

Fight night

Three local MMA fighters stepping into the cage Saturday night in Sebring
SPORTS, 1B

Obama for gay marriage

Opinions divided as President makes historic statement
PAGE 8A



Dangerous trend

Hand sanitizer being used by teens to get drunk
PAGE 7B

Friday-Saturday, May 11-12, 2012

www.newssun.com

Volume 93/Number 60 | 50 cents

Inside

Teens jailed

2 teens arrested for violent attacks
PAGE 2A

Forecast



Partly sunny and warm

High Low

87 66

Complete Forecast
PAGE 12A

Online



Question: Will President Obama win Florida again this November?

Yes 30.7%

No 69.3%

Total votes: **163**

Next question: Should same-sex couples be allowed to get married?

Make your voice heard at
www.newssun.com

Obituaries

Gary Prescott
Age 63, of Palmdale

Norman Welter
Age 78, of Sebring
Obituaries, Page 5A

Index

Classifieds	9A
Community Briefs	2A
Dear Abby	11B
Editorial & Opinion	4A
Healthy Living	5B
Lottery Numbers	2A
Movie Review/Times	11B
Religion	8B
Sports On TV	2B
Sudoku Puzzle	11B

Follow the News-Sun on



www.twitter.com/thenewssun

and



www.facebook.com/newssun



0 90994 01001 7

D.A.R.E. Day



News-Sun photo by KATARA SIMMONS
Fifth graders go wild Thursday morning during a D.A.R.E. assembly at South Florida Community College in Avon Park.

Presentation thrills, informs fifth-graders

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR
sgholar@newssun.com

AVON PARK — Teachers, chaperones and law enforcement members undoubtedly left the South Florida Community College Auditorium Thursday morning with one thing in common — ringing ears.

The excited cheers and shouts of hundreds of Highlands County fifth graders were enough to ensure attendees that these students were indeed drug-free and planning to stay that way.

The annual D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program brought together each of the county's schools and nearly every fifth grader to celebrate being drug free. High schoolers from Avon Park, Lake Placid and Sebring also took part in the event, showing the younger students the benefits of staying drug free and continuing their education.

The nearly 30 high school students each took the stage to deliver the message of a positive lifestyle and declaring that they "choose to be drug free."

Each of the schools Student Resource Officers were also present, adding to the excitement of the day. Highlands County Sheriff Deputy Ross Porter was once again the emcee for the event and was just as enthusiastic about the kids as previous years.



News-Sun photo by KATARA SIMMONS
Members of Highlands County Special Investigations Unit portray what may happen when choosing a lifestyle of drugs and alcohol.

Chris Taylor, student life director at Grace Bible Church, was the guest speaker for the event. Taylor told a story about

See FIFTH, page 3A

TDC wants to increase tourism tax

Commissioners to be asked to hike rate from 2 percent to 3

By ED BALDRIDGE
ed.baldrige@newssun.com
SEBRING — The Highlands County Tourism Development Council vote 7-2 last week to ask county commissioners to increase the tax.

Commissioner Don Elwell confirmed Thursday that he was one of the two that voted no on the motion, along with Sebring City Councilman John Griffin. The motion was made by Avon Park City Councilman Terry Heston.

"The majority voted to

support an increase from the 2 percent to 3 percent. The reasoning was that other counties around Highlands have a little higher rate," Elwell said.

Heston explained his motion on Thursday, saying he was just bringing Highlands County into line with surrounding counties.

"I think we are short-changing ourselves by not charging the 3 percent," Heston said.

See INCREASE, page 7A

Teacher evaluations scaled back

District can't afford to pay for planned review of all teachers

By CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY
christopher.tuffley@newssun.com
SEBRING — School board members were told Tuesday night that the district cannot afford to put the new teacher evaluation system into place as planned. The district simply does not have the money to personally observe and evaluate all teachers, School Superintendent Wally Cox said.

Instead, only first-year teachers, teachers returning to the field after a break in service, or those who are deemed struggling by their

school administrators will be observed and formally evaluated.

The original evaluation concept called for all teachers to be observed and receive feedback throughout the year. The goal was to help teachers grown themselves and mentor others. The model was more continuing education than remedial.

There is concern now, however, that the new system may grow into a stigma and not the rich resource it was designed to be.

See TEACHER, page 5A

Take Stock in Children celebrates another class

By CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY
christopher.tuffley@newssun.com

AVON PARK — A special group of 27 graduating seniors gathered at the historic Jacaranda Hotel Wednesday evening. They are part of the Take Stock in Children program, which began operation in Highlands County in 1997.

In the seventh-grade students commit themselves to the rigorous program. A college scholarship for two years' expenses is one of the big rewards for successful completion and graduation from high school.

Celebrating the seniors' success was an equally special group of adults — the individual mentors who encouraged, nagged, browbeat, sweet talked, bribed and coerced the students through middle and high schools, helping the students position themselves for a quality opportunity at a fulfilled and satisfying life.

All of the graduates are headed to college, some with detailed plans for the future, some still exploring the options.

See TAKE, page 5A



News-Sun photo by CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY

Take Stock in Children scholar Lady Paningnatan, from Sebring High School, and her mentor, Jane Hancock.

Phone ... 385-6155

Fax ... 385-2453

Online: www.newssun.com

Concerned About Reaching Your Financial Goals?

Call Denise Tomlinson today - (863) 386-6205



Wauchula State Financial Services
Securities offered through
Infinex Investments, Inc.
Member FINRA/SIPC

Wauchula State Financial Services is a subsidiary of the bank.
Infinex and the bank are not affiliated.

• NOT A DEPOSIT • NOT FDIC-INSURED • NOT INSURED BY ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY
• NOT GUARANTEED BY THE BANK • MAY GO DOWN IN VALUE

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Red Hat monthly Bunco, luncheon set today

SEBRING — The monthly Red Hatters Bunco and Luncheon will be held at 11:30 a.m. today at The Caddy Shack Restaurant (across from Harder Hall).

The lunch is “Dutch treat” and there is a \$2 donation to play Bunco with monies going for the prizes.

One does not need to know how to play and all Red Hatters are welcome. Any questions, call 382-9882.

Saturday Nite Cruise is this weekend

SEBRING — The Saturday Nite Cruise, held on the Circle every second Saturday of the month, will be from 5-8 p.m. Saturday.

LPPD offers CPR class

LAKE PLACID — The next Lake Placid Police Department CPR Class is at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Green Thumb Festival planned

SEBRING — Destination Downtown Sebring will present the “Green Thumb Festival” from 5-8 p.m. today in and around Downtown Sebring’s Circle Park. Enjoy plant vendors, garden art, garden and plant education, conservation education, butterfly club and live music by the jazz/brass quartet “Emanon.” Plus, more than 25 boutiques, eater-

Continued on page 5A

Correction

The wrap-up party and luminaria ceremony for the Avon Park Relay for Life was held Thursday night at Auto Option on Main Street. A story in Wednesday’s News-Sun contained incorrect information. The News-Sun apologizes for the error.

Pregnant juvenile jailed for assault with hedge clippers

By ED BALDRIDGE
ed.baldridge@newssun.com
LAKE PLACID — A pregnant 16-year-old girl was arrested on Tuesday in Lake Placid after chasing the father of her unborn child with hedge clippers, according to a Highlands County Sheriff’s Office report.

Kaitlin Marie Coulter began the morning by allegedly slapping the victim, Samuel Kemar Ramos, 18, on the leg because she thought “he was sleeping,” the report by HCSO Deputy Justin D. Roan states.

That started a verbal altercation, the report said.

Ramos was so upset that he spit into Coulter’s cereal bowl, the report said. Coulter immediately threw the bowl, complete with milk, at Ramos.

Ramos spit back at Coulter, the report said.

The altercation prompted Coulter to throw Ramos’ belongings into the yard and to “strike the victim (Ramos) several times in the neck and chest area.”

While Ramos was on the phone with law enforcement, Coulter became even more upset and grabbed a pair of hedge clippers and

allegedly began to chase Ramos with the “hedge clippers raised in the air,” Roan wrote.

Coulter chased Ramos across the road at the Lake Placid residence the pair shared and “threw the clippers at the victim in an attempt to strike him.”

Ramos told the HCSO that if he had not moved out of the way “the clippers would have hit him.”

Ramos also stated to law enforcement that he was in fear that Coulter “was attempting to strike him with the clippers” the report showed.

Coulter confirmed most of the story when asked by law enforcement, but added that Ramos had chased her with the cereal bowl and attempted to shove it into her face.

Deputy Roan confirmed that while on the scene, he “observed the victim’s property scattered throughout the yard.”

Coulter was transported to the Highlands County Jail without incident on charges of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon without intent to kill, a felony, and battery.

Teen charged with beating van with shovel

By ED BALDRIDGE
ed.baldridge@newssun.com
SEBRING — A young Sebring man was arrested on Monday after he allegedly pummeled a minivan with a shovel.

Stephon R’Kell Cannon, 17, of 119 Douglas Dr. was charged with five felonies — two counts of aggravated assault with a weapon without intent to kill, one count of criminal mischief, one count of burglary with assault or battery and one count of obstruction of justice for threatening a witness after he took a shovel to a Dodge minivan, according to an arrest report.

The Highlands County Sheriff’s Office says that Cannon approached man and woman while they were sitting in the white minivan on Sunday and asked if he could retrieve the shovel from the woman’s yard at 121 Douglas Ave.

The shovel belonged to Cannon’s mother, the report states.

The woman told him no and she would get the shovel for him.

Unsatisfied with the answer, Cannon kicked open

the gate to the fenced in yard on Douglas, retrieved the flat, square-headed shovel and walked back to the minivan.

The woman began yelling at Cannon, according to the report, and that’s when Cannon began swinging.

The report said that Cannon allegedly “broke out several windows” and “destroyed the windshield” with the shovel.

Cannon then beat on the van with the shovel for several more minutes.

“His actions caused (the victims) to have a well founded fear that great bodily harm was imminent,” the report states.

Cannon noticed that the woman was trying to notify law enforcement and he “attempted to remove (her) from the van against her will... intentionally striking her” as he attempted to gain access to the phone to stop contact with the police.

It was reported that the tussle broke the cell phone. The owner of the minivan agreed to press charges against Cannon.

Damage was estimated to be greater than \$1,000.

CDC: Half of young adults get sunburned

ATLANTA (AP) — Half of U.S. adults under 30 say they have had a sunburn at least once in the past year, a government survey found — a sign young people aren’t heeding the warnings about skin cancer.

The rate of sunburn is about the same as it was 10 years earlier, reversing progress reported just five years ago.

“I don’t know that we’re making any headway,” said Dr. Len Lichtenfeld, the American Cancer Society’s deputy chief medical officer.

Experts say that even one blistering burn can double the risk of developing melanoma, an often lethal form of skin cancer.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released the study Thursday, which was based on a 2010 survey of about 5,000 U.S. adults ages 18 to 29. The study showed that the share of those who said they had had a sunburn in the preceding year went from about 51 percent in 2000 to 45 percent in 2005, but then went back up to 50 percent in 2010.



Spc. Alex Rozanski of the Ohio National Guard, left, then a U.S. Marine, stands beside his older brother, Capt. Nick Rozanski, right, of the Ohio National Guard. The older Rozanski, 36, was killed in action on April 4 in Afghanistan’s Faryab Province. Photo courtesy of Spc. Alex Rozanski

They’re our brothers, too

Spc. Alex Rozanski was serving as a United States Marine in 2003 when his older brother, Nick, decided to follow in his footsteps and join the military.

“It was one of those things growing up; I knew I wanted to be a soldier or Marine,” Spc. Rozanski, 32, told The Unknown Soldiers. “I thought it was just something that men did, and in a way, I think Nick was the same way.”

The Rozanski brothers were a long way from playing with G.I. Joes when in 2005, military planes carrying Alex and Nick virtually passed one another in mid-flight.

“He was coming home from Kosovo while I was leaving for Iraq,” Alex said.

When the Marine returned from his combat deployment, his big brother was waiting to salute him.

“Nick was the first one to greet me and the first one to give me a hug,” Alex fondly recalled.

After serving honorably in Iraq, Alex decided to leave the Marine Corps and return to central Ohio, where generations of Rozanskis, including his father and grandfathers, have served our country in uniform. Nick, as a soldier in the Ohio National Guard, deployed to Iraq two years after Alex had fought there.

“He was more or less doing convoy escort, which means he saw the entire nation of Iraq,” Alex said. “That was supposed to be the hazardous deployment, as he was dodging IEDs (improvised explosive devices) on the roadways.”

In 2008, Capt. Nick Rozanski came home from Iraq to his loving wife, Jennifer. As the couple raised two daughters, the Ohio State University graduate immersed himself in family and work life, while resolving that if his country called again, he would be ready.

Alex, meanwhile, was hearing the call himself. Like his older brother, he joined the Ohio National Guard.

“I still had that draw to the military,” he explained. “You don’t remember the bad times, you remember the good times...the camaraderie.”

Not long after the two brothers once again became brothers in arms, Nick was presented with the difficult proposition of being thousands of miles from his family while serving overseas for the third time.

“My brother didn’t necessarily have to go to Afghanistan, he chose to because he felt an obligation,” the younger Rozanski warrior said. “If not you, it’s



somebody else’s husband, son, or father.”

Even as an active duty soldier, Alex never thought his brother, who left for Afghanistan in January, could possibly return home in a wheelchair or flag-draped casket.

“You don’t think lightning’s going to strike,” he said. “But it does.”

On April 4, Alex got a late night phone call from his mother.

“The Army officers just left,” a sobbing Pamela Mitchell told her son. “Nick is dead.”

Earlier that day in northern Afghanistan, Capt. Rozanski, 36, Sgt. 1st Class Jeffrey Rieck, 45, and Sgt. 1st Class Shawn Hannon, 44, were killed when a suicide bomber detonated an explosive device, according to the Pentagon.

“You always hear the term weak in the knees,” Alex said. “I have never been weak in the knees before, but I fell to my knees.”

Two weeks after his broth-

er’s funeral in Dublin, Ohio, which was packed to capacity, Alex’s thoughts are with his sister-in-law and nieces. But in his brother’s honor, he also plans to press forward.

“One thing I learned from my Iraq deployment is that no matter how bad something is, the sun still comes up the next day,” he said. “Life does go on.”

The family quickly established the Nick Rozanski Memorial Fund, which they want to spread awareness about the sacrifices of not only their loved one, but the entire military community.

“It goes back to that sense of obligation,” Alex said. “If I don’t do it, it will be somebody else’s son or daughter.”

Weeks after losing his big brother in combat, the soldier said something that was both surprising and poignant. He hopes that one day, his own children will consider military service.

“If they don’t, I would certainly understand,” Alex said. “But if they do, I would be proud.”

Spc. Alex Rozanski and Capt. Nick Rozanski are brothers. With our nation still at war, they’re our brothers, too.

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

	Lottery Center	May 9 1 6 14 17 21 34 x:2 <i>Next jackpot \$5 million</i>
		May 5 2 13 20 26 45 53 x:5 May 2 12 20 22 32 34 41 x:2
	May 9 3 11 12 26 33 May 8 3 21 23 25 36 May 7 9 20 28 31 33 May 6 13 30 33 34 35	
	May 8 17 21 31 43 8 May 4 4 27 29 37 17 May 1 19 28 35 41 7 April 27 6 27 39 42 21	
	May 9 1 7 11 55 56 <i>Next jackpot \$80 million</i>	PB: 1
	May 5 9 12 20 44 59 May 2 7 8 33 38 50	PB: 23 PB: 29

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

www.newssun.com

NEWS-SUN

Highlands County's Hometown Newspaper Since 1927

Published every Sunday, Wednesday & Friday at 2227 U.S. 27 South, Sebring, FL 33870
A HarborPoint Media Company

Office: 2227 US 27 S, Sebring, FL 33870 Office Hours: 8 a.m. – 5p.m., Mon-Fri Phone: (863) 385-6155 Main Fax: (863) 385-1954 Newsroom Fax: (863) 385-2453	Postmaster: Send address change to: News-Sun, 2227 U.S. 27 S., Sebring, FL 33870 USPS - ISSN 0163-3988 Periodical postage paid at Sebring, FL and additional entry office(s)
--	--

Circulation, Sunday, Wednesday & Friday Editions: If you do not receive your home delivered newspaper by 6 a.m., please phone the circulation department before 10 a.m. on Wednesday and Friday publications days, and before 11 a.m. on Sunday publication days. A replacement copy will be delivered to you. Subscribers who notify us after said times will be issued credit to their account.	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>SUBSCRIPTION RATES</th> <th>12MO.</th> <th>7% FL TAX</th> <th>TOTAL</th> </tr> <tr> <td>HOME DELIVERY</td> <td>\$65.50</td> <td>\$4.50</td> <td>\$70.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IN FLORIDA MAIL</td> <td>\$97.27</td> <td>\$6.81</td> <td>\$104.08</td> </tr> <tr> <td>OUT OF FLORIDA MAIL</td> <td>\$111.03</td> <td>\$7.77</td> <td>\$118.80</td> </tr> </table>	SUBSCRIPTION RATES	12MO.	7% FL TAX	TOTAL	HOME DELIVERY	\$65.50	\$4.50	\$70.00	IN FLORIDA MAIL	\$97.27	\$6.81	\$104.08	OUT OF FLORIDA MAIL	\$111.03	\$7.77	\$118.80
SUBSCRIPTION RATES	12MO.	7% FL TAX	TOTAL														
HOME DELIVERY	\$65.50	\$4.50	\$70.00														
IN FLORIDA MAIL	\$97.27	\$6.81	\$104.08														
OUT OF FLORIDA MAIL	\$111.03	\$7.77	\$118.80														

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

Romona Washington – Publisher and Executive Editor
(863) 385-6155, ext. 515

Classified ads get results!
Call 314-9876

Board of Education OKs school grade changes

By CHRISTINE ARMARIO
AP Education Writer

MIAMI — The state Board of Education approved additional changes Thursday in how school grades are calculated, despite concerns from district leaders who say the adjustments will unfairly penalize disabled students and English learners.

At its meeting in Tampa, Education Commissioner Gerard Robinson proposed five amendments to school grade changes adopted in February. He said the changes were necessary in order to comply with current state statute and Florida's No Child Left Behind waiver.

Several members of the board and the superintendents of Miami-Dade and Hillsborough county schools, two of the state's largest districts, expressed frustration with Robinson's amendments. While a task force was formed to study how English learners and

special education students would be included in the new accountability system, few of their recommendations were included in his proposal.

"No doesn't mean never," Robinson said in remarks before the board. "It just means not right now."

Under one amendment, special centers for disabled students will receive a grade or rating based on student achievement and learning gains. If they choose to receive a rating instead of a grade, the scores of students will be factored into the grade of the traditional neighborhood public school they would be attending if not for their condition.

Hillsborough County Superintendent MaryEllen Elia said it would be unfair to penalize schools for students they have never educated. Noting that many of the centers teach the state's most disabled students, she suggested their learning gains, rather than perform-

ance on math and reading, be factored into the neighborhood school grade.

Proponents of the measure said it would help ensure that disabled students are not being sent away to centers where no one is held accountable for their performance.

Robinson and the board's legal counsel said the change was necessary in order to comply with state statute that holds neighborhood schools accountable for the performance and learning gains of students sent to alternative schools. The board decided special education centers would be considered alternative schools. Several board members said they disagreed with the measure but had no choice but to enforce it.

The board also weighed how to best include the performance of students who are recent arrivals to the United States and learning English.



News-Sun photo by KATARA SIMMONS

Grace Bible Church student life director Chris Taylor gives his testimony Thursday about his younger brother Timothy Taylor who died his senior year of high school as a result of drug and alcohol abuse.

Fifth-graders celebrate, pledge to be drug-free

Continued from page 1A

a young man who lost his life due to the consequences of choosing drugs and alcohol. On the stage was a blown-up senior portrait of the young man in Taylor's story.

"We were alike in a lot of ways except there was a five-year age difference. I did drugs, so I don't remember a whole lot from back then," said Taylor. "I wasn't there when he died but I got a phone call. He was at a party, he had been drinking and doing drugs. He stepped out in the street and because his mind wasn't right he ended up in the street. At the same time, another man who had been drinking, who was old enough to drink but chose to get behind the wheel, came down that road."

Taylor revealed the outcome of that night when the young senior in high school and the perfect stranger's lives collided and ended.

"See, Timothy wasn't a friend of mine, he was my little brother," Taylor said somberly.

Students gasped at Taylor's words and listened intently as he continued his message.



News-Sun photo by KATARA SIMMONS

Cracker Trail Elementary School student Robert Spooone, center, and his classmates cheer for their school Thursday during the annual D.A.R.E. program at South Florida Community College.

Taylor stated that he changed his life the night his brother was killed and continues to be drug and alcohol free to this day.

"Now I wear a smile. I smile because I can remember when I bought this shirt and because I choose to be drug free," Taylor said.

Following Taylor's speech, Porter brought out Sheriff Susan Benton. Sheriff Benton entered the stage as Porter thanked her for allowing the HCSO to fund the yearly event and give the SROs the opportunity to be a part of the schools and stu-

dents' lives.

Students, parents and teachers danced to the sounds of the California Toe Jam band and enjoyed the show by the Sebring High School cheerleading team before watching a skit by the HCSO.

City uses robocalls to fight nuisance signs

HOLLYWOOD (AP) — The cheap signs smashed into lawns and along the corners of busy intersections are hard to miss. "We Buy Junk Cars!" "Cash for Your House!" "Computer Repair." The eyesores have vexed Hollywood Mayor Peter Bober for the past few years as he wastes valuable resources plucking up the signs only to watch them pop up in even greater numbers.

While stopped at a red light a few months ago, Bober studied the unsightly signs and came to a realization that would help him fight their proliferation: The criminals had left their calling cards in the form of business phone numbers.

"These people want us to call them, so let's call them so much their head spins," said Bober, who bought a \$300 software program in March that makes robocalls to the businesses. The volume of calls has reached as high as 20 calls each to 90 businesses in a day.

The signs are eye-catching and cheaper than a billboard, and businesses place them mostly along the sidewalks and medians of high-traffic intersections where there are no homeowners to complain. Companies can blanket an area with signs for a few hundred dollars and have been emboldened to continue because there have been virtually no consequences.

RETIREMENT

The BEST is Yet to Come!

Let me show you how to protect your retirement from market risk and long term care expenses.

Appointments are available in Lake Placid, Sebring, Clewiston, and Okeechobee.

W. Roy Wilkes, C.P.A.
Attorney & Counselor at Law
(863) 699-2222 • (888) 645-1319

The hiring of a lawyer is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisements. Before you decide, ask us to send you free written information about our qualifications and experience.

Mother's Day CELEBRATION SALE!

Going on now at Griffin's Carpet Mart!

Make mom happy...

Mom's do everything. They cook, they clean, take care of us when we're sick, do all the house work and still at the end of the day have time & energy left to spend with their loved ones. Help mom unwind this Mother's Day on the patio with a brand new patio set from Griffin's Carpet Mart! Located in Sebring.

Sets for mom starting at \$499!

Sale good through Mother's Day. Hurry in for best selection. Call or come in today!

Family owned & operated since 1978

• Financing Available
• 90 Days Same as Cash

Established 1974

Griffin's
CARPET MART, INC.

Chamber of Commerce Member

560 U.S. 27 North • Sebring • 385-4796 • www.CarpetPatioBlinds.com

EQUIP 2 CONCEAL FIREARMS GROUP

CWP CLASSES

GET YOUR FLORIDA CONCEALED CARRY PERMIT!

CLASSES IN YOUR AREA FOR A LIMITED TIME!

Call or Register online.
863-371-6111 • www.e2c.us
Private classes available, upon request.

CUSTOM ORDERS MADE JUST FOR MOM

- Aluminum
- PVC Sets
- Wicker Sets
- Bars & Bar Stools
- Glider Chairs
- Swivel Chairs
- Outdoor Rugs
- Outdoor Fireplaces
- Umbrellas
- Gas Fire Pits

EDITORIAL & OPINION

NEWS-SUN
Highlands County's Hometown Newspaper Since 1927

2227 U.S. 27 South • Sebring, FL 33870 • 863-385-6155

NEWSROOM

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

SCOTT DRESSEL

Editor
Ext. 516
scott.dressel@newssun.com

DAN HOEHNE

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

ADVERTISING

VICKIE JONES
Ext. 518
vickie.jones@newssun.com
MITCH COLLINS
Ext. 507
mcollins@newssun.com

CIRCULATION

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

BUSINESS OFFICE

JANET EMERSON
Ext. 596
legals@newssun.com

ANOTHER VIEWPOINT

Citizens' steps are too drastic

There's nothing wrong with Citizens Property Insurance wanting to cut 678,000 customers from its rolls to improve its financial position.

When another big hurricane hits the state, everyone in Florida with an insurance policy will be on the hook for billions of dollars if the state's publicly held insurance company can't meet its obligations to its 1.4 million customers.

But the way Citizens is going about meeting that goal should cause every one of its policyholders to worry. Some of the policy changes are too drastic, and many Citizens customers could find themselves paying more for less coverage. The problem is not the goal itself, but rather the way the company is going about it.

Florida has not managed to establish a viable, affordable windstorm-insurance system in the private sector since Hurricane Andrew hit the state in 1992. ...

Enter Citizens. Designed to be the insurer of last resort, it has become instead the largest property-insurance company in the state, and it has never been able to create reserves or reinsurance funding strong enough to cover another Andrew, or a series of back-to-back storms.

Citizens has a duty to try to avoid the havoc that would result if that were to happen. Making its rolls smaller gets it there.

As reported in The

Miami Herald, however, the aggressive "depopulation" plan is flawed in several ways.

Most Citizens policies cover both windstorm and homeowners insurance. A major problem is the decision to limit personal liability coverage from \$300,000 to \$100,000 in new Citizens homeowners' policies because this amount is completely insufficient. ...

A second problem involves re-inspection for mitigation credits. There was widespread fraud in the original inspection process, but honest homeowners find it next to impossible to contest the results of a re-inspection that results in steeply higher premiums, even if they're ultimately proven right.

Nor is it fair to charge customers for the initial mitigation inspections — not to mention the cost of improvements — and then change the rules in order to raise premiums. If re-inspection uncovers flaws in the first review, a higher premium may be required. If not, the rate should stay the same. Homeowners struggling through tough economic times should not have to bear this burden.

For 20 years, private companies have been fleeing high-risk areas where they believe it makes no sense to underwrite homes. Citizens is unlikely to lure big, financially sound companies back into Florida just by tossing their own customers out of the state pool and hoping they can find coverage somewhere else.

An editorial from the Miami Herald.

School support employees deserve better

Editor:

This is directed to The School Board of Highlands County regarding "School Support Employees"

What a slap in the face. You, the decision makers, need to know just how much of a person's heart goes into the work that they continue to do for you. Without their dedication to the school system, this county would be in even worse shape than it is. These people continue to do without any time of their own, deal with no raise year after year, work under constant pressure, deadlines daily, weekly, monthly, annually. They are expected to be available not only to perform their regular job description guidelines, but to fill in anywhere, anytime. By that I mean monitor lunch periods, putting up with totally unruly children on many occasions, unload and load children from parents' vehicles morning and evening, stand watch on sidewalks on all school areas beginning at 7 a.m. or before and/or as late as a parent decides to pick up the child.

Your schools would not be operating as well as they are if these support workers walked out, or even if several of them at any one school happened to be ill the same day and absolutely could not report to work. I know many of them work on days when they should be at home in bed. For the stress endured by these workers as well as the teachers, the school board should have a paid therapist at each school to help them cope.

But, no, they continue to do the work of two or more people. (It was once said that a room with helmets and walls to bounce off of would possibly help.) It may come to that here if both the teachers and the support personnel continue to work under these conditions with frozen wages. When there is no incentive placed before them, you can certainly continue to expect very poor morale on all levels of employees. I am really concerned that you are going to lose both teachers and support personnel during this next year especially.

I am aware of these things because I am in the schools almost daily. I do know so many of both teachers and support workers and I know these calls are not easy to make having worked as a director/manager in a large corporate setting. However, I do know what it took to lead my employees to much more pleasant working conditions and healthy atmosphere in their dealings with co-workers as well as their superiors. There is much work to be done on your part and/or their union.

I truly want to see and hopefully will see improvement on this issue.

Please give it your best shot.

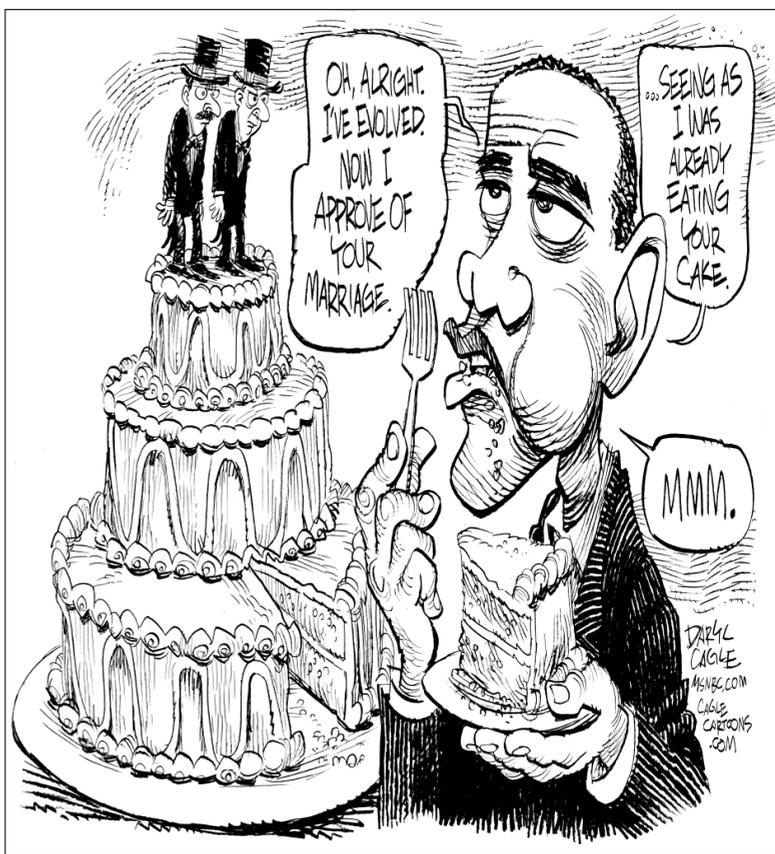
*Edwina Paige White
Avon Park*

HALLO is one of Sebring's hidden treasures

Editor:

Attn: Sebring residents: There is a "hidden treasure" in Sebring. Do you want to feel better, have more energy, better circulation, lose inches, tone up, lose some pounds without getting sore muscles? There is a place behind

TODAY'S LETTERS



Highlands Regional Medical Center in the business strip called HALLO. It is just wonderful.

They have seven "toning tables" that you lay on. They massage your back, hips, legs and all your muscles without any pain. Great for seniors, but even middle-age people can benefit. They also have Bowflex, treadmill, bike, stepper and this wonderful vibration table to help circulation, my favorite — and believe me it works. I have more energy, more flexible, toning up and feel great. I've lost 15 pounds in two months.

First visit is free; come try it out. After that it's \$4 each visit for 1.5 hours or \$35 for 10 visits. Open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. during the summer. Wear long pants and socks, bring a towel to lay on — you'll love it. Nice place to meet new friends too. Come check it out, tell your doctor about it. I'm sure he'd OK it since it's low impact.

It is run and owned by one of the most wonderful and brave women I've ever met. It is a non-profit organization. HALLO stands for: Handicapped Americans Love of Life Organizations Inc. The owner, who is handicapped herself, even does all the machines. She's an inspiration to us all.

Come visit, feel better, meet some great people, you'll love it, I do.

*Diane Hornis
Sebring*

Civilization is at a turning point

Editor:

Most of the people in this country, from the top of society down to the least of individuals, now understand that the basis of turmoil, the uncertainty of life today, rests on two traits of human character, power and greed. They exist on every level of society, as old as civilization itself.

Unfortunately, the masses were afraid to challenge them; the powerful wanted to keep. Two major factors kept them in check: Judeo-Christian philosophy and the industrial revolution. Family and the industrial revolution were a powerful force in influencing man's development.

The family, as old as civilization, kept them in check and the industrial revolution drastically changed man's behavior. The concept of family was the unifying core of civilization. The industrial revolution in the 1800s for more than 1,000 years, changed life on this earth.

For example, the western movies illustrated how men evolved from roaming cowboys to family life. Young boys loved the adventure of life and cowboys and hunters filled that desire. As they grew older, the thrill of adventure lost its appeal and men began to find wives and settled down to "ordinary" life. The certainty of family was better than the uncertainty of lonely adventure.

The growing population and the railroad factored in a more promising future. First 10 million, then 100 million people found jobs as machines were invented and manufactured for them. Again, power and greed, emerged and led to the "invention" of unions (in unity, there is strength). It wasn't easy, it was brutal; working people simply wanted a decent wage. They wanted to escape economic slavery.

So, here we are today, facing the same crisis. Technology has evolved; the computer age has put a new spin on the equation. There is a new force, women, who evolved out of World War II, from roughly 200 occupations to 22,000. They have come of age. When one perceives working people today, they think of educated, skilled employees who know when they are victimized. We are at a turning point.

*Gabriel Read
Avon Park*

Handicapping the 2012 Republican Party Veepstakes



Guest Column

Will Durst

Since Gov. Romney has sewn up the nomination tighter than one of Chris Christie's old suits, the only remaining Republican election drama is which name the Bairn of Bain Capital intends to place on the bottom of his bumper sticker. Yes, friends, it's once again time to play that quadrennial game sensation sweeping the nation: Let's Guess Mitt's Vice Presidential Pick!

The vice presidency is an odd job interview. Best way to apply is to deny desiring the position. Saying exemplary things about the candidate never hurts. Neither does fund-raising. Disguising any interest in

2016 — all good. But the choice ultimately depends on whether Willard decides to excite his base, gravitate towards the middle, or make a game change. Here's a couple contenders.

Texas Congressman Dr. Ron Paul: 1,000 to 1. Less chance than a snail hauling a piano has of qualifying for the 100-meter dash at the London Summer Olympics.

Texas Gov. Rick Perry: 10,000 to 1. Same thing, only the snail is dead.

Former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich, pizza CEO Herman Cain, former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, and Minnesota Congresswoman Michele Bachmann: 100,000 to 1. The snail is dead and the piano is made of uranium, heaviest element on Earth.

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie: 100 to 1. Spends much time bringing many things to the table but, alas, the state of New Jersey is



not among them.

Former Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty: 10 to 1. Only problem is, two guys so white, might become known as the Albino Ticket.

Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal: 25 to 1. President Barack. Vice President Piyush. Totally possible.

Former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush: 50 to 1. Too soon.

People need more time to recover from Bush Fatigue. Another two decades should do it.

New Hampshire Sen. Kelly Ayotte: 50 to 1. Would help nail down that crucial Northeast vote.

Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels: 25 to 1. Bland and boring. A victory party guaranteed to cure insomnia.

Wisconsin Congressman Paul Ryan: 30 to 1. More polarizing than a linear accelerator. Makes Romney look liberal.

Former Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman: 200 to 1. Two Mormons? That's a Broadway musical, not a presidential ticket.

South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley: 80 to 1. Hybrid of Sarah Palin and Bobby Jindal with associative perks and potholes.

Former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum: 10 to 1. Good Christian mudder. Especially helpful should Mitt need Old Testament righteousness to counter squishy-conservative charges.

Ohio Sen. Rob Portman: 100 to 1. Dubyah's old budget director could make Romney's economic argument fuzzier than peach season in Georgia.

Former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice: 1,000 to

1. More dead snails and immensely heavy pianos.

Virginia Gov. Bob McDonnell: 60 to 1. Fading fast. Broke unwritten "don't speak of wanting it" rule. Blatantly airing image ads even though he's not running for office.

Florida Sen. Mario Rubio: 3 to 1. Catholic Hispanic AND state of Florida. Fits together like seashores, lemonade and halter tops.

Former Vice President Dick Cheney: 300 to 1. Relieved to leave D.C., but could be convinced to work on behalf of country again. After all, he's already had one recent change of heart.

Will Durst is a political comedian who has performed around the world. He is a familiar pundit on television and radio. E-mail Will at durst@caglecar.com. Guest columns are the opinion of the writer, not necessarily those of the News-Sun staff.

OBITUARIES

GARY PRESCOTT

Gary Lee Prescott, age 63, of Palmdale, Fla. died Sunday, May 6, 2012 at his residence. He was born April 18, 1949 in Melbourne, Fla. He loved to fish.

He is survived by his loving wife of 22 years, Emma Prescott; sons, Gary Lee Prescott Jr. and Jessey James Prescott, both of Palmdale, Fla., Timothy Prescott of Arizona, and Brian Prescott of Michigan City, Ind.; daughters, Judith Louise Prescott of Palmdale, Fla., and Tammy of Michigan City, Ind.; brothers, Perry Prescott (Lucy) and Roy Prescott; sister, LeVada Talley (Howard) of Lake Placid, Fla.; and stepmother, Evelyn Gabreilsen.

The family will receive friends on Saturday, May 12, 2012, from 9 a.m. until service time of 11 a.m. in the Buxton Funeral Home Chapel, 110 NE 5th St., Okeechobee. Interment will follow in Evergreen Cemetery. Online condolences may be made at www.buxtonfuneralhome.com.

All arrangements are entrusted to the loving care of the Buxton Funeral Home and Crematory, 110 NE 5th St., Okeechobee, Fla.

NORMAN WELTER

Norman Edward Welter, 78, of Sebring, Fla., passed away Monday, May 7, 2012, in Gainesville, Fla. He was born March 17, 1934, to William Peter and Margaret (Fink) Welter in Pittsburgh, Pa., and had been a resident of Sebring

since 1989, coming from Hollywood, Fla.

He was owner and mechanic from 1970 until 2005 of Welters Automotive in Hollywood, Fla. and was also a rancher. He was affiliated with St. Catherine Catholic Church in Sebring.

He is survived by his children, Norman (Lorraine) Welter Jr. of Dania Beach, Fla., Elaine Wadlinger of Sebring, Fla., Larry (Michelle) Welter of Bronson, Fla., Don (Susan) Welter of Greer, S.C., Helen Welter of Sebring, Fla., and Bob (Denise) Welter of Pembroke Pines, Fla.; siblings, Bill Welter, Lois Zellefrow, Marlene Nagle, Richard Welter and Carol Ann Shay; 13 grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren and his beloved best friend, "Spanky".

The family received friends from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, May 10, 2012 at Stephenson-Nelson Funeral Home, Sebring. A funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. Friday, May 11, 2012, in the Stephenson-Nelson Chapel with Father Jose Gonzalez officiating. Entombment at Lakeview Memorial Gardens, Avon Park, will follow the service. Because of his great love of animals, memorial donations may be made in his memory to the Humane Society of Highlands County, 7321 Haywood Taylor Blvd., Sebring, FL 33876. Arrangements are being handled by:

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

www.stephensonnelsonfh.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Continued from page 2A

ies, galleries, and shops will remain open for this special event.

Several Downtown Sebring merchants are offering incredible deals and discounts during this Destination Downtown Sebring event, which used to be referred to as Gallery Walk. Visit local businesses, enjoy refreshments and snacks and stroll the charming Historic Downtown Sebring District. For more information about the monthly Destination Downtown events, visit www.DestinationDowntownSebring.com.

This event is co-sponsored by the Sebring Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA). For more information about the CRA, visit www.DowntownSebring.org.

Scribes Night Out features Ben Oswald

SEBRING – The next Scribes Night Out, set for Sunday at 6:30 p.m. at Brewster's Coffee House south of Home Depot, spotlights local author Ben Oswald as the featured reader.

Oswald launched his writing career when he became editor of his fourth grade newspaper and his dream of becoming a novelist was born. But he had to wait a bit. "... at age 72," he says, "I saw my name on a book cover for the first time."

But over the years, his writing has covered a lot of bases, including report writing for his job as a federal agent. As a minister,

he wrote sermons, articles for parish newsletters and occasional op-ed pieces for local newspapers. As a professor for 25 years, he wrote two text books, along with short stories, poems and essays for the college literary magazine.

Following the publication of that first novel at age 72, his name has appeared on the covers of four other novels – and contracts have been signed for two more.

Scribes Night Out is an open-to-the-public event held the second and fourth Sundays of the month at Brewster's at 6:30 p.m. These get-togethers also include an open mike portion, which allows local writers to showcase their work by reading brief samples, published or not.

Admission to Brewster's is free. For more information, call Larry or Elaine at 385-8618.

Home Owners Association meets Monday

SEBRING – The regular monthly meeting of the Highlands County Home Owners Association will be held at 3240 Grand Prix Drive at 9 a.m. Monday.

The first speaker will be Dr. Wes Johnston of the Heartland Christian School. He will be giving an update on the changes being made at the school.

The second part will be a candidate forum with the candidates for the superintendent of schools and the candidates for the school districts.

The meeting is open to the public and coffee, tea, and donuts will be provided.



Members of the Take Stock in Children Class of 2012, let their hair down and relax after an awards ceremony at the Jacaranda Hotel celebrating their graduation.

Take Stock in Children honors graduates, mentors

Continued from page 1A

According to Irene Castanon, the program's coordinator, every member of Take Stock in Children's Class of 2012 attended dual-enrollment classes to earn college credit. The 27 students together earned 280 credit hours; 10 of them are in the top 10 percent of their high school class. The average GPA is 4.0.

Mentors meet once a week with their student in the school setting. Acting as guide, councilor, sounding board, best friend, surrogate parent, cheerleader and advisor, mentors provide the essential one-on-one role model essential to any relationship.

"She was always there for me, whether I needed her or not," said Lady Paningbatan, looking over at her mentor, Jane Hancock, with an affectionate grin.

Taken from her mother, Lady was brought to the United States from the Philippines by a father she hardly knew, long before she could speak a word of English.

Hancock, on the other hand, couldn't contain her



From Lake Placid, Take Stock in Children mentor Cindy Warrick and scholar Chaveli Ravelo.

pride. She needed the audience to know not just what Lady had overcome, what she herself had learned from Lady: "Smile, no matter what; be confident; be a loyal friend; and remember, you can't succeed if you procrastinate."

Ashley Harris, graduating from Avon Park High School, sighed as Hancock finished. "Thanks," she told her, shaking her head, "thanks for making me cry in the first 30

seconds."

Then she looked to her own mentor, Lana Puckorius. "My last six years have been rough," Ashley said, "she's been on my side. And nagging, nagging, nagging."

"When I was little it was, 'How many books have you read?' Now it's, 'How many scholarships have you applied for?'"

Puckorius just laughed. "Seeing Ashley bloom is

wonderful," she said.

Holly Shea, who mentors Yaritza Lopez at DeSoto High School, explained her dedication differently.

"Education was my way out (when I was growing up)," she said. "I wanted to be a part of that for someone else."

For more information about becoming a mentor, or enrolling a student, call 435-3133 or 784-7343; or go to www.tsic@southflorida.edu/.

Teacher evaluations too expensive

Continued from page 1A

A weakness in the evaluation system came to light this year when it became clear observing and mentoring individual teachers cannot be done on a part-time basis or as a volunteer, said Vivianne Waldron, director of Human Resources.

"I had six teachers this year and it just about killed me," said Kim Ervin, district reading specialist who served as a peer evaluator. The task needs professionals assigned to it.

Part of the financial pressure is the result of needing to hire professional evaluators.

Teachers have raised several other concerns regarding classroom observation as a

measure for career advancement— primarily regarding the accuracy of an observation itself and the consistency of the observer when observing different teachers.

Classroom teachers also worry observers will lose sight of the semester's long-range plans and come to see the teacher as a collection of individual snapshots — one observed lesson here, another there.

No one, administrators nor teachers, is happy with the teacher evaluation portion based on student test scores. That piece is mandated and controlled by the state legislature.

Cox said his scaled plan has the benefit of being sustainable once the grant

money used to develop and initiate the program is gone.

For teachers, remaining actively engaged in the new system's refinement is crucial.

It was the issue, along with a request for a raise, that brought the teachers' contract negotiations to their recent impasse.

LIFE SKILLS with a POSITIVE ATTITUDE!
(Best After School Program in Sebring)

- Get In Shape
- Learn Self Defense
- Make Better Grades
- Improve Self Esteem

GET ON BOARD with quality life care not day care!

WE PICK UP FREE FROM:
Kindergarten Learning Center
Cracker Trail • Sun-N-Lakes
Woodlawn • Fred Wild Memorial • Hill-Gustat Sebring Middle

5 DAYS OF \$30* A WEEK R
*Some Restrictions Apply

ENROLL NOW
(Located on Kenilworth Blvd., Sebring)
863.471.2467

A martial arts America THE FAMILY CLUB
Where Families Grow Strong Together

Did You KNOW?

In Florida, the bicycle is legally defined as a vehicle. Bicyclists using a public roadway are considered operators of motor vehicles and are responsible for observing all traffic laws.

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

E.O. Koch Construction
1417 Swank Avenue • Sebring, FL 33870
(863) 385-8649
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION

Let our highly qualified staff develop your commercial property, build your dream home, or do your remodeling.

SEAMLESS GUTTERS – Specials
5 INCH GUTTERS \$2.99 PER LINEAR FOOT
6 INCH GUTTERS \$3.99 PER LINEAR FOOT
Many Colors Available

"For all of your Aluminum, Steel, and Conventional construction needs"

Email: kochcon@strato.net State Certified License #CGC1515338

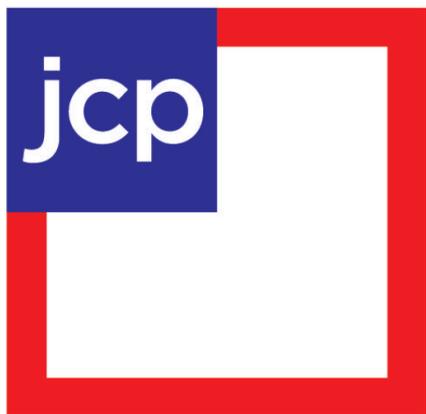
Follow us on

twitter
www.twitter.com/thenewssun

In lieu of flowers, consider a gift to support Hospice care.

Cornerstone HOSPICE & PALLIATIVE CARE
Your local, non-profit hospice. Licensed since 1984. No. 5019096

888-728-6234 Cornerstonehospice.org



\$25 may one-shoulder sundress
\$35 everyday

\$50 may sterling silver pendant
\$65 everyday



\$22 may t-strap sandal
\$30 everyday



\$75 may sterling silver charm bracelet
\$95 everyday

it's mother's may

**hurry in for over 500
month-long values**



\$14 may liz claiborne clutch
\$18 everyday



\$5 may st. john's bay tee
\$7 everyday

**jcp month-long values are 20-30% lower than
our already great everyday prices on the
things you need now. no coupons required.**

jcp.com/monthlong

Peck wins Blueberry Bake-Off

Special to the News-Sun

AVON PARK — The Blueberry Bake-Off Contest during the Rotary Club Blueberry Festival at on Saturday was a huge success. There was a total of 14 entries: two youth desserts, two main dishes and 10 adult desserts.

The Bake Off Grand Champion, who scored the highest points overall, was Peggy Peck with her blueberry swirl cheesecake.

The winning desserts were blueberry eggrolls by Kayla Selander in the youth category and coconut blueberry cheesecake bar by Becky Johnson in the adult category. The winning main dish was the roast pork loin with fresh Florida blueberry sauce by Susan Rodriguez.

Second place in the youth category was Jocelyn Jackson for her jammin' blueberry muffins; Barbara Cook for her blueberry pancakes and sausage in the adult main dish category and Natalie Ramos for her frozen blueberry cake pops.

Since the dessert category had so many entries, a third prize was awarded to Jean Eckman for her blueberry bread pudding.

The judges were eager and excited to taste the delicious baked goods. Judges were Lt. Gaspar Garcia of the Highlands County Sheriff's Department, Cesar Pinzon, Dr. Michael McLeod, Jennifer Rhynes, Cathy Caseara, Garrett Andrews and Ross Myles.

The corporate sponsor of



Courtesy photo
Judges Garrett Andrews (from left), Mike McLeod, Cesar Pinzon and Ross Myles check out the dishes.

this year's annual bake-off contest was Winn-Dixie Stores, Inc. David Dawson, regional manager, was on

hand to sample the entries and present Winn-Dixie gift cards to all winning contestants.

Increase in tourism tax to be sought

Continued from page 1A

"The Sebring Races are in Highlands County, but Okeechobee County fills their hotels during that time. They charge 3 percent for tourism and we charge just 2 percent. It doesn't make sense to me," Heston explained.

"It is strictly a consumer-based tax and everywhere I go, I am charged 5 percent. I know we aren't Orlando, but why should we not collect the other 1 percent? It is going to promote the county and this does not hurt any citizen in Highlands County."

Elwell gave no indication on how he would vote as a commissioner on the tax increase, which would need a super-majority of four out of five commissioners to pass when is placed on the agenda, but said he was asking for a night meeting in order to garner public input.

"I am requesting that we have it at a night meeting so we can hear from both those in the public who are opposed and those who are for the increase," Elwell said.

Bill Youngman, a county activist who is currently seeking petitions to put the tourism tax back on the ballot, thinks the timing for the increase is all wrong.

"I don't think they should do it," Youngman said. "The current problem is not the tax itself but the money they have spent and the results

'The Sebring Races are in Highlands County, but Okeechobee County fills their hotels during that time. They charge 3 percent for tourism and we charge just 2 percent. It doesn't make sense to me.'

TERRY HESTON

TDC member, AP city councilman

they have gotten.

"I voted for the original tax because 10 percent was to go to maintenance of the county's lakes. But when you move \$50,000 from the lakes maintenance fund to create a brochure, you have to ask how and by what authority can they do that," Youngman added.

"Brochures are not maintenance, they are advertising. I have asked to see the authority that allows the county to

move funds around like that, but I have not gotten a response yet," Youngman said.

In reference to the tax increase proposed, Youngman said the jump of 1 percent would potentially create an additional \$150,000 in yearly revenue, but the increase was not going to be used to actually promote the county, just cover current overspending.

"This is obviously an

attempt to bring the spending percentages into line with the current administration costs. I think they are spending 42 percent on administration when the county plan calls for just 29 percent. You don't fix the problem by raising the tax to fix the percentages," Youngman said.

"I am asking again to have the a potential sunset put on the ballot so that we can get the voters involved. I have presented an agenda item and am trying to get some traction with this. I am also setting up the petition drives," Youngman said.

Neither Youngman nor Elwell knew exactly when the tax increase recommendation would come before the commissioners as an agenda item.

Tourism Director John Scherlacher had not returned phone calls by press time.

Sheriff's deputy shot, suspect killed

FORT MYERS (AP) — A southwest Florida sheriff's deputy was injured and a suspect was killed when shots were fired during a traffic stop on Interstate 75 near in North Fort Myers.

Authorities say the deputy was attempting to get a Dodge Caravan to stop on I-75 Wednesday night. The driver refused to stop and made evasive moves, even swerving at the deputy at one point.

The van left the interstate with the deputy following. When the vehicle stopped, three people got out and ran. Another, 24-year-old Gregory Coleman, was taken into custody.

The deputy got into a struggle with the driver and officials say gunshots were exchanged. The suspect died and the deputy was taken to the hospital where he is recovering.

No further details were immediately available.

Cowpoke's FOOD-FUN-LIVE MUSIC-STEAKS
SEAFOOD-BAR-KARAOKE & MORE!

Watering Hole

6813 US 27 S. Sebring
Phone: (863) 314-9459

FOR MOTHER'S DAY RESERVATIONS PLEASE CALL 314-9459

Accepting All Major Credit Cards

Mon-Thurs.....11am-9pm
Fri-Sat.....11am-2am
Sunday.....12pm-8pm

COWPOKES KICKIN' LUNCH MENU

Something To Poke At!	Salads
Jalapeno Poppers.....5	Garden Salad.....5
Fried Mushrooms.....5	Caesar Salad.....5
Zucchini Fries.....5	Add Tuna or Chicken Salad.....4
Loaded Potato Wedges.....5	Add Grilled Chicken Breast.....4
Fried Pickles.....6	Wings
Sandwiches	Chicken Wings (Breaded or Naked).....8
Hamburger.....7	Additional Dressing or Celery.....50c
Philly Beef Sandwich.....8	Ask for available wing sauces.
Philly Chicken Sandwich.....8	Extras
Chicken Sandwich.....7	Sweet Potato Fries.....4
Fish Sandwich.....7	French Fries.....4
BBQ Pork Sandwich.....7	Freshly Fried Potato Chips.....4
Tuna or Chicken Salad Wrap.....8	MAKE SURE TO TRY OUR DELICIOUS & BOTTOMLESS HOUSE SALAD!
Italian Sausage.....7	

Add cheese to any sandwich for .50c

Free 6oz Filet for Mom!

Sunday, May 13th Noon-8pm

Served with our Bottomless Salad and Choice of Potato on Mother's Day

VALID WITH PURCHASE OF ONE ENTREE OF \$16 OR GREATER VALUE PER MOTHER. NOT VALID WITH ANY OTHER OFFER OR DISCOUNT. NO SUBSTITUTIONS. DINE-IN ONLY.

MUSIC SCHEDULE AT THE HOLE!

THE BROOKLYN BOY (DJ)
FRIDAY • 05/11 • NO COVER CHARGE!

J.J. McGOY BAND
SATURDAY • 05/12

JOIN IN ON OUR KARAOKE UNDER THE TIKI ON BOTH NIGHTS!

Report: Suspect billings at 2,600 drugstores in US

WASHINGTON (AP) — Medicare paid \$5.6 billion to 2,600 pharmacies with questionable billings, including a Kansas drugstore that submitted more than 1,000 prescriptions each for two patients in just one year, government investigators have found.

A new report by the inspector general of the Health and Human Services department finds the corner drugstore is vulnerable to fraud, partly because Medicare does not require the private insurers that deliver prescription benefits to seniors to report suspicious billing patterns.

"While some pharmacies may be billing extremely high amounts for legitimate reasons, all warrant further scrutiny," said the report released Thursday.

The analysis broke new ground by scrutinizing every claim submitted by the nation's 59,000 retail pharmacies during 2009 — more than 1 billion prescriptions. Investigators were able to reveal contrasts between normal business practices and potential criminal behavior.

"The findings call for a strong response to improve (program) oversight," the report said.

Publix LIQUORS

24.99 Belvedere Vodka Selected Varieties, 750 ml	15.99 Pinnacle Vodka Selected Varieties, 1.75 L
26.99 Tito's Handmade Vodka 1.75 L	47.99 Ciroc Vodka Selected Varieties, 1.75 L
17.99 Myers Original Rum 750 ml	24.99 Captain Morgan Spiced Rum 100 Proof, 1.75 L
14.99 Jack Coconut Rum 1.75 L	31.99 J&B Scotch 1.75 L
27.99 Buchanan's 12 Year Scotch 750 ml	39.99 Maker's Mark Bourbon 1.75 L
16.99 Red Stag Bourbon Selected Varieties, 750 ml	25.99 Eagle Rare 10 Year Single Barrel Bourbon 750 ml
35.99 Crown Royal Special Reserve 750 ml	16.99 Bailey's Irish Cream Selected Varieties, 750 ml
21.99 Disaronno Amaretto 750 ml	26.99 Cointreau 750 ml
24.99 Hendrick's Gin 750 ml	31.99 Cabo Wabo Reposado Tequila 750 ml

Prices effective Thursday, May 10 through Wednesday, May 16, 2012.

Visit publix.com/store to find the store nearest you. Liquor items are only available at Publix Liquors.



MCT

President Barack Obama said Wednesday that he is in favor of same-sex couples having the right to get married.

Americans divided as Obama endorses gay marriage

Associated Press

IOWA CITY, Iowa — Kate Varnum was at her Iowa home watching her newly adopted infant son when news flashed that Barack Obama had become the first sitting U.S. president to endorse equal marriage rights for same-sex couples.

"I said, 'Oh my gosh, I can't believe this is happening,'" said Varnum, 38, a plaintiff in a lawsuit that prompted the Iowa Supreme Court to make the state the first in the Midwest to legalize gay marriage in 2009. "We are absolutely thrilled. We still have a long way to go, but this is a huge step for Obama to take."

Americans reacted with joy, scorn and indifference to Obama's words in a television interview on Wednesday: "It is important for me personally to go ahead and affirm that same-sex couples should be able to get married."

An African-American bishop in Philadelphia said Obama's position will make him think twice about supporting the president's reelection. A bed-and-breakfast owner marveled at what he described as the country's progress on gay rights in the past generation. A Florida business owner in a same-sex relationship worried more about the economy and wondered whether Obama's stance was a gimmick. A Kentucky businessman said the president was injecting himself into an issue that should be left to churches.

All the while, Americans, who polls show are evenly

I've just concluded that for me personally it is important for me to go ahead and affirm that I think same sex couples should be able to get married.'

BARACK OBAMA

split on the issue, debated the human and societal implications of the statement — and the political fallout for Obama this election year.

In Cedar Rapids, Varnum said the president's words were so important because she and her spouse know what being married means for same-sex couples. They were recently able to adopt their son without the time and cost of having separate adoption hearings, and after Varnum lost her job last year, she and their son received health insurance coverage through her spouse's Iowa-based employer.

Varnum, an Obama supporter, had believed that he would eventually endorse gay marriage but not before the November election. She said the Iowa ruling that bears her family's name helped pave the way for greater acceptance of gay marriage and set the stage for Obama's change of heart.

"After Iowa was decided, a lot of people realized it's not just a coastal issue, it's not just a California or New Jersey issue," she said.

"Families should be valued no matter where they live. The tide has turned."

But in a reminder of the issue's political divisiveness, three Iowa Supreme Court justices were ousted by voters after endorsing the court's unanimous ruling. The Iowa conservative activist who led the push for their removal, Bob Vander Plaats, said Wednesday that like them, Obama's decision would lead to him being rejected by voters who view marriage as between one man and one woman.

Bishop Leonard C. Goins, who presides over Chestnut Hill Church, a Pentecostal congregation in Philadelphia, flatly disagreed with Obama's gay marriage endorsement.

"He's wrong, he's in error, it's a mistake and it will hurt him," Goins said, adding that he's now in a quandary over whether he'll continue to support the president.

In Lexington, Ky., executive recruiter Joe Alexander said the federal government should leave the definition of marriage to churches. A Mormon who describes himself as a constitutional conservative says he believes "marriage is ordained by God between a man and a woman."

"Obama's proclamation, to me, just gives insight into his moral fiber. It's inappropriate for him to be speaking about it as president," Alexander said.

"It's morally repugnant that the thought is expressed by the president, who should be a moral person. It's embarrassing."

Reactions to Obama's announcement

'The announcement today by President Obama should come as no surprise to the American public. President Obama has consistently fought against protecting the institution of marriage from radical social engineering at both the state and federal level.'

RICK SANTORUM
former Republican
presidential candidate

"President Obama's support for marriage equality marks an important moment for civil rights in America. We simply cannot treat same-sex couples as second-class citizens in our country. Marriage equality is one of the most significant civil rights battles of our time."

SEN. FRANK R. LAUTENBERG
D-N.J.

'That the president has chosen today, when LGBT Americans are mourning the passage of Amendment 1 (North Carolina's ballot initiative banning same-sex marriage and civil unions), to finally speak up for marriage equality is offensive and callous.'

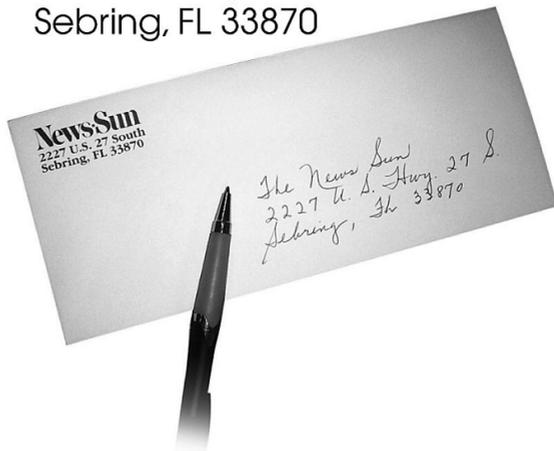
R. CLARKE COOPER
executive director, Log
Cabin Republicans

Contact Us...



By Phone
(863) 385-6155

By Mail
2227 US Hwy 27S
Sebring, FL 33870



By E-Mail
www.newssun.com/contact/



www.newssun.com
NEWS-SUN
Highlands County's Hometown Newspaper Since 1927

CLASSIFIEDS

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 28-2012-CA-000195
SEC.: CIVIL

ONE WEST BANK, FSB
Plaintiff,
v.
SHAI ARGJ, et al
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF ACTION
FOR FORECLOSURE PROCEEDING-PROPERTY
TO:
SHAI ARGJ
ADDRESS UNKNOWN BUT WHOSE LAST KNOWN
ADDRESS IS:
5201 SOUTHWEST 31st AVENUE APARTMENT
257 FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33312

UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF SHAI ARGJ
ADDRESS UNKNOWN BUT WHOSE LAST KNOWN
ADDRESS IS:
5201 SOUTHWEST 31st AVENUE APARTMENT
257 FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33312

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

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action has been commenced to foreclose a mortgage on the following real property, lying and being and situated in HIGHLANDS County, Florida, more particularly described as follows:

TRACT 4 HORIZON EQUESTRIAN ESTATES (UNRECORDED)

A TRACT OF LAND LOCATED IN SECTION 7, TOWNSHIP 36 SOUTH, RANGE 28 EAST BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING AT THE SW CORNER OF SAID SECTION 7, THENCE N 00 DEGREES 04'25" W, 1052.31 FEET; THENCE S 89 DEGREES 56'47" E, 1981.50 FEET TO P.O.B.; THENCE CONTINUE SAME LINE 460.00 FEET; THENCE S 00 DEGREES 03'13" W, 979.49 FEET; THENCE S 89 DEGREES 59'21" W, 460.00 FEET; THENCE N 00 DEGREES 03'13" E, 980.01 FEET TO P.O.B., ALL BEING IN HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA

This is an attempt to collect a debt any information obtained may be used for that purpose.

COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 5201 SOUTHWEST 31st AVENUE APARTMENT 257 FORT LAUDERDALE FL 33312

This action has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defense, if any, such as Morris Hardwick Schneider, LLC, Attorneys for Plaintiff, whose address is 5110 Eisenhower Blvd., Suite 120, Tampa, FL 33634 within thirty (30) days of the first publication date and file the original with the clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

WITNESS my hand and seal of this Court on the 30th day of April, 2012.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE, CLERK
Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: /s/ Toni Kopp
DEPUTY CLERK

"In accordance with the American with Disabilities Act, persons needing a special accommodation in order to participate in this hearing, should contact ADA Coordinator not later than 1 (one) day prior to the proceeding at Florida Rural Legal Service (Highlands), 963 E. Memorial Boulevard, P.O. Box 24688, Lakeland, FL 33802 (863)688-7376.

May 4, 11, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY CIVIL DIVISION

CASE NO. 28-2012-CA-000020
CITIMORTGAGE, INC.,
Plaintiff,

vs.
UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, CREDITORS, LIENORS, TRUSTEES, OF IRMA RIECKHOFF, DECEASED; ADOLF RIECKHOFF, HEIR; ROSEMARIE RIECKHOFF; IF LIVING, INCLUDING ANY UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF SAID DEFENDANT(S), IF REMARRIED, AND IF DECEASED, THEIR RESPECTIVE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, CREDITORS, LIENORS, AND TRUSTEES, AND ALL OTHER PERSONS CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE NAMED DEFENDANT(S); UNKNOWN TENANT #1; UNKNOWN TENANT #2; Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF ACTION
TO: UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, ASSIGNEES, CREDITORS, LIENORS, TRUSTEES OF IRMA RIECKHOFF, DECEASED

Whose residence is/are unknown.
YOU ARE HERBY required to file your answer or written defenses, is any, in the above proceeding with the Clerk of this Court, and to serve a copy thereof upon the plaintiff's attorney, Law Offices of Daniel C. Consuegra, 9204 King Palm Drive, Tampa, FL 33619-1328, telephone (813)915-8660, facsimile (813)915-0559, within thirty days of the first publication of this Notice, the nature of this proceeding being a suit for foreclosure of mortgage against the following described property, to wit:

LOT 2, BLOCK 1, SEBRING COUNTRY ESTATES SECTION ONE, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGE 49, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

If you fail to file your response or answer, if any, in the above proceeding with the Clerk of this Court, and to serve a copy thereof upon the plaintiff's attorney, Law Offices of Daniel C. Consuegra, 9204 King Palm Dr., Tampa, Florida 33619-1328, telephone (813)915-8660, facsimile (813)915-0559, within thirty days of the first publication of this Notice, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint or Petition.

DATED at HIGHLANDS County this 4th day of May, 2012.

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

If you are a person with a disability who needs assistance in order to participate in a program or service of the State Courts System, you should contact the Office of the Court Administrator at (863)534-4686 (voice), (863)534-7777 (TDD) or (800)955-8770 (Florida Relay Service), as much in advance of your court appearance or visit to the courthouse as possible. Please be prepared to explain your functional limitations and suggest an auxiliary aid or service that you believe will enable you to effectively participate in the court program or service.

May 11, 2012

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. GC 12-238

ROGER VANHAITSMA as Trustee of
The Roger VanHaitsma Trust Dated
December 29, 1984,
Plaintiff
Vs.

KOSTAS VASSILAKOPOULOS, ANTONIA VASSILAKOPOULOS, his or her unknown spouse, or if any of the aforesaid persons is dead, then his or her unknown heirs, devisees, legatees or grantees, and any and all other persons or parties claiming by, through, under or against them; and all claimants, persons or parties, natural or corporate, or whose exact legal status if 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, and HEARTLAND NATIONAL BANK,
Defendants

NOTICE OF ACTION
TO: KOSTAS VASSILAKOPOULOS, address unknown, ANTONIA VASSILAKOPOULOS, address unknown, his or her unknown spouse, or if any of the aforesaid persons is dead, then his or her unknown heirs, devisees, legatees or grantees, and any and all other persons or parties claiming by, through, under or against them; and all claimants, persons or parties, natural or corporate, or whose exact legal status if 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.

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

C043428-16034100060

Lot 6, Block 341, SUN 'N LAKE ESTATES OF SEBRING, UNIT 16, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 10, Page 4, of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida,

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on THOMAS L. NUNNALLEE, of BRED & NUNNALLEE, P.A., Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 325 North Commerce Avenue, Sebring, FL 33870, on or before June 1, 2012, and file the original with the clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.

Dated this 3rd day of May, 2012.

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

(SEAL)

"In accordance with the Americans 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, I hearing impaired (TDD) 1-800-955-7777, or Voice (V) 1-800-955-8770, Via Florida Relay Service."

May 11, 18, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
FILE NO. PC 12-000171

IN RE: ESTATE OF
LLOYD J. HEIM
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of LLOYD J. HEIM, deceased, whose date of death was December 14, 2011, and whose social security number is 071-24-0824, is pending in the Circuit Court for Highlands County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 540-590 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, FL 33870. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

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

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

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

The date of first publication of this Notice is May 4, 2012.

Personal Representative:
/s/ Patricia A. Massey
5985 Newhouse Road
East Amherst, NY 14051

Attorney for Personal Representative:
/s/ Susan T. Rhodes
Florida Bar No. 321151
The Rhodes Law Firm, LLC
370 East Interlake Blvd.
Lake Placid, FL 33852
Telephone: 863-465-2899

May 4, 11, 2012

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIRCUIT CIVIL DIVISION
Case No.: 28-2012-CA-000011

BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., SUCCESSOR BY
MERGER TO BAC HOME LOANS SERVICING, LP
FKA COUNTRYWIDE HOME LOANS SERVICING LP,
Plaintiff,
vs.

ANGELA L. WILLIAMS, et al.,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION
TO: WESLEY WILLIAMS; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF WESLEY WILLIAMS
3258 FORREST VIEW AVE., LAKE PLACID, FL 33852
448 BRAWIN AVE., LAKE PLACID, FL 33852

AND TO: All persons claiming an interest by, through, under, or against the aforesaid Defendant(s).

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following described property:

ALL OF LOT 5, BLOCK 154, LEISURE LAKES, SECTION 2, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGE 14, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on the attorney for the Plaintiff, Morales law Group, P.A., whose address is 14750 NW 77th Court, Suite 303, Miami Lakes, FL 33016, and file the original with the Clerk within 30 days after the first publication of this notice, on or before June 12, 2012. If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Foreclosure Complaint.

Dated: May 1, 2012.

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
By: /s/ Toni Kopp
Deputy Clerk

A copy of this Notice of Action, Lis Pendens and Complaint were sent to the above-named Defendant(s) at last known address.

May 11, 18, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE 10TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 28-2012-CA-000334

YALE MORTGAGE CORPORATION, a Florida corporation,
Plaintiff,
-vs-

MICHAEL T. DAWES AND SHERRY DAWES,
etc. et al.,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION

IN MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE
TO: MICHAEL T. DAWES AND SHERRY DAWES
Last Known Address: 700 Roanoke Place, Sebring, FL 33870

Current Address: Unknown
And any unknown heirs, devisees, grantees, creditors and other unknown persons or unknown spouses claiming by, through and under the above named Defendant(s), if deceased or whose last known addresses are unknown.

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

Lot 5 and 6, Block 422, HIGHLANDS TOWERS SUBDIVISION REVISED, according to the Plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 5, Page 29, of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida.

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it, on Eric R. Schwartz, Esquire, Weitz & Schwartz, P.A., Plaintiff's Attorney, whose address is 900 S.E. 3rd Avenue, Suite 204, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316 on or before June 18, 2012 being 30 days of the first publication of this notice and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorneys or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Mortgage Foreclosure Complaint.

DATED this May 4, 2012.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE
As Clerk of the Court
By: /s/ Annette E. Daff
Deputy Clerk
May 11, 18, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
FILE NO. PC 12-166

IN RE: ESTATE OF
JOHN WESLEY FAUCETT
a.k.a. JOHN W. FAUCETT
Division Probate
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of JOHN WESLEY FAUCETT a.k.a. JOHN W. FAUCETT, deceased, whose date of death was March 2, 2012, and whose social security number is xxx-xx-6486, is pending in the Circuit Court for Highlands County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 430 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 May 11, 2012.

Personal Representative:
/s/ Donald B. Faucett
403 N. Lake Verona Blvd.
Avon Park, Florida 33825

Attorney for Personal Representative:
/s/ David F. Lanier
E-Mail Address: lanier30@embarqmail.com
Florida Bar No. 045399

DAVID F. LANIER
P.O. Box 400
Avon Park, Florida 33826-0400
Telephone: (863)453-4457

May 11, 2012

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
FILE NO. PC 12-41
Division Probate

IN RE: ESTATE OF
MICHAEL BRADY WORLEY
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of MICHAEL BRADY WORLEY, deceased, whose date of death was January 6, 2012, 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 representatives 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 May 11, 2012.

Personal Representatives:
/s/ Michael Jeffery Worley
1000 Worley Road
Lake Placid, FL 33852

/s/ Randall Brady Worley
9094 Water Tupelo Road
Fort Myers, FL 33912

Attorney for Personal Representatives:
/s/ Pamela T. Karson
Florida Bar Number: 0017957

301 Dal Hall Boulevard
Lake Placid, FL 33852
Telephone: (863)465-5033
Fax: (863) 465-6022
E-Mail: info@karsonlaw.com
May 11, 18, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
FILE NO. PC 12-149

IN RE: ESTATE OF
PAUL R. JAECK, JR.,
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of PAUL R. JAECK, JR., deceased, whose date of death was January 8, 2012, and whose social security number is 215-26-3255, 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 May 11, 2012.

Personal Representative:
/s/ Doris R. Jaeck
1648 Sunny Pines Drive
Sebring, FL 33870

Attorney for Personal Representative:s
/s/ ROBERT E. LIVINGSTON
Florida Bar No. 0031259

445 S. Commerce Avenue
Sebring, FL 33870
Telephone: (863)385-5156
May 11, 18, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
File No. PC 12-177
Division Probate

IN RE: ESTATE OF
VALORIE A. NIETUBICZ
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of VALORIE A. NIETUBICZ deceased, whose date of death was April 25, 2011, is pending in the Circuit Court for Highlands County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Clerk of the Court, Highlands County Courthouse, 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida 33870. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

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

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

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

The date of first publication of this notice is May 11, 2012.

Personal Representative:
Douglas M. Nietubicz, Jr.
9011 Iron Horse Lane
Sebring, Florida 33875

Attorney for Personal Representative:
John K. McClure
Attorney for Douglas M Nietubicz, Jr.
Florida Bar Number: 286958
MCCLURE & LOBOZZO
211 S. Ridgewood Drive
Sebring, Florida 33870

Telephone: (863) 402-1888
Fax: (863) 402-2436
E-Mail: kelly@mllaw.net
May 11, 2012

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL ACTION
CASE NO.: 28-2009-CA-001744

BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.,
Plaintiff,
vs.

YIRA M. DOMINGUEZ, et al,
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated April 24, 2012 and entered in Case No. 28-2009-CA-001744 of the Circuit Court of the TENTH Judicial Circuit in and for HIGHLANDS County, Florida wherein BANK OF AMERICA, N.A. is the Plaintiff and YIRA M. DOMINGUEZ; LAKE HAVEN ESTATES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC; TENANT #1 N/K/A SHANTEY HAMOND, and Tenant #2 N/K/A VINCENT DELICE are the Defendants, The Clerk of the Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM IN THE BASEMENT OF THE HIGHLANDS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 430 SOUTH COMMERCE AVENUE at 11:00 AM, on the 23rd day of May, 2012, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

LOG 26, BLOCK 23, LAKE HAVEN ESTATES SECTION TWO, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE(S) 61, PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY.

A/K/A 5118 LAKE HAVEN BOULEVARD, SEBRING, FL 33875

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

WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of the Court on April 25, 2012.

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

Florida Default Law Group, P.L.

P.O. Box 25018
Tampa, Florida 33622-5018
F0910964 BANKAMERICA2-SPECIFNMA--Team
2-F0910964

**See Americans with Disabilities Act

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

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE DIRECTORY

6200 Unfurnished Apartments

SEBRING - 1BR, 1BA. Tile floors, fresh paint. Includes water. \$395/mo. Call Gary Johnson, 863-381-1861.

6300 Unfurnished Houses

AVON PARK

North Central Heights Homes, a new "Rent Restricted" single family home development in Avon Park. Rents average in the low to mid 500's & 600's! 2, 3 and 4 BR Available! **DON'T DELAY APPLY TODAY! NO APPLICATION FEE!**

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY
CALL: TTY 800-955-8771 863-452-4432

SEBRING - Large 4BR, 2BA, Living rm., Dining rm., Laundry rm., Mostly tiled floors throughout. Fenced yard. \$750 Monthly. * Lake Josephine Heights * 863-446-1861

SEBRING - Nice Immaculate 3/2/2. Lg. Single Family, Lg. Kitchen, New Appl., New Paint, Lg. Glass / Screen Porch, Mostly Tiled, Great View. No smokers. \$875+. Incl. Lawncare. 863-773-3956

SEBRING 2/1 Cedar Home w/covered Deck, Fairly new, end of street. Nice wooded area. \$645/mo. + Security. 863-414-0942

7000 Merchandise

7180 Furniture

END TABLES (2), Sofa Table, Coffee table, Dining Room Table w/4 chairs, China Cabinet & Entertainment Center. \$800 Call 863-441-0688

TABLES - (2) End & (1) Coffee/ \$100; Entertainment ctr. /\$175 - all in dark wood; Dinette table /leaf/4 chairs/ \$150 - light wood. Wrought iron white patio bench/\$75. 863-202-0627

7260 Musical Merchandise

ORGAN KAWAI DX Good Cond. W/bench & several Music Books. \$500 obo. Call 863-655-9407.

7310 Bargain Buys

500 LB. Sod Roller / You Haul Away! **FREE** Call 863-382-1294

OFFICE DESK AND CHAIR / Wooden. Very Nice! \$100. 863-202-0627

7320 Garage & Yard Sales

FIREMEN'S FIELD- Sat May 12, 8am - 2pm. * Supplies For Teachers * Variety of Supplies & Educational Materials.

LAKE PLACID - MULTI FAMILY SALE! 93 Elkcam Road, Off 621, Fri & Sat May 11 & 12, 7am - ? Children's clothing, toys, misc. (Farm) Animal Supplies, Household items. Too Much To List!

LAKE PLACID. Moving Sale. Everything Must Go! May 11th & 12th 18th & 19th. 119 Martin St. 7 - 2pm.

SCREEN PRINTED T-SHIRTS
The Arc
Ridge Area

FAST TURN-AROUND BEST PRICES

We do **EMBROIDERY** too!
(863) 452-1295 ext.145
screenprinting@ridgeareaarc.org

120 W. College Drive
Avon Park, FL 33825

SEBRING "SUN 'N LAKES" Multi Family Sale! Fri & Sat, May 11 & 12, 8am-4pm Clothing, Household Items, Golf Equipment & Much Much More!

7520 Pets & Supplies

NOTICE

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

8000 Recreation

8400 Recreational Vehicles

2006 HONDA CRF 100F Dirt Bike, Excellent Condition. \$900. Also, For Sale, ATV 4 Wheeler, Make Offer. Call 863-273-0665 or 863-382-0192

CAMPER 1970. Needs some Repair. \$50 obo. Sorry! Already Sold.

9000 Transportation

9200 Trucks

FORD RANGER EDGE Pro Package. '04. 4 x 4. 4 Door. New Tires, Bed Liner. Good Shape. Cold A/C. A/M, F/M CD, MP3. \$5500. 863-633-9232

ALL STAR TILE LLC

ALL WOOD KITCHEN & BATH CABINETS GRANITE & FORMICA COUNTER TOPS!

MANY STYLES & COLORS TO SELECT SAMPLES SHOWN AT HOME!

SALES & INSTALLATION

BUY DIRECT - NO MIDDLE MAN!

Pictures & Local References Available **WILL BEAT ANY COMPARABLE QUOTE!**

FREE INSTALLATION OF BACK SPLASH OR 10'x10' TILE FLOOR!

863-465-6683 OR 863-381-2025
LICENSED & INSURED CC#HC02499

Diabetic Footwear • Custom Orthotics
Work Shoes • Comfortable Shoes
SAS • New Balance
Shoe Box
Phyllis Norris
Board Certified
Licensed Podiatrist
1138 S. Parrot Ave • Okeechobee, FL 34974
863-763-4401 • Fax 863-763-6335
shoeboxlady@hotmail.com

DAVE'S HOME MAINTENANCE

Basic Homes Repairs & More
Mobile Homes Interior & Exterior
LICENSED INSURED
CALL TODAY! 863-441-5135 • LIC#HM1708

Joe Johnson's
ALL AMERICAN TREE SERVICE, INC.
TRIMMING • REMOVAL
SOD INSTALLATION • STUMP GRINDING
LOT CLEARING • PRESSURE CLEANING
Will Beat Any Written Estimate!
Peoples Choice Award 863-465-7491 Free Estimates Licensed & Insured

Complete Lawn Maintenance

-Landscaping- -Mowing- -Trimming-
-Rocks- -Mulch- -Weeding-
Flower Beds & Sod
863-314-0969
Licensed & Insured
NO JOB TOO SMALL!

CURRENTS SALON

2924 Kenilworth Blvd., Sebring FL, 33870
SUPPORT LOCAL YOUTH!
\$50⁰⁰ FROM EACH KERATIN TREATMENT OR
\$10⁰⁰ FROM ANY OTHER CHEMICAL SERVICE
PERFORMED BY TARAGAYLE
WILL BE DONATED TO YOUR CHOICE OF THE FOLLOWING:
SEBRING MIDDLE SCHOOL CHORUS • FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
SOUTHSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH
Call today! 863.449.4444

BEN HUNTER'S CLEANING SERVICE

OWNER: BEN HUNTER JR.
INSURED • BONDED
Specializing In:
WINDOWS • FLOORS
PRESSURE WASHING • OFFICE
(863) 991-4697

Bell Fisheries Inc.

Farm Raised Catfish. We sell by the pound or you can come & catch yourself in our 3 acre pond! We have two large docks you can fish from. We also have large trophy Bass and Bream that we feed twice a day. Great fun for everyone, call or come by and see us!

James L Bell, Jr., Owner
120 Sandspur Lane,
Lake Placid, FL 33852
863-465-7112
Florida Aquaculture Certification
AQ5138017

ICS CREMATION

SERVING HIGHLANDS COUNTY & ALL OF FLORIDA
\$895⁰⁰ | \$795⁰⁰
(Special Hospice Patient Price)
Plus Cost of Death Certificates
No Additional Costs
Contact: Linda O'Neal
Lake Placid: 863-441-2514

Flea Market

Indoor & Outdoor
Sandy's Dollar Store
Becky's Avon 863-449-1298
Firemen's Field Fairgrounds
Kenilworth Blvd & Rt. 17
Fri-Sat • 8am-2pm Year Round

Cleaning Services

Mimi Focant
4610 Sturgeon Dr.
Sebring, FL 33870
Call 471-1806

Advertise Your Business Here!

NewsSun
Call 385-6155

WILLIAMS JANITORIAL CARPET CLEANING

\$10⁹⁵ Per Room
3 Rooms Minimum
• Upholstery Cleaning
• All Types of Flooring
• Free Estimates
Lic • Bonded • Ins



Advertise Your Business Here!

NewsSun
Call 385-6155

Roger's Handyman Services

Roger McCartney JR
licensed and insured
No job is too small. We can take care of all your home repairs and maintenance needs.
• Small Flooring Jobs
• License #HM01711
863-381-6677
Free Estimates

HANDYMAN BOB

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

Bell Cleaning Services

For all jobs. Large or small, done right!
Homes, Business, Construction Parties and Events!
Diane Bell
Bonded and Insured
Free Estimates
863-465-7112
863-633-8780
120 Sandspur Lane,
Lake Placid FL 33852

HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Raise & Level Buildings
Adjust Hurricane Straps & Complete Carpentry
Specializing in Mobile Homes & Double Wide Manufactured Homes!
MOST JOBS RUN FROM \$0.00 TO \$2,000.
If you're not happy - we're not finished!
Jerry Wolgram
863-699-0134 or
231-420-3033
30 Years Experience • License# CAC036191

DID YOU KNOW THAT...
The News Sun Professional Service Directory is one of the most economical & effective means of advertising today?
Call Anita at: 863-385-6155 or
Email: amarsella@newssun.com
FOR MORE INFORMATION!

Five-Day forecast for Highlands County

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly sunny	Partly sunny and breezy	A p.m. shower or thunderstorm	Some sun with a t-storm possible	Some sun with t-storms possible
87° / 66°	89° / 66°	88° / 67°	89° / 68°	90° / 67°
Winds: ENE at 7-14 mph	Winds: E at 10-20 mph	Winds: E at 8-16 mph	Winds: SE at 4-8 mph	Winds: VAR at 2-4 mph

Almanac

Temperature
 Readings at Archbold Biological Station in Lake Placid
 High Sunday 94°
 Low Sunday 58°
 High Monday 95°
 Low Monday 61°
 High Tuesday 88°
 Low Tuesday 61°
 High Wednesday 90°
 Low Wednesday 65°

Heat Index
 For 3 p.m. today
 Relative humidity 45%
 Expected air temperature 86°
 Makes it feel like 87°

Barometer
 Monday 29.90
 Tuesday 29.89
 Wednesday 29.79

Precipitation
 Monday 0.32"
 Tuesday 0.64"
 Wednesday 0.10"
 Month to date 1.13"
 Year to date 6.33"

Tides
 Readings at St. Petersburg
 High 6:08 p.m.
 Low 1:29 a.m.
 Readings at Palm Beach
 High 1:32 a.m.
 Low 7:32 a.m.

Lake Levels
 Readings as of 7 a.m. yesterday
 Lake Jackson 78.36'
 Lake Okeechobee 11.58'
 Normal 14.51'

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



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

Regional Summary

Partly sunny today. Partly cloudy tonight. Partly sunny and breezy tomorrow. Sunday: clouds and sun with a shower or thunderstorm around in the afternoon. Monday and Tuesday: clouds and sun.

Farm Report

Partly sunny today. Winds east-northeast 7-14 mph. Expect 6-10 hours of sunshine with average relative humidity 60% and fair drying conditions. Partly cloudy tonight.

Weather History

A deadly tornado swept through Waco, Texas, on May 11, 1953. The twister killed 114 people and caused \$200 million in damage.

Sun and Moon

	Today	Saturday
Sunrise	6:42 a.m.	6:41 a.m.
Sunset	8:03 p.m.	8:04 p.m.
Moonrise	12:47 a.m.	1:28 a.m.
Moonset	12:09 p.m.	1:06 p.m.

Florida Cities

City	Today	Sat.	Sun.
Cape Coral	88/68/t	90/67/s	88/68/t
Clearwater	87/71/pc	87/71/pc	87/70/pc
Coral Springs	86/73/t	84/74/t	84/73/pc
Daytona Beach	84/68/s	82/69/pc	81/67/pc
Ft. Laud. Bch	86/75/t	85/76/t	85/74/pc
Fort Myers	88/69/t	89/68/t	88/70/t
Gainesville	86/60/s	85/63/pc	85/63/c
Hollywood	87/73/t	85/73/t	85/74/pc
Homestead AFB	84/73/t	82/74/t	84/74/pc
Jacksonville	84/63/s	83/65/pc	82/63/c
Key West	85/77/t	85/77/t	84/77/pc

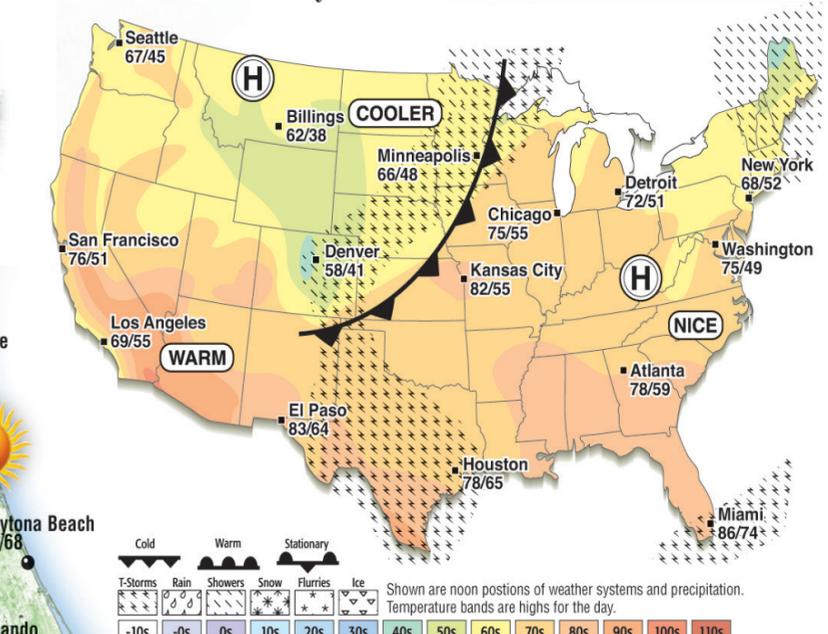
Water Restrictions

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

Florida Cities

City	Today	Sat.	Sun.
Miami	86/74/t	84/75/t	85/74/pc
Okeechobee	84/69/t	82/70/t	83/70/t
Orlando	86/68/s	84/67/pc	85/67/pc
Pembroke Pines	87/73/t	85/73/t	85/74/pc
St. Augustine	81/70/s	81/68/pc	80/67/c
St. Petersburg	87/70/pc	88/70/pc	86/70/pc
Sarasota	88/68/pc	90/67/pc	87/68/t
Tallahassee	86/63/s	86/64/pc	83/65/t
Tampa	88/69/pc	90/67/pc	88/70/pc
W. Palm Bch	84/74/t	84/74/t	84/74/pc
Winter Haven	88/67/pc	87/66/pc	87/67/t

National Forecast for May 11



National Summary
 A departing storm will continue to produce a few showers across the New England states today as high pressure keeps much of the Great Lakes, mid-Atlantic and Southeast sunny and free of wet weather. A few afternoon thunderstorms will fire across South Florida while drenching rain and thunderstorms move through Texas. Portions of eastern Texas could pick up in excess of 2 inches of rainfall. A cold front will deliver showers and thunderstorms to the Midwest, central Plains and parts of the eastern Rockies.

U.S. Cities

City	Today	Sat.	Sun.
Albuquerque	76/56/t	83/55/pc	82/55/pc
Atlanta	78/59/s	78/60/pc	75/61/t
Baltimore	73/44/s	78/53/s	80/56/s
Birmingham	80/59/s	78/64/pc	75/63/t
Boston	67/48/pc	75/56/s	75/56/pc
Charlotte	76/47/s	77/54/s	74/57/pc
Cheyanne	53/38/c	51/39/c	60/37/pc
Chicago	75/55/s	67/49/t	69/45/pc
Cleveland	66/48/s	75/53/pc	69/42/pc
Columbus	72/49/s	77/57/pc	73/53/pc
Dallas	74/62/t	77/61/t	81/62/pc
Denver	58/41/c	55/41/r	60/40/c
Detroit	72/51/s	75/53/t	67/42/pc
Harrisburg	72/44/s	77/52/s	79/55/pc
Honolulu	84/68/s	85/66/s	85/65/s
Houston	78/65/r	81/63/t	83/62/pc
Indianapolis	74/51/s	77/56/s	75/54/c
Jackson, MS	84/65/pc	77/65/t	81/63/c
Kansas City	82/55/pc	73/54/t	74/54/c
Lexington	73/47/s	78/57/pc	67/56/t
Little Rock	80/59/pc	75/56/t	76/59/c

World Cities

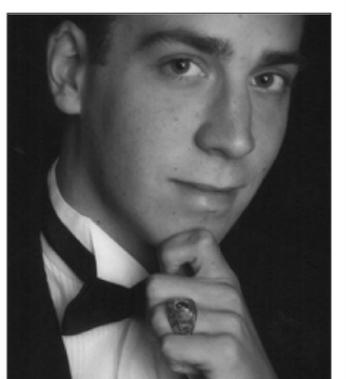
City	Today	Sat.	Sun.
Acapulco	88/72/s	90/74/s	91/79/t
Athens	74/65/t	81/64/t	84/64/s
Beirut	78/65/s	80/69/s	78/65/s
Berlin	75/48/r	56/36/pc	55/40/sh
Bermuda	77/66/r	71/65/s	70/66/s
Calgary	60/37/s	70/44/s	78/44/s
Dublin	54/37/sh	55/39/pc	54/43/r
Edmonton	58/37/s	67/37/s	78/42/s
Freeport	84/73/pc	83/69/t	82/74/pc
Geneva	82/58/sh	66/42/r	63/33/s
Havana	88/71/t	91/70/s	89/71/sh
Hong Kong	86/79/r	88/79/t	88/81/t
Jerusalem	77/60/s	80/63/s	76/58/s
Johannesburg	74/47/s	70/48/s	69/50/pc
Kiev	74/52/s	83/48/s	52/45/sh

NEWS-SUN
 Highlands County's Hometown Newspaper Since 1927
2012 Graduation Edition

For over 77 years, the News-Sun has recognized the achievements of our graduating Seniors. This year is no exception, we will publish our "Salute" to the Seniors Wednesday, May 25th in the full-run of the News-Sun. And we've made it affordable to congratulate "your" special senior.



Tyler –
 We are all so proud of you, the future is yours!
 –Love,
 Mom, Donnie, Josh,
 Maz and Pop.



Please contact the News-Sun by May 16th, 2012 to reserve your space for your special graduate.

386-5631
NEWS-SUN
 2227 US 27 SOUTH – SEBRING

Mother's Day Special!

OPEN 10:30AM-8:00PM

Serving Carved Meats!

Ham • Roast Beef • Turkey
 Large variety of vegetables, salads & deserts.

MANY DELICIOUS ENTREES TO CHOOSE FROM!

Bring your mom to Homers...where the extras don't cost extra.

Menu Prices

Adults	12.99
Age 7-12	5.99
Age 4-7	4.99
CHILDREN 3 & UNDER FREE!	

Homers Restaurant
 Located at 1000 Sebring Square in Sebring. Ph: 863-386-1440 or 214-3480

Edge Cheer takes second and third at Nationals

Special to the News-Sun
On Saturday, April 21, the EDGE All Star Cheer Teams competed at the NCA International Championships in Daytona Beach.

The EDGE Comets, a Mini 2 Team, and the EDGE Twinkles, a Tiny 1 Team, were crowned the Regional IALC Champions at the competition by placing first in their divisions.

Over 2000 teams competed for the title of 2012 All Levels Champion.

This title placed the EDGE teams among the Elite Eight vying for the Grand Champion title for the International All Levels Virtual Championship held on Friday, May 4.

Judged against the seven other top teams from the qualifiers throughout the

nation, the EDGE Comets were crowned National Runner-up in the Large Mini 2 Division and the EDGE Twinkles were crowned 3rd in the Tiny 1 Division, ranking them among the top three best teams in the nation.

Congratulations to these athletes for their hard work and dedication leading them to achieve such a prestigious honor.



Courtesy photo

The Edge Twinkles are elated after placing third in the Tiny 1 Division of the NCA International Championships

Saturday Night Fights

By DAN HOEHNE

daniel.hoehne@newsun.com

SEBRING — Preparations are underway and nerves are ratcheting up as Mixed Martial Arts come to Sebring Saturday night.

Defiant7 MMA Ultimate Fighting Challenge presents Clash of the Cage Warriors in the Convention Center at the Sebring Fairground, with numerous fights on the card for the evening.

The highlight of the night will take place toward the end as three local fighters will go back-to-back-to-back to close the event.

Chris Miller, a two-time state medal winner in wrestling for the Blue Streaks, will be fighting in the 170-pound weight class and in his fourth amateur fight.

"I really just started coming here to keep in shape," the 27-year old Miller said of his start at the Universal Center of Natural Martial Arts under the tutelage of Steve Weed. "But the more I got into the training, the more I wanted to get involved. With my wrestling background, I've got the mentality for the competition and Steve's been training me on the other areas, different tap-out moves and more punches and kicks."

The growth is evident as Miller will come into Saturday's event with a 3-0



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE

Noah Weed dents the heavy back with a flying kick Wednesday, as he prepares for his first time as the Main Event on a fight card in Saturday's Clash of the Cage Warriors at the Sebring Convention Center at the Fairground.

record.

A bit younger, 19-year old Brian Jean has had more of an up and down experience in his five amateur bouts.

After winning his first two, Jean lost his next pair before getting back on the winning track in February at an event in Kissimmee.

As for his tactics and tendencies inside the steel cage, Jean uses his diversity.

"I like to keep it standing up, but all my wins have been on tap-outs, so I can go to the

ground too," he said. "But I've also lost on tap-outs too."

As for his next match being in front of his home town, Jean sees it as a positive.

"You really can't lose being here," he said. "It really fuels the adrenaline to know that people you know are out there watching you."

Miller agreed, though finds it a bit nerve-racking as well.

"I'm more nervous than

anything," he said. "But it will help, at the same time, to have friends there to support you. Plus, when you go to a match, it's a whole weekend, with the weigh-in the night before and then getting there and waiting three hours for your fight. It'll be a lot more convenient having it here."

Perhaps even more nervousness awaits Noah Weed, as he will not only be in front of the home crowd, but will be the Main Event for the

See FIGHTS, Page 4B

An island that only punishes the pursuers

By DOUG FERGUSON

Associated Press

PONTE VEDRA BEACH — It is the most famous hole at The Players Championship.

It can be argued that of all the par 3s in golf, none is more recognizable than the island-green 17th at the TPC Sawgrass.

The theater is endless. The punishment is severe.

For all the hype and occasional terror, however, the par 3 has rarely kept a player atop the leaderboard in the final round Sunday from winning the richest prize on the PGA Tour.

Since moving to the TPC Sawgrass in 1982, only one player came to the 17th hole in the final round at least tied for the lead and found the water.

That was Phil Blackmar in 1991, who made double bogey and paved the way for Steve Elkington to win.

Len Mattiace was chasing in 1998 when he went water, bunker, water again and made 8.

Sean O'Hair had to gamble in 2007, went into the water twice and made a 7.

But there have been more good things happen to a leader over the years.

Fred Couples (1996) and Craig Perks (2002) were among those to make pivotal birdies on their way to winning.

Lee Janzen scrambled for par from the bunker when he won in 1995.

The only time the 17th consistently became decisive was when the PGA Tour forced the situation by having the sudden-death playoff start on the most theatrical hole on the course.

Paul Goydos was in a playoff with Sergio Garcia in 2008 when he hit first and went into the water.

The tournament effectively ended when Garcia found dry land.

A year ago, it wasn't the water but the strong grain

in the grass.

David Toms three-putted, missing a 3 1/2-foot par putt.

According to Golf World magazine, the 17th at Sawgrass on paper might look like a pushover.

For the last three years, it has ranked Nos. 137, 140 and 114 in difficulty of all par 3s on the PGA Tour.

The 17th produced more birdies and eagles (238) than bogeys or worse (181).

And among the four par 3s at Sawgrass, it played as the easiest.

Even so, it will not lack for action as The Players Championship got under way Thursday.

The memories are endless — aces and 8s, short misses and the long, winding putts for birdie.

Tiger Woods hit perhaps the most famous putt on the island green when he holed a 60-footer for birdie that broke three directions and dove into the cup in the third round of 2001.

Not so memorable is that Robert Allenby made the same putt — only a little bit longer — earlier that day.

The difference is it was early in the third round, and the few who even saw it included none other than PGA Tour Commissioner Tim Finchem.

Couples made one of the most bizarre pars on the hole — a tee shot in the water, a penalty drop, and a third shot that plopped into the cup on the fly.

The biggest debate is whether an island should be a green so late in the round.

Woods has long believed it would be better on the front nine.

If someone has a train wreck, he would have the back nine to atone for the mistake.

"I have always said this — I think 17 is a great

See 17th, Page 3B

Heat advance to face Indiana

By TIM REYNOLDS

Associated Press

MIAMI — LeBron James was still on the court, enjoying the moment after ousting the New York Knicks, when the first questions came about what's next for the Miami Heat.

For one day, Indiana can wait.

Having Thursday off from practice is Miami's first playoff prize, and although a five-game win over the Knicks might have seemed easy, the reigning Eastern Conference champions insisted afterward that it was more grinding than it appeared.

James had 29 points, eight rebounds and seven assists, Chris Bosh and Dwyane Wade both scored 19 points and the Heat beat the short-handed Knicks 106-94 in Game 5 of an East first-round series Wednesday night.

Miami will host the Pacers in Game 1 of the East semifinals on Sunday afternoon.

"Even though it was a five-game series," Wade said, "it was a very tough series."

For the Heat, it was only the first step.

They have one goal — get-

ting back to the finals and winning it all — and that was likely why even beating the longtime rival Knicks prompted, at most, a subdued celebration.

"We do not take this for granted," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "This was a tough series. We feel very good about moving on and it'll only get tougher from here."

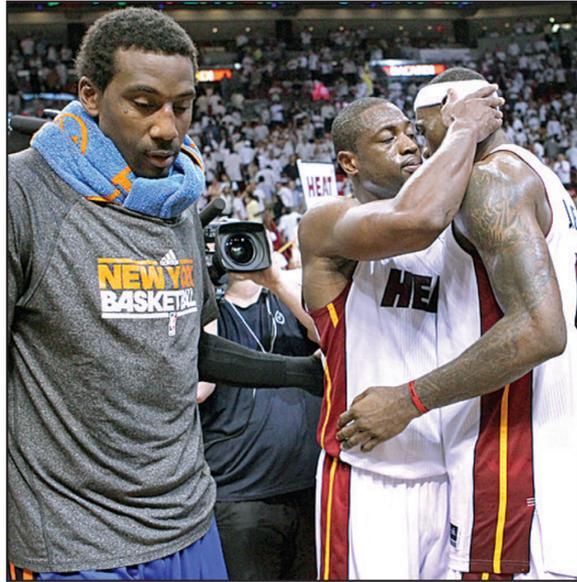
Carmelo Anthony scored 35 points for the Knicks, including a spinning jumper over James at the end of the third quarter that pulled New York within 81-67.

It was far from being enough to stave off an all-too-familiar playoff result for Anthony, part of that 2003 draft class that also yielded James, Bosh and Wade.

Anthony has played 54 postseason games, being part of wins only 17 times.

A misleading stat for certain — it's hardly all on him — and no shortage of people in the Heat organization interrupted their celebrating of a series-clincher to tip their caps Anthony's way afterward.

"We fought, under the cir-



MCT photo

The Miami Heat's Dwyane Wade and LeBron James, right, hug at mid-court as the New York Knicks' Amar'e Stoudemire walks off after the Heat won, 106-94, at American Airlines Arena in Miami on Wednesday.

cumstances," Anthony said. "I'm not one to make any excuses for anything. ... But Miami, they're a tough defensive team. They stick to what their schemes are."

Head-to-head, Anthony and James both scored 139 points in the series.

James shot 48 percent from

the field, Anthony 42 percent.

James averaged 6.2 rebounds and 5.6 assists, Anthony averaged 8.2 rebounds and 2.2 assists.

"It was fun, man," James said. "He's one of the most

See HEAT, Page 4B



Photo courtesy of PGATour.com

The picturesque, though intimidating, 17th hole at TPC Sawgrass.

THE SCOREBOARD



LIVE SPORTS ON TV

NBA Playoffs

FIRST ROUND
(x-if necessary)
(Best-of-7)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Philadelphia 3, Chicago 2
Chicago 103, Philadelphia 91
Philadelphia 109, Chicago 92
Philadelphia 79, Chicago 74
Sunday: Philadelphia 89, Chicago 82
Tuesday: Chicago 77, Philadelphia 69
Thursday: Chicago at Philadelphia, late
x-Saturday, May 12: Philadelphia at Chicago, TBD

Miami 4, New York 1

Miami 100, New York 67
Miami 104, New York 94
Miami 87, New York 70
Sunday: New York 89, Miami 87
Wednesday: Miami 106, New York 94

Indiana 4, Orlando 1

Orlando 81, Indiana 77
Indiana 93, Orlando 78
Indiana 97, Orlando 74
Saturday: Indiana 101, Orlando 99, OT
Tuesday: Indiana 105, Orlando 87

Boston 3, Atlanta 2

Atlanta 83, Boston 74
Boston 87, Atlanta 80
Boston 90, Atlanta 84, OT
Sunday: Boston 101, Atlanta 79
Tuesday: Atlanta 87, Boston 86
Thursday: Atlanta at Boston, late
x-Saturday, May 12: Boston at Atlanta, TBD

WESTERN CONFERENCE

San Antonio 4, Utah 0

San Antonio 106, Utah 91
San Antonio 114, Utah 83
Saturday: San Antonio 102, Utah 90
Monday: San Antonio 87, Utah 81

Oklahoma City 4, Dallas 0

Oklahoma City 99, Dallas 98
Oklahoma City 102, Dallas 99
Oklahoma City 95, Dallas 79
Saturday: Oklahoma City 103, Dallas 97

L.A. Lakers 3, Denver 2

L.A. Lakers 103, Denver 88
L.A. Lakers 104, Denver 100
Denver 99, L.A. Lakers 84
Sunday: L.A. Lakers 92, Denver 88
Tuesday: Denver 102, L.A. Lakers 99
x-Thursday, May 10: L.A. Lakers at Denver, TBD
x-Saturday, May 12: Denver at L.A. Lakers, TBD

L.A. Clippers 3, Memphis 2

L.A. Clippers 99, Memphis 98
Memphis 105, L.A. Clippers 98
L.A. Clippers 87, Memphis 86
Monday: L.A. Clippers 101, Memphis 97, OT
Wednesday: Memphis 92, L.A. Clippers 80
x-Friday, May 11: Memphis at L.A. Clippers, TBD
x-Sunday, May 13: L.A. Clippers at Memphis, TBD

NHL Playoffs

CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

N.Y. Rangers 3, Washington 3

NY Rangers 3, Washington 1
Washington 3, NY Rangers 2
NY Rangers 2, Washington 1, 3OT
Washington 3, NY Rangers 2
Monday: NY Rangers 3, Washington 2, OT
Wednesday: Washington 2, NY Rangers 1
Saturday, May 12: Washington at NY Rangers, 7:30 p.m.

New Jersey 4, Philadelphia 1

Philadelphia 4, New Jersey 3, OT
New Jersey 4, Philadelphia 1
New Jersey 4, Philadelphia 3, OT
Sunday: New Jersey 4, Philadelphia 2
Tuesday: New Jersey 3, Philadelphia 1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Phoenix 4, Nashville 1

Phoenix 4, Nashville 3, OT
Phoenix 5, Nashville 3
Nashville 2, Phoenix 0
Phoenix 1, Nashville 0
Monday: Phoenix 2, Nashville 1

Los Angeles 4, St. Louis 0

Los Angeles 3, St. Louis 1
Los Angeles 5, St. Louis 2
Los Angeles 4, St. Louis 2
Sunday: Los Angeles 3, St. Louis 1

Major League Baseball

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Tampa Bay	20	11	.645	—
Baltimore	19	11	.633	½
Toronto	17	14	.548	3
New York	16	14	.533	3½
Boston	12	18	.400	7½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	17	13	.567	—
Detroit	15	15	.500	2
Chicago	15	17	.469	3
Kansas City	11	19	.367	6
Minnesota	8	22	.267	9

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Texas	20	10	.667	—
Oakland	16	15	.516	4½
Seattle	15	18	.456	6½
Los Angeles	14	18	.438	7

Tuesday's Games

Chi. White Sox 5, Cleveland 3, 10 ings
N.Y. Yankees 5, Tampa Bay 3
Texas 10, Baltimore 3
Kansas City 6, Boston 4
Minnesota 5, L.A. Angels 0
Oakland 7, Toronto 3
Detroit 6, Seattle 4

Wednesday's Games

Toronto 5, Oakland 2
Chicago White Sox 8, Cleveland 1
Tampa Bay 4, N.Y. Yankees 1
Texas at Baltimore, p.p.d., rain
Kansas City 4, Boston 3
L.A. Angels 6, Minnesota 2
Seattle 2, Detroit 1

Thursday's Games

Tampa Bay at N.Y. Yankees, late
Texas at Baltimore, late
Cleveland at Boston, late
Toronto at Minnesota, late
Detroit at Oakland, late

Friday's Games

Seattle at N.Y. Yankees, 7:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m.
Cleveland at Boston, 7:10 p.m.
L.A. Angels at Texas, 8:05 p.m.
Kansas City at Chicago White Sox, 8:10 p.m.
Toronto at Minnesota, 8:10 p.m.
Detroit at Oakland, 10:05 p.m.

LEADERS

BATTING

	AB	R	H	BA
Hamilton, TEX	106	25	43	.406

AUTO RACING

FRIDAY

3:30 p.m. NASCAR – Sport Clips 200, Qual. ESPN2

7 p.m. NASCAR – Sport Clips 200 ESPN2

SATURDAY

6:30 p.m. NASCAR – Showtime Southern 500 FOX

BOXING

FRIDAY

11 p.m. Yudel Johnson vs. Freddy Hernandez. SHOW

COLLEGE BASEBALL

SATURDAY

1 p.m. Georgia Tech at Virginia SUN

COLLEGE LACROSSE

SATURDAY

Noon NCAA Tournament – Teams TBA ESPN

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

FRIDAY

1 p.m. ACC Tournament – Teams TBA SUN

3:30 p.m. ACC Tournament – Teams TBA SUN

SATURDAY

4 p.m. ACC Tournament – Teams TBA ESPN

6 p.m. Big East Tournament – Teams TBA ESPN2

8 p.m. SEC Tournament – Teams TBA ESPN

GOLF

FRIDAY

9 a.m. EuroPGA – Madeira Islands Open GOLF

1 p.m. PGA – The Players Championship. GOLF

SATURDAY

Noon PGA – The Players Championship GOLF

2 p.m. PGA – The Players Championship. NBC

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

FRIDAY

7 p.m. Tampa Bay at Baltimore SUN

8 p.m. Chicago Cubs at Milwaukee WGN

SATURDAY

1 p.m. Regional – Chicago Cubs at Milwaukee, N.Y. FOX

Mets at Miami or L.A. Angels at Texas. FOX

7 p.m. Tampa Bay at Baltimore SUN

7 p.m. Kansas City at Chicago White Sox WGN

NBA PLAYOFFS

FRIDAY

7 p.m. Miami at N.Y. Knicks, if necessary ESPN

9:30 p.m. Memphis at L.A. Clippers, if necessary ESPN

SATURDAY

8 p.m. Philadelphia at Chicago, if necessary. TNT

Times, games, channels all subject to change

Jeter, NYY	129	23	50	.388
Ortiz, BOS	117	21	42	.359
Sweeney, BOS	93	9	33	.355
Konerko, CHW	113	16	39	.345

HOME RUNS

Hamilton, TEX	14
Dunn, CHW	10
Granderson, NYY	10
Encarnacion, TOR	10
Jones, BAL	8
9 tied with 7	

RUNS BATTED IN

Hamilton, TEX	36
Encarnacion, TOR	26
Dunn, CHW	25
Swisher, NYY	24
Ortiz, BOS	23
Butler, K-C	23

WON-LOST

Weaver, LAA	5-0
Price, T-B	5-1
Shields, T-B	5-1
13 tied	4

STRIKEOUTS

Hernandez, SEA	51
Verlander, DET	48
Weaver, LAA	47
Peavy, CHW	44
Darvish, TEX	44

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	18	12	.600	—
Atlanta	19	13	.594	—
New York	18	13	.581	½
Miami	16	15	.516	2½
Philadelphia	14	18	.438	5

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	20	11	.645	—
Cincinnati	16	14	.533	3½
Pittsburgh	14	16	.467	5½
Houston	14	17	.452	6
Chicago	13	18	.419	7
Milwaukee	13	18	.419	7

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	20	11	.645	—
San Francisco	15	16	.484	5
Arizona	14	18	.438	6½
Colorado	13	17	.433	6½
San Diego	11	21	.344	9½

Tuesday's Games

N.Y. Mets 7, Philadelphia 4
Pittsburgh 5, Washington 4
Atlanta 3, Chicago Cubs 1
Houston 3, Miami 2
Milwaukee 8, Cincinnati 3
St. Louis 6, Arizona 1
San Diego 3, Colorado 1
San Francisco 2, L.A. Dodgers 1

Wednesday's Games

Cincinnati 2, Milwaukee 1
Chicago Cubs 1, Atlanta 0
Colorado 6, San Diego 2
N.Y. Mets 10, Philadelphia 6
Pittsburgh 4, Washington 2
Miami 5, Houston 3, 12 innings
St. Louis 7, Arizona 2

Transactions

BASEBALL

American League

TAMPA BAY RAYS—Placed INF Jeff Keppinger on the restricted list. Recalled OF Brandon Guyer from Durham (IL).

National League

LOS ANGELES DODGERS—Placed OF-1B Juan Rivera on the 15-day DL. Recalled OF-1B Scott Van Slyke from Albuquerque (PCL).

FOOTBALL

National Football League

CHICAGO BEARS—Agreed to terms with CB Isaiah Frey on a four-year contract.

SPORTS SNAPSHOTS

Citrus Golf Day

SEBRING – Highlands County Citrus Growers Association and Heartland National Bank present Citrus Golf Day 2012, slated for Thursday, June 7, at the Country Club of Sebring.

The event will begin with a Noon lunch and check in, with a 1 p.m. shotgun start.

Team cost of \$300 includes greens fee for four players, lunch, post-tournament hors d'oeuvres, water, soft drinks and beer on the course.

Also, \$50 gift certificates will be awarded to the winners of special events, including Long Drive and Closest to the Pin for A, B,C and D handicap players.

Range balls and a participation prize raffle ticket will be included for all golfing participants.

For additional information call 385-8091.

LP Chamber 5/10K

LAKE PLACID – The 2012 Lake Placid Chamber 5K/10K Run/Walk Team Challenge will take place Saturday, May 19, beginning at 7 a.m. at the DeVane Circle Park.

Early entry fees are \$10 for students, \$15 for team members and \$20 for individuals – fee the day of the race is \$25.

Register by May 4 to get a Dri-fit T-shirt.

Entering as a team can save on entry fee, as each member of a recognized organization or business team saves \$5.

Teams must consist of at least three members and may be mixed ages and genders.

For more information, call Niki Gregor at 386-1300 or email ngregor@heartlandnb.com.

SFCC Volleyball Camps

AVON PARK – The summer season is right around the corner, which means plenty of opportunities for aspiring area volleyball players to sharpen their skills and learn some new things at the SFCC Summer Camps, lead by head coach Kim Crawford and members of the Lady Panther squad.

Three indoor camps are going to be held, in addition to two sand volleyball camps.

Four-day indoor camps will be offered Monday through Thursday, June 25-28, July 9-12 and July 30-Aug. 2.

Each day, campers going into grades 6-8 will meet from 9 a.m.-Noon, campers going into grades 9-12 from 1-4 p.m., with all campers then enjoying open pool time from 4-4:45 p.m.

Cost for the indoor camps are \$100 per week, or \$30 per daily session.

Out on the sand court, four-day camps will be offered Monday through Thursday, June 18-21 and July 16-19, with campers going into grades 6-12 meeting from 8:30-10:30 a.m.

Cost for the sand camps is \$60 per week or \$20 per daily session.

Individual, private sessions for indoor and sand are available year-round for \$20 per hour.

To register, go to www.southflorida.edu/athletics/volleyball, click on "volleyball camp" and print out the Application Form.

Mail the completed form, or bring to the Cashier's Office in Building B.

For more information, call Coach Crawford at 835-2377 or email kim.crawford@southflorida.edu.

Flag Football

SEBRING – The Highlands County Family YMCA is conducting a sign up for The YMCA/Eagle Youth Flag Football League.

Registrations are for ages 5-15 years of

age. For questions call 382-9622.

Football fundraisers

SEBRING – Sebring football will be hosting fundraisers each of the next two weekends.

This coming Saturday, May 12, the Streaks will be holding a Watermelon Sale, along with Bake Sale and Car Wash at two locations – at the Walgreens in south Sebring and at Eye Express on the north side of town.

The event will go from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. with locally grown watermelons for sale, as well as baked goods and a host of hands to give the car a spring cleaning.

On Friday, May 18, the second annual Firemen Spring BBQ will take place at Firemen's Field from 4-6 p.m., with all proceeds going to benefit Sebring football.

For \$8, diners have a choice of 1/3-pound pulled pork sandwich or half-pound chicken, each coming with two sides.

Customers can drive through or dine in and stay for the annual Blue and White game at 7 p.m.

For tickets, contact Coach Scott at 214-3880, or Coach Averitt at 381-4098.

Sebring Cheer Clinic

SEBRING – The Blue Streak Cheerleaders will be hosting a cheer clinic from Monday through Thursday, June 11-14, in the Sebring High School gym.

The clinic is open to children from age 4 through eighth grade and will meet each day from 3-5:30 p.m.

There will be a different theme of crafts, fun and cheers each day and attendees will be taught cheers and chants from the nationally ranked and four-time state champion Blue Streak squad.

The clinic culminates with a Pep Rally at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 14, and attendees will also perform at a Sebring football game.

Cost is \$50 before June 1, \$60 after, and there are discounts for multiple family members – \$50 first child and \$35 each additional member of same family.

For more information, contact Wendy Cloud at cloudw@highlands.k12.fl.us.

Sebring Pool Hours

SEBRING – The Sebring High School Pool will be open to the public beginning Tuesday, May 1, with availability Mondays through Thursdays from 6-7:30 p.m. and from 1-3 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays

Additional hours will be added once school is let out for the summer.

Cost is \$2 per swimmer, with family passes available at \$50 for first member and \$20 for each additional family member.

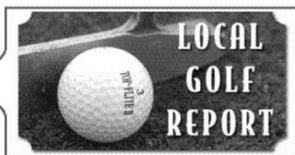
Other activities at the pool include Water Aerobics, which begin Tuesday, May 8 and meet each Tuesday and Thursday from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Cost is \$2 per class, though with a summer pool pass, the cost is trimmed to \$1.

Swimming lessons are also going to be offered throughout the summer.

The first session runs from June 11-22, the second from June 25-July 6, the third from July 9-20 and the fourth from July 23-August 3.

<



Senior Tip

MASTER STROKES

BY PHIL FRANKE WITH TOP 100 GOLF INSTRUCTORS

Join Junior Golf

Most senior golfers struggle with their putting. Unfortunately, that's the way it is. Or is it? A good majority of senior putting problems are probably more psychological than physical. You have too many missed putts in your memory banks that have gradually tensed you up through the years. Remember back as a "youngster" when you didn't study the line five times and then agonize as you stood over the ball? You read the putt, you got into your stance, and you putted quickly and confidently. Why don't you do the same now? Don't dwell on the negative possibilities. Establish a brief, consistent and confident routine, without worry.

Get that little boy back out on the course to play some carefree, confident golf.

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



Don Ethun, B. and B. Plunkett, Charlie Seralde, D. and C. McClay with minus-14; and second place, John and Laura Smutnick, Kay Conkle, Tom Stewart, J. Sizemore and Jerry Lewis with minus-12.

The Morrison Group played a game on Thursday, April 26.

Winning first place was the team of Ken Brunswick, Jim Anderson, Larry Roy and Tom Morway with minus-30; second place, Fred Evans, Johnny Wehunt and Cliff Aubin with minus-24; and third place, Jim Cercy, Gil Heier, Bill Mountford and Ken Koon with minus-22.

SpringLake

An Individual Net Score Flighted

Tournament was played on the Cougar Trail course by the SpringLake Women's Golf Association on Wednesday, May 9.

Flight 1 was won by Dotti Blackwell with net 66 and Debbie Delaney was second with 68.

Mary Cebula took first place in Flight 2 at net 64 with Carole Frederick coming in with 66 to claim second place.

Jean Donahue had the best net score of the day with 63 to take 1st place in the 3rd Flight and Ann McWilliams was second in the flight with 64.

On Tuesday, May 8, the SpringLake Men's Golf Association held a Four Man Team - 3 Best Ball tournament on the Cougar Trail golf course.

All team handicaps were balanced and only the three best balls on each hole counted for score.

Taking first place at 186 strokes was

the team of Bob Hinde, Bo Bohanon, Wayne Nelson and Ed Clay.

Second place went to Jan Hard, Richie Eastep, Charlie Keniston and Jay Payne, who finished with 190 strokes.

Coming in third place, at 191 strokes, was the team of Ken Kirby, Will David, Gene Hearn and Jim Foote. On Thursday, May 3, the SpringLake Men's Golf Association completed their monthly two-day Pick Your Partner tournament.

On Tuesday, the partners played Alternate Shot on the Front Nine and Scrambled on the Back Nine of the Cougar Trail course.

On Thursday, the partners added both net scores to Tuesday's scores, playing the Panther Creek course.

In the A Flight, Ken Kirby and Bob Hinde won first place with a score of 196.

There was a tie for second place at 202 between the teams of Jan Hard and Jack Hoerner and that of Will David and Gene Hearn.

Taking third place at 210 strokes was Bill Lawens and Larry Miesner.

In the B Flight, first place went to Ed Clay and John Schroeder with a winning 209 strokes.

Second place went to Chips Ryan and Ray McKenzie who shot a combined 215 strokes.

Third place, at 217 strokes, was taken by John Delaney and John Bozynski.

While it was a beautiful day to play golf, the scoring was so atrocious that none of the teams interviewed believed they had won.

On Wednesday, May 2, the SpringLake Women's Golf Association played a 4 Person Team 2 Best Balls Tournament on the Panther Creek course.

The team of Judy Dunn, Debbie Delaney, Wanda Baker and a blind won first place with a score of 106.

Coming in second with 114 was the team of Terrie Austin, Carole Frederick, Julia Starr and Rita Jaskowski.

Lake June West

A Scramble was played Thursday, May 3.

Winning first place was the team of John and Shelly Byron, Art Schmeltz, Betty Billau and Charlotte Mathew with 51. Tying for second/third places were the teams of Doyan and Donna Eades, John and Sue Ruffo and Larry Heath; Dick and Norma Denhart, Frank and Joanne McGill and Don Boulton with 52 each.

Closest to the pin: (Ladies), No. 2, Sue Ruffo, 2-feet-7-inches; and No. 8, Betty Billau, 10-feet-2-inches. (Men), No. 4, Ken Rowen, 16-feet-1-inch.

The Men's Association played a league event on Wednesday, May 2.

Tying for first/second places were the teams of Doyan Eades, Ken Grubbs, Jack Maginnis, Larry Heath and Roger Childers; John Byron, Art Schmeltz, Don Boulton, Fred Neer and Bill Brouhle with 41 each. Third place, Dick Denhart, Bill Fowler, Dick Reaney and John Ruffo with 42.

Closest to the pin: No. 2, Fred Neer, 12-feet-9-inches; and No. 8, Bill Brouhle, 4-feet.

River Greens

The Morrison Group played a game Monday, May 7.

Winning first place was the team of Lefty St. Pierre, Bill Mountford and Ken Brunswick.

The Men's Association played a Men's Day event on Saturday, May 5.

Winning first place was the team of B.C. Roberts, Tim Thomas and Keith Kincer with minus-22; and second place, John Smutnick, Johnny Wehunt, Bill Mountford and Fred Evans with minus-19.

Closest to the pin: No. 3, Al Farrell, 2-feet-9.5-inches; No. 5, John Smutnick, 9-feet-1-inch; No. 12, Don McDonald, 9-feet-8-inches; and No. 17, Cliff Aubin, 5-feet-9-inches.

An Evening Scramble was played on Friday, May 4.

Tying for first/second places were the teams of Don and Jody Ethun, Jeff

Bitcon, Tim Thomas, Joe Graf and Joe Craig; Laura and John Smutnick, Tom Stewart, Don and Patsy Miller with minus-13 each.

The Ladies Association played a Pro-Am tournament on Thursday, May 3.

Winning first place was the team of Donna Johnson, Jody Ethun and Lucy Roberts with plus-4.5; and second place, Pat Graf, Kay Conkle, Bev Rudd and Elaine Keppler with plus-1.5.

Individual winners were: Tying for first/second places were Linda Therrien and Jody Ethun with plus-3.5 each. Third place, Elaine Keppler with plus-3.

The Morrison Group played a game on Thursday, May 3.

The winners were: First place, Paul Johnson and John Smutnick with 137; second place, Keith Kincer and Tim Thomas with 142; and third place, Russ Rudd and Don McDonald with 146.

The Men's Association played a Pro-Am tournament on Wednesday, May 2.

Winning first place was the team of Russ Rudd, Ken Koon, Peter March and Warren Herenden with plus-18; second place, Keith Kincer, Cliff Aubin, Joe Graf and Jim Cercy with plus-6.5.

Individual winners: Flight A (26-over): Russ Rudd with plus-10. Flight B (22-25): Ken Koon with plus-12. Flight C (20-21): Joe Graf with plus-4.5. Flight D (19-under): Johnny Wehunt with plus-4.5.

The Morrison Group played a game on Tuesday, May 1.

Tying for first/second places were the teams of Don McDonald, John

Smutnick, Bill Mountford and Kenny Brunswick (draw); K. Brunswick, Joe Graf, Cliff Steele and Cliff Aubin with minus-29 each.

The Golfettes played a Gross/Net Flighted game Tuesday, May 1.

The winners were: First flight - Gross - Linda Therrien with 82. Net - Betty Leblanc with 65. Second flight - Gross - Pat Kincer with 93. Net - Fran Neil with 68. Third flight - Gross - Jody Ethun with 96. Net - Karen Speaker with 66.

The Morrison Group played a game Saturday, April 28.

Winning first place was the team of Cliff Aubin, Jim Anderson and Lefty St. Pierre with minus-15; and second place, Ken Koon, Don McDonald and Tim Thomas.

An Evening Scramble was played on Friday, April 27.

Winning first place was the team of

Cheering Comets shine



Courtesy photo

The EDGE Comets finish up their routine with a flourish and were national runners-up this past weekend.

17th hole is made for memories

Continued from 1B

hole, but not the 17th," he said. "I think it's a perfect eighth hole or something like that."

Along with his long birdie putt in 2001, Woods holed perhaps a more important putt on the 17th.

It was the 1994 U.S. Amateur, and his tee shot narrowly stayed on the back of the green.

He holed the birdie putt from about 18 feet to go 1 up and closed out Trip Kuehne on the 18th.

That might not even have been his most nervous moment.

"We played one year when it was just absolutely freezing here, and standing on that tee to a back left pin, you think it's no big deal, it's a back left pin," he said. "But the wind is coming in off the left, and if it comes through that chute — you have the grandstand, you have the

trees — and it comes through that little chute and you can see the flag just bending. I don't feel comfortable from 155, 160 yards hitting a little chip 5-iron, so that's a hard shot, especially when there's no bailout.

"But I hit a little chip 5 iron on the green and was happy to make my par."

Toms returned to the 17th during practice rounds this week.

If there were bad memories, they didn't linger.

Toms has been there too many times before.

He knows what can happen, even when a ball appears to be safe on the green.

It just happened to him, allowing K.J. Choi to win in a playoff.

"To be quite honest, what I did last year has nothing to do with what takes place tomorrow morning," he said Wednesday. "I have to go out and prove it to myself and

play those holes; that I can do it again and try to get right back in the mix. A lot of things have to go right, on any given week, for you to have a chance to win. That will be no different this week."

Toms did not protest that it was used in a playoff.

He did not care that the island green came so late in the round.

"It's the 17th hole. It's an island green. A lot can happen," Toms said. "I think it's great for this tournament, for the fan base. Maybe not great for the players having to play it late in a round or trying to win a golf tournament, because there's really no bailout room. I think it creates a lot of buzz for this event. I just approach it that way. You've got to play the hole four times, and hopefully, you hit good shots."

In his case, he had to play it five times, which turned out to be one time too many.

Florida Trail Association - Heartland Chapter May Activities

Special to the News-Sun

The Florida Trail Association - Heartland Chapter has a slew of activities on tap for the month of May to enjoy the wonders of nature throughout the area.

Date: Saturday and Sunday, May 12-13

Activity: Hiking Trail Maintenance (come for the day or camp (primitive) overnight)

Location: Green Swamp, Lakeland, FL Meet at Rock Ridge Rd. gate.

Directions: From US-98 in north Lakeland turn east on Rock Ridge Rd., at fork bear left and continue 4.2 miles to gate on your left. From SR-33 in Polk City travel north, turn left (west) on Dean Still Rd., turn left on

Rock Ridge Rd., after 2 or 3 miles gate will be on your right.

Bring water, snacks, lunch, sun and insect protection, and camping gear if camping.

Contact: RSVP Bob Yost at 644-5448 or bobalinks3@yahoo.com for meet-up time and other information.

Date: Saturday, May 19

Activity: Trail Maintenance

Location: National Scenic Trail at Boney Marsh, Bluff Hammock Rd., Lorida, FL (just south of Sebring).

Bring water, snacks, lunch, sun and insect protection.

Contact: RSVP David Waldrop at 605-3587 for

meet-up time and other details.

Date: Sunday, May 20

Activity: Nature Walk

Location: Circle B Bar Preserve, SR 540 (Winter Lake Road), Lakeland

Description: Approx. 3 mile walk to view birds and other wildlife at this scenic wildlife preserve which is home to an oak hammock, freshwater marsh, hardwood swamp and lake shore, a tremendous bird population, including a variety of wading birds, waterfowl, ospreys and bald eagles. Alligators inhabit Lake Hancock and may be observed from a distance. Pets are not allowed.

Bring: Walking or hiking shoes, water, snacks, sun and insect protection.

Contact: Liane Plumhoff 646-2398 or lplum@verizon.net. for meet-up time and other details.

Date: Friday - Sunday, May 25-27

Activity: Memorial Weekend Camping Trip, Kayaking, Bike Ride, and Potluck Dinner

Location: Hillsborough River State Park

Directions: 9 miles north of Tampa and 6 miles south of Zephyrhills on US Highway 301. From I-75, take the Fowler Ave. exit #265 east to Hwy. 301, travel north for 9 miles, and the park will be on your left-hand side.

Description: Come to camp; or come for kayaking on Sunday or bicycling on

Saturday, as day trips.

Contacts: RSVP Camping site #, Bicycling on Saturday, and Pot Luck Dinner to Maureen Jones at 293-5036

mjones206@tampabay.rr.com meet-up time and other information.

RSVP Kayaking: Eileen Valachovic at 956-2145 for meet-up time and other information.

SWING IN & SAVE!



New Greens!
Better Than Ever!

18 Holes of Golf
8am-1pm...\$22 • Weekends...\$18
Before 8am/After 1pm...\$18

20 Play Card...\$500

Executive Course
9 Holes | **Call For Prices.**
Prices good through April 30th.

Harder Hall | 3201 Golfview Rd | Sebring | 863-382-0744

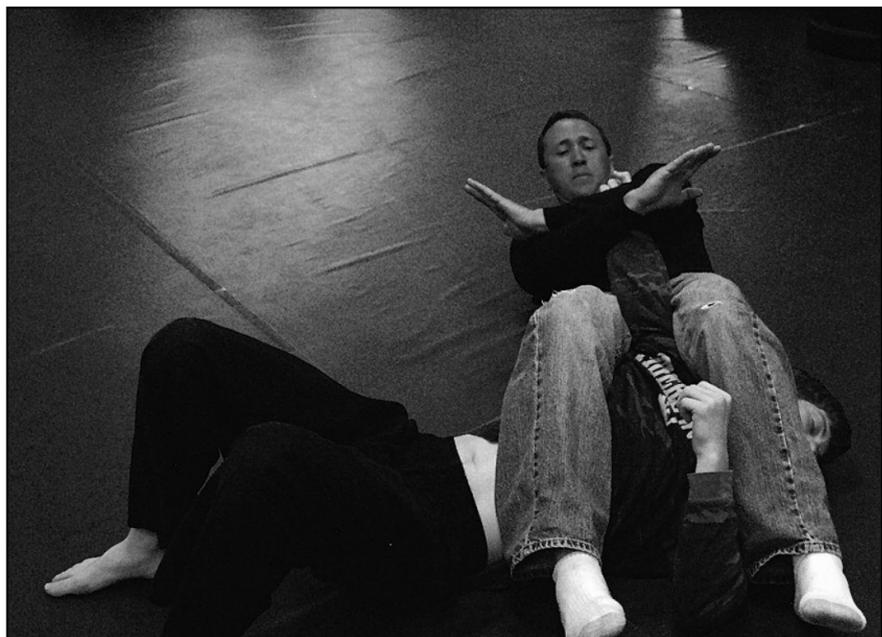
Fights here on Saturday night

Continued from 1B

first time in his young career. The 19-year old lost his first two fights, but is on a streak of four wins in a row, helping propel him to the main draw on the card. "I'm way more nervous about this one," Weed said. "When I'm at other places, they've never seen me before and may never see me again, so there's no pressure. Here I know I have to do well or I'll have to deal with all the talk afterward." Then again, he's felt such nervousness before. "It's so different when you get in there and the door closes," father and trainer Steve said. "His first fight, I had to guide him to the ring. That

never fully goes away, but it's a matter of using it to your advantage. "You can't be too relaxed in there," he continued. "I did that once, went into a fight and just said, OK, I'm going to stay calm and take it easy. That was the wrong way to be. The other guy took control early and I couldn't get it back." But amid the nerves, there is an eagerness among the trio to get it going. "Two months of training, all the work you put in," Miller said. "You get real anxious to get to the actual fight." For Weed, there is an added incentive. "If I have a real good showing, it might be time to

turn pro," he said. "I haven't lost in almost a year, and I think I might even be better as a pro." To which his father agreed, on that point at least. "He's real strong in a few tap-out moves that they don't let you do in amateurs," Steve said. "But there are a couple things I'd like to see him do before he turns pro." And if Noah shows those Saturday night? "Then I want to see him do it again." The big night will see the doors to the Convention Center opening at 5 p.m., with preliminary fights starting at 6 p.m. and the Defiant7 MMA fights kicking off at 8 p.m.



News-Sun photos by DAN HOEHNE
Above: Two-time state wrestling medalist Chris Miller has taken his grappling prowess into the cage and will have his fourth MMA fight Saturday night. Below: Brian Jean works on some punching combinations with trainer Steve Weed at the Universal Center of Natural Martial Arts in preparation for Saturday night's MMA event in Sebring.

Heat take first step

Continued from 1B

competitive players I've ever played against in a playoff series." Amare Stoudemire scored 14 points, Landry Fields and J.R. Smith both added 12, Mike Bibby had 10 and Tyson Chandler grabbed 11 rebounds for New York, which is 1-8 in playoff games since Anthony and Stoudemire became teammates. "Miami is a very good team," Stoudemire said. "You have to give credit to them." Stoudemire fouled out with 4:48 left, and the Knicks put together one more run with hopes of extending the season. New York cut the margin to 11 points four times in a 2-minute span, but Miami answered every time, the last of those a 3-pointer by Shane Battier with 54 seconds left.

and then the Heat's "Big Three" needed just 3 minutes to blow the game open. Bosh and Wade combined for six points in that flurry, James the other five, including a 21-footer with 1:29 left to put Miami up 78-60. "We stress moving the ball," Bosh said. "We had some fantastic possessions." For the Knicks, it was not a fantastic finish. New York's season started with great expectations. Not long after the lockout ended the Knicks acquired Chandler from Dallas, a move made possible by using the amnesty clause on Chauncey Billups. Those moves were expected. Just about everything else that happened was not. From the firing of coach Mike D'Antoni to the emergence of Jeremy Lin before he was sidelined by a knee injury, the Knicks had a roller-coaster ride that continued with a debilitating series of injuries against Miami. Rookie guard Iman Shumpert was lost in the third quarter of Game 1 to a torn knee ligament, Stoudemire sliced his left hand after taking out his frustrations on a metal-and-glass fire extinguisher case after a Game 2 loss, and Baron Davis shredded his knee so badly in Game 4 that he is expected to be out a year — at least. "I thought we played well in spurts," Knicks interim coach Mike Woodson said. "Our guys got a short taste of what playoff basketball's about. It's something this summer we've got to sit and think about and hopefully get ready for next season." He didn't put any extra

emphasis on the word "hopefully," but he could have. One of New York's first orders of business this off-season will likely be deciding if Woodson will be back on the sideline, as many expect. "Woody's done a heck of a job with that team," Spoelstra said. **Notes:** Miami went 7-1 against the Knicks this season, including playoffs. The Heat won three of four games against Indiana this season. ... James had seven points, five assists and zero field goals in the first quarter. Only two other players (Billups in 2007 and Jerryd Bayless in 2011, both in fourth quarters) had done that in any quarter since James entered the league, according to STATS LLC. ... Rapper Rick Ross was among those courtside.



That sent the white seat covers flying in all corners of the arena, the fans knowing it was finally over. "There's a lot of pride that takes place in this kind of series," Wade said. James had 13 points on only six field-goal attempts by halftime, Wade shook off a scoreless first quarter with 12 in the second, and Miami went into the break leading 55-44. The margin was less than 10 points for only 90 seconds of the third quarter. Stoudemire went to the bench with his fifth foul with 6:41 left in the third, and Miami went on an 11-2 spurt not long after to all but seal the outcome. It was 67-58 when Fields made two free throws with 4:49 left in the quarter —

Magic begin offseason likely with change

By KYLE HIGHTOWER
Associated Press

ORLANDO — What will certainly be a busy summer for the Orlando Magic began just a day after their second straight first-round playoff exit. Magic CEO Alex Martins said Wednesday while there's no timetable for possible changes, "everyone and every scenario" will be evaluated going forward and "unfortunately, just getting to the playoffs isn't good enough." Martins hasn't spoken yet with Dwight Howard specifically on what he wants to sign long-term, but said management won't duplicate the same uncertainty that that took place with him this sea-

son. Otis Smith says he'll talk with his family, but is "50-50" in his mind right now on if he even would like to return as president of basketball operations. Coach Stan Van Gundy says he wants to return, but isn't stressing one way or another. "I talked to Otis a little bit today, but nothing about that," Van Gundy said of his future. "They're gonna decide one way or another and you go with that. That part of it doesn't weigh on me at all. There's only two things that can happen, it's not like menu of options. You either fire me or you don't fire me."

Saturday, May 19, 2012
DeVane Circle Park
Race Starts at 7:00 AM SHARP!

Enter as a Team and SAVE!
Each member of a recognized organization or business team saves \$5.00 on entry fees. Teams must consist of at least 3 members and may be mixed ages and genders. Team members are also eligible for individual awards. For more information, contact **Niki Gregor, event chair at 863-386-1300 or ngregor@heartlandnb.com.**

Awards for each Race - 5K & 10K
1st Place Overall - Male & Female
1st Place Masters (40+) - Male & Female
1st, 2nd, 3rd Places Age Groups - Male & Female
TEAM AWARDS
Most Creative Team & Team w/Most Finishers

Entry Fees
Early Student - \$10.00
Early Team Member - \$15.00
Early Individual - \$20.00
Day of Race - \$25.00

Register by May 4th to get a Dri-fit T-shirt!
Guaranteed to first 150 Registrants

Entry Name _____ Sex _____ 5K 10K

Team Name _____
(If applicable - Each member MUST complete a separate entry form.) Teams must be affiliated with recognized organization or business.

Address _____ Phone _____ Age _____ Student

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Team Member

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Individual

(Circle One)
Shirt Size **Adult** S M L XL XXL **Youth** S M E-Mail _____

Incomplete or unsigned entry forms will not be accepted. Return this form along with check or money order made out to (cash will be accepted in person): Bill me, please

Greater Lake Placid Chamber of Commerce • 18 North Oak Avenue • Lake Placid, FL 33852

In consideration of my entry being accepted, I intend to be legally bound, and to hereby for myself, my heirs, and executors waive all rights and claims for damages, actions, suits, expenses, attorneys fees, claims or demands, in law or in equity, which may hereafter accrue to me against Town of Lake Placid, Greater Lake Placid Chamber of Commerce, Lake Placid Police Department, race officials, sponsors, or agents and volunteers and hereby release same from all liabilities from my participation in this event even though that liability may arise out of the negligence on the part of any person or entity named in this waiver. If I should suffer an injury or illness, I authorize the officials of the race to have me transported to a medical facility for treatment, and I take full responsibility, financially and otherwise, for same. I attest and verify that I am physically fit to participate in in this event. **I HAVE READ THE ABOVE RELEASE AND UNDERSTAND THAT I AM ENTERING THIS EVENT AT MY OWN RISK.**

Participant's Signature _____ Date _____
(Parent/Guardian if under age 18)

HEALTHY LIVING

Program offers information for asthma sufferers

StatePoint Media

If you're one of the estimated 25 million Americans who suffer from asthma, you know what it's like to experience symptoms such as coughing, wheezing and shortness of breath. To raise awareness and understanding of this serious and growing health problem, Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation and Genentech have joined with the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America (AAFA) to launch The Asthma Express, an educational awareness program to help bring allergic asthma to the forefront.

The program highlights the increasing number of people suffering from the disease and how it affects them. The program encourages people to get screened to help determine if their asthma is uncontrolled and to talk with an asthma specialist, like an allergist or pulmonologist, about their results and if they should be screened for allergic asthma. The Asthma Express is stopping in selected cities across the U.S., educating people at community health fairs about asthma, allergic asthma and some available testing options.

In each city, the educational experience features:

- Interactive iPad stations where people can learn

more about allergic asthma.

— Free testing options to see if your asthma is uncontrolled and if allergens may play a role in your asthma.

— A take home educational kit to help people talk with their healthcare provider about the disease.

Many things can trigger or worsen asthma symptoms, leading to uncontrolled asthma that may vary and recur over time. Of the different types of asthma, allergic asthma is the most common form affecting approximately 60 percent of all asthma sufferers in the U.S. Allergic asthma is caused by sensitivity to year-round allergens in the air that trigger an allergic reaction that can lead to asthma attacks and symptoms.

It is also associated with IgE, a type of antibody responsible for most allergic reactions. Typically your healthcare provider will use a skin or blood test to see if your asthma is caused by allergens in the air.

"It is important to understand what could trigger your allergic asthma to help better control your disease," says Dr. Travis Stork, ER doctor and host of the Emmy award-winning talk show "The Doctors." "Many people living with asthma and allergic asthma have



StatePoint Media
'It is important to understand what could trigger your allergic asthma,' says Dr. Travis Stork.

triggers. Identifying your triggers can help you work with your doctor to determine the most appropriate course of action. The one thing I always tell patients: 'Empower yourself.' When it comes to asthma, find out if your asthma is allergic asthma."

Only your healthcare provider can tell you if you have allergic asthma. Be sure to talk to your doctor.

To find out more about allergic asthma and when The Asthma Express may be coming to a city near you, visit www.AsthmaExpress.com.

Dr. Stork is being compensated for his participation in this educational campaign which is sponsored by Genentech and Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation.

Vitreous floaters are a common complaint

Hardly a day goes by that a patient doesn't walk into our office complaining of a "cobweb" in their vision. Some patients will describe the image as a "tadpole" or "bug" moving in their line of sight. These images seem to change position with eye or head movement. The layman's term for this condition is floaters, specifically, vitreous floaters.

Upon dilated examination, the eye doctor will observe one or more light gray to dark black opacities floating within the vitreous gel. This gel makes up about 80 percent of the globe. It is the largest structure within the eye. With age, the vitreous thins and may separate from the back of the eye. This is called a posterior vitreous detachment, or PVD. This is quite common and usually harmless.

Floaters are caused by tiny bits of vitreous gel or cells that cast shadows on the retina. The opacities may take on many different shapes, as mentioned above and will float within the vitreous as the eye moves. The doctor will also look for pigment floating within the vitreous, retinal tears or detachments, vitreous hemorrhaging, or retinal hemorrhaging. The presence of pigment floating within the vitreous or a vitreous hemorrhage carries a high probability that the patient also has a retinal tear.



Focal Point

Dr. Valerie Moulds

Light flashes are sometimes a complaint resulting from floaters. They are usually considered to be a result of traction between the vitreous gel and the inner lining of the eye, known as the retina. The vitreous gel tugs on the retina with eye movement which is why patients complain more of flashes of light when they move their eyes.

The incidence of flashing lights increases with age as the vitreous gel continues to liquefy, becoming more mobile. Flashes of light may signify a higher risk of retinal tears. This is not to be confused with the zig-zag pattern of flashing lights associated with migraine headaches. These type of flashing lights usually last about 20 minutes and are sometimes multicolored. A headache may or may not follow. No vitreous or retinal problems are associated with these types of flashing lights.

As aggravating as they may initially seem, no treatment is recommended for floaters. Most vitreous floaters will seem to become smaller or collapse on themselves over time. Gravity

also acts to pull larger floaters down out of the line of sight of the patient, but this may take time. The brain will learn to suppress the image over time, to the point that the patient is not aware of the floater at all. If a retinal tear is found, the patient is referred to a retinal specialist for treatment. The retinal doctor may recommend laser or cryotherapy within 24 to 72 hours to avoid the development of a retinal detachment.

The majority of patients who have a retinal detachment are aware of a persistent curtain or shadow somewhere in their visual field. If this occurs, they are to return to their eye doctor immediately for further evaluation.

Valerie Moulds is a board certified optometric physician practicing in Sebring and is Arizona and Florida certified in diagnostics and therapeutics. This information is not intended to diagnose, treat or cure your condition.

DERMATOLOGY

- Growths • Warts •
- Acne • Rashes •
- Skin Discoloration •
- Skin Cancer •

Most insurances accepted including Medicare, Aetna, BCBS Options, Cigna, United Healthcare

Appointments available now!
Call 863-386-0786

Darrin A. Rotman M.D.
Julie L. Iellimo P.A.-C.
Jennifer A. Wolf P.A.-C.

Good Shepherd Hospice offers grief support groups

SEBRING – Good Shepherd Hospice, the area's longest-serving hospice organization, will hold adult grief support groups in Highlands County in May. The support groups run 90 minutes and are free to the public but registration is required. Participants need not have used Good Shepherd Hospice services in the past.

Contact Angels Sanders or Nat Conner at 863-402-1066 for more information or to register for one of the groups.

— Monday, May 21, 9-10:30 a.m., Balmoral Assisted Living Facility, 93 Balmoral Drive in Lake Placid.

— Thursday, May 24, 10-11:30 a.m., Somers Hospice House, 1110 Hammock Road Sebring; 2-3:30 p.m.; The Oaks at Avon; 101 US 27 N. in Avon Park.

Good Shepherd Hospice, part of the Chapters Health System, is a community-based, not-for-profit organization that supports approximately 600 patients each day in Polk, Highlands and Hardee counties as they face the challenges of advancing age and illness. Healthcare professionals and trained volunteers embrace the Good Shepherd Hospice mission to make the most of life by relieving the suffering of

Snapshots

patients and their families affected by end-of-life issues.

The organization has been a part of the community since 1979 and is a 2008 recipient of a Circle of Life Citation of Honor Award. Good Shepherd Hospice programs are accredited by the Joint Commission, the nation's premier healthcare accrediting body. The United Way of Central Florida partially funds the community programs offered by Good Shepherd Hospice.

For more information, please visit the website at www.chaptershealth.org/hospice/.

Outreach schedule

Ace Homecare offers the following community outreach events:

Today, 7 a.m., Health Fair, ARC Residence, Pleasant Street, Avon Park; 9 a.m., Health Fair, Avon Park Meal Site, Main Street, Avon Park May 14, 8:30 a.m., Health Fair, Hammock Estates,

Hammock Road, Sebring.

— Monday, 10 a.m., Coping with transitions, Resthaven Assisted Living facility, off S.R. 64, Resthaven Road, Zolfo Springs; 1 p.m., Caregivers Support Group, Crown Pointe Assisted Living Community, Sun 'n Lake Boulevard, Sebring.

— Tuesday, 8 a.m., Health Fair, Sebring Bluffs, U.S. 27, Sebring; 10 a.m., Health Fair, Fair Havens, Apartments, Spinks Road, Sebring; 1 p.m., Health Fair, Groves, behind Sebring Diner, U.S. 27 Sebring.

— Wednesday, 9 a.m., Health Fair, Avon Park Meal Site, Main Street, Avon Park; 10:30 a.m., Coping with transitions, Crown Pointe, Assisted Living facility, Sun 'n Lake Boulevard, Sebring.

— Thursday, 9 a.m., Health Fair, Maranatha Village, Ar buckle Ck. Road, Sebring; 10:30 a.m., Caregivers support group, Balmoral Assisted Living Facility 93 Balmoral Road, C.R. 621, Lake Placid.

FRAMES and IMAGES

Gifts for any occasion!

108 Circle Park Dr., Sebring P: 863-382-6464 F: 863-382-9824 <http://vmbenterprisesinc.logomall.com> vicki@vmbenterprises.com or vicki@fniawards.com

We offer customized gifts, awards, and more for birthdays, holidays, weddings & more! Come in to see what we can do for you!

Awards • Gifts • Promotionals & More!

POSITIVE MEDICAL

Serving Highlands County for over 5 years!

Let our professional staff of Paramedics, EMT's and Transport Certified Drivers transport you or a loved one in any scenario. Whether it be a wheelchair van ride to the store, or a life saving trip to a specialized care facility, Positive Medical Transport can take you there!

Wheelchair Services • Basic & Advanced Life Support • Special Events Bariatric Support & much more!

863-655-0030
1-877-605-3204
201 Commercial Court Sebring, FL 33876

Follow the News-Sun online on

twitter

www.twitter.com/thenewssun

WE HAVE GREAT NEWS!!!

CATCHING CANCER EARLY SAVES LIVES!

THE DERMATOLOGIST CAN FIND EARLY CANCER.

THEREFORE, DERMATOLOGISTS SAVE LIVES!

FIGHT THE CANCER EPIDEMIC.

GET EXAMINED.

THE CALL IS FREE, AND LOCAL.

DO NOT BECOME A VICTIM!

For your sake let the American Institute of Dermatology, P.A. and Dr. Darrin Rotman take care of you.

Call us at: 863-386-0786

Do not hesitate, your life could depend on it.

The Groves at VICTORIA PARK

Live your Golden Years here!

Seniors, 55 & up beautiful 1 & 2 bedroom apartments waiting for you!

- 3 Story Bldg.
- Elevators
- Small Pet Friendly
- Emergency Cords (Pull cords in your apt.)
- Swimming Pool
- Shuffleboard
- Computer Room
- Laundry Site
- Activity Room

Come visit & see your future Lifestyle!

863-385-8460

E/H/O

HEALTHY LIVING

Chamomile has a life-saving secret, so have some tea



Dear Pharmacist
Suzy Cohen

Dear Pharmacist:

Recently, you wrote about the medicinal action of herbal teas, and got my attention. I have serious health concerns like diabetes, hypertension, pancreatitis and insomnia.

— J.Y., Gainesville

Answer: As far as tea goes, chamomile is perfect. I've emailed you a free copy of my ebook "Understanding Pancreatitis & Pancreatic Cancer." Researchers report that drinking chamomile tea daily helps prevent complications of diabetes, such as loss of vision, nerve damage, and kidney damage. This speaks to the ability of chamomile to squash free radical damage in the body, which is excellent.

This is exactly what you want to do if you have pancreatitis too! After reading a study about chamomile's benefits to those with dia-



Chamomile has benefits for those with diabetes and pancreatitis.

Metro Services

betes, I theorized that it must have other benefits for the pancreas. Lo and behold, I found numerous studies discussing "apigenin" and its ability to inhibit growth of pancreatic cancer cells through various mechanisms. Apigenin is a citrus bioflavonoid compound found in chamomile (and other fruits/vegetables including grapefruit) that gives it a yellow color, and

as well as that familiar sedative effect. And apigenin appears to inhibit pancreatic cancer!

Apigenin, found in chamomile suppresses pancreatic cancer growth through suppression of "cyclin B-associated cdc2 activity" and "G2/M arrest," according to the study published in Molecular Cancer December 2006. The researchers conclude that

apigenin may "be a valuable drug for the treatment or prevention of pancreatic cancer."

A few years later, in Pancreas (May 2009), scientists published findings about apigenin again, this time to conclude that it improved the action of gemcitabine, a drug used to treat pancreatic cancer. Their results found that (apigenin in combination with gem-

citabine) inhibited pancreatic cancer cell growth more than either agent alone! It was dose-dependent too, the more apigenin, the better the effect.

Apigenin was shown in a 2008 study in the journal, Pancreas, to decrease glucose uptake in pancreatic cells (you might say it starved them to death). It's what we call a flavonoid, and it happens to be a strong anti-inflammatory. Other studies have found this compound to possess ability in inhibiting several cancer lines, including breast, colon, thyroid, skin and leukemia.

To spare confusion, apigenin is a compound found in chamomile, it's not a drug. You can get apigenin by purchasing it as a stand-alone supplement called "apigenin" online or at a health food store. Another way is to drink chamomile, or take dietary supplements of chamomile.

There are very few warn-

ings associated with the lovely centuries-old flower, but being a natural sedative, chamomile could enhance the effect of prescribed tranquilizers, anti-anxiety medications and prescribed sleepers (alprazolam, diazepam, zolpidem) or dietary supplements/herbs such as kava kava, passion-flower, GABA. High dose supplementation could potentiate and enhance the effect of anti-seizure medications (necessitating the need to lower drug dosage).

Teas are weaker than supplements, make your own by steeping one tablespoon of chamomile herb in hot water for 15 minutes.

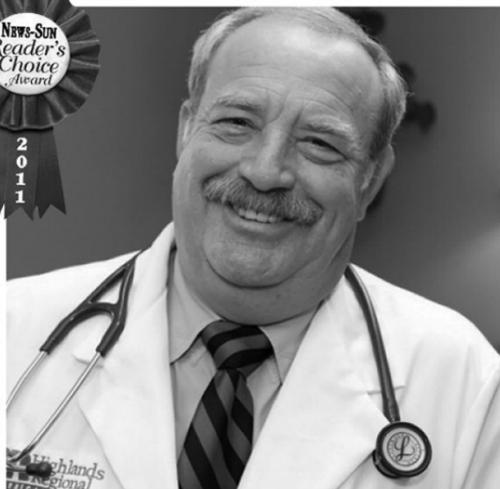
Suzy Cohen is a registered pharmacist and the author of 'The 24-Hour Pharmacist' and 'Real Solutions.' For more information, visit www.

DearPharmacist.com. This information is not intended to treat, diagnose or cure your condition.

NEWS-SUN
The news is just a click away!
www.newssun.com

Today is the day.
You can start making healthier choices.
Stop in to see our huge selection of vitamins, herbs, cleansers, health, beauty products & more to help you to a healthier lifestyle. We are your one stop shop for all your healthy lifestyle needs.
Apple A Day
Vitamins & Health Foods
863-386-0110 • 2938 US 27 S., Sebring
Mon-Fri 9-5pm • Sat 9-2pm

Looking For A Primary Care Physician?



Vernon Murphy, M.D.
Internal Medicine | Voted Best Doctor!
3323 Medical Hill Road
Sebring, Florida 33870
863-471-9000



Donald Ware, D.O.
Family Practice
2341 US Hwy 27 S.
Sebring, Florida 33870
863-471-3500



Robert Midence, M.D.
Internal Medicine
3700 Emergency Lane
Sebring, Florida 33870
863-386-4302



Euclides Marmolejos-Baez M.D.
Internal Medicine
3700 Emergency Lane
Sebring, Florida 33870
863-386-4302
401 West Interlake Blvd.
Lake Placid, Florida 33852
863-465-1725



Natalia Rodriguez, M.D.
Internal Medicine
3319 Medical Hill Road
Sebring, Florida 33870
863-382-2429
401 West Interlake Blvd.
Lake Placid, Florida 33852
863-465-1725



Yohanna Olivio, M.D.
Internal Medicine
3319 Medical Hill Road
Sebring, Florida 33870
863-382-2429
401 West Interlake Blvd.
Lake Placid, Florida 33852
863-465-1725



**MORE LOCATIONS.
MORE CHOICES.**



Find us on Facebook!
Highlands Medical Group

HEALTHY LIVING

Since when did hand sanitizer become a threat?



There is a disturbing new trend among teens and kids and all parents need to be aware. Kids are using hand sanitizer to get drunk.

Guest Column
Amanda John

Struggling to wrap your head around this poison of choice? Most of us are thinking "no way!" However, kids and teens have found ways to get drunk of mouthwash, cough syrup and now even hand sanitizer.

This is supposed to clean up our lives, but it's becoming a dirty and dangerous little household secret and its sending our children to the hospital.

Tampa's Poison Control Center's Dr. Cynthia Lewis said, "We're seeing younger and younger and younger people involved in it." Health officials believe that cases in Florida are under-reported so there's no way to tell for sure how many kids have become sick from drinking the substances.

Dr. Lewis further states, "Cases were reported this year of this kind of abuse included a 6- and 7-year-old. The story was that they intentionally added it to a drink at their school."

After hearing of this new craze, I began researching online, which led me to



Some types of hand sanitizer can be distilled to make a powerful alcoholic drink. MCT

YouTube, where you can watch many videos that show the process of distilling the sanitizer, show kids guzzling the liquid and hear horror stories of this new trend. I was baffled and at a loss for words.

The kids separate alcohol to create a potent punch that's like slamming a shot of the hardest liquor.

The liquid produced has a very high alcohol content and people don't realize how concentrated it is. They are consuming this in quantities that most wouldn't consider a whole lot, but only a few shots could result in death.

Think of it this way, typically vodka is 80 proof, but

this hand sanitizer can be as high as 120 proof, which is 62 percent ethyl alcohol.

Although no cases of death have been recorded, nearly 12 teens in California have been hospitalized with symptoms of slurred speech, lack of balance, diarrhea, blindness, even memory problems, changes in mental state, some of which have irreversible effects on the body.

So they've outlawed certain over-the-counter cough syrups to be sold to minors. What can be done about hand sanitizer? This seems to be the biggest question, because kids have access to hand sanitizer everywhere —

in stores, at school and at home.

As of right now, schools in Florida have not banned hand sanitizers, but if this trend increases, chances are schools may be forced to address this issue and take a second look.

How to avoid this? Use the foam sanitizers which are harder to distill, use hand wipes or, if you really want to play it safe, purchase alcohol-free hand sanitizer.

Amanda John is Drug Free Highlands Project Coordinator. She can be contact at 863-441-5101. Guest columns are the opinion of the writer, not necessarily those of the News-Sun.

Report: Schools key to fighting America's obesity

Associated Press
WASHINGTON — Schools should be a cornerstone of the nation's obesity battle, but to trim Americans' waistlines, changes are needed everywhere people live, work, play and learn, a major new report says.

Two-thirds of U.S. adults and almost a third of children are either overweight or obese, and progress to stop this epidemic has been too slow, the influential Institute of Medicine said in its report released Tuesday.

Most of us know we should eat less and move more. But the institute makes clear this isn't just an individual but a societal problem: For a host of reasons, sedentary lives have become the norm and we're surrounded by cheap, high-calorie foods.

The new report offers a roadmap of the most promising strategies to change that — and argues that the solutions can't be implemented piecemeal.

"Each of us has this role. We can't sit back and let the schools do it, or let a mayor do it or think somehow the federal government's going to solve it," said report co-author William Purcell III, former mayor of Nashville, Tenn. "These recommendations require concerted effort among all."

Still, the report says schools should be a national focus since they're where children spend up to half of their waking hours and consume between a third and

half of their daily calories.

Schoolchildren should get at least 60 minutes of physical activity a day — a combination of physical education, recess and other activities, the report says. Many schools have slashed P.E. and cut into recess in recent years in an effort to increase learning time amid tighter budgets.

The report also says schools should serve healthier foods — backing school nutrition standards — and teach students about good nutrition.

Other recommendations include:

— Restaurants should ensure that at least half of kids' meals comply with federal dietary guidelines, without charging more for the healthier options.

— Healthier foods should be routinely available everywhere, from shopping malls to sports arenas.

— More food companies should improve how they market to children.

— To make physical activity routine, communities should be designed with safe places to walk.

— Public and private insurers should ensure better access to obesity screening, preventive services and treatments.

— Employers should expand workplace wellness programs.

The Institute of Medicine, an arm of the National Academy of Sciences, is an independent organization that advises the government.

Call 385-6155 and a Sales Representative will be glad to assist you!



NEWS-SUN
Your Hometown Newspaper

RELIGION

Church News

Atonement Lutheran Church, ELCA

SEBRING — This Sunday is the sixth Sunday in Easter and Happy Mother's Day to all. Worship service with (open) Holy Communion will be led by Deacon David Thoresen. The sermon is based on the Gospel reading of John 15:9-17.

WELCA meeting and review of Small Catechism will be May 21 at 11 a.m., followed at noon with salad luncheon. Please bring a salad to share, then work on Pictorial History and picture albums depicting the last 55 years.

Church of Buttonwood Bay

SEBRING — The Church of Buttonwood Bay will celebrate Mother's Day with a special service Sunday. Pastor Cecil Hess will speak on the subject "A Tale of Three Mothers." Soloist Larry Vendrey will present "The Lord's Prayer." A surprise musical gift will also be presented to all the ladies. The service is non-denom-

inational and open to all. For more information, call 382-1737.

Christ Lutheran Church, LCMS

AVON PARK — Pastor Scott McLean will be preaching a sermon entitled "Chosen in Love, for Love." The church is at 1320 C.R. 64, east the Avon Park High School. For more information, call 471-2663 or visit www.christluther-anavonpark.org/.

Christian Training Church

SEBRING — Rev. Linda M. Downing will bring the message titled "It's A Setup: Part 2" at the Sunday morning service. The Wednesday night Bible study is studying the Gospel of John.

The Church of the Way - EFCA

SEBRING — The Word of Life Ensemble will be sharing with song and message Sunday.

Difference Makers Youth meet Wednesday evenings

RELIGION GUIDELINES: The *News-Sun* publishes religion news on Fridays.

The submission deadline is 5 p.m. Monday to be considered for publication in the following Friday's paper.

Submit items to the *News-Sun's* from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays; fax to 385-2453; send e-mail to editor@newssun.com; or mail to Lifestyle Editor, *News-Sun*, 2227 U.S. 27 South, Sebring, FL 33870. For information, call 385-6155, ext. 516.

with Zac Tsai.

The Church of the Way - EFCA is at 1005 North Ridgewood Drive. Pastor is Reinhold Buxbaum. Church phone is 471-6140, pastor's cell is 273-3674. For church information and the pastor's messages, go to www.thewaychurch.org/.

Eastside Christian Church

LAKE PLACID — Wednesday evening's beginning mid-week Bible study and discussion time is an informal setting that starts with hymn singing, followed by open discussion.

Sunday morning worship celebration is a blend of contemporary and traditional styles of worship music. The Agape Cafe is open for coffee and fellowship between Sunday school and the worship service. Communion is

offered weekly.

Eastside Christian Church is at 101 Peace Ave. in Lake Placid, two miles east of U.S. 27 on C.R. 621. Call 465-7065.

Emmanuel United Church of Christ

SEBRING — The Rev. George Miller will deliver the sermon "Whose Are We" with Scripture from I John 5:1-6, on Sunday morning. The church is 1.7 miles west of U.S. 27 on County Road 634 (Hammock Road). Call 471-1999 or visit.sebringemmanuelucc.com/.

Faith Lutheran Church

SEBRING — This Sunday morning, the church celebrates the Sixth Sunday of Easter. Guest Pastor Tony

Douches will be delivering his sermon, "Born Getters? Reborn Givers and Lovers" based on John 13:34-35.

Faith's Closet/Thrift Shop hours are: Tuesday through Friday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; phone number is 385-2782.

First Christian Church of Avon Park

AVON PARK — Don't forget to wish your mom Happy Mother's Day this Sunday.

Pastor Greg will be encouraging us this Sunday morning to remember that this church belongs to God, never to the people. Don't forget to join us for our Wednesday evening for the Italian dinner. Sign up to bring your Italian dish, salad or dessert.

First Christian Church of

Avon Park is at 1016 W. Camphor St. (behind the Wachovia Bank). Call 453-5334 or e-mail us at firstchristianap@embarq-mail.com with any questions or to request information. The church website is www.firstcchristianap.com/.

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

SEBRING — At the Lord's Table will be Walter and Anna Coley. Communion will be served by Sandra Laufer, Joyce Winstel, Carol Chandler and Catherine Baker.

Teresa Williams will be responsible for the Call to Worship on this Sunday for Mother's Day. The youth under the leadership of Pastor Ron and the Youth leaders shall present "The Tree," taken from Luke 23:44-46.

Children's Church will not meet in May. Everyone is encouraged to worship together at the main service.

For any additional information, call the church

Continued on page 10B

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 1 p.m. Sunday, and at 7:30 p.m. Thursday. For information contact (239) 671-0390. Pastor Travis Vanderford.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

■ **Christ Fellowship Church (Assembly of God)**, 2935 New Life Way. Bearing His Name; Preaching His Doctrine; and Awaiting His Coming. "Worshiping God in Spirit and in Truth." Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10 a.m.; Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday: Worship, 7 p.m. Pastor Eugene Haas. Phone 471-0924.

■ **First Assembly of God**, 4301 Kenilworth Blvd., Sebring. The Rev. Wilmont McCrary, pastor. Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship and KIDS Church, 11 a.m.; Evening Worship, 7 p.m. Wednesday Family Night, (Adult Bible Study), LIFE Youth Group, Royal Rangers, Missionettes, 7:30 p.m. Phone 385-6431.

BAPTIST

■ **Avon Park Lakes Baptist Church**, 2600 N. Highlands Blvd., Avon Park, FL 33825. George Hall, Pastor. Christ centered and biblically based. Sunday worship services, 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Nursery facilities are available. Bible studies at 9:45 a.m. Sunday and 7 p.m. Wednesday. Prayer Time 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday. Bible classes at 9:45 a.m. are centered for all ages. Choir practice at 5 p.m. Sunday. Church phone: 452-6556.

■ **Bethany Baptist Church (GARBC)** We are located at the corner of SR17 and C-17A (truck route) in Avon Park. Join us Sunday morning at 9:00 AM for coffee and doughnuts, followed with Sunday School for all ages at 9:30. Sunday morning worship service begins at 10:30 a.m., and evening worship service is at 6 p.m. On Wednesdays, the Word of Life teen ministry and the Catelyst class (20's+) begin at 6:30 PM. The adult Bible and Prayer Time begins at 7 p.m. For more information go to www.bethanybaptistap.com or call the church office at 863-452-1136.

■ **Faith Missionary Baptist Church**, off State Road 17 North of Sebring at 1708 LaGrange Ave. Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship, 11 a.m.; Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday Service, 7 p.m. Deaf interpretation available. Ken Lambert, Pastor. Phone 386-5055.

■ **Fellowship Baptist Church**, 1000 Maxwell St., Avon Park, FL 33825. Sunday: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday: Evening Service, 7 p.m.; Children/Youth, 7 p.m. Telephone: 453-4256. Fax: 453-6986. E-mail: office@apfellowship.org

[ship.org](http://www.apfellowship.org); Web site, www.apfellowship.org.

■ **First Baptist Church of Avon Park**, 100 N. Lake Ave., Avon Park. Rev. Jon Beck, pastor; Charlie Parish, associate pastor/youth and families; Joy Loomis, music director; Rev. Johannat Soltero, Hispanic pastor. Regular Sunday schedule: 8:30 a.m. orchestra rehearsal; 9 a.m. Library open; 9:30 a.m. Sunday School; 11 a.m. Morning Worship; 11 a.m. Children's Church; 6 p.m. evening worship. Wednesday schedule: 5:15 p.m. supper; 6 p.m. Bible Study and Prayer; 6:30 p.m. Adult Choir Practice; 6 p.m. children's choir rehearsals; 7 p.m. mission programs. Hispanic Services: Sunday school at 9:30 a.m., worship service at 11 a.m. and evening worship at 7 p.m. Wednesday Bible study at 7 p.m. Call 453-6681 for details.

■ **First Baptist Church of Lake Josephine**, 111 Lake Josephine Drive, Sebring (just off U.S. 27 midway between Sebring and Lake Placid). Your place for family, friends and faith. Sunday morning worship service is 11 a.m. Nursery is provided for both services with Children's Church at 11 a.m. Life changing Bible Study for all ages starts at 9:45 a.m. Associate Pastor Allen Altvater leads the youth in their quest to become more like Christ. Sunday night worship at 6 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer meeting at 7 p.m. along with youth worship in the youth facility, and missions training for all children. Call the church at 655-1524.

■ **First Baptist Church of Lake Placid**, Knowing God's Heart and Sharing God's Hope, 119 E. Royal Palm St., Lake Placid, FL 33852 (863) 465-3721, Website: www.fbclp.com. Email: information@fbclp.com. Sunday services - Traditional Service 9 a.m., Contemporary Service 10:30 a.m. Link Groups at 9 and 10:30 a.m., Senior Sunday Night at 6 p.m. Wednesday Activities: Family dinner at 5 p.m. (\$4 per person, reservations required). Prayer meeting, Youth Intersections, and MaxKidz Extreme meet at 6:15 p.m. The church is at 119 E. Royal Palm St., Lake Placid. For information, call 465-3721 or go to www.fbclp.com.

■ **First Baptist Church of Lorida** located right on U.S. 98 in Lorida. Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m. for all ages. Sunday worship services are at 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Preschool care is provided at the 11 a.m. worship service. Wednesday evening Bible Study and Prayer meeting is at 6:30 p.m., followed by adult choir rehearsal. From September the AWANA groups meet. First Lorida is the "Place to discover God's love." For more information about the church or the ministries offered, call 655-1878.

■ **First Baptist Church, Sebring**, 200 E. Center Ave., Sebring, FL 33870. Telephone: 385-5154. Dr. David E. Richardson, senior pastor; Rev. Joe Delph, associate pastor, minister of youth and activities; and Rev. Nuno Norberto, associate pastor, minister of music and senior adults. Group Bible Studies, 9:15 a.m.; Blended Service, 10:30 a.m.; Mision Buatista Hispana, 2 p.m.; Sunday Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday night programs at the ROC begin 5:30 p.m., at church

begin 6:30 p.m. Preschool and Mother's Day Out for children age 6 weeks to 5 years old. Becky Gotsch, director. Call 385-4704.

■ **Florida Avenue Baptist Church**, 401 S. Florida Ave., Avon Park. Mailing address is 710 W. Bell St., Avon Park, FL 33825. Telephone, 453-5339. Rev. John D. Girdley, pastor. Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Sunday Worship, 11 a.m.; 11 a.m. Children's Church; Sunday Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday night programs for children, youth and adults at 7 p.m.

■ **Independent Baptist Church**, 5704 County Road 17 South, Sebring, FL 33876. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m. Sunday evening, 6 p.m. Wednesday service, 7 p.m. Fundamental, soul-winning, mission-minded, King James Bible Church. Larry Ruse, pastor. Phone 655-1899. Bus transportation.

■ **Leisure Lakes Baptist Church**, 808 Gardenia St., Lake Placid (just off of Miller at the west end of Lake June) "Where the old fashion gospel is preached." Sunday School begins at 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Worship service at 10:45 a.m.; Sunday Evening Service is at 6 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Meeting and Bible Study at 6 p.m. Call the church at 699-0671 for more information.

■ **Maranatha Baptist Church (GARBC)**, 35 Maranatha Blvd., Sebring, FL 33870 (A half mile east of Highlands Avenue on Arucklee 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. The Home phone: 214-3025. Affiliated with the National Association of Free Will Baptists, Nashville, Tenn.

■ **Sparta Road Baptist Church, (SBC)** 4400 Sparta Road. Rev. Ken Geren, interim pastor. Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.; Sunday Morning Worship, 11 a.m.; Sunday Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday: Prayer/Bible Study, 6 p.m. Nursery provided. For information, call 382-0869.

■ **Southside Baptist Church (GARBC)**, 379 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring. David C. Altman, Pastor. Sunday School for all ages, 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship Service, 10:45 a.m.; Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday: Student ministry, 6:30 p.m.; Awana kindergarten through fifth grade, 6:30 p.m.; Adult Midweek Prayer and Bible Study, 7 p.m. A nursery for under age 3 is available at all services. Provisions for handicapped and hard-of-hearing. Office phone, 385-0752.

■ **Spring Lake Baptist Church**, "Where the Bible is Always Open." Pastor Richard Schermerhorn, 7408 Valencia Road; 655-2610.

Assistant Pastor Ronald Smith, 386-1610. On U.S. 98 at the Spring Lake Village II entrance. Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. for all ages; Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m.; Sunday Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday Mid-week Bible Study and Prayer Service, 6:30 p.m. Nursery available for all services.

■ **Sunridge Baptist Church, (SBC)** 3704 Valerie Blvd. (U.S. 27 and Valerie, across from Florida Hospital), Sebring. Tim Finch, pastor. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m.; and Sunday Evening Service, 6 p.m. Wednesday: Prayer, Bible Study, and Youth, 6:30 p.m. Nursery provided. For information, call 382-3695.

CATHOLIC

■ **Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church**, 595 East Main St., Avon Park, 453-4757. Father Nicholas McLoughlin, pastor. Saturday Vigil Mass is 4 p.m. in English and 7 p.m. in Spanish; Sunday mass 8 and 10:30 a.m. in English. Weekday mass at 8 a.m. Confessions are at 3:30 p.m. Saturday. Religious Education Classes are 9-10:20 a.m. Sunday for grades K through 8th. Confirmation class is from 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday. Youth Nights grades 6th and up, 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday.

■ **St. Catherine Catholic Church**, 820 Hickory St., Sebring. Mailing address: 882 Bay St., Sebring, FL 33870, 385-0049; fax, 385-5169; email, office@stcath.com; website, www.stcath.com. Very Rev. José González, V.F., frjose@stcath.com; Parochial Vicar, Rev. Victor Caviedes, 385-3993; Assisting Priest (retired), Rev. J. Peter Sheehan; Deacons, Rev. Mr. James R. McGarry and Rev. Mr. Max M. Sever. Parish office hours, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. CONFESSION: First Friday 7:15-7:45 a.m.; Saturday 3-3:45 p.m.; Or by appointment with any priest. WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE: Saturday Vigil: 4 p.m.; Sunday: 8 and 10 a.m.; Sunday Spanish Mass: noon; Last Sunday of the month: 2 p.m. (Creole/French); Sunday Family Mass 5 p.m. (Holy Family Youth Center). DAILY MASS SCHEDULE: Monday through Friday: 8 a.m. and noon; Saturday: 9 a.m.

■ **St. James Catholic Church**, 3380 Placidview Drive, Lake Placid, 465-3215. Father Michael J. Cannon. Mass schedule: Summer (May 1 to Oct. 31) - Saturday Vigil, 4 p.m.; Sunday 8 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.; Weekdays, 9 a.m. December thru Easter - Saturday, 4 p.m.; Sunday, 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.; Weekdays 9 a.m.; and Holy Days 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m., first Saturday at 9 a.m.

■ **St. Peter's Catholic Church**, 3380 Placidview Drive, Lake Placid, 465-3215. Father Michael J. Cannon. Mass schedule: Summer (May 1 to Oct. 31) - Saturday Vigil, 4 p.m.; Sunday 8 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.; Weekdays, 9 a.m. December thru Easter - Saturday, 4 p.m.; Sunday, 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.; Weekdays 9 a.m.; and Holy Days 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m., first Saturday at 9 a.m.

CHRISTIAN

■ **Cornerstone Christian Church**, 1850 US 27 South, Avon Park, FL 33825 (Saxon Hall in Reflection Community). Bill Raymond, Minister. Sunday, 10 a.m. Worship; Communion is available each week. Thursday, 7 p.m. Home Fellowship Group. Our goal is: Love Christ - Love People. For more

information call 453-7679 or 453-8929.

■ **Eastside Christian Church**, 101 Peace Ave., Lake Placid, FL 33852 (two miles east of U.S. 27 on County Road 621), 465-7065. Ray Culpepper, senior pastor. Sunday: Bible classes, 9 a.m.; Worship Celebration with the Lord's Supper each week 10:15 a.m. Thelma Hall, organist; and Pat Hjort, pianist. Wednesday: Praise and Prayer, 6:30 p.m.; "Building God's Kingdom for Everyone." "Jesus Christ, the Way, Truth and Life!" "Alive and Worth the Drive!"

■ **Sebring Christian Church**, 4514 Hammock Road, Sebring, FL 33872. Tod Schwingel, Preacher; David Etherton, Youth Pastor. Sunday Worship, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 11 a.m.; Sunday Youth Service, 6 p.m.; Evening service at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday night meals, 5:30 p.m. followed by classes at 6:30 p.m. Changing Seasons, a men's grief support group, meets at 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays. Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group meets at 1 p.m. Thursdays. Office hours, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday-Friday. Phone 382-6676.

■ **First Christian Church**, 1016 W. Camphor St., Avon Park, FL 33825; (863) 453-5334; on the Web at www.firstchristianap.com. Our motto is "Jesus is First at First Christian Church." Greg Ratliff, Senior Minister; Bible School 9 a.m.; Worship 10 a.m.; Wednesday studies for all ages, 6 p.m. Nursery provided for all events.

■ **First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**, 510 Poinsettia Avenue, (corner of Poinsettia and Eucalyptus), Sebring, FL 33870. Phone: 385-0358 or 385-3435. The Rev. Ronald Norton, Pastor; Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Praise Breakfast, 10 a.m., Morning Worship, 10:30 a.m.; Children's Church, 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Praise and Worship, 6:45 p.m. Youth Fellowship, 7:15 p.m.; Midweek Bible Study, 7:15 p.m.

CHRISTIAN & MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

■ The **Alliance Church of Sebring**, 4451 Sparta Road, Sebring, FL 33875. Call 382-1343. Rev. Steve Hagen, pastor. Sunday services: Sunday School meets at 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Morning Worship Service meets at 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Evening Bible Study meets at 6 p.m. (off site); Wednesday Prayer Gathering meets at 6 p.m.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

■ **Christian Science Church**, 146 N. Franklin St. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. morning worship and Sunday school. Testimonial meetings at 4 p.m. each second and fourth Wednesday. A free public reading room/bookstore, located in the church, is open before and after church services. The Bible and the Christian Science textbook, 'Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures' by Mary Baker Eddy are our only preachers. All are welcome to come and partake of the comfort, guidance, support and healing found in the lesson-ser-

mons.

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. Minister: Kevin Patterson. Times of service are: Sunday Bible Class, 9 a.m.; Sunday Worship Service, 10 a.m.; Sunday Evening Service, 6 p.m.; Wednesday Bible Class, 7 p.m.

CHURCH OF NAZARENE

■ **First Church of the Nazarene of Avon Park**, P.O. Box 1118., Avon Park, FL 33825-1118. 707 W. Main St. Randall Rupert, Pastor. Sunday: Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. for all ages; morning worship at 10:45 a.m.; and evening service at 6 p.m. Wednesday evening service is at 7 p.m. with special services for children and adults. Special services once a month for seniors (Prime Time) and Ladies ministries. If you need any more information, call 453-4851.

■ **First Church of the Nazarene of Lake Placid**, 512 W. Interlake Blvd., Lake Placid, FL 33852. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Morning worship, 10:45 a.m.; Evening service, 6 p.m. Wednesday evening, 7 p.m. Classes for adult children and youth. Call 465-6916. Pastor Tim Taylor.

CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN CHRISTIAN UNION

■ **Community Bible Church - Churches of Christ in Christian Union**, (Orange Blossom Conference Center) 1400 C-17A North (truck route), Avon Park. Presenting Jesus Christ as the answer for time and eternity. Sunday morning worship service, 10:30 a.m. Nursery provided. Junior Church activities at same time for K-6 grade. Sunday School Bible hour (all ages), 9:30 a.m. (Transportation available.) Sunday evening praise and worship service, 6 p.m. Wednesday evening prayer service, 7 p.m. Children and youth activities at 7 p.m. Wednesday. Everyone is welcome, please come worship with us. Don Seymour, Senior Pastor. Phone 452-0088.

RELIGION

Turns out my mother was wrong about spinach

One of the great joys of getting older, and there is at least one joy involved in this grueling process, is discovering that you were right all the time. I try not to boast here because, well, that's just the kind of person I am. And, I'm not going to make a list of all of the things I was "right" about. No sense in boasting, but I just can't resist one.

Some of these things centered on my relationship with my mother. One advantage a mother has over her children is that sense of authority and being right all the time. Looking back, I can see that she was not right all the time.

As a young person, my mother told me things I have since learned not to be true. For example:

— It takes more than clean underwear to survive an accident.

— The boogiemer under my bed does not exist... any more.

— None of my friends wants to jump off a bridge.

— I will grow up even if I don't clean up my plate.

— And, it's almost impossible to behave yourself and have a good time simultaneously.

My mother, like other mothers,

was not a bad mother. She just had bad information, much of which she got from her mother. I'm not sure where grandmother got her information, but it too was wrong. And, when you have bad information, there is nothing more you can do but inflict it upon your children.

This week another one of these "not true things" was revealed. This one was the mother of all untrue things mothers tell their children.

I must confess there is a bitter-sweet sense of victory in this recent announcement.

I can't tell you how many times my mother told me to "Eat your spinach. It's good for you." When I would protest she would further admonish me by saying, "Finish all of your spinach on your plate, it won't kill you."

Boy was she wrong. I hate to say, "I told you so." However, the temptation is beyond my ability to resist. After all, I'm only a man. I guess I never ate enough spinach for the strength to resist everything.

For years, I told my mother that spinach was not good for me. Now, I have scientific proof as well as verification from the United States

government that spinach can kill you.

Where was all this information and government verification when I was young and being force-fed spinach? Some things should be retroactive. If I could find a way to give back all the spinach I have eaten from my mother's table I certainly would do it right now. (Could someone find me a pork barrel?)

Of course, there is always the idea that my mother knew this and was simply trying to kill me. No, after further thought, I'm sure that is far from being true.

But don't think I haven't been pondering this, lately. She had plenty of evidence to incite this kind of attitude toward me, I assure you.

My mother used everything she could think of to get me to eat my spinach. She used intimidation, arguments and a gold old-fashioned thrashing. None of it seemed to make her spinach taste any better.

One of the arguments my mother

used to get me to eat spinach was good ole Popeye. "Popeye eats spinach," my mother would taunt me. "Look at all of the things he does because of eating spinach."

Of course, from my observation, Popeye only ate spinach when he was in extreme trouble and his life was being threatened. I tried to have an agreement with my mother that I would eat spinach every time my life was threatened. Then she threatened my life.

Her arguments continued. "Certainly you want to be like Popeye, don't you?" my mother pleaded.

To which I responded, "Yes, and he smokes a pipe, too. Can I smoke a pipe?" I did not think it fair for my mother to make me eat spinach and then not allow me to smoke a pipe. If you choose one the other comes too.

At the time, my mother was not too amused with my argument concerning Popeye's pipe. I tried explaining that Popeye's use of spinach was only occasionally but his use of the pipe was continuously. This argument had no effect upon my mother, but it did cause

severe pain in my left ear as she led me by my ear back to the table to finish my spinach.

At the time, my mother had a one-track mind, which led to a plate of spinach. I, on the other hand, had a one-track mind, which led as far away from that plate of spinach as possible.

Nothing would do but clean up my plate of spinach.

I listened with amusement to all this news concerning spinach this past week. Reflecting upon this incident from my past, a verse of Scripture came to my mind. "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." (James 4:17 KJV).

At the time of my spinach eating frenzy, my mother thought she was doing the right thing.

At the time she was, much to my consternation. It's not so much, what we do, as it is what we know.

The Rev. James L. Snyder is pastor of the Family of God Fellowship in Silver Springs Shores. His E-mail address is jamessnyder2@att.net/. Guest columns are the opinion of the writer, not necessarily those of the News-Sun staff.

PLACES TO WORSHIP

EPISCOPAL

■ **St. Agnes Episcopal Church**, 3840 Lakeview Drive, Sebring, FL 33870. Sunday Services: Holy Eucharist Rite I - 7:45 a.m., Holy Eucharist Rite II - 10 a.m. Midweek service on Wednesday at 6 p.m. Sunday School for all ages at 9 a.m. The nursery is open 8:45 a.m. until 15 minutes after the 10 a.m. service ends. Wednesday: Adult Bible study, 9:30 a.m. Visitors are always welcome. The Rev. Jim Kurtz, rector. Church office 385-7649, for more information.

■ **St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church**, 43 Lake June Road, Lake Placid, FL 33852. Phone: 465-0051. Rev. Elizabeth L. Nelson, Rector. Sunday Worship, 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesday evening: Holy Communion with Healing Service, 6 p.m. Child care available at the 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Sunday service. Come see what makes us different.

EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AMERICA

■ **The Church of the Way EFCA**, 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: 273-3674. Email: thewaychurch@hotmail.com. Web site: www.TheWayChurch.org

GRACE BRETHREN

■ **Grace Brethren Church**, 3626 Thunderbird Road, (863) 835-0869. Dr. Randall Smith, senior pastor. Sunday services at 9 a.m., 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday services at 7 p.m. We offer "Kid City" Children's Ministry throughout all services, and there are various other classes for teens, married couples, "prime-timers," and Bible studies in Spanish. "Kid City" Day Care, Preschool and After-School Monday-Friday: 7 a.m.-6 p.m. (For registration call: 385-3111). Check us out on the Web at www.sebring-grace.org.

INTERDENOMINATIONAL

■ **World Harvest and Restoration Ministries**, (non-denominational) 2200 N. Avon Blvd., Avon Park, FL 33825. Phone: 452-9777 or 453-3771. Sunday service: Sunday School, 10 a.m. and worship, 11 a.m. Wednesday services: 7 p.m. prayer meeting/Bible study. Pastor: W.H. Rogers.

LUTHERAN

■ **Atonement Lutheran Church (ELCA)**, 1178 S.E. Lakeview Drive., Sebring. David Thoresen, Deacon, Spiritual Leader, on first, third and fifth Sunday each month, and Rev. Jefferson Cox on the second and fourth Sunday of each month. Jim Helwig, organist/choir director. Worship service at 9:30

a.m.; Holy Eucharist is every Sunday. Coffee hour on the first and third Sunday of each month. Council meeting on the first Monday of month; Ladies Group WELCA meets at noon second Monday of month with lunch. Bring a dish to pass. Church Vegetable Garden Club meets as needed. Labyrinth Prayer Garden open seven days a week to congregation and community. Like to sing? Come join the choir. Visitors always welcome. Come grow with us. Phone 385-0797.

■ **Christ Lutheran Church Avon Park - LCMS**, 1320 County Road 64, 1/2 mile east of Avon Park High School. Sunday Divine Worship is at 10 a.m. Holy Communion is celebrated every week with traditional Lutheran Liturgy, hymns and songs of praise. Fellowship time with coffee and refreshments follows worship. Come worship and fellowship with us. For information call Pastor Scott McLean at 471-2663 or see christlutheranavonpark.org.

■ **Faith Lutheran Church - LCMS**, 2740 Lakeview Drive, Sebring. Church phone: 385-7848, Faith Child Development Center, 385-3232. Traditional Worship service, 8 a.m. Sunday; Sunday Praise Worship Service, 10:30 a.m. Communion is served the first, third and fifth Sunday of the month. Sunday school and Bible classes: 9:15 a.m. Sunday. Worship service is broadcast at 8 a.m. on WITS 1340 AM each Sunday. Educational opportunities include weekly adult Bible studies. Faith's Closet Thrift Store (385-2782) is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. All are warmly welcome in the Family of Faith.

■ **Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (AALC) American Association of Lutheran Churches**, 3240 Grand Prix Drive, Sebring, FL 33872. James Weed, pastor. Worship Service, 10:30 a.m. Sunday. Bible Study, 9 a.m. Nursery provided. Social activities: Choir, Missions, Evangelism. Phone 385-2346.

■ **New Life Evangelical Lutheran Church**, 3725 Hammock Road, a Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) in fellowship with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). Sunday Worship at 10 a.m.; Bible Study, 9 a.m. For more information, call Pastor Brian Klebig at 385-2293 or visit the Web site at www.newlife-sebring.com.

■ **Resurrection Lutheran Church - ELCA**, 324 E. Main St., Avon Park. Pastor: Rev. John C. Grodzinski. Sunday school at 8:30 a.m., Sunday worship at 9:30 a.m.. Coffee and fellowship hour follow the service. Midweek Fragrance Free Wednesday worship, (year round) 7 p.m. Office phone number is 453-6858.

■ **Trinity Lutheran Church - LCMS**, 25 Lakeview St., Lake Placid, FL 33852; 465-5253. The Rev. Richard A. Norris, pastor; Susan C. Norris, Trinity Tots Pre-School director; and Noel Johnson, minister of youth and family life. Worship schedule after Easter through December: Worship service 9 a.m., and Education Hour, 8:45 a.m. Worship schedule for January through Easter: Worship service, 8:30 and 11 a.m., Education Hour 9:45 a.m. Traditional Service with Holy Communion each first and third Sunday. Non-Traditional Service each second, fourth and fifth

Sunday. Seasonal mid-week services Wednesday evenings during Lent and Advent. Call church office for additional Worship times and special holiday services. Other activities and groups include: Choirs; Ladies Guild and LWML; Men's Fellowship Group, Small Group Bible Studies as scheduled; Trinity Tots Pre-school, Youth Group activities (call for meeting times and dates). Visit us online at: www.TrinityLutheranlp.com.

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

■ **Bible Fellowship Church**, 3750 Hammock Road, Sebring, FL 33872. Sunday: American Sign Language: First Worship sermon, songs signed first and second Worship services. First Worship service, 9 a.m.; Second Worship service, 10:45 a.m. Nursery (up to 2 years old) and Sunday school classes both hours. BFC Youth, 6 p.m.; Evening Service, 6 p.m. Wednesday: Children ages 4 years through fifth grade, 6 p.m.; Youth, 6-7:30 p.m.; Prayer time, 6:15 p.m. Todd Patterson, pastor; Andy McQuaid, associate pastor. Web site www.bfscsebring.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.; Sunday evening service, 6 p.m.; Wednesday Prayer and Bible Study, 6:30 p.m. Pastor Lester Osbeck. A small friendly church waiting for your visit.

■ **Christian Training Ministries Inc.**, on Sebring Parkway. Enter off County Road 17 on Simpson Avenue. Sunday service is at 10 a.m.; Wednesday Bible study at 7 p.m. A nursery and children's church are provided. The church is part of Christian International Ministries Network, a full gospel, non-denominational ministry. Linda M. Downing, minister, lindadowning@live.com. Casey L. Downing, associate minister, caseydowning@hotmail.com. Church phone: 314-0482. Web site: www.ctmforme.com

■ **Grace Bible Church**, 4541 Thunderbird Road, (second church on left) Sebring, FL 33872. Phone, 382-1085. Andrew Katsanis, senior pastor. Saturday Worship, 6:30 p.m. Sunday, 9 and 11 a.m. Tuesday 6 p.m. Grace Bible Academy Adult Investigating Truth; first and third Tuesday, Prayer Gathering, 7:15 p.m.; Wednesday, Children's & Youth Programs, 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 8:30 p.m., Colleague 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 Church**, 106 N. Butler Ave., Avon Park, FL 33825. Contemporary worship service is at 6:30 p.m. Saturday with Pastor Tiger Gullett. Sunday traditional

worship service is at 7:45 a.m. and 9 a.m. Contemporary Sunday worship service is at 10:45 a.m. Nursery and children's church on Saturday nights and 9 and 10:45 a.m. Sundays. Breakfast and lunch menus at Solid Grounds. Senior Pastor is Bill Breylinger. Office: 453-3345. Web page at www.weare-union.org.

■ **Unity Life Enrichment Centre**, new location, 10417 Orange Blossom Blvd. S., Sebring, FL 33875; 471-1122; e-mail unity@visitanet.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.

PRESBYTERIAN

■ **Covenant Presbyterian Church (PCA)**, 4500 Sun 'N Lake Blvd., Sebring, 33872-2113. A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America. Sunday morning worship: Informal service, 8 a.m.; traditional service, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday school, 9:15 a.m.; evening service, 6 p.m. Wednesday evening Prayer Meeting, 6 p.m.; Children's/Youth Group, 5:30-7 p.m.; choir practice, 7:15 p.m. Phone: 385-3234; Fax: 385-2759; e-mail: covpres@strato.net; Web site: www.cpcsebring.org. Rev. W. Darrell Arnold, pastor. Office hours: 8:30-12:30 a.m. Monday-Friday.

■ **First Presbyterian Church ARP**, 215 E. Circle St., (two entrances on LaGrande), Avon Park, FL 33825. Phone: 453-3242. The Rev. Robert Johnson is the pastor. Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.; Sunday Worship, 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday Bible study, 10:30 a.m.; Potluck dinner, 6 p.m. third Wednesday; choir practice, 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday; Mary Circle business meeting, 1 p.m. second Wednesday; Sarah Circle business meeting, 4 p.m. second Thursday; Women's Ministries Combined Bible study, 4 p.m. third Thursday. Be a part of a warm, caring church family with traditional services, following biblical truth.

■ **First Presbyterian Church, ARP**, 319 Poinsettia Ave., Sebring, FL 33870. 385-0107. Sunday School, all ages, 9:30 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m.; Tuesday: Grief Support Group, 1 p.m.; Youth Group (middle and high school), 3:30-6:30 p.m.; Wednesday: Adult Bible Study, 10:30 a.m.; Choir Rehearsal, 5:30 p.m. Nursery available during worship. Call the church office for more information and other classes. Rev. Darrell A. Peer, pastor.

■ **First Presbyterian Church, ARP**, www.fpclp.com, 118 N. Oak Ave., Lake Placid, 465-2742. The Rev. Ray Cameron, senior pastor; the Rev. Drew Severance, associate pastor. Traditional Worship 9 a.m., Contemporary Worship 11 a.m., Sunday School for adults to grade school will be from 10:10-10:50 a.m. Wednesday evenings: Adult Bible Study (7 p.m.), Youth Group - (Middle and High School), (7 p.m.), RockSolid (Kindergarten through fifth grade) 7 p.m. Bible Counseling available by appointment, 699-0132. Call the church office for more information about the classes offered. Nursery is provided for babies and toddlers; while young children up to second grade

have a special Children's Church offered during the worship service to help them grow in their spiritual knowledge.

■ **Spring Lake Presbyterian Church (USA)**, 5887 U.S. 98, Sebring, FL 33876. Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Worship Service, 10 a.m. Session meets at 6:30 p.m. the second Thursday of the month, September through June. Board of Deacon's meet at 5:30 p.m. first Monday of the month. Choir rehearsals at 7 p.m. each Wednesday, September through April. Presbyterian Women meet at 10 a.m. the third Thursday of the month. Organist: Richard Wedig. Choir Director: Suzan Wedig. Church phone, 655-0713; e-mail, springlakepc@embarqmail.com. Web site, <http://slpc.embarqspace.com>.

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

■ **Avon Park Seventh-day Adventist Church**, 1410 West Avon Blvd., Avon Park. Phone: 453-6641 or e-mail: avonparksda@embarqmail.com, Sabbath School, 9:30 a.m. Saturday. Church Service 10:45 a.m. Saturday. Wednesday prayer meeting 7 p.m. Community Service hours on Tuesday and Thursday is from 9:00 a.m. till 2 p.m. A sale takes place the first Sunday of each month. Senior Pastor Paul Boling. Walker Memorial Academy Christian School offering education for kindergarten through 12th grades. ALL ARE WELCOME. Website is www.discoverjesus.org

■ **Sebring Seventh-Day Adventist Church**, 2106 N. State Road 17, Sebring; 385-2438. Worship Services: 9:15 a.m. Worship hour, 11 a.m. Prayer meeting, Tuesday, 7:15 p.m. Community service: every Monday 9-11 a.m. Health Seminar with Dr. Seralde, every Friday, 10:00 a.m. Pastor Amado Luzbet.

THE CHURCH OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

■ **The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints**, 3235 Grand Prix Dr., Sebring, FL 33872; (863) 382-9092 Steve Austin, Bishop; Mark Swift, 1st Counselor; Del Murphy, 2nd Counselor. Family History Center (863) 382-1822. Sunday Services: Sacrament Meeting, 10-11:10 a.m.; Gospel Doctrine, 11:20 a.m. to noon; Priesthood/Relief Society, 12:10-1p.m.; Primary for children, 11:15 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Youth Activities: Wednesdays, 7-8:20 p.m. Scouts: first and third Wednesday, 7-8:20 p.m. Activity Days: 8-11 yr old Boys and Girls, second and fourth Wednesdays, 7-8:20 p.m.

THE SALVATION ARMY

■ **The Salvation Army - Center for Worship**. Sunday: Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Holiness meeting, 11 a.m.; and Praise meeting and lunch, noon. Tuesday: Bible study, 6:30 p.m.; and Women's Ministries, 7 p.m. Wednesday: Youth Ministries, 4 p.m. All meetings are at 120 N. Ridgewood Ave., Sebring. For more information, visit the Web site www.salvationarmysebring.com or call Major Bruce

Stefanik at 385-7548, ext. 110.

UNITED METHODIST

■ **First United Methodist Church**, 105 S. Pine St., Sebring, FL 33870. The Rev. A.C. Bryant, pastor. Traditional Worship Service at 8:10 and 10:50 a.m. in the sanctuary, Contemporary Worship in the FLC at 9:30 a.m. Sunday School at 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. Methodist Youth Fellowship at 5:30 p.m. Sundays with Rick Heilig, youth director. The 10:55 a.m. Sunday worship service is broadcast over WITS 1340 on AM dial. There is a nursery available at all services.

■ **First United Methodist Church**, 200 South Lake Avenue, Avon Park, FL 33825. (863) 453-3759, R. James Weiss, Pastor, Sunday School - 9 a.m., Worship - 10:30 a.m. Bible study third Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry on the second and fourth Friday of the month at 2 p.m. for women who love God and crocheting. Visit us at our church Web site: www.fumcap.org.

■ **Memorial United Methodist Church**, 500 Kent Ave., (overlooking Lake Clay) Lake Placid, FL, 33852. The Rev. Fred Ball, pastor. Claude H.L. Burnett, pastoral assistant. Sunday schedule: Heritage Worship Service, 8:30 a.m.; Sunday School for all ages, 9:30 a.m.; Celebration Worship Service at 10:45 a.m.; New Song worship service at 10:45 a.m. Loving nursery care provided every Sunday morning. Middle School Youth, 4 p.m.; High School Youth, 5:30 p.m. We offer Christ-centered Sunday school classes, youth programs, Bible studies, book studies and Christian fellowship. Church office, 465-2422 or www.memorialumc.com. Lakeview Christian School, VPK to grade 5; 465-0313.

■ **St. John United Methodist Church**, 3214 Grand Prix Drive, Sebring, FL 33872. The Rev. Ronald De Genaro Jr., Pastor. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Adult Sunday School, 11 a.m.; Sunday Morning Worship, 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. Nursery provided for all services. Phone 382-1736. www.stjohnsebring.org

■ **Spring Lake United Methodist Church**, 8170 Cozumel Lane, (Hwy 98) Sebring. The Rev. Clyde Weaver Jr., Pastor. Worship service starts at 9:55 a.m. Bible Study meets at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday. Choir Practice at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday. Church office phone: 655-0040.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

■ **Emmanuel United Church of Christ**, Jesus didn't reject people, neither do we. Join us for worship every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. and you'll be embraced by a compassionate congregation that is all-inclusive. We're at the corner of Hammock and Hope. Choir and Bell Choir practice on Wednesday; Bible studies throughout the week. 471-1999; sebringemmanuelucc.com.

RELIGION

Prime Timers plan luncheon

LAKE PLACID — The Prime Timers of First Baptist Church of Lake Placid will host a covered dish luncheon at noon on Monday in their fellowship hall at 119 E. Royal Palm Street.

Bring a covered dish to share and a friend. The Wee Center kids will be singing. Speaker will be Renee Kohl on health and nutrition for senior adults.

Bereah Day May 20

BEREAH — The annual Bereah Day Celebration will be held at the Corinth Baptist Church in Bereah on

Church News

Continued from page 8B

office at 385-0352. The church is at 510 Poinsettia Ave.

First Presbyterian Church of Avon Park

AVON PARK — On Sunday morning, Pastor Johnson's sermon is entitled "A New Body" based on I Corinthians 15:35-49.

The choir's introit will be "Surely the Presence of the Lord is in This Place" and the anthem is "The King is Coming" with solo by Don Antonson.

Sunday school is available for all ages. The adult Sunday school class is continuing their study of David in I Chronicles 29 in which David and the people gave offerings for building the temple. Wendy Garcia teaches the youth class and they discuss how the Bible applies to issues today.

On Wednesday, Pastor Johnson will continue the Bible study on the topic "The Basics of the Faith." Choir rehearsals on Wednesday evenings will resume in the fall.

The church is at 215 E. Circle St. (with two entrances on Lagrange Street). Any questions, please call 453-3242.

First Presbyterian Church of Sebring

SEBRING — "Be Kind" is the title of Sunday morning's sermon given by the Rev. Darrell A. Peer.

Tuesday, May 15 - Youth Group meets 3:30-6:30 p.m., (for middle school and high school students) in fellowship hall for Bible study, sport activities, homework time and dinner.

Wednesday, May 16 - Choir rehearsal 5:30 p.m.

Friday, May 18, is Community Movie Night for youth, 7:30 p.m., in the church parking lot on Lakeview Drive. Snowcones and beverages will be served. Everyone invited. Featured movie will be "The Chronicles of Narnia."

First United Methodist Church of Sebring

SEBRING — The Rev. A.C. Bryant will bring the Mother's Day message "Love, Love, Love" with Scripture taken from John 21:15-25. Jubilee Ringers will provide the special music.

Youth After School is held Tuesday.

Wednesday is Family

Snapshots

May 20. Everyone is invited. Bring a covered dish and lunch will be at 1 p.m.

For more information, call (863) 635-4207.

Local church offers underwater-themed VBS

SEBRING — St. John United Methodist Church invites all children to get ready to dive into fun at "Operation Overboard: Dare to Go Deep with God" vacation Bible school. Explore and experience God's underwater universe at VBS. The fun begins Monday, June 18

Night with food, fun and Bible study.

Call the church office for information at 385-5184. The church is downtown at 126 South Pine St. The website is www.sebringfirstumc.com/.

Grace Pointe Church

SEBRING — Grace Pointe Church is at 200 Lark Ave. in the Sebring Hills Association Clubhouse.

Tuesday Home Bible Study will be "Seeing what Abraham Saw." For directions, call (863) 658-2534. This is a local call.

Sunday morning, the pastor continues the series "Possession - Finally."

Visit www.gracepointeministries then click on teaching to enjoy Sunday and Tuesday services via computer. Pastor Zimmer has started a blog. Log on to www.Ron-gracepointes.blogspot/

Heartland Christian Church

SEBRING — Pastor Ted Moore's sermon this Sunday will be: "Mother's Who Love" with Scripture from: I Thessalonians 2:7-8. Communion is offered during the service weekly.

The service will also include Mother's Day Prizes directed by Terry Allen Warchak singing "God Gave You to Me."

Tuesday night adult Bible study is taught by Pastor Ted Moore.

Wednesday night young adult and children's programs are taught by George Kelly, Amanda and Jon Armentrout and Toby Cribbs. It features a free meal.

The church is at 2705 Alternate Route 17 South in Sebring (behind Publix). Call 314-9693.

Memorial United Methodist Church

LAKE PLACID — Mothers will be honored at the services of the day.

Sunday School with classes for all ages and Nursery care begin at 9:30 a.m.

Rev. Fred Ball will preach at the Heritage Worship Service (traditional) and the Celebration Worship Service (blended).

Pastor Claude Burnett will preach at the New Song Contemporary Service in Rob Reynolds Hall on the subject, "Where Will You See Jesus?" with Scripture from the gospel of Mark 16:7.

Nursing Home Service at

and ends Friday, June 22, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, at St. John United Methodist Church, 3214 Grand Prix Drive, Sebring.

The adventure includes regular Deep Sea Voyages into Bible fun and creative crafts, hands-on mission work, water science and great music. To be a part of all the excitement at Operation Overboard: Dare to Go Deep With God, call David Averill, director of Christian education, at 382-1736 or visit http://overboard.cokesburyvbs.com/stjohnsebring2012. There is no cost for attendance.

Lake Placid Health Care Center, with Rev. Dale Schanely, assistabst visitation pastor, leading the service and speaking, is at 3:45 p.m.

There will be no Youth Group or Chapel service due to Mother's Day.

The Church is at 500 Kent Ave. Call 465-2422.

Parkway Free Will Baptist Church

SEBRING — The Sunday morning Bible lesson, "The Good Shepherd" is taken from John 10. Pastor Jim Scaggs will bring the messages in the morning and evening services. The Wednesday evening service will be praise, prayer and an interactive Bible study.

Sebring Church of the Brethren

SEBRING — This Sunday morning, Pastor Terry Grove will be preaching on "David's Family." For the kids' time with T-Bear, Pastor Terry will give a little story.

Sunday school meets in the Fidelis Room and will be studying "A Suffering People." They will be looking at the Scripture from I Peter 4.

For more information, call 385-1597.

Southside Baptist Church

SEBRING — The Rev. Steve Winget, missionary to Hungary with Association of Baptist for World Evangelism, will speak to the adult classes and in the morning worship service Sunday. The Rev. David Altman will speak on "Doctrine" in the evening worship service.

Adult Bible study with Ron Frazee will be held Wednesday evening

Saturday at 8 a.m., the Great Pancake Cook-off will be held. Seven different kinds of pancakes will be prepared along with live music. Come and vote for the best-tasting pancake.

The church is at 379 South Commerce Ave. Call 385-0752.

Spring Lake United Methodist Church

SEBRING — Spring Lake United Methodist Church is at 8170 Cozumel Lane. Aall women of the church will be honored on Mother's Day.

Rev. Clyde Weaver's sermon will be: "A Virtuous Mother." Fellowship follows the service.

It is not about me or about you, it's about us

Guest Column

Fred Jeans

In 1951, on the day after Thanksgiving, it started to snow. All of the weather forecasters had been predicting snow flurries, but before it was over, we had 3 feet of snow flurries on the ground and school was canceled for the entire week, which was OK with me because I and my shovel made quite a bit of money that week shoveling out cars, driveways, and sidewalks.

I was awakened by noise outside very early Monday morning. When I looked out of my bedroom window, I saw my father shoveling out around his car and putting on chains so he could get to work. There was at least 2 feet of snow on the ground already and it was still coming down. The streets and highways had not been plowed and he drove more than 20 miles in that mess to get to the steel mill where he was employed. It was three days before he was able to leave the mill and return home. His decision was simple. He had taken that job and he was going to do it.

On my first pastorate, I lived in a small mining community and was pastor of three churches, one in town, one about 10 miles east of town, and one about 10 miles west of town. Both of the outlying churches were in the middle of nowhere, but the one east of our home was the most difficult to reach. In going to that church, I usually saved about 15 minutes by taking a shortcut over narrow winding roads that frequently were in need of repair.

On a particular winter morning during my first year on that charge, I woke up to find about 8 inches of snow on the ground. Now just so you understand, it was Sunday, and snow plows, which never reached

our roads until late afternoon during the week, sometimes never reached us at all on weekends. To be safe, I decided to leave early and took the long way around.

I arrived early for service but was surprised to find the church dark and empty. I had 10 times as far to drive as our members had, and over terrible roads, but I made it, while the congregation, most of which lived within a mile of the church stayed home. I was informed that when it snowed, they always canceled church. The following Sunday, I made a simple announcement. I told them that on Sunday mornings, I would be there unless there was ice on the roads, and for those who chose to come, we would have church. So "Don't call me to see if we are having church. We are!"

My father believed that on the job, one should give more than expected. "If you accept a job," he would say, "always do it to the best of your ability. If you can't do that, quit." And "If you borrow something, always return it in as good condition or better than you got it." If my father borrowed a car or truck, he always returned it washed and with a full tank of gas, even if it was dirty and nearly empty when he got it.

He never asked someone to do for him, what he could do for himself. Dad shoveled the neighbor's walks when he cleared his own. He fixed things for others at no charge. His honesty and integrity showed in everything he did.

He called it decency. I call it integrity, but regard-

less of what you call it, how a person does his or her job shows what kind of person he or she is. It is self-centeredness that causes a person who instead of doing their job to the best of their ability, tries to get out of doing it, forcing someone else to carry them. It is self centeredness that refuses to help a co-worker because "That's not my job."

It is not about me or you. It's about us; OUR country, OUR school, OUR city, OUR company, OUR residents, etc.. It's about succeeding or failing. It's about integrity.

When everyone does what is expected of them, pulling together and helping others, when we act like a family and perform like others matter, our jobs are more secure, our work place is pleasant, our homes are happier, and we can achieve whatever we put our minds to.

I once asked a pastor why it was that the church does at Christmas what they should be doing all year long. When he gave me a shocked/disgusted kind of look, I said that it isn't what we do but what we are that matters. And, if I am a believer in Christ Jesus, I will not need to change my actions just because it happens to be a holiday.

Jesus called us the "light of the world" and the "salt of the earth." Light and salt do what they do because of what they are.

And by the same token, what we do or do not do is because of what we are or are not.

Fred Jeans is chaplain at Kenilworth Care & Rehabilitation Center. Guest columns are the opinion of the writer, not necessarily those of the News-Sun staff.

Kansas county commission won't reinstate Christian prayer

HUTCHINSON, Kan. (AP) — The Reno County Commission will end its long tradition of offering mostly Christian prayer before its meeting.

Four witnesses asked the commission Tuesday to continue having ministers offering Christian prayer. But the commission declined, ordering County Counselor Joe O'Sullivan to draft a new policy.

Last month, Americans United for Separation of Church and State told officials that a review of commission meetings from December through March found more than 80 percent of the opening prayers invoked the name of Jesus.

The consensus of the board is to seek professionals to offer nonsectarian prayers. If no minister or other speaker is available, a commissioner would say a prayer or ask for a moment of silence.

Court: Detroit-area pastor can't testify about teen's confession in sexual assault case

DETROIT (AP) — The Michigan appeals court says prosecutors can't use a pastor's testimony in a sexual assault case.

The court said Wednesday that the testimony would violate a state law that protects communications between clergy and church members. Prosecutors say Samuel Bragg, as

a teenager, confessed to the pastor of Metro Baptist Church in Belleville about a 2007 assault of a 9-year-old girl.

The Rev. John Vaprezsan alerted the victim's family and also informed police. Bragg's case in Wayne County court has been on hold because of the dispute, and prosecutors say they'll now go to the state Supreme Court.

Prosecutors say the pastor's testimony should be allowed partly because Bragg was with his mother when he talked to Vaprezsan. But the appeals court says the mother's presence doesn't make a difference.

Franklin, Skaggs in Gospel Music Hall of Fame

NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP) — The queen of soul is taking her place in the Gospel Music Hall of Fame.

Aretha Franklin is one of six people who will be inducted into the Hall on Aug. 14 in Tennessee. She'll be joined by bluegrass legend Ricky Skaggs, family group The Hoppers, contemporary Christian singer Dallas Holm, the late TV evangelist Rex Humbard and Christian rock band Love Song.

Franklin's gospel roots run deep, starting with her father, who was a prominent Baptist minister.

GET YOUR LOCAL NEWS STRAIGHT

FROM THE SOURCE...

www.newssun.com
NEWS-SUN
 Highlands County's Hometown Newspaper Since 1927

DIVERSIONS

Burton's 'Dark Shadows' favors visuals over story

By **CHRISTY LEMIRE**
AP Movie Critic

Tim Burton and Johnny Depp are snuggled warmly in their comfort zone in the chilly horror-comedy "Dark Shadows," their eighth collaboration as director and star, respectively, and their weakest by far.

You don't need to know a thing about the late-'60s "Dark Shadows" TV series that provides the inspiration. Tonally, thematically, visually, you've seen this movie before, with its oddball characters, skies in varying shades of gray and a foreboding sense of gothic mystery. No one gets challenged here; no one gets pushed.

It's actually a wonder that Depp hasn't played a vampire before; still, his long-dead Barnabas Collins, who's been buried alive for nearly two centuries and suddenly finds himself back in his insular Maine hometown in 1972, fits squarely within his well-honed on-screen persona.

He thinks he's quite the charmer, but he's actually a bit awkward, and that contradiction provides the main source of humor.

Or at least, it's supposed to.

The script from Seth Grahame-Smith ("Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter") allows its family full of weirdos to shine intermittently but they rarely interact with each other; each functions in his or her own self-consciously quirky bubble. Too often, "Dark Shadows" is crammed with hacky, obvious, fish-out-of-water gags, as Barnabas tries to make sense of this strange new world.

He struggles to understand modern romance as he courts the family's delicate, wide-eyed nanny and hopes to fit in by smoking pot with the local hippies.

And how is this tiny Karen Carpenter person singing to him from inside



Johnny Depp stars as Barnabas Collins in 'Dark Shadows.'

MCT

the television set? Ho ho!

At the same time, "Dark Shadows" feels too languid, bogged down as it is with an obsessive eye for period costumes (the work of Colleen Atwood) and interior details rather than offering anything resembling an engaging story.

And by the time Burton finally puts his patented flair for visual effects to its best use, in a climactic showdown between Barnabas and the witch who cursed him (the va-va-voomy Eva Green), it's too late.

A little background here: As a child, Barnabas and his wealthy family sailed from England in 1750 and founded the fishing village of Collinsport in coastal Maine.

They spent 15 years building the grand Collinwood Manor, where a maid named Angelique (Green) loved Barnabas passionately, but he never returned her affections.

Because she felt scorned — and happened to be a witch — she turned him into a vampire, chained him up



Movie Review

'Dark Shadows'

Rating: R (comic horror violence, sexual content, some drug use, language and smoking)

Running time: 116 minutes

Review: ★★ (of 4)

and stuck him in a coffin in the ground. Nearly 200 years later, a construction crew unearths him and sets him free.

When he stumbles back to his once-stately home, he finds it falling apart, along with the fishing empire that has been conquered by a competitor named Angel (Green, again).

The few family members

who remain are random and reclusive: matriarch Elizabeth Collins Stoddard (Michelle Pfeiffer), the only one who knows his true identity; her weasel of a brother, Roger (Jonny Lee Miller); her rebellious teen daughter, Carolyn (Chloe Grace Moretz); and Roger's 10-year-old son David (Gully McGrath), who sees dead people.

There's also David's perpetually drunk psychiatrist, Dr. Julia Hoffman (Burton regular Helena Bonham Carter); the home's beleaguered caretaker, Willie (Jackie Earle Haley); and the new governess, Victoria (Bella Heathcote), who bears a striking resemblance to Barnabas' long-ago love and has a few secrets of her own.

That's a lot of exposition, huh? And the film itself takes awhile to get going as it establishes all those characters and back stories.

Once there, it seems to have nowhere to go — out of the shadows or into the light, it doesn't really matter either way.

Survivor of child abuse wants to break from her past

Dear Abby: When I was in sixth grade, my 19-year-old brother, "Ray," came into my room and fondled me late at night. I pretended to be asleep so I didn't have to deal with the situation. I told my mom afterward. She told me not to tell my father and bought a lock for my door.



Dear Abby

Years later, when my sister found out what happened to me, she told me Ray had also done it to her. She told Dad and confronted Mom. Neither one ever said anything to Ray. They told us it was "in the past" and to leave it alone.

Because my sister is openly confrontational about it, she isn't invited to family events that he is attending. I am invited because I just ignore him, but it's uncomfortable knowing my parents took his side over that of their two daughters. I won't let my daughter be alone with him — or with him and my mom, because I don't trust her anymore.

Should I tell my parents I don't want to hear about my brother and no longer want to be around him?

— *Wronged in Georgia*

Dear Wronged: Yes, if it will make you feel better, by all means do. That your parents would ignore your brother's predatory behavior is appalling. By protecting him, your mother betrayed you and your sister.

You are also wise to be vigilant if he is anywhere around your daughter and to restrict contact with him to a minimum. No child is safe around your brother.

If you and your sister haven't had counseling to come to terms with what happened to you, please consider contacting the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN). The website is www.rainn.org, and the toll-free number is 800-656-4673. Nothing you say to the counselors will shock them, and they will be glad to refer you to someone qualified to help you.

Dear Abby: I think my in-laws want my husband to divorce me because I have Asperger's syndrome and bipolar disorder. Sometimes I innocently say things that other family members take offense to. My mother-in-

law then calls my husband, tells him what a "nut" I am and how upset "so-and-so" got. This results in huge fights between my husband and me, and it's hurting our marriage.

I have offered to educate my in-laws about bipolar and Asperger's, but they say I'm just making excuses for my behavior. I would like to explain to them that my thought processes aren't the same as everyone else's, so I am going to make mistakes in what I say to people.

I am hurt by their judgment and lack of tolerance. I don't do "bad" things often — maybe once or twice a year. But instead of overlooking it, they make a big deal out of it because I'm different. They should focus on the good. I do a lot of charity work and would help anyone in need. Their lack of understanding is ruining my marriage. I'm 25 and we have been married for five years. I don't want to throw that away. What do I do?

— *Am How I Am in Alabama*

Dear "How You Are":

That your marriage has lasted through five years of your mother-in-law's attempts to undercut it tells me the bond between you and your husband must be a strong one.

Does HE understand how Asperger's and bipolar disorder affect the brain? If not, then the doctor who prescribes your medication should explain it to him so he can explain to his parents that what they are complaining about is not your fault. And if they don't "get it," a behavioral specialist should explain to them that they should be more patient and understanding with a member of their family.

Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversa-

'Girl in Progress' never really grows up

By **CHRISTY LEMIRE**
AP Movie Critic

The strong, sexy presence of Eva Mendes and the girl-ish perkiness of Cierra Ramirez can only go so far to make the forced mother-daughter dramedy "Girl in Progress" tolerable.

It's a coming-of-age story that knows it's a coming-of-age story — as in, our young heroine is well aware of the conventions of this kind of tale and goes out of her way to manufacture various rites of passage to expedite her transformation from innocence to womanhood. Ramirez's character, the teenage Ansiedad, literally creates a flow chart in her bedroom and spells out her strategy with her only friend (the sweetly nerdy Raini Rodriguez) — whom she'll soon cast aside, she declares, because it's a necessary step in the process.

Breaking down and sending up a specific genre is fine if the script is strong enough to get away with such cutesy self-reference, as in "Juno" and "Easy A." Director Patricia Riggen and screenwriter Hiram Martinez don't go far enough, don't dig deep enough with these characters. They play it too safe, which makes "Girl in Progress" feel like a slightly racier version of an ABC Family show — and the flat, overly bright lighting further



Movie Review

'Girl in Progress'

Rating: R (mature thematic elements, sexual content including crude references, and drinking)

Running time: 84 minutes

Review: ★★ (of 4)

makes it feel like forgettable television.

It certainly doesn't help that the two main figures are clichés. Mendes' Grace is the child in the equation, having given birth when she was just 17 and hopping from man to man and town to town ever since. Ansiedad — which means anxiety in Spanish — is the responsible one: Smart, studious and organized, she's left to scrub the sink full of dishes while her mom's out with her married gynecologist boyfriend (Mathew Modine, whose character doesn't have a single perceptible redeeming quality).

Do you think it's possible that, by the end, they'll both

have learned some lessons and assumed their rightful roles?

Riggen cuts awkwardly and sometimes too quickly between potentially poignant moments and scenes of wacky humor, which undermines her attempts at emotional honesty. Meanwhile, supporting characters who were intended to provide depth merely feel like types — Modine's cold, controlling wife or the kindhearted Mexican immigrant who works alongside Grace at a restaurant. And in a painfully literal device, Ansiedad's English teacher (Patricia Arquette) just happens to be explaining the steps in a coming-of-age story as Ansiedad embarks on them.

It's maddening: "Girl in Progress" knows that every teen movie has to have a blowout bash where important events take place, and it can't even get the tone of

that right.

This is being marketed as an ideal film for moms and daughters to see together on Mother's Day weekend. A long, awkward brunch sounds more fun — and more truthful.

SUDOKU

1	8					6	5
5				6		9	
			9		7	3	
		3		4			
4			7				
					2		3
	2		5	7			1
	7				6		5
1					9	8	

Level: Advanced

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

2	7	8	6	9	3	4	5	1
3	5	1	6	4	7	8	2	9
4	9	8	7	5	2	1	3	6
1	3	4	5	2	8	6	7	9
9	8	1	6	3	7	2	4	5
7	9	2	7	4	1	5	3	6
8	1	3	7	5	6	9	4	2
4	2	1	9	6	8	7	3	5
5	3	7	4	2	1	8	9	6

ANSWER:

The news is just a click away!
www.newssun.com
NEWS-SUN

Fairmount Cinema 6
3750 US 27 N. Sebring

NEW DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
\$8 ADULTS - \$6 MATINEE*
Matinee is by 6pm

Now Showing

The Five Year Engagement R
(Emily Blunt, Jason Segel)
2:00 • 4:30 • 7:00 • 9:30

The Lucky One PG-13
(Zac Efron, Taylor Schilling)
2:15 • 4:15 • 7:15 • 9:15

Think Like A Man PG-13
(Kevin Hart, Arielle Kebbel)
2:00 • 4:30 • 7:00 • 9:30

The Raven R
(John Cusack, Luke Evans)
2:00 • 4:30 • 7:00 • 9:30

The Three Stooges PG
(Sean Hayes, Will Sasso, Chris Diamantopoulos)
2:15 • 4:15 • 7:15 • 9:15

Salmon Fishing in the Yamen PG-13
(Ewan McGregor, Emily Blunt)
2:00 • 4:30 • 7:00 • 9:30

Suick Cinemas
Information.....385-9980
Office.....385-9908

For the BOYS

Mentoring boys changes lives

FAMILY FEATURES

At age eleven, Willie was headed for disaster. His home life was full of violence and abuse, and he was full of self-hatred and anger.

"I felt no one loved me," he says. "So at twelve, I started digging my own grave in the canyon behind my house."

But then something happened. Some caring mentors came alongside Willie and changed his life. As he puts it, "They kept pursuing me because they saw what I could not — my true potential."

Boys at Risk

Willie was considered an at-risk youth. Kids like Willie have problems that put their health, development and overall success in life in jeopardy.

The National At-Risk Education Network defines at-risk in two ways:

- At-risk of dropping out of school
- At-risk of not succeeding in life due to being raised in unfavorable circumstances

How do young people end up at-risk? To look at the dropout issue, there is no single risk factor to predict who is likely to drop out of school — it's actually a combination of circumstances.

The National Dropout Prevention Center/Network at Clemsun University reviewed 25 years of research and found that dropping out of school is related to individual, family, school and community factors. It's described as a long process of disengagement that adds up over time.

Being raised "in unfavorable circumstances" includes factors such as poverty, limited access to opportunities, and the lack of positive adult influences in their lives.

"Boys naturally look toward men for guidance, but too many young men don't have solid male role models to look up to," said Craig McClain, cofounder of Boys to Men Mentoring Network, a nonprofit organization dedicated to guiding boys through their passage to manhood. "Growing up without fathers, male mentors or positive role models has a devastating effect on young men, and ultimately our society."



At-risk boys get the chance at a better life with programs like the Boys to Men Mentoring Network.



Having mentors and positive role models lets boys know that they have value, that someone cares, and that they can grow up to be good men.

Mentoring Tomorrow's Men

Mentoring is the development of a caring, supportive relationship that helps someone reach their fullest potential. The National Mentoring Partnership (www.mentoring.org) says that formal mentoring relationships help reduce delinquency, substance abuse and academic failure. They also promote "positive outcomes, such as self-esteem, social skills and knowledge of career opportunities."

"A lot of boys today don't have anyone showing them or telling them how to be a good man," says Joe Sigurdson, cofounder of Boys to Men. "We help boys become better men. We bring good men into boys' lives to be mentors and role models. We teach and model integrity, accountability, character, compassion and respect. And it works."

How It Works

The Boys to Men mentoring program has three components: an experiential mentor training for carefully screened mentors, a Rites of Passage weekend and ongoing group mentoring. The group mentoring allows the boys and their mentors to meet in a group setting to strengthen relationships, share the challenges in their lives, and get positive support.

"We've seen some major changes in these boys' lives," said McClain. "Over 5,300 men and boys have been through the program over the years, and we've seen boys overcome incredible odds to become loving fathers, husbands and good men."

Started in San Diego in 1996, Boys to Men has expanded to communities in 27

cities and 4 countries. Their newest strategy for reaching young men is a site-based mentoring program that focuses on middle and high school boys who have been identified by schools as at-risk.

At the Gateway Community Day High School, participants have improved their GPAs by an average of 57 percent, reduced discipline referrals by 216 percent, and defied the school's historic dropout rate of nearly 36 percent with a 0 percent dropout rate.

"The teenage years are critical in a young man's life, when boys are making decisions that affect the rest of their lives," said Sigurdson. "With the site-based program, we give boys a place to talk about what's really going on in their lives, as well as a community of mentors who listen, believe in them and help them make better choices. And the data from our Gateway program shows that it's remarkably effective."

You Can Make a Difference

Unfortunately, there is a constant need for mentors. To become a mentor, you don't have to be an expert in anything, and you don't have to have all the answers. The National Mentoring Partnership says that successful mentors:

- Sincerely want to be involved with young people
- Respect young people
- Are active listeners
- Have empathy for others
- See opportunities and solutions
- Are flexible and open



"We have seen the difference it can make in boys' lives when someone gives them the support they need," said McClain. "We've had the privilege of hearing young men share their moving stories and have walked alongside them as they've journeyed into manhood. It's an exciting thing to be a part of, and I encourage every man to be a part of it."

And as for Willie? He's ready to give back to others. "Boys to Men was the catalyst for a change in my life so dramatic that my whole being was altered. I can look a kid in the eyes who is hurting and in need of some love, and I can offer him my love, experience and wisdom. I can say 'I know you're hurting, but you don't have to be strong anymore because I'm here for you.'"

To learn more about the Boys to Men mentoring program visit www.boystomen.org, or email mentor@boystomen.org. It's an easy way to find out how you can help change a life.



Becoming a Mentor

Mentoring doesn't just benefit the youth. Mentors find they not only have fun, but they grow personally, feel more productive, understand other cultures more, and develop better relationships with their own children.

When choosing a mentorship program to become involved in:

- Talk to the organization's volunteer coordinator. Ask about the time commitment, types of activities and opportunities available, and the process of matching young people with mentors.
- Find out about training and support for mentors, as well as the application process. Some programs require a written application, personal and professional references, as well as a background check.
- Ask yourself some questions, too: What kind of time commitment can you make? What age group would you like to work with? Are you willing to take on the challenges and rewards of mentoring someone? Are you willing to grow as a person?