

NEWS-SUN

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Art through recycling

PAGE 6A



Start early to get ahead

PAGE 12B

Kitchen remodeling

PAGE 6B



STATE CHAMPS

Sebring O-Zone team repeats 1B

Sunday, July 24, 2011

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Volume 92/Number 87 | 75 cents

Forecast



An afternoon t-storm in spots

High **96** Low **77**

Complete Forecast PAGE 12A

Online



Question: Should the county cut its funding of agencies like the Boys & Girls Club?

Yes 37%

No 63%

Total votes: 116

Next question: Are you worried about the county's jobless rate?

Make your voice heard at www.newssun.com

Obituaries

Francis Moher of Sebring
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A piece of history



News-Sun photo by KATARA SIMMONS

This chunk of metal was formerly a part of one of the World Trade Center towers that fell during the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks nearly 10 years ago. The West Sebring Volunteer Fire Department recently received the piece and will soon create a memorial using it.

World Trade Center piece to be memorialized by West Sebring Volunteer Fire Department

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR
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SEBRING – The West Sebring Volunteer Fire Department recently received something that is unique and close to the hearts of all firefighters and rescue workers.

The department was given a piece of one of the World Trade Center towers, which were destroyed during the Sept. 11 terrorists attacks in New York City nearly 10 years ago.

One of the WSVFD officers,

Rob Singles, caught wind of a program that allowed fire departments and other government entities to apply and request to own a piece of one of the fallen towers.

“About 18 or 24 months ago, he (Singles) heard about the program. I’m not even sure how he heard of it, but he brought it before our board and asked to apply,” Assistant Chief Billy Kingston said.

Singles approached the board with the request and shortly after it was approved. The next step

was the application process, which called for a letter to be written stating that the piece would be used for the proper purpose.

“We basically had to say, or promise, that we would use it to memorialize 9/11 and that we wouldn’t take it and like try to sell it or something like that,” Kingston said.

The final step of the process was to get the metal transported

See PIECE, page 3A

New debt-limit talks: no sign of a breakthrough

By CHARLES BABINGTON
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A grim-faced President Barack Obama convened fresh talks Saturday with congressional leaders aimed at averting a national financial default in just 10 days, shortly after the latest comments from both sides suggested no breakthrough was in sight.

Obama made no comments to reporters as they and photographers were allowed in briefly as the talks began in the Cabinet Room at the White House. The president was flanked at the bargaining table by Republican House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio and Democratic Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada. Also at the table were Vice President Joe Biden, House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and Senate Minority Leader Mitch

McConnell, R-Ky.

Friday night, a visibly irritated Obama had summoned congressional leaders from both parties to find a way to raise the debt limit before an Aug. 2 deadline cuts off the government’s borrowing authority. Boehner announced Friday he was abandoning the talks he had had for weeks with Obama, but he agreed to attend with the others on Saturday.

The president devoted his weekly radio and Internet address Saturday to the impasse and urged Republicans to make a deal.

“We can come together for the good of the country and reach a compromise. We can strengthen our economy and leave for our children a more secure future,” the

SeeNO, page 5A

AP names King interim public safety administrator

By CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY
christopher.tuffley@newssun.com

AVON PARK — On Thursday interim city manager Julian Deleon announced further consolidations within city government.

Deleon has appointed police Lt. John King as interim public safety administrator.

Reached by phone, King said, “I’m looking forward to the challenge of implementing the city’s desire for a public safety administrator.”

Deleon told the *News-Sun*

that, “this is an interim appointment to provide formal administrative oversight over both (the police and fire departments). Once there is a resolution to the Chief R o w n i n v e s t i g a t i o n, a p e r m a n e n t d e c i s i o n w i l l b e e v a l u a t e d. (The police chief) position continues to be funded in the 2012 budget, however, the fire chief is not.”



King

Deleon said consolidation See PUBLIC, page 5A

See SUMMIT, page 6A

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County to look at mill levy Tuesday

By ED BALDRIDGE
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SEBRING — County Commissioners will discuss the 2011-12 ad-valorem millage during their meeting on Tuesday, and county staff is recommending the same rate as last year despite the loss in property values.

The item was placed on the agenda by the County Administrative Services Department. Commissioners, who have to date taken an aggressive stance on cutting the budget, will have the opportunity to lower or raise the proposed 7.1000 mills before being certified on Aug. 8.

The rollback rate, or the percentage that would generate the same amount of dollars as the previous year, is 7.6400.

Staff estimated that keeping the 7.1000 mill levy, which is the same as the last fiscal year, would generate approximately \$31,445,958 in revenue for the county's general fund.

That projected amount only funds 56 percent of the projected revenues for the general fund.

A tanking housing market and lower land values were predicted to decrease the county ad-valorem by close to 10 percent by Highlands County Tax Appraiser Raymond McIntyre earlier this year, leaving the county an estimated \$7.7 million short of a balanced budget.

Commissioners decided on Thursday to cut funding to the Highlands County Boys & Girls Club, Nu-Hope and the chambers of commerce in an effort to get closer to a budget that comes in under the revenues projected.

Additionally, the board cut back funding distributions to each municipality for recreation funding to \$110,000.

The decision created layoffs in Avon Park and forced Lake Placid to install user fees, according to representatives from each of the municipalities at the previous meeting.



News-Sun photos by KATARA SIMMONS
Benny Banda looks through debris that remains at a condemned house that he purchased next door to his home in Avon Park. Banda said he has found syringes and a lot of drug paraphernalia since he began dismantling the former 'crack house.'

AP nuisance vote is Tuesday

By CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY
christopher.tuffley@newssun.com

AVON PARK — City council's revised nuisance ordinance comes up for its final reading Tuesday night at the council's regular meeting.

The revised ordinance, 15-11, is meant to protect the citizens of the city from problems that reduce property values and threaten public safety, or the health, comfort and the general welfare. The purpose is the elimination of significant unsightly conditions, and illegal activities.

One reason the ordinance is being updated is an increasing mosquito population, therefore standing water and receptacles that hold standing water, are a particular focus.

Garbage, refuse, old tires, and junked or inoperative automobiles and other equipment that are unsightly or create the risk of fire, ground and potable water contamination or a breeding ground for mosquitoes, rats, mice and other vermin are considered to be a nuisance. As is the misuse of drainage pipes, ditches, swales, channels and streams, that cause a significant risk of flooding and pollution.

Buildings that are unable to meet minimal requirements for safe habitation and create a haven for drug use or prostitution are also nuisances; as are hazardous pools, excavations or neglected machinery that could entice children.

The ordinance also prohibits grass or other ground cover vegetation exceeding a height of 12 inches. Yard waste shall be placed in the owners own yard.

Garbage should be put out for sanitation pick-up at the



Benny Banda of Avon Park bought a condemned house three weeks ago next door to his home along Anoka Avenue in Avon Park. Banda has worked alone every afternoon and each weekend to tear down the former 'crack house' and hopes to use the space to expand his yard.

appointed time, and the containers brought in the same day.

Hazardous material, including asbestos and toxic substances, must be handled according to federal and state statutes regulating disposal.

Inoperative vehicles are considered nuisances too. According to the ordinance, an inoperative vehicle is one without a current license plate or with one or more essential parts missing.

Disturbances, such as vibrations, explosions, lights and loud, raucous, unnecessary noise and repeated intrusions that unreasonably disturb or interfere with the peace, privacy and repose of the surrounding community are also considered nuisances.

The owner and/or driver of a vehicle will be responsible for covering any load, and cleaning up anything that falls from the vehicle.

The ordinance puts penalties into place, including fines of up to \$500 a day. All costs for enforcement — attorney fees and court costs, including appeals — fall on the property owner who violates the ordinance.

In addition to administrative and civil penalties, willful violation of the ordinance shall be a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment for up to 60 days.

When violations are created by tenets, or users of real property, the property owner will be jointly and severally liable.

The city shall provide notice should it deem disposal of a vehicle, boat or other machinery necessary.

Should the city enter a property and perform the necessary clean-up, the costs will be filed as a lien against the property.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

"What's Up Downtown?" meeting set for Tuesday

SEBRING — The Sebring Community Redevelopment Agency will host its next "What's Up Downtown" meeting at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday at Somo's Deli, 209 Circle Park Drive. The agenda items include upcoming events and streetscape updates.

"There's a lot of enthusiasm and excitement happening in Downtown Sebring right now with several events being planned for this fall," said Pete Pollard, CRA executive director. "We encourage everyone to attend these informative monthly meetings."

Scribe's Night Out is today

SEBRING — Scribe's Night Out is a gathering of local writers who share readings of their work with the public at Brewster's Coffee House. Sponsored by Heartland Cultural Alliance along with Bruce Rogers, proprietor of Brewster's, the event is held on the second and fourth Sundays of each month at 6:30 p.m. The featured author/reader for today is Sunny Serafino.

Serafino was the premier author at the first Scribe's Night Out event in January. She has published 10 books, which can be found on her website, <http://sunyserafino.blogspot.com/>.

Serafino grew up in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, and now resides in Avon

Park. She attended Moravian College in Bethlehem, Pa. and Indian River Community College in Fort Pierce. She is a Florida Writers Association award-winning author and a member and former president of the National League of American Pen Women. She facilitates workshops throughout the state of Florida on creative writing and writing memoirs. Serafino is also a member of Heartland Cultural Alliance and works with the Friends of the Sebring Library.

After the featured writer, and a short break, the microphone is open to anyone who wants to share their writing, whether published or not. Aspiring writers, especially students, are encouraged to attend and participate in the open mike session. To schedule a date to read as a featured author, contact Sherry Carlson by email or phone at sherry@vistanet.net or (954) 319-2140. Books by published authors will be available for purchase at each event.

Moose Riders plan Poker Run

SEBRING — Sebring Moose Riders are sponsoring a Poker Run today to benefit the Veteran's Assistance Program of Highlands County. Sign up at the lodge from 8:30-11 a.m. The lodge is at 11695 U.S. 98.

The \$15 entrance fee per rider includes dinner of either barbecue pork by Dave or fish fry by J.T. Dinner only is an \$8 donation.

Continued on page 5A

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Lottery Center

	July 20	5 8 12 18 31 36 x:4	
		<i>Next jackpot \$28 million</i>	
	July 16	6 12 15 30 41 44 x:2	
	July 13	25 28 38 42 44 48 x:5	

	July 22	6 14 17 24 25	
	July 21	6 11 14 15 24	
	July 20	22 27 31 32 36	
	July 19	22 24 26 29 34	

	July 22	9 15 21 36 19	
	July 19	8 17 35 41 14	
	July 15	12 26 40 43 15	
	July 12	20 31 36 38 12	

	July 22 (n)	1 6 0 6	
	July 22 (d)	0 9 1 7	
	July 21 (n)	8 4 9 0	
	July 21 (d)	0 0 4 1	

	July 22 (n)	2 8 3	
	July 22 (d)	1 6 4	
	July 21 (n)	9 2 8	
	July 21 (d)	5 2 9	

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

POLICE BLOTTER

The News-Sun would like to remind the readers that the names listed below reflect those who have been charged with a crime, but they are all innocent until proven guilty by a court of law. If anyone listed here is acquitted or has charges dropped, they can bring in proof of such decision or mail a copy to the paper and the News-Sun will be happy to report that information. The News-Sun is at 2227 U.S. 27 South, Sebring, FL 33870.

The following people were booked into the Highlands County Jail on Thursday, July 21:

- ◆ Marquis Sharod Bellamy, 19, of Lake Placid, was charged with possession of a synthetic narcotic with intent to sell/manufacture/deliver without 1,000 feet of a place of worship, possession of marijuana with intent to sell/manufacture/deliver without 1,000 feet of a place of worship, and possession and or use of drug equipment.
- ◆ Jared Daniel Blackwelder, 28, of Avon Park, was charged with four counts of violation of probation reference grand theft.
- ◆ Andres Benjamin Brotons,

32, of Sebring, was charged with violation of probation reference possession of cocaine.

◆ Roberto Nieto Cruz, 30, of Avon Park, was charged with two counts of violation of probation reference grand theft.

◆ Jerry Jerome Floyd, 58, of Avon Park, was charged with contempt of court reference failure to pay child support.

◆ Jesse Earl Goins, 40, of Okeechobee, was charged with contempt of court reference failure to pay child support.

◆ Amanda Lynn Kegler, 43, of Avon Park, was charged with battery.

◆ Corey Torrell Lewis, 30, of Avon Park, was charged with possession and or use of drug equipment, possession of cocaine, and without support of children or spouse.

◆ Nelson Yosnel Morejon Arias, 21, of Miami, was charged with driving while license suspended.

◆ Manuel Dejesus Muro, 20, of Avon Park, was charged with battery and resisting an officer without violence.

◆ Robert Charles Pressley, 54, of Sebring, was charged with battery, petit theft, criminal mischief and burglary of an unoccupied conveyance.

◆ Comdelario, 40, of Lake Placid, was charged with trespassing.

◆ Edward Tyrone Rice, 19, of Avon Park, was charged with possession of marijuana, possession and or use of drug equipment, and battery.

◆ Joel Romero Sanchez, 18, of Sebring, was charged with contempt of court.

◆ Andrew Clifford Tudor, 22, of Sebring, was charged with battery.

◆ Philip Joshua Tudor, 20, of Sebring, was charged with battery.

◆ Angel Tum Us, 29, of Lake Placid, was charged with trespassing, hit and run, and operating a motor vehicle without a valid license.

◆ Manuel Tum Us, 32, of Lake Placid, was charged with trespassing.

◆ Brian Adam Welch, 26, of Sebring, was charged with contempt of court reference violating an injunction to protect against domestic violence.

◆ Jacquill Terrell Williams, 22, of Lake Placid, was charged with failure to appear reference domestic violence.

◆ James Lee Wingate, 25, of Sebring, was charged with violation of probation reference petit theft.

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Romona Washington — Publisher and Executive Editor
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Highlands VCB receives tourism grant from state

Special to the News-Sun
VISIT FLORIDA, the state's official source for travel planning, has awarded a Cultural Heritage and Nature Tourism Marketing Grant to Highlands County Visitor & Convention Bureau for the 2011-2012 Fiscal Year, which began July 1.

"The purpose of these grants is to help non-profit entities and local governments stretch their tourism marketing dollars in an effort to expand cultural, heritage, rural and nature tourism activities in Florida," said Christopher Thompson, president and CEO for VISIT FLORIDA.

"We are pleased that VISIT FLORIDA and its Board of Directors selected us from among a large number of grant applicants, during their most competitive grant cycle to date," said John Scherlach, director of Tourism for Highlands County. "These funds will be used for the Highlands County Visitor's Guide to Historic and Cultural Points of Interest and will help us better position and market Highlands County as a desirable destination."

Highlands County Tourist Development serves as a destination marketing organization that works to generate overnight stays, increase tax revenues, stimulate economic growth and strives to constantly enhance the image of Highlands County.



News-Sun photo by KATARA SIMMONS
Assistant chief Billy Kingston speaks about the plans of the volunteer fire department to create a memorial for the World Trade Center piece the department has recently received. The 796 pound piece of metal was once a part of one of the towers before the September 11 terrorist attacks.

Piece of World Trade Center towers finds home in Sebring

Continued from page 1A

from Port Authority in New York City to Sebring.

"It was a lot of red tape. That was the hardest part. They had to make sure we were insured and all that. We could've either gone up there and gotten it from Port Authority or have it shipped, which is what we did," Kingston said.

WSVFD hired Roadway shipping company to transport the 796 pound chunk of steel to Sebring. The piece made it to the fire department safely sometime last month.

"We didn't know what it would look like or how big it would be; we just knew we were getting a piece of the World Trade Center," Kingston said.

The fire department had

'Everyone has a tie with someone in the fire and rescue world — a cousin, a brother. This is for all of us.'

BILLY KINGSTON
WSVFD assistant chief

hoped to be able to get the piece and have the memorial completed by the 10th anniversary of Sept. 11, but Kingston feels that is a long shot.

"We got the piece just as school was ending so we weren't able to get what we needed to make the memorial. It's going to be late to have it ready by 9/11, but

our goal is to have it done this year and have a ceremony or dedication of some sort," Kingston said.

When the new school year begins, the WSVFD plans to recruit art students from Sebring High School and SFCC to create a rendition of the WTC. The student or students whose art is chosen will become a part of the memorial that will be on permanent display at the fire department.

"That day has had a long-lasting effect on what we do and who we are. It's just like they say 'everyone knows where they were and what they were doing when the trade centers fell'. Everyone has a tie with someone in the fire and rescue world — a cousin, a brother. This is for all of us," Kingston said.

New AP sanitation rates

By **CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY**

christophertuffley@newssun.com
AVON PARK — City council will be voting on a new rate structure for solid waste collection at its regular meeting Tuesday.

Residential dwellings, whether single family, apartments, or travel trailers on a lot with an individual water meter will be allocated two garbage cans, and charged \$18. Additional cans will be charged \$9 per can.

Mobile home parks where the tenants rent their unit will be charged \$14 per unit and \$9 per extra can. Yard waste put in plastic bags or bundled must not exceed 40 pounds per bundle. There will be a \$4 fee

for excess yard waste.

Small business or commercial property serviced by not more than three 32 gallon cans, with no more than two pick-ups per week, will be charged \$25 per month. Additional cans are \$9 apiece.

Rates vary for large containers, which depend on the size of the container and number of collections per week.

A two cubic yard container, picked up once a week, will cost \$49.70. An eight cubic yard container, picked up five times a week will cost \$700 a month.

There will be a charge of \$10 per cubic yard of yard waste, in excess of four yards per week.

Controlled burns scheduled for Jack Creek Property

Special to the News-Sun
LAKE PLACID — The Southwest Florida Water Management District will be conducting "controlled, prescribed burns" during July, August and September on the district's Jack Creek property in Highlands County.

The Jack Creek property is six miles northwest of Lake Placid, west of U.S. 27. Approximately 300 acres of land will be burned in small, manageable units. The scheduled, managed burns are a part of routine maintenance of lands managed by the district.

According to district land manager Kevin W. Love, burns are conducted to mimic natural fire cycles under a controlled situation. The object is to avoid uncontrolled wildfires and

enhance the area's natural conditions by maintaining the ecological and wildlife habitat values. Prescribed burns are only conducted when weather conditions allow the objectives to be met while minimizing impacts to the public.

Every effort will be made to ensure that smoke will not affect homes or highways. However, vehicle operators should exercise caution in case smoke does lead to reduced visibility on the area's roads or highways.

The district owns and manages approximately 436,000 acres of environmentally sensitive lands for water resource and natural systems protection.

For more information, call the district at 1-800-423-1476, ext. 4465.

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EDITORIAL & OPINION

TODAY'S EDITORIAL



Atlantis is home. Now what?

The space shuttle program basically ended when Atlantis landed safely Thursday morning, bringing an era of manned space flight to an end with no announcement about what comes next.

Other countries, like Russia and China, will continue their manned exploration of space, and will even supply the ride when the U.S. needs a lift, but for some reason, it just doesn't seem the same.

Exploration is necessary for the human experience because it provides something for future generations to reach for, to strive for, and to dream about.

Manned space exploration spurs interest in math and science, and encourages future generations to continue along the path that makes us unique in the animal kingdom — we can do more than just survive. We can live. We

can grow. We can learn.

It fuels the imagination and spurs dedication and hard work towards an objective that makes us better.

In 1961, Russian Yuri Gagarin became the first man to explore space, and that spurred generations of dreamers to achieve something better than a just a reality TV show.

It pushed the thinkers of the world to aspire, to solve problems and to investigate the world inside and outside of our atmosphere.

Those dreams laid the ground work for advancements in technologies that now serve us every day, and which has increased the qual-

ity of life for all of humanity, not just the U.S.

The scientific discoveries reaped from having a human in a space suit are too many to number but include the wonders brought to us from the Hubble telescope, the discovery of the possibility of life on close moons and life sustaining water on other planets.

The economic impact of manned space flight cannot be ignored and the new industries that have sprung up since Gagarin's flight were what pushed us into the cell phone and computer age as each country strived to reach further and farther.

Without that level of competition, without that need to strive for something better, something outside our own world, we will not grow as we should.

The idea of manifest destiny, where humanity has to

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Understanding the debt crisis (or not)

Laura's Look

Laura Ware

I will confess as I start this column that I was tempted to devote it to the continuing financial crisis in Washington, DC as we approach a deadline where, according to news reports, we must raise our nation's debt ceiling, or bad things will happen.

The trouble with doing that is I can't simply say, "debt ceiling — how stupid, ha ha!" and make a good column out of it. To do humor, well, it helps to have at least some understanding of your subject matter, and to be honest I'm probably as clueless as the next average American about the whole thing.

I could, of course, spend some time doing some research about it on the Internet. But I admit that I find that prospect daunting, because it deals with what is for me a tremendously confusing and boring subject: finances.

Don, bless his heart, has tried to clear some of the mists of confusion that surround anything in finances more difficult than balancing a checkbook.

Unfortunately, the mists are quite stubborn. Just the other night he was trying to explain some sort of graph to me that was on his laptop. All I saw were a bunch of colored squiggly lines, but apparently they had some kind of meaning, at least from what Don was saying.

"Now, if you look at this..." he'd say, pointing to one of the lines.

"I don't understand," I protested.

"That's OK," he said, and continued on to a long and, for me at least, incomprehensible explanation about what the lines said about the stock market and futures and perhaps the meaning of the universe. I just didn't get it.

I comfort myself with the fact that story structure is probably as confusing to him as finances are to me.

One of the things I don't understand throughout this debate is the purpose of a debt ceiling. What it appears to be is something that helps Congress keep their spending down, because they can't go past

it. When we reach that point, that's all we can borrow and it's time to hunker down and cut some of the budget, because we can't borrow any more.

Well, it seems it's a limit only until you can convince enough politicians to vote to raise it. And, in the true spirit of Washington, DC, whether or not to raise it depends on who's sitting in the White House.

Senators who decried raising the debt ceiling a few years ago when George W. Bush was President now can't wait to do so for President Obama. It could make you call them hypocrites, except they claim to have merely changed their minds. Convenient, isn't it?

Another thing I don't understand is what happens if the debt ceiling isn't raised. I've heard that there won't be any money for Social Security, the military, our debt service, and other important things. This definitely sounds bad.

But I'm confused. The government will keep getting money, even without the debt ceiling being raised, right? Well then won't we have money for some bills? And can't we prioritize what bills we pay, such as the debt service and checks to seniors and soldiers, and maybe temporarily close other things, such as treadmills for shrimp (I am not kidding, the program exists)? Is that so hard? Or am I just clueless?

Well, even with not understanding a lot about this situation, it looks like I have a column about it after all. Maybe someone, after reading this, will be able to educate me further and explain these things that puzzle me. Just remember when it comes to finances, I confuse easily. And if you want, I'll happily explain story structure to you in return.

Laura Ware is a Sebring resident. She can be contacted by e-mail at bookwormlady@embarqmail.com

TODAY'S LETTERS

More respect should be shown

Editor:
An open letter to Sheriff Benton: I know I can't reach you by phone so here is a public letter to complain about an injustice I have become aware of.
Thursday, July 14, my son (a U.S. Army soldier on leave) was at Cowboys Restaurant. He saw a person he went to school with who had too much to drink. He offered to drive the young man home. Before my son left the parking lot the HCSO showed up. One deputy asked if he had seen anyone run by here. My son said no, not knowing the person in his car was who the deputy was looking for.

When the deputy realized the person in the car was who he was looking for my son was informed that he could be charged with obstruction. My son explained to the lieutenant the situation, the lieutenant cleared my son. Then the first deputy came back and said I heard you are in the Army. My son replied yes. The deputy asked what unit he was in. My son told him 15th Finance. That's when the deputy got disrespectful.

The deputy said what are you here telling war stories about all the danger you are in. I know what you do, sit behind a desk all the time, maybe a convoy once in a while ... My son asked why he was disrespecting him (kind of loud). Which brought other deputies around. Then the deputy walked away quickly.

Let me tell you about my son and then my conclusion on this outrage.
My son ... joined the Army to fight for his and our country. He was going to be in Combat Arms (like me) but he found out he is color blind ... You can not be in Combat Arms and be color blind. He went in anyways, his options being limited... He's real good at math. He did go to the Academy; he learned well, ask Deputy Helms or Detective Tyson, they know him well.

After my son came back from Iraq ... it took a while for him to tell me his experiences over there. They are not nice, also not as bad as it was for others. There is nothing to brag about. He has been mortared and shot at. He lost friends over there; he was in convoys and flew in Blackhawks. ...

All must do their job to the best of their ability for the mean green fighting machine to run smoothly and win this



war. (All soldiers' lives are in danger over there).

An officer of the law disrespecting and trying to degrade our soldiers, what a disgrace to your force. Too bad he didn't take a little time to get to know my son, Dustin. He's turning out to be a good man (thanks to Deputy Helms and Detective Tyson).

William Hahn
Sebring

Church officials should be more mindful

Editor:
This letter is in reference to the Resurrection Lutheran Church of Avon Park. On July 4th my family and I set out for a great night at the fireworks. As we pulled up to the church where we usually park, we noticed they had the grass taped off ... so we pulled around to the front and followed another car into the front lot of the church.

We pulled the truck in, got out and the kids were lined across the back tailgate and ready to watch. We were then approached by a man who stated that we couldn't park there. He hadn't approached the car that pulled in before us and now sat there with people in the car, nor the vehicle backed in next to us with people in it. In fact, there were at least 10 other cars there with people inside waiting for the fireworks. We gladly loaded back up, but I had to ask about the other cars.

With hesitation, he told me that those were members of the church and they

were welcome to stay. He then walked away.

I was blown away by this and quite discouraged at the persona the church was giving off. ...

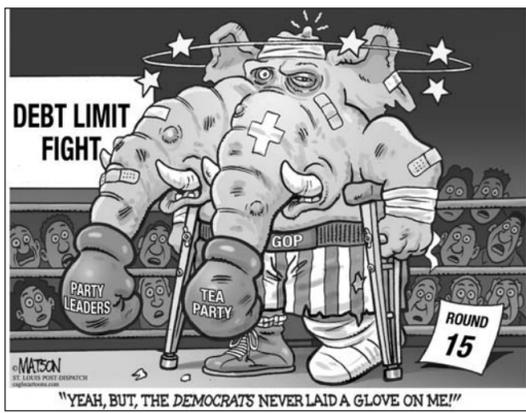
Another woman in the parking lot, who he also told to move, was complaining. She was likely loud and possibly rude herself. He responded with, "crazy people."

Again, no Christian is perfect by any means, but as a representative of the church, he should have conducted himself better.

I chose to give the church the benefit of the doubt and called them today to speak with them about the incident. When I called, a sweet lady greeted me. Her name was Alice. She explained that she wasn't aware, but that there was a gentleman there that could likely explain. He came to the phone and I explained the reason for my call. He asked if I had been one that pulled into the parking lot. I advised that I was and that I could tell by his voice that he had been the one that turned us away ... I explained that I felt the church gave off a negative image by allowing some and not others to enter the parking lot.

I suggested that maybe it would be more appropriate that the lot be open or closed, not just open for some. Overall, I find myself very discouraged by this church representative's behavior... I hope that the church will take notice and be more mindful of the perception they are giving off.

Kelli Jackson
Sebring



EDITORIAL PAGE POLICY

Make sure to sign your letter and include your address and phone number. Anonymous letters will be automatically rejected.

Please keep your letters to a maximum of 400 words. We have to make room for everybody. Letters of local concern take priority.

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

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

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

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

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

No sign of breakthrough in debt talks

Continued from page 1A

president said. "Or we can issue insults and demands and ultimatums at each another, withdraw to our partisan corners and achieve nothing."

Rep. Jeb Hensarling of Texas said in his party's weekly address that the Democrats were to blame.

"If we're going to avoid any type of default and downgrade — if we're going to resume job creation in America — the president and his allies need to listen to the people and work with Republicans to cut up the credit cards once and for all," he said.

Boehner and McConnell also criticized Obama and the Democrats before the latest talks began.

"If the White House won't get serious, we will," Boehner's office said. A statement from the office noted that Obama has said he wants an agreement that will take care of the problem through the November 2012 elections.

"It would be terribly unfortunate if the president was willing to veto a debt limit increase simply because its timing would not be ideal for his re-election campaign," according to Boehner's office.

McConnell said in a statement that it was "disappointing that the talks with the White House did not reach a favorable conclusion, and I appreciate the speaker insisting on reduced spending and opposing the president's call for higher taxes on American families and job creators."

At a news conference Friday after Boehner said he was withdrawing, Obama told reporters, "We have run out of time and they are going to have to explain to me how it is that we are going to avoid default."

Boehner accepted the invitation for Saturday's meeting even while arguing

that Obama bore the blame for the collapse.

The political theater played out even as the deadline neared. Barring action by then, the Treasury will be unable to pay its bills. That could cause interest rates to rise, threaten the U.S. economic recovery and send shock waves around the globe.

The deadline pressure hasn't seemed to bring the parties closer, even though they all insist they do not want a default.

For the first time since talks began, Obama declined to offer assurances that a default would be avoided, although moments later he said he was confident of that outcome.

Obama said Boehner left a deal on the table that was better for Republicans than for Democrats, with \$2.6 trillion in cuts outweighing new tax revenue of \$1.2 trillion. The president said he was losing confidence that the underlying deficit problems would be dealt with even if the borrowing limit rose.

"I've been left at the altar now a couple of times," Obama said.

Still, aides on both sides said there was agreement on gradually raising the age of eligibility of Medicare from 65 to 67 for future beneficiaries, and slowing the increase in cost-of-living raises in Social Security checks.

Even by the recent standards of divided government, Boehner's decision triggered an extraordinary evening Friday as the Democratic president and then the Republican speaker maneuvered for political position on this vital issue.

Unspoken, yet unmistakable in all the brinkmanship was the 2012 election campaign, still 18 months away, with the White House and both houses

of Congress at stake.

Private, sometimes-secret negotiations had veered uncertainly for weeks, generating reports as late as Thursday that the two sides were possibly closing in on an agreement to slash spending. That triggered a revolt among Democrats who expressed fears the president was giving away too much in terms of cuts to Medicare and Social Security while getting too little by way of additional revenues.

Obama said his only requirement for an agreement was legislation that provides the Treasury enough borrowing authority to tide the government over through the 2012 election. Boehner said he had little interest in a short-term extension either.

Republican aides said Obama had upped his demand for higher taxes during the week. The aides said administration officials had tacitly agreed to \$800 billion in new revenue over 10 years but that the White House backed away and wanted \$400 billion more.

Aides said the two sides were not able to bridge their differences over the triggers designed to force Congress to enact both tax changes and cuts to Medicare and other benefit programs by early next year. Both sides also were apart on the size of cuts for Medicaid, the health care program for the poor and disabled.

Yet aides on both sides said the negotiations had yielded agreement for cuts of \$250 billion from Medicare.

Associated Press writers Erica Werner, David Espo, Ben Feller and Jim Kuhnhenn contributed to this report.

Dixie County to appeal Florida commandments ruling

By BRENT KALLESTAD
Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE — Dixie County officials will appeal a federal judge's order to remove a six-ton monument displaying the Ten Commandments in the front of their courthouse building, county attorney Jennifer Ellison said Friday.

County Commissioners voted 5-0 Thursday night to appeal and also seek a stay in Judge Maurice Paul's decision requiring the granite monument be removed from the courthouse in Cross City within 30 days from his July 15 ruling.

The county's appeal to the U.S. 11th Circuit Court of Appeals claims that Paul's ruling quashes private speech in a public forum, since the monument was paid for by a private citizen. The county

also wants the appeals court to determine if plaintiffs in the case who do not live in the area have a right to sue. They contend the monument does not represent an official endorsement of religion.

Nearly identical monuments are also in place at the city hall in Chiefland and the Levy County Courthouse at Bronson, both within a short drive of Cross City.

The monument in front of the Dixie County Courthouse was built and paid for by paving contractor Joe Anderson Jr. of Old Town, whose request to give Gilchrist County the same monument at its courthouse in Trenton was approved by their county commissioners in May.

Paul decided in favor of the American Civil Liberties Union Florida.

Public safety may be consolidated in Avon Park

Continued from page 1A

is possible. For example, he continues to serve as director of public works while serving as interim city manager. He has already consolidated the department of parks and recreation with the department of streets, putting both under one supervisor to cut costs.

"We have lost over \$700,000 in general fund revenue (since 2009), and other uncontrollable costs have also increased," Deleon said. "The council voted not to increase the millage or taxes on city residents and businesses. We also do not want to deplete our reserve funds to balance the 2012 budget."

"By state law we have to

provide a balanced budget for council approval. All city departments have accordingly been downsized, starting with vacant positions first, and then examining filled positions."

Deleon added that the city has not had a fire inspector for four years. He is currently working with the fire department to develop a plan for that critical service. Deleon emphasized the matter was still under discussion, but the hope is that current fire department staff could conduct the inspections and receive incentive pay in return.

The News-Sun was unable to reach David Cloud, acting fire chief, for comment.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Continued from page 2A

tion.

Come in early for breakfast (8:30-11 a.m.) at the lodge for a \$5 donation. There will be raffles, a 50/50, door prizes and music will be provided by Redneck Joe.

Come down and help raise money for this very worthy cause. Call the lodge at 655-3920 for more information.

Orchid Society will meet Monday

SEBRING — The Orchid Society of Highlands County will hold its monthly meeting at 7 p.m. Monday. The meetings are held at the Bert J. Harris Jr. Agricultural Center, 4509 George Blvd. This month three members will be doing a workshop on repotting different varieties of orchid plants.

Guests are always welcome and participants do not have to be knowledgeable of orchids to attend. For additional information contact Ed at 465-2830 or by e-mail at oshc9@aol.com or go to the website, <http://orchidsocietyhighlands.org/>.

Shrine Ladies to play bunco

AVON PARK — The public is invited to play bunco at the Highlands Shrine Club, 2604 SR 17 South, at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday. The event is open to new or experienced players; cost is \$2 per person.

Phone 471-2425 for information.

'What's Up Main Street?' meeting scheduled

AVON PARK — The Avon Park Community Redevelopment Agency Main Street District will host its next "What's Up Main Street?" meeting at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 2 at the Community Center, 310 W. Main St.

The purpose of the meeting is to continue discussing the Community Strategic Vision of Main Street and all of Avon Park and to develop a more cohesive Main Street

Avon Park network where people can share information, happenings and events with others.

"We invite anyone who has an interest in Main Street Avon Park's future is encouraged to attend this meeting," said Wes Hoagland, CRA redevelopment district director. "We must first start with what we want our city to be and the vision for our future, then we can discuss how we get there."

For more information, contact the CRA Redevelopment District at 452-2039 or (321) 287-6543.

Events planned at lodges, posts

LAKE PLACID — The American Legion Placid Post 25 will have Thomas performing today. Call for time. Any questions, call 465-0975.

The Lake Placid Moose 2374 will host karaoke with Bama Jam from 3-6 p.m. today. Lpyal Order of the Moose Officers meeting at 6:30 p.m. Monday. House Committee meets at 6:30 p.m. Women of the Moose meets at 7 p.m. Loyal Order of the Moose general meeting at 7:30 p.m. Any questions, call 465-0131.

Register for Glitter Gals and Guys tournament

LAKE PLACID — Last chance to join the Glitter Gals and Guys (Red Hatters) mini tournament at 1 p.m. Monday, Aug. 1. Two rounds of Texas Hold-em will be

played with an entry fee of \$20 and 15 hands of structured play. Top three chips leaders will place.

Registration will be accepted until Monday. For more details call 465-0161. The Glitter Gals and Guys meet on the first Monday of each month.

Royal Arch Masons to meet

SEBRING — Highlands Chapter Royal Arch Masons 64 and Heartland Council 43 Royal and select Masons will hold their regular stated meeting at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Sebring Masonic Temple.

There will be no degree work done. Social hour will be at Homer's Restaurant at 6 p.m.

All York Rite Masons and their ladies are invited to attend this meeting and social hour.

For more information on all York Rite activities, call R.E.H.P. Steven Steele at 465-2720.

AARP Driver Safety program class set

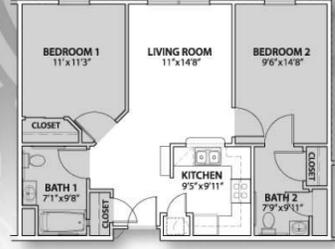
SEBRING — An AARP Driver Safety class is set from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tuesday. Take the complete class in one day. No driving; no tests. A possible discount on car insurance, good for three years, may be available. Meeting will be at St. John's United Methodist Church, 3214 Grand Prix Drive.

To register, call Mary Jane Lloyd at 452-0335.

Death Notice

Francis John Moher, of Sebring, passed away on Tuesday, July 19, 2011 in Sebring. Stephenson-Nelson Funeral Home, Sebring, was in charge of arrangements.

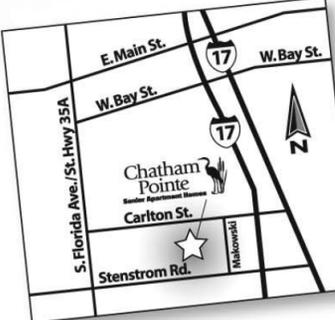
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Couple shares art, promotes recycling with their craft

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR
sgholar@newssun.com

SEBRING – Adriana and Victor Rodriguez have been married for nearly 15 years. The couple recently moved to Sebring to start a new chapter and spread their love of arts and crafts to Highlands County residents.

Victor is a skilled carpenter, learning his craft at the age of 12, and a native of Honduras. Before he even owned a pair of shoes, Rodriguez had completed the sixth grade and began work in the carpentry field. He moved to Miami where he lived for 15 years before meeting his wife, a Texas native.

The couple began their company, Victor's Tables, several months ago. Rodriguez creates unique chairs, tables, bars, and wooden hammocks. A few of Rodriguez creations have recently been patented.

The most recent addition to Rodriguez's craft are the brightly colored tire birds. Rodriguez and his wife search for and collect unrecycled tires to create these pieces of art. Everything from parrots to ostrich can be seen lining the parking lot in front of Highpointe Furniture on U.S. 27. The creations can be used for almost anything – bird feeders, plant holders, even chairs for toddlers.

"We've only been in Sebring a few weeks. We were down in Fort Myers for a while but then we saw so many people copying us. I didn't mind them copying my husband's ideas but then they would sell theirs right in front of us," Rodriguez said.

She wasn't happy, though Victor seemed to be unfazed by the imitation and contin-



Victor and Adriana Rodriguez apply paint to pink flamingo plant holders Saturday morning in Sebring. The couple have repurposed old tires to use in a fun new funky way.



Keith Wheeler picks out a gift for his wife Saturday with the help of Adriana Rodriguez at a flea market along U.S. 27 in Sebring. Rodriguez and her husband have been selling hand-made bird-shaped plant holders made from old tires.

ued to recreate his idea. The Rodriguez's then packed up and headed to their property in Wauchula in search of a new place to sell their art.

"We drove up and down 27 for a couple days. Then I saw these other vendors set up their tents one day and my husband said 'go over there'. They have been nice to work with; they haven't charged us to pitch up here. Times have been really tough on us and we are just

trying to get by," Rodriguez said.

Vicor, who was busy painting a few flamingos bright pink, never took his eyes off his work Saturday as sweat poured from him in the blistering heat.

"Look how hard he works," Rodriguez said. "Mostrar sus manos (sic)." Rodriguez said to her husband. Even beneath the layers of paint, blisters, calluses and cuts were evident of

Victor's hard work.

After struggling for the past year, Adriana hopes that by sharing her husband's craft the couple can create some stability.

"The country is in such bad shape, everyone is having a hard time, so I'm thankful for them letting us sell here. I trust Him up there (God) and just try to share this and help anyone I can along the way," Rodriguez said.

Victor's Tables features more than 40 handmade tire birds, turtles, and other animals. The couple also sells hand made tables, chairs, plants and many other items. Victor's Tables is in the HighPointe Furniture shopping plaza across from Home Depot and ABC Liquor on U.S. 27. Hours of operation are Wednesday through Monday 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. To reach the Rodriguez's call 445-0569.

Summit focuses on economy

Continued from 1A

ing a sustainable regional model to help us realize economic viability," Hood said about the meeting.

"Our region has an opportunity, through collaboration with our many partners and elected officials, to effectively build and promote a sustainable model for economic development for application in the near future. From a workforce perspective, this will allow us to better understand and utilize our resources toward more focused talent development imperatives," Hood said.

According to Hood, at the meeting, three key speakers – Dale Brill, Ph.D., president of the Florida Chamber Foundation; Gray Swoope, president and CEO of Enterprise Florida Inc.; and Chris Hart, president and

CEO of Workforce Florida Inc. — will present the state's objectives in putting the economy into perspective.

"These gentlemen will set the stage for what is happening at the state level which will help us determine how and where we deliver the aspirations and needs within our region," Hood said.

The meeting is a collaboration between the Heartland Workforce, Florida's Heartland REDI, and the Central Florida Regional Planning Council, Hood said.

"We will collaborate to define our current assets and the path that will lead us to sustainability," Hood said about the gathering the leaders of each community to future meetings.

Jobless rate up again

Continued from 1A

as snowbirds went home.

"We may see another increase next month as the jobs decrease further from the loss of winter guests," Hood said.

The 1.2 percent jump from a 10.4 percent in May comes on the heels of the Florida Workforce Region 19 announcement in May that Highlands County has the lowest average annual wage in the state.

Region 19 includes Highlands, Hardee and DeSoto Counties and the FWI estimated the average annual wage at \$28,985.

There are 24 workforce regions in Florida and Region 19 was the only one where the annual wage was below \$30,000.

Highlands ranks 17th out of 67 counties in unemployment, and the state's average annual wage is \$37,127.

Hood stated earlier in the year that the self-sufficient wage — the hourly wage where an individual should be able to pay for housing, food and transportation — was at \$12.34 an hour. That equals \$25,667 per year at 40 hours per week.

"We have to diversify. We need more than just agricultural jobs in this area," Hood said.

Florida's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in June stayed at 10.6 percent. The U.S. unemployment rate was 9.2 percent in June.

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2011 New Dodge Durango  \$2000 Consumer Cash OR 0% APR for 36 Mos. 1.9% APR for 60 Mos.	2011 New Chrysler 300  \$1000 Consumer Cash OR 0% APR for 36 Mos. 2.9% APR for 60 Mos.	2011 New Jeep Liberty  \$3000 Consumer Cash OR 0% APR for 60 Mos. 1.9% APR for 72 Mos.	
2011 New Dodge Dakota  \$4500 OFF OR 0% APR for 72 Mos.	2011 Chrysler 300C  0% APR for 36 Mos. 2.9% APR for 60 Mos.	2011 New Jeep Compass  \$1000 Consumer Cash OR 0% APR for 36 Mos. 2.9% APR for 60 Mos.	
2011 New Dodge Grand Caravan  UP TO \$2500 Consumer Cash OR 0% APR for 60 Mos. 1.9% APR for 72 Mos.	2011 New Chrysler Town & Country  \$2000 Consumer Cash OR 0% APR for 60 Mos. 1.9% APR for 72 Mos.	2011 New Jeep Patriot  \$1000 Consumer Cash OR 0% APR for 36 Mos. 2.9% APR for 60 Mos.	

BUSINESS

Debt collectors have strict rules they have to follow

If you've ever fallen far behind on paying your bills, you know what it's like to dread whenever the phone rings: What if it's another bill collector? Ignoring the call — like ignoring a toothache — is never a good idea. Sooner or later, you're going to have to deal with the situation.

According to Gail Cunningham, spokesperson for the National Foundation for Credit Counseling (NFCC), "Our 2011 Financial Literacy Survey found that most people — 68 percent — pay their bills on time. However, 28 percent said they experience difficulty making timely bill payments."

Ideally, you should contact your lender as soon as you realize you may have difficulty paying a bill. They would much rather work out a repayment plan than enter the costly and time-consuming collections process. But, if that ship has already sailed, here are a few pre-

cautions you can take to protect your interests:

You have certain rights whenever dealing with debt collectors. For example, collectors cannot harass you by:

- Using abusive language or threatening violence or arrest.
- Calling before 8 a.m. or after 9 p.m.
- Falsely representing themselves as attorneys or government employees if they are not.
- Threatening to sue you if they don't intend to.
- Contacting you at work if you tell them your employer disapproves.
- Contacting others, except to verify where you live and work.
- Revealing to others that you owe money.

If a collection agency contacts you initially by phone, they must send written notice within five days stating how much you owe,



Personal Finance

Jason Alderman

- Take detailed notes of all conversations, correspondence and pre-recorded calls, noting names, dates and times.
- You may request that all subsequent contact be handled by mail. Send this request — and all further correspondence — by certified mail, return receipt requested.
- Request that all conversations be followed-up in writing.
- Document any false, mislead-

ing or harassing statements and include them in your correspondence.

— Request full details about any debts the collector claims you owe, including dates, amounts, lender's name, etc.

— Instruct that you be the only person contacted, unless you want your attorney involved.

— Retain all records indefinitely in case of future disputes.

— Have all agreed-to repayment plan terms verified in writing, including promises to remove or adjust reports to your credit history.

If you feel you've been targeted in error, tell the collection agency — in writing — that it has the wrong party and to stop contacting you. If they can't provide proof, by law they must cease collection efforts.

Unfortunately, it's not uncommon for identity thieves to run up debt in someone else's name and to

have those unpaid debts eventually go into collection. That's why it's important to check your credit reports regularly and to report any errors or mistaken transactions immediately. You can order one free credit report a year from each of the three main credit bureaus through www.annualcreditreport.com.

The Privacy Rights Clearinghouse's "Debt Collection Practices: When Hardball Tactics Go Too Far," offers great tips on navigating the debt-collection process, including your privacy rights, sample letters and where to turn for help (www.privacyrights.org/fs/fs27-debtcoll.htm).

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



News-Sun photo by KATARA SIMMONS

The e-cigarette is being offered as an alternative to traditional cigarette smoking by a newly formed group, Alternatives N Life.

Group offers alternatives, help with transition from smoking

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR
sgholar@newssun.com
SEBRING

Alternatives N Life is a new company aimed at giving smokers a logical alternative to cigarettes. Owners Nancy Proverb, Bill McClelland and Reggie Cooper are all former cigarette smokers who each have kicked tobacco through the use of the e-cigarette.

Electronic cigarettes are the newest technology that allows smokers to kick their habits.

"We need to make people more aware of this," said Proverb. Each of the former smokers had smoked for decades and claim that the e-cigarette was the reason they each were able to quit.

Alternative N Life hold informative workshops Monday evenings at 7 p.m. Anyone interested in gain-



News-Sun photo by KATARA SIMMONS
Bill McClelland, Nancy Proverb, and Reggie Cooper formed Alternatives N Life and group promoting the use of the e-cigarette as an option for smokers who wish to quit or are in transition from smoking.

ing information or seeking help in trying to quit smoking is invited. The group is offering alternatives as well as helping with the transition.

"People are scared of

change and scared to use it, but they need to know this. They need to know we are here," said McClelland.

Alternatives N Life representatives can be reached at 471-2002 or 253-7868.

SunTrust returns to profit in 2Q as loans improve

ATLANTA (AP) — SunTrust Banks Inc. said Friday that it returned to a profit in the second quarter as its loan portfolio improved and it set aside less money to cover charge-offs.

The Southern regional bank reported net income of \$174 million, or 33 cents per share, in the three months ended June 30, compared with a net loss of \$56 million, or 11 cents per share, in the year-ago period.

Analysts on average expected earnings of 31 cents per share, according to FactSet.

Shares of Atlanta-based SunTrust rose 22 cents to \$25.95 in early afternoon trading.

SunTrust said its net charge-offs were \$505 million in the quarter, which was

down 30 percent from \$722 million in the year-ago quarter. The decline came from across all loan segments, but particularly in the residential loans, the company said.

The improvement allowed

SunTrust to set aside less money for souring loans.

The company said provisions for credit losses eased considerably to \$392 million, down from \$662 million a year ago.

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Some of the available issues of bonds are callable. Contact your local Edward Jones financial advisor for more information about maturity dates and applicable call provisions.

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BUSINESS



News-Sun photo by KATARA SIMMONS
Lester Lob gets his hair cut by The Studio of Health and Beauty stylist Rachel Smith. The newly re-opened salon welcomes both men and women customers and has numerous services for all ages.

The Studio re-opens in new location

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR
sgholar@newssun.com

SEBRING — The Studio of Health and Beauty re-opened two weeks ago at a new location at 1981 US 27 South just past Suntrust Bank next to Lord's Nursery.

The award-winning day spa and hair studio features a whole new layout with more space, more products and more employees. Owner Laurie Guelff and her highly trained staff are thrilled to be in their new environment.

"This is a more intimate setting," said Guelff. "We've scaled down the services and concentrate on the most requested services. We've also expanded our staff."

The Studio features a staff of 12, with some ladies working in more than one position making the experience at The Studio a quick and painless one.

"A lot of these girls wear more than one hat, so to speak. They have more than one position here, which makes it easier on the clients," Guelff said.

The Studio Haas two massage therapists, three facialists, four nail specialists and seven hairstylists. With more than 17 facial treatments, 10 body treatments, 15 hair services, and a whole other

list of single and couples massage, nail, tanning, and make-up services, The Studio has become a one-stop-shop for customers over the past nine years.

The Studio offers customizable spa packages and features some very popular services for customers that keep them coming back for more.

"Our most popular service is definitely hair; massage and facials are a close second. We have a popular package that includes a 90-minute facial and 60-minute massage for \$112. All of our services can be mixed and matched and any customer that combines three or more services in one visit receives a discount," said Guelff.

The Studio also features unique hours of operation making them more available to customers. The hours are Monday and Thursday 10 a.m. until 7 p.m., Wednesday and Saturday 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., and Friday 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.. The Studio is closed is closed Tuesday and Sunday.

"We try to be open when they're (customers) ready, not when we are ready," said Guelff.

For appointments, call 385-0822.



News-Sun photo by KATARA SIMMONS
Sebring resident Lois Bechtold gets the finishing touches put on her hair by The Studio of Health and Beauty hair stylist, Lilly Maldonado. Maldonado is one of seven hairstylists that work at the newly re-opened salon.

Chances for gas pump price breaks appear slim

By SANDY SHORE
AP Business Writer

The chances for late-summer discounts at the gas pump are looking pretty slim.

Americans are paying about 15 cents more for a gallon of gas now than they did over the July Fourth weekend and nearly \$1 more than a year ago. The national average for a gallon of regular was \$3.695 a gallon Friday, up 0.6 cent overnight, according to AAA, Wright Express and the Oil Price Information Service.

In a rare twist, California drivers aren't paying the highest prices in the lower 48 states. That unwelcome distinction belongs to the Northeast. Refinery and import issues have tightened supplies there, while gas is more plentiful in California, according to Fred Rozell, retail pricing director at OPIS.

California drivers paid an average of \$3.813 a gallon on Friday. Motorists paid \$4.036 a gallon in Connecticut and \$3.944 in New York. Prices in Hawaii and Alaska still top \$4 a gallon. The cheapest prices were in the Rocky Mountains, Mississippi and parts of the Midwest.

Analysts expect gas prices to be fairly consistent in the next few months, barring a hurricane that threatens Gulf Coast refinery operations or significant economic news affecting the price of oil, Rozell thinks pump prices will remain in a narrow range for the rest of the year before they climb again

next spring.

Oil prices were a little higher at midday Friday as U.S. lawmakers continued to debate spending plans and raising the nation's debt ceiling. Failure to raise the limit by the Aug. 2 deadline means the U.S. would default on its debt.

Benchmark West Texas Intermediate crude rose 69 cents to \$99.82 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Brent crude gained 96 cents at \$118.47 per barrel on the ICE Futures exchange in London.

Investors worry that failure to resolve debt problems in the U.S. and Europe could cause the global economy to slow, and cut demand for commodities such as oil.

Fitch ratings agency said Greece will be in default on its debt as a result of a new bailout plan crafted by European leaders that asks investors to take losses on the country's bonds.

Debt issues on both continents have "played havoc with the price of oil in recent weeks," PFG analyst Phil Flynn said. Since the beginning of the month, the price of oil has ranged from about \$94 a barrel to just over \$100.

The dollar has contributed to oil's volatility. It's been up and down against major currencies this month.

Oil, like most commodities, is priced in dollars. If the dollar weakens, oil becomes more of a bargain for investors who use other currencies and the price tends to rise.

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Index

- 1000 Announcements
- 2000 Employment
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1050 Legals

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO WATER RATES, FEES, CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS, AND METER CONVERSION POLICIES FOR THE SPRING LAKE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

The Spring Lake Improvement District will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, August 17, 2011, 10:00 a.m. at the District Office, 115 Spring Lake Blvd., Sebring, Florida, 33876, for the purpose of hearing public comment and objections of certain rates, fees, construction standards, and meter conversion policies for the District's water utility system. The District will consider updated policies and new rates and fees for meter conversion. Any changes will go into effect immediately.

EACH PERSON WHO DECIDES TO APPEAL ANY DECISION BY THE BOARD WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT THE MEETING IS ADVISED THAT PERSON MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS IS MADE, INCLUDING THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH SUCH APPEAL IS TO BE BASED.

Joseph DeCarbo
District Manager
July 24, August 7, 2011

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION FILE NO. PC 11-303

IN RE: ESTATE OF MARY ELIZABETH HOY Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of Mary Elizabeth Hoy, deceased, whose date of death was May 4, 2011, is pending in the Circuit Court for Highlands County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 590 South Commerce Avenue, Room 102, Sebring, Florida 33870, file number PC 11-303. 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 July 24, 2011.

Personal Representative:
/s/ Lawrence E. Bouscher
121 Wilson Avenue
Waynesburg, Ohio 44688

PRIVATE Attorney for Personal Representative:
/s/ Craig A. Mundy
Florida Bar Number: 0896470
4927 Southfork Drive
Lakeland, Florida 33813
Telephone: (863)647-3778
Fax: (863)647-4580

July 24, 31, 2011

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 11-191 GCS

HIGHLANDS INDEPENDENT BANK, a Florida corporation, Plaintiff, vs.

HOLLI J. JOHNSON and JORGE L. PEREZ, Wife and Husband, if alive and if not, their unknown spouse, heirs, devisees, grantees, creditors, or other parties claiming by, through, under or against HOLLI J. JOHNSON and JORGE L. PEREZ, and all claimants under any of such party, Defendants.

NOTICE OF SUIT-PROPERTY

TO: HOLLI J. JOHNSON and JORGE L. PEREZ, Wife and Husband, if alive and if not, their unknown spouse, heirs, devisees, grantees, creditors, or other parties claiming by, through, under or against HOLLI J. JOHNSON and JORGE L. PEREZ, and all claimants under any of such party;

4979 SW 86 Terrace, Cooper City, FL 33328

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

The Property: a/k/a 1194 Henscratch Road, Lake Placid, FL 33852

Lot 28 Block 95, ORANGE BLOSSOM COUNTRY CLUB COMMUNITY UNIT 19, according to the map or plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 10, Page 6, Public Records of Highlands County, Florida.

Parcel I.D. No. C-24-35-28-190-0950-0290 has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to John K. McClure, Esquire, JOHN K. MCCLURE, P.A., 211 South Ridgewood Drive, Sebring, FL 33870, the Plaintiff's attorney, and file the original with the Clerk of the above styled court on or before August 25, 2011; otherwise a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

WITNESS my hand and seal of said Court on the 12th day of July, 2011.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
By: /s/ Toni Kopp
Deputy Clerk

In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, persons with disabilities needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact Court Administration at Highlands County Courthouse, 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida 33870; telephone (863)402-6591, 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.

July 17, 24, 2011

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION FILE NO. PC 11-162

IN RE: ESTATE OF MAURICE G. MURRAY Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of MAURICE G. MURRAY, deceased, whose date of death was December 10, 2010, is pending in the Circuit Court for Highlands County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 590 South Commerce Avenue, 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 July 17, 2011.

Personal Representative:
/s/ Annabel M. Humble
2468 Lake Denton Road
Avon Park, Florida 33825

Atorney for Personal Representative:
/s/ W. Roy Wilkes
Attorney for Annabel M. Humble
Florida Bar Number: 0608475
Elder & Disability Law Firm, P.A.
202 Dal Hall Boulevard
Lake Placid, Florida 33852
Telephone: (863)699-2222
Fax: (863)465-1857
E-Mail: www@wilkeslawfirm.com

July 17, 24, 2011

1050 Legals

PUBLIC AUCTION FOR TOWING & STORAGE 2001 NISSAN 3N1CB51D71L494256 ON AUGUST 6th, 2011, AT 9:00AM AT PRECISION AUTO BODY 734 CR 621 EAST LAKE PLACID, FL 33852

July 24, 2011

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA TO CONSIDER AMENDMENT OF SCHOOL DISTRICT RULE 4.11 AND NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE is hereby given that the School Board of Highlands County is developing an amendment to Rule 4.11, Student Progress Plan. The Board will discuss/approve future plans to amend the rule at a regular meeting of the Board on Tuesday, August 16, 2011, at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room, George Douglass Administration Building, 426 School Street, Sebring, Florida. If requested by an affected person in writing within 14 days of the date of this notice, a rule development workshop will be noticed in a local newspaper. The request must be submitted to Wally Cox, Superintendent, 426 School Street, Sebring, FL 33870. The purpose and effect of the proposed amendment is to modify the plan to update in accordance with annual review and implementation of statutory and district changes and other corrective measures as deemed necessary. The following topics will be amended: GENERAL: Add legislation regarding Virtual School and virtual students in athletics and extracurricular activities; changed in FCAT requirements for graduation level 3 and 10 in reading; add EOC expectations; add Civics content in K-12 Language Arts curriculum; and add changes to school grading. ELEMENTARY: Change Academic acceleration requirements; Change Common Core Standards for Kindergarten expectation; Change date for parent notification of possible retention to April 13th. SECONDARY TRANSITION: Add Private School students' eligibility and participation in athletics in public school. MIDDLE SCHOOL: Revise advance academics course requirements; Add Geometry, Biology – EOC 30%; Add new legislation regarding waiver for intensive reading; Revise Grade classification; Revise Promotion requirements; Add Civics expectations; Add Parent retention request. HIGH SCHOOL: Revise grad options chart; Add the requirement for students entering an on-line course; Change timelines for Accelerated Graduation Options; Revise passing score to level 3 FCAT reading; Algebra 1 EOC must pass to get credit; EOC, Geometry and Biology – 30% of final grade; Revise PDP diploma; Add withdrawal codes to Diploma Options; Revise/Update Bright Futures; Add requirement for students to take PERT in 11th and must take College Readiness class if do not meet score required; Add language regarding full time enrollment at SFCC. The specific legal authority includes Article IX Section 4(b), Constitution of the State of Florida; Sections 1001.31, 1001.41, 1001.43, 1001.51 and 1008.25, Florida Statutes. The School District believes that the proposed rule or amendment will have no effect on small business. The School District believes that the proposed rule or amendment will not result in substantial increase in costs or prices paid by consumers, individual industries or state or local government agencies, and will not result in significant adverse effects on competition, employment, investment, productivity, innovation or international trade and/or alternative approaches to the regulatory objective either do not exist and/or are precluded by law. The cost to the School District of promulgating the proposed rule or amendment is estimated to be \$200. The estimated annual cost of implementing and enforcing the proposed rule or amendment is \$0. The text of the proposed rule or amendment can be obtained at the Superintendent's office, George Douglass Administration Building (Attn: Connie Schober), 426 School Street, Sebring, Florida between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, THE SCHOOL BOARD OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, BY: /s/ Wally Cox Superintendent & ex officio secretary

July 24, 2011

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NUMBER: GCS 11-310

DAVID R. HABA Plaintiff, vs. JUAN RODRIGUEZ MEDINA and all known or unknown persons claiming under or through them, unknown spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, creditors, or other parties claiming by, through, under, or against any known or unknown person who is known to be dead or is not known to be either dead or alive

NOTICE OF SUIT - PROPERTY

TO: JUAN RODRIGUEZ MEDINA and all known or unknown persons claiming under or through them, unknown spouses, heirs, devisees, grantees, creditors, or other parties claiming by, through, under, or against any known or unknown person who is known to be dead or is not known to be either dead or alive YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to quiet title on the following property in Highlands County, Florida: Tract 5, Block 17, SUN N LAKE ESTATES ACRES, SECTION 34, according to the map or plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 8, Page 24, Public Records of Highlands County, Florida.

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to William J. Nielenker, Esquire of William J. Nielenker, P.A., 172 E. Interlake Boulevard, Lake Placid, Florida 33852, the Plaintiff's attorney, and file the original with the Clerk of the above styled court on or before August 31, 2011; otherwise a judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. WITNESS my hand and seal of said Court on the 21st day of July, 2011.

ROBERT GERMAINE
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
By: /s/ Annette E. Daff
Deputy Clerk
July 24, 31; August 7, 14, 2011

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO. GC 10-548

HIGHLANDS COUNTY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY, INC., a Florida corporation Plaintiff vs.

ESTATE OF MANUEL E. SANCHEZ, deceased, his unknown heirs, devisees, legatees or grantees, and any and all other persons or parties claiming by, through, under or against him; and all claimants, persons or parties, natural or corporate, whose exact legal status is unknown, claiming under any of the above named or described defendants or parties or claiming to have any right, title or interest in and to the lands hereafter described Defendants

AMENDED NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: Manuel Sanchez
1539 Penny Avenue
Sebring, FL 33870

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

Lot 8, of PENNY HEIGHTS, according to the map or plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 9, Page 68, Public Records of Highlands County, Florida

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on E. MARK BREED III, of BREED & NUNNALLEE, P.A., Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 325 North Commerce Avenue, Sebring, FL 33870, on or before August 31, 2011, and file the original with the clerk of this court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

Dated this 20th day of July, 2011.

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

"In accordance with the American With Disabilities Act, persons with disabilities needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the Clerk of Courts office at 590 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida 33870-3701, Telephone 863-402-6566 not later than seven days prior to the proceeding. If hearing impaired (TDD) 1-800-9771, or Voice (V) 1-800-955-8770, Via Florida Relay Service."

July 24, 31; August 7, 14, 2011

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION FILE NO. 11-000210

IN RE: ESTATE OF PATRICIA MARGARET GAIEFSKY Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of PATRICIA MARGARET GAIEFSKY, deceased, whose date of death was April 1, 2011, is pending in the Circuit Court for Highlands County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 590 South Commerce Avenue, 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 July 17, 2011.

Personal Representative:
/s/ Raymond W. Gaiefsky
3515 Little Lake Drive
Sebring, Florida 33876

Atorney for Personal Representative:
/s/ W. Roy Wilkes
Attorney for Raymond W. Gaiefsky
Florida Bar Number: 0608475
Elder & Disability Law Firm, P.A.
202 Dal Hall Boulevard
Lake Placid, Florida 33852
Telephone: (863)699-2222
Fax: (863)465-1857
E-Mail: wrw@wilkeslawfirm.com

July 17, 24, 2011

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA JUVENILE DIVISION CASE NO. JP11-000139-XX

IN THE INTEREST OF: K.C. DOB: 11/26/1999
Minor child

SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF ADVISORY HEARING FOR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS AND GUARDIANSHIP

THE STATE OF FLORIDA TO: TORIE RENEE POWELL (DOB: 3/23/80) Address Unknown

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition for Termination of Parental Rights under oath has been filed in the above styled Court by the Department of Children & Families, seeking the termination of your parental rights to:

K.C.
a white female child
born November 26, 1999

and you are hereby commanded to personally appear before the Honorable Sheryl D. Snodgrass, a Magistrate/hearing officer in the Juvenile Division of the Circuit Court in and for Highlands County, State of Florida, on the 24th day of August, 2011 at 10:00 A.M., at the Highlands County Courthouse, 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida, Courtroom 1A.

YOU MUST PERSONALLY APPEAR ON THE DAY AND TIME SPECIFIED OR YOU WILL LOSE ALL RIGHTS AS A PARENT TO THE CHILD NAMED IN THE PETITION. YOUR FAILURE TO PERSONALLY APPEAR WILL BE DEEMED TO BE YOUR CONSENT TO THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD NAMED IN THE PETITION. YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO HAVE AN ATTORNEY REPRESENT YOU IN THIS MATTER. IF YOU CANNOT AFFORD AN ATTORNEY, YOU MUST BE PRESENT AND REQUEST THAT THE COURT APPOINT AN ATTORNEY FOR YOU IF YOU WANT ONE. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons with disabilities needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the individual or agency sending the notice at 1968 Sebring Parkway, Sebring FL 33870, Telephone (863)402-7722, 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.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE, CLERK
DATED THIS 21ST DAY OF JULY, 2011.
By: /s/ Anita E. Reiley
Deputy Clerk

(Clerk's Seal)
July 24, 31; August 7, 14, 2011

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION FILE NO. PC 11-299

IN RE: ESTATE OF ARNOLD L. BUCK, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of ARNOLD L. BUCK, deceased, whose date of death was July 8, 2011, and whose social security number 007-05-7408, is pending in the Circuit Court for Highlands County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 590 S. Commerce Avenue, 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 July 17, 2011.

Personal Representative:
/s/ Charles P. Nesci
4456 Joy Chapel Road
Hollywood, MD 20636

Atorney for Personal Representative:
/s/ Robert E. Livingston
Florida Bar No. 0031259
345 S. Commerce Avenue
Sebring FL 33870
Telephone: (863)385-5156

July 17, 24, 2011

1050 Legals

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR A SPECIAL EXCEPTION REQUEST HEARING NO. 1695

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a PUBLIC HEARING will be held before the HIGHLANDS COUNTY Board of Adjustment on the 9th day of August, 2011, beginning at 3:00 P.M., or as soon thereafter as possible, in the County Commissioners' Board Room, Highlands County Government Center Building, 600 South Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida, to consider a special exception to allow commercial activity directly serving agricultural pursuits and limited to the service of agricultural pursuits, within the area described as follows: approximately 5 acres located on the west side of Henscratch Road, between Garndeside Avenue and Glenside Avenue and legally described as shown in Lot 6, Grand-Lore Ranchettes, as recorded in Plat Book 12, Page 13, of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida.

Any person or persons interested or affected by this change are invited to attend this hearing. You may submit comments in writing to the attention of Linda Conrad, Zoning Supervisor, P.O. Box 1926, Sebring, Florida 33871-1926, or you may call (863) 402-6638, for further information. Please reference the above hearing number when calling or writing.

ANY PERSON WHO MIGHT WISH TO APPEAL ANY DECISION MADE BY THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT IN PUBLIC HEARING OR MEETING IS HEREBY ADVISED THAT THEY WILL NEED A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS, AND FOR SUCH PURPOSE, THEY MAY NEED TO ENSURE THAT A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS IS MADE WHICH WILL INCLUDE THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH SUCH APPEAL IS TO BE BASED.

Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation as provided for in the Americans with Disabilities Act or Section 286.26, Florida Statutes, should contact Mrs. Melissa Bruns, ADA Coordinator at (863) 402-6509 (Voice) or via Florida Relay Service at 711, or by e-mail: Mbruns@hcbcc.org. Requests for CART or Interpreter services should be made at least 24 hours in advance to permit coordination of the service.

ONE OR MORE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAY BE PRESENT AT THE MEETING.

Jim Brooks, Chairman

July 24, 29, 2011

1055 Highlands County Legals

HIGHLANDS COUNTYBOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS GENERAL SERVICES & PURCHASING

INVITATION TO BID (ITB)

The Board of County Commissioners (BCC), Highlands County, Sebring, Florida, will receive sealed bids in the County Purchasing Department for the following Annual Bids:

- ITB 12-001 AT PLANT ASPHALT NIGP CODE 745-21
- ITB 12-002 CLEAN FILL DIRT NIGP CODE 790-70
- ITB 12-003 CULVERTS - ALUMINIUM COATED CORRUGATED METAL NIGP CODE 210-29
- ITB 12-004 CURED-IN-PLACE PIPE FOR STORM SEWER REHAB NIGP CODE 659-51
- ITB 12-005 EROSION CONTROL MATTRESS MATERIAL NIGP CODE 085-85
- ITB 12-006 HERBICIDES & FERTILIZERS NIGP CODE 675-00/325-00
- ITB 12-007 READY MIX CONCRETE NIGP CODE 750-70
- ITB 12-008 SALE OF USED SURPLUS TIRES NIGP CODE 863-00
- ITB 12-009 SHELL HAULING - ONE WAY NIGP CODE 962-39
- ITB 12-010 SUD NIGP CODE 790-50
- ITB 12-011 ROAD RESURFACING PROJECTS NIGP CODE 913-94
- ITB 12-012 AUTOMOTIVE & HEAVY EQUIP-STORAGE BATTERIES NIGP CODE 060

Specifications may be obtained by downloading from our website:
HYPERLINK "http://www.hcbcc.net/www.hcbcc.net or by contacting: Danielle Gilbert, CPPB, Highlands County General Services/Purchasing Department Assistant Purchasing Director 4320 George Blvd., Sebring, Florida 33875-5803 Phone: 863-402-6524 Fax: 863-402-6735; or E-Mail: HYPERLINK "mailto:dgilbert@hcbcc.org"

Bid envelopes must be sealed and marked with the bid number and name so as to identify the enclosed bids. Bids must be delivered to the Highlands County Purchasing Department, 4320 George Blvd., Sebring, FL 33875-5803 so as to reach said office no later than 2:00 P.M., Thursday, August 11, 2011, at which time they will be opened. Bids received later than the date and time as specified will be rejected. The Board will not be responsible for the late deliveries of bids that are incorrectly addressed, delivered in person, by mail or any other type of delivery service. One or more County Commissioners may be in attendance at the above bid openings. Highlands County Local Preference Policy will apply to the award of this bid. The Highlands County Board of County Commissioners reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids or any parts thereof, and the award, if an award is made, will be made to the most responsive and responsible bidder whose bid and qualifications indicate that the award will be in the best interest of Highlands County. The Board reserves the right to waive irregularities in the bid. The Board reserves the right to waive irregularities in the bid. The Board of County Commissioners of Highlands County, Florida, does not discriminate upon the basis of any individual's disability status. This non-discrimination policy involves every aspect of the Board's functions, including one's access to, participation, employment or treatment in its programs or activities. Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation as provided for in the Americans with Disabilities Act or Section 286.26 Florida Statutes should contact Mrs. Melissa Bruns, ADA Coordinators at: 863-402-6509 (Voice), or via Florida Relay Service 711, or by e-mail: mbruns@hcbcc.org. Requests for CART or interpreter services should be made at least 24 hours in advance to permit coordination of the service.

Board of County Commissioners/Purchasing Department
Highlands County, Florida
Website: HYPERLINK "http://www.hcbcc.net" www.hcbcc.net

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION FILE NO. 11-000210

IN RE: ESTATE OF PATRICIA MARGARET GAIEFSKY Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of PATRICIA MARGARET GAIEFSKY, deceased, whose date of death was April 1, 2011, is pending in the Circuit Court for Highlands County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 590 South Commerce Avenue, 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 July 17, 2011.

Personal Representative:
/s/ Raymond W. Gaiefsky
3515 Little Lake Drive
Sebring, Florida 33876

Atorney for Personal Representative:
/s/ W. Roy Wilkes
Attorney for Raymond W. Gaiefsky
Florida Bar Number: 0608475
Elder & Disability Law Firm, P.A.
202 Dal Hall Boulevard
Lake Placid, Florida 33852
Telephone: (863)699-2222
Fax: (863)465-1857
E-Mail: wrw@wilkeslawfirm.com

July 17, 24, 2011

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA JUVENILE DIVISION CASE NO. JP11-000139-XX

IN THE INTEREST OF: K.C. DOB: 11/26/1999
Minor child

SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF ADVISORY HEARING FOR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS AND GUARDIANSHIP

THE STATE OF FLORIDA TO: TORIE RENEE POWELL (DOB: 3/23/80) Address Unknown

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition for Termination of Parental Rights under oath has been filed in the above styled Court by the Department of Children & Families, seeking the termination of your parental rights to:

K.C.
a white female child
born November 26, 1999

and you are hereby commanded to personally appear before the Honorable Sheryl D. Snodgrass, a Magistrate/hearing officer in the Juvenile Division of the Circuit Court in and for Highlands County, State of Florida, on the 24th day of August, 2011 at 10:00 A.M., at the Highlands County Courthouse, 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida, Courtroom 1A.

YOU MUST PERSONALLY APPEAR ON THE DAY AND TIME SPECIFIED OR YOU WILL LOSE ALL RIGHTS AS A PARENT TO THE CHILD NAMED IN THE PETITION. YOUR FAILURE TO PERSONALLY APPEAR WILL BE DEEMED TO BE YOUR CONSENT TO THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD NAMED IN THE PETITION. YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO HAVE AN ATTORNEY REPRESENT YOU IN THIS MATTER. IF YOU CANNOT AFFORD AN ATTORNEY, YOU MUST BE PRESENT AND REQUEST THAT THE COURT APPOINT AN ATTORNEY FOR YOU IF YOU WANT ONE. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons with disabilities needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the individual or agency sending the notice at 1968 Sebring Parkway, Sebring FL 33870, Telephone (863)402-7722, 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.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE, CLERK
DATED THIS 21ST DAY OF JULY, 2011.
By: /s/ Anita E. Reiley
Deputy Clerk

(Clerk's Seal)
July 24, 31; August 7, 14, 2011

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION FILE NO. PC 11-303

IN RE: ESTATE OF MARY ELIZABETH HOY Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of Mary Elizabeth Hoy, deceased, whose date of death was May 4, 2011, is pending in the Circuit Court for Highlands County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 590 South Commerce Avenue, Room 102, Sebring, Florida 33870, file number PC 11-303. 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 July 24, 2011.

Personal Representative:
/s/ Lawrence E. Bouscher
121 Wilson Avenue
Waynesburg, Ohio 44688

PRIVATE Attorney for Personal Representative:
/s/ Craig A. Mundy
Florida Bar Number: 0896470
4927 Southfork Drive
Lakeland, Florida 33813
Telephone: (863)647-3778
Fax: (863)647-4580

July 24, 31, 2011

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION FILE NO. PC 11-162

IN RE: ESTATE OF MAURICE G. MURRAY Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of MAURICE G. MURRAY, deceased, whose date of death was December 10, 2010, is pending in the Circuit Court for Highlands County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 590 South Commerce Avenue, 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 July 17, 2011.

Personal Representative:
/s/ Annabel M. Humble
2468 Lake Denton Road
Avon Park, Florida 33825

Atorney for Personal Representative:
/s/ W. Roy Wilkes
Attorney for Annabel M. Humble
Florida Bar Number: 0608475
Elder & Disability Law Firm, P.A.
202 Dal Hall Boulevard
Lake Placid, Florida 33852
Telephone: (863)699-2222
Fax: (863)465-1857
E-Mail: www@wilkeslawfirm.com

July 17, 24, 2011

1050 Legals

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR A SPECIAL EXCEPTION REQUEST HEARING NO. 1695

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a PUBLIC HEARING will be held before the HIGHLANDS COUNTY Board of Adjustment on the 9th day of August, 2011, beginning at 3:00 P.M., or as soon thereafter as possible, in the County Commissioners' Board Room, Highlands County Government Center Building, 600 South Commerce Ave., Sebring, Florida, to consider a special exception to allow commercial activity directly serving agricultural pursuits and limited to the service of agricultural pursuits, within the area described as follows

1055 Highlands County Legals

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT ORDINANCE
Please take notice that Ordinance No. 1323 will be presented to the City Council for adoption upon its second and final reading at the City Council Chambers, 368 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida 33870 on the 2nd day of August, 2011, at 6:30 p.m. A copy of the proposed Ordinance can be obtained from the office of the City Clerk. Any person may appear and be heard with respect to the proposed Ordinance. The proposed Ordinance is entitled as follows:

AN ORDINANCE DELETING SECTION 19-1(b) OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SEBRING, PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Pursuant to Section 286.0105 of the Florida Statutes, as amended, the City Council hereby advises that if any interested person decides to appeal any decision made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at the proceedings, he will need a record of the proceeding and that, for such purpose, he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

This notice shall be published on July 24, 2011.

/s/ Kathy Haley
Kathy Haley, City Clerk
City of Sebring, Florida

Robert S. Swaine
Swaine & Harris, P.A.
425 South Commerce Ave.
Sebring, FL 33870
City Attorney

July 24, 2011

HIGHLANDS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS GENERAL SERVICES & PURCHASING (RFP) REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
The Board of County Commissioners (BOC), Highlands County, Sebring, Florida, will receive sealed proposals in the County Purchasing Department for:
RFP 11-050 SNACK VENDING SERVICES FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY FACILITIES - NIGP COMMODITY / SERVICE CODE: 740-85 (RE-BID 11-040)

Specifications may be obtained by downloading from our website: HYPERLINK "http://www.hcbcc.net" www.hcbcc.net or by contacting: Danielle Gilbert, Acting Director, Highlands County General Services/Purchasing Department, 4320 George Blvd., Sebring, FL 33875-5803 Telephone: 863-402-6524; Fax: 863-402-6735, or by E-Mail: HYPERLINK "mailto:dgilbert@hcbcc.org" dgilbert@hcbcc.org

Proposals must be sealed and marked with the name of the proposer, and the RFP number and title "RFP 11-050 - SNACK VENDING SERVICES FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY FACILITIES - NIGP COMMODITY / SERVICE CODE: 740-85" so as to identify the enclosed proposal. Each submittal shall include (1) one original and (3) three copies of the proposal. Proposals must be delivered to Highlands County Purchasing Department, 4320 George Blvd., Sebring, FL 33875-5803, no later than 2:00 P.M., Thursday, August 11, 2011, at which time they will be opened. Proposals received later than the date and time as specified will be rejected. The Board will not be responsible for the late deliveries of proposals that are incorrectly addressed, delivered in person, by mail or any other type of delivery service.

One or more County Commissioners may be in attendance at the above bid opening. Highlands County Local Preference Policy will apply to the award of this RFP.

The Highlands County Board of County Commissioners (HCBCC/COUNTY) reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids or any parts thereof, and the award, if an award is made, will be made to the most responsive and responsible bidder whose bid and qualifications indicate that the award will be in the best interest of Highlands County. The Board reserves the right to waive irregularities in the bid. The Board reserves the right to waive irregularities in the bid. The Board of County Commissioners of Highlands County, Florida, does not discriminate upon the basis of any individual's disability status. This non-discrimination policy involves every aspect of the Board's functions, including one's access to, participation, employment or treatment in its programs or activities. Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation as provided for in the Americans with Disabilities Act or Section 286.26 Florida Statutes should contact Mrs. Melissa Bruns, ADA Coordinator at: 863-402-6509 (Voice), or via Florida Relay Service 711, or by e-mail: mbruns@hcbcc.org. Requests for CART or interpreter services should be made at least 24 hours in advance to permit coordination of the service.

Board of County Commissioners; Purchasing Department; Highlands County, Florida; Website: HYPERLINK "http://www.hcbcc.net" www.hcbcc.net

July 17, 24, 2011

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

1200 Lost & Found

LOST DOG, Male Pit bull, Sun in Lakee lake Placid on 7/14. Brindle in coloring w/4 white paws. No collar. FOUND!!!!

2000

Employment

2100 Help Wanted

JOIN OUR Winning Team

Central Florida's fastest growing community newspaper group is seeking an aggressive salesperson to handle a challenging and rewarding sales territory in the Highlands County area. This is a rich territory with a wide variety of businesses, both large and small. The ideal person to fill this job is comfortable with mom and pop businesses as well as major accounts.

Our team does most of our selling face-to-face. Your ability to network and connect with the community is essential to your success.

Advertising sales experience is preferred.

If this sounds like the career opportunity you've been looking for, please send cover letter and resume to:

bsheasley415@gmail.com or apply in person at the journal
231 N. Main Avenue, Lake Placid

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE DIRECTORY

TALK TO THE EXPERTS

Firemen's Indoor Flea Market
Sandy's Dollar Store
Becky's Avon 863-449-1298
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All Service Calls \$40
Mike & Kandy Sheldone
CEO/Owner
Lic# CAC 1816569
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See what one drop of your blood indicates as to YOUR nutritional health and well-being.
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For an appointment, Call 863-382-2264

Looking for **QUALITY** Childcare?
30 Years, Retired, Certified Teacher
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Call 863-381-8643 / Hammock Road.

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2100 Help Wanted **2100** Help Wanted

Staff Physician position with Sebring HMA Physician Management LLC in Sebring, FL.

Provide internal medicine services as part of traditional in-patient and out-patient practice. Schedule includes call rotation 1:5.

Reference job opening 1406 in application to John Ware, 3600 S. Highlands Ave., Sebring FL 33870.

\$2500 SIGN ON FOR OTR DRIVERS!!

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**Excellent Home Time *Great Benefits Package
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If you enjoy page design, this job is for you.

The News-Sun is looking for the right person to help design its news pages.

The right candidate must be experienced in Quark and Photoshop, as well as have good news judgment. The ability to work fast with minimal supervision is also necessary. Experience in Illustrator and InDesign is a plus.

This position is for 20 hours - hours may be flexible.

Send sample of work with resume to humanresources@newssun.com or fax to 3852.365.1951

Attention: HumanResources Director, or drop off at 2227 U.S. 27 South, Sebring.

Drug test and background check required. EOE

Classified ads get fast results

2100 Help Wanted

Subscribe to the News-Sun Call 385-6155

CERTIFIED OPHTHALMIC for busy Eye Clinic. PT. Fax resume to: 863-465-6385.

IMMEDIATE OPENING for a licensed 220 or 440 agent for an Insurance Agency in Sebring. Bi-lingual & experienced preferred. Mon. - Fri. 8:30 - 5. Please contact us at 863-402-0603 sebringinsurance@gmail.com

NEED 2 Mental Health therapist for children's out patient services in Henry-Glades Co. Must have Master's. For info. call 863-983-1423

SCIENCE LAB SPECIALIST - PT position to set up and maintain science labs and assist science faculty. Associates degree with science coursework or extensive lab exp. req. \$12.34/hr. Open until filled. Visit our website: www.southflorida.edu/hr for complete info. and requirements. (863) 784-7132. EA/EQ/VET'S PREF.

SEBRING BUSY Title Agency seeks experienced Real Estate Closing Asst. Must be team oriented, knowledgeable in title issues, closing procedures and documentation and must be willing to work. Send resume to: Clifford R Rhoades, P.A., Attorney at Law. crpaseb@crpalaw.com

SEBRING LPN bi-lingual pref. Experience a must. Send resume to: r.nawrocki@samaritanstouch.org

3000 Financial

4000 Real Estate

4220 Lots for Sale

SEBRING 2 Vacant lots. 100' x 180'. 4500 Sunbeam St. Lot 23 & 24. paid \$50,000. Asking \$25,000. Call 813-855-7786

VACANT LOT Florida. 163' x 270' approx. 1 acre. \$4500. By owner. 954-983-7088.

5000 Mobile Homes

5050 Mobile Homes For Sale

2/1 MOBILE HOME In Dinner Lake Mobile Home Park. Very good. Carport. priced to sell. Call 863-214-1736

PALM HARBOR HOMES Has 3 Modular Homes Available at **HUGE Savings** Over 40K Off Call Today! 800-622-2832

6000 Rentals

6050 Duplexes for Rent

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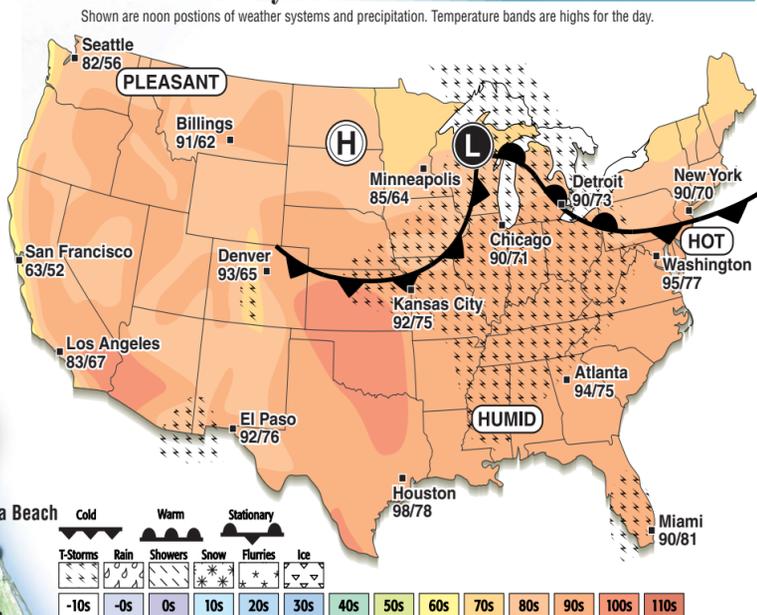
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Five-Day forecast for Highlands County

TODAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
An afternoon thunderstorm in spots 96° / 77° Winds: ESE at 6-12 mph	Partly sunny, a t-storm in the p.m. 95° / 78° Winds: SSW at 4-8 mph	A t-storm in spots in the afternoon 94° / 77° Winds: SSW at 6-12 mph	Partly sunny, a t-storm in the p.m. 94° / 76° Winds: S at 7-14 mph	Partly sunny, a t-storm possible 93° / 77° Winds: ESE at 7-14 mph

National Forecast for July 24



Almanac

Temperature
Readings at Archbold Biological Station in Lake Placid
High Tuesday 93°
Low Tuesday 67°
High Wednesday 96°
Low Wednesday 70°
High Thursday 97°
Low Thursday 71°

Heat Index
For 3 p.m. today
Relative humidity 49%
Expected air temperature 95°
Makes it feel like 106°

Barometer
Tuesday 29.90
Wednesday 29.90
Thursday 29.95

Precipitation
Tuesday 0.00"
Wednesday 0.00"
Thursday 0.05"
Month to date 3.66"
Year to date 26.01"

Regional Summary

Mostly sunny today with a thunderstorm in one or two spots in the afternoon. Partly cloudy tonight. Partly sunny tomorrow with a thunderstorm in the afternoon. Tuesday: some sun with a thunderstorm possible in the afternoon.



Farm Report

A thunderstorm in the area this afternoon. Winds east-southeast 6-12 mph. Expect 8-12 hours of sunshine with a 40% chance of precipitation and average humidity 65%.

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

Between July 22 and 24, 1788, a hurricane struck North Carolina and moved inland through Virginia. The storm was still potent when later observed by George Washington.

Sun and Moon

Today		Monday	
Sunrise	6:48 a.m.	Sunrise	6:48 a.m.
Sunset	8:17 p.m.	Sunset	8:17 p.m.
Moonrise	1:16 a.m.	Moonrise	1:58 a.m.
Moonset	3:01 p.m.	Moonset	3:56 p.m.

Tides

Readings at St. Petersburg

High	8:34 a.m.
Low	1:42 a.m.
High	none
Low	4:52 p.m.

Readings at Palm Beach

High	3:19 a.m.
Low	9:45 a.m.
High	4:15 p.m.
Low	10:14 p.m.

Lake Levels

Readings as of 7 a.m. yesterday

Lake Jackson	78.36'
Lake Okeechobee	10.20'
Normal	14.51'

UV Index Today

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



Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2011

U.S. Cities

City	Today	Mon.	Tue.	City	Today	Mon.	Tue.
	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W		Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W
Albuquerque	92/72/t	92/72/t	93/70/t	Los Angeles	83/67/pc	82/63/pc	79/63/pc
Atlanta	94/75/t	90/75/t	92/74/t	Louisville	95/77/pc	96/71/t	94/71/pc
Baltimore	96/74/t	92/69/t	91/68/s	Memphis	96/79/t	98/79/t	98/79/pc
Birmingham	91/76/t	94/76/t	95/76/t	Milwaukee	88/67/t	82/67/s	85/71/pc
Boston	85/61/s	78/65/pc	82/66/pc	Minneapolis	85/64/pc	86/72/s	88/75/c
Charlotte	99/75/t	94/73/t	96/72/pc	Nashville	94/76/t	95/75/t	95/72/pc
Cheyenne	88/60/t	90/63/s	90/61/t	New Orleans	92/78/t	93/77/t	91/77/pc
Chicago	90/71/t	86/65/s	87/72/pc	New York City	90/70/pc	84/71/t	81/72/pc
Cleveland	90/73/pc	85/63/t	84/67/pc	Norfolk	94/76/t	90/76/t	90/74/pc
Columbus	93/74/pc	90/65/t	89/68/s	Oklahoma City	104/74/s	101/76/pc	103/76/s
Dallas	104/80/s	102/80/pc	104/80/s	Philadelphia	92/74/t	88/73/t	87/70/pc
Denver	93/65/t	97/65/t	97/64/t	Phoenix	104/89/s	103/88/t	104/87/pc
Detroit	90/73/t	85/64/t	85/69/pc	Pittsburgh	89/69/t	86/64/t	86/62/s
Harrisburg	92/71/t	89/68/t	87/64/s	Portland, ME	81/55/s	75/60/pc	75/59/pc
Honolulu	89/74/s	88/75/pc	88/76/pc	Portland, OR	85/60/s	74/58/c	72/58/pc
Houston	98/78/s	98/78/pc	98/78/pc	Raleigh	98/74/t	95/74/t	94/73/pc
Indianapolis	90/75/pc	89/68/t	89/70/s	Rochester	82/65/s	86/64/t	83/62/pc
Jackson, MS	93/74/t	93/74/t	96/74/t	St. Louis	95/78/pc	93/74/t	95/78/pc
Kansas City	92/75/t	92/74/t	95/74/pc	San Francisco	63/52/pc	65/53/pc	67/54/pc
Lexington	93/73/pc	92/67/t	92/66/pc	Seattle	82/56/s	67/56/c	69/56/pc
Little Rock	96/76/t	98/76/t	98/77/pc	Wash., DC	95/77/t	92/73/t	92/72/s

World Cities

City	Today	Mon.	Tue.	City	Today	Mon.	Tue.
	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W		Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W
Acapulco	90/80/t	88/80/t	88/79/t	London	72/54/pc	75/60/pc	74/53/pc
Athens	94/76/s	93/72/s	92/72/s	Montreal	79/64/pc	81/64/t	77/61/t
Beirut	86/75/s	89/75/s	90/75/s	Moscow	84/63/pc	88/63/c	86/65/c
Berlin	69/53/sh	64/54/sh	69/59/r	Nice	77/64/pc	77/65/t	76/62/r
Bermuda	81/74/s	82/74/s	82/75/s	Ottawa	83/64/s	79/57/t	74/62/c
Calgary	78/53/pc	74/51/s	67/50/pc	Quebec	75/55/pc	75/59/pc	70/59/t
Dublin	66/55/pc	68/50/sh	66/56/pc	Rio de Janeiro	72/64/c	75/66/c	80/69/s
Edmonton	76/46/pc	72/46/c	72/51/pc	Seoul	84/72/sh	90/73/sh	85/72/r
Freeport	92/78/s	91/80/pc	91/79/pc	Singapore	87/78/t	87/78/t	86/76/pc
Geneva	65/53/sh	72/58/c	68/60/r	Sydney	62/39/pc	62/42/pc	64/41/pc
Havana	95/74/pc	92/74/t	91/71/t	Toronto	85/68/pc	83/62/t	84/62/pc
Hong Kong	92/81/s	94/81/t	89/81/pc	Vancouver	76/59/pc	72/55/sh	70/57/pc
Jerusalem	82/65/s	91/65/s	88/64/s	Vienna	68/58/r	71/58/pc	72/60/sh
Johannesburg	64/44/s	64/39/s	48/34/r	Warsaw	72/57/sh	72/61/sh	74/55/sh
Kiev	79/61/pc	82/64/sh	86/69/t	Winnipeg	79/57/pc	79/60/s	79/66/c

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STATE CHAMPS!



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE

The Florida State Dixie Ozone champion Sebring All-Stars. Front row, left to right, Trey Frzier, Alex Lopez, D.J. McPhail, David DeGenaro, Brendan Doty and Everette Hurst. Second row, left to right, Jimmy Peck, Daniel Simons, Josh Crouch, Kyle Helms, Jay Bible and Seth Cannady. Back row, assistant coach Jim Peck, head coach Dean Frazier and assistant coach Andrew Bible.

Dixie Ozone State Tournament

Sebring rolls to second straight state title

By DAN HOEHNE

daniel.hoehne@newsun.com

AVON PARK – It was just as sweet the second time around, but the celebrating, save for a dousing of head coach Dean Frazier with not one, but two jugs of ice water, was kept to a minimum, after Sebring wrapped up its' second consecutive Dixie Ozone state championship with a 22-6 trouncing of West Seminole Thursday..

"The kids just really came in and took care of business," Frazier said, pre-soak. "We were the team to beat and everyone gave us their best shot, but our guys just had a real workman-like approach."

Frazier's son, Trey, got it started in the top of the first with a single to left.

Seth Cannady then gave Sebring fans a familiar sight, a two-run homer to right, for a quick 2-0 lead, and Jimmy Peck followed that up with

another blast to right to add another notch on the scoreboard.

Kyle "Lunchbox" Helms alertly reached on a dropped third strike before Josh Crouch walked and Daniel Simons' ground-out brought Helms in.

Jay Bible then launched the third long-ball of the inning, a two-run laser to left center to post the Junior Streaks to a 6-0 lead before the Warriors got their first at bat.

But bat they did as Alex Ray got to Crouch for a long drive to center with a man on to cut it to 6-2 and show that this might be a tougher contest than anticipated.

But Sebring added five more in the second when Helms drew a bases-loaded walk and Crouch unloaded a towering grand slam that still may not have landed.

He then worked through a one, two, three bottom of the

Sebring
22
West
Seminole
6



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE

Josh Crouch watches his second-inning, grand slam home run in Thursday's state-title clinching win over West Seminole.

second, but the Streaks went quietly in the top of the third and Seminole added another two in their half of the frame.

Alyssa Ridinger singled to lead off and Nick Nabors potential fielder's choice

See CHAMPS, Page 3B



News-Sun photo by ED BALDRIDGE

Desmond Gaines gets a good look at this pitch Thursday night, but West Seminole ended the Sebring state tournament run, topping them twice to claim the Dixie AAA state championship.

Dixie AAA State Tournament

Comeback kids come up second

By DAN HOEHNE
daniel.hoehne@newsun.com

AVON PARK – Their story ended on a down note Thursday, as the Sebring All-Stars were bested by West Seminole for the Dixie AAA State championship, but it doesn't lessen the story on the whole for the Florida state runners-up.

Time and again throughout this near week-long tournament, the 'Cardiac Kids' had been on the brink of defeat, only to get a big hit, make a late run, or make the big play to clinch a win.

Just when one thought they might be out of it, here they came again to claim another nail-biting victory.

An eight-inning 2-1 win in Saturday's opening round against West Volusia followed by a much easier 12-1 win over Franklin County Sunday.

But it was back to nail-biting time Monday as they overcame a 2-1 deficit in the last inning

against Hardee to win 3-2.

That lead to Tuesday's long-awaited for contest against West Seminole, who had knocked head coach Anthony Gaines' team out of the state tournament two years prior.

"That's the game we've been waiting for for 730 days," Gaines had said before the match-up.

And again it was a tense, nerve-wracking affair with the Warriors carrying a 4-2 lead into the late innings.

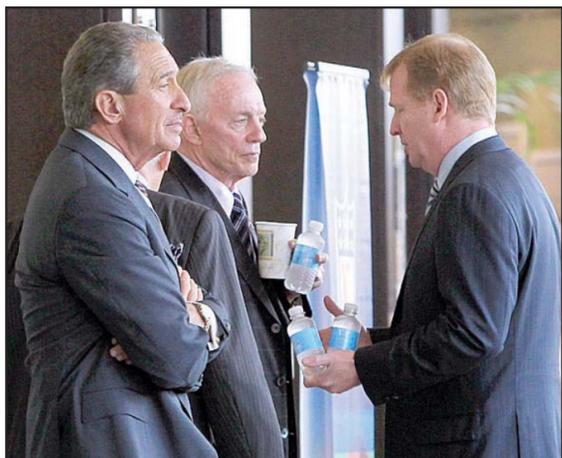
But Dayvon Terry came through with a three-run home run and Josh Rivera got out of a jam in West Seminole's final at bat to get that awaited payback with the 5-4 win.

And though Wednesday's semi-final win looked lopsided, a 15-7 win over Hardee, it was a back-and-forth game that saw Sebring down 6-5 into the fifth.

It was then that the offense just exploded, plating 10 runs to send

See AAAs, Page 3B

NFL on hold; players study deal OK'd by owners



MCT photo

Atlanta Falcons owner Arthur Blank, from left, Dallas Cowboys owner Jerry Jones, and NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell have a conversation in the hallway outside the NFL owners meeting at the Atlanta Airport Gateway Marriott Thursday, July 21.

By HOWARD FENDRICH

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Sorry, football fans.

The NFL is stuck in a holding pattern, with work still to be done to end the lockout.

Heck, the players haven't even scheduled a vote.

People from both sides of the labor dispute planned to talk through the weekend — although not face-to-face — to try to resolve the differences preventing players from accepting the owner-approved proposal that would put the league back in business.

After the NFL Players Association decided not to vote Wednesday, Thursday or Friday, it's possible it won't

make any decision until next week.

It all comes down to how long it takes to resolve the remaining issues.

As it is, clubs won't open their facilities to players Saturday, when owners wanted to unlock the gates.

"Now it's just waiting," Carolina Panthers general manager Marty Hurney said at an Atlanta hotel where team executives were briefed Friday on new rules for next season. "Be flexible, and wait and see what happens."

Owners ratified the tentative terms 31-0 — the Oakland Raiders abstained — on Thursday, provided players would give their OK,

See NFL, Page 4B

Nick Arison takes over as CEO of Miami Heat

By TIM REYNOLDS

Associated Press

MIAMI — Nick Arison's first job with the Miami Heat was as a team attendant, 16 years ago.

His rise to atop the franchise is now complete.

The 30-year-old son of Heat owner Micky Arison is now the team's chief executive officer, a newly created position that gives him day-to-day control of the franchise.

Nick Arison has been a limited partner in Miami's ownership group for several years; Friday's move does not increase his stake in the club, but completes a long-expected move by his father.

Micky Arison remains the CEO of cruise company Carnival Corp.

Nick Arison will report directly to his father, who

will keep his spot with the NBA Board of Governors.

"This is something Nick has been working towards his whole life. He's more prepared for this job than I was at his age when I became CEO of Carnival," Micky Arison said in a release distributed by the team. "I have the utmost confidence that Nick will continue to lead the Heat as a model NBA franchise for many years to come."

Nick Arison's grandfather, Ted Arison, was one of the Heat founders.

Micky Arison bought the team's controlling share in 1995.

"I'm very excited and thankful for this opportunity and look forward to a seamless transition in my new position," Nick

See HEAT, Page 4B

THE SCOREBOARD

Major League Baseball

AMERICAN LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	60	37	.619	—
New York	58	39	.598	2
Tampa Bay	52	46	.531	8½
Toronto	50	50	.500	11½
Baltimore	39	57	.406	20½
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	53	46	.535	—
Cleveland	51	47	.520	1½
Chicago	48	51	.485	5
Minnesota	46	53	.465	7
Kansas City	41	58	.414	12
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Texas	57	43	.570	—
Los Angeles	54	46	.540	3
Oakland	43	56	.434	13½
Seattle	43	56	.434	13½

Thursday's Games
 Toronto 7, Seattle 5
 L.A. Angels 1, Texas 0
 Tampa Bay 2, N.Y. Yankees 1
 Detroit 6, Minnesota 2

Friday's Games
 Chicago White Sox 3, Cleveland 0
 L.A. Angels 6, Baltimore 1
 N.Y. Yankees 17, Oakland 7
 Boston 7, Seattle 4
 Texas 12, Toronto 2
 Detroit 8, Minnesota 2
 Kansas City 10, Tampa Bay 4

Saturday's Games
 Oakland at N.Y. Yankees, late
 Detroit at Minnesota, late
 Chicago White Sox at Cleveland, late
 L.A. Angels at Baltimore, late
 Seattle at Boston, late
 Tampa Bay at Kansas City, late
 Toronto at Texas, late

Sunday's Games
 Chicago White Sox (Humber 8-6) at Cleveland (Masterson 8-6), 1:05 p.m.
 Oakland (Gonzalez 9-6) at N.Y. Yankees (Colon 6-6), 1:05 p.m.
 L.A. Angels (Chatwood 5-6) at Baltimore (Guthrie 4-13), 1:35 p.m.
 Seattle (Pineda 8-6) at Boston (Wakefield 5-3), 1:35 p.m.
 Tampa Bay (Cobb 2-0) at Kansas City (F.Paulino 1-3), 2:10 p.m.
 Detroit (Porcello 9-6) at Minnesota (Liriano 6-7), 4:10 p.m.
 Toronto (Cecil 2-4) at Texas (Ogando 10-3), 8:05 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE				
East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	62	36	.633	—
Atlanta	59	41	.590	4
New York	50	49	.505	12½
Washington	49	50	.495	13½
Florida	47	53	.470	16
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	54	47	.535	—
Pittsburgh	51	46	.526	1
St. Louis	52	47	.525	1
Cincinnati	48	51	.485	5
Chicago	40	60	.400	13½
Houston	33	66	.333	20
West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	57	43	.570	—
Arizona	53	47	.530	4
Colorado	48	52	.480	9
San Diego	44	56	.440	13
Los Angeles	43	56	.434	13½

Thursday's Games
 San Diego 5, Florida 3
 St. Louis 6, N.Y. Mets 2
 Atlanta 9, Colorado 6
 Arizona 4, Milwaukee 0

Friday's Games
 Chicago Cubs 4, Houston 2
 Philadelphia 3, San Diego 1
 St. Louis 6, Pittsburgh 4
 Atlanta 6, Cincinnati 4
 N.Y. Mets 7, L.A. Dodgers 2
 Milwaukee 4, San Francisco 2

Saturday's Games
 Houston at Chicago Cubs, late
 Atlanta at Cincinnati, late
 San Diego at Philadelphia, late
 St. Louis at Pittsburgh, late
 N.Y. Mets at Florida, late
 Colorado at Arizona, late
 Milwaukee at San Francisco, late
 Washington at L.A. Dodgers, late

Sunday's Games
 N.Y. Mets (Gee 9-3) at Florida (Ani.Sanchez 6-3), 1:10 p.m.
 San Diego (Stauffer 6-6) at Philadelphia (Halladay 11-4), 1:35 p.m.
 St. Louis (Lohse 8-7) at Pittsburgh (Morton 8-5), 1:35 p.m.
 Houston (Lyles 0-5) at Chicago Cubs (Garza 4-7), 2:20 p.m.
 Milwaukee (Gallardo 11-6) at San Francisco (Bumgarner 5-9), 4:05 p.m.
 Colorado (Jimenez 6-8) at Arizona (Owings 3-0), 4:10 p.m.
 Washington (Marquis 8-4) at L.A. Dodgers (Billingsley 8-8), 4:10 p.m.
 Atlanta (Beachy 3-2) at Cincinnati (Willis 0-1), 8:05 p.m.

Major League Soccer

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
	W	L	T	Pts GF GA
Philadelphia	8	4	7	31 24 16
New York	6	5	11	29 35 28
Columbus	7	6	7	28 21 20
Houston	5	6	9	24 24 23
Sporting K.C.	5	6	8	23 24 25
D.C.	5	6	8	23 24 30
New England	4	9	7	19 17 27
Chicago	2	6	12	18 20 25
Toronto FC	3	10	9	18 17 37
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
	W	L	T	Pts GF GA
Los Angeles	11	2	9	42 28 16
FC Dallas	11	5	5	38 27 19
Seattle	10	4	8	38 32 23
Real Salt Lake	8	3	6	30 23 12
Colorado	7	6	9	30 29 28
San Jose	5	6	9	24 24 23
Chivas USA	5	7	8	23 24 23
Portland	6	9	3	21 22 31
Vancouver	2	10	9	15 21 30

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Saturday's Games
 FC Dallas at New York, late
 Portland at Columbus, late
 Toronto FC at Sporting Kansas City, late
 New England at Colorado, late
 San Jose at Real Salt Lake, late
 Houston at Chivas USA, late

Friday, July 29
 Colorado at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, July 30
 Los Angeles at Vancouver, 7:30 p.m.



LIVE SPORTS ON TV

AUTO RACING SUNDAY

Noon Grand Prix of Germany FOX
7 p.m. NHRA – Mopar Mile-High Nationals ESPN2
10 p.m. Grand Prix of Mosport ESPN2

BICYCLING SUNDAY

2 p.m. Tour de France CBS

BOWLING SUNDAY

1:30 p.m. PBA – Team Shootout ESPN2
2 p.m. PBA – Team Shootout ESPN2
2:30 p.m. PBA – Team Shootout ESPN2

GOLF SUNDAY

Noon Senior British Open ESPN
1 p.m. LPGA – Evian Masters GOLF
3 p.m. PGA – RBC Canadian Open CBS
7 p.m. PGA – Children's Hospital Invitational GOLF

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL SUNDAY

1:30 p.m. Seattle at Boston TBS
2 p.m. Tampa Bay at Kansas City SUN
2 p.m. Houston at Chicago Cubs WGN
8 p.m. Atlanta at Cincinnati ESPN
MONDAY
7 p.m. Pittsburgh at Atlanta FOX
10 p.m. Tampa Bay at Oakland SUN
TUESDAY
8 p.m. Chicago Cubs at Milwaukee WGN
10 p.m. Tampa Bay at Oakland SUN

SOCCER SUNDAY

4 p.m. L.A. Galaxy vs. Manchester City ESPN
8 p.m. Juventus vs. U.S.A. ESPN2

TENNIS SUNDAY

3 p.m. ATP – Atlanta Championships ESPN2

WORLD CUP SOFTBALL SUNDAY

5 p.m. U.S.A. vs. Great Britain ESPN2
9 p.m. Championship – Teams TBD ESPN2

Times, games, channels all subject to change

Seattle FC at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
 New England at Sporting Kansas City, 8:30 p.m.
 Columbus at Real Salt Lake, 9 p.m.
 D.C. United at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.
 Toronto FC at Portland, 11 p.m.
Sunday, July 31
 Chivas USA at FC Dallas, 7 p.m.

WNBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	11	6	.647	—
Connecticut	9	5	.643	½
New York	9	7	.563	1½
Chicago	8	9	.471	3
Atlanta	6	9	.400	4
Washington	3	11	.214	6½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	10	4	.714	—
Phoenix	10	5	.667	½
San Antonio	9	5	.643	1
Seattle	8	7	.533	2½
Los Angeles	6	8	.429	4
Tulsa	1	14	.067	9½

Thursday's Games
 Indiana 77, Chicago 63
 Seattle 73, San Antonio 55

Friday's Games
 No games scheduled

Saturday's Game
 East vs. West at San Antonio, TX, 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday's Games
 San Antonio at Washington, 7 p.m.
 Atlanta at Tulsa, 8 p.m.
 Los Angeles at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
 Connecticut at Chicago, 8 p.m.
 Seattle at Phoenix, 10 p.m.

Transactions

BASEBALL

American League
 BALTIMORE ORIOLES—Activated OF Luke Scott from the 15-day DL.
 Optioned OF Matt Angle to Norfolk (IL).
 CLEVELAND INDIANS—Selected the contract of INF Jason Kipnis from Columbus (IL). Designated INF Jared Goedert for assignment. Optioned INF Luis Valbuena to Columbus (IL).
 LOS ANGELES ANGELS—Activated OF Peter Bourjos from the 15-day DL.
 Optioned INF Alexi Amarista to Salt Lake (PCL).
 MINNESOTA TWINS—Activated OF Jason Kubel from 15-day DL. Optioned LHP Scott Diamond and INF Luke Hughes to Rochester (IL). Activated RHP Kevin Slowey from the 15-day DL and optioned him to Rochester.
 TAMPA BAY RAYS—Activated RHP Wade Davis from the 15-day DL. Recalled OF Desmond Jennings from Durham (IL). Optioned SS Reid Brignac to Durham.

National League

ATLANTA BRAVES—Recalled RHP Cristhian Martinez from Gwinnett (IL). Optioned RHP Cory Gearrin to Gwinnett.
 CINCINNATI REDS—Placed 3B Scott Rolen on the 15-day DL, retroactive to July 21. Recalled INF Todd Frazier from Louisville (IL). Activated RHP Jose Arredondo from the 15-day DL.
 Optioned LHP Jeremy Horst to Louisville.
 COLORADO ROCKIES—Placed OF Carlos Gonzalez on the 15-day DL. Recalled OF/INF Eric Young Jr. from Colorado Springs (PCL).
 HOUSTON ASTROS—Activated OF Jason Bourgeois from the 15-day DL.
 Optioned OF Brian Bogusevic to Oklahoma City (PCL).
 NEW YORK METS—Activated 3B David Wright from the 15-day DL. Designated UTL Nick Evans for assignment.
 PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES—Activated RHP Brad Lidge from the 60-day DL.
 Designated RHP Danys Baez for assignment.
 PITTSBURGH PIRATES—Activated INF Ronny Cedeno from the 7-day DL and INF Steve Pearce from the 15-day DL.
 Optioned RHP Chris Leroux to Indianapolis (IL). Assigned OF Anthony Norman and INF Josh Rodriguez from Indianapolis to Altoona (EL).
 SAN DIEGO PADRES—Recalled INF/OF Kyle Blanks from Tucson (PCL).
 Optioned INF Anthony Rizzo to Tucson. Claimed OF Mike Baxter off waivers from the N.Y. Mets.
American Association
 FORT WORTH CATS—Claimed LHP Aaron Cunningham off waivers from Shreveport-Bossier.
 WICHITA WINGNUTS—Traded RHP Brandon Mathes to Florence (Frontier) for a player to be named.
Can-Am League
 BROCKTON ROX—Signed INF Alex Sumner and INF Dan Barbero. Placed LHP Daniel Schmidt on irrevocable waivers.
Frontier League
 FLORENCE FREEDOM—Signed RHP Steve MacFarland.
 SOUTHERN ILLINOIS MINERS—Signed RHP Joe Tarallo.

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association
 MIAMI HEAT—Promoted vice president of basketball operations Nick Arison to chief executive officer.

Women's National Basketball Association
 CONNECTICUT SUN—Waived F DeMya Walker.

COLLEGE

LA SALLE—Named Dan Ireland men's and women's cross country and track and field coach.

SPORTS SNAPSHOTS

Heartland Soccer tryouts

SEBRING – The Heartland Soccer Club will be holding one more tryout for girls and boys (ages 13 and under) on Saturday, July 23 (8-11am) at the Highlands County Sports Complex, Field “D.”

Fall recreational and competitive teams will be formed.

Find us on Facebook or contact us at Heartlandsoccerclub@yahoo.com or call Gelene Cochran at 863-414-3387.

Lake Placid Youth Bowling

LAKE PLACID – The Royal Palms Youth Bowling League, for ages 7 and up, begins its' new season Saturday, Sept. 3.

The sign-up fee is \$25, which includes a shirt, and new bowlers are welcome.

Bowling is every Saturday morning at 9 a.m. through December 10.

Weekly cost is \$11 and includes three games of bowling, shoes and prize fund.

All Youth Bowlers are also eligible for reduced rate open bowling, though some restrictions may apply, and free bowling with instruction on Friday's from 4-6 p.m. – must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information, call Frank Peterson at 382-9541, or Donna Stanley at 441-4897.

Panther Volleyball Camps

AVON PARK – This summer the South Florida Community College volleyball program has more camps to offer than ever before.

If there is a camp date that you could attend but the age group is different than yours please call and special arrangements could be made.

Individual private sessions for indoor and sand are available year-round.

July 2011

Indoor: 25-28 (4 days) Monday-Thursday

Morning Session (Grades 5-8) 9:30-11:30 a.m. \$60

Afternoon Session (Grades 9-12) 2-4:30 p.m. \$75

Contact Coach Crawford with any questions at kim.crawford@southflorida.edu, cell: 863-835-2377, or Office: 863-784-7037.

Sebring Summer Swim

SEBRING – The summer season for swimming is upon us as the Sebring High School pool is open to the public.

Pool hours for open swim will be 6-7:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 1-3 p.m. Saturday's and Sunday's – additional hours will be added once school is out.

Cost is \$2 per swimmer with big savings for frequent swimmers.

A family pass can be bought for \$50 for the first swimmer and \$15 for each additional family member.

Swimming lessons will also be available with four separate sessions throughout the summer for eight different levels of instruction, ranging from Adult Beginner, Parent and Tot, Fundamentals, Introduction to Water Skills, Pre-School Aquatics, Fundamental Aquatic Skills, Stroke Development, Improvement and Refinement, Personal Water Safety and Diving Fundamentals and Fitness.

Session IV runs from July 25-August 5.

Water aerobics return as well, with certified instructor Ricki Albritton, Tuesday's and Thursday's from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Cost is just \$2 per workout, or just \$1 if you have the Summer Swim Pass.

For questions call 471-5500 ext. 228 and leave a message for Pat Caton.

Firemen Memorial Golf

SEBRING – The 12th annual Sebring Firemen Inc. Memorial Golf Tournament presented by AXA Advisors LLC and Home Depot is scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 20 at Sun 'n Lake.

The tourney will once again feature a four-man scramble with \$75 entry fees.

That includes range balls, golf, food and drink on the course and the pre-tourney mixer on Friday night with great appetizers.

There will also once again be a silent

auction featuring autographed sports memorabilia from people like Tim Tebow, Jimbo Fisher, Will Muschamp, Nick Saban and many others.

Hole sponsorships are available for \$100 and team sponsorships, which include a team entry and hole signs, are \$500.

All proceeds will help benefit Sebring athletics.

The tourney will begin with an 8:30 a.m. shotgun start on both Deer Run and Turtle Run.

For more information, call Tommy Lovett at 385-5100 or 382-2255.

Warrior Golf Classic

LAKE WALES – Webber Football Warrior Golf Classic, a fundraising event in support of the Warrior Football program will be held Saturday, August 27, at the Lake Wales Country Club. Shot gun start 9 a.m.

Fees: \$60 per player/\$240 team of four; \$5 Mulligans; 50/50 \$1 ticket or 15 tickets for \$10 (includes green fees and lunch buffet).

Prizes: First, second and third place winner; team prizes; Closest to the pin/Longest Drive.

Sponsorship opportunities: Hole sponsor \$100, includes sign with name and logo.

Season tickets available including team schedule and memorabilia.

Lunch will be served during Webber Football's scrimmage immediately following golf tournament at WIU campus.

Make checks payable to: Webber Football, 1201 N. Scenic Highway, Babson Park, FL 33827; e-mail: Vothdw@webber.edu; or call (863) 734-1529 for more information.

Harder Hall Scramble

SEBRING – Harder Hall will celebrate its' grand re-opening, replete with new greens, bunkers and tee complexes, with a Scramble Golf Tournament Saturday, Aug. 13, with registration at 7 a.m. and a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m.

The tournament is a four-person scramble format and will be flighted.

There will be a steak dinner with two-for-one drafts and pitchers and awards following the completion of play.

There will be raffle prizes, a 50/50 drawing and more.

Cost is \$60 per person and there will be a 100-percent payout, less the cost of golf and dinner.

Register by Friday, Aug. 5, checks must accompany entry forms.

Make checks payable and mail or drop off at Harder Hall C.C., 3201 Golfview Rd., Sebring, FL, 33875.

For more information, call Pete DePriest, Director of Golf and Golf Pro, at (863) 382-0500.



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE
Seth Cannady got the ball rolling, or soaring, with this two-run home run in the first inning Thursday.

Champs headed to Virginia for Ozone World Series

Continued from 1B
wound up with both runners safe.

One out later, a Nick Oquendo infield single and error brought both runners home to make it an 11-4 game.

Crouch got those two back, however, with a two-run homer to right after Peck had lead off with a double off the left-field fence.

He then worked around two singles to strike out the side before Sebring broke it wide open in the fifth.

David DeGenaro reached on an error, making it to second, and moved to third on a Doty sacrifice bunt.

Frazier then brought him home with a single before Cannady reached on an error to put runners on the corners.

Peck walked to load the bases and Helms came through with a two-run single to make it 16-4.

Wanting no part of him

this time through the order, the Warriors intentionally walked Crouch, but Simons made them pay with a two-RBI single.

Bible then singled to reload the bags and DeGenaro drew a walk to bring another in.

Doty then reached and brought one home and Frazier added another RBI single to his stat sheet.

Cannady then finished the scoring with a sacrifice fly to right.

But with Peck on in relief, an error brought Ray to the plate with one out and he again sent one over the center-field fence.

But a grounder to third and a strike out soon ended it and allowed the team to retain its state title.

“You know, these guys are like a bunch of palm trees,” coach Frazier said. “If you get up close, you see some are leaning one way, some are crooked or bent. You see they aren’t perfect.

But when you step back and look at them as a group from afar, they’re a work of art.”

And on achieving this goal, the team knows the work has only just begun.

“We’re going to give them the weekend off, but then we’ll get back at it to get ready for the World Series,” Frazier said. “We’ll be doing some fundraising around town, which did a lot for us last year. It’s just such a great community that gives us great support and we like to think we represent them well. We couldn’t do it without all their support.”

The team will be traveling to Madison Heights, VA, to try to defend their 2010 Dixie Ozone World Series championship.

The tournament gets underway Saturday, Aug. 6 with Sebring facing the South Carolina state runner-up.

Preseason All-Southeastern Conference team

By The Associated Press

A list of preseason All-Southeastern Conference team as chosen by reporters covering SEC media days, with total votes received in parentheses:

FIRST-TEAM Offense

- TE—Orson Charles, Georgia (71)
- OL—Barrett Jones, Alabama (148)
- OL—Bradley Sowell, Mississippi (72)
- OL—Cordy Glenn, Georgia (71)
- OL—Larry Warford, Kentucky (55)
- OL—Brandon Mosley, Auburn (55)
- C—William Vlachos, Alabama (97)
- WR—Greg Childs, Arkansas (103)
- WR—Alshon Jeffery, South Carolina (152)
- QB—Aaron Murray, Georgia (117)
- RB—Marcus Lattimore, South Carolina (130)
- RB—Trent Richardson, Alabama (119)

Defense

- DL—Jake Bequette, Arkansas (100)
- DL—Josh Chapman, Alabama (85)
- DL—Kentrell Lockett, Mississippi (69)
- DL—Malik Jackson, Tennessee (63)
- LB—Dont’a Hightower, Alabama (144)
- LB—Courtney Upshaw, Alabama (82)
- LB—Danny Trevathan, Kentucky (69)
- DB—Mark Barron, Alabama (140)
- DB—Robert Lester, Alabama (79)
- DB—Stephon Gilmore, South Carolina (64)
- DB—Morris Claiborne, LSU (63)

AAAs determination, ability bode well for the future

Continued from 1B

them to the title game. But all those mountains climbed must have taken their toll, as there just weren’t any more comebacks left in the tank.

And though West Seminole earned the title, Sebring did get that long awaited for win over them, a testament to their ability given the size of the area the Warriors have to draw players from.

And so the line-up of L.J. Daniels, Cody Jolley, Rivera,

Terry, Carson Angell, Desmond Gaines, Robert Spoone, Drew Morris, Hunter Vanderpool, George Martinez, Emily Bible and Jorge Martinez, for their fantastic efforts this summer, can claim to be the second best Dixie AAA team in the state of Florida.

And if their ability, grit and determination are any indication, this group of 9- and 10-year olds will be able to claim much more in the years to come.



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE

The great effort by the Sebring All-Stars brought them to the brink of the Dixie AAA State title, as personified by this throw to first from his knees by Dayvon Terry in a win earlier last week. The determination shown throughout the tournament by this collection of 9- and 10-year olds serves as great promise for many years to come.

Next decade of NFL labor peace at hand

Splitting up \$9 billion with the hired help can’t be an easy thing to do, so maybe NFL owners weren’t entirely out of line when they voted to approve a new agreement with players and summarily declared labor peace was finally at hand.

That it seemed to come as a surprise to the players themselves soon will become a moot point.

Despite tough talk to the contrary, there’s no way players who are about to begin missing some substantial paychecks will vote down a contract nowhere near as draconian as was feared when owners first put up padlocks and declared they would change the way the league does business.

Millionaire players will still get their millions, though Cam Newton and other rookies will take a haircut in their contracts.

There’s an attractive injury protection clause and the prospect of guaranteed medical coverage for life.

The idea of an 18-game regular-season schedule has been put aside for now.

And, perhaps best of all, players will get more time off during the offseason.

Aside from getting guaranteed contracts — something the owners would rather shut down the league than offer — the players didn’t come out too badly.

The percentage of revenue they get will go down slightly but the brunt of that will be in contracts for rookies not even in the league yet, and new television deals will help grow the overall pot.

The owners, though, might have done even better.

That’s why they were in a



TIM DAHLBERG
Associated Press

big rush to vote, and an even bigger rush to let fans know what they voted for.

They’re getting a contract unprecedented in length, buying themselves labor peace for the next decade with terms that almost ensure they make money — and lots of it.

The deal allows them to save many millions in salaries for unproven rookies, locks up draft picks for at least four years and includes strong rules against contract holdouts.

More importantly, it

includes a hard salary cap based on revenue percentages that will keep free-spending owners in line while allowing smaller market teams to compete with those in major markets.

That’s a competition model that has helped make the NFL by far the nation’s favorite sport.

Little wonder that 31 billionaires who probably couldn’t agree on where to go to dinner all voted in favor of the proposed deal.

The only abstention came from Al Davis, the Raiders’ owner who doesn’t really count anyway because he seldom goes along with anything his fellow owners like.

Declaring it a done deal on Thursday was the owners’ way of making sure they get a deal.

They even offered to open training facilities to players under contract on Saturday if the NFL Players Association’s executive com-

mittee recommends approval to the 1,900 players who will have the final say on the proposed pact.

Smart moves both, making sure that the onus is now on players who were growing increasingly anxious as the time for opening training camps grew ever closer.

NFLPA leaders said they were studying the written proposal Friday, but it’s now basically take it or leave it.

Packers president Mark Murphy told local reporters on a conference call Thursday night that the league not only is confident it has a deal, but is done negotiating.

“We’ve put our pens down,” Murphy said. “We’ve negotiated in good faith with the union. We’ve reached an agreement on all the key points.”

We all should be grateful for that, because for a long time it didn’t look like two sides would agree on any-

thing.

Owners who thought they had been fleeced in the last negotiation were determined to make big changes in the way players got paid, and players were equally determined to try to hold on to most — if not all — of the lucrative slice of the \$9 billion pie they had carved out for themselves.

In the end, the biggest thing the players gave up was the easiest thing they could give up — contracts for players not even in the league yet.

Gone will be the days of JaMarcus Russell getting \$31.5 million in guaranteed money before playing a down, with Murphy estimating rookie salaries could be cut 30-40 percent under the

new deal.

Even that was softened, though, by an agreement to take some of the money teams save in rookie signings and put it in a pool for veteran player performance and benefits to current and retired players.

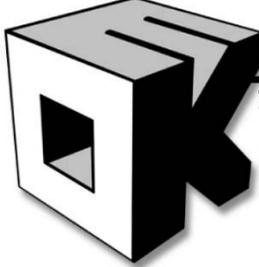
Yes, 10 years is a long time to commit to a deal.

But this is a contract players can live with.

It’s a contract they can — and will — vote for.

Let’s hope it happens quickly. Because the next decade in the NFL can’t start soon enough.

Tim Dahlberg is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at [tdahlberg\(at\)ap.org](mailto:tdahlberg(at)ap.org) or <http://twitter.com/timdahlberg>



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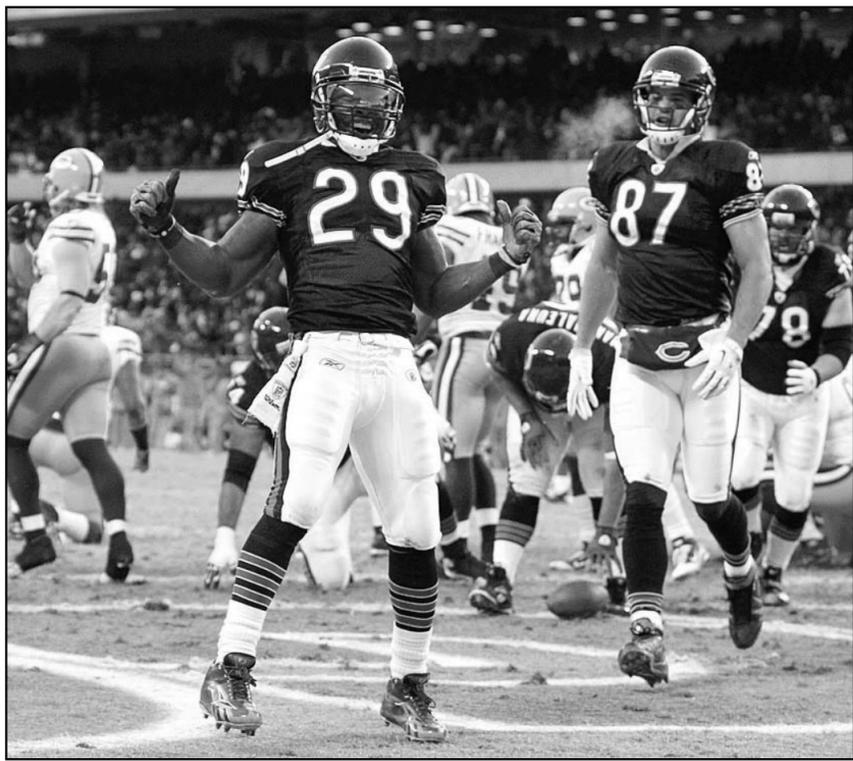
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MCT photo

The first real setback of the NFL lockout is the cancellation of the Aug. 7 Hall of Fame game between the Chicago Bears and St. Louis Rams.

NFL awaits player approval

Continued from 1B

too, and re-establish their union within a certain time-frame.

But players decided later Thursday not to hold a vote, saying they hadn't had a chance to see a finished product.

By Friday, it was in hand.

"Player leadership is discussing the most recent written proposal with the NFL, which includes a settlement agreement, deal terms and the right process for addressing recertification," NFLPA president Kevin Mawae said in a statement released by the group. "There will not be any further NFLPA statements today out of respect for the Kraft family while they mourn the loss of Myra Kraft."

Commissioner Roger Goodell and NFLPA head DeMaurice Smith attended Friday's funeral in Newton, Mass., for the wife of New England Patriots owner Bob Kraft.

Even when players decide they're OK with a final agreement, their approval process is more complicated than the owners' was.

The 32 team reps will have to recommend accepting the settlement.

Then the 10 named plaintiffs in the players' lawsuit against the league — including Tom Brady, Peyton Manning and Drew Brees — must officially inform the court of their approval.

Eventually, all 1,900 players would take a majority vote to approve returning the NFLPA to union status.

When talks broke down in March, allowing the old collective bargaining agreement to expire, the players dissolved the union, turning the NFLPA into a trade association.

That's what allowed the players to sue the owners in federal court under antitrust law.

Only after the NFLPA is again a union can it negotiate certain parts of a new CBA.

Among those items that are of most concern to players:

—the league's personal conduct policy;

—drug testing;

—benefits, such as pension funds, the disability plan, and the "88 Plan," which provides money for care of former players with dementia or Alzheimer's disease.

The major economic framework for a 10-year deal was worked out a week ago.

That included how the more than \$9 billion in annual league revenues will be divided (about 53 percent to owners and 47 percent to players over the next decade; the old CBA resulted in nearly a 50-50 split); a per-club cap of about \$120 million for salary and bonuses in 2011 — and at least that in 2012 and 2013 — plus about \$22 million benefits; a salary system to rein in spending on first-round draft picks; and

unrestricted free agency for most players after four seasons.

One item in the document ratified by owners that Smith said caught players by surprise because it hadn't been discussed during negotiations between the league and players: a supplemental revenue-sharing plan for clubs.

Goodell and the owners expressed hope Thursday night that their vote would lead to a speedy resolution to the NFL's first work stoppage since 1987.

They called it an equitable deal that improves player safety and allows the sport to prosper even more.

"It is time to get back to football," a weary Goodell said.

Already, one game is sure to be lost: The league called off the Hall of Fame exhibition opener, scheduled for Aug. 7 between the Chicago Bears and St. Louis Rams.

As of Friday evening, the NFL still aimed to start the league year next Wednesday.

But for the time being, the league's labor impasse officially dragged on.

"We were told there's a lockout still in place," Denver Broncos chief of football operations John Elway said after the four-hour session for club executives in Atlanta. "We're still in the same place we were."

AP Sports Writer Charles Odum in Atlanta contributed to this report.

Heat an Arison family affair

Continued from 1B
Arison said.

Heat President Pat Riley will continue running the basketball side of the team, and Eric Woolworth will continue overseeing the Heat business operations.

Nick Arison has been the team's vice president of basketball operations since September 2008.

He has worked in just about every aspect of the team's business through the years.

Riley said the move had been discussed in earnest for about a year.

"I have been working for the Arison family for 16 years," said Riley. "The Miami Heat is truly a family organization and that is what makes it a desirable franchise to work for. The Heat are the Arisons. Like his grandfather Ted and father Micky, Nick is an extraordinary, special young man and will serve the Heat in a highly professional manner as those men did. Congratulations to Nick. He has earned it."

Nick Arison was a student manager under Mike Krzyzewski at Duke for four years, and to this day their relationship remains close.

Nick Arison also helped run USA Basketball's day-to-day operations at major events including the 2004 and 2008 Olympics along with the 2006 world championships.

And last summer, when the Heat went on their free-agent tour, Nick Arison was a key part of the recruiting team alongside his father, Riley, Heat coach Erik Spoelstra and Heat executives Alonzo Mourning and Andy Elisburg.

"I had an unbelievable meeting with not only Pat but Micky and Nick Arison and Coach Spo and Zo," LeBron James said during the NBA finals. "It was a great meeting. Basically gave me the blueprint about how this organization is ran, both on the court and off the court. The great thing I got out of that is about how important family is. I'm a big believer in that."

Krzyzewski also offered his congratulations Friday to his former manager.

"Nick has certainly earned the respect of the basketball community through his leadership in the operations of the Miami Heat," Krzyzewski said. "I'm thrilled for the organization in recognizing his hard work ethic, lofty visions, and commitment to the profession. I consider

Nick and his family to be very close friends and we've been fortunate to share several championship experiences together at Duke University and with the U.S. National Team."

Micky and Nick Arison sit side-by-side at just about every Heat home game and on occasion are as animated as any fan in the building.

They both prefer to keep a relatively low public profile when it comes to running the team.

"As the CEO of the Heat, I am positive that Nick will continue to help lead the franchise towards its goal of winning another NBA championship as well," Krzyzewski said.

Follow Tim Reynolds on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/ByTimReynolds>

2011 Summer Day Camp

Begins June 13, 2011

(Runs for 10 weeks)

9am - 4pm

(Monday - Friday)

Cost: Members - \$95 per week

Must have a family membership

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For more information call: 382-9622 or email events@highlandsymca.com

Drivers speak up on Golden Tate's criticism

Associated Press

GLADEVILLE, Tenn. — Golden Tate of the Seattle Seahawks ruffled NASCAR drivers and fans when he tweeted that driving a car doesn't show athleticism.

And some drivers still are not very happy with him.

Brad Keselowski thinks Tate had his head stuck somewhere wrong and certainly attracted plenty of attention if that's what he wanted.

"You can say that about a lot of sports," Keselowski said Friday. "Whether it's looking at John Daly in golf or a kicker on a football team,

and some kickers are (athletic), there are sports where you don't have to be an athlete to do it, but you have to be an athlete to do them well. Racing's one of those."

Tate tweeted when Sprint Cup driver Jimmie Johnson was included in the Best Male Athlete category for the ESPY awards.

NASCAR fans immediately stuck up for their favorite drivers so much that Tate relented and even acknowledged he might be wrong.

Current truck series points leader Johnny Sauter agrees with Keselowski, but he'd

like to see anyone who thinks drivers aren't athletes accept a challenge.

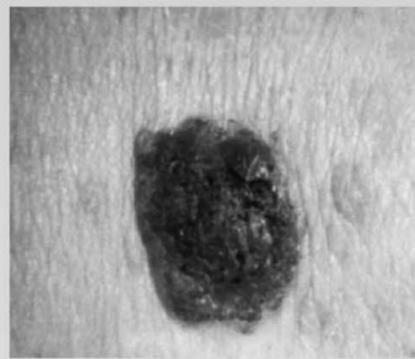
"I'll invite anybody to come sit in the truck for two-and-a-half to three hours and let me know how they feel at the end of it," said Sauter.

Sauter brought up a group of NASCAR employees that not many think of as athletes either: the pit crew members.

"The crew guys work out, and their job's just as important," said Sauter. "If you want to get technical about the definition of an athlete, those guys going over the wall are athletes."

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The Community Calendar provides a brief listing of local clubs and organizations who meet on a regular basis. It is the responsibility of the group to update the *News-Sun* on any changes in this listing by calling 385-6155, ext. 516; send any changes by e-mail to editor@newssun.com; or mail them to *News-Sun* Community Calendar, 2227 U.S. 27 South, Sebring, FL 33870.

SUNDAY

American Legion Post 25 Lake Placid has lounge hours from 1-9 p.m. Live music is from 5-8 p.m. For details, call 465-7940.

American Legion Post 74 open noon to 8 p.m. Happy hour 4-6 p.m. Members and guests only. Post is at 528 N. Pine St., Sebring. Call 471-1448.

Inerstate chapter of A.B.A.T.E. meets the last Sunday of every month at The Blue Crab, 825 Ridgewood Dr., Sebring at 11 a.m.

Lake Placid Elks Lodge 2661 lounge is open from 1-7 p.m. Card games start at 1:30 p.m. The lodge is open to members and their guests. For details, call 465-2661.

Lake Placid Moose has karaoke in the pavilion. Horseshoes played at 9:30 a.m. Food available at 4 p.m. Open to members and qualified guests only.

Loyal Order of Moose, Highlands County Lodge No. 2494, 1318 W Bell St., Avon Park. Cards start at 4 p.m. Music outside Tiki Hut at 3 p.m. Lodge phone number 452-0579.

Overeaters Anonymous, meets from 4-5 p.m. in second floor conference room No. 3 at Florida Hospital Heartland Medical Center, 4200 Sun 'N Lake Blvd., Sebring. For details, call 382-7731. No dues, fees or weigh-ins. For details on the organization, go to www.aa.org.

Sebring Eagles Club 4240 serves lunch at 2 p.m. at the club, 12921 U.S. 98, Sebring. For details, call 655-4007.

Sebring Moose Lodge 2259 offers NASCAR racing in the pavilion at 1:30 p.m. Bar open and kitchen open from 2-5 p.m. Lodge is at 11675 U.S. 98, Sebring. For details, call 655-3920.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3880 serves hamburgers from 4-5:30 p.m. and plays poker at 5:30 p.m. at the post, 1224 County Road 621 East, Lake Placid. For details, call 699-5444.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4300 Karaoke is from 5-8 p.m. at the post, 2011 SE Lakeview Drive, Sebring. For details, call 385-8902.

MONDAY

AI-Anon - LET IT BEGIN WITH ME family group meets at 10:30 a.m. every Monday at the Heartland Christian Church on Alt. 27 in Sebring. The church is behind Southgate Shopping Center where Publix is. For more information call 385-5714.

Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, 8-9 p.m. at Episcopal Church, Lakeshore Drive, Sebring. For more details, call 385-8807.

Alcoholics Anonymous One Day At A Time group meets for a closed discussion at 9:30 a.m. Monday and Friday at Covenant Presbyterian Church, 4500 Sun 'N Lakes Blvd., Sebring. For details, call 314-0891.

Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, 6:30 p.m. at Rosewood Center, 517 U.S. 27 South, Lake Placid.

Alanon meets at 8 p.m. at St. Agnes Episcopal Church, 3840 Lakeview Drive, Sebring. For details, call 202-0647.

American Legion Placid Post 25 Lake Placid has shuffleboard at 1 p.m. Lounge hours are 12-9 p.m. For details, call 465-7940.

American Legion Post 74 open noon to 8 p.m. Happy hour from 4-6 p.m. Call 471-1448.

AmVets Post 21 plays darts at 7:30 p.m. for members and guests. For details, call 385-0234.

Avon Park Lakes Association has shuffleboard at 1 p.m. and bingo at 7 p.m. The clubhouse is at 2714

Nautilus Drive in Avon Park.

BALANCE Dual Diagnosed (Addiction and Mental Health) Support Group meets the second and fourth Monday of the month from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Florida Hospital Sebring, Conference Room 1. Qi-Gong to follow at 7 p.m. Call 386-5687.

Boy Scout Troop 482 meets 7 p.m., 34 Central Ave., Lake Placid.

Bridge Club of Sebring (American Contract Bridge Club) plays duplicate games at 12:30 p.m. at 347 Fernleaf Ave., Sebring. For details, call 385-8118.

Diabetes Support Group meets the second and fourth Monday from 1-2:30 p.m. in Florida Hospital Conference Room 3 in Sebring. Call 402-0177 for guest speaker list.

Dual Diagnosed (Addiction and Mental Health) Support Group meets from 7-8:30 p.m. the fourth Monday at 4023 Sun 'N Lake Blvd., Sebring. Call 386-5687.

Florida Association Home and Community Education meets from 9-11 a.m. weekly on Mondays at The Agri-Center. The group of sewers and crafters make items for residents of adult congregate living facilities. Call Penny Bucher at 385-0949.

Garden Club of Sebring meets noon, fourth Monday, Sebring Civic Center.

Grand Prix Cloggers EZ Intermediate and Intermediate Clogging class are held at 9 a.m. every Monday at Reflections on Silver Lake, Avon Park. Call Julie for further information at 386-0434.

Harmony Hoedowners Square Dance Club meets the second and fourth Monday at the Sebring Country Estates Civic Association clubhouse, 3240 Grand Prix Drive (down the street from Wal-Mart). Dancing will be held every month until April 2008. Classes are being started now in the Sebring and Lake Placid area. For more information, call Sam Dunn at 382-6792 or visit the Web site at www.samdun.net.

Heartland Horses & Handicapped Inc. is offering pony rides every Monday and Wednesday from 4:30-6:30 p.m., weather permitting. \$5 donation per child. Call 452-0006 for more information. All proceeds raised support our free equine assisted riding program for adults and children with special needs, which resumes in September.

Heartland Pops rehearses at 7 p.m. Mondays at Avon Park High School Band Room, 700 E. Main St., under the direction of Anthony Jones. Musicians of all ages are welcome. For information, call 314-8877.

Highlands County Concert Band rehearses 7-9 p.m. every Monday at Sebring High School band room. All musicians are welcome. Vic Anderson, musical director. Call Bill Varner at 386-0855.

Highlands County Democratic Executive Committee meets 7 p.m. fourth Monday in the Democratic Party Headquarters, 4216 Sebring Parkway, Sebring. For details, call 699-6052.

Highlands County Sewing Group meets from 1-3 p.m. at the Highlands County Agri-Civic Center in the 4-H laboratory, Sebring. For details, call 402-6540.

Highlands Sertoma Club meets noon, Takis Family Restaurant, Sebring.

Highlands County Senior Squadron, Civil Air Patrol meets the second and fourth Monday nights at the Sebring Airport Terminal Building. All are welcome. For further information, call 471-1433 between 4 and 7 p.m.

Lake Placid American Legion Post 25 meets 8 p.m., Legion hall.

Lake Placid Art League will have classes in Drawing and Painting, conducted by Anne Watson, from from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Cultural Center, 127 Dal Hall Blvd. From 1-4 p.m., Mary Gebhart will teach Fabric Painting at the center. For information call Dan Daszek at 465-7760.

Lake Placid Elks 2661 opens its lounge at 1 p.m. at

the lodge. Ladies crafts at 2 p.m. Sign up for darts is at 6:30 p.m. Music from 5-8 p.m. It is open to members and their guests. For details, call 465-2661.

Lake Placid Library has storytime at 10 a.m. for ages 3-5 except during holidays.

Lake Placid Moose plays cards at 2 p.m. Open to members and qualified guests only. Lodge closes at 6 p.m.

Let It Begin With Me Alanon Group meets from 10:30 a.m. to noon every Monday at Heartland Christian Church, 2705 Alt. 27 South, Sebring. For details about Alanon, a self-help group for families and friends of alcoholics, call 385-5714.

Narcotics Anonymous Never Alone Candlelight meets at 8 p.m. at 133 N. Butler Ave. in Avon Park, near the First Congregational Church. For information call Heartland area helpline (863) 683-0630. More information on other meetings and events at www.nafheartland.org.

National Association for the Advancement of the Colored People, Highlands County Branch meets 7:30 p.m., 401 Tulane, Avon Park.

Orchid Society of Highlands County meets 7 p.m. on the fourth Monday at the Highlands County Agri-Civic Center, 4509 George Blvd., Sebring. Call Ed Fabik at 465-2830 for details.

Placid Lakes Bridge Club meets 12-4:30 p.m. second and fourth Monday in Placid Lakes Town Hall, 2010 Placid Lakes Blvd. No meetings from end of May to October. For details, call 465-4888.

Rotary Club of Highlands County meets at 6:15 p.m. at Beef 'O Brady's, Sebring.

Sebring AARP meets 1:30 p.m., The Palms, Pine Street, Sebring.

Sebring Bridge Club has Bridge, ACBL Duplicate at the clubhouse, 347 N. Fernleaf, Sebring at 12:30 Mondays. For details or info on lessons, call 385-8118.

Sebring Eagles Club 4240 has pizza and darts at 7:30 p.m. at the club, 12921 U.S. 98, Sebring. For details, call 655-4007.

Sebring Elks Lodge 1529 has the lounge open from 12-7 p.m. For more details, call 471-3557.

Sebring Historical Society open 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday. Located in back side of Sebring Public Library building on Lake Jackson. For information, call 471-2522.

Sebring Moose Lodge 2259 plays Texas Hold 'em at 7 p.m. the second and fourth Monday at 11675 U.S. 98, Sebring. Beef franks and Italian sausages from 1 p.m. to closing. For details, call 655-3920.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly FL 632, Sebring meets at 2 p.m. for weigh-in at the fellowship hall at the First Baptist Church of Lake Josephine, Sebring. For details, call 659-1019.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Ladies Auxiliary Post 4300 meets 2 p.m. fourth Monday, 2011 SE Lakeview Drive, Sebring.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3880 euchre, 6:30 p.m., 1224 County Road 621 East, Lake Placid. For more details, call 699-5444.

Volunteers of America of Florida is a nonprofit organization in Sebring that specializes in assisting person's with mental illness. We are pleased to announce our Drop in Center is open to individuals with a mental illness 6 days a week from 11am to 3 pm. The center offers a welcoming environment where individuals are accepted and feel comfortable. For more information please contact Wendy at 863-382-2022.

TUESDAY

AI-Anon Family Groups meet for discussion and Twelve Step study at noon, Union Congregational Church, 105 N. Forest Ave., Avon Park. Parking available south of old church.

8 & 40 Salon 687 Call Betty Darmer, 465-2272, for details.

Alzheimer's/Dementia Seminar held at 11 a.m. every fourth Tuesday at Southern Lifestyle, 1297 U.S. 27 North, Lake Placid. Also sponsored by Nurse on Call. Covers common signs of dementia, coping and care giving tips, disease management, organizations, etc. Call 465-0568.

American Legion Placid Post 25 Lake Placid has shuffleboard and euchre, both at 1 p.m. Lounge hours are 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. For details, call 465-7940.

American Legion Post 74 open noon to 8 p.m. Hot dogs served. Happy Hour 4-6 p.m. Call 471-1448.

Audubon Chapter meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Masonic Lodge, downtown Lake Placid on the corner of Main and Park. Bring a covered dish to share, utensils and plates, at 6:30 p.m. or come at 7:30 p.m. for presentations by guest speaker. The public is invited.

Avon Park Boy Scout Troop 156 meets from 7-8:30 p.m. in the Scout Lodge, 202 Robert Britt St., Avon Park. Boys ages 11-17 are eligible to join. For details, call 452-2385.

Avon Park Library has storytime at 10 a.m. for ages 3-5 except during holidays.

Beta Sigma Phi, Xi Nu Sigma Chapter of Avon Park, meets the second and fourth Tuesday each month in the members home. Call president Mary Joinerr at 382-4488 or vice president Linda Webster at 385-1124.

Bee Craft Club meets 9-11 a.m., Fairway Pines, Sun 'N Lakes Boulevard, Sebring. Everyone is welcome. For more details, call 382-8431.

Celebrate Recovery meets every Tuesday night at "The Rock," Union Congregational Church, 28 N. Butler Ave., Avon Park. A barbecue meal is served at 6 p.m. for a donation. At 6:45 p.m., members meet. At 7:30 p.m., the group breaks up into small groups for men and women. The program is designed for drug and alcohol addiction, divorce, death or illness grief, low or lost self-esteem or identity due to dysfunctional relationships, depression/anxiety, or any other need for healing. For details, contact Celebrate Recovery coordinator Pam Sim by calling 453-3345, ext. 106.

The Computer Club at Buttonwood Bay meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month November through March. We invite anyone interested in expanding their computer knowledge to attend the Buttonwood Bay Bytes Computer Club meeting.

Fletcher Music Club meets every Thursday and Tuesday at Fletcher Music Center in Lakeshore Mall, Sebring. For more details, call 385-3288.

G2G (Grandparent to Grandparent), a support group to help grandparents raising grandchildren, meets at 10 a.m. Tuesdays at One Hope United, 7195 S. George Blvd., Sebring. Call 214-9009.

Heartland Harmonizers Barbershop Chorus meets from 7-9:30 p.m. in the Sebring High School Music Room, Sebring. All men who enjoy singing are invited. Reading music is not required. Call 471-2294 or 386-5098.

Highlands County Quilt Guild meets first and third Tuesday, St. Agnes Episcopal Church, Sebring. Call Lynn Ullinn for meeting times at 314-0557 or e-mail lucky-duck@mymailstation.com.

Highlands Tea Party has an educational and informa-

tional meeting at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Quality Inn, 6525 U.S. 27 in Sebring. Call 699-0743.

Hope Hospice grief support group meets at 11 a.m. at 319 W. Center Ave., Sebring; and 4:30 p.m. at Southern Lifestyle ALF, across U.S. 27 from Florida Hospital Lake Placid. Call 382-0312.

Knights of Columbus Council 5441 meets 8 p.m. every second and fourth Tuesday at Knights of Columbus Hall, 900 U.S. 27 N., Sebring. For details, call 385-0987.

Lake Placid Art League has classes in Parchment Embossing from 8 a.m. to noon and 1-4 p.m. at the Cultural Center, 127 Dal Hall Blvd., taught by Maria Lorant. For information, call Dan Daszek at 465-7730.

Lake Placid Elks 2661 opens its lounge at 1 p.m. at the lodge. Happy hour is from 2-5 p.m. Card games at 1:30 p.m. The lodge is open to members and their guests. For details, call 465-2661.

Lake Placid Grief Support (Hope Hospice) meets at 4:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Southern Lifestyle, 1297 U.S. 27 North, Lake Placid, with Charlie Stroup. Refreshments served. Door prize given. Call 465-0568.

Lake Placid Jaycees meets 7:30 p.m., Jaxson's. Board meeting, 6:30 p.m. Call Joe Collins, 655-5545, for details.

Lake Placid Lions Club meets at 7 p.m. (6 p.m. for diner) the second Tuesday each month at Herons Garden, 501 US 27 North, Lake Placid. Call Jeanne at 699-0743.

Lake Placid Women of the Moose has a business meeting at 7:30 p.m. the fourth Tuesday at the lodge.

Lorida Community Club meets at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Lorida Community Center to plan events.

Masonic Lodge meets 8 p.m., 106 N. Main St., Lake Placid.

Nar-Anon Support Group for family members or friends of someone with a drug problem or addiction. Nar-Anon helps attain serenity and a more normal life for those affected by the addictions of loved ones, regardless of whether or not he/she has stopped using. 6 p.m. every Tuesday at First Baptist Church of Lake Josephine, 111 Lake Josephine Drive, Sebring.

Overeaters Anonymous meets from 9-10 a.m. every Tuesday at Avon Park Seventh-day Adventist Church, 1410 W. Avon Blvd. No dues, fees or weigh-ins. Visit www.FloridaRidgeIntergroup.com. For details, call 382-7731. Visit www.aa.org for more

information on OA.

Placid Lakes Bridge Club meets 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Placid Lakes Town Hall, 2010 Placid Lakes Blvd. For details, call 465-4888.

Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) offers a full range of volunteer opportunities for people age 55 and over. RSVP meets on the fourth Tuesday each month, 10 a.m., at the Highlands Little Theatre. Please join us for coffee and to learn more about current volunteer opportunities in Highlands County. Any interested and enrolled volunteers are invited to attend. For more information call Kris Schmidt, coordinator, RSVP, at 784-7189.

Rotary Club of Sebring (Noon) meets at noon at the Sebring Civic Center, near the library in downtown Sebring. For information, call 385-3829 or 471-9900.

Sebring Bridge Club will have Duplicate Bridge games every Tuesday evening. If interested in playing Duplicate Bridge, call 385-8118.

Sebring Elks Lodge 1529 plays darts, beginning with sign in at 6 p.m. Games start at 6:30 p.m. No experience necessary. Cost is \$2. For more details, call 471-3557.

Sebring Moose Lodge 2259 serves soft shell tacos 5-7 p.m. at 11675 U.S. 98, Sebring. Beef franks and Italian sausages from 1 p.m. to closing. Euchre is played at 6:30 p.m. For details, call 655-3920.

Sebring Recreation Club plays bridge at 12:30 p.m. and table tennis at 4 p.m. at 333 Pomegranate Ave., Sebring. For details, call 385-2966 or leave a name, number and message.

Sertoma Club meets at 7 a.m. at Dee's Restaurant, Sebring. For details, call Scott Albritton at 402-1819.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly Chapter FL 99 meets from 6-7 p.m. at the Atonement Lutheran Church, 1744 Lakeview Drive, Sebring. Call 655-1743.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly Chapter FL 618 has weigh in from 4-4:30 p.m. at Community Bible Church, 1400 CR-17A N., Avon Park. Meeting is at 4:45 p.m. For details, call 452-1093.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3880, plays darts 6:30 p.m., 1224 County Road 621 E., Lake Placid. For more details, call 699-5444.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4300 has sandwiches at 5 p.m. and Franke from 6-9 p.m. at the post, 2011 SE Lakeview Drive, Sebring. For details, call 385-8902.

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HOME



Family Features



KraftMaid offers a smartphone app to help guide you through a kitchen remodeling project.

Top 10 kitchen remodeling project considerations

Family Features

Remodeling your kitchen can seem like a daunting task at first glance. You want your new space to function well for your needs, accommodate your lifestyle, and reflect your personal design style. But how to get started? Sarah Reep, KraftMaid director of designer relations and education, recommends considering the following before you begin a kitchen remodel.

1. Determine the remodel scope. Projects can range from replacing the kitchen countertops to completely reconfiguring the kitchen's floor plan.
2. Identify ways your kitchen remodel can complement your

lifestyle. Do you want an open floor plan with room for entertaining? Do you enjoy cooking? To make your kitchen functional, all of these elements should play a part in the layout of a room.

3. Choose your involvement. Is this a do-it-yourself project or do you need to call in the pros? If you plan on doing it yourself, seek guidance from designers.
4. Find the remodeler or design firm right for you. When looking for a remodeler, seek recommendations from your friends, neighbors and local home builders association. Ask your remodeler for references from previous customers and a copy of his or her license.
5. Set your budget. When setting

a budget, be flexible and don't forget to add a buffer for the unexpected. Tools like KraftMaid Cabinetry's Budget Calculator can help you estimate costs and stay on budget.

6. Consider your timeline. A kitchen remodel isn't a weekend project. Don't forget to take into consideration any events that could interfere with your timeline, such as a family vacation.
7. Consider your design style. Do you consider yourself a traditional person? Or do you prefer a sleek, modern look? Narrowing down a design style in the beginning will make the process of choosing colors, appliances and finishes easier. Design tools like

KraftMaid's Inspiration Board can help you transfer your ideas to paper. The design tool allows you to create collages with images, colors and textures that can be shared with your designer. The KraftMyStyle app from KraftMaid allows iPhone, iPod and iPad users to create and share Inspiration Boards on the go.

8. Browse showrooms, magazines and websites for ideas. When it comes to decorating and remodeling, the options are endless. Page through your favorite magazines and visit a local showroom to gather design ideas. KraftMaid offers a kitchen idea gallery to get the dreaming started.
9. Choose your appliances. When choosing appliances, consid-

er the size of your household and kitchen. Collect images of the appliances you like from magazines and brochures. Identify what you like about each appliance and consider how the appliance will contribute to the overall look and function of the kitchen.

- 10.) Create a kitchen contingency plan. During the remodeling process, there will be times you won't be able to use your kitchen. Ask your remodeler or designer to help you create a plan to allow you to use your kitchen at least partially during different points in the remodeling process.
- For more design and remodeling tips from Sarah Reep, visit www.KraftMaid.com.

RED-HOT

<p>06 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN SXT \$13888</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CERTIFIED LOW MILES</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">#CY078A</p>	<p>08 CHRYSLER T & C TOURING \$19488</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ONE OWNER CERTIFIED</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">#CX146A</p>	<p>03 DODGE DAKOTA CREW CAB \$15588</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ONE OWNER CERTIFIED</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">#DY007A</p>
<p>07 RAM MEGA CAB 3500 \$30999</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LOW MILES ONE OWNER</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">#TY041B</p>	<p>07 CHEVY SUBURBAN \$25999</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LEATHER DVD/ENT</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">#TY031A</p>	<p>03 FORD RANGER \$5888</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CLEAN LOCAL TRADE</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">#TY100A</p>
<p>09 DODGE 1500 CREW CAB \$24988</p> <p style="text-align: center;">EXTRA NICE OWN OWNER</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">#TY055A</p>	<p>07 FORD SPORTRAC LMTD \$18888</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LEATHER LOADED</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">#JY089A</p>	<p>10 JEEP WRANGLER UNLMTD RUBICON \$31888</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LEATHER LIKE NEW</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">#JY046A</p>
<p>09 FORD F150 \$16888</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NICE CLEAN TRUCK</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">#TY077A</p>	<p>07 DODGE RAM 1500 \$13888</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ONE OWNER CLEAN</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">#JX066A</p>	<p>08 CHRYSLER ASPEN LIMITED \$23988</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HEMI LOADED</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">#TY106A</p>
<p>06 FORD ESCAPE \$13888</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HYBRID ONE OWNER</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">#CY082A</p>	<p>07 DODGE CARAVAN SE \$11588</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SUPER CLEAN CERTIFIED</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">#X01632A</p>	<p>10 DODGE NITRO SLT \$18788</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ONE OWNER LEATHER</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">#TY122A</p>
<p>05 FORD FREESTAR \$8888</p> <p style="text-align: center;">BUDGET BUSTER</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">#CY11082</p>	<p>06 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN STOW N GO \$10898</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NICE VAN WELL EQUIPPED</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">#CY05482</p>	<p>07 JEEP GRND. CHER. LAREDO 4X4 \$16999</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MOUNTAIN EDITION</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: small;">#X0171</p>

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Writers on the upswing locally

As a writer, I'm happy to report writing – and writers – are now taking their place within the arts-and-cultural communities of Highlands County. At last count, four writers' groups are active within the county, more so than any other time I'm aware of.

The most recent addition to this movement – called "Scribes' Night Out" – meets at Brewster's Coffee Shop at the Central Plaza Shopping Center on U.S. 27, just south of Home Depot. For some time, Brewster's, under the sponsorship of the Heartland Cultural Alliance (HCA), has been a venue for musical performances, art exhibits, and now, readings by local writers of their own works, published or not.

Owner Bruce Rogers says he's "honored and humbled" for Brewster's to serve as a showcase for the arts.

"Art – in its wide variety of forms – helps relieve stress and has the potential to integrate the generations," he said.

"A coffee shop is a safe, intimate setting that promotes a person's self-confidence and allows artists to try new ways of expressing their creativity."

At Brewster's, the writers' group is handled by Sherry Carlson, assisted by her fiancée Chris Williams. The writers meet at 6:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Sundays of the month.

Each session starts out with a "featured writer" reading from his or her works, followed by an "open mike" session, with other writers briefly sharing samples of their works. Meetings are open to the public, especially students and aspiring writers.

"The emphasis of our group is on entertainment," Carlson said.

"We're here to entertain each other and get to know other writers and their works."

For more information, call her at 954-319-2140 or e-mail sherry@vistanet.net/.

Sebring Scribes and Scribes

This group is affiliated with the Florida Writers' Association (FWA), but membership in the association is not required to belong to the local group, which is also a member of the HCA. "Sebring" in the group's name refers to where the meeting is held, not to any residence requirement.

It meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. at Beef O'Brady's in Sebring.

The motto of the FWA is "Writers helping writers" and that's also the motto of Scribes and Scribes.

To illustrate, the July meeting covered such topics as how to get published, including self-publishing, finding an agent, announcements of writers' conferences and contests, how to write a query letter and "writers wanted" announcements.

Heading up this group is noted local author Barbara Beswick, who, along with several others, read from her works at the July meeting.

Call her at 402-9181 or e-mail barbeswick@yahoo.com/.

Avon Park Writers' Critique Group

Again, "Avon Park" only refers to the meeting place: the Avon Park Public Library from 1-3 p.m. on the second

Retirement Journal

Larry Levey

and fourth Fridays of the month during the summer. In the winter, the group meets weekly.

Headed up by another noted local author, Sunny Serafino, this group stresses the "critique" approach. Attendees bring a piece of writing to share in the meeting, with copies distributed to the others.

After the reading, group members offer such comments as "You need to clarify this part" or "I like the colorful language you used" or "You need to fix the punctuation – or spelling – in this section" or "You made it easy for me to picture in my mind what was going on."

Members also write out their comments on their copy of the reading and return it to the author.

The group covers a wide range of writing: poetry, fiction, non-fiction, memoir and autobiography.

For more information, call Sunny at 471-2065.

She will again be teaching a class on "creative writing" sometime in January for the Community Education Department at South Florida Community College.

Ridge Area Writers' Club

Former News-Sun natural health columnist Ray Fisch heads up this writers' group, which meets at 10:30 a.m., the second and fourth Thursdays of the month, at the Sebring Public Library.

"We encourage each other to write about our experiences in life. We encourage writers to get published and we talk about how to get it done," says Ray.

"During our meetings, we take turns reading samples of our work."

For more information, call 402-2296.

Larry Levey is a News-Sun correspondent and columnist. He resides in Avon Park.

Sebring Library Summer Reading Program traveling around the world

Special to the News-Sun
SEBRING — Join the Sebring Public Library and "travel" from continent to continent around the globe celebrating stories, music, and cultures of the World in the Summer Reading Program.

At 11 a.m. Wednesday, celebrate South America and amazing Argentina as front desk staffer Estela Patrick brings a vibrant slice of her birth country, Argentina, to

the world celebration using stories, treats, and a picture frame hanging globe craft. Come learn about magical Argentina!

At 1 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 13 in the Children's Room, Bruce Schwedick of Reptile Discovery and the Crocodylian Conservation Center of Florida presents "Reading with Reptiles."

There will be two wonderful, special stories written by Schwedick himself: "Isabel

and the Tortoise" and "Tirkana Kitabu" accompanied by a slideshow of Bruce's trip to Africa, where village children led him on his expedition. Stories will include the live reptiles found in the stories, and lots of up-close, hands-on fun with the animals!

Following the program T-shirts and posters will be offered on sale to benefit the Crocodylian Conservation Center of Florida, so haul

out those piggy-banks to help out a wonderful cause. Schwedick will tell all about his plans for the exciting new Croc Center which will be built locally.

If you missed his show "Reptile Discovery" in June, this will be a second chance to see the amazing creatures that Schwedick loves, rehabilitates and works in the wild with, helping to rebuild threatened populations.

The economics of antiques



Art & Antiques

Dr. Lori

I discuss the economics of antiques frequently and comment on a wide range of topics from efficiently settling an estate to obtaining a big return when building an art and antiques collection. Some important aspects of successful antiquing are to avoid financial missteps. Here are some tips to enhance your antiquing experience.

Never pay the asking price

Always be prepared to negotiate on the asking price. Negotiation, as many seasoned antiquers know, is part of the fun of antiquing. To develop this important collecting skill, simply ask if there is a discount on a particular work of art, collectible, or antique. In most cases, a seller will reduce the asking price as much as 10 percent without even batting an eye. Once you try negotiating during an antiquing trip, you will see it is easy as pie.

Just formulate a question like: "Would you consider



Courtesy photo

Never pay asking price for any antique you find at a yard sale.

reducing the asking price?" or "Is that your best offer?" If the seller doesn't comply with your price reduction request, seriously consider walking away from the object altogether. Often sellers will try to keep you interested by dropping the price. Walking away can be your best negotiation move.

Don't feed the early birds

Have you ever hosted a yard sale? Your online ads and posters say "No early birds" yet there were shop-

pers knocking at your front door before the roosters woke up!

The best way to stop this inconvenience and make some extra money in the process is to charge early birds a premium fee. If someone wants first review of your yard sale offerings, then make them pay for it. You can charge a fee to that person who woke you up or interrupted your last minute yard sale pricing. There is a real value in getting first pick at a yard sale.

You should be compensated for offering that valu-

able opportunity to to early birds. The early birds are trying to get items for the lowest price and avoid competing with other yard sale shoppers who want the same item and who will show up throughout the sale.

Smart marketing

My yard sale premium fee may sound new to you but it is not unlike slipping the maitre d' some cash so you can get the best table at that chic restaurant before a long line develops at opening time. Remember if you market your yard sale properly, all of your items will sell for a higher price. If the early birds don't like your yard sale fee structure, they can just fly away. There are always more yard sale shoppers coming along.

I'll discuss more tips about the economics of antiques in future columns. Remember, keep your emotions in check when you are antiquing and you will get the best deals.

Celebrity Ph.D. antiques appraiser, author, and award-winning TV personality, Dr. Lori presents antique appraisal events nationwide and antiques themed cruises. As seen on NBC's The Tonight Show and Comedy Central's The Daily Show, watch Dr. Lori on Lifetime Television. Visit www.DrLoriV.com or call (888) 431-1010. To learn more about the value of your antiques, visit www.Facebook.com/DoctorLori.

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Inspirational Thoughts

by Patricia Valentine

"Wherefore neither thought I myself worthy to come unto thee: but say in a word, and my servant shall be healed." (St Luke 7:7). The centurion came to

Jesus because his servant was sick and near death. He had heard of the results of Jesus words. Proverbs 18:21 says, "Death and life are in the power of the tongue." Jesus said, "The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life" (John 6:63). In the creation accounts of Genesis 1 and 2 God created the universe by speaking words. Every word Jesus spoke has power in your life. When Jesus said, "It is finished," it had only just begun. Everything you need he has supplied. For every trial, he has already prayed, and for every battle he has already fought and secured your victory. His word is powerful and prophetic, just receive it. You want to see changes, then begin to open your mouth and say something. Speak to that mountain. Say what you mean and mean what you say. Watch God work. God Bless!

Let me hear from you at canjunprincess@yahoo.com

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Opossums are nature's little sanitation engineers



News From The Watershed

Corine Burgess

the appearance and even smell of a dead animal. Oddly enough, the physiological response to danger is an unconscious act (like sneezing).

When opossums play dead their lips are drawn back, teeth bared, and saliva forms around their mouths. Their eyes will close or partially close and a foul odor will secrete from the glands. Even if poked, prodded, moved or turned over, the animal will remain stiff and will not react. In reality the animal is unconscious and once the danger is over will regain consciousness after about 40 minutes to four hours.

Opossums are North America's only marsupials, which mean they are a member of the order Didelphimorphia and have a pouch. They are related to the kangaroo and koala bear. They are relatively solitary and nomadic and are on the move constantly in search of

food and water. Their sense of hearing and smell is excellent but they have very poor eyesight.

Opossums have the ability to survive most anywhere and are very successful colonizers. They are generally about the size of a house cat. Their bodies are from 15 to 20 inches long with a tail 9 to 20 inches. They have a cone-shaped head and a pointed snout. Usually they are gray in color and have a scaly tail, which they use as a hand to latch onto things. They sport opposable thumbs and will grasp small branches and objects with them as well. They have a mouth full of about 50 teeth and feed on most anything. They eat bird eggs, chickens, moles, worms, bugs, snakes, grass, fruit, carrion and garbage.

Opossums can live just about anywhere and have been seen in forests, grasslands, farms and cities. They are active at night and rest during the heat of the day. They seek shelter anywhere that is convenient such as a hollow log, culvert, gopher tortoise burrow or an attic. They are solitary, reclusive critters and are, for the most part, defenseless. Because they do not move very quickly, predators may make an easy meal of opossums. Sometimes, they will try to defend themselves by growling or raising their pitch. Males make a clicking noise when looking for a



Young opossums remain in their mother's pouch until they are able to walk, which can be from 70 to 125 days. At about two months, they may venture out of the safe, warm pouch and make their way onto mom's back and hang on to her fur. The opossum has a very short life span and most live only two to four years.

mate. Young opossums may make a sneezing sound to signal their mother if they feel frightened. If the babies feel threatened they will make a hissing sound.

The female gives birth twice a year to as many as 25 babies. They are so small when they are born that about 10 of them could fit into a teaspoon. Unfortunately, only the 13 babies that can attach to the mother's nipples for milk can survive. The young remain in her pouch until they are able to walk, which can be from 70 to 125 days.

At about two months, they may venture out of the safe, warm pouch and make their way onto mom's back and hang on to her fur. The opossum has a very short life span and most live only two to four years.

Although opossums have somewhat of a bad reputation, they are very non-aggressive animals. They may get into garbage cans and cause a mess, but this habit is easily stopped by tight fitting lids. Opossums help maintain a healthy environment by eating cockroach-

es, rats and mice. They will also eat dead animals and overripe fruit that have fallen to the ground. Some folks have gone as far as deeming them "Nature's Little Sanitation Engineers."

- Some opossum facts:
- They lived during the Mesozoic Era in the late Cretaceous period.
- Adults weight about 5-15 pounds, while newborns are about the size of a honey bee.
- They can swim.
- They are excellent climbers, using their hands, feet and tail to grasp.
- Both males and females build the nests.
- Young opossums can hang upside down by their tails, but only for a short period of time.
- They are immune to the venom of rattlesnakes, copperheads and water moccasins.
- They do not gnaw or chew on things or dig up gardens.
- They are hardy creatures and often recover from injury.
- They have 52 teeth – more than any other mammal in North America.

Corine Burgess is the Natural Resources Specialist for the Highlands County Natural Resources Department assisting the Highlands Soil & Water Conservation District (www.highlandss-wcd.org).

PLACES TO WORSHIP

Places to Worship is a paid advertisement in the *News-Sun* that is published Friday and Sunday. To find out more information on how to place a listing in this directory, call the *News-Sun* at 385-6155, ext. 502.

APOSTOLIC

■ **Greater Faith Apostolic Church**, 24 Rainer Drive, Lake Placid, FL 33852. invites you to come worship with us in spirit and truth at 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday, and at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday. For information contact 840-0152. Pastor Larry Carmody.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

■ **Christ Fellowship Church (Assembly of God)**, 2935 New Life Way. Bearing His Name; Preaching His Doctrine; and Awaiting His Coming. "Worshiping God in Spirit and in Truth." Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10 a.m.; Evening Worship, 5 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 p.m. on Wednesday. Bible classes at 9:45 a.m. are centered for all ages. Choir practice at 5 p.m. Sunday. Church phone: 452-6556.

■ **Bethany Baptist Church (GARBC)** We are located at the corner of SR17 and C-17A (truck route) in Avon Park. Join us Sunday morning at 9:00 AM for coffee and doughnuts, followed with Sunday School for all ages at 9:30. Sunday morning worship service begins at 10:30 a.m., and evening worship service is at 6 p.m. On Wednesdays, the Word of Life teen ministry and the Catylist class (20's+) begin at 6:30 PM. The adult Bible and Prayer Time begins at 7 p.m. For more information go to www.bethanybaptistap.com or call the church office at 863-452-1136.

■ **Faith Missionary Baptist Church**, off State Road 17 North of Sebring at 1708 LaGrange Ave. Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship, 11 a.m.; Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday Service, 7 p.m. Deaf interpretation available. Ken Lambert, Pastor. Phone 386-5055.

■ **Fellowship Baptist Church**, 1000 Maxwell St., Avon Park, FL 33825. Sunday: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10:45

a.m.; Wednesday: Evening Service, 7 p.m.; Children/Youth, 7 p.m. Telephone: 453-4256. Fax: 453-6986. E-mail: office@apfellowship.org; Web site, www.apfellowship.org.

■ **First Baptist Church of Avon Park**, 100 N. Lake Ave., Avon Park. Rev. Jon Beck, pastor; Scott King youth minister; and Joy Loomis, music director. 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; 4 p.m. Evening Service. Tuesday schedule: 8-10 a.m., basic computer class/Sonshine House; 7-9 p.m. conversational English and citizenship classes/Sonshine House. Regular Wednesday schedule: 5:15 p.m. Family Night Supper; 6 p.m. Bible Study and Prayer; 6 p.m. Adult Choir Practice; 6:30 p.m. children's choir rehearsals; 7 p.m. children's mission groups. Call 453-6681 for details. Primera Mision Bautista, 100 N. Lake Ave., Avon Park, Johnattan Soltero, Pastor. Regular Sunday schedule: 10 a.m., Bible Study; 11 a.m., Worship Service. Wednesday schedule: 7 p.m., Bible study.

■ **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 Street. (2 blocks south of Interlake Blvd) Lake Placid, FL 33852 (863) 465-3721, Email: www.fbclp.com. Pastor Brett Morey, senior pastor. 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 and Sunday Evening Bible study at 6 p.m. Wednesday Activities: Family dinner at 5 p.m. (\$4 per person, reservations required). Adult-LifeSource classes, prayer meeting, Youth Intersections, and Kids K-5-MaxKidz Extreme meet at 6:15 p.m. Men meet at 8 a.m. every Tuesday for prayer breakfast and women's prayer breakfast is at 8 a.m. every Wednesday, both at the Family Restaurant.

■ **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, minister of youth and activities. Group Bible Studies, 9:15 a.m.; Blended Service, 10:30 a.m.; Mision Bautista 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 Gardena St., Lake Placid (just off of Miller at the west end of Lake June) "Where the old fashion gospel is preached." Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m.; Sunday Worship service at 11 a.m.; Sunday Evening Service is at 6 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Meeting and Bible Study at 7 p.m. Call the church at 699-0671 for more information.

■ **Maranatha Baptist Church (GARBC)**, 35 Maranatha Blvd., Sebring, FL 33870 (A half mile east of Highlands Avenue on Ar buckle 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;

Aaron Snider, Youth Pastor. Sunday School for all ages, 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship Service, 10:45 a.m.; Awana kindergarten through fifth grade, 5:30 p.m.; Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday: Student ministry, 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.

■ **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. www.stcathe.com. Very Rev. José González, V.F. Masses - Saturday Vigil, 4 p.m.; Sunday, 8 and 10:30 a.m.; Spanish Mass, noon; Daily Masses 8 a.m. Monday-Friday; 9 a.m. Saturday. Confession: every Saturday 3-3:45 p.m. or first Friday of the month 7:15-7:45 a.m., or by appointment. Enroll your students today for Catholic School grades Pre-K3 through 5th grade.

■ **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. 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; Marco Gallardo, 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 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; Ray Culpepper, Family Life Minister; Jon Carter, Music Director. Bible School 9 a.m.; Worship 10 a.m.; Bible Study, 6 p.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, 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.

BOOKS

HARDCOVER FICTION

1. "A Dance With Dragons" by George R.R. Martin (Bantam)
2. "Now You See Her" by James Patterson, Michael Ledwidge (Little, Brown)
3. "Then Came You" by Jennifer Weiner (Atria)
4. "Smokin' Seventeen" by Janet Evanovich (Bantam)
5. "State of Wonder" by Ann Patchett (Harper)
6. "Quinn" by Iris Johansen (St. Martin's)
7. "Before I Go to Sleep" by S.J. Watson (Harper)
8. "Against All Enemies" by Tom Clancy and Peter Telep (Putnam Adult)
9. "One Summer" by David Baldacci (Grand Central Publishing)
10. "Iron House" by John Hart (Thomas Dunne)
11. "The Silent Girl: A Rizzoli & Isles Novel" by Tess Gerritsen (Ballantine Books)
12. "Maine" by J. Courtney Sullivan (Knopf)
13. "The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest"

by Stieg Larsson (Knopf)

14. "The Paris Wife" by Paula McLain (Ballantine)
15. "The Devil Colony" by James Rollins (William Morrow)

HARDCOVER NONFICTION

1. "A Stolen Life" by Jaycee Dugard (Simon & Schuster)
2. "Go the F--k to Sleep" by Adam Mansbach and Illustrations by Ricardo Cortes (Avon)
3. "Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption" by Laura Hillenbrand (Random House)
4. "In the Garden of Beasts" by Erik Larson (Crown)
5. "The 17 Day Diet: A Doctor's Plan Design for Rapid Results" by Dr. Mike Moreno (Free Press)
6. "Of Thee I Zing" by Laura Ingraham with Raymond Arroyo (Threshold)
7. "Bossypants" by Tina

Publisher's Weekly Best Sellers



- Fey (Reagan Arthur)
8. "The 4-Hour Body" by Timothy Ferriss (Crown)
 9. "The Greater Journey" by David McCullough (Simon & Schuster)
 10. "The Dukan Diet" by Pierre Dukan (Crown Archetype)
 11. "SEAL Team Six" by Howard E. Wasdin and Stephen Templin (St. Martin's Press)
 12. "Love Wins: A Book About Heaven, Hell, and the Fate of Every Person Who Ever Lived" by Rob Bell (HarperOne)
 13. "Lies That Chelsea Handler Told Me" by Chelsea's Family, Friends & Other Victims (Grand Central Publishing)
 14. "Through My Eyes" by Tim Tebow and Nathan Whitaker (Harper)
 15. "Sex on the Moon" by Ben Mezrich

(Doubleday)

MASS MARKET PAPERBACKS

1. "A Game of Thrones" by George R.R. Martin (Spectra)
2. "A Clash of Kings" by George R.R. Martin (Bantam)
3. "Hell's Corner" by David Baldacci (Vision)
4. "Whiplash" by Catherine Coulter (Jove)
5. "A Storm of Swords" by George R.R. Martin (Bantam)
6. "Sizzling Sixteen" by Janet Evanovich (St. Martin's Paperbacks)
7. "Tough Customer: A Novel" by Sandra Brown (Pocket Star)
8. "A Feast for Crows" by George R.R. Martin (Bantam)
9. "Family Ties: A Novel" by Danielle Steel (Dell)
10. "The Rembrandt

Affair" by Daniel Silva (Signet)

11. "The Creed Legacy" by Linda Lael Miller (HQN)
12. "Betrayal" by Fern Michaels (Zebra)
13. "Irish Hearts" by Nora Roberts (Silhouette)
14. "Worst Case" by James Patterson & Michael Ledwidge (Vision)
15. "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo" by Stieg Larsson (Vintage)

TRADE PAPERBACKS

1. "The Help" by Kathryn Stockett (Putnam Adult)
2. "Heaven is for Real: A Little Boy's Astounding Story of His Trip to Heaven and Back" by Todd Burpo, Sonja Burpo, Colton Burpo and Lynn Vincent (Thomas Nelson)
3. "Room" by Emma Donoghue (LB/Back Bay)
4. "Water for Elephants: A Novel" by Sara Gruen (Algonquin)
5. "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks" by Rebecca Skloot (Broadway)

6. "One Day" by David Nicholls (Vintage)

7. "Outliers: The Story of Success" by Malcolm Gladwell (LB/Back Bay)
8. "Cutting for Stone" by Abraham Verghese (Vintage)
9. "Game of Thrones" by George R.R. Martin (Bantam)
10. "A Visit from the Goon Squad" by Jennifer Egan (Anchor)
11. "The Original Argument: The Federalists' Case for the Constitution, Adapted for the 21st Century" by Glenn Beck (Threshold Editions)
12. "The Glass Castle" by Jeannette Walls (Scribner)
13. "Empire of the Summer Moon" by S.C. Gwynne (Bloomsbury)
14. "The Postcard Killers" by James Patterson & Liza Marklund (Grand Central)
15. "Sarah's Key" by Tatiana de Rosnay (St. Martin's Griffin)

PLACES TO WORSHIP

EPISCOPAL

■ **The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer.** Service time is 9:30 with Holy Communion. Coffee hour following services. Newcomers welcome. Call 453-5664 or e-mail redeemer1895@aol.com Web site: redeemeravon.com. The church is at 839 Howe's Way, Avon Park (two miles north of Sun 'N Lake Boulevard, across from Wells Dodge.)

■ **St. Agnes Episcopal Church,** 3840 Lakeview Drive, Sebring, FL 33870. Sunday Services: Holy Eucharist Rite I - 7:45 a.m., Holy Eucharist Rite II - 10 a.m. Midweek service on Wednesday at 6 p.m. Sunday School for all ages at 9 a.m. The nursery is open 8:45 a.m. until 15 minutes after the 10 a.m. service ends. Wednesday: Adult Bible study, 9:30 a.m. Visitors are always welcome. The Rev. Jim Kurtz, rector. Church office 385-7649, for more information.

■ **St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church,** 43 Lake June Road, Lake Placid, FL 33852. Phone: 465-0051. Rev. Elizabeth L. Nelson, Rector. Sunday Worship, 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesday evening: Holy Communion with Healing Service, 6:15 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 Closet, 385-2782. Gary Kindle, Pastor. Faith Child Development Center, 382-3232. Kathy Pontious, director. Preschool/VPK/Extended Day Care. Summer Worship services: 9:30 a.m. Sunday; Bible class is 8:30 a.m. Sunday. Communion is served the first and third and fifth Sunday of the month. Worship service is broadcast live on WITS 1340 AM.

■ **Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (AALC) American Association of Lutheran Churches,** 4348 Schumacher Road, Sebring, one mile west of Wal-Mart. James Weed, pastor. Worship Service, 9 a.m. Sunday. Bible Study, 11 a.m. Nursery provided. Social activities: Choir, Missions, Evangelism. Phone 385-1163.

■ **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 10 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, 6:30 p.m. Wednesday: 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, 10 a.m.; Bible study, 11:15 a.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: Phone, 314-0482, lindadowning@live.com. Casey L. Downing, associate minister: Phone, 385-8171, caseydowning@hotmail.com. Web site is 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. Worship services: Sunday morning worship, 10 a.m.; Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Sunday evening, 6:30 p.m.; Wednesday evening Prayer Meeting, 6 p.m.; Youth Group and Kids Quest, 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.pcsebring.org. Rev. W. Darrell Arnold, pastor. Office hours: 8:30-11:30 a.m. Monday through Thursday.

■ **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.; Monday-Friday, Summer Day Camp (youth ages 11-14) 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. excluding holidays; Tuesday: Grief Support Group, 3 p.m., adult classroom; Wednesday: Adult Bible Study, 10:30 a.m., adult classroom. Nursery available during worship. Call the church office for more information and other classes. Rev. Darrell A. Peer, pastor.

■ **First Presbyterian Church, ARP,** www.fpcpl.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 9-10 a.m. in the sanctuary; contemporary worship is from 11 a.m. to noon. Sunday school classes for adults and children will be 10:10-10:50 a.m. in the educational building. 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 Deacons 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; and Associate Pastor Kameron DeVasher. Walker Memorial Academy Christian School offering education for kindergarten through 12th grades. ALL ARE WELCOME. Website is www.discoverjesus.org

■ **Sebring Seventh-Day Adventist Church,** 2106 N. State Road 17, Sebring; 385-2438. Worship Services: 9:15 a.m. Worship hour, 11 a.m. Prayer meeting, Tuesday, 7:15 p.m. Community service: every Monday 9-11 a.m. Health Seminar with Dr. Seralde, every Friday, 10:00 a.m. Pastor Amado Luzbet.

THE CHURCH OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

■ **The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints,** 3235 Grand Prix Dr., Sebring, FL 33872; (863) 382-9092 Steve Austin, Bishop; Mark Swift, 1st Counselor; Del Murphy, 2nd Counselor. Family History Center (863) 382-1822. Sunday Services: Sacrament Meeting, 10-11:10 a.m.; Gospel Doctrine, 11:20 a.m. to noon; Priesthood/Relief Society, 12:10-1p.m.; Primary for children, 11:15 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Youth Activities: Wednesdays, 7-8:20 p.m. Scouts: first and third Wednesday, 7-8:20 p.m. Activity Days: 8-11 yr old Boys and Girls, second and fourth Wednesdays, 7-8:20 p.m.

THE SALVATION ARMY

■ **The Salvation Army – Center for Worship.** Sunday: Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Holiness meeting, 11 a.m.; and Praise meeting and lunch, noon. Tuesday: Bible study, 6:30 p.m.; and Women's Ministries, 7 p.m. Wednesday: Youth Ministries, 4 p.m. All meetings are at 120 N. Ridgewood Ave., Sebring. For more information, visit the Web site www.salvationarmy-sebring.com or call Major Bruce Stefanik at 385-7548, ext. 110.

UNITED METHODIST

■ **First United Methodist Church,** 105 S. Pine St., Sebring, FL 33870. The Rev. A.C. Bryant, pastor. Traditional Worship Service at 8:10 and 10:50 a.m. in the sanctuary, Contemporary Worship in the FLC at 9:30 a.m. Sunday School at 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. Methodist Youth Fellowship at 5:30 p.m. Sundays with Rick Heilig, youth director. The 10:55 a.m. Sunday worship service is broadcast over WITS 1340 on AM dial. There is a nursery available at all services.

■ **First United Methodist Church,** 200 South Lake Avenue, Avon Park, FL 33825, (863) 453-3759, R. James Weiss, Pastor, Sunday School - 9 a.m., Worship - 10:30 a.m. Bible study third Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry on the second and fourth Friday of the month at 2 p.m. for women who love God and crocheting. Visit us at our church Web site: www.fumcap.org.

■ **Memorial United Methodist Church,** 500 Kent Ave., (overlooking Lake Clay) Lake Placid, FL, 33852. The Rev. Fred Ball, pastor. Claude H.L. Burnett, pastoral assistant. Sunday schedule: Heritage Worship Service, 8:30 a.m.; Sunday School for all ages, 9:30 a.m.; Celebration Worship Service at 10:45 a.m.; New Song worship service at 10:45 a.m. Loving nursery care provided every Sunday morning. Youth Fellowship, 5 p.m. Bible Fellowship Class, 6 p.m. (October-May only). We offer Christ-centered Sunday school classes, youth programs, Bible studies, book studies and Christian fellowship. We are a congregation that want to know Christ and make Him known. Call the church office at 465-2422 or check out our church Web site at www.memorialumc.com.

■ **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.; 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,** where God is still speaking, 3115 Hope Street, Sebring, FL 33875 (1.8 miles west of U.S. 27 and Hammock Road). Sunday worship, 9:30 a.m.; Communion with worship first Sunday of month; Chapel Communion, 8:45 a.m. all other Sundays. All are welcome to receive the sacrament. For more information, call the church office at 471-1999 or e-mail eucc@earthlink.net or check the Web site sebringemmanuelucc.com. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here.

CHALK TALK

Lake Placid High School's Gavagni named national finalist for Samsung American Legion scholarship

Special to the News-Sun

LAKE PLACID — A senior at Lake Placid High School was named as a Samsung American Legion Scholarship National Finalist. Rhonwen Gavagni was selected by the staff of Florida Girls State 2011 which was held at Florida State University in Tallahassee on July 8-16.

In making the announcement, the selection officials said Gavagni was named a Samsung American Legion Scholarship National Finalist on the basis of academics, school and community involvement and financial need.

As a Samsung American Legion Scholarship National Finalist, Rhonwen will join 99 other National Finalists from around the United States, each competing for one of 12 scholarships, each scholarship worth an expected \$20,000.

Rhonwen completed her junior year at Lake Placid High School ranked No. 1 in her class, with a grade point average of 5.08.

She is president-elect of the Interact Club, is a member of the National Honor Society, a camp counselor at Archbold Biological Station and is also a member of both the track and volleyball teams

at LPHS. She has been the recipient of the coaches' award in both sports for several years running.

She was recently awarded a scholarship from the local Experimental Aircraft Association to help her fulfill her dream of obtaining her pilot's license. Gavagni hopes to attend either Embry-Riddle University or the Air Force Academy to obtain a degree in aeronautical engineering.

Her ultimate goal is to fly jets in support of our armed forces, become a member of a NASA Flight Team and eventually design spacecraft for our future safe exploration

of space.

The Samsung American Legion Scholarship funds come from the earnings of a \$5 million endowment given by Samsung.

Samsung, in recognition of the sacrifice and commitment of United States servicemen and women who served during the Korean War to maintain the security of the Korean peninsula, joined with the American Legion to offer an educational opportunity to the descendants of war-time veterans who have served honorably.

Gavagni's maternal grandfather, Mahlon Schilling, served with the

Army during the Korean War.

The president and chief executive officer of Samsung North America, Dong-Jin Oh, says Samsung wants to recognize "the sacrifices and commitment of U.S. servicemen and women. We believe this is the best way to show our appreciation to the United States and to a U.S. war veteran."

Members of the Florida Girls State 2011 selection committee said the selection process was difficult. The applicants were some of the best-qualified students in the state and the competition was keen.

Etherton joins staff at Heartland Christian School

Special to the News-Sun

SEBRING — David Etherton of Sebring has joined the staff of Heartland Christian School as a history and Bible teacher for the secondary grades.

Etherton graduated from the University of South Florida in 2010 with a major in History and minor in Religious Studies. He is mar-

ried to Elizabeth (Schwingel) of Sebring. They have a one-year-old daughter, Millie.

He volunteers as a music minister at Sebring Christian Church. Besides teaching history and Bible, Mr. Etherton will lead the Heartland Christian School praise band with his skills in singing, guitar and drumming.



School orientation schedule

Elementary schools

- ◆ Avon, 5-7 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 16.
- ◆ Cracker Trail, 5-7 p.m., Monday, Aug. 15.
- ◆ Fred Wild, 5-7 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 16.
- ◆ Kindergarten Learning Center, 4-7 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 16.
- ◆ Lake Country, 4-6 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 18.
- ◆ Lake Placid, 4:30-6:30 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 16.
- ◆ Memorial, 5-7 p.m., Monday, Aug. 15.
- ◆ Park, 5-7 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 16.
- ◆ Sun 'N Lake, 5-7 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 18.
- ◆ Woodlawn, 4:30-6:30 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 18.

Middle schools

- ◆ Avon Park, 5-7 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 18.
- ◆ Hill-Gustat, 3:30-6 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 18.
- ◆ Lake Placid, 5-7 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 16.
- ◆ Sebring, 3:30-6 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 18.

High schools

- ◆ Avon Park, 6-8 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 18.
- ◆ Lake Placid, 5-7 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 18.
- ◆ LPHS Freshman Orientation, 6-7:30 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 11.
- ◆ Sebring, 5-7 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 18.
- ◆ SHS Freshman Orientation, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Saturday, Aug. 13.

Entice early readers into a life-long habit with fun for free

Family Features

While it may be hard to believe, a recent study by the Annie E. Casey Foundation confirmed that millions of American children reach the fourth grade without being able to read proficiently at their grade level.

Research has shown that children who do not learn to read at an early age are much more likely to fall behind in their studies or drop out of school.

For young elementary school students, the key is to make reading fun and exciting.

Here are a few simple steps parents and guardians can take to make reading fun, interesting and a life-long habit.

Keep your kids' reading materials front and center in your home

Why keep books and other reading materials tucked away on a dark shelf in your child's bedroom? Let reading be part of the atmosphere of your home.

A recent study commissioned by the non-profit literacy organization Reading is Fundamental found that easy access to print materials improves children's reading performance and attitude about reading and learning.

With a basket of books, magazines and newspapers by the couch in the living room, a few books accessible on a counter in the kitchen, you demonstrate that reading is an important part of your daily life and can be enjoyed by all members of the family.

Create a new habit

Having reading materials readily accessible also means you are more likely to be reading in the same room with your child.

Reading is a great habit to create — both for you and your child. Remember, children love to imitate their parents — so be a good reading model. Take every opportunity to read with your child. No matter where you are, words are everywhere.

Ask your child to help you read labels at the grocery store, or to look for a certain road sign. Take a few minutes while cooking dinner to help your child as he stumbles over a word while reading at the kitchen counter.

Each time you read aloud together, you are engaging your child's mind and instilling the importance of the written word.

Be careful not to criticize, but gently correct mispronunciations. Remember, reading should be fun.

Have technology-free Tuesday

In addition to family movie night, have a family reading night or a Technology-Free Night. Spend part of the evening reading your own reading material and part of the evening reading something together — and there's nothing to rent.

While you read your local newspaper, your child could read their own magazine or newspaper, such as "Kidsville News!"

Available for free in 60 markets nationwide, "Kidsville News!" also has a



Image courtesy of Kidsville

section for parents and plenty of interesting, kid-friendly material that children and parents will enjoy sharing together.

Reading together is not only educational for the child, but also helps establish a bond between parent and child.

Visit the library

Make a trip to your local library a part of your family's regular weekly routine. Allow the children to pick out their own books and help them understand the importance and responsibility of returning them to the library so that others can enjoy them.

In the 2010 Kids and Family Reading Report, the researchers found that the power of choice is a key factor in nurturing a young reader.

Nine out of 10 children are more likely to finish a book they choose themselves.

However, books aren't

the only thing a library has to offer. Check out the free periodicals in your commu-

nity. For instance, "Kidsville News!" is a free monthly newspaper and educational

resource for children grades K through 6th, teachers and parents.

Each edition has its own local owner/publisher who customizes and localizes the publication to serve that particular community.

The child takes ownership of it immediately and is proud to have his or her own newspaper full of fun and educational stories, puzzles and games.

"Kidsville News!" won the Parents' Choice Award in 2008, carries the NASA Space Place learning initiative, and recently partnered with the New York Times No. 1 Best Selling novelist James Patterson's ReadKiddoRead.com to provide book reviews and recommendations.

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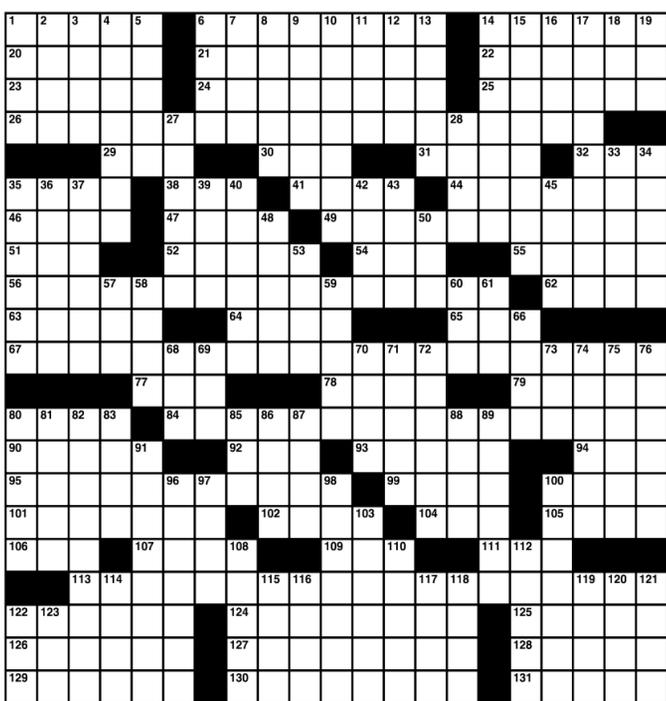
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DIVERSIONS

AN AUTHOR THING COMING

- ACROSS**
- 1 Guadalajara gal pal
 - 6 Determined by the stars, as time
 - 14 Music box?
 - 20 Indiana's senior senator
 - 21 Pre-fight steps?
 - 22 Eavesdropper, say
 - 23 Reason for a market recall
 - 24 Totaled, with "to"
 - 25 Home of big-eared elephants
 - 26 People who recite "Jabberwocky" door-to-door during the holidays?
 - 29 Name of 13 popes
 - 30 Match part
 - 31 Disney lioness
 - 32 Gp. jet-setters stand in line to see?
 - 35 Miles per hour, e.g.
 - 38 Stick in
 - 41 Applies lightly
 - 44 Betrays
 - 46 For K-12 use
 - 47 Lows in a field
 - 49 Fictional tornado protection?
 - 51 One of a Vegas pair
 - 52 Feverish fits
 - 54 Apt. units
 - 55 Stuffed grape-leaf dish
 - 56 Periods when Harry Potter books are unavailable?
 - 62 More than tear up
 - 63 Allen or Frome
 - 64 Prepare for takeoff
 - 65 Helpful connections
 - 67 "A Room of One's Own" writer wearing a wool sweater?
 - 77 Lennon lover
 - 78 Phillie catcher Carlos
 - 79 Ear-related
 - 80 Russian car
 - 84 Medical procedure done while reading "The Outcasts of Poker Flat?"
 - 90 Them, with "the"
 - 92 Appomattox loser
- DOWN**
- 93 Highlights segment
 - 94 Small belt
 - 95 "Salomé" writer's pet?
 - 99 Closed
 - 100 Vital part
 - 101 "Can we proceed?"
 - 102 Smell
 - 104 "No seats" sign
 - 105 Victrolas, e.g.
 - 106 D.C. VIP
 - 107 Better part of a loaf?
 - 109 Guitar great Paul
 - 111 Super Mario Galaxy
 - 2 console
 - 113 Not as hard to pronounce as some 17th-century poetry?
 - 122 Dashingly?
 - 124 Broadly and happily
 - 125 Out on a limb
 - 126 Steppes settlers
 - 127 Most suave
 - 128 Square things
 - 129 Lace place
 - 130 Expresses opposition
 - 131 Lost cause

By CALEB RASMUSSEN



Solution on page 5B

- 33 Defiant challenge
- 34 "It's ___!": warning shout
- 35 Sketched over
- 36 San Francisco mayor, 1968-'76
- 37 "My Generation" band
- 39 Rapper Snoop ___
- 40 Misgivings
- 42 Dogwood cover, aptly
- 43 Contest in a dohyo
- 45 Decelerate
- 48 Repeated word in Psalms
- 50 East Lansing sch.
- 53 ___Coburg: former Bavarian duchy
- 57 Kobe's team, on scoreboards
- 58 Dope
- 59 1980s-'90s Olds
- 60 Up to, in ads
- 61 ___cone
- 66 Night sight
- 68 Rescuer of Odysseus
- 69 Queue before Q
- 70 Siamese sign of contentment
- 71 Places
- 72 Pole neighbors
- 73 Affectionate gesture
- 74 Peaceful
- 75 Japan Airlines hub
- 76 Pictographs
- 80 "Mere Christianity" author
- 81 Licorice-flavored seed
- 82 Describe pictorially
- 83 Bill of Rights part: Abbr.
- 85 Samuel's teacher
- 86 Nautilus captain
- 87 Move (toward)
- 88 Dino's tail?
- 89 Like Harlem in Manhattan, say
- 91 Sarcastic reply
- 96 Touching
- 97 Florida State player, familiarly
- 98 Flirtatious adolescents
- 100 Before
- 103 Fixed up
- 108 Slip eponym
- 110 Dutch painter Jan
- 112 Collar accessory for Fido
- 114 Asian sea
- 115 Indian wrap
- 116 Wall St. traders
- 117 "And ___ thou slain the Jabberwock?"
- 118 Skills
- 119 Sign gas
- 120 Hawaii's state bird
- 121 Linda of Broadway's "Jekyll & Hyde"
- 122 Consumed
- 123 Scotland's longest river

Stick to the status quo, Sagittarius

Metro Services

Aries (March 21-April 20) – Aries, this week's circumstances test your ability to multitask. If you look at it as a game, it could be easier to make it through the week unscathed. Avoid stress.

Taurus (April 21-May 21) – Taurus, your light-hearted attitude enables you to sail through stressful situations without anxiety. Teach this technique to high-strung relatives who could use the help.

Gemini (May 22-June 21) – Gemini, you exude a casual confidence this week, but inside your feelings are rumbling beneath the surface. That's because you have a lot on your mind.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) – Expect a complete lack of concentration this week, Cancer. That's because you have a financial situation to deal with, and it's taking up all of your brain activity.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 23) – Leo, you are feeling a bit irresponsible, even if you have pressing items to handle. That's because you have been taking on too much and your mind is saying it needs a break.

Virgo (Aug. 24-Sept. 22) – Virgo, you won't make a lot of sense to others this week, but that's OK since you know what you need to get done. Real estate plans are in full force.

Snapshots

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) – Libra, you can't seem to stop talking, and others are starting to grow frustrated. Be more humble and respect others' opinions this week. Otherwise you will be flying solo.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) – Scorpio, you are feeling somewhat scattered and it's because of the high-energy, high-intensity type of week that is coming up. You may need to find a place to decompress.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) – You feel like you want to do something out of the ordinary this week, Sagittarius. But it could be better to stick to the status quo. Otherwise you may ruffle a few feathers.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20) – You have more options than you first realized. It's time you put your plan into action and get busy. Pisces proves to be a big help on Thursday. You can use the assistance.

Aquarius (Jan. 21-Feb. 18) – Aquarius, your mind is full of ideas, but you have no plan of attack. You can't just go in without a few ideas on how to proceed. Think it over a little more and have patience.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) – Pisces, now is not the time to take the next step even though you feel confident. You need some more financial backing.

Kindly affectionate to one another

Ken and I were close to tying the knot and enfolded our two single parent families into one. With only a week to go, it was time to move our belongings to the house we would call home as a family.

Moving day was stressful because Ken and his brothers were doing it themselves. My furniture would be moved out of a second floor apartment – including a piano.

That piece of furniture had me particularly stressed and concerned for their safety. I could only imagine that Ken was stressed, too.

When the rental truck pulled up, I ran out to greet him; but stopped when I saw him and his brother talking in the back of the truck. If they were planning strategy, I didn't want to interrupt.

But when he saw me, Ken bounded out of the truck to give me a huge hug and kiss and let me know everything would be fine.

His tenderness and kindness were character traits that had attracted me to him in the first place. They are characteristics we should all strive for; but, I think are more easily attained when we have a relationship with the One who said in Ephesians 4:32, NKJV, "And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you."

What does kindness look like? Is it being gracious and letting someone get ahead of you in line when that person has one item and you have many? Yes, it



Pause And Consider
Jan Merop

is. But, it's more.

It's tenderness given at the right time. Is someone you know hurting? Show compassion. Is someone lonely? Pay them a visit.

When we know the Savior who asks us to be kind, tenderhearted and forgiving, then kindness isn't for just a moment; but, rather it is a way of life.

I hope that our adult children remember seeing and experiencing in our home the common courtesies that were shown to one another. When we practice respect, saying thanks, please, not withholding praise, etc., then manners that color our attitudes form actions that are a way of life not just momentary.

When we can be polite when there are just two, then we are not just putting on a show in front of others.

It is deeper and exhibits itself humbly, subtly; yet bold when it must be. It's the noble thing to do and manifests a generous and cordial spirit.

So be kindly affectionate to one another and reflect the One who is infinite kindness and tenderness. Selah

Jan Merop of Sebring is a News-Sun correspondent.

Mom's open door policies make her an easy target

Dear Abby: At age 60 my mother ignores basic safety rules. She drives her older model car with the doors unlocked. I have tried explaining that she's making it easy for a carjacker to gain entry, but she insists "that won't happen to me."

Mom walks her dog alone at night and leaves her front door unlocked, claiming, "If anyone tried to get in, I'd see them." Not true. She goes for long walks, and while she's walking, she chats on her cell phone, completely oblivious to what's going on around her.

She actually nailed a key ring with the key to her back door (labeled as such) outside next to the door. Anyone could scale the short fence and walk right in. She also leaves the key to her front door under the mat on her front porch for anyone to find.

Mom makes me crazy with worry. I don't know if she's aware of the risks she's taking. I have begged her to lock her door and hide the keys, but she says I am "paranoid" and that nothing



Dear Abby

could ever happen. Now she has bought a gun and claims it will keep her safe. I say it's better to exercise common sense and prevent the break-in and possible assault in the first place.

At age 30 I feel like I'm the parent. Am I being unreasonable?

– Worried Sick in Dallas
Dear Worried Sick: Your mother appears to be incredibly naive and in a state of complete denial. The first rule of personal safety is to remember that criminals seek easy targets – so the more difficult it is for them to make you a victim, the lower your risk for becoming one.

Contact your police department (or your mother's neighborhood watch program) and ask if they have any personal safety literature you can give your

mother. The life you save may be her own.

Dear Abby: What do you do when your husband doesn't like your best girlfriend? She keeps asking us to go on double dates and vacations. Should I be honest and tell her he doesn't like her, or continue to make excuses? It really gets on my nerves.

– In a Pickle in Ohio
Dear In a Pickle: When someone continually makes suggestions about getting together socially, even when those suggestions are consistently deflected, it's time to level. The next time it happens, tell her that it isn't going to happen. You don't have to tell her your husband "doesn't like her." Say he "isn't comfortable" double dating or taking vacations as a foursome and that you would like to keep things just as they are, ladies only.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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(Cameron Diaz, Jason Segal)
2:15 4:15 7:15 9:15

MR. POPPERS PENGUINS PG
(Jim Carey)
2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30

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Start Early to get ahead

Balance is key for school readiness



Photos courtesy of Getty Images

FAMILY FEATURES

What does being ready for elementary school really mean? It used to mean starting the first day of school with all the supplies on the list, but now we know so much more about how young children's brains develop. More and more parents are aware of the positive effects of a high quality early childhood education for their child's success. This knowledge has also led to extra emphasis on acquiring academic skills. Experts suggest parents take a step back and look for programs with a balanced approach to school readiness.

"With young children, everything is connected: their minds, bodies and emotions; creativity, happiness, security and intellectual progress," says Dr. Robert Needlman, author and nationally acclaimed pediatrician. "A balanced approach to readiness celebrates this reality about children. It's our best hope for turning out students who can think, feel and act independently and effectively."



Choosing a Preschool

Dr. Joanne Nurus, professor emeritus of educational psychology at Georgia State University in Atlanta and former director of the Center for the Study of Adult Literacy, has conducted extensive research and published numerous articles in the field of children's literacy development. Dr. Nurus encourages parents to look for high-quality early childhood education programs with the following criteria:

- **Physical Development:** Is indoor and outdoor physical activity part of the daily schedule? With childhood obesity on the rise and research that shows that movement plays a role in early brain development, daily exercise such as running, stretching or even dance should be a part of the curriculum.
- **Social-Emotional Development:** Does the curriculum include programs specifically designed to nurture your child's social and emotional development? Look for programs that promote an understanding of concepts like friendship, generosity and honesty.
- **Creative Development:** Are enrichment programs such as art and music woven into the day's activities? Young children naturally engage in creative activity in their day-to-day thinking, but ongoing enrichment activities lay the foundation for later creative skills.
- **Academic Development:** Does the classroom teaching method go beyond basic memorization to encourage concept mastery? Academic success is not just about fact memorization. Learning how to think critically, use mathematical concepts and expand listening, speaking, reading and writing skills will help your child develop a love of learning.

What is a Balanced Approach to Learning?

From birth through age five, development in all areas of the brain is rapid. Research suggests that the quality of interactions children experience during this essential time can have a far reaching effect on

future learning and the formation of satisfactory relationships. It is true that early childhood education programs have become more learning-focused in light of the research on childhood brain development, but high quality programs take a broader perspective. The focus of a balanced early childhood education program should be on helping children develop physical, social-emotional, creative and academic skills.

Nurturing guidance and attention to every part of a child's development during this crucial stage helps children not only learn reading and math skills, but how to show compassion, independence, resilience and curiosity — all qualities that could be taken for granted, but that are taught and encouraged in a quality preschool setting.

"Children who are confident, self-regulating and able to relate to others will have a better experience transitioning to elementary school, regardless of their exact reading or math skill level," said Dr. Mary Zurn, vice president of education for Primrose Schools, a family of 220 private preschools across the country. "On the academic side, it is as important for children to be eager to learn, to ask questions and to be able to think as it is for them to know letter names and sounds and be able to solve mathematical problems."

When looking for an early childhood education program, research is the first step to selecting one that will provide your child with these lasting benefits. Dr. Zurn recommends looking for these five key factors in a preschool:

1. **Focus on mastering concepts, not just memorization:** Look for a preschool that teaches children to love learning. They develop an understanding of concepts through hands-on activities, play and by expressing what they have learned to others.
2. **Physical Activity:** P.E. or even recess can often get cut from public programs, but being physically active is key to curbing childhood obesity and to forming positive life skills. Purposeful instruction in motor skills and outdoor play are both part of a well-rounded preschool education.
3. **Music:** Did you know that early exposure to music not only enhances a child's ability to create and enjoy music, but also fosters other aspects of brain development? Early exposure to music can improve IQ scores, motor coordination and social skills. Research shows that music potential needs to be nurtured with song, dance and play before age five or it is not likely to develop. An early childhood education music program supports the development of your child's sense of rhythm, pitch, melody and motor coordination, all while having fun.
4. **Character Development:** Look for programs that intentionally and consistently teach your child to be honest, kind, compassionate and respectful. Social-emotional development during preschool is key to a successful transition to elementary school and lifelong healthy relationships.
5. **Parent Resources:** Finally, it's important to remember that learning does not stop outside the classroom — your interactions with your child at home are equally important. Consider the resources, tips and tools that a school can offer parents. Frequent communication with your child's teacher can give you insight into how your child is advancing and help you reinforce balanced learning at home.

If you are still wondering if your child will be ready for school, you can find a list of school readiness resources and advice from moms who have been through the child care journey at www.justaskprimroseschool.com.