

NEWS-SUN

Highlands County's Hometown Newspaper Since 1927



Knocked out

Devils stopped by Berkley Prep in playoffs
SPORTS, 1B



Stepping aside

Stewart says she won't run for re-election
PAGE 2A

Oscar quiz

'Help' may be needed to find these answers
LIVING, 12B

Friday-Saturday, February 24-25, 2012

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Volume 93/Number 27 | 50 cents

Forecast



Partly sunny, warm and more humid

High **85** Low **62**

Complete Forecast PAGE 12A

Online



Question:

Should state lawmakers have immunity from having to testify in civil lawsuits?

Yes **3.7%**

No **96.3%**

Total votes: **81**

Next question:

Should all high school students have to take at least one online course before they graduate?

Make your voice heard at www.newssun.com

Obituaries

Della Packer

Age 50, of Avon Park

Charles Wakelin

Age 90, of Sebring

Obituaries, Page 5A

Index

Classifieds	9A
Community Briefs	2A
Dear Abby	11B
Entertainment	10B
Editorial & Opinion	4A
Healthy Living	5B
Local Golf News	4B
Lottery Numbers	2A
Movie Review/Times	11B
Religion	7B
Sports On TV	2B
Sudoku Puzzle	11B

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News-Sun photo by SAMANTHA GHOLAR
Second graders at Cracker Trail Elementary get a lesson on riding, horses and all things cowboy Wednesday morning when the Cracker Trail Riders made a brief stop at the school during their annual trek across the state.

Cracker Trail Elementary a pit stop for annual ride

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR
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SEBRING — The trail stops here .. well, it did at least for a little while for the hundreds of cowboys and horses moseying along the Cracker Trail Wednesday morning.

Students at Cracker Trail Elementary got to spend a little outdoor time Wednesday morning with some familiar

friends as the Cracker Trail riders made their annual appearance at CTE just before noon Wednesday and students and faculty were there to greet them.

The re-enactment of the ride, which follows the route cowboys used to drive their cattle across the state to market, is in its 25th year. It began in Bradenton and will end in Fort Pierce.

"It's about 120 miles," said cowboy Don Hamsher.

Hamsher and his knowledgeable daughter, Sarah, entertained second graders with their horses and riding expertise.

The Hamshers are residents of Englewood, where Sarah is a fourth grader.

"How long have you been

See CRACKER, page 7A

A sobering message



News-Sun photo by CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY
Renee Napier, who lost her daughter to a drunk driver in 2002, prepares to hand the microphone to Eric Smallridge, the drunk driver who killed her daughter and another girl. They were at LPHS speaking to the student body.

Mother, drunk driver who killed her daughter team up to educate students

By CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY
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LAKE PLACID — Young people face a difficult time as they mature. Burdened with the beliefs that they will live forever and nothing bad will ever happen to them, some individuals make reckless choices leading to death and tragedy.

This week, Highlands County's high school students are listening to a cautionary tale of warning.

Bringing that message to them is an unlikely team — Renee Napier, whose daughter was killed

by a drunk driver in 2002, and Eric Smallridge, the drunk driver who did the killing.

It was the night before Mother's Day when Meagan Napier and Lisa Dickson, both 20 years old and best friends, were driving home from the beach in Pensacola when Smallridge, 24 at the time, lost control of his vehicle, crashing into Meagan's car causing it to careen into a tree.

Meagan and Lisa's necks were instantly broken, the only saving grace being that neither suffered.

Their families, however, have

suffered terribly.

"When my sister-in-law gave me the news," Renee Napier said, looking directly into the audience of Lake Placid High School freshmen and seniors, "I honestly didn't know how I would survive. I didn't care if I lived or if I died."

Napier said she spent Mother's Day with her four children as she had wished to, but they spent it together in a funeral home, and one of the children was in a coffin.

In a trial 14 months later, when

See STUDENTS, page 3A

Ordinance would regulate special events

Swamp Hammock mud-bogging site not covered by proposal

By ED BALDRIDGE
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SEBRING — Commissioners received a brief update on the unfinished special event ordinance Tuesday, but county staff explained it would not apply to the current requests for mud bogging at the Saddlebridge development.

"I don't think it would be appropriate to use a special events ordinance for events on a property daily, weekly or monthly," County Development Services Director Mark Hill said during the commission meeting.

Commissioner Greg Harris asked for the update at the end of the board meeting and was presented with suggested zoning and time scheduling charts by county staff.

"We were directed in December to draft an ordinance and we have been seeking input from the county attorney, various county departments, the Sheriff's Office and the Health Department," Hill explained.

Hill advised that a county survey revealed more than 16 large special events yearly throughout the county, a majority of which are already within the municipalities.

"The board asked us to prepare an ordinance that would include all pos-

See ORDINANCE, page 7A

3-2 vote allows potbellied pig to stay in Sebring residence

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR
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SEBRING — Sebring resident Kim McIntyre has been waiting anxiously for the approval vote that would allow her and her family to keep their beloved potbellied pig Emma. Tuesday night, she got it.

"We get to keep her," McIntyre said Wednesday morning. "We had a feeling that they would let us, but we just had to wait it out."

After nearly six months, the Sebring City Council approved the new animal ordinance allowing potbellied pigs to be kept as pets in

a home inside city limits.

Attorney Alison Copley researched other cities ordinances and collected what she thought was the best fit for the City of Sebring.

The council required stipulations for the ordinance in

See PIG, page 3A



News-Sun photo by KATARA SIMMONS
Emma the pet pig greets a visitor Thursday afternoon at her home in Sebring.

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Stewart will not seek third term on county commission

By ED BALDRIDGE
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SEBRING — County Commissioner Barbara Stewart announced late in a board meeting on Tuesday that she was not filing for re-election.

“Eight years ago when I ran for the county commission, I stated at the time that I only intended to serve for a maximum of two terms. The past year or so, I’ve rethought that decision really seriously and I came to the conclusion that my initial core belief in term limits, especially at the local level, still remains strong. Therefore, I want you to know that I do not intend to file for re-election,” Stewart told the commission.

Stewart made it clear that she would remain active and engaged over the next nine months.

“You will be beyond sorely missed and now we will have to begin to start reading our own packets,” Commissioner Don Elwell quipped.

“I am very surprised by that. I can say that your knowledge and research that you do before each meeting will be very difficult for anyone to compete with. Possibly even the four of us combined,” Elwell said. “You are by far the most

prepared commissioner I have had the pleasure of working with. Sorry guys,” Elwell added.

Board Chairman Jack Richie clarified that “she did not say she was going away. She said she was not going to run for the commissioner again. That does not mean that you will have a free hand in any way,” Richie said.

“She running for Supervisor of Elections?” Elwell joked.

“She’s just a lot smarter than the four of us combined,” said Commissioner Greg Harris.

“There is indeed a tremendous amount of knowledge there and it will be missed,” Richie said.



Stewart

‘This is my war’

Scott and Cindy Pyeatt were sitting in a southwest Ohio restaurant on the night of Feb. 4, 2011, when they realized something was wrong.

“We were trying to make small talk, and we just couldn’t keep it up,” Cindy told The Unknown Soldiers.

Their son, Cpl. Lucas Pyeatt, was on his very first combat patrol in Afghanistan. The Marine’s mother could sense that her youngest son was in grave danger.

“I knew he’d been killed,” she said.

The Pyeatts went home and made a futile attempt at getting a good night’s sleep. Their plan was to wake up early in the morning and get out of the house as soon as possible.

“If I leave, nobody can knock on the door,” the terrified military mom thought to herself.

Scott was up first on that Saturday morning, and after getting dressed, he went downstairs to nervously watch the sunrise while waiting for his wife.

“About the third or fourth time I went (to the door), it was getting light out, and I thought ‘maybe we’re good to go,’” he recounted. “I don’t think I sat back on the couch for a minute before the doorbell rang.”



As Scott walked to the door and Cindy came down the stairs, Luke’s extraordinary life flashed before their eyes, appearing even brighter than the just-risen sun.

Cindy fondly remembers her husband, a retired Air Force chief master sergeant who was stationed in England at the time of Luke’s birth, showing his little boy the big fighter jets and quoting lines from “Top Gun.”

“He was Maverick and Scott was Goose,” she said. “They’d pretend they were flying the planes.”

Young Luke was intellectually curious and intensely patriotic.

“You owe something to your country, and it is up to individuals to make a difference,” his mother explained. “Very early on, it was ingrained in him.”

He studied German and Russian, and in the run-up to



Cpl. Lucas Pyeatt hugs his mom, Cindy Pyeatt, in January 2011 before deploying to Afghanistan. The Marine was killed in action on Feb. 5, 2011. Photo courtesy the Pyeatt family.

his Afghanistan deployment, he began learning how to speak Pashto. Yet even while excelling academically, Luke yearned for an even bigger challenge. He wanted to be a Marine.

“He wanted us to sign in high school early, and I said no,” Cindy explained. “I thought that was an adult decision.”

Even though he was initially frustrated by his parents’ efforts to protect him, Luke never lost sight of his ultimate goal.

“He wasn’t trying to prove anything to anyone but himself,” his dad said. “He said ‘I want to do this, and I want to do it right.’”

See FIRST, page 8A

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Pilates in the Park Saturday

SEBRING — The Sebring Gold’s Gym is partnering with the Sebring Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) to host ‘Pilates in the Park’ series one Saturday each month through May at 10 a.m. in downtown Sebring’s Circle Park. This event is free for anyone to attend and perfect for any exercise level. Future dates are March 24, April 21 and May 19.

Participants are encouraged to bring a mat or towel and enjoy 50 minutes of pilates. After the class, Gold’s Gym will give away one 30-day free membership and distribute free week-long passes for everyone who attends.

For more information on this event and others in downtown Sebring, visit www.DowntownSebring.org/.

Jay Smith plays at Reflections

AVON PARK — Reflections on Silver Lake will host a dance featuring Jay Smith from 7:30-10:30 p.m. today. Cost is \$5. Take your own drinks and snacks; ice will be provided. For more information call 452-5037.

Sidewalk Sounds looking for musicians

SEBRING — Showcase your talents at Destination Downtown Sebring’s Sidewalk Sounds of Sebring from 5-8 p.m. Friday, March 9.

Solos, duos, and small ensembles are welcome. Register by calling Chic Consignment at 402-2442. Registration deadline is Friday, March 2.

Ransom Band plays at Duffers

AVON PARK — The Ransom Band will be playing this Saturday night at Duffers Sports Grille.

This local band will play from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. It provides a variety of rock, blues and dance tunes for

everyone to enjoy. There is no cover charge.

Earlier Saturday afternoon will be the Lester Kesselring Memorial Senior Karaoke Contest from 1-5 p.m. with Southern Style Entertainment providing music for singing. There will be prize money for the first, second and third place male and female winners. First gets \$100, second wins \$75 and third wins \$50. Seniors must be 55 and older to participate. Judges will select the top winners. The contest is sponsored by Lampe & Kiefer Hearing Aid Center and will benefit Nu-Hope Elder Care Services. The \$5 entry fee goes directly to Nu-Hope. Each contestant receives an appreciation gift. There will be door prizes.

The Longshot Band will be playing country and original music from 6-9 p.m. today. Reservations are recommended.

Southern Style Entertainment will provide music for dancing and singing from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. after Longshot plays. There is no cover charge for any musical entertainment at Duffers, 2451 U.S. 27 South. For more details, call 452-6339.

Kayak tours planned for Arbuckle Creek

AVON PARK — Explore the prettiest and most pristine section of Arbuckle Creek on one of two kayak tours planned Saturday. The northern most tip of the creek bordered by the Avon Park Air Force Range provides a majestic scene of wildlife while stretching through cypress strands, ranch land, and an occasional oak hammock.

Launch from the boat ramp on East Arbuckle Road off of State Road 64 in Avon Park at 10 a.m. This is a six-mile trip (which takes approximately four hours) with a break for lunch halfway (bring lunch). This trip is recommended for experienced kayakers at an

Continued on page 5A

Man, animal will unite for Taste of Highlands

Humane Society fundraiser set for Sunday

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR
sgholar@newssun.com

SEBRING — Cats and dogs will bark and meow in delight after Sunday evening’s second annual Taste of Highlands County fundraiser benefiting the Highlands County Humane Society.

Close to 20 local restaurants from all over the county will gather at 4 p.m. at the Agricultural Center at 4509 George Blvd. in South Sebring.

The event is being headed for the second year in a row by Humane Society Treasurer and Event Coordinator Ann Smith.

Smith, along with the rest of the Humane Society staff and volunteers, is excited about the returning event.

“This is our second year doing this. Last year was very successful so we thought we would do it again,” Smith said.

This year’s fundraiser will benefit the 60 dogs and 60 cats at the facility in a major way, Smith said.

“The Humane Society is a very important part of Highlands County. It is the

community’s place, it’s not here just for us staff. It is very important that people remember that we run on donations only.

“We don’t get any funding from the state or federal, we thrive off of donations,” Smith said.

The facilities current board

‘The money raised this year will go directly to our building fund. We want to help these dogs and cats while they are here.’

ANN SMITH
Humane Society treasurer

is driven and focused on providing a safe and beautiful environment for the animals as they await their permanent homes.

The Humane Society is currently at full capacity and is hoping that the fundraiser will aid in the expansion of the facility.

“The money raised this year will go directly to our

building fund. We want to help these dogs and cats while they are here. They need to have a better, more humane life,” said Smith.

The expansion of the current facility is still in the works, but Smith and the rest of the staff are excited and anxious to get the work started with the help of the fundraiser and community.

“We have people in this community that donate religiously. Whether it’s \$1 a month, \$5 a month or \$100 a month, we rely on this. Every little bit helps and this community has been committed and stepping up,” Smith said.

Smith invites the community out to enjoy food and fun Sunday evening at The Taste of Highlands fundraiser.

The 20 restaurants will offer a variety of foods and desserts while other community entities will offer entertainment, gifts and prizes.

“Local restaurants donate all the food. We will have two restaurants outside grilling, a live band, and a dog agility course and contests. Inside we will have the food, music, cloggers and a

See TASTE, page 7A

	Lottery Center		Feb. 21 6 12 17 21 26 42 x:3 Next jackpot \$2 million
	Feb. 22 5 21 31 33 34 Feb. 21 6 18 20 23 35 Feb. 20 10 18 27 30 35 Feb. 19 3 7 9 12 27		Feb. 22 (n) 4 4 2 8 Feb. 22 (d) 2 9 1 4 Feb. 21 (n) 7 0 8 3 Feb. 21 (d) 5 7 2 5
	Feb. 21 9 28 34 40 17 Feb. 17 19 22 26 29 13 Feb. 14 6 9 17 36 20 Feb. 10 6 27 34 44 14		Feb. 22 (n) 3 0 7 Feb. 22 (d) 2 0 5 Feb. 21 (n) 8 2 0 Feb. 21 (d) 9 9 6
	Feb. 21 9 30 39 42 47 Next jackpot \$83 million		PB: 37 Feb. 18 23 28 50 56 59 Feb. 14 3 5 10 26 27 PB: 5 PB: 27

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

Highlands County’s Hometown Newspaper Since 1927

Published every Sunday, Wednesday & Friday at 2227 U.S. 27 South • Sebring, Florida 33870
A Harbor Point Media Company

OFFICE: 2227 U.S. 27 South, Sebring, FL 33870	POSTMASTER: Send address change to: News-Sun, 2227 U.S. 27 S., Sebring, FL 33870
OFFICE HOURS: 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday	USPS — ISSN 0163-3988
PHONE: 863-385-6155	Periodical postage paid at Sebring, FL and additional entry office(s)
MAIN FAX NUMBER: 863-385-1954	
NEWSROOM FAX NUMBER: 863-385-2453	

CIRCULATION SUNDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY EDITIONS: If you do not receive your home delivered newspaper by 6 a.m., please phone the circulation department before 10 a.m. on Wednesday and Friday publication days, and before 11 a.m. on Sunday publication days and a replacement copy will be delivered to you. Subscribers who notify us after the times mentioned will receive credit to their account. Please call 385-6155.	SUBSCRIPTION RATES	12 mo.	7% FL tax	Total
	HOME DELIVERY	\$63.50	\$4.59	\$70.09
	IN FLORIDA MAIL	\$97.27	\$6.81	\$104.08
	OUT OF FLORIDA MAIL	\$111.03	\$7.77	\$118.80

Deadlines for subscription changes are noon on Tuesday for the Wednesday edition, noon on Thursday for the Friday edition, and noon on Friday for the Sunday edition. Changes received after the times stated will be processed on the following publication date.

Romona Washington — Publisher and Executive Editor
863-385-6155, ext. 515

Students get glimpse of human cost of DUI

Continued from 1A

Smallridge was found guilty and sentenced to two terms of 11 years to be served consecutively, Napier found herself overcome with feelings she never expected, feelings beyond the intense grief she endured.

She saw that Smallridge "did not have a criminal mind." He had been raised by loving parents and he never set out to hurt anyone. He was also young, had just finished college in April, and was looking forward to his life as much as Meagan and Lisa had been theirs.

"There were no winners," Napier said. The guilty verdict and 22-year sentence changed nothing.

Her student audience had fallen silent, intent on the straight forward women who held nothing back and obviously spoke from her heart.

Napier's main lesson came next.

It was about forgiveness.

"We all get hung up about forgiveness," she said. "It does not mean that everything is okay. It does not mean a person shouldn't be punished. Forgiving is for the person offering it. It is healing.

"You have to make a big effort to hate," Napier explained. "Bitterness and hatred, they destroy you.

"I came to see an Eagle Scout, from a good family, a gifted athlete with the brightest future, as another life lost. I finally looked in his eyes and forgave him."

At that point, a young man, dressed in a black and white stripped jump suit, manacled at the wrists and ankles and accompanied by two sheriff's deputies, made his way to the front of the commons, shambling slightly as the ankle chains made it difficult to walk.

Napier introduced him as Eric Smallridge. They exchanged a solemn look as she handed him the microphone.

The student audience leaned forward.

"I was smart," Smallridge said. "I made good grades. But I had a flawed mindset. I thought I was 10

feet tall and bulletproof."

He told of joining friends and hanging out at a beach bar drinking beer. About how one beer led to another. About how liquid courage told him he was fine to drive.

DUIs, he said, happen to bad drivers who drive worse under the influence. That would never be him.

"I was a good driver. Everything would always be good," he said. "I was fine to drive.

"Then it all came crashing down. Two girls paid the price. My parents were crushed, and I ended up in a prison cell looking through bars at rolls of razor wire."

The worst moment, Smallridge said, came during his trial.

When he went to leave the bar that night, his truck wouldn't start. He called a friend for help. The friend tried to stop him from driving and told him he was too drunk to drive. Smallridge, however, insisted he jump start the vehicle.

On the stand, the friend related these facts. He was asked if he knew Meagan and Lisa. To Smallridge's horror he replied yes, they were like his sisters — something Smallridge had not known. Here was another person he had hurt deeply, leaving scars.

Smallridge began the painful path of owning responsibility. He came to see his actions clearly and experienced deep remorse. When Napier contacted him to forgive him, they formed an unlikely alliance, determined to make a difference by speaking to students together whenever the special arrangements needed for Smallridge to travel could be arranged.

Have a plan, both insisted to the students. Bad choices are going to be made, protect yourselves.

Know what you are going to do if you become drunk. Call your parents, call a friend, call a cab, have a plan B. Do not drive.

Do not think it can never happen to you, they told the students. It can happen, and all it takes is a second.



News-Sun photo by CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY
Eric Smallridge warned LPHS students about driving under the influence, and more — the endless pain of remorse that comes with killing someone.

"I was a good driver. Everything would always be good. I was fine to drive. Then it all came crashing down. Two girls paid the price. My parents were crushed, and I ended up in a prison cell looking through bars at rolls of razor wire."

ERIC SMALLRIDGE
drunk driver who killed two women

State Rep. admits to harassing texts

Associated Press

MIAMI — A state legislator who admitted sending numerous inappropriate, harassing text messages using a hidden identity to a married federal prosecutor was home Thursday with his family amid a federal investigation into possible stalking.

A spokesman said Rep. Richard Steinberg, a married Miami Beach Democrat, returned home from Tallahassee even though both legislative chambers were in session. Steinberg, 39, and his wife have a young daughter.

"It's a family matter. That's the number one priority," said Steinberg spokesman Christian Ulvert.

Steinberg, responding to inquiries about the probe from The Miami Herald, issued a statement acknowledging that he sent "inappropriate and unsolicited messages" to Marlene Fernandez-Karavetsos, an assistant U.S. attorney in Miami he said he has known for 15 years. Steinberg's spokesman also provided a copy to The Associated Press.

"I deeply regret and wholeheartedly apologize for the disrespect that I have shown her, her husband and my constituents," Steinberg said in the statement. "Most importantly, words cannot express how sorry I am to my wife, for the disrespect I have shown her, and my entire family."

Pig can stay in home, and can have friend

Continued from page 1A

order to regulate animals within city limits, but McIntyre is still thrilled with the outcome.

"They have a few stipulations. We can only have up to two. There can be no breeding, which I wouldn't do anyway because boys are sometimes grouchy, and we have to have a vet health certificate and get them registered," McIntyre explained.

The potbellied pig issue was one of six topics on the agenda that were handled during Tuesday's meeting.

The council also approved allowing two hens per household city-wide.

The split vote came as no surprise to McIntyre, who knew that Councilman John Griffin was against the idea of keeping a pig in the city limits since day one.

"Griffin spoke up about

people complaining, but that was seven months ago and no one else has said anything since then," McIntyre said.

Councilmen Griffin and Bud Whitlock have both been against the pig, as well as any other "non-pet" animals, in homes within city limits.

However, Griffin and Whitlock were outnumbered 3-2 by Andrew Fells, John Clark and Scott Stanley, who each cast a vote in favor of the new animal ordinance.

"I was almost in tears. I'd rather give the dogs away. She's not noisy or anything like that and we love her. She's a part of our family," McIntyre said.

McIntyre has yet to decide if she will be adding another potbellied pig to their family in the future. Right now she is solely focused on Emma, who will celebrate her third birthday next month.

Senate honors slain Clay County detective

TALLAHASSEE (AP) — The Florida Senate has honored a Clay County sheriff's deputy who was killed investigating a tip on a meth laboratory. The chamber passed a resolution on Thursday expressing its sympathy to

the family and friends of David Adam White.

His wife, Jennifer, was present as the resolution passed. The 35-year-old detective died last week after a shootout at a Middleburg home.

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EDITORIAL & OPINION

TODAY'S EDITORIAL

No Child Left Behind won't be missed

Even in test-crazy Florida there was not one word of regret heard when it was announced that Florida would no longer be subject to the federal No Child Left Behind Act.

Florida was one of 10 states given waivers from NCLB by the Obama administration, largely because it and the other states had demonstrated they had standards and programs in place that were sufficient to meet Washington's educational goals for the country.

Leaving NCLB behind was welcome and overdue. The law's objectives were admirable, but its goals were

simply unrealistic.

Statewide last year, just 10 percent of the schools achieved "adequate yearly progress," the measure of expected improvement among all student subgroups.

What was frustrating to educators was that NCLB measured not only a school's overall performance, but the performance of eight different student subgroups, like low-income, non-English speaking and the disabled. If those groups did not make the desired benchmarks, the entire school was deemed non-proficient.

However well-intended, the law, as written, set schools up for failure.

While NCLB is no longer hanging over Florida, that is not to say that children will not be left behind as we move forward.



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A big part of the reason Florida received its waiver was because of its rigorous standards for all students, standards which just got tougher this year and will get even tougher next year.

Moreover, not only will students and schools be expected to score well on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test, they will be more closely measured on how much progress they

make from year to year.

Since its inception, testing has been used more to grade and degrade than to assess and diagnose. Insisting on high standards without providing solutions for those who cannot achieve them simply sets too many children and schools up for failure.

An editorial from the Gainesville Sun.



Whitney's death should be a lesson

Another tremendously talented American who had riches and fame beyond most people's dreams has killed herself with drugs. Whitney Houston's life was wrecked and cut tragically short at 48 because she became mired in the self-destructive hell of drug use.

In the late 1970s my birth brother was living in L.A. and working as a writer on "Laverne & Shirley," the number one-rated TV show in the country. It was pretty heady stuff for a 21-year-old kid from Ohio.

I remember him telling me how cocaine and other drugs were becoming increasingly popular with the creative crowd in Hollywood at the time.

He had more money than God and he found himself facing a tough choice: Put his money up his nose like everyone else or leave town.

He chose to leave. Many other young people we know never made the right choice with drugs and their lives ended like Houston's. Sunday night at the Academy Awards, Hollywood will be handing out Oscars to its brightest stars. At some point, tears will be shed for Whitney Houston.

She will be remembered, as she should be, for her great singing. But you can bet your favorite movie star's Malibu beach house that the drug lifestyle that sent Houston to an early grave will be conveniently forgotten.

Instead of pretending its chronic drug problem doesn't exist, or acting like choosing drugs is simply another lifestyle choice, Hollywood needs to take a strong stand against drug use. Illegal and legal.

The Academy Awards this weekend would be a good place to start doing the right thing. As an industry, Hollywood needs to start saying "No" to drugs.

Baseball is saying "No." Pro football is saying "No." Cycling, for Pete's sake, is saying "No." In the '80s my stepmother Nancy was saying "No." In the



Making Sense

Michael Reagan

'70s my 21-year-old birth brother had the sense to say "No."

Isn't it time for Hollywood and the rest of the entertainment industry to clean itself up?

Dr. Drew does what he can, but he can save only one celebrity drug addict at a time.

Hollywood needs to do more than cry at funerals. It could do so much more in the fight against drugs if its grownups had the guts to use Hollywood's enormous cultural influence for good (for a change).

Where are the Public Service Announcements, Mr. Spielberg or Ms. Jolie? Why aren't Hollywood's best and brightest cranking out anti-drug PSAs?

Why do we only hear people like Tony Bennett calling for the legalization of drugs?

The answer is not to legalize drugs, it's to get people to stop using them.

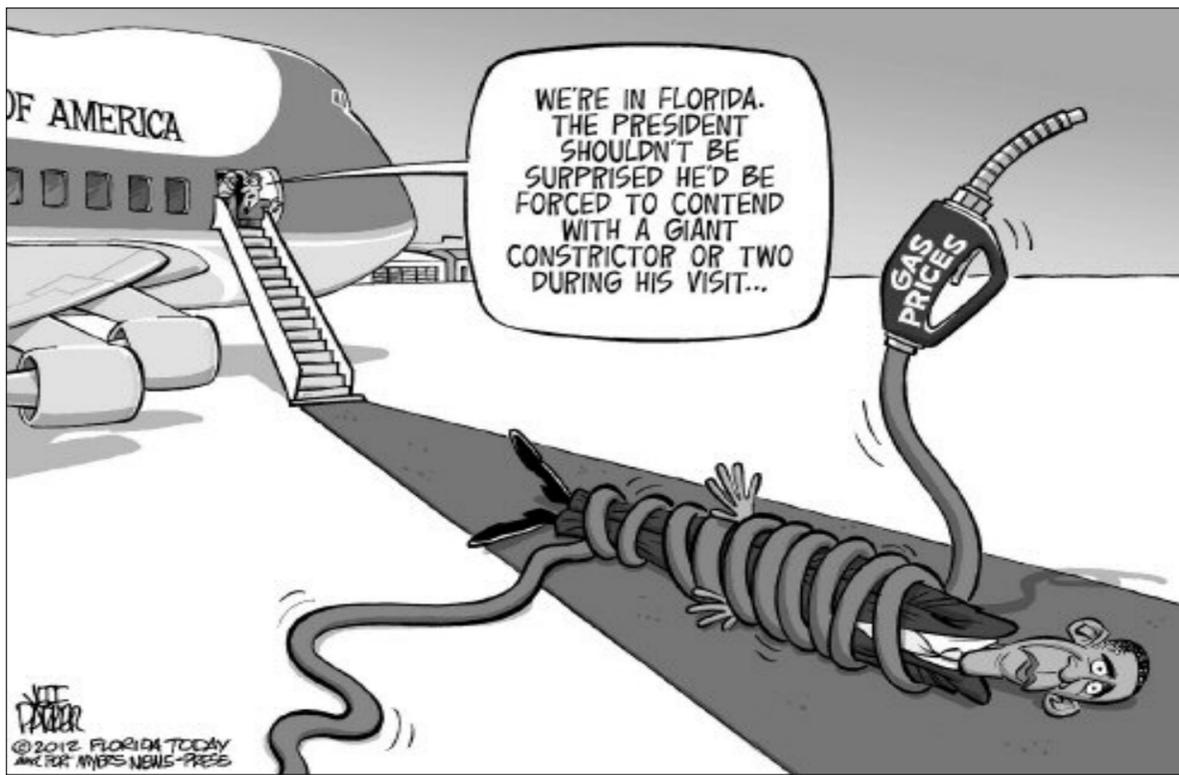
Come on, Hollywood, come together. For all of us, help "Stop the Madness" now. Speak as an industry with one voice: "No more drugs."

I grew up in Hollywood as the son of an Academy Award-winning actress. My mother Jane Wyman lived to be 90, dammit.

I want all the young talent to have the same opportunity my mother and so many others have had. I'm tired of watching our Michael Jacksons, Heath Ledgers and Whitney Houston die young because of drugs. The list goes on: Elvis, Chris Farley, John Belushi, and so many more.

As a country we must stop glossing over the tragedy of drug abuse. We should learn a lesson and work on the solution..

Michael Reagan is the son of President Ronald Reagan, a political consultant, and the author of "The New Reagan Revolution" (St. Martin's Press, 2011). He is the founder and chairman of The Reagan Group and president of The Reagan Legacy Foundation. Visit his website at www.reagan.com, or e-mail comments to Reagan@caglecartoons.com.



TODAY'S LETTERS

Issues from 'clown car' era persist

Editor:

As the Republican party winnows down its list of potential candidates, a few issues from the "clown car" era persist. (Rick Santorum, now in contention declares himself "A true conservative." After explaining his position on contraceptives he refuses to take a position on the resurgence of the chastity belt industry. Jury is still out.

Michelle Bachman continues to insist that knowing the location of John Wayne's birthplace is of critical importance.

Newt (Gingrich) helps Callesta shellac her hair, while Ron Paul argues for doing away with all paper money for a real gold standard.

Marco Rubio, being given a little more leash by his gray eminence, Jeb Bush, has launched himself as a newly emerged expert on foreign affairs, particularly Afghanistan, Iran and of course, Cuba, having studied at the knee of no less an expert than Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, who still pours the Kool-aid for the Bay of Pigs veterans and the Bolart brothers, declaring the necessity of continuing our ineffectual embargo of Cuba.

Marco, now warming to the possibility of being selected as vice president for the Republican candidate, is trying desperately to appear well informed, an uphill effort at best. At the recent CPAC convention he loudly repeated all of the current slogans popular with the group, showing his political acumen, and fellow traveler credentials. Yep, I'm with Jeb.

Randy Ludacer
Lake Placid

More good political leaders needed

Editor:

Feb. 14, a Tampa Tribune columnist referred to Sen. J.D. Alexander of Polk County as a petulant prince and his recent actions as chairman of the

Senate's budget committee as vile. The Senator is quoted as saying he has "no confidence in the stewardship of USF based on their actions."

If you're a "late comer" to this foray, read the article from Pam Iorio (former Tampa mayor) concerning the Senator's actions and the effect on not only University of South Florida but the area. The Tampa Bay area/community needs more Iorios, Genshafts and fewer Alexanders.

Max Glenn
Sebring

Global powers must be calmed

Editor:

Global powers have collectively destroyed the American working class in America and around the world. These rogue corporations have also destroyed free elections in America.

These rogue corporations have destroyed the sovereignty of many nations, where they have promoted unfair trade so as to destroy the host nation. They, rather than the governments of many nations, control "all borders" of these nations.

They, global powers, collectively are a destroyer of nations.

It is time for America to nationalize energy. For without stable energy prices, we will cease to exist as a nation.

Let the American people decide. Put the nationalization of energy on the 2012 ballot.

The outsourcing of our jobs and the outsourcing of "our" energy has to cease.

Global Powers — Can global powers and a free democracy co-exist? We the people cannot co-exist with global powers. They have destroyed the working class worldwide. It has also destroyed the sovereignty of all nations. They promote open borders worldwide. No nations' economy can withstand the unfair trade deals they create. They have created world financial collapses.

The United States working class has been destroyed by the off shoring of all of our jobs by global powers.

The lack of control of America's energy corporations has been one of the contributors to America's financial collapse; the high cost of fuel where American refineries sell gasoline on the world market to the highest bidder. They have completely ignored the fact that everything that is under the ground belongs to the American public. The people we elect to protect the public interest are failing to do their jobs. It is not in the public interest to sell our refined gasoline on the open market to the point of collapsing our financial markets.

It does no good to spend trillions of dollars on placing troops around the world and then allow American corporations and global powers to destroy us from within.

They, the global powers, have bankrupted all of our financial institutions. The American Building and Real Estate Market has been destroyed

Without jobs, millions of Americans have lost their homes, for without jobs property taxes and mortgages cannot be paid. The American voting system is where public officials have been bought and paid for by the global powers.

The American people must hold all public servants accountable for this financial problem, where global powers control our trading laws and our people are held captive to a monster called global power.

The American government should freeze all global powers' assets located in these United States. They have violated the property and voting rights of all Americans. Do we have a democracy where all people are equal?

Global powers are in the drivers' seat of the American government; a nation that is supposed to be the shining light of freedom, where all people are equal under our Constitution.

Billie E. Jewett
Sebring

Golf cart donation raises \$4,195



(From left) Betty Robinson, Barb Giese, Rich Weaver, Pat Weaver, Pat Farrer, Ken Giese, Alan Holmes and Nancy Holmes with the golf cart Holmes donated to Reflections on Silver Lake to be used in conjunction with charity fundraising efforts. Heading up ticket sales were Barb and Ken Giese, Betty Robinson and Pat Farrer. On Feb. 10, at the Reflections Sock Hop, the winning ticket was drawn and the golf cart was awarded to Reflections residents Pat and Rich Weaver. Golf cart ticket sales totaled \$4,195 and will be divided between the American Cancer Society, American Diabetes Foundations and Hope Hospice. The Sock Hop was also a fundraising event that generated \$1,124. In addition to the previously mentioned charities, DJ Jim Stopa and Emcee Doug Grant requested that dance proceeds also be divided among Samaritan's Touch and the World War II Honor Flight Network.

Courtesy photo

OBITUARIES

DELLA PACKER

Della Geraldine Packer, 50, of Avon Park, died Feb. 18, 2012 at her home. Born on July 17, 1961 in Avon Park, and worked at Publix Deli in Fort Lauderdale. She was a 1979 graduate of Avon Park High School and was a member of Beulah Missionary Baptist Church in Avon Park.

She is survived by her daughter, Christina Packer of Fort Lauderdale; sons, Derwyn Packer and Marcus Packer, both of Fort Lauderdale; her mother, Viola Bell of Avon Park; sister, Judy Bell of Avon Park; brother, Benjamin Wright of Columbus, Ga.; and nine grandchildren.

Visitation will be from 6-8 p.m. Friday, Feb. 24 at Beulah Missionary Baptist Church. A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m.

Saturday, Feb. 25 at Beulah Missionary Baptist Church with the Rev. C.L. Carter officiating. Interment will be in Lakeview Memorial Gardens, Avon Park. Marion's Community Funeral Chapel entrusted with the final arrangements. (863) 452-5272

CHARLES WAKELIN

Charles Arthur Wakelin, age 90, passed away on Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2012 in Sebring, Fla. He was born in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada on July 19, 1921 to Elgin Arthur and Florence (Love) Wakelin. He was a member of Southside Baptist Church, a member of the Evangelical Alliance Mission as a missionary in Venezuela from 1951-1970. He was a certified entomologist and was certified in pest control. He served with the Migrant Ministry, Missionary Gospel Fellowship from 1972-1982. He was a resident of Sebring since 1992 coming from

Miami, Fla.

He is survived by his wife, Elsie Maude Wakelin, Sebring, Fla.; son, Douglas Arthur Wakelin, Sebring, Fla.; daughter, Charlene (Niles) Carmichael, Vero Beach, Fla.; sisters, Frances Berg, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada and Gladys Hanson, Three Hills, Alberta, Canada; and two grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and a son, Halsey Matthew Wakelin.

A funeral service will be held on Friday, Feb. 24, 2012 at 11 a.m. at Southside Baptist church with Rev. David Altman officiating. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. until service time. Burial will be immediately following the services. Contributions may be made in his memory to TEAM, P.O. Box 969, Wheaton, IL 60187.

Stephenson-Nelson Funeral Home
Sebring, Florida
stephensonnelsonfh.com

LeMieux: Mack is 'Charlie Sheen' of Fla. politics

By BRENDAN FARRINGTON

AP Political Writer

TALLAHASSEE — The Republican Senate primary race got personal Wednesday as former Sen. George LeMieux called Rep. Connie Mack IV "the Charlie Sheen of Florida politics" because of past run-ins with the law, and Mack's campaign responded that LeMieux is "an extraordinary political hack" who used his relationship with former Gov. Charlie Crist to become rich and powerful.

LeMieux cited a Miami Herald review of Mack's court records and financial documents to assert that Mack doesn't have the character or temperament to serve in the U.S. Senate.

"What we see is a 20-year pattern of misconduct," LeMieux said at a news conference. "Road rage incidents, bar fights and arrests; unable to pay his own taxes while a member of Congress; sued by his condominium association, his yacht club, his lawyer; not paying his family support payment."

LeMieux said attacking Mack on personal character

'Connie Mack the Fourth is the Charlie Sheen of Florida politics. In fact, that may be disrespectful to Charlie Sheen.'

SEN. GEORGE LeMIEUX candidate

issues is fair game because Mack has done the same for years, including calling Republican presidential candidate Newt Gingrich dangerous and erratic. Mack supports Mitt Romney for the GOP nomination. Likewise, LeMieux questioned Mack's behavior.

"You can't come away from a rap sheet like this and conclude anything other than Connie Mack the Fourth is the Charlie Sheen of Florida politics. In fact, that may be disrespectful to Charlie Sheen," LeMieux said. "With a record like this Connie Mack the Fourth cannot be hired, in my view, to be a teacher, to be a bank officer or to be a policeman, let alone should he be hired to be a United States senator."

Sheen lost his job on "Two and a Half Men" after a drug-fueled meltdown. Sheen was also arrested in 2009 for suspicion of assaulting his now ex-wife. Mack has not faced such charges.

Among the examples cited by LeMieux were Mack's bar fight with then-Atlanta Braves outfielder Ron Gant in 1992, an arrest for resisting an officer without violence after an argument outside a Jacksonville nightclub in 1989, two road rage incidents in the late 80s, a late support payment to his first wife, a loan from his father so he could pay his federal income tax, an overdrawn checking account and failure to pay debts on time.

Expecting to be attacked, Mack's campaign issued a letter from campaign manager Jeff Cohen attacking LeMieux and his ties to Crist. LeMieux served as Crist's deputy attorney general, ran Crist's 2006 campaign for governor and served as chief of staff after Crist won the election. After leaving Crist's office, LeMieux continue to advise the governor.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Continued from page 2A

"Intermediate" level as the first half of the trip will require a strong paddle upstream (against the current).

If you are a first-timer, beginner, or have a busy schedule in the morning, plan on a very easy three-mile journey (approximately 1 1/2 hours) at 12:30 p.m. This trip is ideal for kids too. Launch from Thompson's Fish Camp at the entrance to the Air Force Range.

To register, call Sebring Kayak Tours at 202-0815.

Big Red Bus heads to Lake Placid

LAKE PLACID — The Big Red Bus will visit Lake Placid Elks Lodge 2661 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. today. Calls will be made to previous donors so an appointment time can be scheduled. If you haven't donated before, stop by and it will only take approximately an hour of your time. Donors will receive a free movie voucher.

If you are a 'winter' donor and have not been contacted, call Peg Murray at 465-5707 or Terry Casey at 699-0774.

Pilates in the Park This Saturday

SEBRING — Gold's Gym is partnering with the Sebring Community Redevelopment Agency to host 'Pilates in the Park' series one Saturday each month through May at 10 a.m. in Downtown Sebring's Circle Park. This event is free for anyone to attend and perfect for any exercise level.

Come enjoy the beauty and charm of Downtown Sebring's Circle Park while increasing your strength and flexibility. Participants are encouraged to bring a mat or towel and enjoy 50 minutes of pilates fun. After the class, Gold's Gym will give away one 30-day free membership and distribute free week-long passes for everyone who attends.

Sales benefit Relay for Life

AVON PARK — A yard sale at 2161 N. Sterling Road in Avon Park from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday will have all proceeds go to benefit Relay for Life.

A second garage sale is planned for 12 W. LaGrande St., off of North Lake Avenue. Several families are involved in this sale, which will take place from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. today and Saturday. Again, all proceeds will go to benefit the American Cancer Society Relay for Life.

Emmanuel United Church of Christ has parking lot sale

SEBRING — A parking lot sale is being held from 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday at Emmanuel United Church of Christ, 3115 Hope St., 1.8 miles west of U.S. 27 on Hammock Road. This annual bargain hunters' bonanza features a large selection of

sale-priced household and lawn items, furniture, small appliances, jewelry, collectibles, hand tools, dishes, books and more.

Coffee and doughnuts are available for early arrivals; hot dogs and sodas are served later. Call 471-1999.

Indiana Marshall County Day set

SEBRING — The annual Hoosier Marshall County Day will occur today at Homer's Restaurant, one block east of Walmart in Sebring Square. The program begins at 11 a.m. Registration is from 10-11 a.m. Meet in the Manatee Room.

Marshall County residents and guests are welcome.

Sebring Utilities plans hydrant flush

SEBRING — The City of Sebring Utilities Department will begin its annual flushing of fire hydrants on weekends starting today. Flushing will be done in the evening from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. to minimize inconvenience to customers.

At all times, the water remains safe for consumption. If cloudiness or discoloration occurs after flushing in your area, flush the service line by opening a faucet for 10 minutes. If water doesn't clear, call 471-5112 during business hours or 471-0166 after hours.

Skylarks play at Dance Club

SEBRING — The Highlands Social Dance Club hosts dancing at the Senior Center on Sebring Parkway from 7-9:30 p.m. today. Have fun and dance the night away to the music of the Skylarks Orchestra.

Bring a beverage, ice provided. Soft drinks, hamburgers and sandwiches will be available at the Snack Bar. Admission is \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members. Appropriate dress is required.

Call 471-0559.

Woodcarving Show is Saturday

SEBRING — The 15th annual Highlands Woodcarving Show, "Artistry in Wood," will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday at the Sebring Elks Lodge 1529, 2618 Kenilworth Blvd., at the northwest corner of Lakeview Drive. There will be a carving competition, vendors, carving demonstrations, door prizes and refreshments. Admission is

\$3. Call Bob Seybolt at 471-6077.

California Toe Jam Band plays at Music in the Park Concert

SEBRING — California Toe Jam Band will bring their Oldies Rock 'n Roll to Highlands Hammock State Park on Saturday.

Concert admission is \$5 per person (accompanied children 12 and under admitted free of charge). Bring a lawn chairs or blankets and flashlight. Proceeds benefit park improvements. Park entrance fee of \$6 per vehicle (up to eight people per car) is waived after 6 p.m. on concert nights. Call 386-6094 or visit www.FloridaStateParks.org/highlandshammock.

Democratic Women meet Saturday

SEBRING — The Democratic Women's Club of Highlands County will meet at 10 a.m. Saturday at Democratic Headquarters next to Ruby Tuesdays.

Call Elli Million at 382-4944.

Senior Karaoke Contest to benefit Nu-Hope

AVON PARK — The Lester Kesselring Memorial Senior Karaoke Contest will be held from 1-5 p.m. Saturday at Duffers Sports Grille. Prize categories for the top female and male singers will be \$100 for first place, \$75 for second, and \$50 for third.

Seniors age 55 or older are eligible to compete. There is a \$5 entry fee to compete, with proceeds benefiting Nu-Hope Elder Care Services. There is no cover charge to watch the fun, so come on out, enjoy the entertainment and support a great cause. Call 452-6339.

Garden Club plans annual card party

SEBRING — The Sebring Garden Club will hold its annual card party Thursday, March 1. Proceeds from this event benefit our Scholarship Fund for a worthy high school senior in Highlands County.

There will be door prizes, a silent auction table and, as always, a delicious luncheon. The party will be at the Jack Stroup Civic Center in downtown Sebring from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Reservations can be made by calling 471-9979. Players may bring the games of their choice. Tickets are \$8.

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News-Sun photo by SAMANTHA GHOLAR

Cowboys continue their trek across Highlands County to State Road 66 after a visit at Cracker Trail Elementary school Wednesday morning.

Cracker Trail ride makes stop at Cracker Trail Elementary

Continued from page 1A

riding?" asked one of Mrs. Sandra Essery's second graders.

Sarah counted the years on her fingers quickly.

"This is my third, no, fourth time riding," Hamsher stated.

Hamsher and her young colt, Leroy, stood along side their friends Isabella Park and her horse, Jitter Bug, also of Englewood and cowboy Cody Noordzy.

Park and Hamsher answered several questions, both normal and odd ones, from curious second graders, while Noordzy entertained the students with his whip cracking.

Some of the students seemed unfamiliar

with the animal and held no questions back. "How do they use the rest room?" one student asked.

Hamsher laughed lightly.

"They use it just like us, it just comes out back there," Hamsher said pointing toward the rear of her friend's horse.

Hamsher said goodbye to the students and joined her father as the three-minute warning was called for the riders.

The riders saddled up and began the formation for the trek through the rest of Highlands County.

As the cowboys and horses crossed Sparta Road and headed towards State Road 66 students and faculty bid them all farewell.

Report: Crime at US public schools on the decline

Associated Press

MIAMI — Violent crime at the nation's schools is declining, and students and schools are reporting less bullying and gang activity.

But new government data reports an increase in cyber bullying and youth suicides.

"Cyber bullying issue has really moved to center stage and that's probably the next major challenge that school officials and others will have to address," said Ron Stephens, executive director of the National School Safety Center, a nonprofit advocacy organization.

He said the higher number of suicides wasn't surprising.

"I think that's a number we'll see increasing based on what's happening with all the cyber bullying," Stephens said.

The number of violent deaths declined to 33 in the 2009-10 school year, the lowest number on record since the agencies began collecting data in 1992, according to data released by the U.S. Department of Education and the Department of Justice on Wednesday. In the previous

school year, there were 38 such deaths. Thefts and nonfatal violent crimes declined from 1.2 million in 2008 to 828,000 in 2010.

"Students perceive schools as being safer than they were," said Tom Snyder, a project director of the National Center for Education Statistics

While the data show a consistent decline across several indicators, there were increases in a few areas, including cyber bullying and suicides among youth age 5 - 18 outside of school. Some school safety advocates question whether the numbers are accurate at all, noting the data is collected through surveys and not incident based reporting.

"The federal reports grossly underestimate the extent of school violence," said Ken Trump, president of the National School Safety and Security Services, a Cleveland-based consulting firm.

Veronica Joyner, president of Parents United for Better Schools in Philadelphia, said the numbers did not ring true to her.

"It's underreported,"

Joyner said. "Many of the administrators will not report serious incidents because it looks like they're not doing their job at the school and that is part of their evaluation."

Snyder said the report is based on seven surveys.

"We were showing fairly consistent patterns of decreases," he said.

Of the 33 violent deaths involving students, staff and others on school campuses, 25 were homicides, five were suicides and three involved a law enforcement officer. Among youth ages five to 18, there were 17 homicides and one suicide that occurred on school grounds.

The highest number of violent deaths at schools occurred in the 2006-07 school year, when there were 63.

"These tragic incidents are fortunately relatively rare, but it's hard to interpret a change from one year to another," Snyder said. "The numbers are lower but you don't know if it's part of a national pattern or just reflecting random occurrences in those years."

Ordinance would put special events in three categories

Continued from page 1A

sible special events in the county, not just mud bogging. And the proposed ordinance would only affect the unincorporated areas of the county," Hill said.

Hill also explained that the events covered were only the ones commercial in nature that had fees for attendees or vendors.

The proposed ordinance had three categories of special events, based on size of event based on participants.

Each "Special Event" was subject for review by the Sheriff's Office and Zoning Supervisor Linda Conrad.

A Minor Special Event included 200 or fewer participants, including employees of the event, and would be approved by county staff with department input.

"The county commission room holds 201 attendees, which should give you some idea of 200 participants," Hill said.

If turned down, organizers of a minor event could appeal to the county commission.

A Regular Special Event would consist of 201 to 1,000 attendees and either staff or the applicant can request that review for approval be taken to the county commission for approval.

A Major Special Event involves more than 1,000 participants, is commercial in nature and all recommendations by the county departments and the sheriff are to be forwarded to the commission for review and approval.

According to Hill, the proposed ordinance contains considerable detail for site plans, noise, lighting and signage and limited events to six per year on any one property.

"Staff considered whether six or more events (a year) ... would require re-zoning," Hill said.

Hill also advised that he had held discussion with Gabe White and Jeff Kennedy, organizers of the proposed Swamp Hammock outdoor recreation facility and who were currently seeking approval for several events at Saddleridge.

"We have discussed this with a property owner, who was really proposing an outdoor theme park. We recommended that the property owner seek rezoning," Hill said.

The proposed ordinance also includes a chart of what special events can be permit-

'We have defined every event from large to small, from a lawnmower race to a carnival to a fair to mud bogging and indicated what zoning they would be appropriate in.'

MARK HILL
Development Services Director

ted in each zoning districts, according to Hill, but did not cover Swamp Hammock.

"We have defined every

event from large to small, from a lawnmower race to a carnival to a fair to mud bogging and indicated what zoning they would be appropriate in," Hill said.

"We are greatly concerned about a property being used daily, weekly or monthly for a use like (Swamp Hammock)," Hill added. "We do not have what area is appropriate for a theme park in our zoning."

"That would be a different ordinance and a change to the LDRs (Land Development Regulations)," said Hill.

The schedule for the ordinance puts a final draft in front of the commissioners by mid-June, Hill said.

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Prices effective Thursday, February 23 through Wednesday, February 29, 2012. Visit publix.com/store to find the store nearest you. Liquor items are only available at Publix Liquors.

Taste of Highlands County to benefit Humane Society

Continued from page 1A

live auction beginning at 7 (p.m.," Smith said.

The Highlands County Sheriff's Office will be present along with Abby, a lovable Bison therapy dog and approximately 12 dogs on the agility course.

Local businesses and individuals have donated numerous items for the live auction including gift certificates, massage sessions and a karaoke party.

Smith hopes that the community will continue to support not only the Humane Society but local businesses as well.

"We hope that people will remember those restaurants when they go out to eat here

in Highlands County and we hope that people will feel like this is their Humane Society; it is an extension of our humanity to help these animals," said Smith.

Taste of Highlands County starts at 4 p.m. Sunday at the Ag Center when guests will be served all they can eat of Highlands County's finest foods. A live auction will follow dinner.

Tickets are \$25 for adults \$15 for children and limited number will be available at the door. Tickets may be purchased at the Highlands County Humane Society (7321 Haywood Taylor Blvd.) or the Sebring Chamber of Commerce (27 US Highway 27 North).

For more information, contact Smith at 655-1522.

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'Caylee's Law' proposal stalls in Iowa, other states

By MIKE GLOVER
Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — Lawmakers under pressure from constituents in the months after the Casey Anthony trial have found it's not easy to toughen penalties for parents who don't immediately report missing children.

Seventeen states tried to pass "Caylee's Law" legislation — named after Anthony's 2-year-old daughter whose 2008 disappearance in Florida was not reported for a month — but many of these efforts have failed or stalled over concerns that proposed changes were too broad, and in some cases, not necessary. Iowa is the latest state to face difficulty trying to strengthen penalties involving how and when parents report missing children. Lawmakers on Wednesday rejected a bill that would have required parents to know their children were safe in any 24-hour period.

A jury found Anthony not guilty in July in the death of her daughter, whose body was found in woods near her grandparents' Orlando home six months after she was reported missing. The trial, which was shown on live television, captivated the country, and her acquittal triggered outrage among hundreds of thousands of people who posted about the case on social media sites.

Lawmakers also heard from constituents who urged them to take action.

"They saw what they thought was an injustice. We need to have some response," said Iowa Rep. Julian Garrett, a Republican from Indianola.

But passing legislation attempting to strengthen missing children's laws has been difficult in many states. Only one, New Jersey, has put a new law on its books, said Rich Williams, a policy associate with the National Conference of State Legislatures' Criminal Justice Program.

The Iowa legislative panel rejected the proposed law Wednesday after some questioned whether it was too vague. Marty Ryan, a lobbyist for the Iowa chapter of the Sacramento, Calif.-based Justice Reform Coalition, speculated that it would require parents to check in daily with children sent to summer camp.

Rep. Jeff Kaufmann, who co-sponsored the Iowa bill, acknowledged the measure needed work. "We clearly are moving too fast on this," said Kaufmann, R-Wilton.

By not approving the bill, the panel made it likely the proposal wouldn't meet a legislative deadline and would be dropped for this session.

Unlike the Iowa proposal, Williams said, most of the measures proposed in other



Erin Andersen kneels in front of a memorial for Caylee Anthony Right in Orlando in July of 2011. MCT photo



statehouses require a parent to know a child is missing, avoiding the scenario of having to check on a child at camp. But he said many states have become stuck on determining the age in which the proposals should apply.

In some cases, lawmakers have questioned whether stronger missing children laws are necessary.

Nebraska state Sen. Tony Fulton said he was inspired by the Anthony case to introduce the bill that would increase penalties for con-

cealing a death. But at a hearing in January, Sen. Burke Harr of Omaha called the proposal a "feel-good law" that would make little difference in most homicide cases, including those involving a parent accused of killing a child.

"If you have enough to prove they dumped the body, you probably have enough to prove that, at a minimum, they're an accessory after the fact and probably responsible for this crime," Harr said. A committee held a hear-

ing Wednesday on the other Nebraska bill, which requires a parent or guardian to report a child missing within 72 hours, but lawmakers took no action.

In South Dakota, a bill was approved overwhelmingly by

the state Senate that gives parents 48 hours to report a missing child. State Attorney General Marty Jackley said the measure is needed because the state dealt with its own case last year in which a mother in Winner gave birth and left the baby to die in a bathroom. The woman was prosecuted for manslaughter and desertion of a child, Jackley said.

The South Dakota Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers opposed the bill, saying it was too broad. The measure is set for a hearing this week in the House.

The Florida Legislature also is still considering a bill, but it has been changed to make it more narrowly focused on people who "knowingly and willingly" mislead police, resulting in the death of a child.

Some lawmakers say passing missing child reporting legislation is not the solution because in a case such as Caylee Anthony's a measure forcing requirements on parents wouldn't have saved the girl. Iowa Rep. Mary Wolfe, a Democrat from Clinton, said the lesson with the Anthony murder trial was not that penalties should be enhanced for failing to report a missing child, but that prosecutors need to do a better job of building their cases.

"They didn't have the evidence in that case," Wolfe said.

Gov. loses another agency head

Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE — Florida Gov. Rick Scott is losing another agency head after just a year in office.

Jack Miles, the secretary of the Department of Management Services, resigned from his \$140,000 a year job on Tuesday. Miles plans to stay in his post until March 31.

Miles, who joined the Scott administration after retiring from the corporate world, becomes another in a line of officials who have left in the last few months. Two other agency heads announced their departures in January.

One of those who left was Secretary of State Kurt Browning. Doug Darling, the head of a newly formed state

agency designed to promote Gov. Rick Scott's campaign promise to create 700,000 new jobs across Florida, resigned after just four months in his post.

Miles said on Wednesday that it was time to step down and that he had promised Scott he would stay through his first two legislative sessions.

Miles, 59, oversaw the department that acts as the administrative arm of state government dealing with everything from state buildings to health insurance for state workers. While in office, he negotiated changes to the health insurance contracts that are projected to save the state \$400 million over a two-year period.

The agency had come

under fire before Scott took office, including over how it supervised the construction of a new courthouse that critics called a "Taj Mahal."

"We have done a lot to improve the image with the Legislature," Miles said. "We're in a lot better shape."

Scott's first big shakeup happened over the summer when Tallahassee insider Steve MacNamara was brought in to take over as chief of staff.

Former Department of Corrections Secretary Edwin Buss was fired in August after a series of clashes with Scott, who blamed philosophical differences over management style on the separation. Browning is now running for Pasco County schools superintendent.

First combat mission was last for soldier who felt 'obligation'

Continued from page 2A

Luke was contemplating college when a high school friend, Army Spc. Shawn Murphy, 24, was killed in Baghdad, Iraq, on Dec. 10, 2006. Soon after Cindy gave her son the devastating news, he told her he'd made a decision.

"I can't go to school, mom," Luke said. "This is my war, and this is my obligation."

Pyeatt brought the same selfless attitude to war-torn southern Afghanistan. He had been there only a few weeks when word got around that Marines were needed for a dangerous mission outside the wire of their base.

"This is my time," fellow 2nd Radio Battalion Marines quoted Luke as saying. "I'm going first since I'm the team leader."

Tragically, Cpl. Pyeatt's first combat mission would be his last. According to the Pentagon, the 24-year-old Marine was killed on Feb. 5, 2011, while conducting combat operations in Afghanistan's Helmand Province.

Luke's mom still wonders if they could have escaped the bad news by leaving their house before the military messenger arrived that morning. Still, the outpouring of love from their West Chester, Ohio, community, as well as their faith, comforts the Pyeatts.

"I was mad for a long time, but I don't feel angry anymore," the Gold Star mother said. "I know Luke isn't gone."

The night before my interview with the Marine's parents, Scott sat down to read a letter Cpl. Lucas Pyeatt

wrote to his family, including his sister, Emily, in case the worst happened in Afghanistan. After reading his words, it became clear that one day, the family would be reunited.

"I was impressed because he said 'I can't wait to be together again, but there's no hurry,'" the Gold Star father said. "And that's Luke."

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

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- ### Index
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 - 2000 Employment
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1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION FILE NO. PC 12-01 Division Probate

IN RE: ESTATE OF JANIE MAE FLEMING Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 (Summary Administration)

TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS AGAINST THE ABOVE ESTATE:

You are hereby notified that an Order of Summary Administration has been entered in the estate of Janie Mae Fleming, deceased, File Number PC 12-01, by the Circuit Court for HIGHLANDS County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 430 S. Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida 33870; that the decedent's date of death was October 6, 2011; that the total value of the estate is \$60,000.00 and that the names and addresses of those to whom it has been assigned by such order are:

Name	Address
James Fleming	175 N. Dover Road Avon Park, FL 33825

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE NOTIFIED THAT:

All creditors of the estate of the decedent and persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent other than those for whom provision for full payment was made in the Order of Summary Administration must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE.

ALL CLAIMS AND DEMANDS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER APPLICABLE TIME PERIOD, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO (2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECEDENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this Notice is February 17, 2012.

Person Giving Notice:
 /s/ James Fleming
 175 N. Dover Road
 Avon Park, Florida 33825

Attorney for Person Giving Notice:
 /s/ David F. Lanier
 E-Mail Address: lanier30@embarqmail.com
 Florida Bar No. 045399
 DAVID F. LANIER
 P.O. Box 400
 Avon Park, Florida 33826-0400
 February 17, 24, 2012

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT OF THE 10TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY CASE #: 2011-CA-000771 DIVISION #:

Bank of America National Association, Successor by Merger to BAC Home Loans Servicing, L.P. /k/a Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, L.P.
 Plaintiff,

-vs.-
 Gregory D. Luce and Katarzyna Luce, His Wife; Heartland National Bank; Unknown Parties in Possession #1, if living, and all Unknown parties claiming by, through, under and against the above named 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; Unknown Parties in Possession #2, if living, and all Unknown parties claiming by, through, under and against the above named 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

NOTICE OF ACTION

FORECLOSURE PROCEEDINGS-PROPERTY

TO: Gregor D. Luce, WHOSE RESIDENCE IS: 1831 Nakomis Avenue, La Crosse, WI 54603 and Katarzyna Luce, ADDRESS UNKNOWN BUT WHOSE LAST KNOWN ADDRESS IS: 1211 Shamrock Drive, Sebring, FL 33875

Residence unknown, if living, including any unknown spouse of the said Defendant, if either has remarried and if either or both of said Defendants are dead, their respective unknown heirs, devisees, grantees, assignees, creditors, lienors, and trustees, and all other persons claiming by, through, under or against the named Defendant(s); and the aforementioned named Defendant(s) and such of the aforementioned unknown Defendants and such of the aforementioned unknown Defendants as may be in infants, incompetents or otherwise not sui juris.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action has been commenced to foreclose a mortgage on the following real property, lying and being and situated in Highlands County, Florida, more particularly described as follows:
 LOT 20, BLOCK 4, ERIN PARK, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 5, PAGE 77, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

more commonly known as 1211 Shamrock Drive, Sebring, FL 33875.

This action has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defense, if any, upon SHAPIRO, FISHMAN & GACHE, LLP, Attorneys for Plaintiff, whose address is 4630 Woodland Corporate Blvd., Suite 100, Tampa, FL 33614, within thirty (30) days after the first publication of this notice 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.

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on the 8th day of February, 2012.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE
 Circuit and County Courts
 By: /s/ Toni Kopp
 Deputy Clerk

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact Court Administration at 430 S. Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida 33870, telephone (863)534-4690, within two (2) working days of receipt of this Notice; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 1-800-955-8771.

February 17, 24, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE No.: FC-12-24

VICKY ANN SIKES AGUILERA
 Petitioner;
 and,
 JOSE REFUGIO SIKES AGUILERA,
 Respondent.

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: Jose Refugio Sikes Aguilera
 YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for dissolution of marriage has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to: Vicky Ann Sikes Aguilera, Petitioner, 5601 N. Key, Sebring, Florida 33875, on or before March 29, 2012, and file the original with the Clerk of Court, 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida 33870, either before service on Petitioner, or immediately thereafter, otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the petition.

DATED: February 24, 2012

ROBERT W. GERMAINE
 As Clerk of the Court
 By: /s/ Kathy Whitlock
 As Deputy Clerk

Florida Default Law Group, P.L.
 P.O. Box 25018
 Tampa, Florida 33622-5018
 F11013655
 COUNTRY-CONV-R-UNASSIGNED-Team
 2-F11013655
 "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.

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION FILE NO. PC 12-45

IN RE: ESTATE OF ROBERT R. GRAVES Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of Robert R. Graves, deceased, whose date of death was June 11, 2010, and the last four digits of whose social security number are 0457, is pending in the Circuit Court for Highlands County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 590 South Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida 33870. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

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

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

The date of first publication of this Notice is February 17, 2012.

Personal Representatives:
 /s/ Deborah W. Honderick
 5012 Lancer Drive
 Sebring, Florida 33876

Attorney for Personal Representative:
 /s/ Charlotte C. Stone
 Attorney for Deborah W. Honderick
 Florida Bar Number: 21297
 Stone & Walder, P.L.
 3200 US Hwy 27 S., Suite 304
 Sebring, FL 33870
 Telephone: (863)402-5424
 Fax: (863)402-5425
 E-Mail: Charlotte@StoneandWalder.com
 February 17, 24, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION CASE NO.: 09001544GCS

BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., Plaintiff,
 vs.
 MARIE G. LOUIS, et al, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated February 15, 2012 and entered in Case No. 09001544GCS 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 MARIE G. LOUIS; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF MARIE G. LOUIS N/K/A MATTHEW LOUIS; 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 COURT-HOUSE, 430 SOUTH COMMERCE AVENUE at 11:00 AM, on the 14th day of March, 2012, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment.

THE SOUTH 1/2 OF LOT 8, BLOCK 24, AVON PARK ESTATES UNIT II, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 10 AT PAGE 22, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

A/K/A 1346 S. MUNSON RD., 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 16, 2012.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE
 Clerk of the Circuit Court
 By: /s/ Annette E. Daff
 Deputy Clerk

Florida Default Law Group, P.L.
 P.O. Box 25018
 Tampa, Florida 33622-5018
 F11013655
 COUNTRY-CONV-R-UNASSIGNED-Team
 2-F11013655
 "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.

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION FILE NO. PC 12-42

IN RE: ESTATE OF ROBERTA SUCHMAN-TORENO

a/k/a ROBERTA ANN SUCHMAN a/k/a BOBBI TORENO a/k/a BOBBI ROBERTA SUCHMAN a/k/a BOBBI ANN TORENO Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of Roberta Suchman-Toreno, deceased, whose date of death was December 7, 2011, is pending in the Circuit Court for Highlands County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 590 South Commerce Ave., Sebring, FL 33870. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

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

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

The date of first publication of this Notice is February 24, 2012.

Personal Representative:
 /s/ Valerie Goode
 6601 SW 80th Street
 Ste 109
 Miami, Florida 33143

Attorney for Personal Representative:
 /s/ Cheryl Cheryl Silverman, Esq.
 Attorney for Valerie Goode
 Florida Bar Number: 373710
 1533 Sunset Drive, Ste 120
 Coral Gables, FL 33143
 Telephone: (305) 665-6934
 Fax: (305) 665-6956
 E-Mail: Cheryl@cheryllawoffice.com
 February 24, March 2, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO. 11273GCS

TD BANK, N.A., as successor by merger with Carolina First Bank, as successor by merger with Mercantile Bank, Plaintiff,
 vs.
 REGINALD DENTON KNIGHT, et al, Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated August 31, 2011 entered in Civil Case No. 11273GCS of the Circuit Court of the 10th Judicial Circuit in and for Highlands County, Florida, wherein TD BANK, N.A., is Plaintiff and REGINALD DENTON KNIGHT; et al., are Defendant(s).

I will sell to the highest bidder for cash, in the Jury Assembly Room in the basement of the Highlands County Courthouse located at 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida at 11:00 a.m. on the 14th day of March, 2012, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

Lot 9, Block 43-A, SEBRING COUNTRY ESTATES SECTION TWO, according to the Plat as recorded in Plat Book 7, Page 34, of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida.

Street Address: 3332 Thunderbird Road, Sebring, FL 33872

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 15th day of February, 2012.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE
 Clerk of Circuit Court
 By: /s/ Annette E. Daff
 Deputy Clerk
 February 24, March 2, 2012

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION Case No.: 09001898GCS

Division: Civil
 LASALLE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE REGISTERED HOLDERS OF BEAR STEARNS ASSET BACKED SECURITIES 1 TRUST 2007-HE4 ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-HE4 Plaintiff,
 vs.
 DENNIS ELDER; AMANDA ELDER; UNKNOWN TENANT #1; UNKNOWN TENANT #2; ALL OTHER UNKNOWN PARTIES ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING INTERESTS BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST A NAMED DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAME UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS, Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale, dated the 6th day of February, 2012, entered in Civil Case No.: 09001898GCS, of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for Highlands County, Florida, wherein LASALLE BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE REGISTERED HOLDERS OF BEAR STEARNS ASSET BACKED SECURITIES 1 TRUST 2007-HE4 ASSET BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-HE4 is Plaintiff, and DENNIS ELDER; AMANDA ELDER; UNKNOWN TENANT #1; UNKNOWN TENANT #2; ALL OTHER UNKNOWN PARTIES ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING INTERESTS BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST A NAMED DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAME UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS, are Defendants.

BOB GERMAINE, the Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest bidder for cash at 11:00 AM at the Jury Assembly Room, Basement, 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, FL 33870 on 7th day of March, 2012, the following described real property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:
 LOTS 12557 TO 12561 INCLUSIVE, 12562 AND 12563, UNIT 39, AVON PARK LAKES AS PER PLAT RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 5, PAGE 82, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

This property is located at the Street address of: 2022 West Oxnard Road, Avon Park, FL 33825.

If you are a person claiming a right to funds remaining after the sale, you must file a claim with the clerk no later than 60 days after the sale. If you fail to file a claim you will not be entitled to any remaining funds. After 60 days, only the owner of record as of the date of the lis pendens may claim the surplus.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of the court on February 7, 2012.

BOB GERMAINE
 CLERK OF THE COURT
 By: /s/ Toni Kopp
 Deputy Clerk
 (COURT SEAL)

February 17, 24, 2012

Notice is hereby given that Downtown Mini Storage LLC will sell at public auction at 195 S. Railroad Ave., Avon Park, Florida 33825 at 1:00 P.M. Saturday 3rd March 2012 to the highest bidder.

Items held for Daniel Teague, hospital bed, vacuum, fishing rods, dryer, toys, girls bike, tool chest, ladder, ice chests, truck box, king bed, TV, propane tank & stove, boxes & bags of unknown contents.

February 22, 24, 2012

FICTITIOUS NAME NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Pamela Martin-Makuk, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of pussnbootstrags.com located at 2202 Pinewood Blvd., Sebring, FL 33870 in Highlands County, Florida, intends to register said name with the Division of Corporations, Florida Department of State, pursuant to Section 865.09 of the Florida Statutes.

February 24, 2012

Subscribe to the News-Sun Call 385-6155

Attorney for Personal Representatives:
 Carol J. Wallace
 Florida Bar Number: 71059
 Elder Law Firm of Clements & Wallace, P.L.
 310 East Main Street
 Lakeland, Florida 33801
 Telephone: (863) 687-2287
 Fax: (863) 682-7385
 February 17, 24, 2012

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HENDRY COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION Case No. 11-CA-582 CENTERSTATE BANK OF FLORIDA, N.A., a National Association, Plaintiff, vs- CALVIN O'BANNON, a/k/a CALVIN M. O'BANNON, UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF CALVIN O'BANNON, BARBARA ANN O'BANNON, DIAMOND R FERTILIZER CO., INC., a Florida corporation, UNKNOWN TENANT #1, UNKNOWN TENANT #2, UNKNOWN TENANT #3, UNKNOWN TENANT #4, UNKNOWN TENANT #5, UNKNOWN TENANT #6, UNKNOWN TENANT #7 AND UNKNOWN TENANT #8, Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE: YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that pursuant to a Final Judgment for Reformation, in Foreclosure and for Assessment of Reasonable Attorney's Fees entered by Circuit Court Judge John E. Duryea, in and for Hendry County, Florida, wherein the cause is pending under docket number 11-CA-582, the Honorable Barbara S. Butler, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Hendry County, Florida, will offer for sale at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Hendry County Courthouse, Administration Department of the Clerk's Office, Second Floor, 25 E. Hickpochee Avenue, LaBelle, Florida, at 11:00 A.M. on the 14th day of March, 2012, within the legal hours of sale, the following described property:

PARCEL 1: (HENDRY COUNTY) Commence at the Southeast corner of Government Lot 1 in Section 14, Township 43 South, Range 28 East and run S 89 degrees 08' W, along the South boundary of Government Lot 1, a distance of 303 feet to the Point of Beginning of the parcel of land herein described; thence N 89 degrees 08' E 115 feet; thence N 0 degrees 23'00" W, parallel to the East line of Government Lot 1, a distance of 147 feet; thence N 89 degrees 08' E, 50 feet; thence N 0 degrees 23'00" W, 308 feet to the South waters edge of the Old Caloosahatchee River; thence Westerly, along said waters edge 165 feet, more or less, to a point which bears N 0 degrees 23'00" W, from the Point of Beginning; thence S 0 degrees 23'00" E, 485.6 feet to the Point of Beginning.

PARCEL 2: Lots 15 and 16, Block 273, Lake Sebring Subdivision, Sheet 4, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 2, Page 12, of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida.

PARCEL 3: East one-half of Lot 4, Block 2, Section 13, Township 33 South, Range 28 East, Town of Avon Park, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 1, Page 33, of the Public Records of DeSoto (now Highlands) County, Florida.

PARCEL 4: Lots 45, 46 and 47, Hillcrest Groves Subdivision, Section 18, Township 33 South, Range 29 East, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 1, Page 50, of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida. Also described as the Northeast one-quarter of the Southwest one-half of the Northwest one-quarter and the East one-half of the Northwest one-quarter of the Southwest one-quarter of said Section 18, Township 33 South, Range 29 East, Highlands County, Florida.

PERSONAL PROPERTY (AS TO CALVIN O'BANNON a/k/a CALVIN M. O'BANNON ONLY)

Accounts and Other Rights to Payment: All rights to payment, whether or not earned by performance, including, but not limited to, payment for property or services sold, leased, rented, licensed, or assigned. This includes any rights and interests (including all liens) which Debtor may have by law or agreement against any account debtor or obligor of Debtor.

Inventory: All inventory held for ultimate sale or lease, or which has been or will be supplied under contracts of service, or which are raw materials, work in process, or materials used or consumed in Debtor's business.

Equipment: All equipment including, but not limited to, machinery, vehicles, furniture, fixtures, manufacturing equipment, farm machinery and equipment, shop equipment, office and record keeping equipment, parts, and tools. The Property includes any equipment described in a list or schedule Debtor gives to lender, but such a list is not necessary to create a valid security interest in all of Debtor's equipment.

Instruments and Chattel Paper: All instruments, including negotiable instruments and promissory notes and any other writings or records that evidence the right to payment of a monetary obligation, and tangible and electronic chattel paper.

Farm Products and Supplies: All farm products including, but not limited to, all poultry and livestock and their young, along with their produce, products and replacements; all crops, annual or perennial, and all products of the crops; and all feed, seed, fertilizer, medicines, and other supplies used or produced in Debtor's farming operations.

Deposit Accounts: All deposit accounts including, but not limited to, demand, time, savings, pass-book, and similar accounts.

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.

DATED this 10th day of January, 2012. BARBARA S. BUTLER, Clerk of Circuit Court By: /s/ J.Bevis Deputy Clerk February 24, March 2, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO. 282011CA000516XXXXX BAC HOME LOANS SERVICING, LP, FKA COUNTRYWIDE HOME LOANS SERVICING, LP, Plaintiff, vs DAFFNE E. VAZQUEZ; et al., Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant an Order or Summary Final Judgment of foreclosure dated February 10, 2012, entered in Case No. 282011CA000516XXXXX of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for Highlands County, Florida, wherein BAC HOME LOANS SERVICING, LP, FKA COUNTRYWIDE HOME LOANS SERVICING, LP, is the Plaintiff and DAFFNE E. VAZQUEZ; SEBRING HILLS ASSOCIATION, INC.; HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA; THE UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF MANUEL LASTRA; 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 12th day of March, 2012, at 11:00 am, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

LOT 28, IN BLOCK 35, OF SEBRING HILLS SOUTH, UNIT NO. 2, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 9, 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.

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 10, 2012. ROBERT W. GERMAINE As Clerk, Circuit Court By: /s/ Annette E. Daff AS DEPUTY CLERK February 24, March 2, 2012

1100 Announcements

CHECK YOUR AD Please check your ad on the first day it runs to make sure it is correct. Sometimes instructions over the phone are misunderstood and an error can occur. If this happens to you, please call us the first day your ad appears and we will be happy to fix it as soon as we can. If We can assist you, please call us: **314-9876 News-Sun Classified**

2000 Employment

2050 Job Opportunities

EGG DONOR: Loving couple seeks a caring Female to give the gift of life by becoming an Egg Donor. Must be between the ages of 19-29, drug free and in good health. Financial compensation \$6000. Please contact Amy 561-361-8980

FOR SALE TURN KEY SIGN/GRAPHIC BUSINESS! Incl. All Equip. & lift truck. \$45K. Call 863-452-5668

2100 Help Wanted

CAREGIVER P/T for active in home clients in Sebring. 15 hrs. per week, in the morning. Exp. preferred, but not required. Position requires ability to perform moderate to heavy physical tasks. Interested persons should contact 385-1082 or 658-4931.

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

Comfort Keepers

EXPERIENCE THE JOYS AND REWARDS OF Being A Comfort Keeper If you have a passion for improving the quality of life for others while helping people live independently and happily in their own homes, you could be a Comfort Keeper! We are now hiring CNA, HHA and Home-maker Companion Positions in the Highlands County area. We offer flexible full-time or part-time hours. Contact us to learn more about how you can develop a rewarding career enriching the lives of others with Comfort Keepers. Apply online today at: <http://ck381.ersp.biz/employment> 863-385-9100

INSURANCE AGENT IN LAKE PLACID OFFICE REQUIRED 440 OR 220 LICENSE CONTACT SELENA AT 863-382-6611

LOOKING FOR P/T General Office Person, Bilingual a plus, Mon. - Fri. 12pm - 5pm. Possible F/T in the future. Call 863-402-0603 or Email to: sebringinsurance@gmail.com

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

RESTAURANT HIRING *COOKS * SERVERS * DISH. * BEV. * CART * Needed! Spring Lake Golf Resort. Apply in Person. Wed. - Sat. 2pm - 5pm. Call for directions only! 863-655-0900

ROYAL CARE OF AVON PARK currently has a F/T Maintenance Manager position available. The applicant must have experience in maintenance supervision in a health care institution, knowledge of life safety, and local, state & federal codes. Applicant must also demonstrate knowledge in air-conditioning, heating, plumbing, mechanical and electric equipment generally used in health care institution. Salary based on experience. Applicant must apply in person at Royal Oak Care of Avon Park, 1213 W. Stratford Rd., Avon Park, EOE, M/F, DFWP.

SEEKING WELL Exp. Medical office help. Exc. billing/collection, communication, typing, computer skills & medical terminology are a MUST. Part-time. Fax resume to: 866-593-0635 or email to: medicalofficebilling@yahoo.com

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.

SUNSHINE PAYDAY LOANS Full Time Clerk Needed To Travel among locations In Okeechobee, Clewiston, Labelle and Arcadia Cash Handling Experience A Plus Fax Resumes to: 863-678-2170

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

2300 Work Wanted

COMPANION TO ELITE Elderly Person. * Honest * Reliable * Personable * Excellent Driver. Call 863-658-2250

3000 Financial

4000 Real Estate

4080 Homes for Sale Sebring

SEBRING SHORES 4/2 home. Central heat & air, carport. Close to WalMart, Publix and Heartland Hospital. 1100 Highland Dr. \$700/mo., first, last, and security. No pets. Call 863-533-5117 or 863-537-0506.

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 Hottiee St. Sebring or Call Ed Goodyear @ 863-446-0957 Compton Realty Inc.

4100 Homes for Sale Lake Placid

LAKE PLACID * SYLVAN SHORES* 3BR / 2BA / 2cg / Home Office. New Paint, Carpet & Appliances. By Appointment Only. \$125,000.00. 863-465-1111

LAKE PLACID ** Sylvan Shores ** 2BR / 2BA. Pool, Remodeled Kitchen, ADT Alarm, Privacy Fence, Fireplace. \$10,000. Down. Owner financing. \$94,900. Call 863-446-2027

LAKE PLACID ** Sylvan Shores ** 2BR / 2BA. Pool, Remodeled Kitchen, ADT Alarm, Privacy Fence, Fireplace. \$10,000. Down. Owner financing. \$94,900. Call 863-446-2027

4160 Commercial Prop. For Sale

LAKE PLACID- Lake Clay Ground Floor Efficiency Condo Unit. \$40,000. SEBRING- 6 Unit Apt. Complex w/ over 100' frontage Dinner Lake. \$180,000. LAKE PLACID 4 Unit Apt. Bldg. w/over 100' frontage on Lake Huntley. \$160,000. For More Info / Call 773-868-6666

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

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

PALM HARBOR HOMES New 2012 Models **15K Off Models** **800-622-2832 ext 210**

SEBRING 2/2 on Huge Lot. Double Carport. Completely remodeled w/privacy fence, Florida room, RV Pad & Hook up. In great location. No lot rent or HOA. Must see. \$42,000. Call 863-446-1328

6000 Rentals

6050 Duplexes for Rent

SEBRING 2/1 Tile floors, nice yard, W/D hook up, no smoke or pets. Near High School. Queen Palm Ave. \$525/mo. plus \$500 security. Call 863-655-0982

6150 Furnished Apartments

PLACID LAKES Studio Apartment. Kitchenette, pool w/d avail. Fully Furn. on golf course, monthly, yearly. \$420. incl. elec, water & cable. No pets. 954-805-5630

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

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

LOOK! **THE Villas Apartments** 1300 Persimmon Court, Sebring, FL 33870 Accepting Applications for 1 and 2 BR Apts. Rents start at \$413 for a 1 BR and \$491 for a 2 BR. For Rental information, Please call: **863-385-4078 TDD 771** This institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

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 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

Classified ads get fast results

6300 Unfurnished Houses

AVON PARK HOME Lake Front Estate, Private Setting. 2/1 All Appliances, Water, Garbage & Lawn Care included. \$550/mo. 863-452-2299

* SEBRING COUNTRY ESTATES * Newer Home. 3BR / 2BA / 2CG. W/D Hoop up, Tile throughout, Screened porch. Behind Walmart. 1st. & security. \$875 mo. 863-659-4415

AVON PARK RENT SUBSIDIZED

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

No Application Fee!

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

SEBRING */ UNFURNISHED \ 3BR / 2BA / - No Pets & No Smokers. \$750 Monthly. 1st., last, plus \$300 security deposit. 1748 Koy Drive. 561-379-6823 or 561-965-4458

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

SEBRING - 2BR, 2BA, W/D hook up, New kitchen, utility room, fenced yard. Sm. Pets (w/ deposit) \$475 monthly plus \$400 deposit. 863-243-4580

6550 Warehouses for Rent

LAKE PLACID * STEEL GARAGE 30' X 30' * Electricity & Water Available. \$200 Monthly. (124 Hallmark Avenue). Call 863-465-4845

6600 Business & Offices For Rent

LOCATION * LOCATION * LOCATION Office space on Sebring Pkwy., 1/4 mi E. of Walmart on Rt., Parkway Plaza. 600-1200 sq. ft. @ \$1.00 per sq. ft. per mo. Great for Starter Business or Relocation. Call to show 863-446-1137

7000 Merchandise

7030 Estate Sales

FULLY FURNISHED HOME ALL Contents For Sale! Golf Hammock (Sebring). Call for appointment: 337-257-2224

WANT NEW FURNITURE? Need to sell the old furniture first? Call News-Sun classifieds, 314-9876 Then shop till you drop!

7180 Furniture

BEDROOM SUITE * Queen Box Springs & Mattresses, Dresser with Large Mirror * Light Wood. \$400. Call 863-471-6287

SOFA, LOVESEAT & OTTOMAN Beige w/blue piping & multi color cushions. Must see. \$150 obo. Call 863-452-6466.

7300 Miscellaneous

GENERATOR ** BRAND NEW** Craftsman 5600 watt. \$500 Call 863-273-0951

SHOWCASES * Glass * Various Sizes \$50 each. Call 863-257-3592

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

COAT LADIES, "Guess" beige, petite/small. Worn once. \$25 863-446-0972

FLEA MARKET CANOPY 20 ft. with all connections. \$75. 863-657-2040 or 828-361-5884

GAMING CHAIR Excel. Cond. \$80 Call 863-465-9615

GOLF BAG & CLUBS /Great Starter Set / Ladies. \$25. 863-385-3459

PATIO SET 1 Table / 4 Chairs / White Resin. \$25. 863-385-3459

RCA 27" TV, cable ready w / ft. wood entertainment center (tall upright w/ storage below). \$75. 201-707-9494

SEARS HEATER / 150,000 BTU / Construction Type with Blower. \$85. 863-635-3824

TELEVISION W/VCR in One. 12". Excel. Cond. \$40 Call 863-465-9615

7320 Garage & Yard Sales

SCREEN PRINTED T-SHIRTS

The Arc Ridge Area

FAST TURN-AROUND BEST PRICES

We do **EMBROIDERY** too!

(863) 452-1295 ext. 145 screenprinting@bridgearearc.org

120 W. College Drive Avon Park, FL 33825

7320 Garage & Yard Sales

AVON PARK - MULTI FAMILY SALE! 11 W. Wolf St. Sat. Feb. 25th, 7am - 2pm. We have tons of clothes / books / many other things you will absolutely love. See you there!

AVON PARK LAKES "Multi Family Sale" 2515 N. arrowhead Rd. Fri & Sat., Feb 24 & 25, 8am - ? antiq. furn., vintage, Precious Moments, household items, clothes, costume jewelry, misc. To Benefit mission Trip.

AVON PARK LAKES * HUGE SALE * 2132 N. Terrapin Rd. Fri, Feb 24th, 8am - 5pm. Beds, refrigerator, tools, compressor, household items, chairs. Much More!

AVON PARK- MOVING SOON! 1206 Seasmans St. Fri & Sat, Feb 24& 25. Cast iron toys / collectibles, dishes, linens, knick knacks, clothing, books, puzzles, crafts baseball cards. Lots More! Everything Priced T Sell!

AVON PARK - 4725 E. Avon Pines Rd., Sat., Feb. 25th, 8am - ? TOO MUCH TO LIST!!!!

LAKE PLACID Sun. 8 - 2pm. 112 NE Lake Front Ct. Foreclosure Sale! All Furniture Must GO! Bedroom sets, Dining Room table, Chairs & Hutch, Couches, Coffee Table, etc.

LAKE PLACID "MOVING SALE" Lots To Choose From! (Sylvan Shores) 1600 Cedarbrook St. Furniture, wall decor, china, household, shed, tools, riding lawn mower, '98 Chevy Tracker. Much More!! Sat. Feb. 25, 8am-5pm.

PLACID LAKES Work Shop Sale! Fri. - Sat. 8. 118 Loquat Rd N.E. Jig saws, sanders, grinders, jointer, new mortise jig, shop light, weed eater, edger, central vac unit, bass seats, rods & reels, stainless steel prop, softball bats & balls, child toys, car seats, bike, Barbie scooters, stroller, golf clubs, bed linens, Tea Rose & restaurant dishes, Candle Wick, Dooney Bourke purses, lots of misc. Men bring your wives.

SEB. - HUGE GARAGE sale Fri. & Sat. 3/24-25, 1044 Kerry Dr. Motor scooters, household, recliner chairs, more more! 863-385-2613.

SEBRING * WAREHOUSE REMNANT SALE * Sat. Feb. 25th, 8am - 4pm. Rain or Shine. 1160 Persimmon Ave. (next to Heartland Christian School). Boxes full of sm. antiques/ collectibles, from Chicago/ Based Antique Business. Mourning locket, New costume jewelry, Treen - ware, copper, candle sticks, linens, vintage lamp parts, yellow ware, vintage beads, amber & black glass necklaces, arts & crocks, small box collection. **Donna Collins Estate Sales** www.estatesales.net

Subscribe to the News-Sun Call 385-6155

LOOKING FOR THAT SPECIAL HOME?

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

Count the Shamrocks

WIN \$100 Gas Card

CONTEST

In Celebration of St. Patrick's Day, the News-Sun is spreading the 'Luck O' the Irish to you!

Count the correct number of Shamrocks and you will be entered in a random drawing to WIN a \$100 Gas Card!

Start counting Shamrocks in our Classified Section on February 26th thru March 16th. Either go online at www.newssun.com or fill out the form below with your guess. All forms must be submitted or postmarked by March 23, 2012. Drop off or mail your entries to: News-Sun, 2227 US 27 South, Sebring, FL 33870. You can submit up to 10 entries. No purchase necessary to win.

The Winner will be announced Sunday, April 1, 2012 in the Main and Classified sections of the News-Sun as well as on-line at www.newssun.com.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Are you a full time resident? Yes _____ No _____

Are you a News-Sun subscriber? Yes _____ No _____

Total Number of Shamrocks _____

Feb 26 _____ Feb 29 _____ Mar 2 _____

Mar 4 _____ Mar 7 _____ Mar 9 _____

Mar 11 _____ Mar 14 _____ Mar 16 _____

NEWS-SUN
Highlands County's Business & Community Voice

7320 Garage & Yard Sales

AVON PARK *ESTATE SALE* Fri & Sat, Feb 24 & 25, 8am-7 905 CR 17A West & N. Palm Dr. Furn, dishes, cookware, tools, clothes, 2 twin bed sets, books, motorized scooters, computer w/ back up, sm. appl., antiq. 16mm B & H movie projector, dryer, dine table w/ 4 chairs. Much More!

SEBRING *MULTI FAMILY SALE* 3317 DeSoto City Rd., Fri & Sat., Feb. 24 & 25, 8am - 1pm. Stack tables, vcr tapes, clothes, craft items, Lots Of Misc. Cheap Prices. Rain Date 3/2 & 3/3.

SEBRING - MULTI FAMILY SALE! 905 Rancho Dr., Fri & Sat, Feb 24 & 25, 8am - 5pm. A LITTLE BIT OF EVERYTHING - TOO MUCH TO LIST!

SEBRING - SATURDAY ONLY! FEB. 25th, 13th annual Spring Tanglewood Super Garage Sale located inside, plus additional tables outside our main hall! Over 125 family tables of items, tools, furniture, cookware, camping, fishing, golfing, dishes, decorations. A Super - Large Sale! Coffee & Donuts available at 8am. **Doors open at 8AM Sale ends at Noon. Tanglewood** is 1/2 mile N. of WalMart on US 27.

SEBRING - FRI. & Sat. Feb 24 & 25, 6am-5pm. 1244 Kerry Dr. Awakening Youth Fundraiser Sale! Lots Of Clothes - All Sizes, dishes & misc. A Non Profit Organization. Much Much More!!

SEBRING CHURCH YARD SALE
Saturday, February 25th
7:00 am - 12:30 pm
Emmanuel United Church of Christ
1.8 miles west of US 27
On Hammock Road
A Bargain Bonanza!
Donuts, Coffee, Sodas, Hot Dogs.
Information call 863-471-1999

SEBRING FRI. - Sat. 8 - 1pm. Josephine Lakeside Mobile Home Park 11501 US HWY 27 South Multi-Family Sale.

SEBRING SAT. 8 - 12pm. 4222 Lewis Ave. Multi-Family Sale! Misc. Items including Hot Tub!

SEBRING * LAKESIDE ESTATES* Moving Estate Sale! 817 Ryan Rd. Fri & Sat Feb 24 & 25, 8am - 2pm. Furn., tv's, lawn mower, household items, tools, home decor, sm. appl., clothing, bedspread sets, costume jewelry.

SEBRING ** CARPORT SALE** 28 Mimi St, Francis I Mobile Estates. Fri. & Sat., Feb. 24 & 25, 8m - 2pm.

SEBRING- 1214 Woodbury Ave., Sat. Only, Feb. 25th, 8am - 1pm. Lots Of Stuff - Household - Kitchen - Furniture - Office - Garden.

7340 Wanted to Buy

CASH
** I BUY COINS & SILVER! **
Free Estimates /No Obligation.
Call 412-996-4153

7520 Pets & Supplies

1 VERY SMALL Shorkie, male, adorable! Vet checked & first shots, raised with small children, \$400. 765-265-0944.

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

PORTA BOAT 14ft. and 10hp, 4 stroke Nissan motor, both new/used. Paid \$4,000. Sell for \$2,900. Will send pictures. (Lake Placid). Call 302-344-3892

ZODIAC 260 Roll up w/Honda 2hp, 2011 model. Less than 7 hrs. Many Extras. \$2150. Call 863-414-5115 or Eve. 863-655-9520.

8200 Bikes & Cycle Equipment

RECURBENT BICYCLES
(1) Rans V2 and (1) Rans Vrex. \$800 each. Used but not abused, Very Well Maintained. Call Paul 863-452-0678

8350 Sporting Goods


BIG GUN SHOW
Highlands County Fair Grounds
Sebring, FL
FEBRUARY 25TH & 26TH
SAT. 9-5; SUN. 9-4
Concealed Course At Show!
Call 321-777-7455

8400 Recreational Vehicles

ROAD KING 2012 40'. Double slide outs, 2bdm/den, washer, dryer, dual A/C, dishwasher, microwave. Loaded! Pet free/Smoke free. \$27,900. Call 630-631-1795

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

TRAVEL TRAILER 2004 Arctic Fox Trailer 30', 2 slides. Sleeps 6. Smoke Free. 814-823-1460

TRAVEL TRAILER w/large Florida Room. Lots of extras. Asking \$6,000. Call 863-385-8960.

9000 Transportation

9450 Automotive for Sale

LINCOLN TOWNCAR 2007. Mint cond. 48K mi. \$19,500 firm. SOLD!!!!!!

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE DIRECTORY

WILLIAMS JANITORIAL
CARPET CLEANING
\$10⁹⁵ Per Room
3 Rooms Minimum
• Upholstery Cleaning
• All Types of Flooring
• Free Estimates
Lic • Bonded • Ins
(863) 214-1940


HANDYMAN BOB
Install doors, windows, flooring, plumbing & more!
Licensed & Insured
Lic# HM0096
Call 863-452-5201
or
863-449-1744

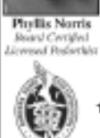
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Free Estimates


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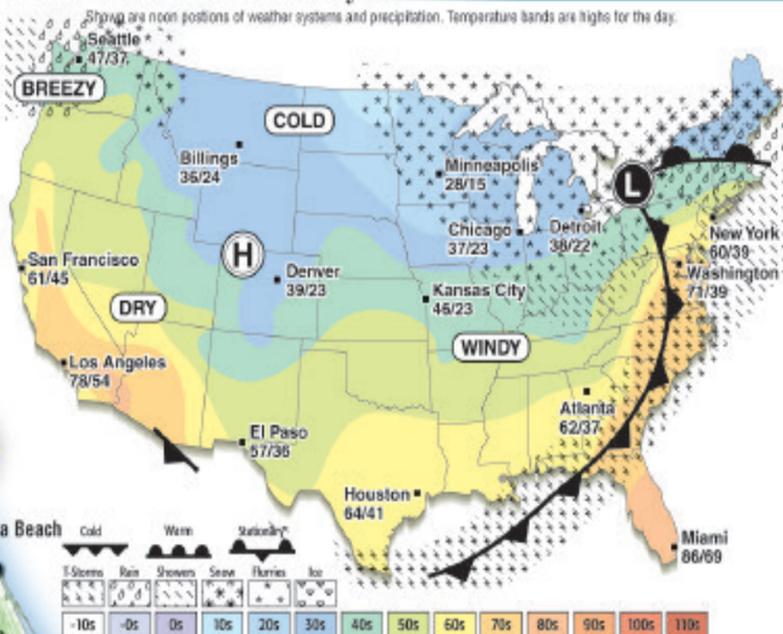
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Five-Day forecast for Highlands County

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly sunny and humid	Breezy and cooler with some sun	Intervals of clouds and sun	Times of sun and clouds	A couple of showers possible
85° / 62°	72° / 53°	78° / 61°	83° / 62°	83° / 63°
Winds: SW at 8-16 mph	Winds: NNE at 10-20 mph	Winds: E at 10-20 mph	Winds: ESE at 8-16 mph	Winds: ESE at 8-16 mph

National Forecast for February 24



Almanac

Temperature
Readings at Archbold Biological Station in Lake Placid

High Sunday	84°
Low Sunday	47°
High Monday	76°
Low Monday	47°
High Tuesday	81°
Low Tuesday	51°
High Wednesday	85°
Low Wednesday	56°

Heat Index
For 3 a.m. today

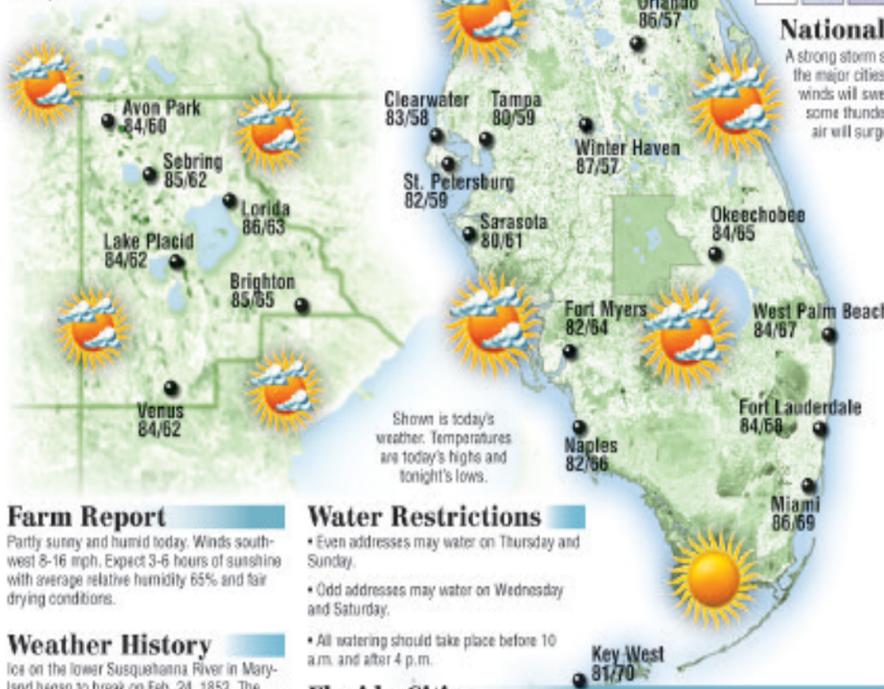
Relative humidity	48%
Expected air temperature	84°
Makes it feel like	86°

Barometer
Monday: 30.20
Tuesday: 30.07
Wednesday: 29.96

Precipitation
Monday: 0.00"
Tuesday: 0.00"
Wednesday: 0.00"
Month to date: 0.49"
Year to date: 0.78"

Regional Summary

Humid today with intervals of clouds and sun. Some clouds tonight with a shower or thunderstorm around. Breezy and cooler tomorrow with some sun. Sunday and Monday: intervals of clouds and sun.



National Summary

A strong storm system will bring areas of snow and rain to the Northeast today. The storm track will be west of the major cities of the I-95 corridor, and mainly rain will fall as a result. As the storm passes, colder air and gusty winds will sweep into the region tomorrow night. A cold front slicing into the Southeast and Deep South will ignite some thunderstorms. Some storms could be severe with damaging wind gusts the primary threat. Much colder air will surge into the southern Plains and Midwest behind the cold front.

U.S. Cities

City	Today	Sat.	Sun.	City	Today	Sat.	Sun.
Albuquerque	51/34s	62/34s	57/34s	Los Angeles	78/54s	69/51pc	67/50pc
Atlanta	62/37s	55/32s	53/38pc	Louisville	48/28s	45/28pc	52/38s
Baltimore	61/36s	49/28pc	46/29s	Memphis	54/35pc	54/35s	61/43s
Birmingham	60/34s	57/35s	56/40pc	Minneapolis	38/23s	33/20s	39/28s
Boston	44/33s	42/24pc	35/23pc	Missouri	28/15s	28/21s	39/19s
Charlotte	72/35s	56/27s	53/34s	Nashville	62/31pc	49/28pc	58/36s
Cheyanne	38/19s	54/27s	49/17s	New Orleans	66/46s	60/47pc	60/54s
Chicago	37/23s	34/22s	41/29s	New York City	60/39c	45/30pc	42/34s
Cleveland	44/26s	34/24s	33/32pc	Norfolk	74/43s	54/35s	45/35s
Columbus	44/27s	40/26s	45/33pc	Oklahoma City	58/30s	63/34s	62/38pc
Dallas	62/38s	63/41s	63/47pc	Philadelphia	62/37c	49/29pc	44/32s
Denver	39/23s	60/27s	47/20s	Phoenix	78/52s	78/50s	76/48s
Detroit	38/22s	35/19s	37/28pc	Pittsburgh	45/26s	36/25s	40/28pc
Harrisburg	62/33pc	41/26pc	43/27s	Portland, ME	33/28s	40/18c	34/13s
Honolulu	81/68pc	82/69s	81/68s	Portland, OR	54/41s	60/36s	59/34s
Houston	64/41pc	58/42c	62/51pc	Raleigh	73/40s	55/31s	53/37s
Indianapolis	42/22s	38/26c	47/31pc	Rochester	44/25s	32/18s	33/25pc
Jackson, MS	62/35pc	61/37s	63/41pc	St. Louis	48/25c	41/23s	55/35pc
Kansas City	46/23s	50/34s	55/31pc	San Francisco	61/45s	59/42pc	55/41pc
Lexington	44/27c	40/25pc	50/33s	Seattle	47/37s	49/35s	45/30s
Little Rock	58/34pc	57/36s	65/46s	Wash., DC	71/39s	59/31pc	47/32s

World Cities

City	Today	Sat.	Sun.	City	Today	Sat.	Sun.
Acapulco	90/70pc	88/70s	88/73s	London	55/41c	50/39pc	50/45s
Athens	59/48s	61/50s	61/48pc	Montreal	32/27s	32/38s	21/5pc
Beirut	64/50s	63/49s	64/51s	Moscow	35/26s	32/25s	33/24s
Berlin	50/36s	45/36s	41/30s	Nairobi	63/49s	66/47pc	66/49s
Bermuda	73/66s	73/56pc	64/56c	Ottawa	33/26s	34/12c	24/19pc
Calgary	30/20c	23/10s	19/10s	Quebec	32/27s	30/18s	18/0pc
Dublin	50/39c	48/43c	52/46c	Rio de Janeiro	87/78s	93/78pc	96/78s
Edmonton	25/17pc	20/5s	11/11c	Seoul	48/27pc	43/25pc	38/23s
Fredericton	81/70s	78/60s	75/65s	Singapore	88/77s	87/75s	88/77s
Geneva	52/36s	54/37s	52/31s	Sydney	84/64s	84/65s	85/68pc
Havana	88/84s	88/86pc	87/87s	Toronto	39/28s	38/19s	38/28pc
Hong Kong	77/69s	73/66s	74/65s	Vancouver	40/32s	39/30s	39/32s
Jerusalem	57/43pc	53/40pc	55/42pc	Vilnius	55/45s	55/40s	45/33s
Johannesburg	76/29c	78/60s	75/60s	Warsaw	48/36s	39/28s	37/25pc
Kiev	37/34s	37/30c	34/25s	Winnipeg	14/0s	15/5pc	15/0s

Farm Report

Partly sunny and humid today. Winds southwest 8-16 mph. Expect 3-6 hours of sunshine with average relative humidity 65% and fair drying conditions.

Water Restrictions

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

Weather History

Ice on the lower Susquehanna River in Maryland began to break on Feb. 24, 1852. The previous 40 days, an ice bridge had been used for the crossing of loaded freight cars.

Florida Cities

City	Today	Sat.	Sun.	City	Today	Sat.	Sun.
Cape Coral	83/64pc	76/55pc	79/64pc	Miami	86/68pc	79/66pc	78/71c
Clearwater	83/58pc	69/53pc	74/62pc	Okeechobee	84/65pc	71/58pc	75/66pc
Coral Springs	84/68pc	79/67pc	77/72c	Orlando	86/57pc	69/51pc	75/58pc
Daytona Beach	84/52pc	64/49pc	69/60c	Pembroke Pines	87/66pc	82/66pc	79/69c
Fl. Land. Bch	84/68pc	79/68pc	78/73sh	St. Augustine	84/60pc	64/47s	64/58c
Fort Myers	82/64pc	76/56pc	78/64pc	St. Petersburg	82/58pc	68/53pc	72/61pc
Gainesville	82/48pc	63/41pc	68/52pc	Sarasota	80/61pc	71/52pc	75/63pc
Hollywood	87/66pc	80/66pc	79/68sh	Tallahassee	70/44s	64/38s	55/49sh
Homesland AFB	81/65s	79/68sh	78/71c	Tampa	80/59pc	70/52pc	72/60pc
Jacksonville	78/47s	62/41s	64/51c	W. Palm Bch	84/67pc	77/64pc	77/71sh
Key West	81/70s	79/70pc	79/73c	Winter Haven	87/57pc	69/52pc	76/61pc

Sun and Moon

	Today	Saturday
Sunrise	6:55 a.m.	6:54 a.m.
Sunset	6:24 p.m.	6:25 p.m.
Moonrise	8:11 a.m.	8:46 a.m.
Moonset	9:02 p.m.	9:54 p.m.

First: Feb 29, Fall: Mar 8, Last: Mar 14, New: Mar 22

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12 Hours – Zero to 60 for SIR

By BARRY FOSTER

Special to the News-Sun

SEBRING – From zero to sixty it will have been 21,918 days, 526,009 hours, 21,560,480 minutes or 1,893.628,800 seconds – give or take a few ticks and tocks.

That's actually 60 years since the first green flag dropped on the inaugural 12 Hours of Sebring in 1952.

First away on that bright

and sunny morning in 1952 was the Jaguar XK120 of Charles Schott and Morris Carroll.

Which car will lead the pack this year to the checkered flag has been the subject of much speculation – but whoever it is, will have won the 60th anniversary of America's oldest and most prestigious road race.

Over the course of the years, hundreds of different car makes have completed

thousands of laps in simply attempting to finish the 12 Hours of Sebring, much less win it.

There have been a number of different sanctioning bodies as well.

The first 12 Hours ran under the auspices of the American Automobile Association.

This year the duo of the American Le Mans Series and the World Endurance Championship will sanction

the competition.

The track has been reconfigured a number of times.

Cars ran on runways of the Sebring airport then were taken off the runways – the length has gone from 5.2 miles to 3.7 miles.

Turns and viewing areas have been added and taken away, a new hotel has been built, support races have been changed, there have been

See 60, Page 3B

Bucs hijack Devil state bid

By ED BALDRIDGE

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TAMPA — That it was a heartbreaking loss was clear from the Avon Park bench Tuesday night when the Devils came up short, 68-54, to Berkeley Prep in the Region 3-4A playoff semifinals on the same floor that had propelled their Final Four run two seasons ago.

"They were bigger than us and they're good," said Avon Park head coach Luther Clemons after the game. "We had some shots that we normally get that we just did not hit. That's all there is to it. We played our game. We always play

what we have. We had seven players and brought up three freshmen. We played what we had.

"They were bigger and they played well," he continued. "I think they were a little surprised we stuck with them as long as we did."

The Devils (21-8) and the Buccaneers (21-7) were tied at 12-12 after the first period, despite the obvious height advantage Berkeley held with 6'4" Justin Gray and 6'5" Nelson Aghalor.

And with a continued Avon Park urgency and aggressiveness, the Bucs would only force a 28-26



News-Sun photo by ED BALDRIDGE
A disconsolate Avon Park bench looks on during the waning moments of Tuesday's Region 3-4A semifinal playoff loss at Berkeley Prep.

lead at the half.

It was clear that Berkeley keyed on Marcus Dewberry, holding one of Avon Park's top shooters down, while feeding Gray, who picked up 24 points shooting from everywhere.

Berkeley lead for most of the second half, keeping the scrappy Devils at bay, but was not able to strengthen

their lead until five minutes from the final buzzer, when the gap widened to 55-44.

After that, Avon Park could not come within eight points, as Gray heated up the scoring and controlled the defensive boards.

Although the loss bumped Avon Park from the state playoffs, Clemons was not disappointed with the

Red Devil run to the regionals.

"To get to this point, this group of young men understand that unless you get to the state championship, there will be losses," Clemons said.

"It does not matter how many games we win or lose. They are big, they are

See DEVILS, Page 4B



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE
Hannah Waller keeps her eyes locked in before smashing a backhand Tuesday as Lake Placid edged DeSoto.

Lady Dragons serve up a win

Sebring felled for first time

By DAN HOEHNE

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A team trying to get over the break-even mark would expect to fight tooth-and-nail for every point.

And the Lady Dragons of the Lake Placid tennis courts certainly did that Tuesday, edging visiting DeSoto 4-3, with two matches going to tie-breakers.

At No. 1 Singles, Deta Waller bounced back from a 6-4 loss in the opening set to Alejandra Plymale to even it up with a 6-4 win.

The match then went to two tie-breakers, with both girls unwilling to give an inch.

After Plymale eked out a 7-6 win in the first tie-break, she settled it once and for all with a 7-4 win in the second.

Waller's younger sister, Hannah, also found herself going and extra set at No. 3 Singles.

After a convincing 6-0, first-set win over Nancy Gamez, Gamez brought her game up a few notches in the second set.

This Waller, however, pre-

vailed going 7-6, (7-1) for the win.

Lady Dragon Stephanie Rodriguez couldn't force any extra sets against Carolina Garcia at No. 2 singles, falling 6-3, 6-1, but Lake Placid, trailing 2-1 at this point, would soon surge into the lead in the last two singles positions.

At No. 4, Claire LeBlanc fended off Heide Guerrero by a 6-2, 6-4 score, while Jenna Blount, at No. 5, took care of Selina Guererro in straight sets by matching 6-3, 6-3 scores.

The Lady Bulldogs, however, tied the match up at 3-3 when Plymale and Garcia swept past Deta Waller and Rodriguez, 8-0.

But the pairing of Hannah Waller and LeBlanc clinched the match win for the Dragons by topping Gamez and Heide Guerrero, 8-2.

"This match was played with great determination and consistency," head coach Jennifer Holda said. "The girls are coming to the net

See TENNIS, Page 3B

Panthers tripped up

By DAN HOEHNE

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AVON PARK – The South Florida Panthers kept up their recent winning ways Monday, with a 4-2 win over Webber, continuing their unbeaten streak to six straight games, though head coach Rick Hitt saw a bit of a departure from last week's hot streak.

"We did not swing it very well," he said. "Our approach was a bit different from the week prior. We were taking our way into pitchers counts and then guessing a bit. But we figured out a way to win and that was good to see."

SFCC looked on it's way to continuing to figure things out as this busy part of the schedule continued Wednesday night against Seminole State College.

But the offense again struggled and a late rally saw the Raiders leave town with a 6-4 win.

Starting pitcher Justin Machado stranded a runner in the first, but the Panthers also stranded Taylor Layner after his lead-off single, before giving the visitors a gift of a run in the second..



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE
Panther second baseman Lucas Bagnara catches Seminole's Clay Gibson in a rundown Wednesday night, but the visiting Raiders would get away with a 6-4 win to give SFCC its' first loss in seven games.

Blake Prince drew a walk to start the frame and moved to second on a pitch that short-hopped catcher Joe Jusino.

Prince then went to third on a grounder to second and scored on a Thomas Kelly sacrifice fly to center.

The South Florida offense didn't click in its' half of the

second, though Machado worked a perfect top of the third to keep the lead at one.

The Panthers threatened in the bottom of the third, with second baseman Lucas Bagnara drawing a walk and appearing to advance to second on Evan Lewis' bunt,

See SFCC, Page 4B

And they're off

Dragons, Devils get track season started

By DAN HOEHNE

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LAKE PLACID – Three teams got their track and field seasons underway Tuesday, with the Green Dragons playing host to Avon Park and DeSoto.

The Lady Dragons were rather rude hosts, dominating their side of the meet with 227 points, with the Lady Red Devils taking second with 123 and the Bulldogs third with 95.

Weightlifter and cheerleader Salina Walker showed her diversity even further with wins in both the 1,600- and 3,200-meter runs, while also adding a win with Lexi Siegle, Taylor Clark and Bailey Fitch-Roberts in the 4X800 relay.

Volleyball and soccer player Taylor Miller also showed her all-around abilities with wins in the hurdles events, the long jump and as part of the 4X400 relay team with Fitch-



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE
Taylor Miller cleared the hurdles in fine fashion Tuesday, winning both the 110- and 300-meter events in Tuesday's season-opening meet at Lake Placid.

Roberts, Rhoni Gavagni and Gayle Shaquavia.

Gavgni, the All-Heartland volleyball player of the year, would also get a win in the triple jump and Cierra Carlini-Smith would get a Lake Placid win in the 800-meter run.

For Avon Park, Takesha Williams got a win in the 200-meter dash and high jump, while teammates Sierra Burns and Imani Tate got second and third,

respectively, in the discus throw.

On the boys side of the meet, DeSoto would take top honors with 220.5 points, with Lake Placid second at 179.5 and the Devils third at 138.

The Dragons were paced by distance specialist Dalton Shelton, a state qualifier in Cross Country this past fall, who won both

See TRACK, Page 3B

THE SCOREBOARD



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EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	20	14	.588	—
New York	17	17	.500	3
Boston	15	17	.469	4
Toronto	10	23	.303	9½
New Jersey	10	25	.286	10½

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	26	7	.788	—
Orlando	22	12	.647	4½
Atlanta	19	14	.576	7
Washington	7	26	.212	19
Charlotte	4	28	.125	21½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	27	8	.771	—
Indiana	21	12	.636	5
Cleveland	13	18	.419	12
Milwaukee	13	20	.394	13
Detroit	11	24	.314	16

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	23	10	.697	—
Dallas	21	13	.618	2½
Houston	20	14	.588	3½
Memphis	19	15	.559	4½
New Orleans	8	25	.242	15

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oklahoma City	26	7	.788	—
Portland	18	16	.529	8½
Denver	18	16	.529	8½
Minnesota	17	17	.500	9½
Utah	15	17	.469	10½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Clippers	20	11	.645	—
L.A. Lakers	20	13	.606	1
Golden State	13	17	.433	6½
Phoenix	14	20	.412	7½
Sacramento	11	22	.333	10

Tuesday's Games

Cleveland 101, Detroit 100
 Indiana 117, New Orleans 108, OT
 Miami 120, Sacramento 108
 Memphis 89, Philadelphia 76
 Portland 137, San Antonio 97

Wednesday's Games

Oklahoma City 119, Boston 104
 Indiana 102, Charlotte 88
 New Orleans 89, Cleveland 84
 Toronto 103, Detroit 93
 Sacramento 115, Washington 107
 Orlando 108, New Jersey 91
 New York 99, Atlanta 82
 Chicago 110, Milwaukee 91
 Houston 93, Philadelphia 87
 Minnesota 100, Utah 98
 Golden State 106, Phoenix 104
 L.A. Lakers 96, Dallas 91
 L.A. Clippers 103, Denver 95

Thursday's Games

New York at Miami, late
 Orlando at Atlanta, late
 San Antonio at Denver, late
 L.A. Lakers at Oklahoma City, late

Friday's Games

No Games, All-Star weekend

LEAGUE LEADERS

Scoring				
	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Bryant, LAL	344	207	942	28.5
Durant, OKC	331	197	915	27.7
James, MIA	319	219	883	27.6
Love, MIN	258	234	799	25.0
Westbrook, OKC	297	161	780	23.6
Ellis, GOL	239	133	651	22.4
Aldridge, POR	289	134	713	22.3
D. Williams, NJ	253	168	756	22.2
Griffin, LAC	272	118	663	21.4
Howard, ORL	253	184	690	20.3

Rebounds				
	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG
Howard, ORL	124	398	522	15.4
Love, MIN	132	317	449	14.0
Bynum, LAL	101	270	371	12.8
Griffin, LAC	102	250	352	11.4
Cousins, SAC	145	218	363	11.3
Gasol, LAL	104	248	352	10.7
Humphries, NJ	123	214	337	10.5
Gortat, PHX	90	265	355	10.4
Gasol, MEM	73	269	342	10.1
Noah, CHI	125	212	337	9.9

Assists				
	GAMES	AST	AVG	
Nash, PHX	31	339	10.9	
Rondo, BOS	22	210	9.5	
Calderson, TOR	33	295	8.9	
Paul, LAC	26	223	8.6	
Rubio, MIN	34	284	8.4	
D. Williams, NJ	34	278	8.2	
Parker, SAN	32	254	7.9	
Rose, CHI	25	192	7.7	
Lowry, HOU	32	244	7.6	
Wall, WAS	33	251	7.6	

Blocked Shots				
	Games	BLK	AVG	
Ibaka, OKC	33	106	3.21	
McGee, WAS	33	88	2.67	
Jordan, LAC	31	80	2.58	
Gasol, MEM	34	74	2.18	
Howard, ORL	34	72	2.12	
Smith, ATL	33	69	2.09	
Bynum, LAL	29	59	2.03	
Dalembert, HOU	34	65	1.91	

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
N.Y. Rangers	38	15	5	81	161	118
New Jersey	35	20	4	74	168	162
Philadelphia	33	19	7	73	198	181
Pittsburgh	34	21	5	73	186	160
N.Y. Islanders	25	27	8	58	140	176

Northwest Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	36	20	2	74	194	134
Ottawa	32	22	8	72	190	185
Toronto	29	24	7	65	181	184
Buffalo	26	27	7	59	150	176
Montreal	24	27	10	58	160	167

Southeast Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Florida	27	20	11	65	144	175
Winnipeg	29	26	7	65	157	162
Washington	29	26	5	63	161	173
Tampa Bay	27	26	6	60	166	197
Carolina	23	26	11	57	158	181

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	41	18	2	84	191	141

AUTO RACING

FRIDAY

2 p.m. NASCAR – DRIVE-4COPD 300, Qual. . . ESPN2
 SATURDAY

1:15 p.m. NASCAR – DRIVE-4COPD 300 ESPN

BOXING

FRIDAY

9 p.m. Juan Carlos Burgos vs. Cristobal Cruz . ESPN2
 SATURDAY

10 p.m. Devon Alexander vs. Marcos Maidana . . . HBO

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

FRIDAY

7 p.m. Loyola (Md.) at Rider ESPN2
 9 p.m. Marquette at West Virginia ESPN

SATURDAY

Noon Vanderbilt at Kentucky ESPN
 Noon Virginia Tech at Duke 44
 Noon Notre Dame at St. John's ESPN2
 1:30 p.m. LSU at Mississippi 38
 2 p.m. Villanova at Georgetown CBS
 2 p.m. Texas A&M at Oklahoma State ESPN2
 2:30 p.m. North Carolina State at Clemson 44
 4 p.m. Missouri at Kansas CBS
 4 p.m. Florida at Georgia 38
 4 p.m. North Carolina at Virginia ESPN
 4 p.m. Creighton at Indiana State ESPN2
 4 p.m. Memphis at Marshall SUN
 6 p.m. Mississippi State at Alabama ESPN
 6 p.m. George Mason at Virginia Comm. ESPN2
 8 p.m. Richmond at Xavier ESPN2
 8 p.m. Tennessee at South Carolina SUN
 9 p.m. Syracuse at Connecticut ESPN

GOLF

FRIDAY

9:30 a.m. LPGA – HSBC Women's Champions GOLF
 2 p.m. PGA – Accenture Match Play Champs. GOLF
 6:30 p.m. PGA – Mayakoba Classic GOLF

SATURDAY

Noon PGA – Accenture Match-Play Champs. GOLF
 2 p.m. PGA – Accenture Match-Play Champs. NBC
 2 p.m. LPGA – HSBC Women's Champions GOLF
 6:30 p.m. PGA – Mayakoba Classic GOLF

NBA

FRIDAY

7 p.m. All-Star Celebrity Game ESPN
 9 p.m. NBA Rising Stars Challenge TNT

SATURDAY

8:30 p.m. NBA All-Star Saturday Night TNT

NHL

SATURDAY

1 p.m. Tampa Bay at Pittsburgh SUN

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

FRIDAY

6:30 p.m. Wake Forest at Virginia SUN
 8:30 p.m. North Carolina at Maryland SUN

SATURDAY

6 p.m. Oklahoma at Texas SUN
Times, games, channels all subject to change

St. Louis	36	17	7	79	152	121
Nashville	35	19	6	76	168	155
Chicago	33	21	7	73	191	179
Columbus	18	35	7	43	142	198

Northwest Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Vancouver	38	16	6	82	195	147
Calgary	28	23	9	65	143	161
Colorado	30	27	4	64	155	169
Minnesota	26	24	9	61	131	154
Edmonton	23	30	6	52	159	178

Pacific Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose	31	20	7	69	170	148
Phoenix	30	21	9	69	157	151
Los Angeles	27	22	12	66	129	135
Dallas	30	26	4	64	155	167
Anaheim	25	25	10	60	154	171

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

Tuesday's Games

Phoenix 5, Los Angeles 4, SO
 Buffalo 2, N.Y. Islanders 1
 New Jersey 4, Toronto 3, OT
 Pittsburgh 2, N.Y. Rangers 0
 Columbus 6, San Jose 3
 Philadelphia 5, Winnipeg 4, OT
 Dallas 3, Montreal 0
 Tampa Bay 3, Anaheim 2
 Nashville 3, Vancouver 1
 Chicago 2, Detroit 1
 Edmonton 6, Calgary 1

Wednesday's Games

Ottawa 5, Washington 2
 Boston 4, St. Louis 2
 Colorado 4, Los Angeles 1

Thursday's Games

San Jose at Toronto, late
 Anaheim at Carolina, late
 Minnesota at Florida, late
 Vancouver at Detroit, late
 St. Louis at Nashville, late
 Tampa Bay at Winnipeg, late
 Dallas at Chicago, late
 Phoenix at Calgary, late
 Philadelphia at Edmonton, late

Friday's Games

Vancouver at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
 N.Y. Rangers at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
 Montreal at Washington, 7 p.m.
 Colorado at Columbus, 7 p.m.
 Boston at Buffalo, 7:30 p.m.
 Minnesota at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.

SCORING LEADERS

Player	Games	G	A	PTS
Malikin, PIT	53	33	40	73
Stamkos, TB	59	42	28	70
Giroux, PHI	55	23	47	70

Spezza, OTT	62	27	39	66
Kessel, TOR	60	31	33	64
H. Sedin, VAN	60	13	51	64
Lupul, TOR	60	23	39	62
D. Sedin, VAN	59	26	35	61
Karlsson, OTT	61	13	47	60
Kovalchuk, NJ	54	25	34	59
Pominville, BUF	60	23	36	59
Datsyuk, DET	59	16	43	59

Transactions

BASEBALL

American League
 CLEVELAND INDIANS—Agreed to terms with INF Cristian Guzman on minor league contract.
 DETROIT TIGERS—Agreed to terms with LHP Matt Hoffman, LHP Andy Oliver, LHP Adam Wilk, INF Hernan Perez and OF Andy Dirks on one-year contracts.
 KANSAS CITY ROYALS—Agreed to terms with RHP Louis Coleman and RHP Greg Holland one-year contracts.
 LOS ANGELES ANGELS—Agreed to terms with RHP Jason Istringhausen on minor league contract.
 NEW YORK YANKEES—Agreed to terms with RHP David Aardsma on one-year contract.
 Placed LHP Pedro Feliciano on 60-day DL.
 TEXAS RANGERS—Named Tony Fernandez special assistant to the general manager.
 TORONTO BLUE JAYS—Agreed to terms with RHP Rick VandenHurk on one-year contract.

National League

PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES—Promoted Marti Wolever to assistant general manager, amateur scouting.
BASKETBALL
WNBA
 WASHINGTON MYSTICS—Signed G Dominique Canty.

FOOTBALL

Canadian Football League
 EDMONTON Eskimos—Signed WR Matt Carter.
 WINNIPEG BLUE BOMBERS—Named Will Plemons defensive line coach and Chip Garber linebackers coach.

COLLEGE

NEW MEXICO—Promoted Jeff Mills to defensive coordinator. Named Kevin Cosgrove inside linebackers coach.

LOCAL SCHEDULE



Avon Park

TODAY: Baseball vs. Hardee, 7 p.m.; Softball vs. Victory Christian, 6 p.m.; Boys Tennis hosts Heartland Conference Tournament, 1 p.m.; Girls Tennis at Heartland Conference Tournament, Sebring, 1 p.m.

SATURDAY: Boys Tennis hosts Heartland Conference Tournament, 9 a.m.; Girls Tennis at Heartland Conference Tournament, Sebring, 9 a.m.



Lake Placid

TODAY: Baseball vs. Sebring, 7 p.m.; JV Baseball at Sebring, 6 p.m.; Softball at Immokalee, 6/8 p.m.; Boys Tennis at Heartland Conference Tournament, Avon Park, 1 p.m.; Girls Tennis at Heartland Conference Tournament, Sebring, 1 p.m.

SATURDAY: Boys Tennis at Heartland Conference Tournament, Avon Park, 9 a.m.; Girls Tennis at Heartland Conference Tournament, Sebring, 9 a.m.



Sebring</

Tennis tournament this weekend

Continued from 1B

more and driving the ball down. I'm really impressed with their play and am looking forward to a very challenging Heartland Conference match this weekend and expect great results."

Now 3-2 on the season, the Lake Placid ladies head to Sebring for the conference meet, beginning today at 1 p.m. and continuing Saturday morning at 9 a.m.

The Lady Blue Streaks, meanwhile, cruising along with a 5-0 record in the early going, ran into a roadblock in the form of visiting George Jenkins Tuesday.

The Lady Eagles came to town and swooped away with a 6-1 win, with Sebring's Nisha Patel getting the only win.

Patel, returning to the lineup after an injury sidelined her for the last few matches, came back swinging with a 6-2, 6-4 win over Andrea Loret-demola, at No. 2 singles.

But Kaley Walter, Joy Donglasan, Kelly Broen and Morgan Heston all fell at Nos 1, 3, 4 and 5 Singles, respectively.

Walter and Donglasan put up a strong fight at No. 1 doubles, falling 8-6, with Patel and Michaela DeVane also giving a push before falling 8-4 at No. 2.

Before hosting the Heartland Conference meet this weekend, the Lady Streaks hosted Bartow Thursday, in hopes of getting back on track.



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE
Lady Dragon Stephanie Rodriguez reaches up for this overhead smash Tuesday.

Seminole, Lockhart square off

Special to the News-Sun

LAKE PLACID — Seminole Tire and Lockhart Service Center are two Lake Placid businesses specializing in auto repair and service.

Both deliver quality auto maintenance at a reasonable price.

Their rivalry, however, does not end as business competitors.

Both sponsor teams in the Lake Placid Senior Softball League.

On Wednesday, Feb. 22, all teams played six-inning double headers to make up for a cancellation.

Seminole and Lockhart squared off against each other, with a free oil change riding on the outcome.

The teams, however, split their twin bill.

Seminole Tire took the opener 21-17, but Lockhart came back to win the nightcap, 24-23, in extra innings.

For Seminole Tire (5-9), hitting stars included Dick Cook (home run, triple) and Skip Raller with seven hits each in the combined stats.

Robert Anderson hit two round-trippers in the nightcap.

For Lockhart (5-9), Darrel Richards had seven hits.

Bill Gallagher had a grand slam homer and the

walk-off hit in the nightcap.

Norm Grubbs also homered for Lockhart.

In the marquee matchup of the week, Central Security and Yates Insurance battled for first place in their double header.

When the smoke had cleared, the teams remained tied for first by splitting their twinbill.

Yates' tight defense prevailed 18-8 in the opener, but the Securitymen rallied to win the nightcap 15-14.

It was the eighth one-run game of the season for Central.

With the tying and winning runs on base for Yates and two out, Central pitcher Victor Rodriguez speared a rocket liner by Ed Engler that was ticketed for extra bases to secure the win.

In the second game, Duke Hensley had four hits for Central Security (9-5), while Rodriguez and Pete Matthews chipped in with three each.

For Yates Insurance (9-5), Cliff Bluml (two doubles), "Wahoo" Stanley (three doubles), and Joe Hedges (double) had six hits each in the combined stats.

Don Ward, Gary Pixley, and Ray Hensley each had five hits.

In league action on Monday, Feb. 20, Lockhart fell to Central Security 24-16.

Manager Darrel Richards had four hits (triple), and Paul Stephenson had three, while 94 year old catcher Al Chipps "chipped" in with a hit and scored a run.

For the Securitymen, Mike Kratt and Glenn Minnick had four hits each.

Manager Duke Hensley had a home run and two doubles for the winners.

Seminole Tire did not fare much better.

They came out on the short end of a 38-8 thrashing by Yates Insurance.

The 'Noles were led by Dick Cook with five hits (home run) and Glenn Wearsch with four hits.

For Yates, Cliff Bluml (two doubles, triple) and "Wahoo" Stanley (two triples) had a six-pack of hits each.

Manager Doran Quigg had five hits, while Bill Card, Joe Hedges, Gary Pixley and Don Ward were all in The Four Hit Club.

60 years has seen a lot of change for 12 Hours

Continued from 1B

off-track events created as well.

The crowd size has varied but with few exceptions, it has grown each year.

The 2012 Mobil 1 12 Hours of Sebring Fueled by Fresh From Florida is scheduled to be one of the biggest ever.

So many teams have signed up that pit road had to be lengthened to accommodate new pit areas for the cars.

Fans who can, are being

encouraged to park outside the track and ride the trams to try and eliminate the traffic jams seen during the 50th anniversary race.

Those who attend this year's race will see a rare collection of historic vehicles on display at the Gallery of Legends juxtaposed with the newest of the new on the track.

More names will be added to the Sebring Hall of Fame while fans enjoy themselves at the Spring Break Party Zone.

The run-up to this year's

Sebring has been impressive, with major on-track events by the Sports Car Club of America, The Porsche Club of America, the American Le Mans Series, The Mx-5 Winter Tour and the Sports Car Vintage Racing Association.

It is little wonder that the 12 Hours of Sebring is considered the premier road race in North America and second only to the 24 Hours of LeMans in world importance.

To find out how long until the green flag drops, visit <http://sebringraceway.com/>

New book details history of 12 Hours

By BARRY FOSTER

Special to the News-Sun

Sixty years is a long time, and when you hold an endurance race with dozens of competitors, the statistics mount up quickly.

Those who want to be "in the know" may want to pick up the new offering by Sebring International Raceway Press Officer and historian Ken Breslauer.

"Sebring 12 Hours" is the official record book of America's Greatest Sports Car Race and encompasses statistics and information from the original six-hour Sam Collier Memorial race held at the Sebring Air Terminal on New Year's Eve of 1950 to last year's Mobil 1 12 Hours of Sebring presented by Fresh From Florida.

The 144-page softcover edition chronicles every car and driver to turn a wheel at the Sebring course.

The famous, the not so famous and even those who did not want to be known.

"We had one driver listed as 'John Marshall,' said Breslauer. "In fact, that was Miles Collier, who didn't want his mother to know he

was racing."

Breslauer said that finding records which don't match up with race photos represented a great challenge in producing an accurate record of the past 60 years of racing at Sebring.

"We get pictures like that all the time. Those also may result in changes to the record book," he said.

The quest for a complete and accurate accounting has been exhaustive.

Breslauer has reviewed everything from original lap charts, to accounts and descriptions of the races, to live interviews with team members and participants.

As part of the book, there are diagrams of the original track configuration and how it has changed over the years, as well as photos of the top 10 drivers in each of the Sebring races.

"There are 600 different photos," he said. "We tried to include color pictures whenever we could. It was a lot of work."

Leading into the book are photos of some of the past features of the track such as the original pit structure,

which was demolished in 1999, and the famous MG Bridge.

In addition to the participants and vehicles in each of the races, the average speed, distance, margin of victory, fastest lap and race leaders also are included.

When cars did not finish, the reason for retiring the vehicle also is listed.

Even the weather and attendance figures for each race are included.

Wrapping up the book is an extensive All-Time Sebring Driver Index.

From Rauno Aaltonen to Steve Zwiren, the appendix lists the years each one of them appeared at the track.

The book is a limited edition, with only 1,000 copies printed.

Breslauer's first book, the hardcover "Sebring: The Official History of America's Greatest Sports Car Race" already is out of print.

"I see it on eBay every once in a while," he said.

The new record book retails for \$40 and is available only at the Sebring International Raceway headquarters.

Track season starts

Continued from 1B

the 1,600- and 3,200 meter runs.

Lake Placid also got a win in the 800 from David Villalobos, with Keplet Charite winning both the

110- and 300-meter hurdles.

Avon Park picked up event wins from Jodeci Jones in the high jump, Louis Estevenson in the shot put and Masco Louis in the discus.

The Green Dragons were at Sebring Thursday, as the

Blue Streaks opened up their season with Hardee and Lake Region joining in the four-team meet.

The Red Devils, meanwhile, get back into action Tuesday at Bartow.



News-Sun photo by

DAN HOEHNE

Avon Park's Takesha Williams won the girls high jump, clearing 4-feet, 4-inches at Tuesday's season-opening meet at Lake Placid.



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NEWS-SUN



Country Club of Sebring

Last Friday, Feb. 17, the Hzyny/Mezza Group played Individual Pro-Am Points at the Country Club of Sebring.

Jim Gulick was in first place with plus 1 in A group and Murray Campbell in second place with even.

In B group, Dave Mangold was in first place with plus 2 and Joe Martini was in second place at even.

Randy Greene shot a plus 7 that was good for first place in C group, while Bob Topel shot a plus 5 for second place.

Billy Parr scored plus 3 for first place in D group and Jack Schell in second place with plus 2.

In E group Doug Haire shot a plus 3 for first place and Paul Brown in second place with plus 2.

Norm Dominna was in first place with plus 4 and Jimmy Berg shot a plus 3 for second place.

This group plays at The Country Club of Sebring on Wednesday and Friday.

Please arrive by 7:30 a.m. to register.

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

Golf Hammock

The Ladies League played a Queen Bee Low Net Tournament on Wednesday, Feb. 22.

The Queen Bee Winner was Ruth Kirk with a 61.

Florence Towell took top honors in the First Flight with a 65, with Jeannie Fivecoat winning a tie-breaker for second with 68.

Betty Clarke, also with a 68, settled for third.

In the Second Flight, Anne Coffey won with a 63, three ahead of Joyce Stanley's 66 for second, which was also three ahead of Wanda Hastie's 69

for third.

Nancy Senior topped the Third Flight with a 64, while Mary Cripps and Alma Barefoot both came in with 67s.

After a match of cards, Cripps was awarded second and Barefoot third.

Last Monday, Feb. 20, the Mezza Group played Individual Pro-Am Points at Golf Hammock Country Club.

Jim Gulick scored a 37 for plus 6 in A group for first place and Fred Latshaw in second place at plus 2.

Gary Galle was at plus 2 for first place in B group and Les Campbell in second place at even.

Capt Billy Parr made plus 3 that was good for first place in C group and Joe Martini at minus 2 for second place.

Bob Topel played very well to take first place in D group with plus 7, while Bob Hughes in second place with plus 4.

In F group, Janet Regan was in first place with plus 2 and Gerry Geouque in second place at even.

Joe Hamilton scored plus 8, that was good for first place in G group, with Ken Spenser carding a plus 4 for second place.

Harold Traxler shot a plus 4 to take first place in H group and Dennis Latshaw was in second place with plus 1.

In I group, Jerry Patterson had a plus 6 for first place and Bob Fidlin

Senior Tip

MASTER STROKES

BY PHIL FRANKLE WITH TOP PROSIGHT ILLUSTRATIONS

Amateur & Senior Tip: Cure Reverse Pivot Drill

By Jim McLean, owner, Jim McLean Golf School, author of the best-selling books "The Slot Swing" and "The 8-Step Swing," illustrated by Phil Franke

Three Box Drill: Visualize three horizontal, connected glass boxes, floating head-high. You start with your head in the center box at the setup. In the backswing, your head shifts laterally into the back box, away from the target. At impact, it returns to its original position in the center box, and at the finish, it shifts into the front box, toward the target. These three boxes are your three balance points. The first balance point is when your weight is 50/50. At the top of the backswing, the balance point is the inside of your right or back leg, and at the finish, it is the front leg.

took second place with plus 4.

Bill Katcher was in first place with plus 5 in J group and in second place Pete Mezza had plus 1.

Bud Hill scored a whopping plus 8 to take first place in K group and Brad Johnston was in second place with a plus 2.

Next Monday, Feb. 27, the Mezza Group will play at Golf Hammock beginning at 8 a.m.

Please arrive early to register. This will be a modified shotgun.

For more information or to play with this group, call Pete Mezza at 414-2110.

Harder Hall

The Ladies League played a pro am points event on Monday, Feb. 20.

The winners were: First place, Nancy Jankovic with plus-6. Tying for second through fifth places were Kay Maker, Joyce Himler, Arlene Glendenning and Diane Darroch with plus-5 each.

The Ladies League played the Even Holes event on Thursday, Feb. 16.

The winners were: First place, Jan Saliba with 29.5; and second place, Diane Darroch with 30.5. Tying for third/fourth/fifth places were Pat Rowbotham, Rose Huizenga and Joyce Himler with 31 each.

Chip-in: No. 1, Billie Aydelotte; and No. 8, Doris Herrick.

SpringLake

The SpringLake Women's Golf Association played their winter Eclectic Tournament on Monday, Feb. 20, and Wednesday, Feb. 22.

The scores for Monday were recorded and then all had the opportunity to improve on each hole on Wednesday.

After the second day scores were recorded, the results were calculated and the best score for each hole was used to determine the winners. This was a Low Net Tournament on the Panther Creek course.

Flight A winners consisted of Marsi Benson - 63, Gail Whiting - 64 and Maggie Robb - 66.

Winning positions in the B Flight were Mary Cebula, who had the best score of the tournament, a staggering 59.

Marilyn Redenbarger - 63 - claimed second place and Barb Stevens - 66 - took third.

C Flight was won by Jan Nelson in a tiebreaker over Roberta Briggs with a 64 and Ann McWilliams took third with 68.

The D Flight players also made a very good showing.

Diana Ackling had 61 to win first place and Patty Miller won the tiebreaker for second place over Kay Gorham with a 64

The Spring Lake Men's Golf Association held an Individual Net Points - Flighted competition on the Cougar Trail course on Tuesday, Feb. 21.

In this tournament, points are scored on a "per hole handicap" basis where a net bogey counts as 1 point, a net par counts 2, a net birdie counts 4, and a net eagle counts 8 points.

There were three flights for this event.

In the A Flight, Jan Hard won first place with 49 points, including 2 net eagles and 5 net birdies.

There was a tie for second place at 45 points between Charlie Scoven and Ken Kirby.

The B Flight was won by Bo Bohanon with 49 points which included 1 net eagle, 7 net birdies, and 6 net pars.

Jack Hoerner came in second place with 47 points and Joe Austin was third with 46 points.

Ken Rohr won first place in the C Flight with 51 points.

Second place went to Chips Ryan with 50 points, which included the day's only Double Eagle.

Larry Colclasure took third with 49 points.

Highlands Eagles give back

Special to the News-Sun

SEBRING - In youth sports it is often too easy to get caught up in getting equipment together, making sure you have your uniform, getting to practice and, of course, winning the game of football, that you have to stop and think about how you got to where you are today.

Several key people within each youth sports organization work diligently behind the scenes to get ready for the upcoming season, but the community around us are the best supporters and most important contributors.

Working together towards a common goal and providing a youth program that fosters mentoring, teamwork and sportsmanship is crucial to the development of the young men and women of Highlands County.

Highlands Youth Football and Cheer (HYFC) is the newest league to Highlands County and the community has been very supportive of the association.

"To give back to our community is important because without the support of your community and parents, youth sports would not be possible" said Cliff Howell, Executive Director for the organization.

On Saturday, Feb. 11, in an effort to give back to the community, several players, parents and coaches of the Highlands Eagles visited the Palms of Sebring to hand out carnations to celebrate Valentine's Day.

This event was very special to all the HYFC members and it brought great joy to both them and to all the residents at the Palms of Sebring.



Courtesy photo
Highlands Eagle Cole Howell hands out flowers to this Palms of Sebring resident as part of the Highlands Youth Football and Cheer Valentine's Day outing to give back to the community that supports them.

"To see those little faces' smiling as they handed off carnations to the residents; the pure happiness and love that filled the air as HYFC walked down the hallways, every person in the Palms had a smile on their face," said Chrissi Merrick, Cheer Director.

The kids really enjoyed giving out the carnations to the residents; they kept coming back and asking for more flowers so they could give out more.

Some of the residents got very emotional when the kids were handing them the flowers and wishing them happy Valentines Day.

"They're so happy and she is even signing to us "said Mitey Mite cheerleader Emily Sodrel.

A tender moment was caught as Junior Varsity Player Cole Howell was giving a flower to a resident of the Palms.

"It just makes you feel warm inside when you do something nice for others,"

Howell said. "One of the gentlemen that I gave a flower to was very surprised. He said 'Thank you so much,' and then told me that he hoped we win every game this season and to "Go Get Em' Tiger. It was really cool."

"It is just so important that we, as role models, coaches and mentors instill more than just about the game of football or cheerleading with our kids," said Kay Howell, Public Relations Director for the Eagles. "Teaching them to be respectful and showing compassion for others is a life lesson that will reward them over and over for many years to come.

"Doing this together as a group truly demonstrates the unity of our organization."

HYFC would like to thank Mrs. Nancy Hawk, Activities director for the Palms for coordinating the event and helping the team make this Valentines Day wonderful and loving for all the residents.

Devils road ends in semis

Continued from 1B

stronger than us," he added. "We tried to use our speed and quickness, but like I said, we did not get the shots we usually get."

Berkeley keyed on Avon Park's Reggie Baker, who still managed to lead the Devils in scoring with 20.

Baker, a senior along with Romello Roberts, who scored nine, will be missed next year, according to Clemons, who stated it was time to begin again.

"We win together and we lose together. We pray together and we stay together," Clemons said. "It was tough. It hurt, but we'll be back."



News-Sun photo by ED BALDRIDGE
Reggie Baker scored a team-high 20 points in the final game of his standout high school career.

SFCC stopped by Seminole

Continued from 1B

which also saw the throw seem to get away to put two on.

But with the ball deflecting off Lewis' back, he was ruled to have been running inside the baseline and called out, with Bagnara being returned to first.

Layner, however, got things going again with a single to right, but was soon out at second when David Samperi grounded into a fielder's choice.

Jordan Rivera then was plunked by a pitch to load the bases, but Sam Morgan's soft liner toward right was snared by the Seminole first baseman to retire the side.

The Raiders added a run to the lead, on a Tanner Pollack RBI single, but SFCC got that run back in the bottom of the fourth.

Kevin Schubert doubled into the left-center field gap and came in on Tayler Anderson's single up the middle to make it a 2-1 game.

The Panthers then scored three in the fifth to break out on top.

Anderson hit a ground-rule, RBI double and Jusino brought two home with a single to left to make it 4-2

after five.

But that would be the last score of the night for the home team and the bullpen wouldn't be able to hold the lead as the Raiders rallied behind a Darryl Knight home run to get away with the win.

South Florida will be right back at it tonight against Baltimore-area Dundalk Community College on its' annual southern tour, before facing the University of Tampa's B team in a Saturday afternoon double header.

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HEALTHY LIVING

Hepatitis C deaths up, baby boomers most at risk

LAURAN NEERGAARD

AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON

Deaths from liver-destroying hepatitis C are on the rise, and new data shows baby boomers especially should take heed — they are most at risk.

Federal health officials are considering whether anyone born between 1945 and 1965 should get a one-time blood test to check if their livers harbor this ticking time bomb. The reason: Two-thirds of people with hepatitis C are in this age group, most unaware that a virus that takes a few decades to do its damage has festered since their younger days.

The issue has taken new urgency since two drugs hit the market last summer that promise to cure many more people than ever was possible. And research published Monday says testing millions of the middle-aged to find those who need the pricey treatment would be worth the cost, saving thousands of lives.

“One of every 33 baby boomers are living with hepatitis C infection,” says Dr. John Ward, hepatitis chief at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. “Most people will be surprised, because it’s a silent epidemic.”

Don’t think you need to worry? Yes, sharing a needle while injecting illegal drugs is the biggest risk factor for



MCT
Sufferers of hepatitis C often have to take daily injections to try to keep the disease at bay.

becoming infected with this blood-borne virus. But before 1992, when widespread testing of the blood supply began, hepatitis C commonly was spread through blood transfusions. Plus, a one-time experiment with drugs way back in high school or college could have been enough.

“Asking someone about a risk that happened 20 to 30 years ago is a lot to ask,” says Ward. Hence the quest for a new strategy.

About 3.2 million Americans are estimated to have chronic hepatitis C, but at least half of them may not know it. The virus, which affects 170 million people worldwide, can gradually scar the liver and lead to cir-

rhosis or liver cancer. It is a leading cause of liver transplants.

A CDC study published Monday analyzed a decade of death records and found an increase in death rates from hepatitis C. In fact, in 2007 there were 15,000 deaths related to hepatitis C, higher than previous estimates — and surpassing the nearly 13,000 deaths caused by the better-known AIDS virus.

Perhaps more surprising, three-fourths of the hepatitis deaths occurred in the middle-aged, people 45 to 64, researchers reported in *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

“Mortality will continue to grow for the next 10 to 15 years at least unless we do

something different” to find and treat the silent sufferers, Ward says.

CDC’s current guidelines recommend testing people known to be at high risk, and until last summer there wasn’t much enthusiasm even for that step: the reasons are the year-long, two-drug treatment promised to cure only 40 percent of people; treatment was so grueling that many patients refused to try it and treatment could cost up to \$30,000.

Two new drugs — Vertex Pharmaceuticals’ telaprevir and Merck & Co.’s boceprevir — are starting to change that pessimism. Research suggests adding one of them to standard therapy can boost cure rates as high as 75 percent. While still full of side effects, they can allow some people to finish treatment in just six months. They add to the price, however, another \$1,000 to \$4,000 a week. Drugs that promise to work even better have begun testing.

Those advances are fueling CDC deliberations of whether to change testing guidelines to recommend that anyone born between 1945 and 1965 get a one-time screening. A second CDC-funded study published Monday analyzed models of that option, and concluded it had the potential to save 82,000 lives.

A third study published Monday from Stanford

University looked more closely at the price tag, and concluded the new triple-therapy would be cost-effective for people with advanced disease. It’s still cheaper than a transplant costing well over \$100,000. But not everyone with hepatitis C will go on to suffer serious liver damage. For those with mild disease, that analysis concluded some gene testing to predict who might really need the costlier triple therapy rather than the older drugs would be a good next step.

It’s not clear how quickly the CDC will settle the boomer-screening question. But doctors at New York’s

Montefiore Medical Center have started raising the issue with boomers. And Montefiore internist Dr. Gary Rogg says a number of patients have sought testing after seeing hepatitis-awareness ads from the drugs’ manufacturers.

“Now it’s considered a curable disease, that makes all the difference,” says Rogg, who was surprised at some longtime patients’ test results.

Even a nurse he knows learned she had it, and the only risk she could recall was a blood transfusion during surgery when she was 10 years old.

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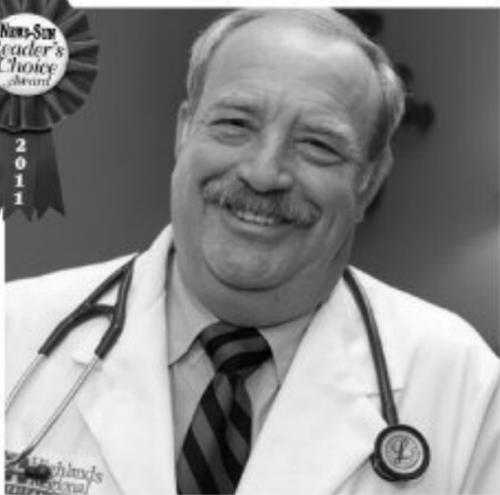
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HEALTHY LIVING

Don't suffer because celebrities make bad choices

Dear Pharmacist: Have you noticed the trend of celebrities dying from medications? I can think of Michael Jackson, Amy Winehouse, and most recently Whitney Houston? Do you think they should restrict the use of painkillers to prevent this?

— T.W., Birmingham, Ala.

Answer: No, people in pain should not have to suffer because others abuse their medicine. At the time of my writing, Whitney's death has not been officially ruled as drug-related, although her history would make it seem obvious. Regardless of the coroner's ruling, I think it's important we not lay 100 percent of the blame on medicine for celebrity deaths.

The intention of these medications is not to cause death, it's to offer temporary relief to millions of users who take as directed. Tranquilizers can ease grief and anxiety. Analgesics relieve pain and offer quality of life. It is the misuse and abuse of analgesics and tranquilizers often combined with alcohol that have a deadly impact, not the medicine itself. If someone cuts their wrists, do you blame the knife?

Many people are outraged at the medication, or their makers, but you can't possibly understand the other side of this story unless you've been there yourself. Imagine this.



Dear Pharmacist

Suzy Cohen

You have a medical condition that affects your nervous system like multiple sclerosis, or perhaps you have low back pain from a car accident. In other words, it's a pain that is hard to see unlike a broken leg in a cast. You can tolerate the pain if you take hydrocodone every day. You've lost your job because of your disabilities, so you're not dressed as sophisticated as the other customers.

Pharmacist Jones is skeptical of you, she thinks you might be an addict, and he doesn't like you showing up in her pharmacy every 30 days like clockwork for your 60 pills. She fears you will bring your friends, and word will get out that she dispenses narcotics to pretty much anyone.

You forgive her judgement, you just need your medicine so you can get out of bed every morning and get through

your day. One day you are turned away because your doctor prescribed 180 tablets instead of 60. The physician only wrote for that large amount because he knows that you can no longer afford to see him monthly, so he prescribed enough to hold you over for three months (this practice is not uncommon). Maybe you live out of town, so he prescribes a lot.

Regardless, the pharmacist perceives 180 tablets as 'excessive' and tells you she's out of stock.

In pain, and shame, you or your wife (or caretaker) must drive to several other pharmacies until a compassionate pharmacist fills your prescription. Fair?

Pharmacists are naturally cautious about what they dispense, but when celebrities die from drugs, it occurs because of a series of very bad decisions, not the medicine itself. Restricting medicine at the pharmacy level will never stop the problem and besides, chronic pain patients should never have to pay the price for substances abusers.

Suzy Cohen is a registered pharmacist and the author of 'The 24-Hour Pharmacist' and 'Real Solutions.' For more information, visit www.DearPharmacist.com. This information is not intended to treat, diagnose or cure your condition.

FDA: New suppliers to ease 2 cancer drug shortages

By LINDA A. JOHNSON
AP Business Writer

TRENTON, N.J. — Federal regulators have approved new suppliers for two crucial cancer drugs, easing critical shortages that had been ratcheting up fears that patients, particularly children with leukemia, would miss life-saving treatments.

But there are currently 283 separate prescription drugs in short supply or unavailable nationwide, and regulators and manufacturers say shortages are a long-term problem that will continue to give patients and doctors nightmares.

On Tuesday, the Food and Drug Administration said it will temporarily allow importation of a replacement drug for Doxil, a drug for recurrent ovarian or bone marrow cancer. The Johnson & Johnson drug hasn't been available for months because J&J's contract manufacturer had to shut down production over serious quality lapses.

The FDA also has approved a new supplier for a preservative-free version of methotrexate, a crucial drug for children with a type of leukemia called ALL, for lymphomas and for the bone cancer osteosarcoma. The version with preservatives, the one that's been scarce, can be toxic or cause paralysis in children and other patients getting the drug either by injections into spinal cord fluid or at very high doses.

The FDA also has approved the release of a

batch manufactured by Ben Venue Laboratories Inc., shortly before it closed several factories at its complex in Bedford, Ohio, due to serious quality problems. That closing was what turned the periodic methotrexate shortage that began in late 2008 into a crisis almost overnight, with fears that kids would begin missing treatments within weeks.

"We have made real progress ... We believe that (suppliers) will be able to meet the demands of patients in the U.S. market" for the two drugs indefinitely, FDA Dr. Commissioner Margaret A. Hamburg told The Associated Press in an exclusive interview. "It's a huge relief for us."

Numerous medical and drugmaker groups, along with the White House, applauded the news but cautioned that much still must be done to resolve all the problems causing shortages.

The FDA increasingly has been able to prevent shortages, mainly due to a sixfold increase in manufacturers voluntarily notifying the FDA when they anticipate shortages and agency efforts to expedite any approvals needed for new production lines, Hamburg said.

Thanks to such notice, the agency prevented 195 drug shortages in 2011, mostly late in the year after President Obama issued an executive order giving FDA additional resources to address the shortages.

Free diabetes classes offered

SEBRING — The Highlands County Health Department (HCHD) is offering Diabetes Self-Management Education (DSME) classes as part of its Wellness and Diabetes Education Program. This program serves Highlands County residents of all ages, especially those with diabetes or at risk for developing diabetes. These classes are free of charge and pro-

Snapshots

vided by a Certified Diabetes Educator.

Classes in English are scheduled in Sebring on March 12-14 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. and on March 19-21 from 8:30-11:30 a.m. at the Highlands County Health Department (located at 7205 S. George Blvd. conference room A). Enrollment is limited and registration is required. To register and for more information, contact the HCHD Wellness and

Diabetes Education Program, at 863-382-7228 or 863-382-7294.

Outreach schedule

Ace Homecare has planned the following community outreach events:

Monday — 9 a.m., Coping with Transitions, Resthaven assisted living facility, off S.R. 64, Resthaven Road, Zolfo Springs; 1 p.m., Caregivers Support Group, Crown Pointe assisted living Community, Sun 'n Lake

Boulevard, Sebring.

Tuesday — 9 a.m., Health Fair, Groves, behind Sebring Diner, U.S. 27 Sebring; 10:30 a.m., Health Fair, Lake Placid Meal Site, Interlake Boulevard, Lake Placid.

Wednesday — 9 a.m., Health Fair, Avon Park Meal Site, Main Street, Avon Park.

Thursday — 10:30 a.m., Caregivers support group, Balmoral assisted living Facility 93 Balmoral Road, C.R. 621, Lake Placid.

Podiatrists are integral part of diabetes management team

◆ *First in a four-part series*
The American Podiatric Medical Association's "Diabetes is a Family Affair" campaign encourages those with diabetes, as well as



Foot Care

Dr. Joni Jones

those at risk, to discuss the disease with family members. Diabetes has a tendency to be passed down from parents to children.

Ethnicity plays a large factor in a person's risk for developing diabetes. African-Americans are nearly twice as likely to develop the disease as Caucasian Americans.

Nearly 24 million American children and adults have the disease, including four million African-Americans.

Because diabetes is preva-



MCT

Podiatrists are key when it comes to keeping a diabetic's feet healthy.

lent in the African-American community, treating the disease requires proper education, understanding, a trusting relationship between the patient and healthcare provider and support from family and community.

Close to six million Americans have diabetes and don't know it.

The feet, which are often

overlooked during regular medical check-ups, can reveal the first signs and symptoms of diabetes and other serious medical conditions.

Diabetes can damage nerves (neuropathy) in the legs and feet, reducing the ability to feel pain. A decrease in the ability to detect pain along with poor

blood flow can cause small sores and cuts on the feet to heal slowly. This can lead to development of a wound also called a diabetic foot ulcer.

Up to 25 percent of people with diabetes develop foot ulcers, which can escalate into gangrene, bone infection and possibly even lower limb amputation. In fact, diabetes is the leading cause of non-traumatic lower-limb amputations.

A comprehensive foot care treatment plan can reduce amputation rates by 45-85 percent, according to the American Diabetes Association.

Podiatrists are medically trained to treat foot conditions that result from the disease, such as neuropathy, infection and diabetic ulcers. They are an integral part of a diabetes management team.

The type and severity of complications suffered as a result of diabetes vary from person to person.

For this reason, treating

diabetes requires a team approach encompassing healthcare providers from different specialties, including a podiatrist, a dentist, an optometrist, a vascular specialist, an endocrinologist, an infectious disease specialist and a primary care physician.

Dr. Joni Jones is a podiatrist in Sebring who can be reached at 382-3228, stop by her office at 206 West Center Avenue, Sebring or mail to P.O. Box 1719, Sebring, FL 33871-1719. This information is not intended to diagnose, treat or cure your condition.

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RELIGION



Courtesy photo
Sebring Mayor George Hensley and his wife Nancy (left) stop for a moment outside of the preview of 'October Baby' held at Grace Bible Church last week.

Preview of 'October Baby' held at Grace Bible Church

By MELISSA MAIN
Special to the News-Sun
SEBRING — Cameras flashed as community and church leaders from Highlands County walked the red carpet in high fashion at Grace Bible Church on Feb. 17. The red carpet event was hosted by Choices Pregnancy Care Center to give people a sneak peak of the upcoming movie, "October Baby," which will be shown at Lakeshore Mall theatre on March 23-25. Members of the community were able to learn about the services offered by Choices PCC and preview "October Baby." The audience was captivated as they watched the beautiful and energetic 19-year-

old Hannah collapse on stage during her debut theatrical performance in college. Hannah's doctor informs her that her difficult birth is the reasons for her medical problems, which include asthma, seizures and other complications. This revelation is soon followed by another more startling one. She was adopted after a failed abortion attempt. The anger, bewilderment and frustration she experiences prompt her to begin a journey to discover her past. Along the way, she discovers love and the power of forgiveness. Choices Pregnancy Care Center shared this dramatic film with members of the community in an effort to expose them to the central

truth of the movie — every life is beautiful. Choices PCC helps women who are experiencing planned, unplanned, or unwanted pregnancies with free pregnancy tests, medical referrals, peer counseling, and education regarding childbirth, parenting and adoption. For those choosing to raise their babies, Choices provides needed items through the first 18 months. Emotional, as well as material, support is given to women. Doulas, specially trained to provide comfort and moral support during the labor and delivery process, will accompany the mothers during this time and offer emotional support.

Atonement Lutheran Church, ELCA

SEBRING — This is the first Sunday in Lent. Worship service with Communion will be led by Deacon David Thoresen. Worship assistant will be Ron Fitzpatrick, Eucharist assistant will be Jim Fiedler, and lector will be Ron Fitzpatrick. Sunday evening is the Agape Communion service, followed by ham/ham loaf dinner. Everyone is welcome; bring a dish to pass or dessert — meat and beverage provided. Sharon Palmer will lead Thursday's Bible study. Lent schedule: Wednesday, Feb. 29 - Soup and Supper, 5:30 p.m., followed by worship service titled "Prepare the Way," led by Ron Fitzpatrick at 6:15 p.m. Soup Suppers will be at 5:30 p.m. every Wednesday through March 28. Sunday, March 4 - Winter Visitor Appreciation Brunch and program, following morning worship. Everyone welcome. Tuesday, March 6 - Council meeting at 6 p.m.

Christ Lutheran Church

AVON PARK — Pastor Scott McLean will preach a sermon Sunday morning titled "Why Me?" The theme for Lenten devotional is "The Trials of Jesus" - The Voice of Peter by Pastor Scott McLean. The church is at 1320 County Road 64, east the Avon Park High School. For more information call 471-2663 or online at christlutheranavonpark.org.

Church News

Christian Science Church

SEBRING — The lesson sermon on Sunday morning is titled "Christ Jesus." The keynote is from Isaiah 62:11, "Say to Daughter Zion, See, your Savior comes!" The church is at 146 N. Franklin St.

Christian Training Church

SEBRING — Rev. Linda M. Downing will bring the message titled "Revelation 11: Part 2" at the Sunday morning service. The Wednesday night Bible study is studying the Gospel of John.

Emmanuel United Church of Christ

SEBRING — The Rev. George Miller will deliver Sunday morning's sermon titled "Chatter," with Scripture taken from Psalm 50:1-7, 23. The church is 1.7 miles west of U.S. 27 on County Road 634 (Hammock Road). Call 471-1999 or visit sebringemmanuelucc.com.

Faith Lutheran Church

SEBRING — This Sunday morning the church celebrates the First Sunday of Lent. The church leader, Ken Hall, will deliver his sermon titled "God Tests His People" from the Epistle Lesson of the Day, James 1:12-18. The middle and high school youth will be hold-

ing a 30-Hour Famine today. The youth will be collecting food to help restart Faith's Food Pantry at the church.

First Christian Church - Avon Park

AVON PARK — Who do you know is worthy to stand before the throne of God? II Thessalonians 1:3-12 is an encouraging passage speaking to the church reminding all that God is just and will take care of us as long as we are glorifying Jesus by living for Him. "Standing Worthy" is the sermon that the pastor will bring this week. In this sermon, the pastor will be encouraging us to persevere in our faith knowing that God is in control and will take care of us even when we are suffering. Sunday 6 p.m., the church is hosting another "Movie Night," so join this wonderful family-friendly movie full of laughter. First Christian Church of Avon Park is at 1016 W. Camphor (behind the Wachovia Bank). Call 453-5334 or e-mail us at firstchristianap@embarqmail.com with any questions or to request information. The church website is www.firstchristianap.com.

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

SEBRING — Children's Church leaders for Sunday will be Juanita Roberts and Sherry Kunsak. The pastor has chosen to speak on "The Parable of the Rich Fool," with

Continued on page 9B

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Sandwiches

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- Philly Beef Sandwich.....8
- Philly Chicken Sandwich.....8
- Chicken Sandwich.....7
- Fish Sandwich.....7
- BBQ Pork Sandwich.....7
- Tuna or Chicken Salad Wrap.....8
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RELIGION

My leap year quandry: Anybody have a day to spare?

During the last political election cycle, we were promised change but I have not seen any of it, especially in my pants pocket.

Then something wonderful happened. I was taking some mail to the post office and as I got out of my truck, I noticed a penny on the ground. At my age, if I have to bend down I make sure there are at least two or three things to do while I am down there. A single penny just will not do it for me. After all, what can you do with a penny?

As I looked at that penny, I saw another penny, then another, then several. By the time I was done, there was a pile of 20 pennies there. Now that is something to bend down for.

I know what they say, "a penny for your thoughts." Here was 20 pennies and I did not have to think too much about bending down and collecting all 20 and put into my pants pocket. Nothing is quite as melodious as change jingling in my pants pocket. I walked into the post office with my pocket jingling with some spare change.

Some may complain that 20 pen-

nies does not really amount to very much. I remember what wise old Benjamin Franklin said, "A penny saved is a penny earned." I am not sure what he would say about a penny rescued or even 20 pennies rescued, but I think he would have had something very witty to say about it.

The Gracious Mistress of the Parsonage would say to me something to the effect that 20 pennies cannot buy a good lunch. Who needs a good lunch when you got 20 pennies jingling in your pants pocket? The better part of wisdom on my part would be to allow these 20 spare pennies be my little secret.

A few days after finding this penny cache, my wife made a comment that changed my week.

"What are you going to do with the extra day this year?"

I had no idea what she was talking about. Normally, I have no extra days to spare. Even if I happen to catch up on my chores on one day, there are always the next day's chores staring me in the face.

I was not a Beatle's fan but I did understand their one song that

Guest Column

Rev. James L. Snyder

talked about "eight days a week." I have often thought I might be able to get caught up if there was an extra day in the week. Then, on scrutiny of the facts at hand, my good wife would find something for me to do on that eighth day.

Getting back to her "extra day" question. I had no idea what she was talking about and so I responded with a very sophisticated, "huh?"

"What are you going to do with the extra day we have this year?"

I searched the cobwebs of my memory and could not find anything resembling her comment. She saw the quizzical look on my face, more quizzical than normal, and realized I had no idea what she was talking about.

"Don't you know we have an extra day this year?"

I did not know that so I pled with her to explain what she was talking about. I was thinking she was going to give me a day off so I

could do nothing, then on second thought I do not believe she would do something like that. Not her!

"This is leap year and the month of February has 29 days instead of the normal 28."

I thought for a moment and understood what she was talking about. I had forgotten this was leap year, which gives us an extra day. Instead of 365 days this year, we will enjoy 366 days. I am not quite sure who arranged this phenomenon but the extra day is tacked on to the end of February.

I have often thought it would be great to be born on Feb. 29. That way you only celebrate your birthday every four years. Instead of being 60 years old, I would be 15.

Then a very terrible thought rumbled through my mind. I remembered what it was like to be 15. No way in the world would I ever want to be 15 again. Imagine taking 60 years to get to 15 and then staying there for four years. Talk about dragging out your misery?

My wife gave me, as usual, some fodder for my thinking. What would I do with an extra day?

The more I thought about this the more things I thought I could do on that extra day. By the time I got through thinking about all the things I could do with an extra day I was exhausted and needed to sit down for a cup of coffee. In order for me to satisfy all my proposed projects, I would need at least one extra day a month, and I would not complain about one extra day a week.

I really do not think having an extra day is going to make much difference for me. The Bible says, "This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it" (Psalms 118:24 KJV).

Someone said, today is the first day of the rest of my life. And so it is. Enjoy the day you have, is my philosophy of life.

The Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship, PO Box 831313, Ocala, FL 34483. He lives with his wife, Martha, in Silver Springs Shores. Call him at (352) 687-4240 or e-mail jamesnyder2@att.net. The church web site is www.whatafellowship.com/. Guest columns are the opinion of the writer, not necessarily those of the News-Sun staff.

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Places to Worship is a paid advertisement in the News-Sun that is published Friday and Sunday. To find out more information on how to place a listing in this directory, call the News-Sun at 385-6155, ext. 502.

APOSTOLIC

■ **Greater Faith Apostolic Church**, 24 Rainer Drive, Lake Placid, FL 33852. invites you to come worship with us in spirit and truth at 10:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. Sunday, and at 7:30 p.m. Thursday. For information contact (239) 671-0390. Pastor Travis Vanderford.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

■ **Christ Fellowship Church (Assembly of God)**, 2935 New Life Way, Bearing His Name; Preaching His Doctrine; and Awaiting His Coming. "Worshipping God in Spirit and in Truth." Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10 a.m.; Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday: Worship, 7 p.m. Pastor Eugene Haas. Phone 471-0924.

■ **First Assembly of God**, 4301 Kenilworth Blvd., Sebring. The Rev. Wilmont McCrary, pastor. Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship and KIDS Church, 11 a.m.; Evening Worship, 7 p.m. Wednesday Family Night, (Adult Bible Study), LIFE Youth Group, Royal Rangers, Missionettes, 7:30 p.m. Phone 385-6431.

BAPTIST

■ **Avon Park Lakes Baptist Church**, 2600 N. Highlands Blvd., Avon Park, FL 33825. George Hall, Pastor. Christ centered and biblically based. Sunday worship services, 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Nursery facilities are available. Bible studies at 9:45 a.m. Sunday and 7 p.m. Wednesday. Prayer Time 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday. Bible classes at 9:45 a.m. are centered for all ages. Choir practice at 5 p.m. Sunday. Church phone: 452-6556.

■ **Bethany Baptist Church (GARBC)** We are located at the corner of SR17 and C-17A (truck route) in Avon Park. Join us Sunday morning at 9:00 AM for coffee and doughnuts, followed with Sunday School for all ages at 9:30. Sunday morning worship service begins at 10:30 a.m., and evening worship service is at 6 p.m. On Wednesdays, the Word of Life teen ministry and the Catalyst class (20's+) begin at 6:30 PM. The adult Bible and Prayer Time begins at 7 p.m. For more information go to www.bethanybaptistap.com or call the church office at 863-452-1136.

■ **Faith Missionary Baptist Church**, off State Road 17 North of Sebring at 1708 LaGrange Ave. Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship, 11 a.m.; Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday Service, 7 p.m. Deaf interpretation available. Ken Lambert, Pastor. Phone 386-5055.

■ **Fellowship Baptist Church**, 1000 Maxwell St., Avon Park, FL 33825. Sunday: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10:45

a.m.; Wednesday: Evening Service, 7 p.m.; Children/Youth, 7 p.m. Telephone: 453-4256. Fax: 453-6986. E-mail: office@apfellowship.org; Web site, www.apfellowship.org.

■ **First Baptist Church of Avon Park**, 100 N. Lake Ave., Avon Park. Rev. Jon Beck, pastor; Charlie Parish, associate pastor/youth and families; Joy Loomis, music director; Rev. Johnattan Soltero, Hispanic pastor. Regular Sunday schedule: 8:30 a.m. orchestra rehearsal; 9 a.m. Library open; 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 11 a.m. Morning Worship; 11 a.m. Children's Church; 6 p.m. evening worship. Wednesday schedule: 5:15 p.m. supper; 6 p.m. Bible Study and Prayer; 6:30 p.m. Adult Choir Practice; 6 p.m. children's choir rehearsals; 7 p.m. mission programs. Hispanic Services: Sunday school at 9:30 a.m., worship service at 11 a.m. and evening worship at 7 p.m. Wednesday Bible study at 7 p.m. Call 453-6681 for details.

■ **First Baptist Church of Lake Josephine**, 111 Lake Josephine Drive, Sebring (just off U.S. 27 midway between Sebring and Lake Placid). Your place for family, friends and faith. Sunday morning worship service is 11 a.m. Nursery is provided for both services with Children's Church at 11 a.m. Life changing Bible Study for all ages starts at 9:45 a.m. Associate Pastor Allen Altwater leads the youth in their quest to become more like Christ. Sunday night worship at 6 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer meeting at 7 p.m. along with youth worship in the youth facility, and missions training for all children. Call the church at 655-1524.

■ **First Baptist Church of Lake Placid**, Knowing God's Heart and Sharing God's Hope, 119 E. Royal Palm St., Lake Placid, FL 33852 (863) 465-3721, Website: www.fbclp.com. Email: information@fbclp.com. Sunday services - Traditional Service 9 a.m., Contemporary Service 10:30 a.m. Link Groups at 9 and 10:30 a.m., Senior Sunday Night at 6 p.m. Wednesday Activities: Family dinner at 5 p.m. (\$4 per person, reservations required). Prayer meeting, Youth Intersections, and MaxKidz Extreme meet at 6:15 p.m. The church is at 119 E. Royal Palm St., Lake Placid. For information, call 465-3721 or go to www.fbclp.com.

■ **First Baptist Church of Lorida** located right on U.S. 98 in Lorida. Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m. for all ages. Sunday worship services are at 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Preschool care is provided at the 11 a.m. worship service. Wednesday evening Bible Study and Prayer meeting is at 6:30 p.m., followed by adult choir rehearsal. From September the AWANA groups meet. First Lorida is the "Place to discover God's love." For more information about the church or the ministries offered, call 655-1878.

■ **First Baptist Church, Sebring**, 200 E. Center Ave., Sebring, FL 33870. Telephone: 385-5154. Dr. David E. Richardson, senior pastor; Rev. Joe Delph, associate pastor, minister of youth and activities; and Rev. Nuno Norberto, associate pastor, minister of music and senior adults. Group Bible Studies, 9:15

a.m.; Blended Service, 10:30 a.m.; Mision Buatista Hispana, 2 p.m.; Sunday Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday night programs at the ROC begin 5:30 p.m., at church begin 6:30 p.m. Preschool and Mother's Day Out for children age 6 weeks to 5 years old. Becky Gotsch, director. Call 385-4704.

■ **Florida Avenue Baptist Church**, 401 S. Florida Ave., Avon Park. Mailing address is 710 W. Bell St., Avon Park, FL 33825. Telephone, 453-5339. Rev. John D. Girdley, pastor. Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Sunday Worship, 11 a.m.; 11 a.m. Children's Church; Sunday Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday night programs for children, youth and adults at 7 p.m. ■ **Independent Baptist Church**, 5704 County Road 17 South, Sebring, FL 33876. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m. Sunday evening, 6 p.m. Wednesday service, 7 p.m. Fundamental, soul-winning, mission-minded, King James Bible Church. Larry Ruse, pastor. Phone 655-1899. Bus transportation.

■ **Leisure Lakes Baptist Church**, 808 Gardenia St., Lake Placid (just off of Miller at the west end of Lake June) "Where the old fashion gospel is preached." Sunday School begins at 9:30 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@stcath.com; website, www.stcath.com. Very Rev. José González, V.F., frjose@stcath.com; Parochial Vicar, Rev. Victor Caviades, 385-3993; Assisting Priest (retired), Rev. J. Peter Sheehan; Deacons, Rev. Mr. James R. McGarry and Rev. Mr. Max M. Severo. Parish office hours, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Masses - Daily Masses 8 a.m. and noon Monday-Friday; 9 a.m. Saturday. Weekend Masses 4 and 5 p.m. Saturday, 5 p.m. Saturday Spanish Mass (Holy Family Youth Center), 8 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday, noon Sunday Sunday Mass; 5 p.m. Sunday English Family Mass (Holy Family Youth Center). Confession: Friday Saturday 3-3:45 p.m. or first Friday of the month 7:15-7:45 a.m., or by appointment with any priest.

■ **St. James Catholic Church**, 3380 Placidview Drive, Lake Placid, 465-3215. Father Michael J. Cannon. Mass schedule: Summer (May 1 to Oct. 31) - Saturday Vigil, 4 p.m.; Sunday 8 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.; Weekdays, 9 a.m. December thru Easter - Saturday, 4 p.m.; Sunday, 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.; Weekdays 9 a.m.; and Holy Days 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m., first Saturday at 9 a.m.

CHRISTIAN

■ **Eastside Christian Church**, 101 Peace Ave., Lake Placid, FL 33852 (two miles east of U.S. 27 on County Road 621), 465-7065. Ray Culpepper, senior pastor. Sunday: Bible classes, 9 a.m.; Worship Celebration with the Lord's Supper each week 10:15 a.m. Thelma Hall, organist; and Pat Hjort, pianist. Wednesday: Praise and Prayer, 6:30 p.m.; "Building God's Kingdom for Everyone." "Jesus Christ, the Way, Truth and Life!" "Alive and Worth the Drive!"

■ **Sebring Christian Church**, 4514 Hammock Road, Sebring, FL 33872. Tod Schwingel, Preacher; David Etherton, Youth Pastor. Sunday Worship, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 11 a.m.; Sunday Youth Service, 6 p.m.; Evening service at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday night meals, 5:30 p.m. followed by classes at 6:30 p.m. Changing Seasons, a men's grief support group, meets at 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays. Alzheimers Caregivers Support Group meets at 1 p.m. Thursdays. Office hours, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday-Friday. Phone 382-6676.

■ **First Christian Church**, 1016 W. Camphor St., Avon Park, FL 33825; (863) 453-5334; on the Web at www.firstchristianap.com. Our motto is "Jesus is First at First Christian Church." Greg Ratliff, Senior Minister; Bible School 9 a.m.; Worship 10 a.m.; Wednesday studies for all ages, 6 p.m. Nursery provided for all events.

■ **First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**, 510 Poinsettia Avenue, (corner of Poinsettia and Eucalyptus), Sebring, FL 33870. Phone: 385-0358 or 385-3435. The Rev. Ronald Norton, Pastor; Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Praise Breakfast, 10 a.m., Morning Worship, 10:30 a.m.; Children's Church, 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Praise and Worship, 6:45 p.m. Youth Fellowship, 7:15 p.m.; Midweek Bible Study, 7:15 p.m.

CHRISTIAN & MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

■ The **Alliance Church of Sebring**, 4451 Sparta Road, Sebring, FL 33875. Call 382-1343. Rev. Steve Hagen, pastor. Sunday services: Sunday School meets at 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Morning Worship Service meets at 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Evening Bible Study meets at 6 p.m. (off site); Wednesday Prayer Gathering meets at 6 p.m.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

■ **Christian Science Church**, 146 N. Franklin St. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. morning worship and Sunday school. Testimonial meetings at 4 p.m. each second and fourth Wednesday. A free public reading room/bookstore, located in the church, is open before and after church services. The Bible and the Christian Science textbook, 'Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures' by Mary Baker Eddy are our only preachers. All are welcome to come and partake of the comfort, guidance, support and healing found in the lesson-sermons.

CHURCH OF BRETHREN

■ **Church of the Brethren**, 700 S. Pine St., Sebring, FL 33870. Sunday: Church School, 9 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10:15 a.m. Wednesday: Temple Choir, 7:30 p.m. Phone 385-1597.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

■ **Avon Park Church of Christ**, 200 S. Forest Ave., Avon Park, FL 33825. Minister: Larry Roberts. Sunday Worship Services, 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Nursery facilities are available at every service. Bible Study: Sunday, 9:30 a.m. and Wednesday, 7 p.m. Bible centered classes for all ages. Church phone: 453-4692.

■ **Sebring Parkway Church of Christ**, 3800 Sebring Parkway, Sebring, FL 33870; 385-7443. We would like to extend an invitation for you and your family to visit with us here at Sebring Parkway. Our hours of service are: Sunday Bible Class, 9 a.m.; Sunday Worship Service, 10 a.m.; Sunday Evening Service, 6 p.m.; Wednesday Service, 7 p.m.

CHURCH OF NAZARENE

■ **First Church of the Nazarene of Avon Park**, P.O. Box 1118., Avon Park, FL 33825-1118. 707 W. Main St. Randall Rupert, Pastor. Sunday: Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. for all ages; morning worship at 10:45 a.m.; and evening service at 6 p.m. Wednesday evening service is at 7 p.m. with special services for children and adults. Special services once a month for seniors (Prime Time) and Ladies ministries. If you need any more information, call 453-4851.

■ **First Church of the Nazarene of Lake Placid**, 512 W. Interlake Blvd., Lake Placid, FL 33852. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Morning worship, 10:45 a.m.; Evening service, 6 p.m. Wednesday evening, 7 p.m. Classes for adult children and youth. Call 465-6916. Pastor Tim Taylor.

CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN CHRISTIAN UNION

■ **Community Bible Church - Churches of Christ in Christian Union**, (Orange Blossom Conference Center) 1400 C-17A North (truck route), Avon Park. Presenting Jesus Christ as the answer for time and eternity. Sunday morning worship service, 10:30 a.m. Nursery provided. Junior Church activities at same time for K-6 grade. Sunday School Bible hour (all ages), 9:30 a.m. (Transportation available.) Sunday evening praise and worship service, 6 p.m. Wednesday evening prayer service, 7 p.m. Children and youth activities at 7 p.m. Wednesday. Everyone is welcome, please come worship with us. Don Seymour, Senior Pastor. Phone 452-0088.

RELIGION

Church News

Continued from page 7B

Scripture taken from Luke 12:13-21.

For more information, call 385-0352. The church is at 510 Poinsettia Ave.

First Presbyterian Church of Avon Park

AVON PARK — On Sunday morning, Pastor Bob Johnson's sermon will be "Avoiding Idolatry" based on I Corinthians 10:1-22.

The choir's introit will be "Joyful Thanks" and the anthem will be "Let the Words of My Mouth."

The adult Sunday school class is continuing its study of David in II Samuel Chapter 22 in which David writes a song of deliverance.

The Family Gathering meets at 6 p.m.

On Monday, the Crafty Ladies will meet from 10 a.m. to noon.

On Wednesday, Pastor Johnson will lead the Bible

study on the topic "The Basics of the Faith."

On Saturday, March 3, the Women's Ministries will hold their quarterly luncheon at noon in the fellowship hall. Mary Circle is hostess.

The church is at 215 E. Circle St. (with two entrances on Lagrande Street). For questions, call 453-3242.

First Presbyterian Church of Sebring

SEBRING — Jason and Kim Smith, from Word of Faith, will lead in the Sunday morning worship; followed by the guest speaker, the Rev. Frank vanDalen, executive director of World Witness.

Heartland Christian Church

SEBRING — Pastor Ted Moore's sermon this Sunday will be "Salvation Considered" with scripture from: I Peter 1:10-12

Communion is offered

during the service weekly

The service will also include guest singer Brian Richardson, the Heartland Singers singing "The Master's Hand" and a Little Heartland Singers concert

Tuesday night adult Bible study is "The Big Bang Theory" taught by Pastor Ted Moore. Come early for snacks.

Wednesday night young adult and children's programs are taught by George Kelly, Amanda and Jon Armentrout and Toby Cribbs. It features a free meal.

The church is at 2705 Alternate Route 17 South in Sebring (behind Publix). Call 314-9693

Memorial United Methodist Church

LAKE PLACID — Pastor Claude Burnett will preach at the Heritage Worship Service and the Celebration Service.

Pastor Fred Ball will preach at the New Song

RELIGION GUIDELINES: The *News-Sun* publishes religion news on Fridays.

The submission deadline is 5 p.m. Monday to be considered for publication in the following Friday's paper.

Submit items to the *News-Sun's* from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays; fax to 385-2453; send e-mail to editor@newssun.com; or mail to Lifestyle Editor, *News-Sun*, 2227 U.S. 27 South, Sebring, FL 33870. For information, call 385-6155, ext. 516.

Contemporary Service in Rob Reynolds Hall.

Nursery care is available at the Creepy Crawly Clubhouse.

The Church is at 500 Kent Ave.

For information, please phone 465-2422

Parkway Free Will Baptist Church

SEBRING — The Sunday morning Bible lesson, "Fruits of Redemption," is taken from Galatians 5 and 6. Pastor Jim Scaggs will bring the message in the Sunday morning service.

The Sunday evening service will be the end-of-the-

month-sing, followed by fellowship time.

St. John United Methodist Church

SEBRING — The Rev. Ronald De Genaro Jr.'s message will be "Temptation: Power" at all three services. Biblical reference is from Mark 1:12-13. Small Steps 4 Health meets Monday. Lighthouse meets Tuesday. Nursery is provided at all services.

Spring Lake United Methodist Church

SEBRING — Spring Lake United Methodist Church is

at 8170 Cozumel Lane. Sunday service starts at 9:55 AM. Rev. Clyde Weaver's sermon will be "Grafted and Adopted." John Schinder will share his musical ministry. Fellowship follows the service.

The Way Church

SEBRING — Pastor Reinhold Buxbaum's message will be "Angels - Part One."

Missionaries Anna and Colter Brown who serve in Honduras, will be sharing their ministry.

A hymn sing will take place in the evening at 6:30 pm.

The Difference Makers Youth meet Sunday and Wednesday Evenings.

The Way Church is at 1005 North Ridgewood Drive. Church phone is 471-6140 and the pastor's cellis 273-3674. For church information and the pastor's messages go to www.theway-church.org/.

EPISCOPAL

■ **The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer.** Service time is 9:30 with Holy Communion. Coffee hour following services. Newcomers welcome. Call 453-5664 or e-mail redemer1895@aol.com Web site: redemeravon.com. The church is at 839 Howe's Way, Avon Park (two miles north of Sun 'N Lake Boulevard, across from Wells Dodge.)

■ **St. Agnes Episcopal Church,** 3840 Lakeview Drive, Sebring, FL 33870. Sunday Services: Holy Eucharist Rite I - 7:45 a.m., Holy Eucharist Rite II - 10 a.m. Midweek service on Wednesday at 6 p.m. Sunday School for all ages at 9 a.m. The nursery is open 8:45 a.m. until 15 minutes after the 10 a.m. service ends. Wednesday: Adult Bible study, 9:30 a.m. Visitors are always welcome. The Rev. Jim Kurtz, rector. Church office 385-7649, for more information.

■ **St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church,** 43 Lake June Road, Lake Placid, FL 33852. Phone: 465-0051. Rev. Elizabeth L. Nelson, Rector. Sunday Worship, 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesday evening: Holy Communion with Healing Service, 6 p.m. Child care available at the 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Sunday service. Come see what makes us different.

GRACE BRETHREN

■ **Grace Brethren Church,** 3626 Thunderbird Road, (863) 835-0869. Dr. Randall Smith, senior pastor. Sunday services at 9 a.m., 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday services at 7 p.m. We offer "Kid City" Children's Ministry throughout all services, and there are various other classes for teens, married couples, "prime-timers," and Bible studies in Spanish. "Kid City" Day Care, Preschool and After-School Monday-Friday: 7 a.m.-6 p.m. (For registration call: 385-3111). Check us out on the Web at www.sebring-grace.org.

INTERDENOMINATIONAL

■ **World Harvest and Restoration Ministries,** (non-denominational) 2200 N. Avon Blvd., Avon Park, FL 33825. Phone: 452-9777 or 453-3771. Sunday service: Sunday School, 10 a.m. and worship, 11 a.m. Wednesday services: 7 p.m. prayer meeting/Bible study. Pastor: W.H. Rogers.

LUTHERAN

■ **Atonement Lutheran Church (ELCA),** 1178 S.E. Lakeview Drive., Sebring. David Thoresen, Deacon, Spiritual Leader, on first, third and fifth Sunday each month, and Rev. Jefferson Cox on the second and fourth Sunday of each month. Jim Helwig, organist/choir director. Worship service at 9:30 a.m.; Holy Eucharist is every Sunday. Coffee hour on the first and third Sunday of each month. Council meeting on the first Monday of month; Ladies Group WELCA meets at noon second Monday of month with lunch. Bring a dish to pass. Church Vegetable Garden Club meets as needed. Labyrinth Prayer Garden open seven days a week to congregation and community. Like to sing? Come join the choir. Visitors always welcome. Come grow with us. Phone 385-0797.

■ **Christ Lutheran Church Avon Park – LCMS,** 1320 County Road 64, 1/2 mile east of Avon Park High School. Sunday Divine Worship is at 10 a.m. Holy Communion is celebrated every week with traditional Lutheran Liturgy, hymns and songs of praise. Fellowship time with coffee and refreshments follows worship. Come worship and fellowship with us. For information call Pastor Scott McLean at 471-2663 or see christlutheranavonpark.org.

■ **Faith Lutheran Church – LCMS,** 2740 Lakeview Drive, Sebring. Church phone: 385-7848, Faith Child Development Center, 385-3232. Rev. Gary Kindel, pastor. Traditional Worship service, 8 a.m. Sunday; Sunday Praise Worship Service, 10:30 a.m. Communion is served the first, third and fifth Sunday of the month. Sunday school and Bible classes: 9:15 a.m. Sunday. Worship service is broadcast at 8 a.m. on WITS 1340 AM each Sunday. Educational opportunities include weekly adult Bible studies. Faith's Closet Thrift Store (385-2782) is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday. All are warmly welcome in the Family of Faith.

■ **Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (AALC) American Association of Lutheran Churches,** 3240 Grand Prix Drive, Sebring, FL 33872. James Weed, pastor. Worship Service, 10:30 a.m. Sunday. Bible Study, 9 a.m. Nursery provided. Social activities: Choir, Missions, Evangelism. Phone 385-2346.

■ **New Life Evangelical Lutheran Church,** 3725 Hammock Road, a Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) in fellowship with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). Sunday Worship at 10 a.m.; Bible Study, 9 a.m. For more information, call Pastor Brian Klebig at 385-2293 or visit the Web site at www.newlife-sebring.com.

■ **Resurrection Lutheran Church – ELCA,** 324 E. Main St., Avon Park. Pastor: Rev. John C. Grodzinski. Sunday service at 9:30 a.m. Sunday school will resume in the fall. Coffee and fellowship hour follow the service. Midweek Fragrance Free Wednesday worship, (year round) 7 p.m. Office phone number is 453-6858.

■ **Trinity Lutheran Church - LCMS,** 25 Lakeview St., Lake Placid, FL 33852; 465-5253. The Rev. Richard A. Norris, pastor; Susan C. Norris, Trinity Tots Pre-School director; and Noel Johnson, minister of youth and family life. Worship schedule after Easter through December: Worship service 9 a.m., and Education Hour, 8:45 a.m. Worship schedule for January through Easter: Worship service, 8:30 and 11 a.m., Education Hour 9:45 a.m. Traditional Service with Holy Communion each first and third Sunday. Non-Traditional Service each second, fourth and fifth Sunday. Seasonal mid-week services Wednesday evenings during Lent and Advent. Call church office for additional Worship times and special holiday services. Other activities and groups include: Choirs; Ladies Guild and LWML; Men's Fellowship Group, Small Group Bible Studies as scheduled; Trinity Tots Pre-school, Youth Group activities (call for meeting times and dates). Visit us online at www.Trinitylutheranlp.com.

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

■ **Bible Fellowship Church,** 3750 Hammock Road, Sebring, FL 33872. Sunday: American Sign Language: First Worship sermon, songs signed first and second Worship services. First Worship service, 9 a.m.; Second Worship service, 10:45 a.m. Nursery (up to 2 years old) and Sunday school classes both hours. BFC Youth, 6 p.m.; Evening Service, 6 p.m. Wednesday: Children ages 4 years through fifth grade, 6 p.m.; Youth, 6-7:30 p.m.; Prayer time, 6:15 p.m. Todd Patterson, pastor; Andy McQuaid, associate pastor. Web site www.bfcsebring.com. Church office 385-1024.

■ **Calvary Church,** 1825 Hammock Road, Sebring, FL 33872; 386-4900. An independent community church. Sunday morning worship, 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.; Bible study, 11:15 a.m.; Sunday evening service, 6 p.m.; Wednesday Prayer and Bible Study, 6:30 p.m. Pastor Lester Osbeck. A small friendly church waiting for your visit.

■ **Christian Training Ministries Inc.,** on Sebring Parkway. Enter off County Road 17 on Simpson Avenue. Sunday service is at 10 a.m.; Wednesday Bible study at 7 p.m. A nursery and children's church are provided. The church is part of Christian International Ministries Network, a full gospel, non-denominational ministry. Linda M. Downing, minister, lindadowning@live.com. Casey L. Downing, associate minister, caseydowning@hotmail.com. Church phone: 314-0482. Web site: www.ctmforme.com

■ **Grace Bible Church,** 4541 Thunderbird Road, (second church on left) Sebring, FL 33872. Phone, 382-1085. Andrew Katsanis, senior pastor. Saturday Worship, 6:30 p.m. Sunday, 9 and 11 a.m. Tuesday 6 p.m. Grace Bible Academy Adult Investigating Truth; first and third Tuesday, Prayer Gathering, 7:15 p.m.; Wednesday, Children's & Youth Programs, 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 8:30 p.m., College Ministry. www.GBCconnected.org

■ **Highlands Community Church,** a casual contemporary church, meets at 3005 New Life Way. Coffee at 9:30 a.m.; Worship at 10 a.m. Nursery and Kid's World classes. Small groups meet throughout the week. Church phone is 402-1684; Pastor Bruce A. Linhart.

■ **The Lord's Sentinel Fellowship Church,** 148 E. Interlake Blvd., Lake Placid (at Lake Placid Christian School), Pastor Juanita Folsom. Sunday morning service, 10:30 a.m.; Monday, Sentinel School of Theology, 7 p.m.; Church service, Tuesday, 7 p.m. More information at www.juanitafolsomministries.com.

■ **Union Congregational Church,** 106 N. Butler Ave., Avon Park, FL 33825. Sunday worship services are at 8:45 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. in the Millennium Church. Sunday school for all ages is at 9:15 a.m. We also offer a Saturday service at 6 p.m. with Pastor Tiger Gullett in the Millennium Church. Nursery/child care is available for all services. Senior Pastor is Bill Breylinger. Office: 453-3345. Web page at www.weareunion.org. All teachings are taken from the Manufacturer's Handbook - The Holy Bible. Come join us.

■ **Unity Life Enrichment Centre,** new location, 10417 Orange Blossom Blvd. S., Sebring, FL 33875; 471-1122; e-mail unity@vistanet.net. Web site, www.unityofsebring.org. 10:30 a.m.

Sunday Celebration Service, Nursery and Children's Church. Weekly Classes, Christian Bookstore and Cafe, Prayer Ministry, Life Enrichment Groups. Rev. Andrew C. Conyer, senior minister transforming lives from ordinary to extraordinary.

■ **The Way Church,** 1005 N. Ridgewood Drive, Sebring. Sunday school and worship service at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Youth activities, 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays. The Way is a church family who gathers for contemporary worship, teaching of God's Word, prayer and fellowship. Come early and stay after for fellowship time. Child care and children's church are provided. Reinhold Buxbaum is pastor. The Way – A place for you. Office Phone:471-6140, Church Cell Phone:381-6190. Email: thewaychurch@hotmail.com. Web site: www.TheWayChurch.org

PRESBYTERIAN

■ **Covenant Presbyterian Church (PCA),** 4500 Sun 'N Lake Blvd., Sebring, 33872-2113. A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America. Sunday morning worship: Informal service, 8 a.m.; traditional service, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday school, 9:15 a.m.; evening service, 6 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 Prayer meeting and lunch, noon. Tuesday: Bible study, 6:30 p.m.; and Women's Ministries, 7 p.m. Wednesday:

Youth Ministries, 4 p.m. All meetings are at 120 N. Ridgewood Ave., Sebring. For more information, visit the Web site www.salvationarmy-sebring.com or call Major Bruce Stefanik at 385-7548, ext. 110.

UNITED METHODIST

■ **First United Methodist Church,** 105 S. Pine St., Sebring, FL 33870. The Rev. A.C. Bryant, pastor. Traditional Worship Service at 8:10 and 10:50 a.m. in the sanctuary, Contemporary Worship in the FLC at 9:30 a.m. Sunday School at 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. Methodist Youth Fellowship at 5:30 p.m. Sundays with Rick Heilig, youth director. The 10:55 a.m. Sunday worship service is broadcast over WITS 1340 on AM dial. There is a nursery available at all services.

■ **First United Methodist Church,** 200 South Lake Avenue, Avon Park, FL 33825. (863) 453-3759, R. James Weiss, Pastor, Sunday School - 9 a.m., Worship - 10:30 a.m. Bible study third Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry on the second and fourth Friday of the month at 2 p.m. for women who love God and crocheting. Visit us at our church Web site: www.fumcap.org.

■ **Memorial United Methodist Church,** 500 Kent Ave., (overlooking Lake Clay) Lake Placid, FL, 33852. The Rev. Fred Ball, pastor. Claude H.L. Burnett, pastoral assistant. Sunday schedule: Heritage Worship Service, 8:30 a.m.; Sunday School for all ages, 9:30 a.m.; Celebration Worship Service at 10:45 a.m.; New Song worship service at 10:45 a.m. Loving nursery care provided every Sunday morning. Middle School Youth, 4 p.m.; High School Youth, 5:30 p.m. We offer Christ-centered Sunday school classes, youth programs, Bible studies, book studies and Christian fellowship. Church office, 465-2422 or www.memorialumc.com. Lakeview Christian School, VPK to grade 5; 465-0313.

■ **St. John United Methodist Church,** 3214 Grand Prix Drive, Sebring, FL 33872. The Rev. Ronald De Genaro Jr., Pastor. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Adult Sunday School, 11 a.m.; Sunday Morning Worship, 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Nursery provided for all services. Phone 382-1736. www.stjohnsebring.org

■ **Spring Lake United Methodist Church,** 8170 Cozumel Lane, (Hwy 98) Sebring. The Rev. Clyde Weaver Jr., Pastor. Worship service starts at 9:55 a.m. Bible Study meets at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday. Choir Practice at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday. Church office phone: 655-0040.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

■ **Emmanuel United Church of Christ,** Jesus didn't reject people, neither do we. Join us for worship every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. and you'll be embraced by a compassionate congregation that is all-inclusive. We're at the corner of Hammock and Hope. Choir and Bell Choir practice on Wednesday; Bible studies throughout the week. 471-1999; sebringemmanuelucc.com.

ENTERTAINMENT

Rihanna could draw criticism for songs with Brown

By MESFIN FEKADU
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Rihanna is known for making bold statements, from her often sexually charged music to her tattoos to even the hue of her hair.

But her latest decision — a musical pairing with the man who three years ago left her bloodied and bruised — has left some questioning her judgment.

On Monday, after days of teasing, Rihanna and Chris Brown debuted two songs featuring each other. Brown sings and raps on the remix of Rihanna's sexually charged song "Birthday Cake," and she appears on a new version of his upbeat tune "Turn up the Music."

Fans have been split about the topic: Some support Rihanna and Brown's collaborations, others condemn it. The topic was still trending on Twitter on late Tuesday, with plenty of tweets criticizing Rihanna for embracing her former abuser.

Rihanna, 24, seemed to address the controversy Tuesday when she won best international female artist at the Brit Awards.

"At times when I feel misunderstood, my fans always remind me that it's OK to be myself," Rihanna said.

But Bill Werde, editorial director of the music magazine *Billboard*, says Rihanna's decision to make music with Brown could disappoint some of her supporters.

"I think there are people out there that feel betrayed (by) Rihanna," he said. "She has every right to be an individual ... she has every right to date who she wants to date and be with whoever she wants to be with. She's a grown woman. But you just need to recognize that then the fans have every right to feel how they're going to feel about that."

Emails to both Brown and Rihanna's record labels asking for more information on the songs went unreturned Tuesday, and while Rihanna's representative had no comment, Brown's publicist did not return a request for comment.

When rumors about the collaboration sparked last week, both stoked the talk about it. Brown, 22, tweeted: "Let them be mad!!!! We make music. Don't like it, don't listen!" On Tuesday, after weighing some of the negative feedback, he tweeted: "You are not GODS to judge us. U have no say! Positivity & LOVE! My fans make a difference."

The release of the songs comes three years after Brown attacked his then-girlfriend on the eve of the



Rihanna has collaborated with Chris Brown on songs, despite the fact he assaulted her three years ago.

Grammys, leaving her with a split lip, a black eye and other injuries.

Later that year, when she addressed the assault in an interview with ABC, she went into detail about how Brown punched and bit her during an argument that turned violent. She said Brown had "no soul in his eyes" and she had no idea how the beating would end. She also warned other women facing domestic violence to not let themselves become blinded by love.

"I think the existence of these (songs) show that she's still kind of struggling with that, as many humans would," said Werde.

Rihanna and Brown have been on friendly terms for some time. They've tweeted each other, and he recently wished her a happy birthday on Twitter. She has also said that she's happy about his success and enjoys his music.

Sandra Ramos, who founded the women's shelter Strengthen Our Sisters in 1970, says she hasn't seen many abusers change, and that victims — like Rihanna — get "caught up in this cycle."

"She should be working on herself and not allowing herself to be near her addiction, her temptation, who's this guy that purports to be

charming when he is a batterer," Ramos said. "He could have killed her."

After Brown pleaded guilty to a felony charge, he saw his career plummet: A former *Billboard* artist of the year, he lost endorsements and his third album, "Graffiti," released 10 months after his attack, was a commercial disappointment. A restraining order prevented him from being close to Rihanna and he was put on probation (which remains in effect). Since then, he's returned to the top of the music charts, releasing a slew of hit songs and the album "F.A.M.E. (Forgiving All My Enemies)," which won him his first Grammy this month. He also made his physical return to the Grammys, the same night Rihanna performed (the restraining order is no longer in effect). Brown performed twice at the show, which drew criticism.

But now Rihanna may face criticism as well. Werde, who expects the songs to find success, says he doesn't believe she'll lose any of her endorsements, but adds that image could change.

"This will be white-hot for a few minutes in the big scheme of things and then it will die down. But what's going to be left behind is the

complicated residue of who Rihanna is as a role model," he said.

Even before the songs were officially released, *Billboard* addressed the matter in open letters to Rihanna and Brown. In Rihanna's letter, *Billboard* said her pairing with Brown was "not cool, to a whole lot of people."

"Young girls look up to people like you to guide them through circumstances too complex for them to tackle on their own, and by granting Chris Brown an iota of tolerance, you implicitly encourage others to consider doing the same," the letter read. "With great power comes great responsibility" is a schmaltzy sentiment, but it's fitting here — like it or not, you have a different level of power than most of us schmoes because of your pop superstardom, and a different level of responsibility in your personal life than in your music because of the tabloid-infected culture we live in. It's a burden that is not fair to you, or anyone in pop culture, but it's one you have to accept."

Rihanna is currently a spokeswoman for Nivea, and has endorsed CoverGirl and Gucci in the past. In November, she said in an interview on "The Ellen DeGeneres Show" that her goal is to be her true self, and not necessarily a role model to others.

"I used to worry about it a lot, but then I realized the message I really want to send is not perfection, it's individuality," she said.

RELIGION

Special Miracle Story unfolds Sunday

SEBRING — If ever someone's life was a series of miracles, that's what describes Louise Pankuch.

From salvation, through three episodes of cancer, through 10 years in a Christian cult, Lou's survival has been one miracle after another.

Lou's story is a powerful testimony to God's grace, mercy and unfailing love.

Everyone is invited to this Special Miracle Story Sunday with Lou at 11 a.m. Sunday at Faith Missionary Baptist Church. The address is 1708 LaGrange Ave. It will be interpreted for the deaf.

Cases plan special sing

LAKE PLACID — Bethel Baptist Church is having a special "Sing Unto the Lord" this Sunday morning, featuring special guest Don and Kim Case from Michigan.

They have been singing gospel music for more than 27 years. Brother Case plays the accordion as they sing. They will bless your heart with their sincere and unique way of singing.

Pastor John Hankins and the church invites the public to attend for a day of spiritual uplift.

The church is at 216 E. Park St. For more information, call the church office at 633-9294.

Special concert set for Church of Nazarene

AVON PARK — "God's Bible School and College Choir" will be in concert at 7 p.m. Monday at Avon Park Church of the Nazarene. The

beautiful blending of voices of the choir is only surpassed by the wonderful spirit these young folk exhibit.

There is no admission fee, but a freewill offering will be received. The church is at 707 W. Main St. Call 452-5165 for further information.

St. John plans Trash and Treasure Sale

SEBRING — St. John United Methodist Church will hold its Big Spring Trash and Treasure Sale on Friday and Saturday, March 9-10. Friday sale hours are from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Saturday hours are from 8 a.m. to noon.

Lunch will be available on Friday. St. John is at 3214 Grand Prix Drive (just behind Walmart). Call the church office, 382-1736.

St. James plans Italian night

LAKE PLACID — St. James Catholic Church Oktoberfest Committee hosts Italian Saturday Nights every other Saturday night in the social hall, 3380 Placid View Drive. Gearing up for 2012 Oktoberfest, the committee is sponsoring Italian dinners available to the public. The proceeds will offset expenses, which allows the community to attend free at the Oktoberfest 2012 in October.

Bring your own wine and glass and join with the community for an Italian dinner of stuffed shells, meatballs, salad, garlic toast, drinks and dessert starting 5:15 p.m. Saturday.

Call to purchase tickets (\$12) in advance: St. James Catholic Church Office at 465-3215 or Kathy DeRosa at (954) 868-2597.

Aretha Franklin says Whitney Houston's mother raised her well

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Aretha Franklin says Cissy Houston raised her daughter Whitney Houston well — and that an interview where Franklin said parents need to make sure children "leave home prepared" was taken out of context.

Franklin released a statement Wednesday, four days after Houston's funeral. She was expected to sing at the funeral in Newark, N.J., Houston's hometown, but bowed out because of leg spasms she said she suffered after a concert at Radio City Music Hall the night before. She performed again at Radio

City the night of Houston's funeral, and paid tribute to Houston as "a very fine young lady."

In an interview about Houston on NBC's "Today" show last week, Al Roker asked Franklin about Houston's superstardom.

Franklin said: "I think parents have to really talk to their children before they leave home ... (that they) leave home prepared, really. She left home with all the right things."

After Franklin didn't attend the funeral, there were some reports that Houston's mother was upset over Franklin's comments and that

Franklin was uninvited, a charge Franklin denies.

"Cissy Houston and I have been long-time friends for almost 50 years. I have four invitations and parking passes that were sent to me for the funeral," Franklin said. "Cissy does not need ridiculous speculation and neither do I — particularly at this time."

Franklin also said her full statement — "This is no reflection on Cissy or Nippy's upbringing," using a nickname for Houston — wasn't aired (a request for comment wasn't immediately returned by the "Today" show).

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DIVERSIONS

Palin aides lash out at HBO's 'Game Change'

Associated Press
 JUNEAU, Alaska — Current and former aides to Sarah Palin lashed out Wednesday at HBO's "Game Change," describing the upcoming film's depictions of her on the 2008 campaign trail as "sick" and inaccurate.

None of the aides said they have yet seen the movie, which debuts March 10, and some said they had asked for an opportunity to screen the film but had been denied.

Trailers for the film, which is based on the bestselling book chronicling the 2008 presidential race, have been released, however, and some snippets appear to cast Palin in an unfavorable light. As portrayed by Julianne Moore, Palin is seen complaining about how she's being handled by political advisers and mumbling about missing her baby, who was born in April 2008. In one snippet, campaign strategist Steve Schmidt, portrayed by Woody Harrelson, describes her as being on the verge of a nervous breakdown.

Aides said none of that jibes with their own experiences with the former Alaska governor, and they defended her vigorously Wednesday.

Jason Recher, who handled vice presidential road operations for the McCain-Palin campaign, called Palin "one of the most engaged public servants I'd ever observed." Tom Van Flein, her former personal attorney, called her diligent, sharp and enthusiastic about the campaign.

Meg Stapleton, a former spokeswoman, said that she, unlike some of the others who worked with Palin during the campaign, had not been contacted with either the book or movie.

"They don't want to hear anything good," she said, her voice full of passion. "We all know Palin sells and the dramatization of Palin sells even more. This is sick."

"They mock Gov. Palin, you mock Gov. Palin, as weak and unable to cope and press forward," she told reporters on the conference call. "And the movie and the trailer ... say that. And yet look with your own eyes at what she and her family have endured and inspired over the last few years. Any lesser man would have hanged himself by now. So who's weak?"

Recher noted that Palin wasn't the primary focus of the book, and he said he told screenwriter and co-executive producer Danny Strong that the book "absolutely, unequivocally" did not accurately reflect his time with the McCain campaign.

Director Jay Roach last month said he wrote a long letter to Palin seeking an interview with her to help the film, "but I got a very quick email back from her attorney saying, 'I checked, she declined.'"



Photo by Gemma La Mana
Paul Rudd stars as George and Jennifer Aniston stars as Linda in Universal Pictures' 'Wanderlust.'

Laughs are hit and miss in 'Wanderlust'

By **CHRISTY LEMIRE**
AP Movie Critic

"Wanderlust" would provide an intriguing double feature with the acclaimed indie drama "Martha Marcy May Marlene."

Both are about people who search for their true selves in woody communes, get sucked into the brainwashing and insularity by a charismatic leader and eventually struggle to escape.

One of these films contains poop jokes. Guess which one it is.

Yes, "Wanderlust" proudly wears its sketch-comedy origins on its sleeve (except for the commune's resident nudist, that is), and that means the gags are as hit-and-miss as you'd imagine. David Wain ("Role Models") directs from a script he co-wrote with longtime friend and collaborator Ken Marino, but it's clear that a lot of improv took place, as well.

That's the bread and butter for these guys and their cast members, with whom they've worked in the past on TV ("The State," "Children's Hospital") and in movies ("Wet Hot American Summer," "The Ten").

Some jokes get hammered into the ground repeatedly; others go on well past the point of cringe-inducing awkwardness, which is the point. But some do reach the levels of brilliant, unfettered lunacy to which they aspire. One extended scene had me curled up in a ball in my seat, watching through splayed fingers across my eyes. Nothing gory happens — it's just Paul Rudd talking to himself in the bathroom mirror — but it's wonderfully, agonizingly weird, and a great showcase of his ability to be daring as well as likable.

Rudd and Jennifer Aniston co-star as George and Linda, a happily married couple



Movie Review 'Wanderlust'

Rating: R sexual content, graphic nudity, language and drug use

Running time: 98 minutes

Review: ★★ (of 4)

struggling to make do in Manhattan. But like so many Americans the past few years, they lose their jobs and find they can no longer afford the apartment they just bought (Linda Lavin is perfectly dry as their real estate agent). Reluctantly, they drive down to Atlanta to stay with George's blowhard brother, Rick (Marino), who lives in a McMansion with his obnoxious son and self-medicating wife (Michaela Watkins, who finds the delicacy in teetering on the brink of coming unhinged).

Along the way, though, they stop for the night at a bed and breakfast in northern Georgia.

Turns out the place is a hippie enclave called Elysium, run by the self-appointed, self-satisfied guru Seth. (Justin Theroux is awesomely arrogant in the role and virtually unrecognizable beneath his Christ-like hair and beard). The air is thick with pot smoke and the sound of didgeridoos and the scent of patchouli, and George and Linda don't quite fit in at first.

But they end up liking it there so much — and liking the version of themselves that its permissiveness brings

out — that they end up staying for a couple weeks. This sets up all kinds of fish-out-of-water antics, especially for Rudd, who serves as the straight man at the center of these zany caricatures. Kathryn Hahn, Lauren Ambrose, Jordan Peele, Kerri Kenney-Silver, Alan Alda and a startlingly naked Joe Lo Truglio all get chances to shine.

There is no real momentum, though, but rather a series of moments: George feels uncomfortable shouting out his emotions. George feels uncomfortable having people watch him on the toilet. George feels uncomfortable with Elysium's free-love philosophy — even though he has an opportunity to sleep with the gorgeous Eva (a game Malin Akerman).

Linda, who's bounced around throughout her adult life trying various jobs without ever feeling fulfilled, finds a spiritual home here and wants to move in for good. What will become of their marriage — which is never really in question, this is a comedy, after all — provides a minimal amount of tension.

Your expectations are crucial here. If you're looking for structure, cohesion and narrative drive, you'll be frustrated and maybe even a little bored.

If you can be as open-minded as the drugged-up denizens of Elysium, then it's all good, brother.

Husband's lies have broken marriage

Dear Abby: I have been married to "Roman" for 13 years. He has always been a man of few words who didn't initiate much on his own, so I stepped up to bat and did everything. I took over all aspects of our married life — from bill paying to home maintenance to romance. He would tell me how grateful he was to me for doing it.



Dear Abby

His adult daughters from a previous marriage have always been cold to me, and I recently found out why. It turns out Roman made up horrible, untrue stories behind my back. He painted himself as the victim of abuse. His daughters staged an "intervention" to save their dad, and Roman went along with them. He cleared out our bank accounts, hid money and assets and filed for divorce. I was stunned.

Abby, he went along with the charade for a week — until his guilt got the better of him, and he admitted he had made it all up. He claims he doesn't want to divorce me after all. He said he made up the stories to get his daughters' attention.

Roman and I are now going through counseling, and I am assuming responsibility for my part in this mess. He harbors strong resentment toward me and resorted to passive-aggressive revenge. We're both doing our best to establish forthright, honest and open lines of communication.

The problem is his daughters still believe the lies. They hate me and won't speak to their father unless he divorces me. I'm not sure what to do. Roman has lost his family and he may lose me, too. The damage is so widespread I don't know what can be regained. Have you any advice for me?

— *Older, Wiser and Heartbroken*

Dear Older, Wiser and Heartbroken: Your letter made me furious. It proves that with your husband no good deed goes unpunished. Had you not taken on the functions your husband avoided, your credit would be shot, your house would

be a wreck and your sex life nonexistent. And for this your husband slandered you?

That he would lie to his daughters about you is disgusting. That he then made a money grab and hid assets is appalling. What have you to gain from continuing this marriage? If I were you, I'd contact a divorce lawyer and a forensic accountant, divide the assets and let the daughters take care of their ingrate of a father.

Dear Abby: My husband and I belong to a supper club comprised of four couples.

We have enjoyed our monthly gatherings for years and have developed a strong bond with each couple. As a rule, each one takes turns hosting the event in their home.

The recent behavior of one hostess has us baffled. For starters, "Lynn" sometimes seats herself and her husband at a separate table, even though there's room at the main table.

She also involves herself with activities I consider rude — taking calls on her cell, perusing Facebook, doing paperwork. It's beginning to feel as though we are an obligation rather than wanted guests.

Members of our group have been hesitant to discuss this with her because we don't want to create tension in the group we have come to hold dear. Any suggestions?

— *Getting Served a Cold Dish*

Dear Getting Served: It appears there is already tension in the group you have come to hold dear. For a host to behave the way Lynn has is rude. Whoever in the group is closest to Lynn should have a chat with her about it — preferably face-to-face — and ask her to explain.

It's possible that the responsibility of hosting has become too much for her.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

British music 'mashup' at Olympic closing ceremony

Associated Press

LONDON — London organizers say the closing ceremony of the 2012 Olympics will be themed "A Symphony of British Music" — a hit-packed journey ranging from classical composer Edward Elgar to chart-topping singer-songwriter Adele.

Artistic director Kim Gavin says the Aug. 12 show will be an "elegant mashup of British music" packed with recognizable songs arranged symphonically.

The London Symphony Orchestra will provide musical backing.

Gavin, who has overseen tours for the band Take That and directed the 2007 Princess Diana memorial concert, says the closing ceremony will be "the biggest after-show party — the show being the sport."

The creative team revealed some details of the closing ceremony Thursday, but are keeping the names of many artists involved under wraps. The games start July 27.

SUDOKU

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	5	6						
					7	5	4	

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bonding puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

9	4	5	7	2	8	6	1	
7	2	3	6	1	8	9	5	4
6	1	8	9	4	7	3	2	7
5	7	1	2	8	4	6	9	3
2	9	4	3	6	5	1	7	8
3	8	6	9	7	1	4	2	5
4	7	2	8	5	3	9	6	1
1	3	7	1	7	9	5	2	8
8	5	6	4	3	9	3	4	6

ANSWER:

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Chronicle (2012/1) PG-13
 (Michael B. Jordan, Dane DeHaan)
 7:15 - 9:15

The Descendants R
 (George Clooney, Judy Greer)
 2:00 - 4:30 - 7:00 - 9:30

Big Miracle PG
 (Kristen Bell, Drew Barrymore)
 2:00 - 4:30 - 7:00 - 9:30

The Iron Lady PG-13
 (Meryl Streep, Harry Lloyd)
 2:15 - 4:15 - 7:15 - 9:15

The Artist PG-13
 (Jean Dujardin, Bérénice Bejo)
 2:15 - 4:15 - 7:15 - 9:15

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OSCAR TRIVIA QUIZ

You'll need a little 'Help' with this Oscar challenge

1. For the first time, the best picture category this year features nine nominees. Which of the following statements is not true?

- A.** "Nine" was nominated for four Oscars, winning none.
- B.** "District 9" was nominated for four Oscars, winning none.
- C.** "9½ Weeks" was nominated for one Oscar and three Razzies, winning none.
- D.** The nine nominations received by "They Shoot Horses, Don't They?" was the most for a film not nominated for best picture.



"Midnight in Paris"

2. Woody Allen scored his 15th best screenplay nomination for "Midnight in Paris." Which one of the following movies did not net him a writing nomination?

- A.** "Alice"
- B.** "Deconstructing Harry"
- C.** "Radio Days"
- D.** "Vicky Cristina Barcelona"



"The Help"

3. "The Help" is the only of this year's best picture nominees to gross more than \$100 million in North America. What was the last best picture winner that also was the highest-grossing nominee?

- A.** "The Departed"
- B.** "The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King"
- C.** "Million Dollar Baby"
- D.** "Slumdog Millionaire"

4. "The Help" has a chance to land winners for best actress (Viola Davis) and supporting actress (Octavia Spencer or Jessica Chastain). Which was the last movie to win both female acting categories?

- A.** "Chicago"
- B.** "Moonstruck"
- C.** "The Piano"
- D.** "Shakespeare in Love"

5. Aside from best picture, those acting nods were the only other nominations received by "The Help." What was the last best picture winner to receive no other nonacting nominations?

- A.** "Driving Miss Daisy"
- B.** "Marty"
- C.** "Grand Hotel"
- D.** None

6. This year's two nominated



"The Muppets"

songs will not be performed on the show, thus depriving viewers of a live rendition of "Man or Muppet" (from "The Muppets"). Which of the following statements is not true?

- A.** "The Rainbow Connection" was a best song nominee from "The Muppet Movie" but lost to "It Goes Like It Goes" from "Norma Rae."

- B.** Kermit the Frog sang "The Rainbow Connection" on the telecast with a cameo by George Burns.
- C.** "The First Time It Happens" was a best song nominee from "The Great Muppet Caper" but lost to "Arthur's Theme (Best That You Can Do)."
- D.** "The Muppets Take Manhattan" was nominated for original song score but lost to "Purple Rain."

7. Christopher Plummer ("Beginners") and Max von Sydow ("Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close") are both 82-year-old supporting actor nominees. Who was older when he or she won an acting Oscar?

- A.** Melvyn Douglas
- B.** Gloria Stuart
- C.** Jessica Tandy
- D.** No one

8. In his supporting actor-nominated role in "My Week With Marilyn," Kenneth Branagh plays Laurence Olivier, who won best actor for "Hamlet." Who previously won an Oscar for playing an Oscar winner?

- A.** Cate Blanchett
- B.** Robert Downey Jr.
- C.** William Powell
- D.** Barbra Streisand



Branagh and Michelle Williams in "My Week With Marilyn."

9. Let's see how much you've been paying attention. Which one of the following films was not nominated for any Oscars this year?

- A.** "The Adventures of Tintin"
- B.** "Anonymous"
- C.** "Real Steel"
- D.** "Super 8"

By Mark Caro
Chicago Tribune
It's time for the 22nd annual Os-Caro Quiz, which is so tough, so vexing, that it may very well render you silent.

10. Woody Allen, George Clooney and Brad Pitt scored nominations in multiple categories this year. Which of these actors has been nominated in five different categories in his career?

- A.** Warren Beatty
- B.** Kenneth Branagh
- C.** George Clooney
- D.** Orson Welles

11. This year Meryl Streep received her 17th acting nomination for her portrayal of Margaret Thatcher in "The Iron Lady." How many of Streep's nominations have come for playing real-life people?

- A.** 5
- B.** 7
- C.** 9
- D.** 11

12. With Eddie Murphy having dropped out, Billy Crystal is back as host for the ninth time. What won best picture the first time he hosted?

- A.** "Driving Miss Daisy"
- B.** "Out of Africa"
- C.** "Rain Man"
- D.** "Unforgiven"

13. Steven Spielberg's "War Horse" received six nominations this year, including best picture. Which horse movie won the most Oscars?

- A.** "The Black Stallion"
- B.** "The Horse Whisperer"
- C.** "National Velvet"
- D.** "Seabiscuit"

14. Last year's show offered the awkward host pairing of Anne



"War Horse"

Hathaway and James Franco. Which of the following was not an Oscar show host combination?

- A.** Chevy Chase, Goldie Hawn and Paul Hogan
- B.** Liza Minnelli, Dudley Moore, Richard Pryor and Walter Matthau
- C.** John Huston, Burt Reynolds, Rock Hudson and Diana Ross

- D.** Bob Hope, David Niven, James Stewart, Jack Lemmon, Rosalind Russell and Donald Duck

15. Which of the following statements is not true about best supporting actress nominee Melissa McCarthy ("Bridesmaids")?

- A.** Jenny McCarthy is her cousin.
- B.** She majored in textiles at Southern Illinois University.
- C.** She was asked to leave Second City's touring company because she kept changing classic sketches.
- D.** She was in the movie "Charlie's Angels."

ANSWERS



McCarthy and husband Ben Falcone in "Bridesmaids."

1. C. "9½ Weeks" received no Oscar nominations.

2. D. Although the movie did net Penelope Cruz a best supporting actress Oscar.

3. A. Estimated gross box office for "The Departed" topped \$289 million worldwide.

4. D. Gwyneth Paltrow and Judi Dench won the lead and supporting actress categories, respectively, for "Shakespeare in Love" (1998). "Moonstruck" (1987) and "The Piano" (1993) also doubled up on lead/supporting actress Oscars.

5. C. "Grand Hotel" (1931-32) won for its sole nomination, best picture.

6. B. But that would have been cool.

7. D. Tandy, who won best actress for "Driving Miss Daisy" (1989), was the oldest acting winner at age 80. Stuart was 87 upon her best supporting actress nomination for "Titanic," but she didn't win.

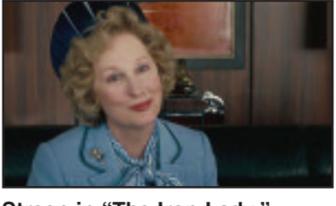
8. A. Blanchett won best supporting actress for playing four-time Oscar winner Katharine Hepburn in "The Aviator" (2004).

9. D. "Tintin" is up for original score, "Anonymous" for costume design and "Real Steel" for visual effects.

10. B. Branagh's supporting actor nomination this year for "My Week with Marilyn" follows his adapted screenplay nomination for "Hamlet" (1996), his live-action short film nomination for "Swan Song" (1992), and his lead actor and director nominations for "Henry V" (1989). He has yet to win.

11. B. Yes, we're counting Streep's take on Susan Orlean in "Adaptation," even though we wouldn't vouch for its verisimilitude. And no, we're not counting fictionalized portrayals in "The Devil Wears Prada" and "Postcards from the Edge."

12. A. "Driving Miss Daisy" won



Streep in "The Iron Lady."

on the March 26, 1990, telecast.

13. C. "National Velvet" (1945) won two (Anne Revere for supporting actress and Robert J. Kern for film editing), though "Seabiscuit" (2003) had the most nominations with seven (winning zero).

14. C. David Niven, not Rock Hudson, worked with Huston, Reynolds and Ross on the April 2, 1974, telecast, though Hudson was a host the previous year with Carol Burnett, Michael Caine and Charlton Heston.

15. C. She was never in Second City.