 14-11.

Victor Rodriquez and Bobby Fulcher slugged out a triple while Harley Smith was 3-for-4 with a double.

Doug Hammond was responsible for four singles.

The Palms Charlie Quinn sent out a double, Bob MacCarrick was 3-for-3 and Shaun Kinduff had two hits.

The day was good for catching fly balls as it was cloudy and just a slight breeze.

The league is always happy to have visitors each Tuesday and Thursday at 10 a.m.

Six teams play on three fields and bleachers are furnished, though you may bring your own lawn chair.

The Complex is located on Sheriff's Tower Road behind the train depot in Sebring.

Test gives good look at 12 Hour field

Continued from 1C

The trio conducted testing and development runs for the Ferrari factory and turned 63 laps in the afternoon – more than any other car in any other session.

As has been the case the last several years in the class, the times were extremely close throughout.

The top six cars were within 0.361 seconds.

Ferraris held the top three spots with Extreme Speed Motorsports' F458 Italia of Scott Sharp and Johannes van Overbeek second at 2:00.598. Krohn Racing's Ferrari – another FIA WEC entry – was third at 2:00.619.

An astounding 10 cars Thursday were under last year's qualifying time for the GT class.

Four manufacturers – Ferrari, Chevrolet, Porsche and BMW – were among the 10.

Dempsey Racing's ORECA FLM09 led LMP Challenge with a lap of 1:53.959 (116.884 mph).

The car of Dane Cameron, Duncan Ende and Ryan Lewis was 0.785 seconds quicker than PR1/Mathiasen Motorsports' ORECA of Rudy Junco and Butch Leitzinger, who was the quickest driver in class Wednesday.

CORE autosport's entry of Jon Bennett and Colin Braun sat third at 1:55.256 (115.569 mph).

Unlike LMP1 and GT, each of the top three fastest times in LMPC came in the Thursday morning session.

In GT Challenge, Green Hornet Racing's Porsche 911 GT3 Cup was quickest for the second day in a row.

The car of Peter LeSaffre and Damien Faulkner set a best time of 2:07.227.

TRG's Porsche of Rui Aguas, Rob Kauffman, Spencer Pumpelly and two-time Daytona 500 winner Michael Waltrip was second in class at 2:09.046 (103.219 mph).

Both of those times were set in the afternoon period.

The American Le Mans Series presented by Tequila Patrón returns to Sebring for the season-opening 60th Anniversary Mobil 1 Twelve Hours of Sebring Fueled by Fresh from Florida on Saturday, March 17.

The race, also the opening round of the FIA World Endurance Championship, is set for 10:30 a.m. ET and will be broadcast March 18 on ABC and shown live on ESPN3 or *ALMS.com*.

Visit *ALMS.com* for information on tickets and area accommodations.

Follow the Series on Twitter (almsnotes), Facebook and our official YouTube channel.

Wade scores 26 as Heat beat Wizards

By JOSEPH WHITE
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Dwyane Wade scored 26 points, putting in more than his share of poetry-in-motion moments during a second-quarter run, and the Miami Heat topped the Washington Wizards 106-89 Friday night.

Wade either scored or got the assist on 20 consecutive Heat points, starting with a drive to the basket that began with a behind-the-back dribble at the free throw line followed by a 360-degree move in the paint and ending with a shot off the glass.

Then came another spin move at the baseline for a basket on the next possession, and a driving layup the next time the Heat had the ball.

Wade and LeBron James combined to score Miami's last 18 points of the first half, including a pair of one-handed throw-down alley-oop Wade-to-James dunks during a 10-0 spurt.

Chris Bosh had 24 points and 11 rebounds, and James finished with 18 points and nine assists for the Heat.

Miami has won six straight and 12 of 13 against the Wizards, and seven in a row in Washington.

JaVale McGee scored a season-high 24 points and had 13 rebounds to lead the Wizards, who remain near the bottom of the NBA.

They are 3-7 since Randy Wittman replaced fired coach Flip Saunders.

Nick Young scored 22 points for Washington, and John Wall had 15 points and tied his season high with 10 assists.

Trevor Booker grabbed a career-high 15 rebounds.

The Wizards stayed within shouting distance until the fourth quarter with some acrobatic plays of their own.

The Heat led 52-42 after a first half that included a combined five alley-oop baskets and a few other misfires.

The comical highlight came late in the half when Booker corralled a loose ball under the basket with no one around, but it slipped out of his hands as he went up for the dunk.

Sebring 60s keep scoreboard busy

Special to the News-Sun

SEBRING – In Sebring 60-and-over Softball League action this week, runs were again in strong supply.

The Red Sox and Cubs combined for 33 runs on Wednesday, Feb. 8, with the crimson hoses tallying one-third of those in the 22-11 win.

Todd Martin and Jim Radcliff each homered for the winners, with Radcliff also adding a triple and two doubles.

Also with big days at the plate for the Red Sox were Bob Paulin, Jesse Hathaway and Bill Todd, with four hits apiece, and Mo Pier and Earl Richardson with three each.

Dick Ostreck was the winning pitcher.

For the Cubs, Kyle Saunders and John Miller had four hits and Gary Tankersley had three.

The run scoring was up even a tad more in the day's other contest, with the White Sox coming out on top of a 19-18, extra-inning nail-biter with the Angels.

Don Dabbert collected five hits for the winners, with Don Cunningham chipping in four and George Lavoie and Craig Sutcliff added three each.

The Angels got five hits from Spider McMinn, three each from Woody Woodward, Russ Moody and Larry Lane, while J.R. Reed had a homer and a double.

And while the runs weren't quite as numerous in the action on Monday, Feb. 6, there were still plenty to go around.

The Cubs topped the Angels 17-10 behind Don Dabbert and Gary Tankersley's four hits each, with Robert Fanstock adding three and John Buja blasting one out of the yard.

J.R. Reed went deep again, and adding a double and single for the Angels.

The battle of the Sox saw a 19-14 edge for the Pale Hose over the Red Stockings.

Roy Trudell and Ed Mgodma had four hits each for the winners, with Don Cunningham adding three.

Jim Radcliffe had four hits for the Red Sox, an Dick Ostreck, Jesse Hathaway and Harold Moucom each had three.

Bucs hire Mike Sullivan as offensive coordinator

Associated Press

TAMPA — New York Giants quarterbacks coach Mike Sullivan is leaving the Super Bowl champions to become the offensive coordinator for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

The Bucs announced Friday night that Sullivan is joining the staff of new coach Greg Schiano.

Sullivan spent the last eight seasons with the Giants. He has coached Super Bowl MVP Eli Manning and the rest of New York's quarterbacks for the past two years.

Prior to becoming quarterbacks coach, Sullivan spent six seasons leading the Giants' wide receivers.

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL ACTION
CASE NO.: 07001067 GCS
Division:
LASALLE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE UNDER THE POOLING AND SERVICING AGREEMENT DATED AS OF MAY 1, 2006 GSAMP TRUST 2006-HE3,
Plaintiff,
Vs.
YOEL R. PEREZ A/K/A YOEL RAFAEL PEREZ; JANY MANEIRO; MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS INCORPORATED, AS NOMINEE FOR THE SPECIALIZED LOAN SERVICING, LLC; AVON PARK LAKES ASSOCIATION TENANT #1 N/K/A MELINA PANTOJA, AND TENANT #2 N/K/A MARCOS PANTOJA
Defendants.

AMENDED RE-NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated January 5, 2012, and entered in Case No. 07001067 GCS, of the Circuit Court of the 10th Judicial Circuit in and for HIGHLANDS County, Florida, LASALLE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE UNDER THE POOLING AND SERVICING AGREEMENT DATED AS OF MAY 1, 2006 GSAMP TRUST 2006-HE3 is Plaintiff and YOEL R. PEREZ A/K/A YOEL RAFAEL PEREZ; JANY MANEIRO; MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS INCORPORATED, AS NOMINEE FOR THE SPECIALIZED LOAN SERVICING, LLC; AVON PARK LAKES ASSOCIATION TENANT #1 N/K/A MELINA PANTOJA, AND TENANT #2 N/K/A MARCOS PANTOJA; are defendants. The Clerk of Court will sell to the highest and best bider for cash at 430 SOUTH COMMERCE AVENUE, SEBRING, FL IN THE JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM, BASEMENT at 11:00 A.M. on THE 22nd day of February, 2012; the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

LOTS 920 AND 921, AVON PARK LAKES UNIT NO. 3, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGE 90, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA. AS DESCRIBED IN MORTGAGE BOOK 1914 PAGE 1983

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

DATED this 30th day of January, 2012.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE
As Clerk of said Court
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
As Deputy of Court
February 5, 12, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
FOR THE 10THJUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE No.: 10-889-GCS
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE REGISTERED HOLDERS OF MASTR ASSET BACKED SECRUITIES TRUST 2007-WMC1 MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES SERIES 2007-WMC1,
Plaintiff,
vs.
CESAR ARTEGA A/K/A CESARA ARTEAGA, RAMONA LATORRE,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE
PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated January 31, 2012, and entered in Case No. 10-889-GCS of the Circuit Court of the 10th Judicial Circuit in and for Highlands County, Florida, wherein U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE REGISTERED HOLDERS OF MASTR ASSET BACKED SECURITIES TRUST 2007-WMC1 MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES SERIES 2007-WMC1, is Plaintiff and CESAR ARTEGA A/K/A CESAR ARTEAGA, RAMONA LATORRE, are Defendants, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in the Jury Assembly Room, Basement 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, FL at 11:00 o'clock A.M. on the 29th day of February, 2012, the following described property as set forth in said Summary Final Judgment, to wit:

LOT 19, BLOCK 180, SUN N LAKES ESTATES, SECTION 17, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 8, PAGE 86, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Located: 462 Blue Moon Avenue, Lake Placid, FL 33852
and all fixtures and personal property located therein or thereon, which are included as security in Plaintiff's mortgage.

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

Dated at Sebring, Highlands County, Florida, this 1st day of February, 2012.

Bob Germaine
Clerk of said Circuit Court
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
As Deputy Clerk
February 12, 19, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL ACTION
CASE NO.: 28-2009-CA-001017
WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR HOLDERS OF BANC OF AMERICA FUNDING CORPORATION MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-5,
Plaintiff,
vs.
JULIE WHITNEY A/K/A JULIE M. WHITNEY, et al,
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Mortgage Foreclosure dated January 31, 2012 and entered in Case No. 28-2009-CA-001017 of the Circuit Court of the TENTH Judicial Circuit in and for HIGHLANDS County, Florida wherein WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR HOLDERS OF BANC OF AMERICA FUNDING CORPORATION MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-5, is the Plaintiff and JULIE WHITNEY A/K/A JULIE M. WHITNEY; CHRISTOPHER C. WHITNEY; SPRING LAKE PROPERTY ASSOCIATION, INC.; SPRING LAKE CLUB, INC.; SATE OF FLORIDA; HIGHLANDS COUNTY CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT; are the Defendants, The Clerk of the Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM IN THE BASEMENT OF THE HIGHLANDS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 430 SOUTH COMMERCE AVENUE at 11:00 AM, on the 29th day of February, 2012, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

LOT 37, BLOCK EE, SPRING LAKE VILLAGE VII, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 11, PAGE 7, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

A/K/A 1012 GREENWAY TERRACE, SEBRING, FL 33876

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale

WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of the Court on February 2, 2012.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE
Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
Deputy Clerk

Florida Default Law Group, P.L.
P.O. Box 25018
Tampa, Florida 33622-5018
F09070969 BANKAMERICA2-CONV--Team 2 - F09070969
**See Americans with Disabilities Act
In accordance with the Americans Disabilities Act, persons with disabilities needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the individual or agency sending the notice at Echevarria & Associates, P.A., P.O. Box 25018, Tampa, FL 33622-5018, telephone (813) 251-4766, not later than seven (7) days prior to the proceeding. If hearing impaired, (TDD) 1-800-955-8771, or voice (V) 1-800-955-8770, via Florida Relay Service.

February 12, 19, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. GC-11-170
MARK E. GOSE,
Plaintiff
Vs
AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT, INC.
a Florida corporation, and JERE D. CREED,
Defendants

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: Jere Creed
1755 SE 7th Street
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for a receivership and an audit and to dissolve a corporation has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on THOMAS L. NUNNALLEE, of BREED & NUNNALLEE, P.A., Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 325 North Commerce Avenue, Sebring, FL 33870, on or before March 12, 2012, and 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 this 31st day of January, 2012.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE
As Clerk of the Court
By: /s/ Toni Kopp
Deputy Clerk
(SEAL)

February 5, 12, 2012

Spring Lake Improvement District
Notice of Intent to Apply
For Federal Assistance

Spring Lake Improvement District is complying with the requirements of 7CFR 1780.19(a) by publishing this Notice of Intent to Apply for a loan/grant from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Rural Utilities Service. This project will consist of implementation of an updated Storm Water Management Plan, in conformance with the requirements of the South Florida Water Management District. The project will include excavation of lakes and canals, construction of water management areas for improving water quality and overall storm water improvements.

Any written questions or comments may be directed to:
Mr. Joe DeCerbo, District Manager
Spring Lake Improvement District
115 Spring Lake Blvd.
Sebring Florida 33876-6143
@ (863) 655-1715

February 5, 8, 12, 15, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL ACTION
CASE NO.: 28-2009-CA-001518
SUNTRUST BANK, N.A.,
Plaintiff,
vs.
JOSE A. SINTAS, et al,
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Mortgage Foreclosure dated January 31, 2012 and entered in Case No. 28-2009-CA-001518 of the Circuit Court of the TENTH Judicial Circuit in and for HIGHLANDS County, Florida wherein SUNTRUST BANK, is the Plaintiff and JOSE A. SINTAS; THE UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF JOSE A. SINTAS; MAYTE Y. SANTANA; THE UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF MAYTE Y. SANTANA; 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 SPOUSE, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; SYLVAN SHORES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.; are the Defendants, The Clerk of the Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM IN THE BASEMENT OF THE HIGHLANDS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 430 SOUTH COMMERCE AVENUE at 11:00 AM, on the 29th day of February, 2012, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

LOT 556, SYLVAN SHORES ESTATES SECTION D, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE 13, PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

A/K/A 1602 PINETOP TERRACE, LAKE PLACID, FL 33852

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale

WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of the Court on February 2, 2012.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE
Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
Deputy Clerk

Florida Default Law Group, P.L.
P.O. Box 25018
Tampa, Florida 33622-5018
F09101201 SUNTRUST-CONV-Team 4-F09101201
**See Americans with Disabilities Act
In accordance with the Americans Disabilities Act, persons with disabilities needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the individual or agency sending the notice at Echevarria & Associates, P.A., P.O. Box 25018, Tampa, FL 33622-5018, telephone (813) 251-4766, not later than seven (7) days prior to the proceeding. If hearing impaired, (TDD) 1-800-955-8771, or voice (V) 1-800-955-8770, via Florida Relay Service.

February 12, 19, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE 10TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL DIVISION
CASE NO.: 282009CA001136A0OOXX
WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE, FOR HOLDERS OF BANC OF AMERICA FUNDING CORPORATION MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-5,
Plaintiff,
vs.
JULIE M. WHITNEY; CHRISTOPHER C. WHITNEY; UNKNOWN TENANT(S); IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Final Judgment of Foreclosure Sale dated the 19th day of December, 2011, and entered in Case No. 282009CA001136A0OOXX, of the Circuit Court of the 10TH Judicial Circuit in and for Highlands County, Florida, wherein WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE, FOR HOLDERS OF BANC OF AMERICA FUNDING CORPORATION MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-5, is the Plaintiff and JULIE M. WHITNEY; CHRISTOPHER C. WHITNEY; UNKNOWN TENANT(S); IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, are defendants. The Clerk of this Court shall sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the HIGHLANDS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 430 SOUTH COMMERCE AVENUE, SEBRING, FL 33870 at the Highlands County Courthouse in Sebring, Florida, at 11:00 a.m. on the 22nd day of February, 2012, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

LOT 36, BLOCK EE, SPRING LAKE VILLAGE VII, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 11, PAGE 7, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

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

Dated this 31st day of January, 2012.

Robert W. Germaine
Clerk Of The Circuit Court
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
Deputy Clerk
February 5, 12, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL ACTION
CASE NO.: 11-535GCS
PHH MORTGAGE CORPORATION,
Plaintiff,
vs.
VICTOR HERNANDEZ RIVERA A/K/A VICTOR HERNANDEZ, et al,
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Mortgage Foreclosure dated January 31, 2012 and entered in Case No. 11-535GCS of the Circuit Court of the TENTH Judicial Circuit in and for HIGHLANDS County, Florida wherein PHH MORTGAGE CORPORATION is the Plaintiff and VICTOR HERNANDEZ RIVERA A/K/A VICTOR HERNANDEZ; MILAGROS COLON A/K/A MILAGROS COLON COLON; TENANT #1 N/K/A CARLOS MARTINEZ RODRIGUEZ are the Defendants, The Clerk of the Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM IN THE BASEMENT OF THE HIGHLANDS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 430 SOUTH COMMERCE AVENUE at 11:00 AM, on the 29th day of February, 2012, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

UNIT 1-E, THE MANORS II; COMMENCE AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF BLOCK A, W.F. JOHNSONS FIRST ADDITION TO THE CITY OF AVON PARK, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 23, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA; THENCE RUN NORTH 89 DEGREES 55 MINUTES 25 SECONDS WEST ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF BLOCK A FOR A DISTANCE OF 494.50 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE NORTH 89 DEGREES 55 MINUTES 25 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 67.47 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 2 DEGREES 08 MINUTES 17 SECONDS WEST ALONG THE WESTERLY LINE OF BLOCK A FOR A DISTANCE OF 133.76 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTH 89 DEGREES 55 MINUTES 25 SECONDS EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 72.92 FEET; THENCE RUN NORTH 0 DEGREES 11 MINUTES 43 SECONDS WEST FOR A DISTANCE OF 133.68 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

A/K/A 33 W RAYMOND STREET, AVON PARK, FL 33825

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale

WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of the Court on February 2, 2012.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE
Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
Deputy Clerk

Florida Default Law Group, P.L.
P.O. Box 25018
Tampa, Florida 33622-5018
F11016251 CENDANT-SPECFNMA-R-UNAS-SIGNED-Team 4-F11016251
**See Americans with Disabilities Act
In accordance with the Americans Disabilities Act, persons with disabilities needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the individual or agency sending the notice at Echevarria & Associates, P.A., P.O. Box 25018, Tampa, FL 33622-5018, telephone (813) 251-4766, not later than seven (7) days prior to the proceeding. If hearing impaired, (TDD) 1-800-955-8771, or voice (V) 1-800-955-8770, via Florida Relay Service.

February 12, 19, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL DIVISION
Case No.: 10-000621-GCS
SEACOAST NATIONAL BANK,
Plaintiff,
vs.
JOSHUA DIEDRICH and
ANGELA DAWN FAULKNER,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to the "Final Summary Judgment entered in the above-styled action, the property described below will be sold by the Clerk of this Court at a Public Sale, at 11:00 a.m. on February 22, 2012, to the highest bidder, for cash, at 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida 33870-3867:

Lot 11, Block 10, of Highland Park Estates, Section H, according to the Plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 5, Page 24, of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida

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

BOB GERMAINE
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Highlands County, Florida
/s/ Toni Kopp
Deputy Clerk
February 5, 12, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE 10TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA,
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
Case #: GC 11-623
CARLA RENEE BENNETT, Personal Representative
ESTATE OF DAVID L. MARSH, Deceased
Plaintiff(s),
vs.
MICHAEL MOOTOOSAMMY, a/k/a.
Khevendranauth Mootoosammy, and
RAMKARAN MOOTOOSAMMY,
Defendant(s)

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to a final decree of foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause in the Circuit Court of Highlands County, Florida, I will sell the property situate in Highlands County, Florida, described as:

Lot 14 and Lot 16, of SMITH-McGINNIS COS. RESUBDIVISION of Lots 2 to 5 inclusive, Block 25, Avon Park, Florida according to the plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 1, Page 40, of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida.

Lot 7 of a subdivision of Lot 8, 9 and 10, Block 21, Section 22, Township 33 South, Range 28 East, Town of Avon Park according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 1, Page 3, Public Records of Highlands County, Florida.

at public sale, to the highest and best bidder for cash, at the Jury Assembly Room, Basement, 430 South Commerce Ave., Highlands County Courthouse, Sebring, Florida, at 11:00 a.m. on the 7th day of March, A.D. 2012.

WITNESS my hand and official seal of this Honorable Court, this 8th day of February, A.D. 2012.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE
As Clerk of said Circuit Court
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
Deputy Clerk
February 12, 19, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 282011CA000017XXXXXX
GREEN TREE SERVICING LLC,
Plaintiff,
vs
DENYELLE A. DIBBLE, et al.,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE
PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant an Order or Summary Final Judgment of foreclosure dated January 31, 2012, entered in Case No. 282011CA000017XXXXXX of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for Highlands County, Florida, wherein GREEN TREE SERVICING LLC, is the Plaintiff and DENYELLE A. DIBBLE; SUNTRUST BANK; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 1; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 2; and ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING INTERESTS BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST A NAMED DEFENDANT TO THIS ACTION, OR HAVING OR CLAIMING TO HAVE ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED, are Defendants, I will sell, pursuant to Chapter 45, Florida Statutes, to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Highlands County Courthouse, 430 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, FL 33870, on the 29th day of February, 2012, at 11:00 am, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

LOT 5, BLOCK 10, ORANGE BLOSSOM ESTATES UNIT NO. 8, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGE 18, PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

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

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, persons needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the Clerk of the Court not later than five business days prior to the proceeding at the Highlands County Courthouse. Telephone 863-386-6565 or 1-800-955-8770 via Florida Relay Service.

DATED at Sebring, Florida, on February 1, 2012.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE
As Clerk, Circuit Court
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
AS DEPUTY CLERK
February 12, 19, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 28-2010-CA-000513
SEC.: Civil
U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,
AS TRUSTEE, ON BEHALF OF THE
HOLDERS OF THE CREDIT SUISSE FIRST BOSTON MORTGAGE SECURITIES
CORP., HOME EQUITY PASS THROUGH
CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-1
Plaintiff,
v.
RONALD F. KELLY A/K/A RONALD KELLY; KEISHA SMITH; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.; SEAN W. FIELDER; DAWN FIELDER; AND FINANCIAL INDEPENDENCE SERVICES, CO
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order of Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure dated January 31, 2012, entered in Civil Case No. 28-2010-CA-000513 of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for Highlands County, Florida, wherein the Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest bidder for cash on 7th day of March, 2012, at 11:00 a.m. in the Jury Assembly Room, Courthouse Basement, 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida 33870, relative to the following described property as set forth in the Final Judgment, to wit:

THE SOUTHERLY 1/2 OF LOT 6, ALL OF LOT 5, AND ALL OF LOT 4, LESS AND EXCEPT THE SOUTHERLY 15 FEET THEREOF, LYING IN BLOCK 270, LAKE SEBRING SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, AT PAGE 16, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCE WHERE THE COMMON LINE OF LOTS 3 AND 4 INTERSECTS CLEVELAND ROAD; THENCE RUN NORTHWESTERLY ALONG CLEVELAND ROAD A DISTANCE OF 15 FEET FOR POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE RUN NORTHEASTERLY AND PARALLEL TO THE COMMON LINE OF LOTS 3 AND 4
TO THE REAR LOT LINE OF LOT 4; THENCE RUN NORTHWESTERLY ALONG THE REAR OF LOTS 4, 5 AND 6 A DISTANCE OF 130.50 FEET; THENCE RUN SOUTHWESTERLY ALONG THE CENTER LINE OF LOT 6 TO POINT ON CLEVELAND ROAD; THENCE RUN SOUTHEASTERLY ALONG CLEVELAND ROAD A DISTANCE OF 110 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING

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

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact:
Office of the Court Administrator Phone:
(863) 534-4686
TDD: (863) 534-7777
or (800) 955-8770 (Florida Relay Service), as much in advance of your court appearance or visit to the courthouse as possible. Please be prepared to explain your functional limitations and suggest an auxiliary aid of service that you believe will enable you to effectively participate in the court program or service.

DATED AT SEBRING, FLORIDA THIS 1ST DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2012.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE, CLERK
Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
DEPUTY CLERK
HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
February 12, 19, 2012

PUBLIC NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION
BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Notice is hereby given that on the 7th day of February, 2012, in accordance with Sections 336.09 and 336.10 of the Florida Statutes, the Board of County Commissioners of Highlands County, Florida, adopted a resolution vacating, abandoning, discontinuing and closing a road (Alley) described as follows:

That portion of the 20.00 feet alley lying between the prolongation of the east boundary line of lot 13 and the prolongation of the west boundary line of lot 14, block 198, according to the plat thereof, as recorded in Placid Lakes Industrial Park, Plat Book 8, Page 63, of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida.

Renouncing and disclaiming any rights of the County and public in and to same.Dated this 12th day of February, 2012.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CHAIRMAN
ATTEST: Robert W. Germaine, Clerk
February 12, 2012

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 282010CA001097XXXXXX

BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.,
Plaintiff,
vs
JHON J. COSTANO A/K/A JHON J. CASTANO; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 1; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 2; and ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING INTERESTS BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST A NAMED DEFENDANT TO THIS ACTION, OR HAVING OR CLAIMING TO HAVE ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE
PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant an Order or Summary Final Judgment of foreclosure dated January 31, 2012, entered in Case No. 282010CA001097XXXXXX of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for Highlands County, Florida, wherein BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., is the Plaintiff and JHON J. COSTANO A/K/A JHON J. CASTANO; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 1; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 2; and ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING INTERESTS BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST A NAMED DEFENDANT TO THIS ACTION, OR HAVING OR CLAIMING TO HAVE ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED, are Defendants, I will sell, pursuant to Chapter 45, Florida Statutes, to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Highlands County Courthouse, 430 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, FL 33870, on the 29th day of February, 2012, at 11:00 am, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

LOT 18, BLOCK 64, SUN 'N LAKES ESTATES SECTION 2, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 8, PAGE(S) 28, PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

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

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, persons needing special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the Clerk of the Court not later than five business days prior to the proceeding at the Highlands County Courthouse. Telephone 863-386-6565 or 1-800-955-8770 via Florida Relay Service.

DATED at Sebring, Florida, on February 1, 2012.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE
As Clerk, Circuit Court
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
AS DEPUTY CLERK
February 12, 19, 2012

1100 Announcements

CHECK YOUR AD

Please check your ad on the first day it runs to make sure 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:

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CHURCH SECRETARY P/T needed. Absolutely must have experience in Microsoft Publisher and Microsoft Word. Call 863-453-6681

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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.

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, must have Truck/Van & basic tools, will train. Send resume to floridatotalcom@verizon.net

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

STANLEY STEEMER
now accepting applications for
CLEANING TECHNICIAN.
Good Driving Record, People Person.
863-655-2158 for instructions.

2100 Help Wanted

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

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

4080 Homes for Sale Sebring

WHY RENT WHEN YOU CAN OWN for $55,000. 2/1 Near Lake Jackson. Nice, quiet area. 1622 total sq. ft. w/shade trees & carport. 1520 Hotiyee St. Sebring or Call Ed Goodyear @ 863-446-0957 Compton Realty Inc.

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

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. 863-285-6503

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:
Kosher 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/hide a bed, carport 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
Red Tag Sale
Over 10 Stock Units Must Go
Save Up To 35K!
800-622-2832

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

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

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

Classified ads get fast results

6200 Unfurnished Apartments

AVON PARK - SHADY OAKS APTS
1 & 2 BR , Fully renovated units, W/D hookups. Laundry service available. Senior Discount. 863-257-0017

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

SEB. - LG. 1/1, MOVE IN FREE 1/2 MO.
1 apt. tile floors, A/C, free cable.
1 apt. dishwasher incl., all util.
Quiet, safe, no dogs, no last mo.
863-385-1999

6300 Unfurnished Houses

AVON PARK - 2BR, 1 1/2Ba, Single Family , Applian., 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!
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY
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.

AVON PARK
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!
DON'T DELAY APPLY TODAY!
NO APPLICATION FEE!
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY
CALL: TTY 800-955-8771 863-452-4432

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. PAPERWORK. 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 Cell 863-381-1298

7000 Merchandise

7180 Furniture

NEW STEARNS & FOSTER MATTRESS SETS
All queen $995* all King $1295
Compare to any mattress gallery
Lamps $19, Barstools $39up,
Desks $297up,
Recliners $247up
OVER 50 STYLES
Ent. Centers $167up
Double Reclining Sofa $587
HIGHPOINT FURNITURE
2346 U.S. 27 N, SEBRING
We are located across from The Home Depot

7260 Musical Merchandise

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

7300 Miscellaneous

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 Valuelite 3 Horse Slant Load Bumperpull w/ Ramp. $6500 obo. Great condition! ** Must See ** 863-655-1990 or 561-346-5696

SONY 60" Vega 1080DPI HDTV $400 (w/ free 24" older TV). / 3pc. cream color Rattan Set, (1) Loveseat & (2) Chairs, removable pastel color cushions $400. 863-471-6298

7310 Bargain Buys

ANTIQUE - Grain Grinder.Very Good Condition. Red wth Wood handle. $20. 863-402-2285

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

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

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.

UP RIGHT Vacuum / reconditioned / runs great / guaranteed 30 days. $20. 863-402-2285

WOODEN DESK Antique, ideal for home office. Good Cond. $75 Call 863-253-1564

7320 Garage & Yard Sales

ANNUAL COMMUNITY SALE!!
"ESTATES OF SEBRING PARK"
Multi-Family Sale! Fri-Sat, Feb 17th & 18th, 8am-4pm. Furniture, Household, Tools, Fishing, Crafts, & MUCH MORE!! Go East on Hwy 98 from US 27, approx. 9 miles.

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

7340 Wanted to Buy

CASH
** I BUY COINS & SILVER! **
Free Estimates /No Obligation.
Call 412-996-4153

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 Bimini top / New Minn Kota Edge 55 lb trolling motor. $6995 obo. 863-655-1990 or 561-346-5696

8200 Bikes & Cycle Equipment

RECUMBENT BICYCLES
(1) Rans V2 and (1) Rans Vrex. $800 each. Used but not abused, Very Well Maintained. Call Paul 863-452-0678

8400 Recreational Vehicles

ROAD KING 2012 40'. Double slide outs, 2bdrm/den, washer, dryer, dual A/C, dishwasher, microwave. Loaded! Pet free/Smoke free. $27,900. Call 630-631-1795

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.

8450 Motor Homes

FOR SALE Falcon II tow bar with accessories. Roadmaster Guardian shield. Gen-turi generator exhaust system. Whispering Pines. 270-556-6847.

9000 Transportation

9100 Motorcycles & ATVs

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

9450 Automotive for Sale

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

LINCOLN TOWNCAR 2007. Mint cond. 48K mi. $19,500 firm. Call 863-314-8642

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.

Contact Us...

By Phone
(863) 385-6155

By Mail
2227 US Hwy 27S
Sebring, FL 33870

By E-Mail
www.newssun.com/contact/

www.newssun.com
NEWS-SUN
Highlands County's Hometown Newspaper Since 1927

The 75th Annual Highlands County FAIR

FEBRUARY 10th - 18th

Featuring REITHOFFER SHOWS

WITH PERFORMANCES BY:

Mark Yuzuik Master Hypnotist

Avon Park & Sebring High School Choirs

Heartland Idol! at the fair!

Cooking Contest! on Wednesday!

Grizzly Expo & Chainsaw Carving!

JJ McCoy

*All entertainment is free except the Josh Thompson concert.

& MUCH MORE!

EXCITING & ENTERTAINING MIDWAY

WEEKDAYS 5-11 PM • THURSDAY & FRIDAY 5-MIDNIGHT • SATURDAY 1-MIDNIGHT • SUNDAY 1-9 PM

GENERAL ADMISSION $6.00
CHILDREN 10 & UNDER FREE
ARM BAND RIDE TO CLOSING $20.00

Community Re-development Agency

AXA

News-Sun — Highlands County's Hometown Newspaper Since 1927

Highlands Independent Bank

Agero — Safe. Smart. Driven.

106.9 The Bull

Florida Hospital Heartland Medical Center

Highlands Regional Medical Center

Lilly, O'Toole & Brown LLP

Progress Energy

Alan Jay Automotive Network

Coca-Cola

Cohan Radio Group

Highlands Today — Your Community, Your Daily Newspaper

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

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

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

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

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
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

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 Budwesier
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.

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 Budwesier
6pm, 8pm	Exhibit Stage	The Grizzly Experience
6pm, 8pm	Expo Stage	The Florida Bluegrass Express
6:30pm	Livestock Pavilion	Jr. Livestock Auction

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 Budwesier
7pm, 9pm	Stage	Master Hypnotist Show
6pm, 8pm	Expo Stage	Groovus
6pm, 8pm	Exhibit Stage	The Grizzly Experience

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 Budwesier
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

Love is all around

Celebrate the year's sweetest holiday with homemade cards, crafts and treats guaranteed to win the hearts of family and friends

From Disney FamilyFun magazine

FROSTY GREETING

Celebrate a warm friendship with these clever ice-pop minis made from drinking straws and uncooked pasta. Cut short lengths from the straws and attach them in pairs to a piece of card stock (we used Crafter's Pick The Ultimate glue). Adhere small segments of spaghetti for the sticks, then add the message and some heart cutouts or stickers. Use decorative scissors to give the card a pretty edge, and glue it to a folded sheet of card stock.

THE DOILY SHOW

With a snip here and a snip there, paper doilies become cute creatures. Arrange pieces on a rectangle of colorful card stock. Glue the shapes down, then add googly eyes and other details with markers or bits of paper. With more glue, adhere the artwork to a folded sheet of card stock.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF DISNEY FAMILYFUN MAGAZINE

HEARTSTRING

Transform cardboard tubes into love tokens, then display them as a mantel garland or door decoration.

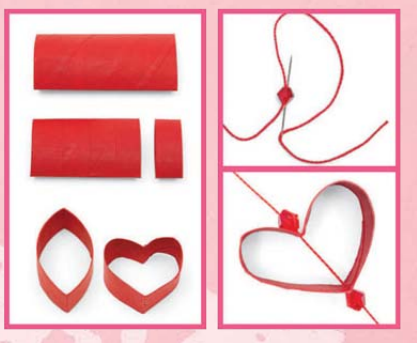
YOU WILL NEED:
- ♥ Cardboard tube
- ♥ Paintbrush and red paint
- ♥ Pushpin
- ♥ Needle
- ♥ Embroidery thread
- ♥ Beads (with holes large enough for the needle to pass through)

DIRECTIONS:

1. Cut the tube in half and brush the halves inside and out with red paint. Let them dry.

2. Flatten the tubes and cut them into one-inch segments. To make the heart shape, push one creased side toward the center. Pierce holes in the top and bottom with a pushpin.

3. Thread the needle and knot the end. Slide on a bead until it stops at the knotted end, then loop back and push the needle through the bead again, going from bottom to top. Thread on a heart, then add a bead just above it, using the same looping technique to secure it in place. Repeat to create a string of hearts and beads.



GO FOR GOLD

Everyone's a winner with these super-easy gold medals. To make one, sandwich two lengths of ribbon between two gold stickers (we used Avery Notarial Labels). Cut an angled notch in each ribbon's tail. Write a message on the medal's front with permanent marker and use a glue dot to affix a foil-wrapped chocolate to the back.

MORE MESSAGES:
- ♥ You take the prize
- ♥ To a first-place friend
- ♥ You've won my heart

ON-A-ROLL

To put a fun spin on your V-day wishes, cut a rectangle of colorful wrapping paper sized to wrap a few times around a roll of candy. Print your message on the paper's blank side (adding stickers if you like), then tape one end to the candy packaging. Roll the paper around the treat and secure it with a sticker.

MORE MESSAGES:
- ♥ See you around!
- ♥ Let's rock and roll!
- ♥ You're a lifesaver (with Life Savers candy)

HEART TARTS

Calling all sweetie pies! This homemade take on toaster pastries (shown at top) makes a lip-smacking valentine snack. To serve it as a classroom treat, simply multiply the recipe as needed.

INGREDIENTS:

For the tarts
- ♥ Prepared piecrust
- ♥ Jar of strawberry jam
- ♥ 1 egg whisked with 1 teaspoon water

For the frosting and decorations
- ♥ 2 1/2 cups powdered sugar, sifted
- ♥ 1 tablespoon water
- ♥ 1 tablespoon softened butter
- ♥ 2 tablespoons light corn syrup
- ♥ Red food coloring
- ♥ Nonpareils or colored sugar

DIRECTIONS:

1. Heat the oven to 400 degrees and cover a cookie sheet with parchment paper.

2. On a floured surface, roll out the piecrust to a 1/8-inch thickness. Use a large heart-shaped cookie cutter (ours measures 4 inches wide) to make pairs of hearts, gathering the scraps and rerolling the dough as necessary.

3. For each tart, spread 2 teaspoons of strawberry jam on a heart, leaving a 1/2-inch margin on all sides. Brush the egg mixture around the edge before placing a second heart on top. Use the tines of a fork to seal the edges, then brush the tops with the egg mixture.

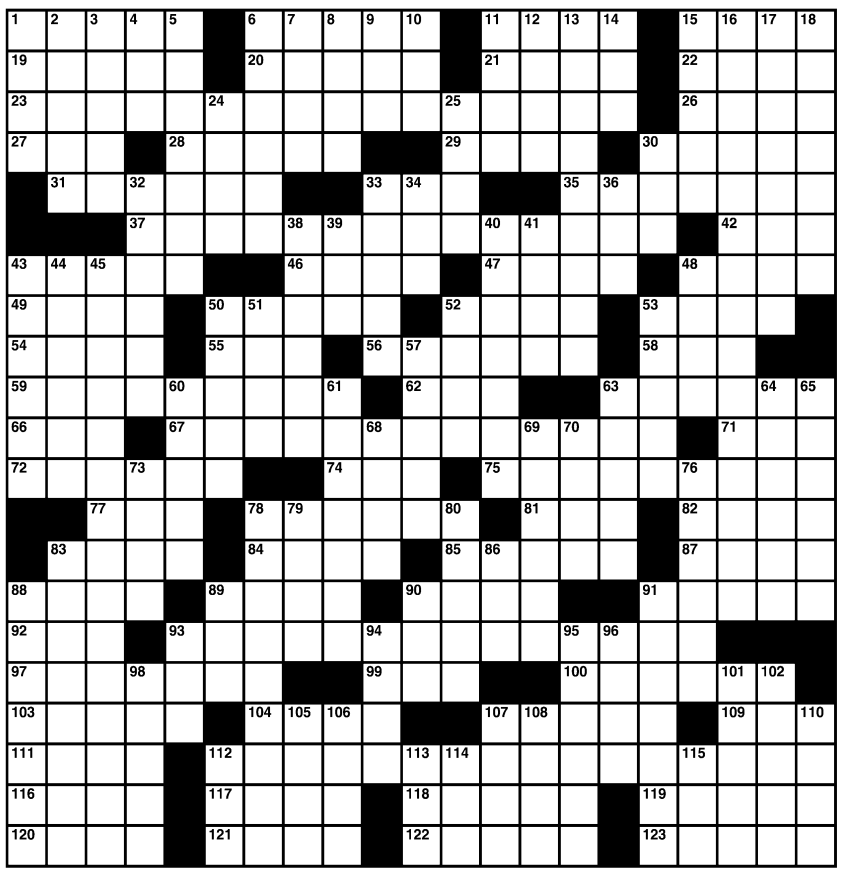
4. Bake the hearts on the prepared cookie sheet until their edges are just beginning to brown, about 15 minutes. Let them rest on the sheet a few minutes, then move them to a rack and let them cool completely.

5. Whisk the first four frosting ingredients in a medium bowl, adding more water a teaspoon at a time if needed to make a smooth, creamy frosting. Add a few drops of food coloring and mix until well blended. Spoon the frosting into a Ziplock bag, snip off a corner, and squeeze it onto the tarts. Top them with nonpareils or colored sugar.

DIVERSIONS

KINDA, SORTA

By BONNIE L. GENTRY



Solution on page 5D

ACROSS
1 Involuntary jerk
6 Put into words
11 Amazon.com ID
15 Educational TV spots, perhaps
19 Fail to recycle
20 Unappealing music
21 Politician's pursuit
22 World-weary words
23 "Listen up, Madrid!"?
26 You might draw one on a target
27 Forest sticker
28 Banjo parts
29 Corner-office occupant
30 Last Olds
31 Capable of spontaneous movement, as cells
33 Washington figure
35 "Let yourself in!"
37 "... and that's why I ate all of your favorite cookies," e.g.?
42 "Give __ rest!"
43 Arranges logically
46 Dirt clump
47 Dairy case choice
48 Concordes, familiarly
49 Bleachers level
50 Cinema name
52 Give the boot to
53 NYC gallery district
54 Certain alphabet opener
55 Whither Cain fled
56 A whole lot
58 "I don't get it"
59 Decide with money
62 Murmur
63 At a minimum
66 Five-spot
67 Put Armor All on tires?
71 Color TV pioneer
72 More-than-one-hit Wonder
74 Maestro's gift
75 Fair-haired
77 Cacophony
78 Put one's feet up
81 Carefree, in Calais
82 Rip asunder
83 Dirty Harry's org.
84 Mount rising above the Vale of Tempe
85 Sailing hailings
87 Native Canadian
88 Toon collectibles
89 Castaway's confines
90 Vocal style that mimics an instrumental solo
91 Had office hours
92 Metal in Montana's motto
93 Hold a surprise party for Scorsese?
97 Topiarist's tools
99 Grant-providing org.
100 Over-embellished
103 D.A.'s research aides
104 Take the show on the road
107 Dork
109 Travelers' options: Abbr.
111 Elevator innovator
112 "My stocks are going down! My stocks are going down!"?
116 "__ we forget ..."
117 "High Hopes" lyricist
118 Lingering look
119 Make the grade
120 Pasty-faced
121 Green-egg layers
122 Autumn bloom
123 Carpet layers work on them

DOWN
1 Forensic evidence collector
2 Ryan's daughter
3 Former Colt .45
4 Directions detail: Abbr.
5 Court shoes, casually
6 Org. with "Trick-or-Treat" donation boxes
7 Appropriated
8 Altoids containers
9 Versatile Scrabble tile
10 Agent
11 "There __ 'I' in 'team'"
12 Tres y tres
13 Baby baskets
14 Unknown power
15 Poet Neruda with a Nobel Prize
16 Embarrassed flock managers?
17 Almond-flavored liqueur
18 Kia minivans
24 Don't hold in
25 Good at one's job
30 Enzyme suffix
32 Feature of some Mary Janes
33 LP player
34 Like an extra sock
36 Qing Dynasty general of culinary fame
38 Stranded at O'Hare, perhaps
39 __-mo replay
40 Exceed an infraction limit, in basketball
41 Ultimatum ending
43 Provides personnel for
44 Like some retro lamps
45 Display that's both tasteful and ostentatious?
48 R&B-influenced genre
50 How actors should appear
51 It's opened and shut
52 Dumpster emanation
53 Sandcastle spot
57 Fall colour
60 In __: up the creek
61 Ratings giver
63 Classic pops
64 When, in Act II, Macbeth soliloquizes, "Is this a dagger ..."
65 Turn blue?
68 Room at the hacienda
69 Colombian capital
70 Bronx-Manhattan st.
73 Limo riders, often
76 Mysterious matters
78 Faded in the stretch
79 Peace Prize city
80 Vladimir's villa
83 Notches
86 Not-so-subtle performer
88 "Lost in Translation" director Sofia
89 Syr. neighbor
90 San Diego-to-Tijuana dir.
91 Recoup at the casino
93 DDE rival
94 Calvary letters
95 Ebert's cohort
96 Charlie Brown's kite eater
98 Far from friendly
101 Said too often
102 "Rubber Duckie" Muppet
105 Hanauma Bay site
106 Caterer's carriers
107 "Curses!"
108 "If wishes __ horses ..."
110 Capt. saluters
112 Abbr. in old dates
113 Issuer of nine-digit nos.
114 Cleveland__, OH
115 Winery vessel

Captured by wonder

Pause And Consider

Jan Merop

The woods looked stark. All the green, gold, scarlet and tangerine colors had left the trees leaving them sticks of wood reaching up and out. Not the prettiest of sites.

However, when the snow came and covered them in the beauty of a white blanket, all that was ugly was hidden. In fact, it got so cold that night when we lived in the mountains of New Jersey that the snow became ice covered.

A short walk down the road from our home led us to a site we won't soon forget. All those once ugly limbs that spoke of dormancy and death were not only pure white; but, also, glistening like crystal with a beauty no one could deny.

And even though we knew it wouldn't last, we were captured by the wonder of God's creation and his majestic artistry for the moments we were given.

However, sin in all its ugliness usually resembles beauty; but is really more like the bitter cold of a wintry-like icy grip. It's a counterfeit of the wondrous beauty we are meant to enjoy. And that outward beauty of sin often captures our attention because the ugliness is hidden.

Maybe loud music and bright lights draw us in. The boisterous party or risky endeavors that promise a thrill – no matter how short lived – are enticing. We don't want to consider the shallowness of the attraction.

One way to avoid being taken by hidden ugliness is to be captured instead by wonder.

One of Jesus' names is Wonderful. That means he is full of wonder. When he drapes the dormant tree limbs in white and crystallizes them, he will not disappoint us. Even when it melts there is the promise of spring. We know it is coming. Hope is in the air.

When Satan sugar coats the ugliness of sin, hopelessness awaits.

Temptation can either pull us in or be seen as an opportunity to choose the right way.

The Bible helps us to see sin for what it really is. It is ugly. The sheen wears away quickly. But, when temptation comes, God promises in 1 Corinthians 10:13, "No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful…will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it."

Be captured by the wonder of God and then sin's ugliness will be apparent even when deceptively clothed in beauty. Selah

Jan Merop of Sebring is a News-Sun correspondent. All guest columns are the opinion of the writer, not necessarily those of the News-Sun staff.

Spending spree about to come to an end, Aquarius

Metro Services

Aries (March 21-April 20) — It's best not to make any trouble this week, Aries. Simply fly under the radar, and others may not know you are around, which can work to your advantage.

Taurus (April 21-May 21) — Taurus, you might want to keep a few things close to the vest, but sharing with others might help as well. Consider both angles and make the best decision for you.

Gemini (May 22-June 21) — Hiding emotions will be difficult this week, Gemini. Your emotions will be written right on your face when you interact with others, but that's OK because you're in a good mood.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) — Cancer, teamwork is the name of the game at the office this week. Work with coworkers and respect their ideas and insights and everything will go swimmingly.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 23) — Focus your attention on matters at home, Leo, which should take precedence in the coming weeks. Use this opportunity for a little early spring cleaning.

Virgo (Aug. 24-Sept. 22) — Virgo, fun might have to be put on the back burner this week. While it's healthy to enjoy yourself, it's now time to get back to business. Step up your game at work.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Libra, it is almost crunch time for you, and you'll have to buckle down for the next few weeks to get everything completed. Don't leave things until the last minute.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Scorpio, a change of pace will prove refreshing this week. Instead of sticking to your normal schedule, do things out of the ordinary for some excitement.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Emphasize spending quality time with family this week, Sagitarrius. Tackle a few home-related tasks or simply hang around the house for some good times.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20) — Capricorn, finances may be tight for a while, but it's nothing you haven't seen before. You may need to buckle down a little while longer until the accounts fill up.

Aquarius (Jan. 21-Feb. 18) — Aquarius, a spending spree is about to end. While it was enjoyable while it lasted, it's now time to replenish the coffers and go easy on the shopping.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) — Pisces, there are certain health remedies that you can try to improve your levels of energy. Stick with the regimen.

Notable birthdays

Feb. 12: Christina Ricci, Actress (32); Feb. 13: Stockard Channing, Actress (68); Feb. 14: Teller, Magician (64); Feb. 15: Amber Riley, Actress (26); Feb. 16: Ice-T, Actor/Rapper (54); Feb. 17: Jerry O'Connell, Actor (38); Feb. 18: Molly Ringwald, Actress (44).

Chatty boss's interruptions prevent work from being done

Dear Abby

Dear Abby: My boss, "Ms. M.," knows her stuff. She's supportive, flexible and communicates well about what's happening within the organization. However, she spends most of her time in my cubicle. She'll start out in her office and, 15 minutes later, slide into my cubicle to show me her kids' latest photos or insist my colleagues and I watch YouTube videos of her favorite entertainers.

This happens continually throughout the day. I have to work from home in the evenings to get anything done. I have actually used vacation time so I could finish a project without Ms. M.'s constant interruptions. I thought it was just me until I got sick last year and was out for several days. I got "hate" email from my colleagues because the boss was spending all her time in their cubicles!

Meanwhile, contracts don't get finalized, deadlines are missed, phone calls go unanswered and complaints pile up. When she gets heat from higher-ups, she'll work on the weekend to make things right.

Then on Monday morning she'll call a staff meeting that lasts over an hour, and we must listen to her sour complaints and more YouTube videos from the weekend. It's maddening.

Ms. M. is like a female Nero fiddling while the department burns. I want to do my job during working hours. Any suggestions?

– *Treading Water in Ohio*

Dear Treading Water: I do have one. Because there is safety in numbers, everyone in the department who is affected by this problem should discuss it as a group with Ms. M's supervisor or boss. It appears Ms. M. is confusing her working relationships with those that are personal.

Dear Abby: Five years ago, while substitute teaching, I met a man who was also a substitute teacher. We would often have lunch together in the school cafeteria. "Lou" told me he had been living with a woman, "Meg," for 12 years, but that she had begun developing Alzheimer's disease. Her sons planned on moving them into an assisted living facility.

Several months ago, Lou called and asked to take me to lunch. At lunch he said he is still living with Meg, but plans to move into a place of his own soon. He said he'd like to start seeing me on a regular basis. He gave me his home phone number, but said that if Meg answers, I should tell her it's the school calling him about a job.

I told him I'm not interested in seeing him until he is actually living on his own, but he keeps calling to get me to change my mind. My children and my friends tell me it would not be wrong to start seeing Lou because he's no longer actively involved with the woman. What's the right thing to do?

– *Looking for Answers in Florida*

Dear Looking for Answers: That you would have second thoughts about becoming involved with a man who asks you to lie to the woman he's been living with for 17 years shows a lot about your character. That he would ask you to do otherwise speaks not very flatteringly about his.

You appear to be someone with high standards and dignity. If you prefer to wait until Meg and Lou are no longer living together, I respect that. And if his interest in you is serious, he will respect it, too.

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. For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order 'How to Be Popular.' Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

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Adult award winners

Special to the News-Sun

LAKE PLACID – An amazing array of outstanding arts and crafts is entered in the exhibits the first weekend of February each year at the Lake Placid Elementary School. Artists and craftsmen may enter any or all of the 10 divisions, in each of which there are one to several classes and subclasses.

Entries were judged the evening of Feb. 3 with first, second, third and honorable mention ribbons given in all classes.

AMATEUR ADULTS

Division I - Arts

Class 1 - Oils, Acrylics - Best of Class – Chris Noel for Violin

Class 2 - Watercolor - Best of Class – Darlene Discher for Iris

Class 3 - Drawings and Mixed Media – Dorothy Bade for a Russian Cossack

Best of Show - Laura Watson Award – Chris Noel

Division II – Photography

Class 1 - Film – Donna Mancinelli for Red Rose

Class 2 - Digital – Robert Forrester for Lighthouse

Best of Show - Laura Watson Award – Robert Forrester

Division III - Porcelain

Class 1 - China Painting - Best of Class – Elaine Ables for Sunflowers Plate

Best of Show - Laura Watson Award – Elaine Ables

Division IV - Wood Crafts

Class 1 - Wood Working - Best of Class – Dale Lachacz for a Blue Heron Intarsia

Class 2 - Wood Carving - Best of Class – George Gunn for Lighthouse

Best of Show - Laura Watson Award – Dale Lachacz

Division V – Crafts

Class 1 - Miniatures - Best of Class – Ashley Tanner for a Miniature Room

Class 2 - Crafts- Best of Class – Lisa Rivet for an Owl Tole

Class 3 - Glass/Metal - Best of Class – Joan Dunn, Woodburning on Glass of Blue Heron

Class 4 - Ceramics - Best of Class – Kathi Overton for Ceramic Crock with Original Drawing

Class 5 - Dolls - Best of Class – Kathi Overton – Raggety Ann and Andy

Best of Show - Laura Watson Award – Katherine Mattmiller, Mosaic Miniature Tiles of Flowers

Division VI - Needlecrafts

Class 1 - Embroidery - Best of Class – Diana Pelland for Peacock

Best of Show - Laura Watson Award – Diana Pelland

Division VII – Stitchery and Fabric Crafts

Class 1 - Quilting, Patching, Applique - Best of Class – Marlene Bargef for "Shadows of Africa" wildlife quilt

Class 2 - Sewing, Fabric Crafts - Best of Class – Helen Shevel for beautifully sewn navy skirt

Best of Show - Laura Watson Award – Marlene Barger

Courtesy photo

Pictured are the adult amateur winners in the Lake Placid Country Fair Arts and Crafts event.

Courtesy photo

Pictured are the adult professional winners in the Lake Placid Country Fair Arts and Crafts event.

Division VIII - Yarn and Cord Crafts

Class 1 - Knitting - Best of Class – Donna Mancinelli for a Sparkly Brown Poncho

Class 2 - Crocheting - Best of Class – Diana Pelland for a White Round Doily of Hearts; and Kathleen Goff for Original Design White Afghan

Best of Show - Laura Watson Award – Kathleen Goff

Division IX – Foods

Class 1 - Canning - Best of Class – Donna Mancinelli for Persimmon Butter

Class 2 - Cakes- Best of Class – Helen Shevel for 14 "Karet" Cake

Class 3 - Cake Decorating- Best of Class – Louisa Hyman for Monkey with Bananas

Class 4 - Pastries - Best of Class – Kathi Overton for Italian Cheesecake

Class 5 - Cookies and Candies – Rebecca Kilgore for Peanut Butter Cookies

Class 6 – Breads – Peggy Reed for Sour Dough Bread

Best of Show - Laura Watson Award – Helen Shevel

Division X – Poetry

Class 1 - Poetry - Best of Class – Mary Hetchler for My Chiminia

Best of Show - Laura Watson Award – Mary Bailey for "She Only Touched His Cloak"

Special memorial awards

- Mary Lou Krog Award for an Outstanding Floral China Painting to Elaine Ables for Sunflowers Plate

- Dr. William Schuck Memorial Craftsman Award for Woodworking to William Sonntag for a Turned Bowl

- Harry McConnell Memorial Award for Most Outstanding Wood Carving to Cecil Parrish for "The Thinker"

- Thelma Chase Memorial Award for Most Original Craft – Doug Kleman for Gator Metal Sculpture

- Edna Kubic Memorial Award for outstanding food – Peggy Reed for Sour Dough Bread

- Eileen Kruger Memorial Award – Mary Schuster for "The Frog"

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

Division I – Arts

Class 1 - Oils, Acrylics - Best of Class – David Calvin, "Woman on Sofa"

Class 2 - Watercolor - Best of Class – Joilynn Littleton, "Buffalo Dreams"

Class 3 - Drawings and Mixed Media - David Calvin, Black & White Dog

Best of Show - Laura Rider Award – Joilynn Litleton

Division II – Photography

Class 2 - Digital – Martin Fisher, "Tropical Waterfall"

Best of Show - Laura Watson Award – Martin Fisher, Wood Stork

Division III - Porcelain

Class 1 - China Painting - Best of Class – Joan Dunn, "Diamond Ring Tile"

Best of Show - Laura Rider Award – Linda Carr, "Dragon Fly"

Division IV - Wood Crafts

Class 1 - Wood Working - Best of Class – Denise Garnet for "Eagle Head"

Class 2 - Wood Carving - Best of Class – Bill Snyder for "Butterfly Garden"

Best of Show - Laura Rider Award – Bill Snyder

Division V - Crafts

Class 2 - Crafts- Best of Class – May Pierson, Paper Tole "Peaceful Harbor"

Class 3 - Glass/Metal - Best of Class – Judy Nicewicz, "Iris Pendant"

Best of Show - Laura Rider Award – May Pierson

Division VI – Needlecrafts

Class 1 - Embroidery - Best of Class – Mary Lord, counted cross stitch, "English Cottage"

Best of Show – Mary Lord

Division VII – Stitchery & Fabric Crafts

Class 1 - Quilting - Best of Class – Joan Dunlap, Stained Glass Quilt

Class 2 - Sewing - Best of Class – Joan Dunlap, Tote Bag

Best of Show – Joan Dunlap - Quilt

Division IX – Food

Class 3 - Cake Decorating - Best of Class – Beatrice Vallee, Golden Santa Bread

Class 4 - Pastries - Best of Class – Beatrice Vallee, Chocolate Mousse Cheesecake

Class 5 - Cookies & Candies - Best of Class – Helen Dayton, Raspberry Apricot Bars

Best of Show - Laura Rider Award – Beatrice Vallee, Chocolate Mousse Cheesecake

Division IX – Poetry

Poetry – Best of Show – Anne Reynolds for "Sea Gifts", Rhyming Verse

People's Choice Awards

Special to the News-Sun

LAKE PLACID – On Feb. 4 winners were chosen in all 10 of the adult amateur divisions. The visitors to the exhibits became judges as they had the privilege of voting for the exhibit entry of their choice in each division to determine the winners. A record number of attendees voted in all divisions.

♦ Division I - Arts: Terry Blovsky for painting, "Old Age"
♦ Division II - Photography: Robert Forrester for digital, Lighthouse
♦ Division III - Porcelain: Lois Bauer for Porpoise on a Vase
♦ Division IV- Wood Crafts: Allen Hyman for Mike's Garage
♦ Division V - Crafts: Constance Gegg for Iguana & Flowers Stained Glass
- Division VI - Needlecrafts: Grace Becker for "The Messmaker" Sewing Room
♦ Division VII – Stitchery and Fabric Craft: Marlene Barger for "Shadows of Africa" wildlife quilt
♦ Division VIII - Yarn & Cord Craft: Diana Pelland for a crocheted Round Heart Doily
♦ Division IX - Foods: Louisa Hyman for Monkey with Bananas Cake
♦ Division X - Poetry: Beth Simeone for "Moonlight on Lake June"

Many thanks to the following local business sponsors of awards:
♦ Division I - Arts: Caladium Arts & Crafts Co-Op
♦ Division II - Photography: Ole South Auto Salvage
♦ Division III - Porcelain: Lake Placid China Painters Club
♦ Division IV- Wood Crafts: C & C Plumbing
♦ Division V - Crafts: Happiness Farms
♦ Division VI - Needlecrafts: The Renaissance Day Spa
♦ Division VII - Stitchery and Fabric Craft: Dr. and Mrs. Joel Schroeder
♦ Division VIII - Yarn & Cord Craft: Colley Financial Services
♦ Division IX - Foods: Parker Island Bulb Co.
♦ Division X - Poetry: Glenn and Suellen Robinson

Attend the Church of Your Choice!

Inspirational Thoughts

by Patricia Valentine

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it dies, it bringeth forth much fruit." John 12:24. One thing we must learn about a seed is that it must die in order to bring life. If it dies, it will resurrect and bear much fruit, but it will not reproduce until it dies. In nature, when a seed dies it produces fruit. Life comes by death. This principle is true not only in nature, but it is also true spiritually. In the above scripture Jesus was speaking first and foremost of himself. The grain of wheat in this scripture represents Jesus. His death would produce much fruit and would result in many living for God. What we hold onto will never multiply. If we let it go and allow the seed to die, it will multiply abundantly. **Be Encouraged!**

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Lake Placid Country Fair Winners

Student awards

Special to the News-Sun

LAKE PLACID – Students participating in the Lake Placid Country Fair were judged by grade level in Elementary (K-5), Middle School (6-8) and High School (9-12), receiving first, second, third and honorable mention ribbons for their Arts & Crafts entries. There are five divisions in which there are three classes.

In a few divisions there are multiple winners, made possible when there are no entries in some classes. Those ribbons were then awarded in a class with many outstanding entries. The Art Division was most popular with hundreds of entries in the Elementary category alone. There were more than 1,000 student projects.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Division I – Art
Best of Class

Class 1 - Paintings – Lawson Seeber, second grade, Flower With Dragonfly; and Nathan Van Dam, fourth grade, Shark

Class 2 - Drawings – David Scott, Kindergarten, Wildlife

Class 3 - Mixed Media – J-Lynn Hicks, third grade, Flowers in Vase

Class 4 – Photography – Britany Ellis, third grade, Looking Down on Pineapple

Class 5 - Group Projects – Mrs. Mellow's Kindergarten class, Blue Horse

Best of Show - Elaine Waggener Award – Nathan Van Dam for Shark

Division II – Clay and Ceramics
Best of Class

Class 1 - Ceramics – Nathan Van Dam, fourth grade, Thrown Vase

Class 2 - China Painting – Katie Dean, fifth grade, Fish

Class 3 - Group Projects of Clay – Mrs. Edilma's Kindergarten class, Insect Mobile

Division III – Crafts

Class 1 - Crafts – Payton Wright, fourth grade, Juice Box City

Class 2 - Needlecrafts – Azha Holden, second grade, Artist's Apron

Class 3 - Group Projects – Krista Flores's second grade class, Medieval Characters

Best of Show - Elaine Waggener Award – Azha Holden, Artist's Apron

Division III - Foods
Best of Class

Class 1 - Cakes – Nathan Van Dam, fourth grade, Tropical Snowball Cake

Class 2 - Breads and Pastries – Mrs. Devlin's Reading Group A, Banana Cake

Class 3 - Cookies and Candies – Ms. Devlin's Reading Group C, Chocolate Chip Oatmeal Cookies

Best of Show - Elaine Waggener Award – Nathan Van Dam, Tropical Snowball Cake

Division V - Poetry
Best of Class

Class 1 - Rhyming Verse – Teri Jolly, second grade, "Mommy"

Class 2 - Free Verse – Diego Mendoza, third grade, "Scorpion"

Class 3 - Haiku, Lantern, etc., – Caitlin Lugo-Pfleshinger, third grade, "The ABC's for Veterans Day"

Best of Show - Elaine Waggener Award – Caitlin Lugo-Pfleshinger "The ABC's of Veterans Day"

MIDDLE SCHOOL
Division I – Art
Best of Class

Class 1 - Paintings – Hannah Staley, seventh grade, Ostrich

Class 2 - Drawings – Hannah Staley, seventh grade, Frog

Class 3 -Photography – Garret Main, seventh grade, Hammock

Best of Show - Anne Reynolds Award – Garret Main, seventh grade, "Hammock"

Division III – Crafts
Best of Class

Class 1 - Crafts – Samantha Payne, sixth grade, Garden Miniatures

Class 2 - Needlework – Kylie Daum seventh grade, Quilt

Best of Show - Anne Reynolds Award – Samantha Payne – Garden Miniatures

Division IV - Foods
Best of Class

Class 1 - Cakes – Emily Brouwer, sixth grade, Ooey Gooey Pumpkin Cake

Best of Show - Anne Reynolds Award – Katie Weekley, eighth grade, Lemon Curd Pound Cake

Division V – Poetry
Best of Class

Class 1 - Rhyming Verse – Aliyah McLean, sixth grade, "Roller Coaster Rush"

Class 2 - Free Verse – Erin Bonini, seventh grade, "What Is War?"

Class 3 - Haiku, Misc. – Katie Dye, seventh grade, "The Wave"

Best of Show - Anne Reynolds Award – Erin Bonini, "What Is War?"

HIGH SCHOOL
Division I – Art
Best of Class

Class 1 - Painting – Megan Schwarz, 10th grade, "Seashore"

Class 2 - Drawings – Sean Skeen, 12th grade, "Edgar Allen Poe" Graphite; Jessica Socorro, 12th grade, "Muscle Man", Charcoal; Stephanie Struck, 12th grade, "Panther", Colored Pencil; Emanuel Cantera , ninth grade, "Motherly Love", Pencil; Heather Hansen, 10th grade, "Man", Pen and Ink; Gil MacGuyver, 10th grade, "Girl With Freckles", Pencil; Anthony Darby, 11th grade, Self Portrait, Colored Pencil; Shannon Cummings, "Circo de lo Freaks", Ink, Colored Pencil, Markers; Kellie Beck, 12th grade, "Parrot", Mixed Media; Stephanie Struck, 12th grade, Owl, Pastel; and Norma Bautista, 12th grade, "Loving", Colored Pencil

Best of Show - J.D. Watson Award – Sean Skeens, 12th grade, "Edgar Allen Poe"; and Makayla Patterson, 10th grade, "Girl"

Division II – Clay and Ceramics
Best of Class

Class 1 - Ceramics – Jennifer Cochran, 12th grade, Alice's Tea Party

Best of Show - J.D. Watson Award – Jennifer Cochranr, 12th grade, Gramdpa's Head

Division III – Crafts
Best of Class

Class 1 - Crafts – Kayla Selander, 11th grade, "Four Seasons" Book

Class 2 -Needlework – Axnerys Gonzales, 12th grade, Pastel Blanket

Class 3 - Sculpture –Laura Tenneson, 12th grade, Tragic Icons

Best of Show - J.D. Watson Award – Kayla Selander, "Four Seasons"

Division IV – Foods
Best of Class

Class 2 – Breads, Pastries – Kayla Selander, 11th grade, Dessert Egg Rolls

Best of Show - J.D. Watson Award – Kayla Selander, Dessert Egg Rolls

Division IV – Poetry
Best of Class

Class 2 - Free Verse – Ning Lewis, 12th grade, "A New Day"

Class 3 - Haiku, Lantern, Limericks, Misc. – Donavan White, 12th grade, Owl Haiku

Best of Show - J.D. Watson Award – Ning Lewis, "A New Day"

Special Memorial Awards chosen from overall entries in all grades:

- The Eileen Kruger Memorial Award for poetry for poem subject related to nature – Katie Dye, seventh grade, for " The Wave".
- The Mary Lou Krog Memorial Award for Best in China Painting – Katie Dean, fifth grade, for Wolf
- The Edna Kubic Memorial Award for Outstanding Food – Nathan Van Dam, fourth grade, for "Tropical Snowball Cake"
- The Thelma Chase Memorial Award for Most Original Craft – Kayla Selander, 11th grade, for "Four Seasons"

Courtesy photo

These high school students won in the High School division of the Lake Placid Country Fair Arts and Crafts event.

Courtesy photo

These students won in the Elementary School division of the Lake Placid County Fair Arts and Crafts event last weekend.

Courtesy photo

These students won in the Middle School division of the Lake Placid County Fair.

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Arts & Entertainment

Extreme Guitar Duo performs at SFCC on Thursday

Special to the News-Sun

AVON PARK – The Extreme Guitar Duo performs during the South Florida Community College Kaleidoscope Series at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the SFCC University Center Auditorium.

Courtesy photo

Keith Knight and Don Alder make up the Extreme Guitar Duo and will be in concert Thursday.

The Extreme Guitar Duo consists of American Keith Knight and Canadian Don Alder. Their performance takes the audience on a musical journey to the extreme edge of modern guitar fingerpicking. Fast-paced and upbeat, the EGD delivers a plethora of Americana, Canadian, and roots music like, blues, ragtime, Appalachian folk, modern fingerstyle guitar, pop, and calypso with an assortment of instruments on stage including flat top guitars, 12 string guitars, resonators, dobros, harp guitars, and mandolin. Enjoy a great evening of guitar playing, singing, and storytelling with these extreme guitar players.

Knight is a Native American fingerstyle guitarist, mandolinist, vocalist, recording and touring artist. His career spans over 20 years as a Los Angeles and Austin rock guitarist, bluegrass mandolinist, and acoustic fingerstyle guitar wizard. He has shared the stage with such notables as The Smothers Brothers, Melanie, Junior Brown, and others.

Alder is a modern-day acoustic guitar renaissance man. He's won the International Fingerstyle Competition, Guitar Player Magazine's Guitar Superstar Champion 2010, and recently, the 2011 Guitar Idol competition. He has toured across Asia, Europe, and North America.

Ticket prices are $25 and $29 and may be purchased online at http://performances.southflorida.edu. Tickets may also be purchased by calling the SFCC Box Office at 784-7178 or by visiting the SFCC Box Office from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday-Friday in the front of the SFCC Theatre for the Performing Arts, 600 W. College Drive.

Black Dogs present an evening of jazz at SFCC on Feb. 18

Special to the News-Sun

AVON PARK – The Black Dogs Jazz Band presents a stellar evening of jazz music at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 18 in the South Florida Community College University Center Auditorium. This is the third performance of the Jazz Series, which is held in the intimate 245-seat auditorium.

Courtesy photo

The Black Dogs will present at evening of jazz at South Florida Community College on Feb. 18 as the third performance of the college's Jazz Series.

The Black Dogs were formed in Orlando in 1989, composed of staff musicians from Walt Disney World. Always in pursuit of introducing new energy into vintage American popular music, the band has made it a point to carry the finest in New Orleans rhythm and blues and classic jump swing to the rest of the traditional jazz world. They currently play all kinds of different styles of music based in a Dixieland style, including Zydeco, gospel, swing, New Orleans Rhythm and Blues, and Second Line.

In multiple tours to Europe and the Orient over the last 20 years, the Black Dogs have shared their music with fans of many nations as well as headlining traditional jazz festivals all across the United States.

The veteran musicians in this stellar seven-piece band are led by vocalist and pianist Tom Hook, along with Davy Jones (cornet), Pat Gullotta (trombone), Jim Buchmann (clarinet), Bob Leary (guitar), David Gannett (tuba), and Ed Metz Jr. (drums).

The SFCC Jazz Series Season Sponsors are Tom and Nancy Mitchell, John and Evelyn Mills, and an anonymous donor. The performance sponsor is Patricia McShane.

Ticket prices are $22 and $24 and may be purchased online at http://performances.southflorida.edu. Tickets may also be purchased by calling the SFCC Box Office at 784-7178 or by visiting the SFCC Box Office from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday-Friday in the front of the SFCC Theatre for the Performing Arts, 600 W. College Drive.

Vail to share 'Sacred Caves and Creation Stories' at SFCC

Special to the News-Sun

AVON PARK – The Kissimmee River Archaeological and Historical Conservancy continues its Speaker Series with archaeologist Dr. Gabrielle Vail at 7 p.m. Thursday in Building G, Room 101, at the SFCC Highlands Campus. The presentation is free and open to the public.

Courtesy photo

Dr. Gabrielle Vail will discuss her findings of pre-Hispanic Maya at the next Speaker Series of the Kissimmee River Archaeological and Historical Conservancy on Thursday.

For the pre-Hispanic Maya, caves served as sacred places where rain-making and world renewal rituals were conducted. They represented the homes of rain and earth deities as well as the ancestors – the place where humans were created and emerged onto the earth, and entrances to the watery underworld realm. The presentation, "Sacred Caves and Creation Stories of the Pre-Hispanic Maya," focuses on what we know of pre-Hispanic Maya rituals and cosmology associated with cave contexts from their representations in painted Maya art and from artifacts recovered from excavations within Maya caves. It concludes with a brief discussion of how caves fit into the worldview of contemporary Maya peoples.

Vail specializes in the study of hieroglyphic texts found in the screenfold manuscripts (codices) painted by the pre-Hispanic Maya. Her research is highlighted in numerous print and online publications, as well as the online Maya Codices Database (www.maya-codices.org). She has published five books, the most recent in 2010, and has another in press. Titled "Re-Creating Primordial Time: Foundation Rituals and Mythology in the Postclassic Maya Codices" her forthcoming book provides a new interpretation of rituals portrayed in the Maya codices and their links to episodes related in Maya creation narratives.

Vail received her Ph.D. from Tulane University in 1996 and holds a research and faculty position at New College of Florida in Sarasota.

For more information, call Anne Reynolds at 441-4803.

MOFAC presentsCracker Cowboy Collection

Special to the News-Sun

AVON PARK – South Florida Community College's Museum of Florida Art and Culture (MOFAC) will hold its Third Thursday program, "The Cracker Cowboy Collection: As Seen by Joey Sacco" at 1 p.m. Thursday in SFCC MOFAC.

Sacco will discuss how Jon Kral's photographs do more than document the disappearing lifestyle of Florida cowboys, but speak to the powerful connection between man and the natural world. He will also discuss the evolution of photography and compare Kral's photos with those of other great artists.

Third Thursdays at MOFAC is a series that is open to the public, and is free. For more information, contact Mollie Doctrow, MOFAC curator, at 784-7240. SFCC MOFAC is on the Highlands Campus, on the east wing of the SFCC Theatre for the Performing Arts, Avon Park. Like it on SFCC MOFAC's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/mofac.

Courtesy photo

Joey Sacco will discuss the photos of Jon Kral during next week's Third Thursday presentation at SFCC's Museum of Florida Art and Culture.

Crossword Solution

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Senior Scene

The Wheelbarrow

Pearl's Pearls

Pearl Carter

"You gotta trust God," she said. "Do you trust God?"

"Oh sure," I said. "I've always believed in Him."

"Not the same thing," she said. "Belief's not trust."

"I don't understand."

"Well, look at it this way: Let's say you go to a circus and it's got the highest tightrope you ever saw. And this guy comes out, and climbs way up there, and puts a wheelbarrow on the wire and begins to walk. You think: 'He's never gonna make it; the wire's too thin, the wheelbarrow's too wide, and besides, it blocks his sight.' You hold your breath, and when he finally gets across the place goes crazy, and you cheer and cry. So you keep coming back to watch, until you're sure he's going to make it."

"Yeah," I said, "I trust him to get across."

"No," she said. "You believe he'll get across. You want trust, get in the wheelbarrow."

But I just kept watching as before, and told myself: "I do so trust Him."

Then one day, I knew she was right, and I climbed up to the platform. It was so high and scary, I thought: "Maybe it counts if I just watch from here." But of course that didn't work. So finally I walked over to where He stood.

"Ah, there you are," He smiled. "Come on then, off we go!"

So in I climbed.

I can tell you, I had white knuckles for a while there.

But then I thought: "Well, all or nothing!" and just lay back and looked up into the soft, deep dark of the Big Top where spangles flashed in the spotlight and notes of bright, proud music swarmed like fireflies around my toes. Then the gentle rocking put me to sleep like a baby in a cradle.

You should see that wheelbarrow now! It's got a fridge, a little microwave ... it's where I live!

Oh, and on my birthday, He asked me, "How did you like My present?" And I, still not too swift on the uptake, said, "What present?"

"Don't worry," He said, "it'll turn up."

Next day, I found it under the corner of my sleeping bag. It's hard to describe... I guess you had to be there ... but when the lid was off, a sparkling, flaming, joyous, bubbling Something entered my fingertips and coursed all through me, and I knew what it was ... Myself!

The gift of Self I'd been looking for so long. "Thanks, Lord," I said, "I love my present."

And He said, "So do I."

This column was submitted by Pearl Carter who is a writer, poet and a Lake Placid resident. E-mail her at timely87@comcast.net.

A love story in sickness and in health

By JAMES HOCH

Special to the News-Sun

"That was the best decision I ever made," says Bob Dunston, about his marriage to Carole back in August 1964. "We vowed to be by each other's side in sickness and in health. All marriages include those commitments. When you are young and healthy you just want to live your lives together. We never contemplated how our lives would change if one (or both) of us would see a dramatic turn in our health. Back then it just was not a factor."

"These days, I am, for the most part, Carole's lifeline. Our lives have been reconfigured since her Parkinson's diagnosis. Life is different, but that does not mean it is less fulfilling. I am there for her. She knows that. She would do the same for me. We took vows. We stand by them," Bob said.

This Tanglewood 'Good Guy' is large by physical and character stature. He has had to reckon with taking better care of himself so that he will be better able to take care of Carole. In the last three years, he has taken off 67 pounds from his former weight of 347 pounds.

Bob's character stature is taking the opposite direction. It is meeting his ever-increasing care for Carole.

Carole went to the same Flint high school, graduating a year behind Bob, yet they had not known each other. Carole matriculated to Michigan State University, majoring in education. She played the violin in the MSU orchestra. She was accomplished in ballet, tap dance, and jazz dance.

Courtesy photo

Bob and Carole Dunston have experienced a lot in life. Dealing with her Parkinson's disease may not have been the easiest challenge in the past 26 years, but through it all Carole never loses her smile and Bob never loses hope.

They were married in August 1964.

Bob had graduated from UM, and had taken the test for the Michigan State Police Academy. While waiting Bob decided to take an hourly job at the GM's V8 engine plant. GM then offered Bob a supervisor position. "I worked 10 to 16 hours per day, seven days a week, for five years. We had a son, Bobby, and a daughter, Debbie, but, I was not able to spend any time with Carole and the kids. Something had to change."

Carole suggested that she and Bob look into teaching, since they both had education degrees. Both were immediately accepted, and began in the fall of 1969. Carole taught third grade, and Bob began teaching seventh-grade English and math. He coached baseball and some basketball. Their two teaching salaries combined were less than half what Bob had been making at GM; but in 1971, they bought a lot on Black Lake just 350 feet away from Grandpa Shultz' place, and put a modular home on the 100 feet of lake frontage. "We were living the American dream," he relates.

Eventually Bob started his own company specializing in sales and installations of satellite TV dishes. Later he added a company that sold and installed windows throughout northern Michigan. He kept those businesses thriving until Carole's condition demanded his full time in 2005.

Carole taught that third grade in the same room, from the same desk, for 25 years, retiring in 1993. "We were sitting on the couch one evening, when she remarked that her right thumb was twitching uncontrollably. Try as she did, that twitch could not be stopped. We knew we would need to seek a medical review of this oddity." Eventually, that review led to her being diagnosed with Parkinson's disease by the head of the Michigan Parkinson's Foundation, Dr. Peter Lewitt in 1986. "Parkinson's is a weird, process-by-elimination, diagnosis," Bob notes. "Dr. Lewitt prescribed test after test over two years. Each one seemed to rule out some other similar condition, until finally the only logical explanation becomes Parkinson's."

"It is a neurological disease. Parkinson's is not very well understood, but the consensus theory holds that it destroys the brain cells that handle the production of a chemical called dopamine. Motor skills are then degraded, usually in a pronounced way. Medication is the primary way of treating Parkinson's. The medications, dosages, and regimens, have changed dramatically during the time Carole has been dealing with this insidious disease. There is no cure. There is ongoing, somewhat hopeful research. I happen to believe stem cell research is vital. Our experience leads us to believe the selection of the doctor treating you is paramount in managing life with Parkinson's."

Carole had to fight off cancer in 1993, and then scar tissue from the cancer surgery led to an impacted bowel in 2007. And, she has had knee surgery within the last year, too. As often is the case, the various doctors treating Carole, and the several drugs she was prescribed by each doctor, were not always working in concert.

Bob and Carole spend winters in Tanglewood, but go back to Black Lake for the summers.

"I would like the next five years to give continued hope in Carole's quality of life. Her effervescent, contagious smile is enough hope for me. Life is a series of events. We work at controlling the bad. I have Carole's back. Side by side with my angel, our vows are as strong now as the day we exchanged them."

Hearing Aids

Hearing Loss and Dementia Linked in Johns Hopkins Study

Seniors with hearing loss are significantly more likely to develop dementia over time than those who retain their hearing, a study by Johns Hopkins and National Institute on Aging researches suggest. The findings, researchers say, could lead to new ways to combat dementia, a condition that affects millions of people worldwide and carries heavy social burdens.

Although the reason for the link between the two conditions is unknown, the investigators suggest that a common pathology may underlie both or that the strain of decoding sounds over the years may overwhelm the brains of people with hearing loss, leaving them more vulnerable to dementia. They also speculate that hearing loss could lead to dementia by making individuals more socially isolated, a known risk factor for dementia and other cognitive disorders.

Whatever the cause, the scientists report, their finding may offer a starting point for interventions — even as simple as hearing aids— that could delay or prevent dementia by improving patients' hearing.

"Researchers have looked at what affects hearing loss, but few have looked at how hearing loss affects cognitive brain function," says study leader Frank Lin, M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor in the Division of Otology at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

To make the connection, Lin and his colleagues used data from the Baltimore Longitudinal Study on Aging (BLSA). The BLSA, initiated by the National Ins ti tut re on Aging in 1958, has tracked various health factors in thousands of men and women over decades.

The new study, published in the February Archives of Neurology, focused on 639 people whose hearing and cognitive abilities were tested as part of the BLSA between 1990 and 1994. While about a quarter of the volunteers had some hearing loss at the start of the study, none had dementia.

These volunteers were then closely followed with repeat examinations every one to two years, and by 2008, 58 of them had developed dementia.

The researchers found that study participants with hearing loss at the beginning of the study were significantly more likely to develop dementia by the end. Compared with volunteers with normal hearing, those with mild, moderate and severe hearing loss had twofold, threefold and fivefold, respectively, the risk of developing dementia over time. The more hearing loss they had, the higher their likelihood of developing the memory-robbing disease.

Even after the researchers took into account other factors that are associated with risk of dementia, including diabetes, high blood pressure, age, sex and race, Lin explains, hearing loss and dementia were still strongly connected.

"A lot of people ignore hearing loss because it's such a slow and insidious process as we age," Lin says. "Even if people feel if they are not affected, we're showing that it may well be a more serious problem."

The research was supported by the intramural research program of the National Institute on Aging.

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Things to Consider — Hearing Health 101 — Taking Action

You are not alone.
Did you know that hearing loss affects one in every 10 Americans? The good news is that today, with the latest advances in hearing aid technology, most forms of hearing loss can be successfully treated.

Only one in five people who could benefit from a hearing aid wears one

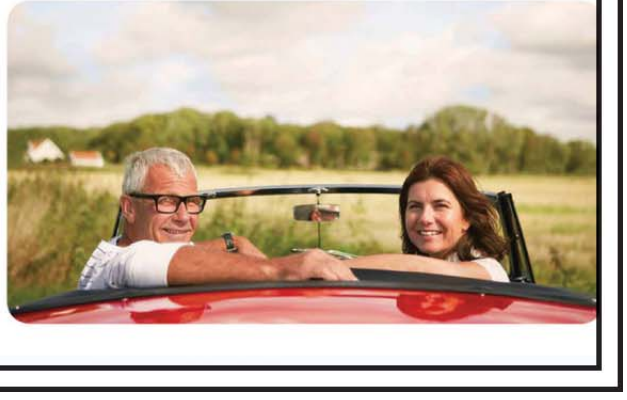
Hearing decline starts as early as 40 years of age

10 million Americans have suffered noise-induced hearing loss

65% of people with hearing loss are below retirement age

The solution is simple.
Communication is critical in life. Your job and social interactions are all more rewarding when you can communicate confidently—and hearing is vital to that. Research shows that people who get hearing aids benefit from:

Fewer instances of confusion and disorientation
Increased ability to concentrate and multitask
Better memory skills and a greater ability to learn new tasks
Alertness and awareness of their personal safety
Increased earning power and more control over their lives

Today's hearing aids–better than ever.
If you've put off getting help because of an unfavorable image of hearing aids, you should know they've come a long way. Introducing Wi Series hearing aids by Starkey.

Technology:	Benefits:
PureWave Feedback Eliminator	Virtually eliminates buzzing and whistling
Voice iQ	Designed to maintain speech understanding in noise, and reduce listening effort
IRIS™ Technology	Lets you connect directly—and wirelessly—to most media devices for stereo sound, like headphones
InVision Directionality	Helps you hear the speech you want while minimizing unwanted background noise
Automatic Telephone Response	Knows when you're on the phone and adjusts settings automatically
Ear-to-Ear Wireless Communication	Wireless communication between hearing aids