

Highlands County's Hometown Newspaper Since 1927

Three animated holiday TV classics almost never made it to the airwaves

LIVING, 12B



Lady Dragons dominate

Lake Placid cruises to win over rival Red Devils

SPORTS, 1B



Wet Down

DeSoto City to welcome new truck in old way

PAGE 2A



Friday-Saturday, December 7-8, 2012

www.newssun.com

Volume 93/Number 150 | 50 cents

Forecast



Warm with some showers in the P.M.

High **80** Low **61**

Complete Forecast PAGE 12A

Online



Question:

Will you get, or have you gotten, a flu shot this year?

Yes **46.9%**

No **53.1%**

Total votes: 111

Next question:

Marijuana possession is now legal in Washington state. Should it be legal in Florida?

Make your voice heard at www.newssun.com

Obituaries

Susan Baginski

Age 97, of Sebring

Kevin Megno

Age 55, of Sebring

Donald TerMeer

Age 74, of Sebring

Obituaries, Page 5A

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News-Sun photo by KATARA SIMMONS

Lake Placid Chamber of Commerce President/CEO Eileen May talks about what an honor it is for Lake Placid to be featured in the current issue of Reader's Digest as America's Most Interesting Town.

Taking an interest

Lake Placid named America's Most Interesting Town by 'Reader's Digest'

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR sgholar@newssun.com

LAKE PLACID — Eileen May got quite a shock when she opened the most recent issue of "Reader's Digest."

"I didn't know until I opened up the magazine and saw it yesterday afternoon," May, the Chamber of Commerce President/CEW said Thursday.

"I opened it and looked, and I

said to Mary Tanner 'We won.'"

The win May was referring to was Lake Placid being named "America's Most Interesting Town" by the magazine.

The long-running, two-century-old publication chose Lake Placid as the winner in its annual contest and has placed the charming little Florida town in the national spotlight. Lake Placid residents, businesses and dignitaries couldn't be

more thrilled about its newest title and achievement.

The Lake Placid Chamber of Commerce has been in a buzz since the news went official Wednesday afternoon. May had pre-ordered 500 copies of the January 2013 issue of Reader's Digest in hopes of seeing the town on the pages, but the win came as a

See LP, page 8A

County mourns Kevin Megno — great cop, caring child advocate

By CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY christopher.tuffley@newssun.com

AVON PARK — Law enforcement and school communities mourn the unexpected death of Deputy Sheriff Kevin Megno, 55, who collapsed in his home Tuesday night.

Megno served 25 years in law enforcement, in his home state of Maine, with the Avon Park Police Department and finally with the

Highlands County Sheriff's Office.

Remembered as an excellent officer and generous man, Megno influenced hundreds of children through the years he worked as a school

resource officer in both elementary and secondary schools. He was the resource officer at Avon Park



Megno

Middle School at the time of his death, and preparing to begin the 2013 D.A.R.E programs for Avon and Park elementary schools' fifth grades — a program he had operated for years.

"It's been a shock," said Pam Burnham, principal of Avon Elementary. "He was such a gentleman and so kind to the kids. The

See MEGNO, page 6A

Sebring Middle School students show off their scientific muscles

By CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY christopher.tuffley@newssun.com

SEBRING — Do different liquids thaw at the same rate? Does aluminum foil block radio waves? Is window shopping online calming? The answers — no, yes and yes — to these scientific puzzlers came Wednesday from Sebring Middle School advanced academic students during the annual science fair.

Students in the advanced pro-

gram must conduct an experiment and submit a project to the fair, but all students are encouraged to enter. This year only three sixth-graders — Jameka Fields, Gavin Szoka and Chayanne Iglesias — were brave enough to take up the challenge.

Lined up neatly in the Commons, the 75 entries impressed teachers and parents.

"It's amazing," Jamie Seppala said, taking her time to look the experiments over. "I was never this good in science."

Seppala's son, Hunter, conducted an experiment to see which of three liquids caused iron to rust the quickest. "He

See SMS, page 7A



News-Sun photo by CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY (From left) Mika Descartin explains her brother Miguel Descartin's winning seventh-grade project about casein plastic to her friend Morgan Carlson and Jamie Seppala, an admiring parent.

Rowan case to go before a jury

By BARRY FOSTER bbarry@newssun.com

News-Sun correspondent

AVON PARK — After bouncing back from federal court, Judge J. David Langford this week issued a ruling in the action between the City of Avon Park and former Avon Park Police Chief Michael Rowan.



Rowan

The case now will go to a jury trial.

However, exactly when that will occur is anybody's guess. Langford has ordered the hearing for April of 2013 and while

See ROWAN, page 3A

'Journey' exhibit arrives in Sebring

Opening reception to be held today

By CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY christopher.tuffley@newssun.com

SEBRING — Post Colombian American history is the story of movement, as new arrivals spread throughout the continent. Some explored for adventure or riches, others sought to escape urban life in the expanding towns and cities. Some simply wanted land of their own.

Whatever the reasons, one cannot understand American culture and progress without taking this wanderlust into account, especially as the succeeding waves of migration often triggered historical events.

Appropriately, a traveling exhibit created by the Smithsonian Institute in Washington D.C. arrived at the

See JOURNEY, page 6A

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Marine was defender of justice

Capt. Matt Manoukian could have done anything he wanted in life. Not only was he the son of two California judges, he was tough, good-looking and brilliant.

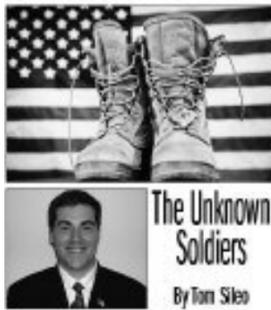
"He took care of business," his father, Judge Socrates Peter Manoukian of the Santa Clara County Superior Court, told The Unknown Soldiers.

Ever since age 7, Matt dreamed of becoming a United States Marine. He believed the Marine Corps gave him a unique chance to help protect equality and justice, which he watched his parents preserve throughout his childhood.

Matt's plans took on a sense of urgency on Sept. 11, 2001. While the high school football standout was ready to enlist the next day, an injury and a major health scare forced Matt to put his dreams on hold.

"He had two surgeries ... the first was for a knee injury," his dad said. "Then, that summer he found out he had a tumor in his spinal cord."

Matt pursued his bachelor's degree at the University of Arizona while recovering from both operations. He studied political science and rebuilt his strength, but



never wavered from his ultimate goal.

"He was a good example of 'if you work hard enough, you'll get what you want,'" Matt's father said.

Matt joined the Marine Corps in 2006, and after more than a year of training, deployed to Iraq's Al Anbar Province. But even as a young Lieutenant, Matt understood that physical preparation was only one aspect of a combat deployment.

"I told him a big part of being a Marine was understanding the culture," Matt's dad said. "But he already knew that."

Matt treated Iraqi civilians with respect and began studying their language while leading his platoon on dangerous missions. He was compassionate, but also fierce and genuinely heroic.



Marine Capt. Matt Manoukian, 29, served four combat deployments before being killed in Afghanistan on Aug. 10. Photo courtesy of the Manoukian family.

"He had an IED (improvised explosive device) go off near him and knock him out ... it knocked everybody out," his father said.

As a fellow Marine lay bleeding, Matt refused to leave him behind.

"He put a tourniquet on this guy's leg and saved his life," Matt's dad said.

While Matt earned medals throughout his military career, he was reluctant to discuss any personal

achievements. What did fill him with pride, however, was seeing clear signs of progress when he returned to Iraq a second time. Just like during his first deployment, Matt immersed himself in the local culture.

"He did that in Iraq ... he learned how to speak Arabic," Matt's dad said. "And then when he went to Afghanistan, he started

See MARINE, page 8A

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Busy weekend in Sebring

SEBRING — Sebring's Christmas parade is scheduled for today at 7 p.m. and is sponsored by Heartland Young Professionals Inc. The parade route will start on the Sebring Parkway at Shontee Avenue and will run south on North Ridgewood Drive, around the Circle, to South Commerce Avenue. It ends at McClain Lane by Firemen's Field.

On Saturday, join the Rotary Club of Highlands County from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. at Circle Drive and N. Commerce Street for the Second Annual Crazy Pepper Chili Cookoff. Admission is \$5 per person. For more information, visit www.RotaryChili.com or email DrPepper@strato.net/.

Also on Saturday at 10 a.m. is Zumba Fitness in the Park at Sadie Kahn Park (two blocks off the Circle on North Ridgewood Drive.

Then, the Saturday Night Cruise will be from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. Cruisers come from near and far to Sebring's Downtown Circle to see classic cars, listen to live entertainment and enjoy delicious food. For more information, visit www.SebringCruise.com/

SHS Band plans garage sale Saturday

SEBRING — Spirit of Sebring High School Marching Band, directed by Colorado Paniagua, played in four regional competitions of the Florida Marching Band Championships (FMBC) in Division 2A and took a variety of awards during these competitions. The band also qualified for the state championships after their third competition (earliest qualifying date for the Spirit of Sebring Marching Band).

On Nov. 17, the band competed in the State Championship Semi-finals in St. Petersburg and scored a 79.58, the highest score ever achieved by the Spirit of Sebring Marching Band at the State's, ranking

it 14th in the state in Division 2A.

On Saturday, the Sebring Band Boosters Association will hold a garage/rummage sale from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Sebring High School, 3514 Kenilworth Blvd. Refreshments will be available. All proceeds support the SHS Band Programs.

AP Chamber hosts membership breakfast

AVON PARK — The Avon Park Chamber Membership Breakfast, sponsored by Highlands Independent Bank, will be at 7 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 13 at the Hotel Jacaranda. Highlands Independent Bank will have its Money Jug to give some lucky chamber members the opportunity to draw for cash.

The Christmas program will be provided by Park Elementary School Chorus. RSVP by calling the Chamber office at 453-3350.

Chuck White, Friends play for Dance Club

SEBRING — The Highlands Social Dance Club will host the music of Chuck White and Friends from 7-9:30 p.m. today at the Senior Center, 3400 Sebring Parkway. Prior to the dance, free dance lessons will be given from 6:30-7 p.m. by Ringo and Hall. Snacks and sandwiches will be available (bring your own beverages). Cost is \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members.

For more information, call 386-0855.

Christmas Choral Presentation is next Music in the Park

SEBRING — The next Music in the Park Concert Series at Highlands Hammock State Park will be a Christmas Choral presentation on Saturday.

Concert admission is \$5 per person (accompanied children 12 and under admitted free of charge).

Continued on page 5A



Courtesy photo

Neighboring fire departments have been invited to 'commission' DeSoto City's new fire truck in the county's inaugural 'wetdown.'

DeSoto City VFD to hold inaugural wetdown ceremony

New fire truck will be welcomed with water

By BARRY FOSTER
News-Sun correspondent

SEBRING — The Desoto City Volunteer Fire Department will host an event this weekend they hope will become a tradition in the local firefighting community.

Known as a "wetdown," neighboring fire departments have been invited in to "commission" Desoto City's new fire truck by spraying it with water from their own apparatus.

The event is the brainchild of Desoto City VFD Chief Ben deBree and is a custom generally observed up north.

A wetdown ceremony is a traditional welcome for a fire apparatus or even an entire fire station.

The tradition originated in historic east coast fire departments when changing out old fire pumpers for the new.

The horses would be unhitched and water was transferred to the new apparatus. It would then be dried off and pushed into the stall for service.

The target this time around will be Engine 19. The fire emergency green truck was constructed by the E-One corporation. The truck is a custom cab from the company's Traditional

Series.

he engine has a 1,000-gallon tank and can pump as much as 1,250 gallons per minute at full force. It arrived in October but was not ready for service until it was fully outfitted with ladders, hoses and other equipment.

The wetdown ceremony will be held at the Alan Jay Ford dealership on U.S. 27 North. It will run from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. with trucks from various departments coming by periodically to spray water on the vehicle.

In the meantime, a Desoto City VFD brush truck will be there to allow children to have a chance to spray the truck down themselves.

In addition, the Alan Jay Ford dealership will be serving food.

There will be give aways for the kids such as safety activity booklets, plastic fire hats, and junior firefighter badges.

There also will be smoke detectors available for parents and other adults.

Displays and exhibits also will be set up so children can get a feeling of what it's like to roll and unroll actual fire hoses.

All fire departments in Highlands County have been invited to participate in this event.

The Lorida, West Sebring and Highlands Lakes VFDs all have confirmed their participation, with others to come by based on their schedules and/or calls for service.

Fake \$100 bills found in LP

By CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY
christopher.tuffley@newssun.com

LAKE PLACID — Police Chief Phil Williams warns merchants to be alert for counterfeit \$100 bills. Two were passed in town stores Friday, November 30.

"The bills looked pretty good," Williams said. "They passed the merchant's pen test."

The bills, however, do have a flaw — both belonged to the 1985 series and had identical serial numbers. Williams recommends posting the number on cash registers. Look for: B02609463B.

Williams added that in the past his department kept local merchants informed about just this kind of situation through notification email and fax lists.

He is reinstating that program. Merchants who want to be on the notification list

should contact the Lake Placid police department.

The telephone number is 699-3757. The e-mail address is lakeplacidchief@gmail.com/.

The police department switchboard and office is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. every week day, except for holidays.

Should a business discover they've received a counterfeit bill after hours call the Lake Placid number. The call will be routed to the Sheriff's central dispatch, but the dispatcher will contact the Lake Placid police.

Worker dumbfounded to find foster girl gone

By CURT ANDERSON
AP Legal Affairs Writer

MIAMI — A Florida state worker says she was in total disbelief to discover in 2002 that foster child Rilya Wilson had been missing for more than a year.

Department of Children and Families employee Dora Betancourt testified Wednesday that she also couldn't find any clues to the 4-year-old's whereabouts in official court documents. The testimony came in the murder trial of Rilya's caretaker GERALYN GRAHAM, who is accused of killing the girl in late 2000.

Betancourt said she went to check on Rilya and a sibling at the Graham home in April 2002. Graham claimed that an unknown DCF employee had taken Rilya away in early 2001 for mental tests. But Betancourt says there are no records supporting that.

Florida Lottery		FLORIDA LOTTO		Dec. 5		6 20 25 36 44 52 x:3	
						Next jackpot \$6 million	
				Dec. 1		2 5 33 45 48 50 x:3	
				Nov. 28		7 12 15 20 34 49 x:5	
eZmatch		Dec. 5	3 6 18 19 21	Play 4		Dec. 5 (n)	8 6 5 8
		Nov. 4	14 23 26 28 30			Dec. 5 (d)	8 4 2 7
		Dec. 3	6 10 24 25 29			Dec. 4 (n)	0 9 3 2
		Dec. 2	3 10 17 26 32			Dec. 4 (d)	9 1 4 2
MEGA MONEY		Dec. 4	3 5 21 30			Dec. 5 (n)	8 1 7
		Nov. 30	3 14 17 29			Dec. 5 (d)	7 4 8
		Nov. 27	6 11 16 42			Dec. 4 (n)	2 3 6
		Nov. 23	2 17 19 41			Dec. 4 (d)	9 5 6
POWERBALL		Dec. 5	13 17 19 27 38	PB: 12		Note: Cash 3 and Play 4 drawings are twice per day: (d) is the daytime drawing, (n) is the nighttime drawing. PB: Power Ball	
		Next jackpot \$40 million					
		Dec. 1	3 10 19 36 46	PB: 3			
		Nov. 28	5 16 22 23 29	PB: 6			

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

<p>Office: 2227 US 27 S, Sebring, FL 33870</p> <p>Office Hours: 8 a.m. - 5p.m., Mon-Fri</p> <p>Phone: (863) 385-6155</p> <p>Main Fax: (863) 385-1954</p> <p>Newsroom Fax: (863) 385-2453</p>	<p>Postmaster: Send address change to: News-Sun, 2227 U.S. 27 S., Sebring, FL 33870</p> <p>USPS - ISSN 0163-3988</p> <p>Periodical postage paid at Sebring, FL and additional entry office(s)</p>
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<p>Circulation, Sunday, Wednesday & Friday Editions:</p> <p>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.</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <th>SUBSCRIPTION RATES</th> <th>12MO.</th> <th>7% FL TAX</th> <th>TOTAL</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>HOME DELIVERY</td> <td>\$68.78</td> <td>\$4.81</td> <td>\$73.59</td> </tr> <tr> <td>IN FLORIDA MAIL</td> <td>\$102.13</td> <td>\$7.15</td> <td>\$109.28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>OUT OF FLORIDA MAIL</td> <td>\$116.58</td> <td>\$8.16</td> <td>\$124.74</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	SUBSCRIPTION RATES	12MO.	7% FL TAX	TOTAL	HOME DELIVERY	\$68.78	\$4.81	\$73.59	IN FLORIDA MAIL	\$102.13	\$7.15	\$109.28	OUT OF FLORIDA MAIL	\$116.58	\$8.16	\$124.74
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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

What did Pearl Harbor attack mean? We soon found out

My first inkling of that event they call World War II took place in Pennsylvania in 1939. Thanks to the Internet, I can tell you the exact date of the piece of history I'm about to recall. It was Sept. 1, 1939. I'm not sure which town we were living in — it was either Hazelton or Shamokin, both in the heart of the hard coal region of the state.



Guest Column
Larry Levey

Here's what stands out in my memory about that date: We were living in an apartment and my dad was at work while my mother and I (all of 8 years of age) were at home with the radio on. Suddenly, the radio erupted with the news that Germany had just invaded Poland. That invasion, as the history books tell us, was the beginning of World War II. I have a different memory about that date. Even before the news broadcast was over, I could see — and hear — my mom start to sob. Without a word, she dashed into the bathroom and shut the door. That's it. That's my 1939

memory about the start of WW II (in Europe, anyhow). I don't recall her — or anyone — ever talking to me about that day, or if I heard more about it on the radio or in the daily paper, or why she ran into the bathroom. I don't recall that, either.

I don't recall anything ... until Dec. 7, 1941. I know for sure we were again living in an apartment in Shamokin at 57 Independence St., right in the midst of Shamokin's business section. We lived in a building housing a Rexall Drug Store; a door just right of the drug store opened onto a flight of stairs that took you up one floor to our apartment (second door on the left).

On that Sunday in December, I still remember walking up the stairs; walking down the hallway to that second door, and opening it. Just like in 1939, the radio was on, broadcasting the news.

I remember snatches from that broadcast: "Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor." "Heavy loss of life." "President



MCT
Explosions tower above the water on Dec. 7, 1941 as the Japanese attack Pearl Harbor in Hawaii, drawing America into World War II.

Roosevelt to speak." Pearl Harbor? What was that? Where was that? The Japanese? Why the Japanese? America's at war? What does it all mean? Yes, what did it all mean? We found out. That day. The next day ... and everyday for the next four years ... we found out.

Larry Levey is a News-Sun correspondent living in Avon Park.

TLC Therapy Hooves making visits Wednesday

Special to the News-Sun
SEBRING — TLC Therapy Hooves Inc. will visit three different retirements homes on Wednesday. The trained miniature horses and potbellied pigs will bring holiday cheer to residents of Maranatha Manor at 9:45 a.m., followed by a 10:30 visit to Kenilworth Care and Rehab and 11:15 visit to Sudan Interior Mission.

TLC Therapy Hooves follows a strict therapy protocol and trains each volunteer member on proper handling of the animals with focus on safety first. If you love animals, consider becoming a volunteer.

The horses and pigs have each been trained from a very early age to be petted and touched by dozens of people and maneuver

around wheelchairs and other equipment. The animals are potty trained and even do a few tricks. All the animals are checked regularly by a vet, including shots and monthly farrier (hoof) trims.

Tax deductible donations are gladly accepted to this 501c3 organization. Consider giving a gift in honor or memory of a friend or family member.

"My view is that these animals are a gift from God and it is a blessing to share them with our community," founder Terri Lynn Crutchfield said.

For more information or to speak with Crutchfield at TLC Therapy Hooves Inc., contact her at P.O. Box 7277, Sebring, FL 33872, call 699-0777, or friend the group on Facebook.



Courtesy photo
TLC Therapy Hooves takes horses and pigs to retirement homes to brighten residents' days.

Howitzer cannon to be display at Sebring's Medal of Honor Park

By BARRY FOSTER
Special to the News-Sun

SEBRING — Highlands County's Medal of Honor Park soon will have a new military display piece. Highlands County commissioners Tuesday voted to expend almost \$3,200 to facilitate the transport and placement of an M101A1 Howitzer cannon at the park.

The big gun has served in World War II, Korea and Vietnam as a direct support artillery weapon. It since has been declared as surplus and has been housed at Alabama's Anniston Army Depot. Firing a 105mm shell, the gun was the standard light field howitzer for the United States, seeing action in both the European as well as the Pacific theaters. Entering production in 1941, it gained much of its notoriety in the war against the Imperial Japanese Army in the Pacific, earning a reputation for both its accuracy and powerful punch.

The Model M101A1 since has been retired from the U.S. military, although it continues to see service in a

number of other countries.

The search for a piece of military equipment to exhibit at the George Boulevard facility dates back to 2006 when then-Highlands County's Veterans Services Officer Joe Dionne got permission to accept a Howitzer and have a concrete pad poured as a display area. At the time, Highlands County Sheriff Susan Benton offered to supply some of the labor for restoration of the big gun as well as assistance with the pouring of the concrete pad.

Two years later, Dionne changed his request in order to seek an on-loan Naval aircraft.

The idea was to reflect the aviation history at both the Sebring and Avon Park airports.

While the county never received an airplane, earlier this year, the Veterans Service Office was notified the Howitzer was available.

As part of the agreement, the county will have to disable the cannon by restricting all moving parts. Plans call for the pad to be placed near the county Veterans Service

Office sign just west of the entrance driveway. The cannon will be situated near the current military flags display.

The breakdown calls for \$1,500 to pour the pad, \$1,200 to retrieve and deliver the weapon with an addition-

al \$487.96 Depot Release Fee. Officials at the Veterans Service Office said they hope to take delivery of the cannon within the next two weeks. The concrete display pad was poured Thursday in preparation.



Courtesy photo
This Howitzer cannon is similar to the one that will be placed at the Medal of Honor Park.

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NEWS-SUN

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Continued from page 2A

Bring lawn chairs or blankets and flashlight. Concerts are outdoors in the picnic area from 7-9 p.m.

Proceeds benefit park improvements via the Friends of Highlands Hammock.

The Hammock Inn restaurant will be open for refreshments, and regular park admission of \$6 per vehicle (up to eight people per car) is waived after 6 p.m. on concert nights.

Group meets to look at town revitalization

AVON PARK — The public is invited to a faith- and community-based initiative to revitalize the backside of Avon Park. The luncheon will be at noon today at the Hotel Jacaranda on Main Street.

Community leaders, businesses and pastors, join Pastor Barbara Robinson in an effort to revitalize the backside of Avon Park. Historically, this has been an area with a high crime rate resulting in the death of many young adults.

Those who wish to make a difference are urged to come and participate in whatever way possible. This initiative will benefit all children regardless of race, creed, color, gender, or national origin.

The cost of the luncheon (along with discussing the initiative) is \$25. RSVP by calling Robinson at 452-2531 or (561) 767-1778.

Buttonwood Bay plans first square dance

SEBRING — The first square dance of the season at Buttonwood Bay will be from 7:30-9:30 p.m. today. The caller is Sam Dunn.

Square Dance attire is optional. Dunn will be calling easy, mainstream and plus dances.

If questions, call Roger McElfresh at 655-4243.

Flywheelers open Christmas Village

FORT MEADE — The Florida Flywheelers present Christmas in the Village from 6-9 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, Dec. 7-8 and Dec. 14-15, at Florida Flywheeler Park, 700 Avon Park Cutoff Road, Fort Meade. Bring your friends and family.

Admission is an unwrapped toy, canned food, or money donation, or all three. Proceeds to benefit local charities, a local food bank and Toys for Tots.

Carolers will be in period costumes. The village will be decorated as a winter

wonderland. Get your photo with Santa. The gift shop will be open; refreshments will be served; ride the tram and take a step back in time.

Directions: From Fort Meade - Go seven miles east on U.S. 98, turn right on Avon Park Cut-off Road, follow three miles to park. From Avon Park: Turn west off U.S. 27 on Avon Park Cut-off Road, eight miles to park.

For more information call (863) 285-9121 (groups, please call in advance). Ho Ho Ho! See you there!

Under the Oaks Opry in parades

SEBRING — Under The Oaks Opry will be in the Sebring Christmas Parade today and the Lake Placid Christmas Parade Saturday. Look for their Model AA truck with some of the Opry Cast. Country, bluegrass and gospel will be played this Sunday 2 p.m., hosted by G.W. Saunders and other Opry guests. The event is in an inside family venue (no alcohol) just off Powerline Road at 3414 Beck Ave.

Call Ken (863) 253-0771 or find Under The Oaks Opry on Facebook.

LP parade plans online

LAKE PLACID — The Lake Placid Christmas parade plans are posted at www.lppd.com. Plans are the same as last year, with the staging area on Dal Hall Boulevard closing at 3 p.m. for parade float line-up. Parking restrictions on Interlake Boulevard will be posted. Handicapped parking will be at the health department area on Main Street.

The parade route will be closed to all traffic starting at 6 p.m. and the parade will start at 7 p.m. The parade route starts at Dal Hall Boulevard, heads South on Main Avenue, East on Interlake Boulevard and turns North on Eucalyptus Street.

Catholic Women hosting garage sale

SEBRING — The Council of Catholic Women are hosting a gigantic garage sale on Saturday in the Church parking lot.

All goods are reasonably priced and in good condition. They will have electronics, household goods, Christmas decorations, furniture, books, clothes, linens and much, much more. The sale will run from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m.

St. Catherine's is downtown at Lakeview and Hickory.

Breakfast at Sebring Airport

SEBRING — A drive-in or fly-in pancake breakfast will be served from 7:30-10:30 a.m. Saturday at Sebring Regional Airport. Menu includes pancakes, buckwheat cakes, bacon and sausage, scrambled eggs, hash browns, orange juice, coffee or tea (once through for \$6, all-you-can-eat for \$8).

The breakfast is sponsored by Highlands County Senior Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol serving three missions: Emergency services, aerospace education and Cadet programs.

MOPH hosting golf tourney Saturday

SEBRING — Military Order of the Purple Heart will host the Highlands County Golf Tournament on Saturday at 8:30 a.m. at Golf Hammock Country Club to benefit veterans of Highlands County. Lunch to follow at the Golf Hammock Restaurant. Refreshments will be available during golf (Bloody Marys, etc.).

Cost is \$55 per person, which includes one mulligan, door prizes, closest to the pin and longest drive contests for men and women. Cohan Radio Group sponsoring a \$2,000 hole-in-one prize. Hole sponsorships \$50 per hole (first 36 foursomes).

Any questions, call Golf Hammock Pro Shop at 382-2151. Make checks payable to MOPH.

Dale holding book signings

LAKE PLACID — Nancy Dale will be doing a book signing from noon to 2:30 on Saturday at McLane's Country Garden Cafe and from 1-4 p.m. Sunday at the Lake Placid Caladium Co-op.

The book titles which will be personally inscribed for Christmas include true stories of Bud Adams, Ft. Pierce; Former Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court Jim Alderman; Iris Wall of Indiantown and others. The titles: "The Legacy of The Florida Pioneer 'Cow Hunters'"; "Would Do, Could Do, and Made Do"; "Where The Swallowtail Kite Soars"; and "Wild Florida The Way It Was".

Saturday Morning Market in LP

LAKE PLACID — The Saturday Morning Market, which is sponsored by the Greater Lake Placid Chamber of Commerce, will take place on Saturday from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in DeVane

Park on Interlake Boulevard. Vendors offer arts and crafts, wine, jewelry, homemade cakes, pies, jellies, jams and fresh vegetables.

Breakfast and lunch will be available to eat at the park or take home. Entertainment will be provided by Gary Filip. Email chamber@lpfla.com call the chamber at 465-4331.

Caladium Co-op Secret Santa Shopping on Saturday

LAKE PLACID — Secret Santa began in 2001 by Gail Tuttle and continued with Esther Hamill and her helpful Elves in 2006. Esther has been a valuable member of the Cooperative since October of 1998.

This is a two-fold event, helping the children of Highlands County with their Christmas Shopping with amazing prices and then the proceeds are used for an Art Scholarship for a local student residing in Highlands County.

Hamill and her Elves are busy creating and donating jewelry, birdhouses, wood items, painted glass, ceramics, and festive mugs filled with candy for children 12 years old and younger to come with their list for family and friends. Gifts ranging in price from 50 cents to \$5 are an amazing value and all have been donated by the members of the Cooperative. The Elves, also donating their time, will help them shop and then wrap, tag and have the gift ready for giving to that special someone. Parents are then free to browse the showroom and do their shopping.

Please come and have some fun on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Caladium Arts and Crafts Cooperative at 132 E. Interlake Blvd. For further information, please call 669-5940.

Dunne to perform at Reflections

AVON PARK — Cahal Dunne will bring his Christmas show to Reflections on Silver Lake Monday at 6:30 p.m.

Cahal is a composer, pianist, comedian, story teller and television personality. His style is rich and deep, reflecting the many strands in his distinguished career. You're sure to enjoy this entertainer extraordinaire.

This lively, up-tempo show is open to the public and tickets are \$8. For more information, call 452-5037.

OBITUARIES

KEVIN M. MEGNO, SR.

Kevin M. Megno, Sr., 55, of Sebring, Fla., passed away Tuesday, Dec. 4, 2012 in Sebring. He was born to Joseph and Glennis (Craig) Megno on Nov. 10, 1957 in Millinocket, Maine, and had been a resident of Sebring since 2000, coming from Maine. He was a deputy sheriff with the Highlands County Sheriff's Department and was employed as the School Resource Officer at Avon Park Middle School. He was of the Catholic faith; enjoyed riding motorcycles and he loved his Harley. He was a member of the Blue Knights, the Moose Lodge, the Elks, the American Legion Riders and ABATE, and was a loving father and grandfather.

Kevin is survived by his fiancé, Deborah Harris of Sebring; children, Kevin Jr. (Sandy), Danielle, Tony (Jamie), and David; eight grandchildren; brother, Frank (Linda); and sisters, Kelly (Michael) and Tina (Harry).

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 9, 2012 at Stephenson-Nelson Funeral Home, Sebring, with Father Jose Gonzalez officiating. A reception will follow the service at 5614 North Key, Sebring, FL 33875. The family will receive friends at the funeral home the hour preceding the service, beginning at 3 p.m. Memorial donations may be made in his memory to the DARE Program, c/o Highlands County Sheriff's Department, 434 Fernleaf Ave., Sebring, FL 33870. Arrangements were entrusted to:

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www.stephensonnelsonfh.com

DONALD TERMEER

Donald Albert TerMeer, age 74, passed peacefully into the presence of his Lord

Former teacher appealing ruling in sex case

TALLAHASSEE (AP) — A former Tampa teacher convicted of having sex with a student wants the Florida Supreme Court to take her off probation.

An appellate court in August reversed a trial judge's decision to end Debra LaFave's 10-year non-prison sentence four years early. LaFave appealed to the Supreme Court in October and Thursday she asked the justices to let her remain off probation until they rule.

A three-judge panel of the 2nd District Court of Appeal also asked the high court to review its decision as a question of great public importance.

and Savior on Sunday, Dec. 2, 2012. He was born in Kano, Nigeria, West Africa on Feb. 6, 1938 to Albert and Eva (Marvin) TerMeer. Don and his wife Jean joined Sudan Interior Mission (SIM) in 1962 and faithfully served the Lord for about 30 years in Nigeria and at the SIM Retirement Village in Sebring, Florida. Don loved the Lord as seen in his faithful service to his Lord and all those around him.

Don is survived by Jean, his wife of 51 years; a son, Jeffrey of Sarasota, Fla.; a daughter, Christine Hagen and her husband Stephen of Sebring, Fla.; a daughter-in-law, Heidi TerMeer of Bradenton, Fla.; four grandchildren, Jennai, Seth and Elianna Hagen, and Jada TerMeer; a sister, Dorothy Vander Velde of Fruitport, Mich.; a sister, Betty Rosenquist of Dwight, Ill.; a brother, Robert TerMeer of Canon City, Colo.; a brother, Paul TerMeer of Custer, S.D. He was preceded in death by an infant twin grandson, Lane Jeffrey TerMeer.

The family held a private graveside service. Don's life will be celebrated with a victory memorial service on Monday, Jan. 7, 2013, at 10 a.m. in the SIM Chapel in Sebring, Fla. with their son-in-law, Pastor Steve Hagen, from the Alliance Church of Sebring, officiating.

Memorial gifts may be made in Don's memory to the Alliance Church of Sebring, 4451 Sparta Road, Sebring, FL 33875.

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Death notice

Susan Baginski, 97, of Sebring died Dec. 4, 2012. Morris Funeral Chapel, Sebring, is in charge of arrangements.

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Bowlarama will benefit LPHS Project Graduation

Special to the News-Sun
LAKE PLACID — A Bowlarama is set for 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 12 to benefit the Lake Placid High School Project Graduation. Cost of the 9-pin, no-tap event, to be held at Coz's Sports Bar & Bowl, will be \$15 per person (includes shoes).

There will be 50/50 drawings and lots of prizes.

Project Graduation is a celebration honoring the graduates the night of their graduation with a night of fun in a drug and alcohol free environment.

The Class of 2013 has voted to have its Project Graduation Celebration at Wet N' Wild in Orlando. The planning committee's goal is to raise \$20,000 to cover

busses, admission to the park, meal, snacks.

There are approximately 133 seniors at Lake Placid High School. This is one of several fundraisers going on through May.

No more than four per lane. If you have any questions, contact Donna Stanley at 441-4897.

Beef O'Brady's Give Back Night from 4-9 p.m. Monday, Jan. 14 will also benefit LPHS Project Graduation, as will Chili Night at St. James Catholic Church, 3380 Placid View Drive, from 4-8 p.m. Saturday, Jan 19.

Cost of the chili dinner is \$8 and includes chili, cornbread, crackers, dessert and drink.

For information on any of

these events email lphsprojectgraduation2013@gmail.com, or call Vicky Rivera at 243-2125 or Sharon Reid at 840-1379.

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'Journey Stories' pauses its journey in Sebring

Continued from page 1A

Museum of the Arts behind the Sebring library this week to explain this peripatetic past.

Sebring is one of only six cities chosen to host the exhibit, called "Journey Stories." The tour made possible by the Florida Humanities.

The exhibit is comprised of six standing units, which arrived disassembled in 14 wheeled crates.

Wednesday, MOTA's director Susan James and three volunteers — Patty Palmer, Eric Dwinell and Suzanne Wright — worked to put the units together.

"It's like a NASA project," said Wright, as she carried a panel across the room.

Every individual piece is numbered. A booklet outlines every step to be taken. As the crew worked the conversation went like this:

"Something's backwards."

"That's supposed to be a square, this is a triangle."

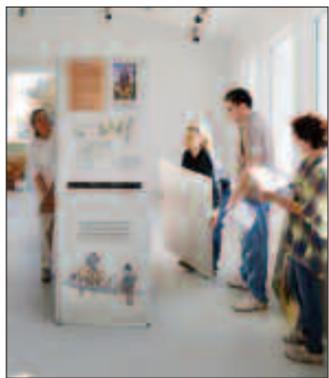
"Know what? This is too high. Do you see section 3?"

"We're missing a panel. Now we need 3.5."

"Watch this one, it has barbed wire on it. Oh. It's soft barbed wire."

Dwinell, on loan from Palmer Electric, grunted as he lifted a panel from its travel crate. "I'm definitely getting a workout," he said grinning. "The bottom panels are much heavier than the tops."

Palmer paused, balancing two panels as the metal holding pins were pushed into place. "We're so excited about this," she said. "Good things do



News-Sun photo by CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY (From left) Suzanne Wright, Patty Palmer, Eric Dwinell and MOTA director Susan James assembling the Smithsonian exhibit Wednesday. They navigated their way through a booklet of step-by-step directions.

happen in Highlands County."

James nodded in agreement, "You've just got to come and see it," she said. "Sign our visitor's book; the tour takes 45 minutes to an hour."

An opening reception is planned from 5-7 p.m. this evening, just before the Christmas Parade, with guest speakers and refreshments. Like the exhibit, it is open to the public and free of charge. James urges people to stop by on their way to the parade.

She is still looking for volunteer docents (guides) to serve two hour shifts. Call 385-5312 to volunteer or ask questions.

Exhibit hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. There is no entrance fee.



News-Sun photo by KATARA SIMMONS Students from Pinellas Technical Education Center Commercial Driving Program deliver 14 crates Tuesday containing a Smithsonian exhibit to be featured at the Museum of the Arts in Sebring.

Smithsonian exhibit so educational even the truck drivers are learning

By CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY christopher.tuffley@newssun.com SEBRING — The Smithsonian's traveling "Journey Stories" exhibit arrived in Sebring Tuesday by semi-truck.

What's interesting about that rather normal fact is the truck belongs to the Pinellas Technical Education Center in St. Petersburg and is driven by three students under the

supervision of their instructor, Albert Fergusson. The trailer has a large red on white sign on the back saying student driver.

The crew has been moving the exhibit around the state — Sebring is the fifth and next to last stop — the students driving in 50-mile shifts. Each need 1,000 miles on the road to graduate.

MOFAC enhances the Smithsonian experience

By CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY christopher.tuffley@newssun.com AVON PARK — In a unique opportunity for county residents, South Florida State College's Museum of Florida of Art and Culture coordinates its next exhibition with the Smithsonian's traveling exhibit "Journey Stories," on display at the Museum of the Arts in Sebring from Dec. 8 to Jan. 19.

MOFAC's "Journey Stories Highlands County" focuses on the personal stories of immigrants from other coun-

tries who settled in this county, Molly Doctrow, the museum's director said.

MOFAC's exhibit is the perfect compliment to the Smithsonian's more general exhibition.

In addition, Owen Jolly is the featured artist.

Originally from Jamaica, paints realistically using vibrant colors, his work often celebrating ordinary people going about their daily lives.

MOFAC is open from 12:30-4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Megno to be laid to rest on Sunday

Continued from page 1A

fifth-grade kids in particular loved him, because of D.A.R.E."

Burnham paused for a moment. "I'm shocked," she said again, her voice quiet. "He responded whenever we needed help, cooperated in every way he could."

Seth Lambert, assistant principal at Avon Park High School, worked with Megno when he was the resource officer there — at the time as a member of the APPD.

"He was a guy who was very fair," Lambert said. "He really got along with the kids, enjoyed talking to them and establishing relationships. He was a high quality officer and a very well respected man on campus.

"We wanted him back after he left for the middle school."

Lambert too paused for thought. "He was a great guy. His death has hit me hard. I am very shocked."

"It's just heartbreaking," said Jeff Williams, who worked as a school resource officer under Megno when both were in the APPD. "He was a mentor, both for me and the kids," Williams said. "He loved the kids and working around them. He was a father figure and interested in guidance. He helped kids to make good choices. Kevin was a real friend to many."

Williams added that Megno had made the adjustment to the sheriff's office easily. "He was happy to work there," Williams said. "I asked him how it was and he told me, 'I'm impressed. I like being a deputy.'"

After his family and the students with whom he worked, Megno loved riding his Harley Davidson motorcycle best, Williams said.

In a press release, Sheriff Susan Benton wrote, "Deputy Megno truly loved his job ... I could feel (his) positive energy ... I only wish he had more time to continue serving and making the difference in the lives of kids."

The cause of death has not yet been confirmed, but it is presumed he suffered a heart attack.

A service will be Sunday at the Stephenson-Nelson Funeral Home at 4001 Sebring Parkway. Visitation is 3 p.m.; services begin at 4 p.m.

CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY Eric Dwinell and Patty Palmer help put the Smithsonian "Journey Stories" exhibit together at Sebring's Museum of the Arts Wednesday.





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Sixth grader Jameka Fields is one of only three students to volunteer entering a project in the science fair. She examined volcanic materials. Here Jameka studies a project about alternative energy by seventh-grader Kevin Mojica.

News-Sun photo by CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY

SMS students work hard for science fair success

Continued from page 1A

tried water, salt water, and bleach and water," his mother said, adding in amazement, "I thought for sure the salt water would work the fastest, but it was the bleach and water instead. The iron sample rusted in a single day."

Scientific method counted the most in terms of evaluation. Each student had to ask a question, make a hypothesis and conduct an experiment to check out the hypothesis using a detailed procedure that included variables and a control. Students had to do research, produce and record data, analyze and discuss the results and then draw a conclusion.

For example, Alaina Keith, who earned third place in the eighth grade, wondered if different liquids thaw at the same rate. She hypothesized that between orange juice, Coca-Cola, milk or water, water would thaw the quickest. To her surprise, water

took the longest to melt.

Seventh-grader Mikey Shannon wanted to know what would stop radio waves. Through his experiment using a remote control garage door opener, he discovered aluminum interrupted the transmission every time. A two-inch block of wood only stopped the radio waves from 70 feet, and a pillow case couldn't stop them at all.

To discover if online window shopping calmed people down, Sarah Lethbridge took volunteers' pulses before and after an online window shopping session. Each volunteer's pulse rate was considerably lower after browsing, she discovered, and remained so for about 10 minutes in every experiment.

Some students conducted experiments that could have practical applications in the future.

For example, seventh-grader Griffin Chynoweth looked into protecting coastlines from tsunamis. He dis-

covered that sea walls were the most effective. "The sea wall did do the best," he said, "but that's not really surprising; it's a giant wall."

Kevin Mojica wondered if buildings could be powered by taking excess water and reusing it to power an alternative source of energy. He predicts, as part of his conclusion, that hydroelectric power could be fueled with water recycled from homes, perhaps as soon as 2020.

The next step in the science fair process is scheduled in January – the county-wide competition. Those winners move on to regionals, and from there on to nationals.

The sixth-grade place winners were Kailey Swaine, Kadi Ealy, and Chloe Fordham. Seventh-grade place winners were Miguel Descartin, Griffin Chynoweth, and Sanhitha Raguveera. Eighth-grade place winners were Jay Bible, Natalie McGathe, and Alaina Keith.

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Rowan case to be heard by jury

Continued from page 1A

Rowan's legal counsel, Robert Grizzard, said they are ready to proceed, Avon Park's labor attorney Brian Koji has informed the judge it appears he will have a conflict. Koji said at that time, he already is slated to be participating in the action of Jeanne Griffin-Moore against the City of Brooksville.

The suit stems back a year and a half, when Avon Park City Manager Julian DeLeon suspended Rowan without pay after Rowan could not come to terms with the city on a separation agreement. The former chief came under fire after it was learned that he had investigated a number of city council members, including Mayor Sharon Schuler and Deputy Mayor Brenda Gray. Rowan said he conducted the probes following a number of citizen complaints.

Since that time, the Avon Park city council has all but given up the municipal police department, keeping three officers and turning the lion's share of law enforcement duties over to the Highlands County Sheriff's Office. The HCSO has taken over and remodeled the former Avon Park Police Department building with the three remaining Avon Park officers moved out to the fixed base operations building at the Avon Park Airport.

As it now stands, the lawsuit will have three phases. The first will be under the state's whistleblower provi-

sions. That revolves around allegations that the investigation by the former chief revealed criminal conduct. Rowan contends that led to his termination. Moreover, the suit also charges the city both violated Rowan's contract as well as his due process.

The due process charge is linked to the city's arbitration process. Questions there have been raised about exactly on what an arbitrator or mediator would base their ruling. The hope now is that a jury will hear evidence of the contract, setting a template for further talks through the arbitration process. City council members had balked at the pact offered Rowan by former City Manager Bruce Behrens. However, Rowan contends that under the provisions of the city's charter, Behrens had every right to draw up the contract any way he wished.

In any case, that process now has been put on hold while the case wends its way through the court system. Once a ruling is made on the validity of the contract, the mediation process can resume.

What will be the outcome is not yet clear. Because the Avon Park police department has been dismantled, there is little chance of re-instatement to his former position. Rowan has not yet commented on what he would like to see as a specific outcome.

Marine fought for justice

Continued from page 2A

doing the same thing."

Matt didn't tell his parents much about his first combat tour in Afghanistan. But when he got the opportunity to return there in 2012, he was grateful. As it would be Matt's last deployment before he traded military life for law school, the Marine wanted to use his good relationship with Afghans to help them develop a strong legal system.

"He said he wanted to finish the business, just like he did in Iraq," Matt's father said.

On Aug. 4, Matt spoke enthusiastically to the San Diego Union-Tribune about his Special Operations unit's progress in building the Afghan police force.

"You see kids running around now trying to play ALP (Afghan Local Police)," Matt told the newspaper. "So it's catching on."

Six days later, Capt. Manoukian, 29, and two fellow Marines were shot and killed by an Afghan police officer who attacked their compound.

"You always worry, and one night the Marines came to the door and told us," Matt's father said. "We miss him, and the Marines who got killed with him were also tough guys."

Matt's murder is an outrage, but his legacy endures. For the first time in the

Judicial Branch of California's history, someone outside the legal profession is being honored with the Stanley Mosk Defender of Justice Award. Matt is being recognized "for his sacrifice to the cause of justice."

Almost every father is proud of his son, but it's difficult to find a prouder dad than Judge Socrates Peter Manoukian.

"He was kind to people and took care of strangers he didn't know," Matt's father said. "It was a grace and honor to have him in the family, and we miss him terribly."

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

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News-Sun photo by SAMANTHA GHOLAR

Nevaeh Linton (left) rolls clay coils, with the help of High School Art Club member Caitlin Delaney to add to her very own handmade pot Wednesday morning at Fred Wild Elementary.

Fred Wild students get creative, stick for the arts

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR

sgholar@newssun.com

SEBRING – Little hands created unique masterpieces when Theresa Whidden's first grade HAART class got a visit from some more experienced students.

The Fred Wild Elementary School first-graders got a lesson in the arts when Sebring High School Art Club members visited the young students Wednesday morning and shared their love of the arts with the budding students.

Whidden's 14 students excitedly watched as SHS art students explained how the class was going to make clay coils and turn them into pots.

For the past several years, SHS art instructor Steve Van Dam has loaned his students for a day to FWE to help instill the love of art into the younger generations.

The first-graders were each given a lump of traditional modeling clay to create their one-of-a-kind pots. SHS students instructed the younger ones on how to create a snake-like piece of clay that would serve as the coils and walls of the pot.

"Roll it out just like a snake," SHS senior Venus Saja said.

The eager youngsters rolled clay

snakes onto their tables; each student's having a different size and shape.

Whidden helped each of her students as she explained the purpose behind this year's art project.

"It's an art integration but it's also a science integration," Whidden said. "They have been studying and learning about soil and earth and all the different types. They know all about the many types but they haven't become familiar with clay, except in the videos we watch."

The clay pots were just beginning to be formed as the little hands became tired and sticky.

"This looked so much easier on the video," Garrett Davis said.

The rest of Davis's first grade classmates agreed. Though the task seemed like it may be a little too much for the students to handle, they finished their clay coils successfully and began the second portion of their art lesson.

The high schoolers (Phillip Martin, Thomas Holdren, Caitlin Delaney and Saja) then assisted Whidden's class in assembling their personal clay pots.

Students were taught how to score the clay so that the pots can be assembled nice and neat. Each of the pot makers cut little nicks into the clay

snakes before adding it to the base of the pot. This allows a better grip on each of the coils on the pot and between each layer.

"You have to score each layer so that it stays together ... It will easily slip apart if you don't score it," Whidden reminded her students.

Slowly but surely little clay coils became little clay pots at the hands of the eager first-graders, each one a different size, shape and its own personality.

Van Dam shuffled between each of the first-grade classrooms giving students a nod on their hard work on their pots.

"I hope that when you get to the high school you will be in my clay class and you can sit and make these all day," Van Dam said.

Whidden's class finished up the pots, putting the last touches on their work. The completed pots will be sent to SHS to dry over the next few days. The high schoolers will return the pots to each of the first grade classes where each of the students will then get to decorate and paint their pot.

"They've been doing this for so many years. It's wonderful. It's great to have them come over and do this for the students," Whidden said.

LP honored by 'Reader's Digest'

Continued from page 1A

a complete shock to her.

"It really didn't sink in until later when I went back and looked at the magazine," May said.

Harriet Porter, co-founder and president of the Lake Placid Mural Society and president of Tour Lake Placid, was over the moon Thursday morning when she picked up her copy of Reader's Digest from the chamber.

"I'm absolutely ecstatic," Porter said. "By 10 o'clock this morning the town was in such a buzz."

Porter and her husband Bob founded the Mural Society many years ago and continue to work hard to bring tourism into the community as well as preserve the unique aspects of their beloved town.

"As soon as I saw the contest on the Internet I wrote to them (Reader's Digest). I wrote all about our murals, the caladiums; I wrote about all the wonderful things that Lake Placid has to offer. There were many other people around town who did the same thing," Porter said.

The magazine spent a day visiting some of Lake Placid's most famous and intriguing spots, including the many murals around



News-Sun photo by KATARA SIMMONS

Clowns, caladiums and murals are a few of the things that earned Lake Placid recognition as the Most Interesting Town In America.

town and the caladium fields.

"They (Reader's Digest) came down here and I guess they liked what they saw," May said. "In the article they gave just enough, just a little snippet of what it's like here ... If I saw that and I lived in Orlando or someplace, I'd think, well let's drive down there and see what it is all about."

The contest began just over a month ago and the town of Lake Placid waited patiently for the results for the past four or five weeks. Lake Placid went up against 10 other towns, none of which were revealed to May during the contest period.

"I don't know any of the other towns that were

involved; it's really none of my business. I'm just happy that we won ... To me, the recognition is worth a fortune. You can't put a price on that; we couldn't buy two pages in the Reader's Digest, so it's really cool," May said.

Lake Placid is known for its many murals, caladiums and clowns, as well as the many art aspects that can be found around the town.

The 27 lakes in the area are surrounded by green hills and fields, a fact that Reader's Digest found noteworthy.

"Obviously they liked the clowns, they loved the fields and they loved the murals. They just thought it was a charming little town,"

May said.

The January 2013 issue of Reader's Digest is expected to be on the stands before the holiday.

"It's going to do a lot of good; I really think it is. Anyone who picks up that book can see this town and say 'Let's just take a drive there and see what all the fuss is about,'" May said. "Now we have to top this and do something else."

Porter agreed that the recognition would bring a great deal of tourism to the town and showcase its uniqueness on a bigger platform.

"We are all so much appreciative of this honor. It is truly unbelievable," Porter said.



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Classified

AD RATES

GARAGE SALE
6 lines - 2 days \$11⁵⁰
3 days \$14
(additional lines \$1 each)

MISCELLANEOUS merchandise over \$100
5 lines - 6 pubs \$17⁵⁰
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REAL ESTATE EMPLOYMENT TRANSPORTATION
5 lines - 6 pubs \$31⁵⁰
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Free ad is limited to a 4-line ad that runs for 3 consecutive issues. Must be a non-commercial item. Asking price is \$100 or less. We offer 2 ads per month and can rerun the same ad 2 times in 30 days, only if it's the same ad. The price is allowed to change. All ads placed under the "Bargain Buys" discount rate must have 1 item with 1 asking price. The customer can list a set for 1 price, i.e. Bedroom set ... \$100 is allowed; Chairs (2) ... \$20 each is NOT allowed. The customer can list the ads as Chairs (2) ... \$40 for both. To list an ad stating "Each," the ad must be charged at the non-discounted rate, using the "Open Rate" pricing. No commercial items are allowed to be placed under our "Bargain Buys" specials. Items must be common household items. Ads for Pets, stating "Free to Good Home," are allowed to be placed under the "Bargain Buy" category.

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- 1000 Announcements**
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- The publisher assumes no financial responsibility for errors or for omission of copy. Liability shall not exceed the cost of that portion of space occupied by such error.

Cancellations: When a cancellation is called in, a KILL number will be given to you. This number is very important and must be used if ad failed to cancel. All ads cancelled prior to scheduled expiration date will be billed for complete run unless a KILL number can be provided.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 10TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION

CASE NO.: 11000496GCS

FINANCIAL FREEDOM ACQUISITION, LLC, Plaintiff,

vs.

UNKNOWN HEIRS AND OR BENEFICIARIES OF THE ESTATE OF MARY E. YOUNG; CITIZENS AUTOMOBILE FINANCE, INC.; SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; UNKNOWN CREDITORS OF THE ESTATE OF MARY E. YOUNG; CHARLES YOUNG; ROBERT YOUNG; ROLAND YOUNG AND TIMOTHY YOUNG IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY, Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure Sale dated the 30th day of November, 2012, and entered in Case No. 11000496GCS of the Circuit Court of the 10TH Judicial Circuit in and for Highlands County, Florida, wherein FINANCIAL FREEDOM ACQUISITION, LLC is the Plaintiff and UNKNOWN HEIRS AND OR BENEFICIARIES OF THE ESTATE OF MARY E. YOUNG; CITIZENS AUTOMOBILE FINANCE, INC.; SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; UNKNOWN CREDITORS OF THE ESTATE OF MARY E. YOUNG; CHARLES YOUNG; ROBERT YOUNG; ROLAND YOUNG AND TIMOTHY YOUNG IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY are defendants. I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the HIGHLANDS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 430 SOUTH COMMERCE AVENUE, SEBRING, FL 33870 at the Highlands County Courthouse in Sebring, Florida, at 11:00 a.m. on the 7th day of January, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

THE WESTERLY 106.48 FEET OF LOT 48, AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCE AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE NORTH LINE OF JOSEPHINE COUNTY ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY AND THE WEST BOUNDARY LINE OF LOT 48, LAKE JOSEPHINE SUBDIVISION NO. 2, ACCORDING TO PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 4, PAGE 85 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA, AS A POINT OF BEGINNING, THENCE RUN EASTERLY 106.48 FEET ALONG THE NORTHLINE OF THE JOSEPHINE COUNTY ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY TO POINT; THENCE NORTHEASTERLY ALONG A LINE PARALLEL TO THE WEST LINE OF SAID LOT 48, A DISTANCE OF 136.54 FEET TO THE INTERSECTION OF SAID LINE AND THE NORTH LINE OF SAID LOT 48; THENCE WESTERLY ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF LOT 48 FOR A DISTANCE OF 106.84 FEET TO THE INTERSECTION OF SAID NORTH LINE OF LOT 48 WITH THE WEST LINE OF SAID LOT, THENCE SOUTH WESTERLY ALONG THE SAID WEST LINE OF LOT 48 FOR A DISTANCE OF 127.81 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

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

If you are a person with a disability who needs 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.

Dated this 3rd day of December, 2012.

Robert W. Germaine
Clerk Of The Circuit Court
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
Deputy Clerk
December 7, 14, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 10TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION

CASE NO.: 09 1008 GCS

LANSOWNE MORTGAGE, LLC, Plaintiff,

v.

JENNY LABANINO, individually, JORGE LABANINO, individually, BOWEN & SON ROOFING, INC., et al., Defendant,

NOTICE OF JUDICIAL SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to an Order of Final Judgment entered in the above styled cause now pending in said Court, that I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Highlands County Courthouse, 430 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, FL 33870 at 11:00 A.M. on December 28, 2012 the following property:

A PARCEL OF LAND BEING A PORTION OF THE SOUTHWEST ONE-QUARTER (SW 1/4) OF THE NORTHEAST ONE-QUARTER (NE 1/4) AND A PORTION OF THE NORTHWEST ONE-QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST ONE-QUARTER (SE 1/4) OF SECTION 21, TOWNSHIP 39 SOUTH, RANGE 29 EAST, LYING WITHIN HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA. SAID PARCEL OF LAND BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

COMMENCE AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF THE NORTHWEST ONE-QUARTER (NW 1/4) OF THE SOUTHWEST ONE-QUARTER (SE 1/4) OF SAID SECTION 21; THENCE N 89 DEGREES 20'56" E, ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID NORTHWEST ONE-QUARTER (NW 1/4) OF THE SOUTHWEST ONE-QUARTER (SE 1/4) OF SAID SECTION 21; THENCE S 00 DEGREES 06'44" E, DEPARTING SAID SOUTH LINE, A DISTANCE OF 25.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE N 00 DEGREES 44'06" E, ALONG A LINE 288.84 FEET EAST OF AND PARALLEL WITH THE WEST LINE OF THE EAST ONE-HALF (E 1/2) OF SAID SECTION 21, A DISTANCE OF 2644.01 FEET TO A POINT ON THE NORTH LINE OF THE SOUTHWEST ONE-QUARTER (SW 1/4) OF THE NORTHEAST ONE-QUARTER (NE 1/4) OF SAID SECTION 21; THENCE N 89 DEGREES 46'19" E, ALONG SAID NORTH LINE, A DISTANCE OF 298.18 FEET; THENCE S 00 DEGREES 15'19" E, A DISTANCE OF 2211.56 FEET; THENCE N 89 DEGREES 27'05" W, A DISTANCE OF 83.17 FEET; THENCE S 63 DEGREES 18'21" W A DISTANCE OF 148.03 FEET; THENCE S 01 DEGREES 36'55" E A DISTANCE OF 366.89 FEET TO A POINT ON THE NORTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF OLD VENUS ROAD; THENCE S 89 DEGREES 20'56" W, ALONG SAID NORTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 108.05 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. SAID PARCEL OF LAND CONTAINING 16.60 ACRES (723,030 SQUARE FEET), MORE OR LESS.

Property Address: 53 Keel Road, Venus, Florida 33960.

Dated on December 3, 2012.

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
HIGHLANDS COUNTY (SEAL)
Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
As Deputy Clerk
December 7, 14, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 10TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION

CASE NO.: 282008CA001484XXXXXX

U.S. BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE TO BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., AS SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO LASALLE BANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF THE MLMI TRUST, MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-HE3, Plaintiff,

vs.

WADE WOOD A/K/A WADE ALLEN WOOD, et al., Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF SALE

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order or Summary Final Judgment of foreclosure sale dated April 24, 2012 and an Order Resetting Sale dated November 27, 2012 and entered in Case No. 282008CA001484XXXXXX of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for Highlands County, Florida, wherein U.S. BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE TO BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., AS SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO LASALLE BANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF THE MLMI TRUST, MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-HE3, is the Plaintiff and WADE WOOD A/K/A WADE ALLEN WOOD; KIMBERLY WOOD; WAUCHULA STATE BANK; FORD MOTOR CREDIT COMPANY, LLC; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 1; UNKNOWN TENANT NO. 2; and ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING INTERESTS BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST A NAMED DEFENDANT TO THIS ACTION, OR HAVING OR CLAIMING TO HAVE ANY RIGHT, TITLE OR INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY HEREIN DESCRIBED, are Defendants, I will sell, pursuant to Chapter 45, Florida Statutes, to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Highlands County Courthouse, 430 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, FL 33870, on the 28th day of January, 2013, at 11:00 am, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

LOT 27 AND 28, BLOCK 451, OF LEISURE LAKES, SECTION SEVENTEEN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 9, PAGE 15, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

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

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

DATED at Sebring, Florida, on November 28, 2012.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE
As Clerk, Circuit Court
By: /s/ Lisa Tantillo
AS DEPUTY CLERK
December 7, 14, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 10TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION

CASE NO.: 282008CA001484XXXXXX

U.S. BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE TO BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., AS SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO LASALLE BANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF THE MLMI TRUST, MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2007-HE3, Plaintiff,

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AS DEPUTY CLERK
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CASE NO.: 282008CA001484XXXXXX

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vs.

WADE WOOD A/K/A WADE ALLEN WOOD, et al., Defendants.

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vs.

STEPHANIE NASHIF; et al., Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF SALE

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RE-NOTICE OF SALE

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order or Summary Final Judgment of foreclosure dated February 25, 2009 and an Order Resetting Sale dated November 29, 2012 and entered in Case No. 282008CA001250XXXXXX of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for Highlands County, Florida, wherein CITIBANK N.A. AS TRUSTEE FOR THE MLMI TRUST SERIES 2006-HE5, Plaintiff,

vs.

STEPHANIE NASHIF; et al., Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF SALE

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order or Summary Final Judgment of foreclosure dated February 25, 2009 and an Order Resetting Sale dated November 29, 2012 and entered in Case No. 282008CA001250XXXXXX of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for Highlands County, Florida, wherein CITIBANK N.A. AS TRUSTEE FOR THE MLMI TRUST SERIES 2006-HE5, Plaintiff,

vs.

STEPHANIE NASHIF; et al., Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF SALE

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order or Summary Final Judgment of foreclosure dated February 25, 2009 and an Order Resetting Sale dated November 29, 2012 and entered in Case No. 282008CA001250XXXXXX of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for Highlands County, Florida, wherein CITIBANK N.A. AS TRUSTEE FOR THE MLMI TRUST SERIES 2006-HE5, Plaintiff,

vs.

STEPHANIE NASHIF; et al., Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF SALE

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order or Summary Final Judgment of foreclosure dated February 25, 2009 and an Order Resetting Sale dated November 29, 2012 and entered in Case No. 282008CA001250XXXXXX of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for Highlands County, Florida, wherein CITIBANK N.A. AS TRUSTEE FOR THE MLMI TRUST SERIES 2006-HE5, Plaintiff,

vs.

STEPHANIE NASHIF; et al., Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF SALE

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order or Summary Final Judgment of foreclosure dated February 25, 2009 and an Order Resetting Sale dated November 29, 2012 and entered in Case No. 282008CA001250XXXXXX of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for Highlands County, Florida, wherein CITIBANK N.A. AS TRUSTEE FOR THE MLMI TRUST SERIES 2006-HE5, Plaintiff,

vs.

STEPHANIE NASHIF; et al., Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF SALE

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

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vs.

STEPHANIE NASHIF; et al., Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF SALE

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

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vs.

STEPHANIE NASHIF; et al., Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF SALE

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

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vs.

STEPHANIE NASHIF; et al., Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF SALE

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

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vs.

STEPHANIE NASHIF; et al., Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF SALE

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

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vs.

STEPHANIE NASHIF; et al., Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF SALE

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

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vs.

STEPHANIE NASHIF; et al., Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF SALE

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

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vs.

STEPHANIE NASHIF; et al., Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF SALE

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

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vs.

STEPHANIE NASHIF; et al., Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF SALE

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

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vs.

STEPHANIE NASHIF; et al., Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF SALE

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

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vs.

STEPHANIE NASHIF; et al., Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF SALE

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

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vs.

STEPHANIE NASHIF; et al., Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF SALE

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

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vs.

STEPHANIE NASHIF; et al., Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF SALE

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

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vs.

STEPHANIE NASHIF; et al., Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF SALE

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

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vs.

STEPHANIE NASHIF; et al., Defendants.

RE-NOTICE OF SALE

PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order or Summary Final Judgment of foreclosure dated February 25, 2009 and an Order Resetting Sale dated November 29, 2012 and entered in Case No. 282008CA001250XXXXXX of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for Highlands County, Florida, wherein CITIBANK N.A. AS TRUSTEE FOR THE MLMI TRUST SERIES 2006-HE5, Plaintiff,

vs.

STEPHANIE NASHIF; et al., Defendants.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 10TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 28-2008-CA-001020
THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE UNDER NOVASTAR MORTGAGE FUNDING TRUST 2004-4
Plaintiff,
vs.
BOADIL ZAMORA, ET AL.
Defendants.
NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to the Summary Final Judgment in Foreclosure dated May 5, 2009 and entered in Case No. 28-2008-CA-001020 of the Circuit Court of the 10th Judicial Circuit in and for HIGHLANDS County, Florida, wherein THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE UNDER NOVASTAR MORTGAGE FUNDING TRUST 2004-4, is Plaintiff and BOADIL ZAMORA; ILIANA ALVARES; _____; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF BOADIL ZAMORA, IF ANY; _____; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF ILIANA ALVARES, IF ANY; JOHN DOE OR ANY OTHER PARTY IN POSSESSION; BANK OF AMERICA N.A. are the Defendants, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the Jury Assembly Room in the basement of the Highlands County Courthouse located at 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida at 11:00 a.m., on the 18th day of December, 2012, the following described property as set forth in said Order or Final Judgment, to wit:
LOT 6, BLOCK 13, OF LAKE HAVEN ESTATES SECTION ONE, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE 6, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
Street Address: 4600 LAKE HAVEN BLVD., SEBRING, FLORIDA 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 this 26th day of November, 2012.
ROBERT W. GERMAINE, CLERK
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
As 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 t (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.
November 30; December 7, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL ACTION
CASE NO.: 28-2012-CA-000656
DIVISION:
JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION,
Plaintiff,
vs.
JOHN MEEKS, JR., A/K/A JOHN P. MEEKS, JR., et al,
Defendant(s).
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Mortgage Foreclosure dated November 30, 2012 and entered in Case No. 28-2012-CA-000656 of the Circuit Court of the TENTH Judicial Circuit in and for HIGHLANDS County, Florida wherein JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, is the Plaintiff and JOHN MEEKS, JR., A/K/A JOHN P. MEEKS, JR.; AVON PARK LAKES ASSOCIATION; 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 15th day of January, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:
LOTS 10070, 10071 AND 10072, AVON PARK LAKES, UNIT NO. 31, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 5, PAGE 33, PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.
A/K/A 2802 N. BUCKINGHAM ROAD, AVON PARK, FL 33825
Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale
WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of the Court on December 3, 2012.
ROBERT W. GERMAINE
Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
Deputy Clerk

Ronald R Wolfe & Associates, P.L.
P.O. Box 25018
Tampa, Florida 33622-5018
F12009833 CHASEDIRECT-CONV-B-tjames-Team
3-F12009833
**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.
December 7, 14, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL ACTION
CASE NO.: 28-2011-CA-000455
DIVISION:
THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS CWABS, INC., ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-17,
Plaintiff,
vs.
VENITA M. HANSEN, et al,
Defendant(s).
NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED FORECLOSURE SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated November 20, 2012 and entered in Case No. 28-2011-CA-000455 of the Circuit Court of the TENTH Judicial Circuit in and for HIGHLANDS County, Florida wherein THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS CWABS, INC., ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-17, is the Plaintiff and VENITA M. HANSEN; 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 18th day of December, 2012, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:
LOTS 5 AND 6, BLOCK 7, TEMPLE TERRACE, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGE 36, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
A/K/A 35 MIAMI DRIVE, LAKE PLACID, FL 33852
Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale
WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of the Court on November 21, 2012.
ROBERT W. GERMAINE
Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
Deputy Clerk

Ronald R Wolfe & Associates, P.L.
P.O. Box 25018
Tampa, Florida 33622-5018
09091165 COUNTRY-CONV B/C-Team 2 - F09091165
**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.
November 30; December 7, 2012

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 282009CA000553A000XX
SEC.: GCMF
DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR GSAA HOME EQUITY TRUST 2006-15, ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-15, Plaintiff,
v.
ADRIAN SIMON; MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR SOUTHSTAR FUNDING, LLC, AND UNKNOWN PERSON OF IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY N/K/A TAMMY SIMON. Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Granting Plaintiff's Motion to Reset Foreclosure Sale dated November 20, 2012, entered in Civil Case No. 282009CA000553A000XX of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for Highlands County, Florida, wherein the Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest bidder for cash on 18th day of December, 2012, at 11:00 a.m. in the Jury Assembly Room, Courthouse Basement, 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida 33870, relative to the following described property as set forth in the Final Judgment, to wit:
LOT 2, BLOCK P, SUN 'N LAKES ESTATE SECTION 3, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 8, PAGE 31, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

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

ATTENTION: PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact:
Office of the Court Administrator
FL
Phone:
(863) 534-4686
TDD: (863) 534-7777

DATED AT SEBRING, FLORIDA THIS 26th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2012.
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
ROBERT W. GERMAINE
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA

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7320 **Garage & Yard Sales**
* AVON PARK LAKES * Large Family Sale! 601 N Syosett Rd off N Olivia Dr., Fri & Sat Dec. 7 & 8, 8am - 4pm. Tools, Clothes, Patio Furn., Household items. Too Much To List!

AVON PARK - Sat. Dec. 8, 8am-3pm, 143 S. Central. Tools, generator, computer sets, childrens clothes, adult clothes, knick-knacks, doors, dishes, lots more!

AVON PARK -198 E Canfield St., Fri & Sat , Dec 7 & 8, 7am - ? Household Items, Tools, Clothing, Toys. Too Much To List

AVON PARK Moving to Canada Sale! Thur. - Fri. 8 - 4pm. 260 W. Lake Trout Dr. Lots of Christmas, furn., household items & much more!

AVON PARK Sat. 7 - 3pm. 790 Dun-chris Dr. Children's clothing misc. furn., & much more!

COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE
AVON PARK REFLECTIONS ON SILVER LAKE 1850 US 27, South Sat, Dec. 8th, 8am - 1pm
100's of Residents Selling 1000's of Items!

LAKE PLACID - 30 shelving 18x36 h.d., 3 shelving 18x72 h.d., 18x36 chrome rolling shelf, new socks, fleece jackets, misc., household items, Xmas, jewelry, etc. 620 CR 29, Fri. & Sat. Dec. 7 & 8, 8am-2pm.

LAKE PLACID Sat. 7 - ?. 1270 CR 621 East. Furn., household, clothing & more!

LAKE PLACID Thur. - SAT. 8 - 2pm. 1545 Cedarbrook St. LP Rummage, Estate, Antiques, misc. collectibles.
SEBRING - 1242 FOREST RD., Sat. Dec. 8., 8am - 12pm. Children's toys & clothing, Kitchen appliances, Tools, Household items, Collectibles, Antiques. Too Much To list!

SEBRING - 4119 Lakewood Rd., Fri & Sat, Dec 7 & 8. Old items, lots of slag & named glassware, clothes, sterling silver jewelry, lots of Pro Bass Shop rods & reels, old pocket knives, western books, tools, fishing lures & equipment, kids guitars, furniture & misc.

SEBRING - **ANOTHER REALLY BIG ONE!** 1012 Thurston Ave. Thur. Fri. & Sat, Dec. 6 - 7 - 8. All Day!!

SEBRING - FRI. 7th & Sat. 8th, 8am-2pm. IBM elec. typewriter, fax mach., HP printer, cookbooks, household, Xmas, lots more! 8600 Cty. Rd. 635, 1/4 mi. south of CC of Sebring, ent. on left.

SEBRING 2 Family Sale! Fri. 6620 Lakeside Dr. West off Lakewood & Golden.

SEBRING FRI. - SAT. 9 - 5pm. 1617 Rainbow Ave. Christmas decor, some tools, Nordic Track Audio Strider 600 & misc. items!

SEBRING SAT. 12/8. 8 - 1pm. Sebring High School. 5514 Kennelworth Blvd. Food & Beverage Avail. All proceeds go to the Sebring High Schools Bands.

SEBRING SAT. 9 - 1pm. 313 Circle Park, Downtown. Pieces of the Past. Giant Clearance Sale! All items must go! Table, chairs, bedroom set, mattresses, Christmas items, stocking stuffers, books & lots of misc. items. No reasonable offers refused!

SEBRING SAT. Dec. 8th. 8 - ?. 1107 Hyacinth Ave. Multi-Family Sale!

SEBRING THUR. - SAT. 8 - 3pm. 4416 Snapper Dr. Industrial sewing machine, furn. & more!

SEBRING WOODHAVEN Estates Christmas Fair. Fri. Dec. 7th. 8 - 12. 2122 Jacaranda Way off Bruns Rd. Crafts, Rummage sale, raffle, bake sale & misc.

SEBRING * GIGANTIC YARD SALE! * Saturday, December 8th, 8am - 1pm, at St. Catherine's Catholic Church, Lakeview and Hickory St. Something For Everyone! \$ Priced To Sell \$

SEBRING-SAT. DEC. 8, 8-5. Multi-family, 110 Commercial Place. Sporting goods, furn., clothes, kit. appl., exercise equip, video games, books, VHS tapes (TV/VHS player) All in great shape, too much to list! Come See!

SEBRING - TWO FAMILY SALE! 4310 Loquat Rd. Fri & Sat, Dec. 7th & 8th, 7am - 3 pm. Tools Misc. Christmas items, Clothes, Household items and Much More!

SPRINGLAKE 501 Springlake Blvd. Large 4 family sale - Roto tiller, tools, ladies jeans, tea server, record player, horses fabric (rare), dishes, antiques, lots lots more. Fri and Sat 8am to 5pm

7340 **Wanted to Buy**
WANTED FLORIDA License Plates Before 1958. Top Dollar Paid! Call Jeff 727-424-1576 or gobus13@aol.com

7400 **Lawn & Garden**
ROTOTILLER TROYBILT Horse Model \$350.obo Call 863-699-1804

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.

7540 **Fresh Fruits & Vegetables**
CITRUS FOR SALE 706 S. Marshall. Tangerines, Oranges, Grapefruit, Lemons.

7560 **Medical Supplies & Equipment**
MOTORIZED SCOOTER (hard surface) Like New, 4 wheel, Rechargeable Battery, Small Basket, with lift for inside Vehicle. \$350. OBO 863-655-6212

8000 **Recreation**

8050 **Boats & Motors**
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TREADMILL - PRO - FORM 330X
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9000 **Transportation**

9100 **Motorcycles & ATVs**
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9450 **Automotive for Sale**
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Five-Day forecast for Highlands County

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly sunny, a shower in the p.m.	An afternoon shower in the area	Partly sunny	Clouds and sun, a shower possible	Periods of clouds and sunshine
80° / 61°	81° / 62°	82° / 63°	82° / 62°	77° / 60°
Winds: SE at 3-6 mph	Winds: SE at 4-8 mph	Winds: SSE at 4-8 mph	Winds: SW at 6-12 mph	Winds: W at 4-9 mph



Almanac

Temperature
Readings at Archbold Biological Station in Lake Placid

High Sunday	82°
Low Sunday	59°
High Monday	82°
Low Monday	44°
High Tuesday	78°
Low Tuesday	50°
High Wednesday	80°
Low Wednesday	56°

Heat Index
For 3 a.m. today

Relative humidity	52%
Expected air temperature	80°
Makes it feel like	81°

Barometer

Monday	30.23
Tuesday	30.16
Wednesday	30.03

Precipitation

Monday	0.00"
Tuesday	0.00"
Wednesday	0.00"
Month to date	0.00"
Year to date	55.56"

Regional Summary

Partly sunny today with a shower in spots in the afternoon. Partly cloudy and mild tonight. Clouds and sun tomorrow with a shower in spots in the afternoon. Sunday, partly sunny. Monday, chance of a shower.



Farm Report

Partly sunny, a shower this afternoon. Winds southeast becoming east-southeast 3-6 mph. Expect 4-8 hours of sunshine with a 55% chance of precipitation.

Water Restrictions

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

Weather History

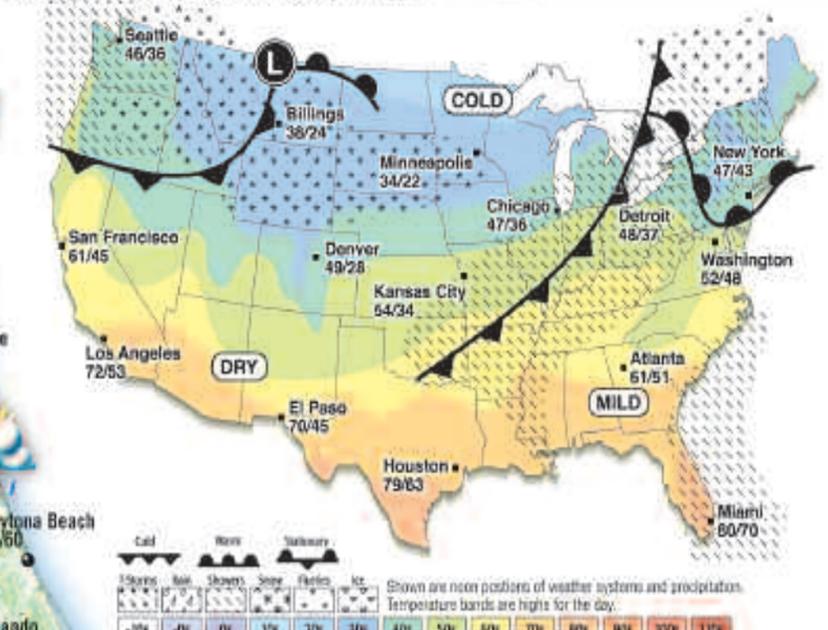
On Dec. 7, 1952, San Francisco, Calif., maintained a constant temperature of 52 degrees. This tied the record for the least amount of temperature change in 24 hours.

Sun and Moon

	Today	Saturday
Sunrise	7:01 a.m.	7:03 a.m.
Sunset	5:35 p.m.	5:35 p.m.
Moonrise	12:50 a.m.	1:48 a.m.
Moonset	1:02 p.m.	1:42 p.m.



National Forecast for December 7



National Summary

A cold front will stall over the Ohio Valley and Northeast today, leading to a steady rain from Indiana and Ohio into western Pennsylvania and New York. Clouds and showers will be common over the rest of the Northeast. Mild weather will be in store for the Southeast, but it will come at a showery price, especially for coastal locations. Seasonable weather will be found across the Southwest stretching into the southern Plains as sunshine and dry weather prevail. A chilly air mass will settle into the western Great Lakes.

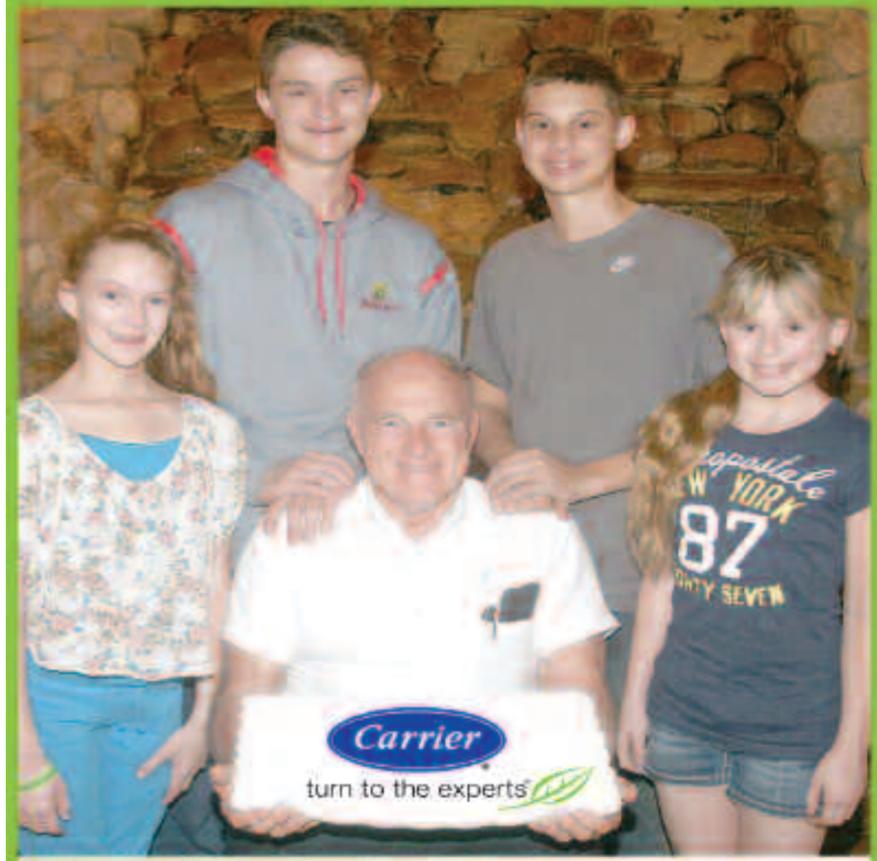
U.S. Cities

City	Today	Sat.	Sun.	City	Today	Sat.	Sun.
Albuquerque	58/34	56/32	44/18	Los Angeles	72/53	79/52	75/52
Albuquerque	61/51	68/56	73/55	Louisville	44/54	61/54	64/49
Baltimore	50/42	61/44	55/42	Memphis	68/56	69/58	68/59
Birmingham	67/50	71/54	73/52	Minneapolis	42/31	42/35	45/27
Boston	47/42	51/39	46/42	Mississippi	34/29	38/29	32/28
Charlotte	58/48	65/50	71/57	Nashville	66/52	68/52	71/41
Chicago	48/27	38/17	29/10	New Orleans	75/56	74/58	76/58
Chicago	47/35	44/39	40/29	New York City	47/43	56/48	60/48
Cleveland	48/42	47/38	53/40	North	62/54	69/49	65/56
Columbus	54/45	56/45	54/31	Oklahoma City	60/37	65/43	48/22
Dallas	70/51	73/58	68/35	Philadelphia	48/42	61/45	52/45
Denver	48/28	47/13	24/10	Phoenix	74/51	72/47	72/46
Detroit	48/37	45/34	44/35	Pittsburgh	51/46	55/44	55/48
Harrisburg	44/40	57/42	48/45	Portland, ME	42/34	47/33	43/35
Honolulu	81/66	82/68	82/67	Portland, OR	48/39	45/38	48/41
Houston	79/63	80/65	81/48	Raleigh	66/51	79/54	72/51
Indianapolis	54/41	51/45	55/31	Rochester	44/38	48/33	44/31
Jackson, MS	72/54	74/54	76/48	St. Louis	58/45	61/48	59/29
Kansas City	54/34	54/39	42/18	San Francisco	61/45	63/47	65/41
Lexington	64/53	61/52	65/39	Seattle	46/38	44/38	45/41
Little Rock	67/52	69/50	69/34	Wash., DC	52/48	58/48	60/44

World Cities

City	Today	Sat.	Sun.	City	Today	Sat.	Sun.
Accra	88/72	88/71	88/68	London	41/36	41/33	40/34
Athens	59/41	60/56	60/41	Montreal	38/11	35/24	31/24
Beirut	65/58	65/57	67/58	Moscow	27/23	39/27	39/15
Berlin	34/18	36/19	32/01	Nice	48/41	50/39	54/38
Bombay	67/61	70/61	71/65	Ottawa	36/21	37/21	34/22
Calgary	16/11	17/11	27/24	Quebec	34/25	33/21	29/21
Dublin	43/32	41/36	45/34	Rio de Janeiro	84/68	82/79	84/73
Edmonton	21/0	21/14	17/14	Seoul	33/14	23/10	23/14
Freeport	77/68	78/79	79/71	Singapore	37/78	36/78	37/75
Geneva	37/31	37/31	30/13	Sydney	79/62	84/55	84/61
Havana	89/68	85/63	86/64	Toronto	45/37	42/32	41/31
Hong Kong	72/63	72/62	70/62	Vancouver	45/37	45/39	45/41
Jerusalem	58/48	55/50	61/48	Vienna	35/24	28/20	29/25
Johannesburg	77/55	81/57	79/51	Warsaw	27/23	24/19	25/21
Kiev	27/13	26/11	26/23	Winnipeg	10/5	10/4	-4/9

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Super Bowl not enough for SYS Streaks



News-Sun file photo by DAN HOEHNE

The Sebring Youth Sports Blue Streak Flag team has been keeping busy since their Mid-Florida Football Super Bowl win on Saturday, Nov. 17. The team spent the next few weeks prepping for a national tournament which has played out this week at the Otis Andrews Sports Complex in Plant City and has them into the semifinals after Wednesday's 27-20 overtime defeat of a squad from Baltimore, Md. The li'l Streaks played in that semifinal Thursday night, with a potential shot at the championship later on in the evening. See Sunday's News-Sun for a recap of the big night.

Lady Dragons roll, Devils improving

By DAN HOEHNE

daniel.hoehne@newssun.com

LAKE PLACID – The score may have indicated that this was a typical, one-sided match-up, Tuesday's 8-0 win for the Lady Dragons over Avon Park on the soccer pitch.

And it was, in some ways, but while the Lady Devils still have a ways to go, the play on the field showed that those important first steps have been taken.

"Oh, they are much improved and definitely heading in the right direction," Lake Placid head coach John Merlo said afterward. "It's been some down years for them, but they are much better athletically and they obviously have more direction."

That direction would be coming from first-year head coach Christopher Sbotto, who knows the taks ahead of him and that it isn't a quick fix.

"I've got a small core of experienced seniors, while I also have a lot of younger players and players who are just getting started in the game," he said. "They're working hard and competing every night. There's really only been one game all season where they just didn't come to play. We're going to struggle some, being so young, but it's good that they're getting started early so we have some time to build."

Building towards such moments as the strong first half they played Tuesday night, only allowing two goals to the perennial district power Dragons, and maintaining moments of controlling the action.



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE
Stephanie Bennett, No. 3, tries to get through Noemi Secundino, No. 10, and this other converging Lady Devil defender Tuesday night in Lake Placid's win.

"There were a few times in the first half where they were really controlling the middle of the field," Merlo said. "Yes, we came in and fell into the trap of playing down to expectations, and they showed us that we can't do that."

And so they stood, just a 2-0 margin at halftime, with goals from Hannah Waller and Rosa Ramirez.

And while the Lady Devils continued to battle impressively, a now determined group of Lake Placid ladies came out for the kill.

Stephanie Bennett and Michelle Hunter each scored twice in the sec-

ond half, with Jenna Blount and Mary Grace Bates both adding a goal to account for the mercy-rule early ending.

But Avon Park did stretch it until within the final 10 minutes to show that, again, they've taken some steps, but still have a ways to go.

The next step for the Devils was a Thursday match at Mulberry before a Saturday afternoon matinee against Sebring at 1 p.m.

The Lady Dragons had a Thursday home contest against another district power, Frostproof.



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE

Lindsey Moffat took her next step Tuesday, signing to take her golfing talents to Webber International University. Joining her, from left, Lady Devil golf coach Suzie Gentry, Weber coach Nancy Nichols, Hammock golf pro Nel Hays, mother Cheryl, father Colin and Avon Park principal Tealy Williams.

Moffat makes move to Webber

By DAN HOEHNE

daniel.hoehne@newssun.com

AVON PARK – Following in the family footsteps, Avon Park's Lindsey Moffat took the next step on her golf path Tuesday, signing with Webber International University to be a part of the Warrior women's golf program.

The family name is familiar on the area fairways, with dad Colin a long-time golf pro and sister Paige having taken her game to Johnson and Wales, a school that the younger Moffat was considering.

"I was looking at them and Florida Gulf Coast, but Webber

had everything I was looking for," she said. "I'll be living in the dorms, so I'll get to be out on my own, but still close to home."

Aside from the family bent, and obvious knack for the game that has been passed down, Moffat had plenty of arenas in which to hone her budding skills.

A four-year starter at Avon Park, she also had the chance to refine her game during the summer months on the Sertoma Junior Golf Tour.

Which was where she was

See MOFFAT, Page 4B

Dragons rise above AP



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE

Jorge Godinez leaps for this header to clear the ball out of the Dragon zone toward teammate Jose Santana, No. 6, in Lake Placid's 9-1 win over Avon Park Tuesday. See Page 3B for the full story of the match.



News-Sun photo by TAYLOR TUBBS

Byron Cobb gets everything into this shot Tuesday night in Sebring's win over Tenoroc.

Streaks strike almighty Titans

By TAYLOR TUBBS

News-Sun correspondent

SEBRING- The Streak's game at home on Tuesday night against Tenoroc served as a double whammy for the boys, as they were able to rest up their starters legs and walk away with a decisive 3-0 victory.

Sebring

3

Tenoroc

0

Auburndale, which is the big district rival for Sebring.

"It was a chance to rest the top 11s legs tonight playing against Tenoroc," said head coach Keith Bowyer. "We

need to be at our best to play Auburndale."

Sebring was in control of the game from the beginning Tuesday night at Firemen's Field.

Powerhouse forward Brian Dixon had a series of crosses from the right side of the field early on, and Elias Salgado had a shot on goal as well.

The first goal would be delivered with style when, 15 minutes into the game, David Magana crossed the ball to Carl Dassinger who headed it

into the net.

Dassinger and Magana worked together as a dynamic team again when their close shots on goal were tapped out by the keeper.

With 11 minutes remaining in the first half, Sebring would once again score off of a header.

A corner kick by Dixon connected with a head ball by Magana to sail into the goal, ending the scoring for the first half at 2-0.

In the second half Sebring's usual goalie, Ethan

Smith, showed his versatility by playing more forward positions and taking a shot on goal.

Keeper Branden Bowyer was back in the goalie box, and stopped every goal attempt that came his way.

The twin-tag-team defense of Eric and Damian Foster had a series of good clears that kept the ball in Tenoroc's side.

Sebring's offense had a busy night, as the Streaks had many moments where the ball was teetering in front of the Tenoroc goal.

Jordan Hay had a shot on goal at the 28-minute mark, followed closely by an

See SEBRING, Page 3B

'We need to be at our best to play Auburndale.'

KEITH BOWYER

Sebring head coach

THE SCOREBOARD

National Football League

AMERICAN CONFERENCE						
East						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-New England	9	3	0	.750	430	260
N.Y. Jets	5	7	0	.417	228	296
Buffalo	5	7	0	.417	277	337
Miami	5	7	0	.417	227	249

South						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Houston	11	1	0	.917	351	221
Indianapolis	8	4	0	.667	265	306
Tennessee	4	8	0	.333	248	359
Jacksonville	2	10	0	.167	206	342

North						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Baltimore	9	3	0	.750	303	242
Pittsburgh	7	5	0	.583	254	230
Cincinnati	7	5	0	.583	302	260
Cleveland	4	8	0	.333	229	265

West						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Denver	9	3	0	.750	349	244
San Diego	4	8	0	.333	258	257
Oakland	3	9	0	.250	235	376
Kansas City	2	10	0	.167	188	322

NATIONAL CONFERENCE						
East						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Giants	7	5	0	.583	321	243
Washington	6	6	0	.500	312	301
Dallas	6	6	0	.500	280	295
Philadelphia	3	9	0	.250	217	320

South						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Atlanta	11	1	0	.917	317	229
Tampa Bay	6	6	0	.500	333	285
New Orleans	5	7	0	.417	321	327
Carolina	3	9	0	.250	352	292

North						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Green Bay	8	4	0	.667	296	259
Chicago	8	4	0	.667	294	198
Minnesota	6	6	0	.500	262	272
Detroit	4	8	0	.333	300	315

West						
	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
San Francisco	8	3	1	.708	289	171
Seattle	7	5	0	.583	242	202
St. Louis	5	6	1	.458	221	267
Arizona	4	8	0	.333	186	234

Thursday's Game
Denver at Oakland, late

Sunday's Games
Chicago at Minnesota, 1 p.m.
Baltimore at Washington, 1 p.m.
Kansas City at Cleveland, 1 p.m.
San Diego at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.
Tennessee at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
Atlanta at Carolina, 1 p.m.
Philadelphia at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.
St. Louis at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
Dallas at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.
Miami at San Francisco, 4:05 p.m.
Arizona at Seattle, 4:25 p.m.
New Orleans at N.Y. Giants, 4:25 p.m.
Detroit at Green Bay, 8:20 p.m.

Monday's Games
Houston at New England, 8:30 p.m.

AFC LEADERS

Quarterbacks						
	Att	Com	Yds	TD	Int	
P. Manning, DN447	304	3502	29	9		
Brady, NE	460	298	3537	25	4	
Rhlsbrgr, PIT	316	209	2287	17	4	
Schaub, HOU	413	266	3062	21	9	
Dalton, CIN	413	262	2980	24	13	
Fitzpatrick, BUF	373	228	2471	20	12	
P. Rivers, SD	424	277	2969	18	15	
Flacco, BAL	426	252	3038	15	8	
C. Palmer, OAK	503	305	3532	20	13	
Hasselbeck, TN221	138	1367	7	5		

Rushers						
	Att	Yds	Avg	LG	TD	
A. Foster, HOU	283	1102	3.89	46	13	
J. Charles, KC	222	1055	4.75	91	3	
Ridley, NE	225	1010	4.49	41	9	
C. Jhnsn, TEN	204	993	4.87	83	4	
Spiller, BUF	137	907	6.62	56	5	
Green-Ells, CIN	226	885	3.92	48	5	
R. Rice, BAL	198	872	4.40	43	8	
T. Rchrdsn, CL	229	827	3.61	32	7	
Greene, NYJ	210	806	3.84	36	5	
McGahee, DN	167	731	4.38	31	4	

Receivers						
	No	Yds	Avg	LG	TD	
Welker, NE	92	1064	11.6	59	4	
Wayne, IND	88	1156	13.1	30	3	
A. Green, CIN	76	1107	14.6	73	10	
A. Jhnsn, HOU	74	1114	15.1	60	3	
D. Thomas, DN	69	1114	16.1	71	8	
B. Myers, OAK	69	721	10.4	29	4	
Hartline, MIA	60	891	14.9	80	1	
Bowe, KC	57	731	12.8	46	3	
Bess, MIA	56	728	13.0	39	1	
Decker, DEN	56	702	12.5	55	8	

NFC LEADERS

Quarterbacks						
	Att	Com	Yds	TD	Int	
Rodgers, GB	414	279	3124	29	8	
Griffin III, WAS	325	218	2660	17	4	
A. Smith, SF	217	152	1731	13	5	
R. Wilson, SEA	317	201	2344	19	8	
M. Ryan, ATL	462	312	3590	22	13	
Brees, NO	492	304	3674	31	16	
J. Freeman, TB	388	217	3003	23	8	
Romo, DAL	483	324	3660	19	15	
Kolb, ARI	183	109	1169	8	3	
Newton, CAR	355	204	2933	14	10	

Rushers						
	Att	Yds	Avg	LG	TD	
Peterson, MIN	234	1446	6.18	82	8	
M. Lynch, SEA	250	1138	4.55	77	6	
D. Martin, TB	236	1106	4.69	70	9	
Morris, WAS	230	1106	4.81	39	6	
Gore, SNF	199	972	4.88	37	6	
Bradshaw, NYG	185	836	4.52	37	5	
S. Jackson, STL	195	772	3.96	46	2	
L. McCoy, PHL	177	750	4.24	34	2	
Forte, CHI	179	749	4.18	46	3	
Griffin III, WAS	105	714	6.80	76	6	

Receivers						
	No	Yds	Avg	LG	TD	
Marshall, CHI	91	1182	13.0	56	8	
Witten, DAL	88	818	9.3	36	1	
C. Jhnsn, DET	86	1428	16.6	53	5	
Gonzalez, ATL	73	770	10.5	25	7	
D. Bryant, DAL	71	978	13.8	85	8	
R. White, ATL	68	1023	15.0	59	4	
Cruz, NYG	68	883	13.0	80	8	
Cobb, GB	64	675	10.5	39	7	
Harvin, MIN	62	677	10.9	45	3	
Colston, NO	61	828	13.6	40	8	

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE						
Atlantic Division						
	W	L	Pct	GB		
New York	13	4	.765	—		
Brooklyn	11	6	.647	2		
Philadelphia	10	8	.556	3.5		
Boston	10	8	.556	3.5		
Toronto	4	15	.211	10		

Southeast Division						
	W	L	Pct	GB		
Miami	12	4	.750	—		
Atlanta	10	5	.667	1.5		



LIVE SPORTS ON TV

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

FRIDAY		
7 p.m.	Jacksonville at South Carolina	SUN
SATURDAY		
Noon	Arkansas at Michigan	CBS
Noon	Portland at Kentucky	ESPN2
1 p.m.	Cleveland State at North Carolina State	SUN
2 p.m.	Colorado at Kansas	ESPN2
3 p.m.	Tennessee State at Missouri	SUN
3:15 p.m.	Duke vs. Temple	ESPN
4 p.m.	Virginia Tech at West Virginia	ESPN2
5:15 p.m.	UCLA at Texas	ESPN
6 p.m.	Wisconsin at Marquette	ESPN2
8 p.m.	Arizona at Clemson	ESPN2
10 p.m.	Illinois at Gonzaga	ESPN2

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

FRIDAY		
8 p.m.	Sam Houston State vs. Montana State	ESPN2
SATURDAY		
8 p.m.	Georgia Southern at Old Dominion	ESPN
3 p.m.	Army vs. Navy	CBS
8 p.m.	2012 Heisman Trophy Presentation	ESPN

GOLF

FRIDAY		
10:30 a.m.	Dubai Ladies Masters	GOLF
1 p.m.	Franklin Templeton Shootout	GOLF
SATURDAY		
9:30 a.m.	Thailand Golf Championship	GOLF
1 p.m.	Emirates Australian Open	GOLF
3:30 p.m.	Omega Dubai Ladies Masters	GOLF
4 p.m.	Franklin Templeton Shootout	NBC

NBA

FRIDAY		
7 p.m.	Boston at Philadelphia	ESPN
9:30 p.m.	L.A. Lakers at Oklahoma City	ESPN
SATURDAY		
8 p.m.	N.Y. Knicks at Chicago	WGN

PREMIER LEAGUE SOCCER

SATURDAY		
9:55 a.m.	Sunderland vs. Chelsea	ESPN2

Times, games, channels all subject to change

Charlotte	7	10	.412	5.5
Orlando	7	11	.389	6
Washington	2	13	.133	9.5
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	9	8	.529	—
Indiana	10	9	.526	—
Milwaukee	8	9	.471	1
Detroit	6	14	.300	4.5
Cleveland	4	15	.211	6

WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Southwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Memphis	13	3	.813	.5
San Antonio	15	4	.789	—
Houston	9	8	.526	—
Dallas	8	10	.444	6.5
New Orleans	5	12	.294	9
Northwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Oklahoma City	15	4	.789	—
Utah	10	10	.500	5.5
Denver	9	10	.474	6
Minnesota	8	9	.471	6
Portland	8	11	.421	7

Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Clippers	12	6	.667	—
Golden State	11	7	.611	1
L.A. Lakers	9	10	.474	3.5
Phoenix	7	12	.368	5.5
Sacramento	5	12	.294	6.5

Tuesday's Games		
Minnesota 105, Philadelphia 88		
Washington 105, Miami 101		
Oklahoma City 117, Brooklyn 111		
Indiana 80, Chicago 76		

Lake Placid boys make scoring splash

Special to the News-Sun

LAKE PLACID – It was a Green Dragon swarm Tuesday night, as a non-stop offensive attack saw goals from five different players on the way to a 9-1 win over visiting Avon Park.

9
Avon Park
1
Though it took a little longer to really ramp it up as an improved Red Devil squad held things in check during a nip-and-tuck first 20 minutes.

Lake Placid then broke through with its' first goal in that 20th minute as Jose Santana hit a one-touch shot off a heel pass from Osvaldo Orduna at the top of the penalty box.

This seemed to open the flood gates as the Dragons continued to pressure Avon Park by scoring three more goals late in the first half to give a 4-0 goal halftime lead.

Yoyi Gomez scored a pair of goals followed by an



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE
Osvaldo Orduna shows some fancy footwork in Lake Placid's big win over Avon Park Tuesday night.

additional goal from Diego Mireles, Adrian Barragan and a second pair of scores by Gomez – giving him a hat trick, plus one.

Lake Placid continued to pour on a strong attack in the second half as they found the goal five more times from Osvaldo Orduna,

Diego Mireles, Adrian Barragan and a second pair of scores by Gomez – giving him a hat trick, plus one.

“Avon Park battled the entire game and have improved a lot over the past

couple of years,” Dragon head coach James Ashley said. “They are only going to get better.”

“This score does not reflect how much they have improved and how hard they played,” he continued. “A player that deserves a lot of credit for tonight’s success has to go to Fabian Munguia. His efforts tonight were silent on the stat sheet, but were all but silent on the field. He helped spark a three-goal run late in the first half. When you have a player fight for every ball and pressure the opposing teams defense, it can create tons of momentum which our team needed tonight.”

Finding their scoring stride comes at a good time for the Green Dragons as they set to square off in a key district match Thursday at Frostproof.

The Devils, meanwhile, looked to continue their progression at Mulberry Thursday before facing off at home against Sebring in a 3 p.m. Saturday match.

Devils, Dragons stop streaks



News-Sun photos by DAN HOEHNE

Above: Jovan Pratt and the Red Devils broke a two-game losing streak Tuesday night, bouncing back with a 44-34 win over visiting DeSoto to move to 2-3 overall and 2-0 in District play. The Devils looked to make it two wins in a row Thursday with a home date against Hardee. Below: Those Wildcats took care of business Tuesday, topping Nick Tuason and the Dragons 69-42, to end Lake Placid's two-game winning streak. The Dragons host Frostproof Friday.



Sebring puts a stop to Tenoroc

Continued from 1B

attempt by Wesley Koning.

The attempts would finally deliver when Bryon Cobb scored with five minutes remaining in the game.

As the time ran out Sebring would finish the night with a 3-0 victory and a greater goal in mind – Auburndale.

“We’re three points behind Auburndale in the district rankings, so if we can win that will put us over the top,” said Bowyer.

“It was good to give the younger kids some game experience, and hopefully that will make us more rested for Thursday.”

See Sunday’s News-Sun for a recap of the big match.

News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE



Ethan Smith keeps a close eye on the ball, well, when he opens them up, in Tuesday's shut out of Tenoroc.

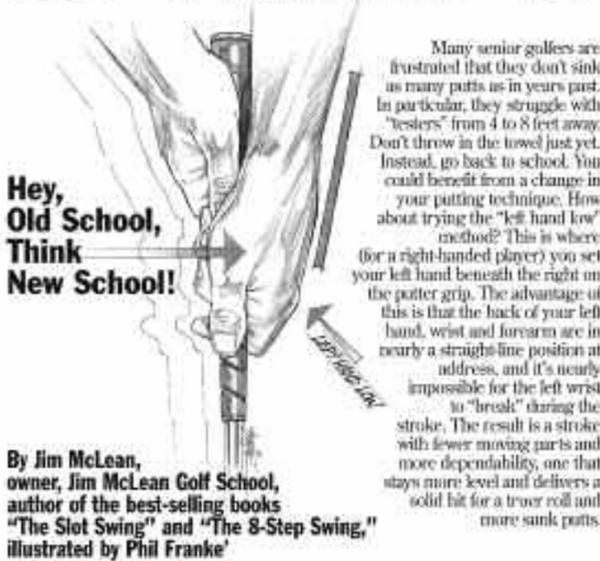
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SENIOR TIP MASTER STROKES



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

Many senior golfers are frustrated that they don't sink as many putts as in years past. In particular, they struggle with "testers" from 4 to 8 feet away. Don't throw in the towel just yet. Instead, go back to school. You could benefit from a change in your putting technique. How about trying the "left hand low" method? This is where (for a right-handed player) you set your left hand beneath the right on the putter grip. The advantage of this is that the back of your left hand, wrist and forearm are in nearly a straight-line position at address, and it's nearly impossible for the left wrist to "break" during the stroke. The result is a stroke with fewer moving parts and more dependability, one that stays more level and delivers a solid hit for a truer roll and more sunk putts.

Golf Hammock

The Golf Hammock Ladies played a Low Gross/Low Net event on Wednesday, Dec. 5.

In First Flight, Lorraine Friend had Low Gross with an 89 while Laura Kemberly was second at 91.

Wanda Hastie had Low Net in the flight with a 66 and Florence Towell and Jean Haig both came in with 70s to tie for second.

Second Flight saw Low Gross go to Caroline Duncan with 95 and second going to Shirley Enochs with 97.

Three women tied for Low Net in the flight, as Roxie McMillon, Carol Troup and Trudy Stowe each carded 70s.

Mary Cripps had Low Gross in Third Flight, with a 102, one ahead of Alma Barefoot's 103 in second.

Low Net went to Nancy Senior and her 70, with Nancy Porcari second at 75.

On Monday, Dec. 3, the Mezza Group played Individual Pro-Am Points at Golf Hammock.

There was a tie in A group between Mike Winchester and Stan Griffis at even.

In B group, Curt Matterson was in first place with plus 2 and Paul Taff Brown in second place with minus 1.

In C group, Paul Brown II was in first place with plus 4 and Dick Botelho in second place at even.

There was a three-way tie in D group for first place between Bob Wimmer, Bob Fidlin and Ralph Pickering at plus 1.

Jerry Hodges scored a whopping plus 7 for first place in E group and Jerry Edwards was in second place with plus 2.

There was a tie for first place in F

group between Paul Skidmore and Bob Morrison at plus 7.

In G group Pete Mezza was at plus 1 to take first place and Karl Mellor with minus 2 was in second place.

In H group there was a tie for first place between Ian Bell and Frank Branca at plus 3 and Janet Howland was in second place at plus 1.

Next week the Mezza Group will have a modified shotgun start at Golf Hammock.

Tee off will be at 8:15 a.m., please arrive early to register.

For more information, call Pete at 382-1280.

Lake June West

A Scramble was played on Thursday, Nov. 29.

Winning first place was the team of Doyan and Donna Eades, Bob and Verna Knishka, Mario Cappelletti and Don Boulton with 51; second place, Dick Reaney, Art Schmeltz, Betty Billau, Margaret Schultz and Joanne McGill with 52; and third place, Ron and Sylvia West, Pete and Mary McNamee and Betty Bevard with 53.

Closest to the pin: (Ladies), No. 2, Verna Knishka, 2-feet and No. 8, Betty Bevard, 7-feet-6-inches. (Men), No. 4, Ron West, 12-feet-5-inches.

The Men's Association played a Men's League event Wednesday, Nov.

Monday league event Monday, Nov. 26.

Winning first place was the team of Eva Huffman, Betty Kincheloe and Laurie Lorig with 36. Tying for second/third places were Donna Palmatier, Doris Weeks and Janice Barringer; Verna Knishka, Elaine Orr, Barbara Cash and Clara Wisman with 38 each.

Closest to the pin: No. 2, Virginia Simmons, 3-feet-7-inches; No. 4, Chris Heath, 5-feet-3-inches; and No. 8, Verna K., 4-feet-3-inches.

River Greens

A Ladies Pro Am tournament was played Thursday, Nov. 29.

Winning first place was the team of Carole McClay, Kay Conkle and Michele Koon with plus-9; and second place,

Babe McDonald, Betty Leblanc, Barb Stuber and Linda Therrien with plus-7.

Individual winners were: First place, Michele Koon with plus-7.5; second place, Linda Therrien with plus-6; and Ann Purdy with plus-5.5.

The Morrison Group played a game Thursday, Nov. 29.

Winning first place was the team of Gordon Clauws, Jim Anderson, Jim Cery and Ken Brunswick with minus-21; and second place, Bob "Wacky" Wolf, Frank Conroy, Leo Persails and Don McDonald with minus-20.

The Men's Association played a Pro

Am tournament on Wednesday, Nov. 28.

Winning first place was the team of Al Farrell, Bill Mountford and Peter March with plus-4; and second place, John Smutnick, Gil Heier, Russ Rudd and Jim Cery with plus-3.5.

Individual winners were: A Flight - First place, John Smutnick with plus-6.5. B Flight - First place, B.C. Roberts with plus-3.5. C Flight - Tying for first/second places were Johnny Wehunt and Jim Cery with plus-3.5 each. D Flight - First place, Al Farrell with plus-4.

The Morrison Group played an event on Tuesday, Nov. 27.

Winning first place was the team of Jim Anderson, Gil Heier, Harold Plagens and Keith Kincer with minus-35; and second place, Roman Belobradich, Cliff Steele, Paul Johnson and Don McDonald with minus-19.

The Golfettes played a game on Tuesday, Nov. 27.

First Flight - First place, Linda Therrien with 87; and second place, Michele Koon with 71. Second Flight - First place, Pat Kincer with 90; and second place, Gale Garceau with 66. Third Flight - First place, Karen Speaker with 102; and second place, Babe McDonald with 71.

The Limited Member event was played Monday, Nov. 26.

Winning first place was the team of Tom Shaver, Don Miller, John Hierholzer and Roy Bassett with plus-1.5.

Individual winners were: First place, John Hierholzer with plus-3.5. And tying for second/third places were Berk Hyde and Don Miller with plus-3 each.

Moffat has sights set high

Continued from 1B spotted by Webber head coach Nancy Nichols.

"I watched her and her sister play and continued to see them improve," Nichols said. "She has an excellent demeanor on the course, which is very important."

Something Moffat credits Devil coach Suzie Gentry for forging within her.

"She taught me not to get down when you hit a bad shot," she said. "I learned that you can't let the last shot bother you, it's the next shot that matters most."

With that, her game further expanded on the summer tour.

"Sertoma was such good competition, that it really brought my level up and helped me compete that much

more."

Moffat will have the chance to earn a spot in the top five from the get-go, as Nichols noted that the Warriors will be

'It's the next shot that matters most.'

LINDSEY MOFFAT
Webber golf signee

graduating two seniors.

And with the signing, Nichols continues her Highlands County pipeline, which includes former Devil Greg Gentry and former Blue Streak Savana Fisher.

Which also adds to her mentor's excitement.

"This was the first signing

I've had as the golf coach," Suzie Gentry said. "And now when I go watch her play in some tournaments, I'll be able to see Greg and Paige at the same time."

Looking to study Sports Management, Moffat knows what she needs to do to continue her goal toward her golf dreams.

"I need to work out and get stronger so I can hit farther," she said. "And I'm going to, because it means a lot to be able to play in college and take the next step toward playing on the LPGA tour."

Looking forward and working toward a career in golf, Lindsey is certainly following in the Moffat family footsteps.

Florida Trail Association – Heartland Chapter December Activities

Special to the News-Sun
Saturday, Dec. 8

A downtown Lakeland walking tour.

We will meet for a light dinner or sandwich at The Chop Shop and then a walking tour of downtown Lakeland's Christmas decorations and historic sites.

Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring warm hat, gloves, etc., for the walk and money to purchase dinner.

Contact Ken Williams at (863) 602-5185, or email dec1966@aol.com for meet-up time and other details.

Saturday, Dec. 15

Day Hike (and/or camp overnight in the park's campground Fri-Sun by reserving your own site), at Lake Kissimmee State Park.

A beautiful park with a cow camp where old-time relics are on display, an old timer to tell stories of years gone by and an observation tower on the lake.

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

Note: RSVP for hiking to Betty Piper at 863-293-3053 or email bpiper2005@aol.com for

meet-up time and other details.

If camping (tent or RV), make a reservation at ReserveAmerica.com, and RSVP to Teresa Newgent at (813) 882-9558, or email newgt7@yahoo.com.

Bring a dish for the pot luck dinner on Saturday evening, and a gag gift for the gift exchange if you wish to participate.

Friday-Saturday,
Dec. 29-30

Overnight Backpacking Trip at the Arbuckle portion of the Lake Wales Ridge State Forest.

This is a follow-up to the Backpacking 101 Course held on Dec. 1 and is only those who have completed the Backpacking 101 Course or those who have had previous backpacking experience.

The trail leads through moderately rolling hills with pine forests, prairies, wetlands, scrub and marshy lakeshore along the west side of Lake Arbuckle.

Bring backpacking equipment, hiking shoes, brimmed hat, water, snacks, lunch, sun and insect protection.

Contact David Waldrop at 863-605-3587 for meet-up time and other details.

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HEALTHY LIVING

Trigger finger troubles

The scientific name for trigger finger is stenosing, for the narrowing of the tunnels the tendon moves through, and tenosynovitis because it is an irritation of the lubricating tissue (synovium) around the tendon.

Trigger finger results in a tendon that gets larger from swelling and, after time, scar tissue and a tunnel that gets smaller. That is like eating too much for

Thanksgiving dinner and then shrinking your pants in the drier. When the tendon finally fits into the tunnel so the finger can straighten, it releases suddenly as though a trigger has been pulled.

Trigger finger was first described by a French surgeon Dr. Notta in 1850. It is more common in women than in men and adults between the ages of 40 and 60. People with diseases of the synovium, such as gout and rheumatoid arthritis, and diabetics have a higher incidence of trigger fingers.

Repetitive hand motion and some finger trauma can also increase your chances of developing a trigger finger. Trigger fingers often accompany carpal tunnel because it is part of the tunnel system that keeps the tendons up against the bone.

Initial treatment is with rest, accomplished by splinting the fingers, and anti-inflammatories, either pills or injections. If this does not help or if the finger is



Guest Column
Dr. Diana Carr

ods.

Trigger fingers can be released in the operating room through a small incision. They can also be released in the doctor's office using a large needle as a micro "knife." First, the area of the tunnel is numbed using local anesthetic. Once the finger is numb, a large needle turned sideways is inserted through the skin in the midline and used to cut the tunnel until the tendon no longer triggers as the finger bends and straightens. This is safe because the nerves are on each side of the tendon and are not touched.

This procedure will not work in the thumb because the nerve crosses the tendon. The tendon incision is on the outside edge of the thumb and is vertical so patients return very quickly to using their thumbs in all but the heaviest activities. The inflammation or "blistering" on the inside may still take some time to heal.

locked in a flexed position, then surgical release is often needed.

There are two equally successful surgical meth-

DeQuervain's, that causes pain in the thumb extensors, is also a stenosing tenosynovitis. In this case there is no triggering. There is pain with pinching or flexing the thumb. The classic test is to make a fist and then to bend the hand toward the little finger (Finkelstein test). If this is painful the test is positive.

DeQuervain's, like trigger finger, also occurs more frequently in women. It once was called "mommy" thumb because mothers got it from lifting their babies. The treatment is similar: oral anti-inflammatories, injections, bracing and if these fail, surgery.

Office percutaneous surgery cannot be done for deQuervain's because the nerve crosses the tunnel. Surgery must be done open so that the nerve can be protected as the tunnel is opened.

Like trigger thumb, the incision is vertical so use of the hand does not "pull" on the incision and it is in an area that has minimal contact with work surfaces allowing the patient to get back to using the hand quickly.

Dr. Diana D. Carr treats patients at The Hand & Shoulder Specialists. For more information, please visit <http://hand-shoulder-specialist.com> or call (863) 382-7777.

Choices Pregnancy Center holds banquet

Special to the News-Sun
SEBRING — Choices Pregnancy Center hosted a banquet last month at Grace Bible Church to raise support for women facing a crisis pregnancy. Throughout the local area, women facing a crisis pregnancy can go to Choices Pregnancy Care Center to receive free pregnancy tests, maternity clothes, baby clothes, diapers and other needed items.

As a nonprofit organization, Choices relies on the generosity of the people in the community to help women in need.

During the banquet, Choices announced the opening of their new office in Lake Placid at 225 East Royal Palm St. The grand opening for the Lake Placid office will be on Jan. 20 from 2-4 p.m. Choices also told the attendees about the start of a new abstinence program called Relationships Under Construction.

The festive banquet was well attended with approximately 120 guests. Representatives from churches in Lake Placid, Sebring, Avon Park, Frostproof and Hardee County attended to



Wanda Day won the 40-inch TV raffle at the Choices Pregnancy Center banquet. The TV was donated by Musselman's Appliances.

Courtesy photo

show their support for women facing an unplanned pregnancy. Youth from the local area served the as waiters and waitresses.

Mary Lou Hendry, executive director of Sanctity of Human Life, spoke to the crowd encouraging them to make a stand for life. Dustin Woods, executive pastor of Grace Bible Church and lead

singer for Love Like Gravity, served as the emcee for the banquet. Shannon Kelly worked sound and audio.

Part of the fundraising activities for the banquet included the sale of raffle tickets for a 40-inch television donated by Musselman's Appliances and TV of Sebring. Wanda Day purchased the winning ticket.



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HEALTHY LIVING

Tired of being tired? Measure thyroid properly

Dear Pharmacist: I went through your timeline on facebook, and learned why I'm still tired and overweight. My physician says my TSH is normal, just like you said he would, can you discuss hypothyroidism in your column?

— G.O., Decatur, Ill.

Answer: There's an epidemic of tired, overweight folks who don't know they're hypothyroid because of improper testing. Some old school physicians are still drawing blood levels of TSH (thyroid stimulating hormone) as the sole method to evaluate thyroid function.

TSH is incapable of telling you or your doctor what's happening inside your cells. It's fine to check as part of a comprehensive profile, but not by itself. People are often told they have "normal" thyroid levels, based upon their "normal" TSH. TSH is a brain hormone and has nothing to do with intracellular (mitochondrial) levels of active thyroid hormone called "T3."

You see, TSH may very well be normal, while T3, (the hormone you want) is desperately low. You will hold on to weight, have dry skin, suffer with hair loss, fatigue, muscle aches, arrhythmias, depression, forgetfulness, anxiety and low libido. Regardless of your misery, you may still be told your okay, because your TSH is okay. Big mistake! Huge!

TSH is just a messenger hormone, it's not active although levels are ideal around 0.1 to 1.0 mIU/l. People who feel fantastic have adequate levels of T3 inside their cells. Measuring a "free T3" gives you relevant, usable data. I'd shoot for 3.5 to 4.2 pg/ml myself. During the same blood test, you should also measure T4 (which is inactive hormone, but it converts to T3). This is important to ascertain because it gives you a gauge to see how much hormone is available to eventually become active.

Evaluating blood levels of Reverse T3 also called "Reverse thyronine" and abbreviated as "rT3" is equally important. Reverse T3 is a mirror image of active T3. Elevated rT3 causes all the symptoms of clinical hypothyroidism I just mentioned. It's often high in people with heavy metals. I lecture around the world, and still meet physicians who dismiss rT3.

Did you know that hypothyroidism is a major cause for diabetes? When rT3 is high, that means it's poised like a pitbull on your cells' receptor sites preventing the real deal (T3) from entering the cell. The net result of elevated rT3 is you feel like zombie. But again, if your TSH is normal, or your rT3 is never measured, you will be

dismissed as normal.

I prefer natural desiccated thyroid (NDT) for medication treatment, such as Nature-Throid, and Armour over levothyroxine (Synthroid). My rationale is that NDT drugs contain both T3 and T4. Remember T3 is what you ultimately want. Synthroid is exclusively T4, so your body has to convert it to T3 before you can use it. Unfortunately, people with metabolic issues, or digestive problems can't convert well.



Dear Pharmacist
Suzy Cohen

Your physician can also prescribe plain "T3 compound" if that is more appropriate for your individual case.

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.

Study: Longer tamoxifen use cuts breast cancer deaths

Associated Press

Breast cancer patients taking the drug tamoxifen can cut their chances of having the disease come back or kill them if they stay on the pills for 10 years instead of five years as doctors recommend now, a major study finds.

The results could change treatment, especially for younger women. The findings are a surprise because earlier research suggested that taking the hormone-blocking drug for longer than five years didn't help and might even be harmful.

In the new study, researchers found that women who took tamoxifen for 10 years lowered their risk of a recurrence by 25 percent and of dying of breast cancer by 29 percent compared to those who took the pills for just five years.

In absolute terms, continuing on tamoxifen kept three additional women out of every 100 from dying of breast cancer within five to 14 years from when their disease was diagnosed. When added to the benefit from the first five years of use, a decade of tamoxifen

can cut breast cancer mortality in half during the second decade after diagnosis, researchers estimate.

Some women balk at taking a preventive drug for so long, but for those at high risk of a recurrence, "this will be a convincer that they should continue," said Dr. Peter Ravdin, director of the breast cancer program at the UT Health Science Center.

About 50,000 of the roughly 230,000 new cases of breast cancer in the United States each year occur in women before menopause.



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HEALTHY LIVING

Infants, toddlers need affection and communication

By NEYSA RIVERA
Special to the News-Sun

Are you a parent who is concerned about the development of your infant or toddler? Are you currently in the field of childcare and have questions about the children you are caring for?

The intent of this article is to show the importance of affection, communication, safety, and outdoor play in the development of infants and toddlers. Development in infants and toddlers means physical growth, changes in personality and skills that occur as they mature. Many of these changes occur naturally in almost all children, but these changes can be enhanced through appropriate activities.

Affection is important to help develop trust between a child and an adult, and it also helps a child feel loved and cared for. A child should have at least one consistent caretaker on a regular basis that understands the needs of the child. Infants and toddlers are usually very curious and

are eager to explore their surroundings, but in order for them to feel secure in their environment, comfort, love and trust are essential.

How caretakers communicate with infants and toddlers can contribute to their development immensely. Affection and love is one form of communication, and this can be shown through holding, cuddling, and rocking a child.

Affection is only one form of communication, but caretakers can also help with their language development which can enable toddlers to begin communicating more effectively.

The following is a list of ways to help in the area of language development with infants and toddlers:

- Interacting positively with children one-on-one, especially as they attempt to communicate. This can be through sounds, gestures, or symbols which are understandable.
- Active listening.
- Talk slowly and pro-

nounce words clearly so children can understand.

— Sing with the children.

— Help children identify and communicate feelings to others.

— Be sensitive to each child's cues that tell you they need affection.

— Provide the child with choices.

By taking the time to put these principles into practice, infants and toddlers are given the opportunity to mature at a normal pace in their language development.

Healthy environments that promote physical, emotional, and social well-being along with an emphasis on safety can also help infants and toddlers in their development. A safe child-care environment assures that a child can move around hazard free, where the potential for injuries is minimized. This should be monitored on a regular basis. Safety rules are necessary to help prevent accidents, and children should never be left unsupervised.

Other ways caregivers can

be proactive in helping to maintain safe environments are as follows:

— Cover electrical outlets.

— Store garbage in a closed container out of reach of children.

— Keep harmful supplies such as medicines, cleaning agents, and insecticides locked in cabinets or stored in containers out of reach of children.

— Make sure furniture has no sharp edges or corners at children's eye level.

Infants and toddlers need outdoor play to increase their motor and social development and to provide opportunities for children to use their senses.

Play helps them to develop healthy bodies with good controlled functions and sensory stimulation.

While playing, infants and toddlers often practice using their imaginations, being creative, and manipulating their environment. This may include interacting with others, and they may learn how to cooperate with others and

appreciate differences.

By giving the affection needed, communicating in an age appropriate manner, maintaining safe and healthy environment, and allowing infants and toddlers an adequate amount of outdoor play, caregivers and/or parents can have a great impact on their development.

The information given in this article is confirmed by HighReach Learning, 2007 in the following training modules: "The Importance of Showing Affection to Infants and Toddlers," "Language Development of Infants and Toddlers," "Infant and Toddler Safety," and "Outdoor Play for Infants and Toddlers."

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Diabetic? You're in famous company

Diabetes affects 26 million people in the US and more than 366 million people worldwide. A diagnosis of diabetes does not necessarily mean a compromise in your quality of life.

In fact, you are in the company of many well-known persons like Halle Berry, Mike Huckabee, Paula Deen and Randy Jackson. Diabetics many times experience burning, numbness, tingling, pins and needles sensations in the feet called small fiber peripheral neuropathy — 60-70 percent of diabetics will develop peripheral neuropathy, or lose sensation in their feet. It happens when you have high blood sugar levels over a long time.

Other medical problems that may cause neuropathy are:

- Autoimmune disorders such as rheumatoid arthritis or lupus.
- Chronic kidney disease.
- Infections such as HIV and liver infections.
- Low levels of vitamin B12 or other problems with your diet.
- Poor blood flow to the legs.
- Drugs and toxins may damage



Footprints
Dr. Olga Garcia-Luepschen

Footprints is a test called epidermal nerve fiber density analysis. This is done in the office setting by obtaining a small biopsy of the skin. This is the same procedure done when having a biopsy at a dermatologist's office though the tissue is handled differently. The sample is processed to allow a lab to visualize and count small sensory nerve fibers in the skin.

When these nerves are affected by peripheral neuropathy, the number and shape of the nerves is abnormal and can be recognized under the microscope.

nerves. One example is heavy alcohol use. Glue, lead, mercury and solvents may damage nerves. Drugs that treat infections, cancer, seizures, and high blood pressure may cause nerve damage.

One way to evaluate if a person has small fiber neuropathy is a test called epidermal nerve fiber density analysis.

This is done in the office setting by obtaining a small biopsy of the skin. This is the same procedure done when having a biopsy at a dermatologist's office though the tissue is handled differently.

The sample is processed to allow a lab to visualize and count small sensory nerve fibers in the skin. When these nerves are affected by peripheral neuropathy, the number and shape of the nerves is abnormal and can be recognized under the microscope.

If you are diagnosed with diabetic neuropathy always wear shoes to protect your feet from injury. Always check the inside of your shoes, before putting them on, for foreign objects like stones, nails or rough areas that may harm your feet.

Inspect your feet every day. Examine the sides, tops, soles, heels of your feet and between the toes. Every day wash your feet with lukewarm water and mild soap. Apply lotion/cream on dry, cracked skin. Check bathwater temperature with your elbow before putting your feet in the water.

Up to 25 percent of diabetics will develop a foot ulcer. To avoid becoming a diabetic statistic, visit your podiatrist yearly.

If you are concerned that you may have peripheral neuropathy call the Gentle Foot Care Center at 863-314-9255 for an appointment or visit www.gentlefootcarecenter.com. Dr. Olga Garcia Luepschen and the Gentle foot Care Center are located on U.S. 27.

Fla. Hospital Wauchula awarded Elite Distinction

Special to the News-Sun

WAUCHULA — The Leapfrog Group's annual list of Top Hospitals was announced on December 4th and included Florida Hospital Wauchula. The announcement came at Leapfrog's Annual Meeting, focusing on transparency as the key to improved hospital safety, and Top Hospital Awards.

"Florida Hospital Wauchula is made up of numerous staff who work hard each day to meet patient needs, keeping them safe in every way possible.

"We consider the confidence of our patients a sacred trust that we highly prize. We are honored and humbled to be given this recognition by the Leapfrog Group," said Vice President and Florida Hospital Wauchula Administrator Linda Adler.

"The Leapfrog Top Hospital distinction is by far the most competitive award a hospital can receive. Leapfrog holds hospitals to

the highest standards on behalf of our purchaser members and their employees. By achieving the Top Hospital accolade, Florida Hospital Wauchula has demonstrated exemplary performance across all areas of quality and patient safety that are analyzed on the Leapfrog Hospital Survey.

"This hospital stands out as one consistently providing safe, high quality care, and I would be comfortable sending my family to Florida Hospital Wauchula for care," said Leah Binder, President & CEO of The Leapfrog Group.

Florida Hospital Wauchula was selected as a Top Hospital out of nearly 1,200 hospitals participating in The Leapfrog Group's annual survey.

This year, the Top Rural Hospital list includes a record 11 hospitals.

Other hospitals reaching this achievement include academic medical centers, teaching hospitals, children's hospitals, and community hospi-

tals in rural, suburban and urban settings.

The selection is based on the results of the Leapfrog Group's annual hospital survey, which measures hospitals' performance on patient safety and quality, focusing on three critical areas of hospital care: how patients fare,

resource use, and management structures in place to prevent errors. The results of the survey are posted on a website (<http://www.leapfrog-group.org/cp>) open to patients and families, the public, employers, and other purchasers of healthcare.

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RELIGION

Atonement Lutheran Church - ELCA

SEBRING — This is the Second Sunday in Advent. Deacon David Thoresen's sermon will be based on the Gospel reading of Luke 3:1-6.

The Dec. 9 congregational meeting has been postponed until Dec. 16, following morning worship service for the purpose of electing four new council members and approval of 2013 budget.

Christ Lutheran Church - LCMS

AVON PARK — Pastor Scott McLean will preach a sermon titled "Prepare the Way of the Lord." Advent 2 is observed Sunday and Wednesday.

The church is at 1320 County Road 64, east of the Avon Park High School past the four-way stop sign. Call 471-2663 or visit christ-lutheranavonpark.org.

Christian Science Church

SEBRING — The lesson sermon on Sunday morning is titled "God the Preserver of Man" The keynote is from Psalm 40:11 ... O Lord; let thy lovingkindness and thy truth continually preserve me."

The church is at 154 N. Franklin St.

Christian Training Church

SEBRING — Rev. Linda M. Downing will bring the message titled "A New Song: Part 3" at the Sunday morning service. The Wednesday night Bible study is the Gospel of John.

Church of Buttonwood Bay

SEBRING — On the Second Sunday of Advent, Pastor Cecil Hess is preaching on "Christ Through the Eyes of Luke 1". The service is non-denominational and open to everyone. The church is on U.S. 27, four miles south of Highlands Regional Medical Center, Sebring.

For more information, call 382-1737.

Emmanuel United Church of Christ

SEBRING — This Sunday morning, the Rev. George Miller will deliver the sermon, "Joy," with Scripture taken from Luke 1:26-38.

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

Faith Lutheran Church

SEBRING — This Sunday, the church celebrates Second Sunday in Advent. Pastor Robert Reinhardt will deliver his sermon, "He Must Increase, We Must Decrease."

This week, the candle of Preparation is lit. When we prepare for a house guest we make every effort to have our homes ready for their arrival so that we can spend our time with our guest rather than doing housework. The same is true of our hearts. We must prepare in our hearts to hear and respond to God daily that we might be sensitive to the movement of the spirit as we reflect His love to the world. We each have valleys and mountains in our heart that can hinder us from seeing the work of God in and through our lives. Jesus comes and makes his home in our hearts, forming us into his embassies of light to a dark and broken world.

Adult Sunday School Class is studying Old Testament Prophetic Promises of the Coming Messiah.

Tuesday Bible study is the Acts of the Apostles.

Advent Services are being held on Wednesdays. This Wednesday with dinner at 5:30 p.m. by the LWML and service starting at 6:30 p.m. The Midweek Advent theme is "One Night in Bethlehem - In the Field."

First Christian Church-Avon Park

AVON PARK — Wednesday night Bible study will continue in the study on Heaven. The Christmas Cantata will be held during the morning worship service on Sunday, Dec. 16.

First Christian Church of Avon Park is at 1016 W. Camphor (behind the Wells Fargo Bank). Call 453-5334 or e-mail firstchristianap@embarqmail.com with any questions or to request information. The church website is www.firstchristianap.com.

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

SEBRING — At the Lord's Table this Sunday morning will be Bob and Betty Harcourt. Communion will be served by Fran Goff, Diane Biedler, Carol Chandler and Sandra Laufer.

Greeting the congregation will be Tim Wheaton and working with the young people in Children's Church will be Carol and Mike Graves.

As part of the service, the Chancel Choir will present its annual Christmas cantata, "The Story of Christmas."

C 385-0352. The church is at 519 Poinsettia Ave.

First Presbyterian Church of Avon Park

AVON PARK — On Sunday morning, the pastor's sermon is titled "God's Son" based on Hebrews 1:1-14.

In the adult Sunday school class, the pastor leads the class in a video series titled "The Life and Ministry of the Messiah" sponsored by Focus on the Family. The lessons are filmed on location in Israel and narrated by historian/teacher Ray Vander Laan. Sunday's film is titled "Caesarea Phillippi - Everything to Lose, Nothing to Gain." Matt Sbot teaches the youth class and they are studying the book of Ephesians.

This is the second Sunday of Advent. In the ceremony, "We Wait in Hope," Jane and Leigh Golden will light two candles and Dena Sbot will be the reader. The choir's anthem will be "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" with flute solo by Kathleen Richards. The Family Gathering will meet at 6 p.m.

On Monday, the Action Crew meets at 7 p.m.

Wednesday Bible study will be led by the pastor teaching "How Do We Glorify God?"

The church is at 215 E. Circle St. (with two entrances on

Continued on page 9B

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.

ANGLICAN

■ **New Life Anglican Fellowship**, 10 N. Main Ave. (Woman's Club), Lake Placid, FL 33852. Rev. Susan Rhodes, Deacon in Charge, (863) 243-3191; strhodes1020@yahoo.com. Sunday Worship, 10 a.m. Teaching, Holy Communion, Music, Fellowship, Healing Prayer. "Pastoral and Spiritual".

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

■ **Christ Fellowship Church (Assembly of God)**, 2935 New Life Way, Bearing His Name; Preaching His Doctrine; and Awaiting His Coming. "Worshiping God in Spirit and in Truth." Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10 a.m.; Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday: Worship, 7 p.m. Pastor Eugene Haas. Phone 471-0924.

■ **First Assembly of God**, 4301 Kenilworth Blvd., Sebring. The Rev. Wilmont McCrary, pastor. Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship and KIDS Church, 11 a.m.; Evening Worship, 7 p.m. Wednesday Family Night, (Adult Bible Study), LIFE Youth Group, Royal Rangers, Missionettes, 7:30 p.m. Phone 385-6431.

BAPTIST

■ **Avon Park Lakes Baptist Church**, 2600 N. Highlands Blvd., Avon Park, FL 33825. George Hall, Pastor. Christ centered and biblically based. Sunday worship services, 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Nursery facilities are available. Bible studies at 9:45 a.m. Sunday and 7 p.m. Wednesday. Prayer Time 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday. Bible classes at 9:45 a.m. are centered for all ages. Choir practice at 5 p.m. Sunday. Church phone: 452-6556.

■ **Bethany Baptist Church (GARBC)** We are located at the corner of SR17 and C-17A (truck route) in Avon Park. Join us Sunday morning at 9:00 AM for coffee and doughnuts, followed with Sunday School for all ages at 9:30. Sunday morning worship service begins at 10:30 a.m., and evening worship service is at 6 p.m. On Wednesdays, the Word of Life teen ministry and the Catylist class (20's+) begin at 6:30 PM. The adult Bible and Prayer Time begins at 7 p.m. For more information go to www.bethanybaptistap.com or call the church office at 863-452-1136.

■ **Faith Missionary Baptist Church**, off State Road 17 North of Sebring at 1708 LaGrange Ave. Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship, 11 a.m.; Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday Service, 7 p.m. Deaf interpretation available. Ken Lambert, Pastor. Phone 386-5055.

■ **Fellowship Baptist Church**, 1000 Maxwell St., Avon Park, FL 33825. Sunday: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday: Evening Service, 7 p.m.; Children/Youth, 7 p.m. Telephone: 453-4256. Fax: 453-6986. E-mail: office@apfellowship.org; Web site, www.apfellowship.org.

■ **First Baptist Church of Avon Park**, 100 N. Lake Ave., Avon Park. Rev. Jon Beck, pastor; Charlie Parish, associate pastor/youth and families; Joy Loomis, music director; Rev. Johannat Soltero, Hispanic pastor. Sunday — Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 10:45 a.m.; Children's Church, 10:45 a.m.; Youth 445, 4:45 p.m.; Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday -

Wednesday Night Supper, 5:15 p.m.; Children's Choir, 6 p.m.; Youth Activities, 6:30 p.m.; Prayer Meeting/Bible Study, 6 p.m.; Worship Choir Practice, 6 p.m.; Mission Programs for Children, 6:45 p.m. Hispanic Services: Sunday school at 9:30 a.m., worship service at 11 a.m. Wednesday Bible study at 7 p.m. Sunday broadcast on Cable TV Channel 6. Call 453-6681 for details. "In the heart of Avon Park, for the hearts of Avon Park."

■ **First Baptist Church of Lake Josephine**, 111 Lake Josephine Drive, Sebring (just off U.S. 27 midway between Sebring and Lake Placid). Your place for family, friends and faith. Sunday morning worship service is 11 a.m. Nursery is provided for both services with Children's Church at 11 a.m. Life changing Bible Study for all ages starts at 9:45 a.m. Associate Pastor Allen Altwater leads the youth in their quest to become more like Christ. Sunday night worship at 6 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer meeting at 7 p.m. along with youth worship in the youth facility, and missions training for all children. Call the church at 655-1524.

■ **First Baptist Church of Lake Placid**, Knowing God's Heart and Sharing God's Hope, 119 E. Royal Palm St., Lake Placid, FL 33852 (863) 465-3721, Website: www.fbclp.com. Email: information@fbclp.com. Sunday services - Traditional Service 9 a.m., Contemporary Service 10:30 a.m. Link Groups at 9 and 10:30 a.m., 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. Rev. Nuno Norberto, associate pastor, minister of music and senior adults, and Dixie Kreulen, preschool director. 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. Call 385-4704.

■ **Florida Avenue Baptist Church**, 401 S. Florida Ave., Avon Park. Mailing address is 710 W. Bell St., Avon Park, FL 33825. Telephone, 453-5339. Rev. John D. Girdley, pastor. Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Sunday Worship, 11 a.m.; 11 a.m. Children's Church; Sunday Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday night programs for children, youth and adults at 7 p.m.

■ **Independent Baptist Church**, 5704 County Road 17 South, Sebring, FL 33876. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. Sunday worship, 10:30 a.m. Sunday evening, 6 p.m. Wednesday service, 7 p.m. Fundamental, soul-winning, mission-minded, King James Bible Church. Larry Ruse, pastor. Phone 655-1899. Bus transportation.

■ **Leisure Lakes Baptist Church**, 808 Gardenia St., Lake Placid (just off of Miller at the west end of Lake June) "Where the old fashion gospel is preached." Sunday School begins at 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Worship service at 10:45 a.m.; Sunday Evening Service is at 6 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Meeting and Bible Study at 6 p.m.

Call the church at 699-0671 for more information.

■ **Maranatha Baptist Church (GARBC)**, 35 Maranatha Blvd., Sebring, FL 33870 (A half mile east of Highlands Avenue on Arbuckle Creek Road.) Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10:15 a.m.; Evening Service, 6 p.m. Mid-week service, Wednesday, 6 p.m. Daily Prayer and Bible Study, 8 a.m., Hamman Hall. Pastor Gerald Webber and Associate Pastors Don Messenger and Ted Ertle. Phone 382-4301.

■ **Parkway Free Will Baptist Church**, 3413 Sebring Parkway, Sebring, FL 33870. Welcome to the church where the "Son" always shines. Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship, 11 a.m.; Sunday Evening Worship, 6 p.m.; and Wednesday Evening Worship, 7 p.m. End-of-the-Month-Sing at 6 p.m. on the last Sunday of each month. The Rev. J.S. Scaggs, pastor. Church phone: 382-3552. Home phone: 214-3025. Affiliated with the National Association of Free Will Baptists, Nashville, Tenn.

■ **Sparta Road Baptist Church, (SBC)** 4400 Sparta Road. Rev. Mark McDowell, 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@stcatho.com; website, www.stcatho.com. Very Rev. José González, V.F., frjose@stcatho.com; Parochial Vicar, Rev. Victor Caviedes, 385-3993; Assisting Priest (retired), Rev. J. Peter Sheehan; Decons, Rev. Mr. James R. McGarry and Rev. Mr. Max M. Severe. Parish office hours, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. 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.

CHRISTIAN

■ **Cornerstone Christian Church**, (Saxon Hall) 1850 US 27 South, Avon Park, FL 33825. Love Christ - Love People. Bill Raymond, Preaching Minister. Jon Carter, Music Minister. Sunday, 9 a.m. Bible Study; 10 a.m. Worship; Communion available each week. Wednesday, 7 p.m. Home Fellowship Group. For more information call 453-8929 or 449-0203.

■ **Eastside Christian Church**, 101 Peace Ave., Lake Placid, FL 33852 (two miles east of U.S. 27 on County Road 621), 465-7065. Ray Culpepper, senior pastor. Sunday: Bible classes, 9 a.m.; Worship Celebration with the Lord's Supper each week 10:15 a.m. Thelma Hall, organist; and Pat Hjort, pianist. Wednesday: Praise and Prayer, 6:30 p.m.; "Building God's Kingdom for Everyone." "Jesus Christ, the Way, Truth and Life!" "Alive and Worth the Drive!"

■ **Sebring Christian Church**, 4514 Hammock Road, Sebring, FL 33872. Tod Schwingel, Preacher; David Etherton, Youth Pastor. Sunday Worship, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 11 a.m.; Sunday Youth Service, 6 p.m.; Evening service at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday night meals, 5:30 p.m. followed by classes at 6:30 p.m. Changing Seasons, a men's grief support group, meets at 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays. Alzheimers Caregivers Support Group meets at 1 p.m. Thursdays. Office hours, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday-Friday. Phone 382-6676.

■ **First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**, 510 Poinsettia Avenue, (corner of Poinsettia and Eucalyptus), Sebring, FL 33870. Phone: 385-0358 or 385-3435. The Rev. Ronald Norton, Pastor; Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Praise Breakfast, 10 a.m., Morning Worship, 10:30 a.m.; Children's Church, 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Praise and Worship, 6:45 p.m. Youth Fellowship, 7:15 p.m.; Midweek Bible Study, 7:15 p.m.

CHRISTIAN & MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

■ **The Alliance Church of Sebring**, 4451 Sparta Road, Sebring, FL 33875. Call 382-1343. Rev. Steve Hagen, pastor. Sunday services: Sunday School meets at 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Morning Worship Service meets at 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Evening Bible Study meets at 6 p.m. (off site); Wednesday Prayer Gathering meets at 6 p.m.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

■ **Christian Science Church**, 146 N. Franklin St. Sunday: 10:30 a.m. morning worship and Sunday school. Testimonial meetings at 4 p.m. each second and fourth Wednesday. A free public reading room/bookstore, located in the church, is open before and after church services. The Bible and the Christian Science textbook, "Science and Health with Key to the

Scriptures' by Mary Baker Eddy are our only preachers. All are welcome to come and partake of the comfort, guidance, support and healing found in the lesson-sermons.

CHURCH OF BRETHREN

■ **Church of the Brethren**, 700 S. Pine St., Sebring, FL 33870. Sunday: Church School, 9 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10:15 a.m. Wednesday: Temple Choir, 7:30 p.m. Phone 385-1597.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

■ **Avon Park Church of Christ**, 200 S. Forest Ave., Avon Park, FL 33825. Minister: Don Smith. 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.

■ **Lake Placid Church of Christ**, 1069 Hwy 27 North, Lake Placid, FL 33852. Mailing address is P.O. Box 1440, Lake Placid, FL 33862. Sunday morning worship is at 10 a.m. Sunday evening worship is 6 p.m. Bible class 9 a.m. Sundays and Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. All are invited to join us. For more information, call the church at 863-465-4636 or visit the website <http://www.thelordsway.com/lakeplacid-cofc/>.

■ **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. Tom Schwankweiler, Pastor. Phone 453-6052.

RELIGION

Continued from page 8B

Lagrande Street). For questions, call 453-3242.

First Presbyterian Church - Lake Placid

LAKE PLACID — Second Sunday Suites at First Presbyterian Church will be at 4 p.m. The church is at 117 N. Oak Ave. (phone number 465-2742, e-mail: www.fpclp.com).

Sweets in the garden at 3:15 p.m., also this Sunday.

All of FPC's musical ministries groups will contribute songs of the winter seasons as we welcome the Christ Child. Adult and children's choirs, bell choirs, orchestra and the praise team will offer their joyous music and God given talents in this musical celebration. There will be a story for the children. Special note: The theme is winter based. It will be chilly in the sanctuary. Come "dressed up" for winter. Dig out a hat and scarf

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.

or your favorite sweater.

First Presbyterian Church - Sebring

SEBRING — "Preparing the Way" is the title of Sunday morning's sermon, given by the Rev. Darrell A. Peer.

Sunday, members will be Christmas caroling to the sick and shut-ins at 3 p.m. Supper will follow in the fellowship hall upon return.

Miriam Circle will meet at noon Monday for a Christmas luncheon. Call for meeting place and don't forget a gag gift.

Christmas Banquet is at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday in the fellowship hall. Reservation is required.

Movie and Dinner Night is at 5 p.m. Saturday in the fellowship hall. Bring a snack and side dish; meat provided. The movie will be "Polar Express."

First United Methodist Church of Sebring

SEBRING — In celebration of the 100 years in Sebring the church will host an old-fashioned Ice Cream Social at 2 p.m. Saturday with entertainment by the Back Porch Revival and on Sunday, the church will have one service in the sanctuary at 10:30 a.m. with guest speaker Rev. Chuck Weaver followed by a potluck luncheon in the Family Life

Center.

The church is downtown at 126 S. Pine St. Visit the website at www.sebringfirstumc.com. Call the church office for information at 385-5184.

Grace Pointe Ministries

SEBRING — Grace Pointe Ministries is at 200 Lark Ave., Sebring Hills Association Clubhouse.

The pastor will be in California this week celebrating Christmas with Grace Pointe members and friends there.

Sunday morning worship is with guest speaker Rev. Joe Herndon.

Tuesday Home Bible

study continues with a Christmas series. For more information and directions call 658-2534.

Friday Night Bible Study with GoToMeeting. Let the pastor know if you would like to participate by e-mail at www.gracepointecog@comcast.net. The pastor has started a blog at www.Ron-gracepointes.blogspot.com.

Parkway Free Will Baptist Church

SEBRING — The Sunday morning Bible lesson, "One in Christ", is taken from Ephesians 2. Pastor Jim Scaggs will bring the message.

St. John United Methodist Church

SEBRING — This Sunday, the Rev. Ronald De Genaro Jr.'s message will be "The Messenger." Biblical reference is from Malachi

3:1-4 and Luke 3:1-6.

Advent Services are at 6 p.m. Wednesday.

Sebring Church of the Brethren

SEBRING — This Sunday morning, the Second Sunday of Advent, the pastor will preach on "Living Within a Greater Mystery."

Sunday school will study "Elizabeth's Commitment," looking at the Scripture from Luke 1:24, 39-45.

For more information, call 385-1597.

Spring Lake United Methodist Church

SEBRING — Spring Lake United Methodist Church is at 8170 Cozumel Lane. This is the second Sunday of Advent. Rev. Clyde Weaver's sermon will be "The World That Awaits Jesus."

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. Church office 385-7649, for more information.

■ **St. Francis of Assisi Anglican 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. Thursday: Holy Communion with healing service, 9 a.m. Child care available at the 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Sunday service.

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.

INDEPENDENT

■ **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.

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 Tuesday of month; Ladies Group WELCA meets at noon second Tuesday of month with lunch. Bring a dish to pass. Labyrinth Prayer Garden open seven days a week to congregation and community. 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 past the four-way stop sign. 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. For information call Pastor Scott McLean at (863) 471-2663 or see christlutheranavonpark.org.

■ **Faith Lutheran Church - LCMS**, 2740 Lakeview Drive, Sebring. Reverend Robert Reinhardt, Pastor. Church phone: 385-7848, Faith Child Development Center, 385-3232. Sunday Traditional Worship Service, 8 a.m.; 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. Worship service is broadcast at 8 a.m. on WITS 1340 AM each Sunday. Educational opportunities include weekly adult Bible studies. Faith's Closet Thrift Store (385-2782) is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday. All are warmly welcome in the Family of Faith.

■ **Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (AALC) American Association of Lutheran Churches**, 3240 Grand Prix Drive, Sebring, FL 33872. James Weed, pastor. Worship Service, 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Bible Study, 9 a.m. Nursery provided. Social activities: Choir, Missions, Evangelism. Phone 385-2346.

■ **New Life Evangelical Lutheran Church**, 3725 Hammock Road, a Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) in fellowship with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). Sunday Worship at 10 a.m.; Bible Study, 9 a.m. For more information, call Pastor Brian Klebig at 385-2293 or visit the Web site at www.newlife-sebring.com.

■ **Resurrection Lutheran Church - ELCA**, 324 E. Main St., Avon Park. Pastor: Rev. John C. Grodzinski. Sunday 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 10 a.m., and Education Hour, 8:45 a.m. Worship schedule for

January through Easter: Worship service, 8:30 and 11 a.m., Education Hour 9:45 a.m. Traditional Service with Holy Communion each first and third Sunday. Non-Traditional Service each second, fourth and fifth Sunday. Seasonal mid-week services Wednesday evenings during Lent and Advent. Call church office for additional Worship times and special holiday services. Other activities and groups include: Choirs; Ladies Guild and LWML; Men's Fellowship Group, Small Group Bible Studies as scheduled; Trinity Tots Pre-school, Youth Group activities (call for meeting times and dates). Visit us online at: www.Trinitylutheranlp.com.

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

■ **Bible Fellowship Church**, 3750 Hammock Road, Sebring, FL 33872. Sunday: American Sign Language: First Worship sermon, songs signed first and second Worship services. First Worship service, 9 a.m.; Second Worship service, 10:45 a.m. Nursery (up to 2 years old) and Sunday school classes both hours. BFC Youth, 6 p.m.; Evening Service, 6 p.m. Wednesday: Children, ages 4 yrs through 5th grade, 6 p.m.; Youth, 6-7:30 p.m.; Prayer time, 6:15 p.m. Todd Patterson, pastor; Andy McQuaid, associate pastor. Web site www.bfcsebring.com. Church office 385-1024.

■ **Calvary Church**, 1825 Hammock Road, Sebring, FL 33872; 386-4900. An independent community church. Sunday morning worship, 10 a.m.; Bible study, 11:15 a.m.; Sunday evening service, 6 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

■ **Crossroads of Life**, 148 E. Interlake Blvd., Lake Placid, FL 33852; Tel. 863-655-9163. The place of your Divine appointment. We expect our supernatural God to transform our lives through His power and grace. Come, learn of His plan and destiny for you. With His plan we receive His provision along with His perfect timing and opportunity. What you have longed for, but have been missing, can now be received. The direction you have been thirsty for will suddenly quench your parched soul. Come to experience what you have been missing for so long - empowerment in every area of life. We teach, train and send forth to win souls. You don't speak English - no problema. We have a Spanish interpreter. We look forward to fellowship and worship with you at 7 p.m. every Wednesday. Pastors Gil and Rosa Benton (Faith Never Fails).

■ **Grace Bible Church**, 4541 Thunderbird Road, (second church on left) Sebring, FL 33872. Phone. 382-1085. Andrew Katsanis, senior pastor. Saturday worship, 6:30 p.m. Sunday, 9 and 11 a.m. Tuesday 6 p.m. Grace Bible Academy Adult Investigating Truth; first and third

Tuesday, Prayer Gathering, 7:15 p.m.; Wednesday, Children's & Youth Programs, 6 p.m.; Wednesday, 8:30 p.m., College Ministry. www.GBCconnected.org

■ **Highlands Community Church**, a casual contemporary church, meets at 3005 New Life Way. Coffee at 9:30 a.m.; Worship at 10 a.m. Nursery and Kid's World classes. Small groups meet throughout the week. Church phone is 402-1684; Pastor Bruce A. Linhart.

■ **The Lord's Sentinel Fellowship Church**, 148 E. Interlake Blvd., Lake Placid (at Lake Placid Christian School), Pastor Juanita Folsom. Sunday morning service, 10:30 a.m.; Monday, Sentinel School of Theology, 7 p.m.; Church service, Tuesday, 7 p.m. More information at www.juanitafolsomministries.com.

■ **Union 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@vistanet.net. Web site, www.unityofsebring.org. 10:30 a.m. Sunday Celebration Service, Nursery and Children's Church. Weekly Classes, Christian Bookstore and Cafe, Prayer Ministry, Life Enrichment Groups. Rev. Andrew C. Conyer, senior minister transforming lives from ordinary to extraordinary.

PRESBYTERIAN

■ **Covenant Presbyterian Church (PCA)**, 4500 Sun 'N Lake Blvd., Sebring, 33872-2113. A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America. Sunday morning worship: Traditional service, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday school, 9:15 a.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. 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. Email: faith@htn.net, Rev. Darrell A. Peer, pastor. Sunday School, all ages, 9:30 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. Youth Group (middle school and high school age), 3:30-6:30 p.m. Tuesdays. Wednesday: Adult Bible Study, 10:30 a.m. Nursery available during worship. Call the church

office for more information and other classes.

■ **First Presbyterian Church, ARP**, www.fpclp.com, 117 N. Oak Ave., Lake Placid, 465-2742. The Rev. Ray Cameron, senior pastor; the Rev. Drew Severance, associate pastor. Sunday - Traditional Worship, 8 and 9:30 a.m.; Contemporary Worship, 11 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Wednesday evenings: Adult Bible Study 7 p.m. (Nursery available), Youth Group - (middle and high school) 7 p.m., RockSolid (kindergarten through fifth grade) 7 p.m. Family Biblical Counseling available by appointment.

■ **Spring Lake Presbyterian Church (USA)**, 5887 U.S. 98, Sebring, FL 33876. Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Worship Service, 10 a.m. Session meets at 6:30 p.m. the second Thursday of the month, September through June. Board of Deacons meet at 5:30 p.m. first Monday of the month. Choir rehearses at 7 p.m. each Wednesday, September through April. Presbyterian Women meet at 10 a.m. the third Thursday of the month. Organist: Richard Wedig. Choir Director: Suzan Wedig. Church phone, 655-0713; e-mail, springlakepc@embarqmail.com. Web site, <http://slpc.embarqspace.com>.

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

■ **Avon Park Seventh-day Adventist Church**, 1410 West Avon Blvd., Avon Park. Phone: 453-6641 or e-mail: avonparksda@embarqmail.com, Sabbath School, 9:30 a.m. Saturday. Church Service 10:45 a.m. Saturday. Wednesday prayer meeting 7 p.m. Community Service hours on Tuesday and Thursday is from 9:00 a.m. till 2 p.m. A sale takes place the first Sunday of each month. Senior Pastor Paul Boling. 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 Nathan Madrid.

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 S. Lake Ave., Avon Park, FL 33825. (863) 453-3759, Devon Jarrett, Pastor. Sunday School - 9 a.m., Worship - 10:30 a.m. Bible study every Wednesday at 6 p.m. Visit us at our church website: 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

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RELIGION

Abraham, Ishmael, Isaac and the promise

Even casual students of the Bible are aware of Abraham and Sarah and the promise God/Yahweh made to them regarding a son to be born in their old age. This is a story of great faith, impatience with God's timetable, and profound prophecies.

Since Sarai remained childless, she suggested that Abram give her a son through Hagar, Sarai's Egyptian handmaid. Even before and after the child, Ishmael ("God hears") was born, there was jealousy between Abram's wife and the slave girl Hagar and her child. (Genesis 16) There are a number of remarkable prophecies regarding Ishmael and the later born son of promise, Isaac.

Before Ishmael was born, the Angel of the Lord said to Hagar, "Behold, you are with child, and you shall bear a son. You shall call his name Ishmael, because the Lord has heard your affliction. He shall be a wild man; his hand shall be against every man, and every man's hand against him. And he shall dwell in the presence of all his brethren" (Genesis 16:11,12 NKJV). "He will be a wild donkey of a man: his hand will be against everyone and everyone's hand against him, and he will live in hostility toward all his brothers" (Genesis 16:12 NIV). In a later conversation with Abraham, God said "And as for Ishmael, I have heard you. Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful,

Guest Column

Frank Parker

and will multiply him exceedingly. He shall beget 12 princes, and I will make him a great nation" (Genesis 17:20). Genesis 25 records the princes and their 12 tribes.

The statement recorded above, "his hand shall be against every man" is born out in history. Thomas Newton, who traced the history of the Arabs with precision, said these people, "live in a state of continual war with the rest of the world ... they have been such enemies of mankind, it is no wonder that mankind have been enemies to them again" (Dissertations on the Prophecies, p. 23).

In the late 6th century, A.D. the religious scene in the Middle East was in turmoil. Judaism and apostate "Christianity" were corrupt and idolatry was rampant. Born in Makkah in the year 570 was a man claimed to be of the family of Ishmael, Muhammad or Mohammed. History reveals "the rest of the story" regarding the descendants and character of Ishmael through this man and his disciples for the following 1,400-plus years. In case you forgot, Mohammed was the founder of Islam.

Abraham wanted Ishmael to be the "son of promise", but God said, "No, Sarah your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac; I will establish

My covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his descendants after him ... But my covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah shall bear to you at this set time next year" (Genesis 17:19,21). Isaac's seed (i.e. Abraham's seed) became a great nation while in Egypt (Deuteronomy 26:5) and inherited the land promised to Abraham. (Genesis 12:1-7; Joshua 21:43-45; 23:14,15)

The promise, "and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed" (Genesis 12:3) was fulfilled through Jesus, the Christ, Messiah, Prophet. As Paul looks back over history and brings it all together in Christ, he states, "Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, 'And to seeds,' as of many, but as of one, 'And to your Seed.' Who is Christ" (Galatians 3:16). He had previously stated in verse 8, "And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, 'In you all the nations shall be blessed.'"

There are more than 300 Old Testament prophecies regarding the coming of the Messiah, Jesus.

Deuteronomy 18:15-18 is of particular interest since Islam claims it is a prophecy of Mohammed. The prophet would come from Israel, not Ishmael. This fact is recognized by the Qur'an (29:27):

"And We bestowed on him Isaac and Jacob, and We established the Prophethood and the Scripture among his seed." The Holy Spirit informs us who Moses was talking about in Deuteronomy 18:15-18. As Peter and John preached in Jerusalem in the porch which is called Solomon's, Peter responded to the people with the sermon recorded in Acts 3:12-26. Note the inspired commentary on Moses' prophecy: "For Moses truly said to the fathers, 'The Lord your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your brethren. Him you shall hear in all things, whatever He says to you. And it shall be that every soul who will not hear that Prophet shall be utterly destroyed from among the people.' Yes, and all the prophets, from Samuel and those who follow, as many as have spoken, have also foretold of these days. You are sons of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying to Abraham, 'And in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' To you first, God, having raised up His servant Jesus, sent Him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from your iniquities" (Acts 3:22-26).

"This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!" (Matthew 17:5) Let God be true and every man a liar! (Romans 3:4)

Frank Parker can be reached at frankparker27@gmail.com

'Teaching, not preaching' the aim at new church

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR
sgholar@newssun.com

SEBRING — Dr. Jim Parker is no stranger to church. The pastor and theologian grew up Methodist but always had a curious mind as to why religion was the way it was.

"I was always asking questions," Parker said. "I wanted to know why. I wanted to know the answers."

Parker suspects that is why he ended up doing what he does now — ministering to those who seek truth and knowledge.

Parker's story begins just east of Highlands County in Palmetto where he began a small Bible study teaching the word of God in private setting. Since the Bible study's inception in 2010, it has grown from less than 10 people to nearly 50 Christians who all "hunger" for knowledge.

Approximately 18 months ago, Parker established a church where his congregation is able to gather, worship and learn. Parker's mission is simple: to get back into the word. Parker also strives to "get rid of manmade traditions" and focus on the traditions that he believes God put in place for everyone.

Three months ago, Parker began a second small study group in a private home here in Sebring. The Bible study group has since grown to a larger following, similar to the one in Palmetto, and Parker's congregation has pushed the minister to open a second small church in the area.

The Back to the Word Church is now under way in Downtown Sebring, and Parker continues to focus on the Hebraic roots of faith.

"A lot of people hear what I am teaching about and they think right away, well that is Jewish or Seventh Day Adventist ... it's neither. This is Bible church, I teach the word of God just as it is right there in the Bible," Parker said.

The church services are held on Saturdays, which is why many confuse it with Jewish or Seventh Day Adventist services, but Parker states that Saturday is the day that was reserved as the first day of the week in historic times.

Parker works hard to reveal what he believes is

the true word of God and explains Hebrew practices, traditions and stories in a way that is relatable to people of every nation.

"I try to stay what with God said. I want people to grow in faith, not in religion. So many people have left God because of religion and because of church ... God doesn't care where you go to church, where you are from, what your family is like. He cares about you and when I do a message I try to teach that. I'm a teacher, not a preacher," Parker said.

To Parker, many churches and ministers don't really "jive with what the Bible says"; Parker hopes to change that with his establishment.

The minister only strives to show truth and open the minds and hearts of his congregation to the word of the Lord.

"People are hungry for the information. You either want to know the truth or you don't. I'm just doing this as God did, handing out information. True information ... this is what God says, do with it what you want," Parker said.

The Back to the Word Church is a Bible-based church where faith, understanding and salvation are the ultimate goals.

Parker focuses on the Old Testament as he ties the information into the New Testament, something he said most ministers do not do enough of in today's churches.

Though Parker knows his tactics and teachings hold their own, he still finds it difficult to break the tradition of new age Christians and church services, times and days.

"It's hard to do. It's hard to break all those traditions, and to get people to give that up is sometimes very tough," Parker said.

Back to the Word Church is currently at 155 W. Center Ave. in Downtown Sebring. (The church will be moving from a member's home to a new location at a later date.)

Currently about 15 members are in attendance each service. Services are Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. Bible study is each Tuesday at 7 p.m. in Avon Park.

For more information, contact Parker at (941) 773-7081.

'It won't affect me!' Are you sure about that?

Joe and Mike had jobs at a cotton mill. One morning, the foreman came along and found Joe reading a letter to his co-worker. "Hey!" cried the foreman. "What are you two guys up to?"

"Mike got a letter from his girlfriend," explained Joe, "but he can't read, so I'm readin' the letter for him."

"How come you got the cotton in your ears?" asked the foreman.

Joe replied, "I got this cotton in my ears 'cause Mike doesn't want me to hear what his girlfriend wrote to him!"

Sometimes, we feel that we can put ourselves in the midst of people and situations that encourage sinful living because we believe they will not affect us. Or, we think we are strong enough to withstand any temptation



Kevin's Komment's

Kevin Patterson

they might send our way. Those big, red marks on our foreheads are called "bullseyes," and Satan, the great deceiver, just shot one of his flaming darts and hit us directly in the center. The devil wants us to feel like we can stand up to anything he throws at us, because he hopes, eventually, we will trip and fall.

Bad influences are things we tend to take lightly, but we should take them very seriously. 1 Timothy 6:11 reads, "But flee from these things, you man of God, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance and gentleness." First, concerning sin and evil pursuits, it teaches us to "flee from these things." The word "flee" in this passage does not mean to associate, fellowship, walk away slowly, etc. It means for us to get away from sin and its influences as fast as we possibly can. Second, the verse teaches us to "pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, perseverance and gentleness." These are the things with which we must try hard to surround ourselves. Embracing these kinds of

relationships will yield lives that are pleasing and acceptable to God.

Remember what the apostle Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 15:33 about the types of relationships we have: "Do not be deceived: 'Bad company corrupts good morals.'" Do not forget who you are, and where you are. Surround yourself with righteousness and flee from evil, so that in the end, you do not get caught off guard by one of Satan's greatest deceptions that causes you to find yourself lost eternally.

Kevin's Komment's is presented by the Sebring Parkway church of Christ assembling at 3800 Sebring Parkway, Sebring, FL 33870. Visit www.sebringcoc.com, or e-mail sebringparkway@sebringcoc.com.

Sackett leads choir in Christmas cantata

LAKE PLACID — The Lake Placid Church of the Nazarene will present its annual Christmas Cantata at 10:45 a.m. Sunday. Led by Vanessa Sackett, a 16-voice choir will perform the cantata "Silent Night, Holy Night." From the worshipful tunes of some favorite carols, to the upbeat rhythm of newer Christmas songs the audience will find encouragement and hope for this Christmas season and beyond. The church is just west of Devane Park and the Circle at 512 W. Interlake Blvd. Call 446-1339.

Prime Timers host luncheon

LAKE PLACID — The Prime Timers of First Baptist Church will host a covered dish luncheon at noon Monday in the fellowship hall. The church is at 119 E. Royal Palm St. Christmas sing-a-long with Pastor Keith Campbell and Choir Director Peggy Scott. Bring a covered dish.

Snapshots

Maranatha Baptist presents 'Lamb of Bethlehem'

SEBRING — "The Lamb of Bethlehem" will be presented by Maranatha Baptist Church choir and drama team at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14 and at 6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 16. This musical drama was written by Glenn and Jan Christianson. ItThe drama parts are played by Melanie Halstead as Mary and David Waite as Joseph. Mary's mother, Rachel, is portrayed by Mary Schuster and Mary's father, Heil, is played by Gary Hanson. The drama is directed by Pat

Seddon. Accompanists are Rachel Waite at the piano and Ann Truax on the organ. The musical is directed by Jan Burgess.

Maranatha Baptist Church is in Maranatha Village off Arbuttle Creek Road, two miles east of State Road 17 North. For more information, call 382-8594 or 382-4301.

St. John spaghetti dinner is Tuesday

SEBRING — St. John United Methodist Church will hold a spaghetti dinner on Tuesday. Serving times will be at 4, 5 and 6 p.m. Cost is \$8 per person. Walk-ins are limited. Call the church office for reservations.

The church is at 3214 Grand Prix Drive (just behind Walmart).

Call 382-1736 for information.

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DIVERSIONS

‘Hobbit’ suffers from story bloat

By DAVID GERMAIN
AP Movie Writer

Judging part one of Peter Jackson’s “The Lord of the Rings” prelude “The Hobbit” is a bit like reviewing a film after seeing only the first act.

Yet here goes: “The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey” is stuffed with Hollywood’s latest technology — 3-D, high-speed projection and Dolby’s Atmos surround sound system. The result is some eye candy that truly dazzles and some that utterly distracts, at least in its test-run of 48 frames a second, double the projection rate that has been standard since silent-film days.

It’s also overstuffed with, well, stuff. Prologues and sidestepping backstory. Long, boring councils among dwarves, wizards and elves. A shallow blood feud extrapolated from sketchy appendices to J.R.R. Tolkien’s “The Lord of the Rings” to give the film a bad guy.

Remember the interminable false endings of “The Return of the King,” the Academy Award-winning finale of Jackson’s “Lord of the Rings”? “An Unexpected Journey” has a similar bloat throughout its nearly three hours, in which Tolkien’s brisk story of intrepid little hobbit Bilbo Baggins is drawn out and diluted by dispensable trimmings better left for DVD extras.

Two more parts are coming, so we won’t know how the whole story comes together until the finale arrives in summer 2014. Part one’s embellishments may pay off nicely, but right now, “An Unexpected Journey” looks like the start of an unnecessary trilogy better told in one film.

Split into three books, “The Lord of the Rings” was a natural film trilogy, running nearly half a million words, five times as long as “The Hobbit.”

Jackson and his wife, Fran Walsh, along with screenwriting partners Philippa Boyens and Guillermo del Toro — who once was attached to direct “The Hobbit,” with Jackson producing — have meticulously mined Tolkien



James Nesbitt as Bofur, Martin Freeman, front, as Bilbo Baggins, Stephen Hunter as Bombur, Graham McTavish as Dwalin, William Kircher as Bifur, and Jed Brophy as Nori in the fantasy adventure “The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey.”

references to events that never played out in any of the books (stuff the filmmakers call the “in-between bits”).

With that added material, they’re building a much bigger epic than Tolkien’s book, the unexpected journey of homebody Bilbo (Martin Freeman, with Ian Holm reprising his “Lord of the Rings” role as older Bilbo).

Bilbo has no desire to hit the road after wizard Gandalf (Ian McKellen, grandly reprising his own “Rings” role) and a company of dwarves turn up to enlist him on a quest to retake a dwarf mountain kingdom from the dragon that decimated it.

Yet off he goes, encountering trolls, goblins, savage orcs and a grisly guy named Gollum (Andy Serkis, re-creating the character that pioneered motion-capture performance in “The Lord of the Rings”). Improved by a decade of visual-effects advances, Gollum solidifies his standing as one of the creepiest movie creatures ever. And as big-screen prologue moments go, Bilbo’s acquisition of Gollum’s precious ring of power may be second only to Darth Vader’s first hissy breath at the end of the “Star Wars” prequels.

The potential sea change



Movie Review ‘The Hobbit’

Rating: PG-13 (intense fantasy action violence, and frightening images)

Running time: 169 minutes

Review: ★★★ (of 4)

with “The Hobbit” is Jackson’s 48-frame rate. Most theaters are not yet equipped for that speed, so the film largely will play at the standard 24 frames a second.

Proponents, including James Cameron, say higher frame rates provide more lifelike images, sharpen 3-D effects, and lessen or eliminate a flickering effect known as “strobing” that comes with camera motion. I saw the movie first at 24 frames a second and then at 48, and they’re absolutely right that higher speeds clarify the picture. Strobing noticeable at 24 frames is gone at 48, pro-

viding a continuity that greatly improves the action sequences. And the panoramas are like Middle-earth actually come to life, as though you’re standing on a hill looking down at the hobbits’ Shire. If Cameron’s “Avatar” was like looking through a window at a fantastical landscape, “An Unexpected Journey” at 48 frames is like removing the glass so you can step through.

But with great clarity comes greater vision. At 48 frames, the film is more true to life, sometimes feeling so intimate it’s like watching live theater. That close-up perspective also brings out the fakery of movies. Sets and props look like phony stage trappings at times, the crystal pictures bleaching away the painterly quality of traditional film.

This may be cinema’s future, and the results undoubtedly will improve over time.

It’ll be an adjustment for audiences, though, and like the warmth of analog vinyl vs. the precision of digital music, the dreaminess of traditional film vs. the crispness of high-frame rates will be a matter of taste.

Family treats retired teacher like free baby-sitting service

Dear Abby: I never had a desire to have kids. I married a man, “Harry,” who had four, and did my duty being with them on holidays, birthdays and vacations. I never enjoyed it, and I have always been honest regarding my feelings about baby-sitting.



Dear Abby

Now that Harry’s children are grown and have children of their own, they think my husband and I should give up our weekends and holidays to baby-sit their children. Harry and I have had several serious arguments about this.

I have told his kids I do not want to watch their children. Harry will tell me at the last minute that one of them is being dropped off because the father and his girlfriend are going out. When the grandchild arrives, Harry disappears because he doesn’t want to be bothered.

I served my time when my stepchildren were small and have looked forward to the day I’d no longer have to share my down time with kids.

Three months ago I was “surprised” with the 7-year-old so her dad and his honey could go to Atlantic City for a great time. I told them I had a political function to attend at 1:30 the next day; they didn’t return until 3:30 in the afternoon. My husband thought it was fine to go without me! I would never have done that.

I love Harry, but this is causing me major grief. Please tell me what you think about this. Oh — and did I mention they think because I was an elementary school teacher I should want to sit and play with their kids? It’s comparing apples to oranges.

— *Nearing Wits’ End in New Jersey*

Dear Nearing Wits’ End: What I think is that you are being taken advantage of, and it will continue as long as you allow it, however unwillingly. The next time Harry informs you at the last minute that a grandchild is being dropped off, grab your coat and purse and tell him you are going shopping, visiting a friend, seeing a

movie or anything else that will get you out of the house. If you do, perhaps the next time his kids need a baby sitter he will suggest that they hire one.

Oh, and did I mention that when you were a teacher, you were compensated for your labor? You are being used, and I hope you draw the line before you really arrive at wits’ end.

Dear Abby: I am a 70-year-old man. Many people tell me I look much younger because I have my hair colored professionally.

I started dyeing my hair about 16 years ago because my children are much younger than those of most people my age. They wanted me to color my hair so that I didn’t look like their friends’ grandparents.

Now friends and new acquaintances make comments about me not having any gray hair at my age. So, what do I say? Should I tell them that I have my hair colored? Should I just laugh? Please advise.

— *To Dye or Not To Dye*

Dear T.D.O.N.T.D.: Many men have their hair professionally colored these days and others do it themselves at home.

It is nothing to be ashamed of.

You neither have to laugh nor to divulge the secret of your eternal youth.

However, since you are beginning to feel self-conscious because you feel the color of your hair isn’t age-appropriate, discuss it with your colorist. It may be time to let a little bit of gray come through at the temples.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeane Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069. To order ‘How to Write Letters for All Occasions,’ send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Lee’s ‘Life of Pi’ gorgeous, exciting

By BOB GARVER

Special to the News-Sun
“Life of Pi” is the best film of the 2012

Thanksgiving season. The film is expertly crafted by Academy Award-winning filmmaker Ang Lee, it features an amazing debut performance from actor Suraj Sharma, it has perhaps the most beautiful water and aquatic life ever depicted on film, and there’s a big Bengal tiger just waiting for you to show it love.

The film’s early scenes depict the childhood of our hero Pi (Sharma) as he grows up in India. He overcomes bullying through mathematics (or at least memorizing numbers); an inspiring feat that I’m sure would get him bullied even worse outside of this uplifting movie.

His family runs a local zoo, and his father teaches him at a young age to respect and fear the animals, particularly a Bengal tiger named Richard Parker.

He experiments with various religions, and his family has a spirited discussion on the subject of spirituality. These scenes are surprisingly compelling and workmanlike considering that they take place before we get to the action. You’ll get a real appreciation for the dynamic and chemistry of Pi’s family,

which sadly means that you’ll miss them all the more when they vanish in a spectacular shipwreck.

Pi soon finds himself the lone human survivor of the wreck, sharing a lifeboat with a pitiable zebra, a sympathetic orangutan, a malicious hyena, and the enigma that is Richard Parker. Perhaps inevitably, the boat’s crew is quickly down to Pi and Richard Parker. At first Pi lives in fear of Richard Parker, surviving on a makeshift raft independent of the relative luxury of the lifeboat. Slowly the two form a bond of mutual dependency — Richard Parker depends on Pi to provide him with his future food supply and Pi depends on Richard Parker not to make him his future food supply.

This relationship built on fear and need gradually turns into one of respect and friendship as the two share the experience of a lifetime.

The film never misses an opportunity to look absolutely gorgeous. Scenes set on land are none too shabby (my favorite being a lush, unspoiled island) but it’s at sea when the film is really a feast for the eyes. Colorful marine life pops up all the time to remind our heroes that they are a small part of a big thriving world. The

water itself is spellbinding, often harsh and unforgiving, but on rare occasion so tranquil and glasslike in consistency that I could swear the boat had washed ashore.

The animals are, of course, rendered flawlessly to maximize the emotional impact. Richard Parker is legitimately scary at times, but believe me you’ll be feeling for him when he gets thin and mangy. For that matter, you’ll be equally moved by the performance of Suraj Sharma as Pi starts to look thin and mangy himself.

“Life of Pi” is filled with moments that are meant to be savored. Maybe the last act could go along at a faster clip because Pi is telling the story as an adult (Irrfan Khan) so we’re fairly sure of the outcome of some of his do-or-die decisions.

Pi’s story is more interesting when the question is “how does he?” than when the question is simply “does he?”

Even then the film manages to throw some uncertainty into the narrative. Such is the challenging nature of “Life of Pi,” one of the most intelligent, exciting, and impressive family films of the year.

Three dtars out of five. “Life of Pi” is rated PG for emotional thematic material

throughout, and some scary action sequences and peril. Its running time is 127 minutes.

Contact Bob Garver at rrg251@nyu.edu/.

SUDOKU

			8					3
		8		2	4			
1					6			7
			6	1	3			2
	6	3		7				
	7					6		
4			3	8				1
	2					7	9	

Fun By The Numbers
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Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fit 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 numbers clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you have, the easier it goes to solve the puzzle!

8	8	7	5	9	4	1	2	3
1	2	5	7	8	8	9	6	4
4	8	8	8	8	1	8	7	8
9	1	4	9	7	2	8	9	6
2	7	8	8	1	9	4	8	9
9	8	6	8	4	8	2	9	1
6	7	8	9	4	8	2	9	1
7	4	8	9	8	6	2	9	1
6	5	5	1	4	2	7	8	9
8	6	8	1	8	5	8	7	4

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1:00 • 4:00 • 7:00 • 10:00

The Collection R
(Christopher McDonald, Daniel Sharman)
2:10 • 4:45 • 7:35 • 9:40

Argo R
(Ben Affleck, Alan Arkin)
1:35 • 4:15 • 7:00 • 9:50

Taken 2 PG-13
(Liam Neeson, Maggie Grace)
2:10 • 4:40 • 7:30 • 9:50

The Sessions R
(John Hawkes, Helen Hunt)
1:15 • 4:20 • 7:20 • 9:40

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Nearly Grinched

The inside scoop on how three animated holiday TV classics almost never made it to the airwaves

By DAVID MARTINDALE
Fort Worth Star-Telegram

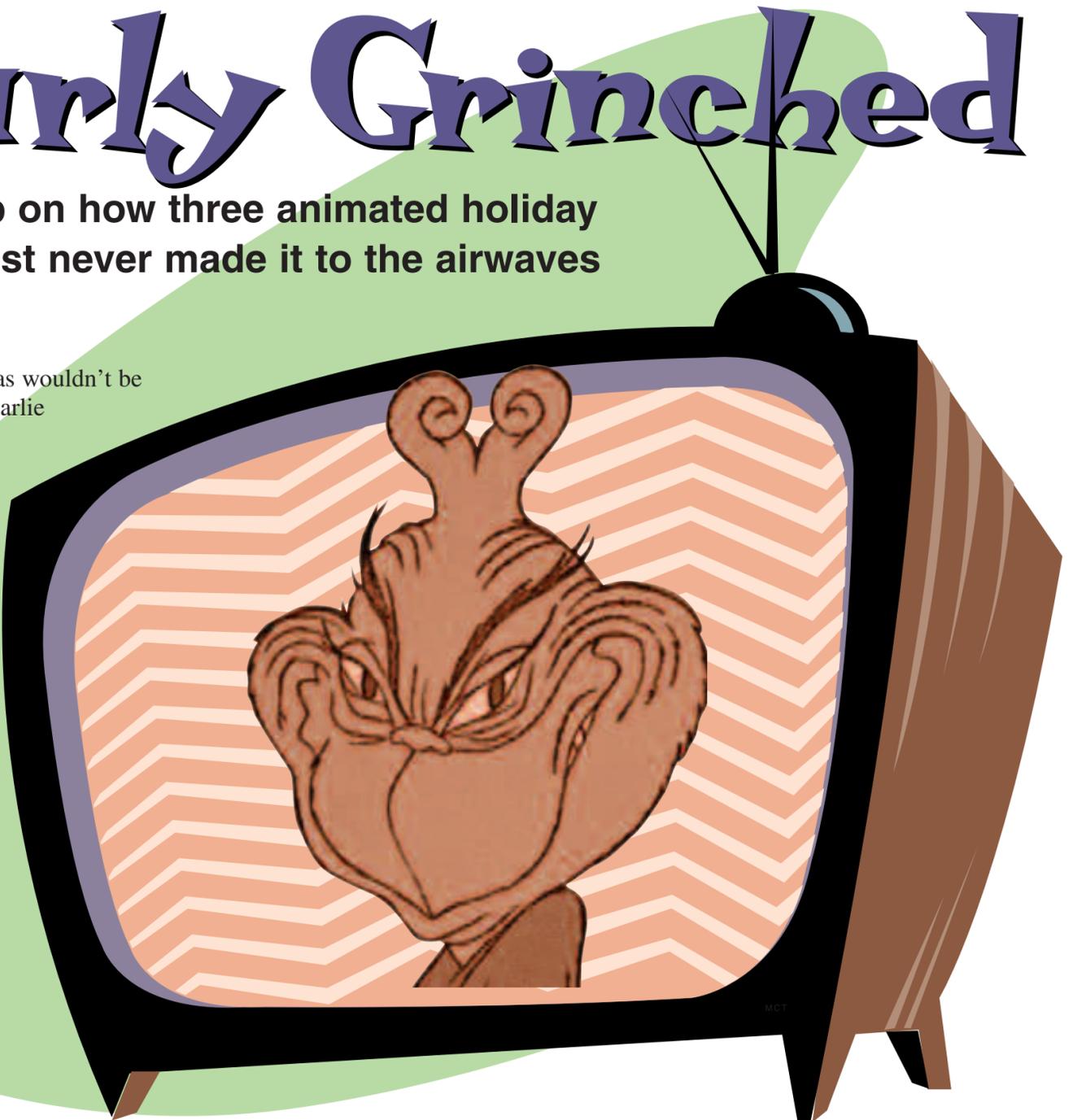
For many TV viewers, Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without Rudolph, Charlie Brown and the Grinch.

These three animated holiday favorites have been part of our popular culture for more than five decades. Many viewers can't remember a time when "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," "A Charlie Brown Christmas" and "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" didn't air every season.

But would you believe that these Christmas classics all faced obstacles that could have prevented their getting on TV in the first place?

Charlie Brown overcame the longest odds. But Rudolph and the Grinch had hurdles to clear as well.

Here are their stories.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CLASSIC MEDIA



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PHOTOS COURTESY OF UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE INC.

The most famous reindeer of all

Before it became an unforgettable TV favorite in 1964, "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" was a hit Gene Autry song. But if not for animator Arthur Rankin Jr.'s perseverance, the "most famous reindeer of all" might never have graced the small screen.

"The composer of the song, Johnny Marks, was my neighbor," Rankin says. "I kept saying, 'Let's do this,' and he'd resist. He was making a pretty good income from the song and he was fearful that it could be overexposed. But I finally prevailed."

Frosty the Snowman



Marks' fears proved unfounded. This hourlong show about the misfit reindeer that saves Christmas is the longest running Christmas television special of all time.

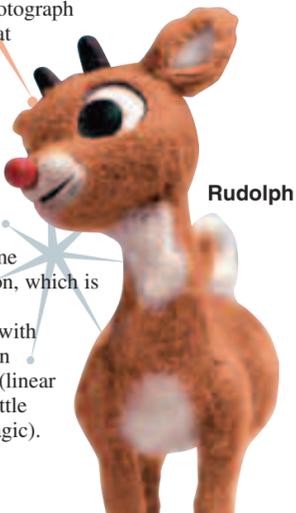
Rankin chose to film Rudolph in the unique stop-motion animation style that he dubbed "Animagic." Rick Goldschmidt, author of "The Enchanted World of Rankin/Bass," suggests the technique makes "three-dimensional characters look like Christmas ornaments that had surreally come to life."

It was a painstaking process, but worth the effort.

"It took a year to photograph it," Rankin recalls. "That doesn't include scripts and recording and all those things that come first."

"Stop-motion animation requires building the figure, as opposed to drawing it. But you shoot it the same way you shoot animation, which is one frame at a time."

Rankin also teamed with songwriter Jules Bass on "Frosty the Snowman" (linear animation) and "The Little Drummer Boy" (Animagic).



Rudolph

You're a mean one, Mr. Grinch

"Nobody ever thinks anything they do is going to endure."

So said the late Chuck Jones, the legendary cartoonist who drew Bugs Bunny and created the Roadrunner. Another of his classics is "How the Grinch Stole Christmas," a cartoon he directed, produced and co-wrote. Grinch was published in book form in 1957 by the late Theodor S. Geisel, aka Dr. Seuss.

"To see it still popular after 30 years," Jones said when interviewed in the late 1990s, "I'm surprised by that."

Imagine how mind-boggling it would be if he could see that it's still aired every holiday season.

"Nobody wanted to buy it," Jones said of "Grinch's" beginnings in 1966. "I had done the storyboard and I presented it 22 times to sponsors, to everyone who usually buys children's shows, and none of them bought it."

"I finally found the Foundation for Commercial Banks to sponsor it. Of course, I couldn't see why they would buy the thing when it says, 'Christmas doesn't come from a store.' Exactly what a banker would eschew."

It also was a challenge for Jones to fill a 30-minute time slot with the original Seuss story about a sourpuss who swipes Christmas from the town of Whoville.

"It was a wonderful book," Jones said, "but it only ran about 12 minutes when reading it. So we had to extend the story while still holding on to the character."

One of Jones' favorite characters was developed during that expansion: Max, the reindeer dog, modeled after a clumsy fox terrier Jones had as a boy.

"The dog is a very important character in the show," Jones said. "Through Max's eyes, we see how vile the Grinch has become."



Max, left, and the Grinch

Merry Christmas, Charlie Brown!

Cartoonist Charles Schulz and producer Lee Mendelson met so much resistance when making "A Charlie Brown Christmas" that the Peanuts gang almost never made it to TV.

In June 1965, Schulz and Mendelson got a network go-ahead to make a Christmas special and almost immediately, a series of battles over format, style and story began.

Snoopy



"First, we were under pressure to do it as an hour show, a big extravaganza like Rudolph," Mendelson says. "But we wanted to do a half-hour."

"Next we got into it because we wanted to cast real children to do the voices instead of adult actors. Then we told them we wanted to use jazz. Then we told them we wanted to read a short passage from the Bible [in which Linus tells Charlie what Christmas is all about]."

"The network kept telling us, 'You've got to be an hour, you can't use children, you can't use jazz, you can't use religion.' Charles would say, 'Why not?' And eventually we'd get our way."

When the finished product was turned in, the two network executives who screened it hated it. But ratings were phenomenal. "After that, one executive called me and said he wanted to buy four more years," Mendelson says. "But before he hung up, he told me, 'My aunt in New Jersey saw it and she hated it, too!'"

Schulz & Co. were right and the TV exec's aunt was wrong. The show is considered a classic and still going strong after all these years.

