

NEWS-SUN

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Lady Dragons runner-up

PAGE 1B



Winter Fest is Saturday

PAGE 3A

Day of pomp, circumstance

PAGE 14B



Sunday, January 20, 2013

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Volume 94/Number 9 | 75 cents

Forecast



Clouds and sun with a shower

High **77** Low **57**
Complete Forecast
PAGE 14A

Online



Question: Are you concerned the growing population of pythons could find their way to the Heartland?



Total votes: **104**

Next question: Do you believe the economy is improving?

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Obituaries

Arianna Downs
Infant, of Lake Wales
Walter Katz
Age 74, of Sebring
Julia White
Age 64, of Sebring
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Highlands unemployment rate falls to 7.8

By **BARRY FOSTER**
News-Sun correspondent

SEBRING — It was a good December for Highlands County, with both citrus harvesting and business staffing for holidays combining for a seven-tenths of a percent drop in the local joblessness rate. Of the 45,691 members of the Highlands County workforce listed by the U.S. Department of Labor only 3,548 were off the job last month giving us a 7.8 percent unemployment rate.

The numbers were nearly 2 percent better than December 2011 when Highlands' unemployment stood at 9.6 percent.

Last month's local figures were better than the seasonally-adjusted 8 percent statewide average and matched the national December unemployment rate.

Some of the residents went back to work through word-of-mouth references, while a number of other aides have been established locally.

There's the Heartland Workforce on U.S. 27 south in Sebring. The government agency offers opportunities both for businesses and job seekers in Highlands, DeSoto and Hardee counties. For employers, there are online job postings, online business resources, virtual recruiting tools, recruitment and screening, and training funds available. For job seekers, online resume posting services, career counseling, and job search tools for professionals looking

for employment are provided. There also are services specifically for veterans looking for jobs and career training programs.

Nevertheless, the Florida rate was the lowest since November 2008 when it was 7.8 percent.

The December rate was down 0.1 percentage point from the November rate of 8.1 percent and was 1.9 percentage points lower than the year-ago rate of 9.9 percent.

See **JOBS**, page 6A

Imagine what's next



News-Sun photo by CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY
Sixth-grader Lyndsey Tribbitt works on the individual portion of a classroom project in geography. She is designing a cereal box promoting a state.

Sixth-graders contemplate the future

Writer's note: The middle school County Science Fair takes place this week. Best in school has been established, now the best in the county is to be chosen. One hundred and five young people are entering projects — which involve answering a question by using scientific method. Sebring Middle School teacher Angie Porter's sixth-grade advanced science class, average age 11, has the most participants. The News-Sun and the class sat down Wednesday and talked together.

By **CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY**
christopher.tuffley@newssun.com
SEBRING — Forget rotary phones.

Angie Porter's sixth-grade science students wouldn't know one if they saw one. None of them remember life before push button cell phones — or the world before computers, for that matter.

When a visitor recently asked them if their parents asked for their help in solving computer problems or fixing the remote, almost everyone raised their hand.

Curious, bright and energetic, the warm-hearted group joins in a lively discussion about science and change.

Six **STUDENTS**, page 6A



News-Sun photo by CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY
Students — Austin Ogg, Robert Spooone, Scott Berden and Lance High — work together on a geography/writing assignment.

Detectives investigate shooting

News-Sun staff

LAKE PLACID — The Highlands County Sheriff's Office has issued an arrest warrant for Marquay Rockmore, a 16-year-old, on charges of tampering with evidence in relation to a shooting in Highway Park that left one victim with serious injuries.

According to reports, at approximately 12:30 a.m. Monday, a call was received by Highlands County Sheriff's Office Central Dispatch that a subject was at Florida Hospital Lake Placid being treated for a gunshot wound. The subject was stabilized and subsequently was to be transferred to another medical center for further treatment. Due to weather conditions, the medical helicopter was not able to fly.



Rockmore

HCSO Public Information Officer Nell Hayes said that once the ambulance crew arrived to transport the seriously injured victim, they knew that time was of the essence. EMS staff requested escort assistance and Central Dispatch was able to contact

See **HCSO**, page 6A

Legislative delegation listens, and gets an earful

By **CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY**
christopher.tuffley@newssun.com

SEBRING — While some agencies pleaded to not be cut from the budget, or have their current allotments lessened, money was not the main topic of discussion at the Legislative Delegation's public hearing Friday morning.

Four main concerns did emerge however — unfunded mandates, unrealistic time lines, flexibility within state ordinances at the local level, and stability.

Several social service agencies asked the legislators to think in terms of prevention as a way to lower crime

rates, and several agencies and organizations had specific requests and warnings.

School Board chairman Andy Tuck told Senator Bill Galvano, Senator Denise Grimsley, and Representative Cary Pigman, "If there are any new mandates, hold off on the ones that would require more funding." Tom Conner, executive director of the Heartland Educational Consortium, whose allotment had been vetoed by the governor two years in a row, told the delegation that the consortium spends more per child in smaller counties, "because we must help to fulfill the mandates."



News-Sun photo by CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY
State Senator Bill Galvano (from left), State Senator Denise Grimsley and State Representative Cary Pigman open their public hearing Friday. They wanted to know what was on people's minds.

Wally Cox, superintendent of schools, praised the new direction in education, espe-

cially the concept of "Common Core" classes. He warned the delegation, how-

ever, that the switch to end-of-course tests needed atten-

See **MANY**, page 6A

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Local Sweetbay Supermarkets safe; 33 others not so lucky

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR
sgholar@newssun.com
and BARRY FOSTER
News-Sun correspondent

Sebring's Sweetbay manager was unable to comment on the subject Friday afternoon.



The closest link in the chain to feel the ax will be in Polk County at the store on U.S. 98 in Lakeland.

Over the years, the location at the DeSoto Square shopping plaza has carried a number of badges. It has served shoppers as a Food Lion, a Pak 'n Save and Kash n' Karry.

In 2004, after years of slumping sales growth, Kash n' Karry announced the creation of their new supermarket concept called Sweetbay Supermarket, which first appeared in its core markets on the west coast of Florida. By September 2007, all Kash

specific reason for the closures of the 33 stores but stated: "While these decisions are difficult, especially given the impact on our associates, customers and communities, these actions will continue to enhance the performance of our overall store portfolio and further enable us to deliver profitable growth and accelerate shareholder value."

The closures are mainly in the Tampa Bay area. The closures are spread from the northwestern Florida coast beginning in Pasco County down to the Fort Myers/Naples area. Two stores in Lake County (Clermont) will also be closing their doors.

Roughly a third of the stores owned by the Belgain-based Delhaize Group will be shuttered, leaving 72 operating locations across the Sunshine State after mid-February. Sweetbay spokeswoman Nichole LeBeau said the move was designed to help the chain "deliver profitable growth and accelerate shareholder value."

As a result of the closures, 2,000 employees will lose their positions with the establishment. Sweetbay stated it will provide severance to eligible employees.

Earnings reports indicated revenues for Delhaize America fell 2.1 percent in the fourth quarter, with the company reportedly anticipating a 17.5 percent decline in 2012 operating profits

SEBRING — Sweetbay employees and shoppers in Highlands County can breathe a sigh of relief after the Sweetbay corporate offices in Tampa announced the closure of 33 stores in the state of Florida.

Media Relations director Nicole LeBeau confirmed the closures early Friday afternoon to the News-Sun.

"The stores listed on our website will be the ones closing," LeBeau said.

Neither of the Highlands County (Sebring and Lake Placid) store locations were listed on the supermarkets website.

Highway Patrol.

Neither party traveling in the F-250 were injured during the collision. All three parties were wearing seat belts at the time of the accident, according to FHP.

Meeker was airlifted to Longwood Medical Center from the scene. He later died at the hospital as a result of his injuries.

n' Karry stores had been redesigned as Sweetbays.

Some analysts contend the chain has since suffered from image problems and an inability to carve out a niche among Florida shoppers. They say Kash n' Karry had appealed to budget-conscious consumers, however,

Sweetbay's more upscale approach alienated some of its customer base with higher prices on wine and other items. Further, industry experts charge Sweetbay failed to gain overall traction against firmly embedded competitors such as Publix

A media release stated no

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AP man dies of injuries after collision Thursday

BY SAMANTHA GHOLAR
sgholar@newssun.com

AVON PARK — A two-vehicle collision resulted in the fatality of 35-year-old Gregory Meeker of Avon Park Thursday afternoon.

At approximately 12:40 p.m., Meeker pulled onto the highway westbound in his Chevy Impala in front of a Ford F-250. The driver and

passenger of the Ford — Dan Anderson, 55, and Virginia Anderson, 60, of Centerville, Pa. — were traveling northbound on U.S. 27. Meeker was traveling on Lake Damon Drive.

Meeker's vehicle was initially stopped at a stop sign before entering the northbound lane of U.S. 27, according to the Florida

Highway Patrol.

Neither party traveling in the F-250 were injured during the collision. All three parties were wearing seat belts at the time of the accident, according to FHP.

Meeker was airlifted to Longwood Medical Center from the scene. He later died at the hospital as a result of his injuries.

Mason G. Smoak Foundation helps Nu-Hope



Courtesy photo

Micah Scanga, executive director of the Mason G. Smoak Foundation, presented a check of \$4,000 to Nu-Hope Elder Care's Hospital Meal Discharge Program. The Patient Discharge Meal Program is an early intervention program designed to reduce nutrition-related medical complications or decline among patients being discharged from a hospital. The program is currently available at both Florida Hospital Heartland and Lake Placid and Highlands Regional Medical Center. From left are Jack Webb, Micah Scanga, Luis Fresquez, Autumn Egan, Chet Brojek, Michelle Dannels; (front row, from left) Tommy Todd, Michael Noel, and Ingra Gardner.

County to discuss donated lands

By BARRY FOSTER
News-Sun correspondent

SEBRING — A policy on what to do with property acquired by the county will be up for discussion Tuesday when Highlands County commissioners gather for their regular session.

County Administrator June Fisher reportedly will begin with a primer for commissioners on the ways that the county comes into possession of real property, then will provide a general overview of what the county owns and how it is tracked through the databases. Fisher also will discuss a proposed land management and property review process, winding up with the pros and cons of various disposal options for surplus property.

The item stems from a discussion at the Jan. 8 county commission meeting where Fisher informed commissioners a plot of land had been offered to the county. At that time, she suggested that adjacent property owners first be

contacted to see if they might be interested in the real estate and pledged to construct a policy for the commission to consider.

A master list of county-owned assets currently is maintained under the General Services Department. That now will be updated with the inclusion of county-held tax certificates. The county's holdings also would be classified depending on use. Categories would range from "Permanent" indicating ongoing use such as offices, parks and the like to "sell" — for assets that could be put on the market.

There are a number of other suggestions for the list including "Land Bank" for county property officially designated for future affordable housing and "Keep", which would be for land in which a future need had been identified.

Under the new staff-proposed plan, property offered to the county first would go to the Engineering

Department for review. They would be responsible for getting pertinent information such as data from the Tax Collector and Property Appraiser's office as well as the Development Services Department. If a county department expresses a need for a given piece of land, they would be required to provide justification to a Land Acquisition Manager — who will make a recommendation to the county administrator.

The administrator then will make a recommendation to commissioners.

If the land is determined to be of no use to the county, adjacent property owners then would be notified to determine if there was interest there. Land sold back to the private sector would involve an auction, broker or disposition of the land through staff.

Commissioners are expected to discuss the item with staff to take their comments and put together a formal recommendation.

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Next jackpot \$6 million

Jan. 12 2 9 12 24 31 46 x:4
Jan. 9 19 20 24 27 42 51 x:4

Jan. 18 2 7 11 12 36
Jan. 17 1 25 26 30 35
Jan. 16 6 9 10 12 31
Jan. 15 5 8 13 28 32

Play 4

Jan. 18 (n) 6 8 1 6
Jan. 18 (d) 1 0 8 6
Jan. 17 (n) 2 8 3 9
Jan. 17 (d) 8 3 5 3

MEGA MONEY

Jan. 18 11 14 26 39 7
Jan. 15 15 33 41 43 2
Jan. 11 15 23 28 33 20
Jan. 8 4 18 21 29 7

FLORIDA POWERBALL

Jan. 16 9 21 28 32 51 PB: 35
Next jackpot \$100 million

Jan. 12 10 14 21 23 47 PB: 7
Jan. 9 11 13 20 27 59 PB: 26

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

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Road closures for MLK events

SEBRING — Martin Luther King Boulevard and Lemon Avenue will each be closed for a portion of the day Monday to provide more safety for events honoring Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Onterial Clark will hold an event titled "Peace on the Block" in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. from 4-8 p.m. today. The event will be held on Lemon Avenue between the municipal parking lot and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

Lemon Avenue will be closed at 4 p.m. today from the municipal parking lot to Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. It will reopen by 8:30 p.m.

Ada McGowan of the Highlands County Boys & Girls Club has been approved to hold a parade from 12-1 p.m. The parade will be held on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard starting at East Center Avenue in front of the Boys

& Girls Club and it will travel north to Grand Avenue.

Martin Luther King Boulevard will be closed at 11:30 a.m. from East Center Avenue north to the intersection of Grand Avenue. The road will be reopened by 1 p.m.

These road closures will limit vehicular traffic in the Washington Heights community.

Questions regarding the parade should be directed to McGowan at 381-5485. Questions regarding today's event should be directed to Clark at 260-1128. Questions relating to this road closure may be directed to Lt. Karl Hoglund of the Sebring Police Department by email at karlhoglund@mysebring.com or by telephone at 471-5108.

UF Extension hosts 'Canals of Highlands County' bus tour

Highlands County is known for its natural beauty,

diverse agriculture, recreation areas and natural resources. There are 86 named lakes and 48,000 acres of surface water in the county. As you know, water is important to agriculture, economic development and the quality of life in Highlands County.

The public is invited to join the Highlands County UF IFAS Extension Office on a special bus tour that will provide an educational perspective on canals and water resources of Highlands County. The bus tour is called the "Canals of Highlands County" and will be offered from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 31 with lunch at Golden Corral included. There are only 50 seats available on the tour, and tickets will be offered at \$50 per person including lunch, motor coach transportation, educational materials and more. Tickets go on sale at 8 a.m. today. Tickets will be available only from

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Mark Kaylor

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Romona Washington — Publisher and Executive Editor
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Continued on page 5A

More snow in the forecast for eighth annual Winter Fest

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR
sgholar@newssun.com

SEBRING – Though most of the country, even parts of the deep south, are no strangers to the white, fluffy flakes of snow, Central Florida is a place where that type of sighting is likely only with a little help from local organizations.

Each year after the holidays are over, the Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast organization holds its biggest fundraiser of the year: Winter Fest. Winter Fest is headed and fully supported by the Thakkar Foundation. BBBS will be making it snow for the eighth year on Saturday. The giant pile of snow is always an instant hit with children of all ages; many who have been born and raised in Central Florida have never laid eyes on the real thing.

Winter Fest serves not only to put smiles on the faces of children in the community but to raise funds for more than 200 children involved with the BBBS Sun Coast program.

“All proceeds from the event will go towards enabling Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast to give promising futures to the children of our community through their one-on-one mentoring programs to provide children facing adversity with strong and enduring, professionally supported relationships that change their lives for the better,” said BBBS Community Resource Director Kiko Vazquez.

Of course, the snow pile is the most popular aspect of Winter Fest, but the event features a number of fun, family-friendly activities for everyone to enjoy.

Bounce houses, inflatables, carnival games, outdoor bowling lanes, video games, face painting, Toby the Clown, a live DJ, yummy snacks and more will be available at Winter Fest.

Each year, more than 1,000 attendees soak up the moment and spend the day creating snowballs, snow angels and snowmen with family and friends – something most Floridians never get the chance to experience.

The Big Brother Big Sisters eighth annual Winter Fest will be held at the Sebring International Raceway (113 Midway Drive) on Saturday. Gates are open at 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Admission price is \$5 per person.

For more information contact Vazquez at 402-9001.



News-Sun file photo

Snow is in the forecast Saturday as Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast bring its Winter Fest back to the Sebring International Raceway. Admission is \$5 per person.

More volunteers needed for Big Brothers Big Sisters

By ROMONA WASHINGTON
romona.washington@newssun.com

SEBRING – There are hundreds of children in the Highlands and Hardee county area who are being raised by grandparents or in single-parent homes. A large number are being raised in single-grandparent homes.

At least 86 of these children have been matched with someone who is acting as a mentor through Big Brothers Big Sisters. Another 96 children are desperately hoping for a match, but more volunteers are needed.

Kiko Vazquez, BBBS community resource director for the two counties, said these children have all been identified by teachers or family members as needing to have an adult more involved in their life.

There are two core programs where adults and older teens can volunteer their time.

The School-Based Program allows the volunteers to meet with a child for an hour a week at school. Some students simply want someone to sit and have lunch with them. Vazquez himself is sharing time with a boy in hopes of helping improve the child's reading comprehension.

The Community-Based Program allows more time to be spent between the child and the Big. Anywhere from four to six hours a month are spent together talking and sharing activities in the community – activities that “foster a relationship that helps

‘Every person on earth wants to feel like someone is interested in them.’

JANE HANCOCK

Big Brothers Big Sisters board member

youth manage the everyday challenges that are part of growing up.”

Jane Hancock, a member of the Big Brothers Big Sisters board of directors, said many people are intimidated by the Community-Based Program. They feel they are too busy to take on any extra commitments.

“Just let them interact with your family. If you're not comfortable with that, start with the School-Based Program. Every person on earth wants to feel like someone is interested in them,” she said.

Just one person getting involved in a child's life can make a big difference. “That is life changing for a child who has no one to spend time with them,” Hancock said.

Vazquez tells the story of a family of eight who packed up their home in North Carolina and moved to Sebring to live with family after going through difficult times. After their car was unloaded the parents left to go to the store. They never came back. The youngest of the six children was matched through Big Brothers Big Sisters and was taken with his Big's family to a local restaurant for dinner. The child had to be shown how to order from the menu and when the meal was finished

and the family got up to leave, the children remained sitting. He told the family that they shouldn't leave their food and plates on the table.

“We take so many things for granted. I know there are people out there looking for an opportunity to give back from what they've been given,” Vazquez said.

Winter residents are more than welcome to volunteer as well. Vazquez tells of one winter resident who volunteered and stayed in contact with her Little during the summer. She sent postcards of their travels and when she returned, she learned that the child had saved all of the postcards and created a small album to look back on. Upon her return, the two were matched up again.

The youngest that a person can be to volunteer with the program must be 16 or a junior in high school. Once the application is filled out and background checks are completed, the volunteer is interviewed to find out their interests to help in making a match with a young child.

To learn more about volunteering with Big Brothers Big Sisters, contact Vazquez at 402-9001, email him at kvazquez@bbbsun.org or look on the Internet at www.bbbsun.org.

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EDITORIAL & OPINION

Laura's Look

Laura Ware

TODAY'S EDITORIAL

Closing Last Chance Ranch short-sighted and wrong

We mourn the closing of AMIkids Last Chance Ranch in Venus. The Department of Juvenile Justice did not renew its contract with the special school for troubled boys, so it closed at the end of 2012.

It seems an extremely short-sighted decision, especially when so many boys are at risk or have criminal records before they can shave.

The tragedy of this decision is made worse because the ranch is not the only facility of its kind to face draconian funding cuts. Well respected Avon Park Youth Academy lived through a painful 2012.

Maybe these funding choices come about because the people doing the choosing, and recommending the choices, see only short-term dollars and cents. They can do this because of a deliberate disconnect between the abstract and the concrete.

If The School Board of Highlands County is any guide

— teachers are referred to as “units” in the budget — bureaucrats tend to turn real people in real life situations into impersonal, countable beans.

But real people are involved. So is the community.

Take the five teenagers taken into custody last week here in Avon Park. Five kids breaking bad — the youngest only 15 years old, the oldest 17.

They are accused of breaking into a home and stealing property from inside. The police think they may be tied to other burglaries. One of the 16-year-olds received an additional charge of violating probation.

Another boy, however, is known to a member of our staff. The staff member's son played

football with him when they were younger. “He was such a sweet kid,” this individual said.

Don't mistake this as a mushy plea to coddle delinquents.

The point is, if any kid might be turned around, this is one kid who could. Perhaps even the other four. Now there is less of a chance any of them will get the opportunity.

For more than 30 years, non-profit AMIkids ran the Last Chance program, graduating more than 750 young men.

Located on a 40-acre site 15 miles from the nearest state road, and another 20 miles from the nearest town, the Last Chance Ranch did not need bars, handcuffs or cells.

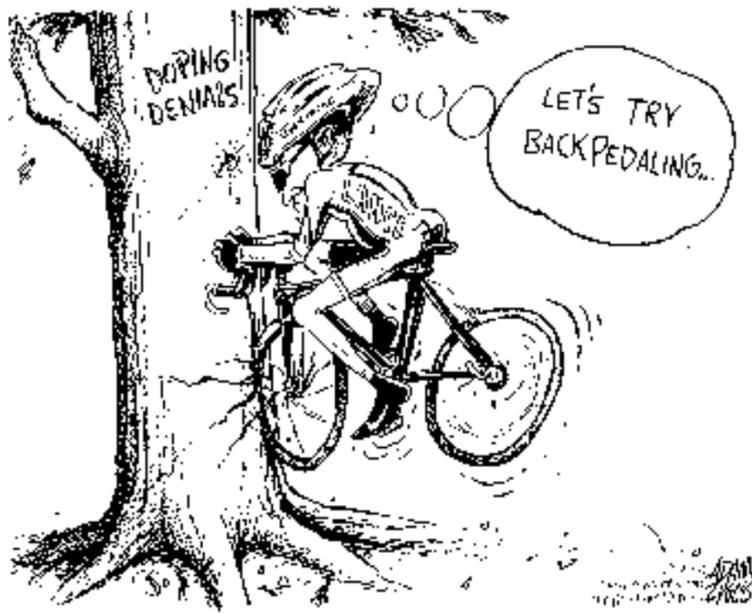
The staff and students built the dormitories, a dining hall, general education and vocational classrooms, a barn and storage sheds — turning an empty wilderness of swampy land into a working ranch. They raised cattle, pigs, tended horses, and grew corn, peas, cucumbers and other crops.

With a small, but hardened, population, typically 22 to 25 students at a time, staff and teachers were able to give each individual close attention. Graduation rates were high; recidivism rates were low.

We understand that money is still scarce, and that the many other agencies and departments have had to cut expenses too.

We understand why people might resent a lot of money going to care for a handful of trouble makers, while the vast majority of our well-behaved children in public schools are doing without.

In the long run, however, we believe every teen whose life is turned around is a bar fight avoided, a robbery that didn't happen, a drug dealer who never took to the streets. A kid turned around is a fulfilled human being who gives back to the community. A long-term investment, with generations of reward.



NEWS-SUN

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TODAY'S LETTERS

What kind of 'compassion' is that?

Editor:

I watched the President's talk on new gun control laws that he was initiating. Quite comprehensive. But they were all aimed at the law-abiding citizens. Not a word about trying to curtail criminals or or the criminal "black market" in firearms. One of the shabbiest things of the talk was the children he had on the stage with him as props for his theatrical performance. He doesn't mention how his radical fiscal policies will drown them in debt when they become adults. So much for "compassion".

As to firearms control, this President's administration gave tons of firearms and ammunition, for same, to the Mexican drug cartels. How could this happen without his knowledge? His ATF (Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms) people handled the deal. His Attorney General, Mr. Holder, professes he knew nothing about it. The President has not, to date, commented on it nor done anything about it.

Then we have the Benghazi thing in Libya, in which our embassy was attacked and the Ambassador and three other people were killed. No help was sent to these people although they were pleading for help. The sad part is the administration was aware of what was going on. Then all the lies about what caused the attack. The administra-

tion said it was a "hit and run" attack. I don't think you can classify a seven-hour battle as "hit and run". Nothing has been done about this to date. From this I gather that the President doesn't care one whit about any American citizen.

The media is aware of all the deception that goes on with Obama's administration and evidently condone it as they are not informing the public of it.

As for myself, I have come to the point of not believing one word this President utters.

Dick Ford
Sebring

Don't pass laws on emotions but on facts

Editor:

I do not want any new gun laws passed on emotion. Get the facts, then act. And don't use 8-year-old kids as a backdrop. A thinking person would see through that charade. Where are the facts? Not, where is the emotion.

When I grew up in the '50s and '60s we had guns at school and a lot of them hung on the back windows of trucks. Why were there no school shootings then? Why were these guns not stolen? They were in plain view.

We could even order guns from magazines and sent to your house.

We have a culture problem not a firearm problem. Passing feel-good laws solves nothing. I want the facts

on how many lives are saved by armed citizens to compare with how many are taken by the misuse of guns. I want facts on what is the deterrent effect of armed citizens.

We didn't lock our houses or cars back then. Police didn't wear bullet (proof) vests.

I want to fix our culture and not waste time on laws that won't fix the real problem - our broken culture. I never heard of "Road Rage" when I was growing up, another sign of a dysfunctional culture.

What if your doctor treated you for an illness and gave you medicine for an illness you don't have? You would not get better and your resources would be wasted. That is what all these new gun law proposals are, the wrong treatment for the real disease we have - a broken culture. Is Congress and the President going to be a bunch of quack doctors pushing agendas or doctors looking for the real illness?

Thomas Lanfier
Sebring

Smithsonian Institution exhibit brought substantial benefits, visitors to county

Editor:

The Highlands Art League's Museum of the Arts (MOTA), located in Downtown Sebring, hosted a traveling Smithsonian Institution exhibit Dec. 8, 2012 - Jan. 19, 2013 that was free for the public to attend and more than 1,000 people experienced while it was in town. The Florida Humanities Council, in partnership with the Smithsonian Institute, is sponsoring the six-city Florida tour of Journey Stories - an exhibit that uses images, audio and artifacts to illustrate the critical roles that traveling and movement have played in building our diverse American society.

Highlands County has never hosted an exhibition of this stature and

esteem before, and hosting the Smithsonian Institution exhibit was a huge boost to art and culture for our area. This exhibition undoubtedly helped advance the Highlands Art League's (HAL) mission, which is to promote the appreciation, study and development of the arts, in their many forms, and to provide various adult and children's programs whereby the Highlands County community will prosper as a center of culture. In addition to the local attendees, people from Jacksonville, Miami, Punta Gorda and Naples, as well as our visitors from places like Indiana, Canada, and Ohio visited MOTA to see the Smithsonian Institution exhibit.

"It is well known that rural communities today face many challenges, such as declining and aging populations, youth retention, limited economic and social opportunities, depleting natural resources, loss of local services, and higher costs of living," as quoted from Canada's Creative City News. "Arts, culture, and heritage are not only amenities to improve quality of life but are a foundation upon which the future of rural and small communities rests. Arts and creative activities can profoundly affect the ability of a town not only to survive over time, but to thrive."

We applaud the Highlands County School Board for sending middle school students from around the county to MOTA to see the exhibit, and hope everyone in Highlands County took advantage of this amazing opportunity. MOTA will be hosting more art exhibits later in 2013, and HAL works diligently year-round to bring art and culture to our county. Thank you to the HAL Board of Directors and staff, as well as the MOTA volunteers for making this significant contribution to our residents and visitors.

Debbie Kendrick and Don Elwell
Highlands Art League Co-Chairs

Start of an adventure

If you read last week's column, you know that Don and I celebrated our 30th wedding anniversary recently. We decided that we wanted to do something special to mark the occasion. Very special.

What we came up with was a cruise. In Norway. In January.

Now, you probably know that Norway in January is not exactly a warm climate. In fact, they have this thing called "winter" there. So you might be asking yourself, "Self, why would a Florida girl like Laura go someplace where the chances are she's going to be freezing at some point?"

Three words. The Northern Lights.

Don and I have wanted to see the Northern Lights for a very long time. Yes, we have pictures of them, but somehow it's not the same as actually seeing them live.

Guess what? Best time to see the Northern Lights is around this time. So Don and I, having never claimed to be sane, decided a Norwegian cruise in January was just the thing to do.

Of course, we may be crazy, but we aren't stupid. We realized that our existing wardrobe was inadequate for the trip we had in mind. This meant we had to go shopping for new clothes, preferably things that would prevent us from becoming human popsicles.

This took multiple shopping trips and consulting with people wiser than we are about what to bring to this cold foreign land. We wound up buying a lot more stuff than we needed, but Don told me that was OK because we could use some of it in those rare occasions it actually gets cold in Sebring.

Packing everything we wanted to bring with us proved to be an adventure in physics. It didn't help that Don wanted to bring everything plus the kitchen sink. Don't get me wrong, we needed almost everything we've brought but someone explain to me why my husband thought it was a good idea to bring the bathroom scale to Norway. (Don proudly refers to himself as a "board-certified nag" when it comes to "therapeutic lifestyle choices").

Getting to Norway isn't a simple affair. It has taken a day and three airplanes to get here. Because our second plane was late getting to Denmark (I am sure there is a good reason we had to go to Norway via Denmark) we came close to missing our last connecting flight. It is not fun trying to rush through an unfamiliar airport when you are sleep deprived. Trust me.

By the way, what I noted of the Copenhagen Airport as we rushed along was very pretty. I must see it again sometime when I can actually appreciate it.

Nevertheless, we did get to Norway with all of our luggage and most of our mental faculties. After a much needed nap, we decided to explore the town of Bergen where we will be boarding our cruise ship.

My next column will be about the trip itself. That is assuming I don't lose what's left of my brain in one of the may fjords around here. Stay tuned.

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

Letters policy

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

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

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

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

Opinions expressed in letters or columns, as well as any other opinion piece are solely the opinion of that author and not necessarily that of the staff.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Continued from page 2A

the Extension Office, 4509 George Blvd.

Educational stops include Erin Park Canals, Lake Istokpoga, Lake Clay Project, Ibanez Nursery and Wine Shop/Florida Friendly Landscaping, Canal Maintenance Equipment Demonstration, and much more. Lunch will be provided at the Golden Corral in Lake Placid.

Tickets are expected to sell quickly. The tour will go, rain or shine. Call the Extension Office at 402-6540 for more information.

Sebring Village residents plan trip

SEBRING — Sebring Village has a day trip to Orlando for the Pirate's Dinner Adventure on Tuesday. Cost is \$61, which includes transportation, show and dinner.

Contact Angie Warchak by calling 471-2150.

Highway Park prepares for Rising Black Tie Gala

SEBRING — The Highway Park Neighborhood Council is hosting its second annual Highway Park Rising Black Tie Gala to be held Saturday, Feb. 9 from 7 p.m. to 12 a.m. at the Chateau Elan Hotel and Conference Center in Sebring. The event helps the community by providing financial support for preservation and restoration efforts in Highway Park, a small community in Lake Placid.

This year's proceeds will go toward restoring one of the vacant buildings in the community to use as office space and for landscaping our first community sponsored public space.

For more information, to

become a sponsor or purchase a ticket, call Tiffany Green at 840-2995 or visit the website at www.hpnc.org/.

Queens of Abundance prepares for Fling

SEBRING — Queens of Abundance will lunch at Dot's in Sebring at 11:30 a.m. Monday, Feb. 11. Lunch tickets for South Central Florida Green Fling will be on sale at the luncheon. Price is \$10.95, payable by March 1. The event will be Tuesday, March 12.

For more information call 465-0161.

Prescribed burns to take place at the Preserve

SEBRING — Preparations are being made for prescribed burning at the Sun 'N Lake Preserve at the end of Sun 'N Lake Boulevard.

Prescribed burning of the Preserve will take place, weather and conditions providing, during the week of Jan. 21-25. The northern most portions of the Preserve are on the prescription for the planned burn. Hikers and bikers should not enter through any gates north of gate 4 during this period. An easterly wind is expected and smoke should not hamper residents in the area.

The Sun 'N Lake Preserve is a 1,350-acre site composed of a variety of plant communities. Many of the areas within the Preserve are fire dependent, which means they need occasional fire to survive and reproduce. In addition, prescribed fire reduces the threat of wildfire by reducing fuels that have built up on the forest floor.

For additional information, call Corine Burgess at

402-6545.

Sebring Village presents Recreation Show

SEBRING — Sebring Village presents The Recreation Show, American Ambassadors to hospitalized veterans. These are young, talented performers who captivate audiences of all ages. A magical program that transforms the stage into a wondrous showplace of unforgettable entertainment. Colorful flashing costumes, state of the art sound reinforcement, professional stylized choreography.

These young people give up at least a year of their lives to travel the country entertaining the men and women in VA Medical Centers.

The show will be at 7:30 p.m. Monday. Tickets are \$10. For more information call 273-0875.

Aguiar holds revival at Independent Baptist Church

SEBRING — Pastor Larry Ruse is inviting all to come to Revival. The revival speaker is Dr. Dale Aguiar, a missionary/evangelist, helping small and struggling churches.

Independent Baptist Church, 5704 County Road 17 South, no longer qualifies as small and struggling, but Aguiar is a great preacher of the gospel.

The revival is Jan. 20-25. Sunday services are at 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Monday-Friday services start at 7 p.m. Friday night service is a youth emphasis. There will be a fellowship after the service Friday for all the teens who attend.

For more information go to www.ibcsebring.com or

call the church office at 655-1899.

Sebring Village plans health fair

SEBRING — A health fair, "Better Living for Better Health," will be held from 8:30-11:30 a.m. Tuesday at the Sebring Village Clubhouse, 4343 Schumacher Road. Meet local health providers and other health service organizations. It is open to the public and there are many free screenings. To have a lipid profile (cholesterol check) one must fast and take medications with water. The test is only \$10.

Pre-registration is preferred but walk-ins are welcome. There will be door prizes and refreshments. For further information, contact Mary Ann Mangold at 382-9865 or Carol DeArmitt at 385-1517.

Events planned at lodges, posts**AVON PARK**

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9853 will hold a memorial service for Dee Votaw, mother to Foy Parrish, at 2 p.m. today at the post. She had been an officer.

The Combat Veterans Memorial VFW Post 9853 will have football on the screen at 1 p.m. today. Music by Tom McGannon from 5-8 p.m. Friday and karaoke by Peg and Perry at the same time Saturday. For more information, call 452-9853.

The American Legion Post 69 will host karaoke by Naomi today. Fashion show at 2 p.m. Wednesday. Karaoke by KJ on Wednesday and music by Patsy on Friday; call for times. S.A.L. Breakfast is

from 8-10 a.m. Saturday. Legion Riders meet at 10:30 a.m. For more information, call 453-4553.

LAKE PLACID

The Lake Placid Moose Lodge 2374 will host karaoke with Bama Jam from 3-8 p.m. today. Steak-O and football; call for times. Loyal Order of the Moose officers meet at 6 p.m. Monday. House Committee and Women of the Moose (including nominations) meet at 7 p.m. Formal general meeting is at 7:30 p.m. Karaoke with Bama Jam from 6-10 p.m. Wednesday. Music by Frank E. from 6-10 p.m. Thursday. Music by Pressure Point from 6-10 p.m. Friday. For more information, call 465-0131.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3880 will host music by Bud Followell on Friday. Call for time. Breakfast will be served from 8-11 a.m. Saturday. Call 699-5444.

SEBRING

The Moose Lodge of Sebring 2259 will have football on the screen at 1 p.m. today. A birthday party and Moose Jam Band are set for 4:30 p.m. (bring covered dish). Women of the Moose meet at 7 p.m. Monday. Music by Billy Glades from 5-9 p.m. Wednesday. House Committee, Joint Officers and Loyal Order of the Moose business meeting at 6:30 p.m. Thursday. General meeting at 8 p.m. Music by Long Shot from 6-10 p.m. Friday. Music by Steve and Peggy from 6-10 p.m. Saturday. Call 655-3920.

AMVETS Post 21 would like to thank all the Vietnam veterans for their service by putting up a poster at the VA Clinic in Sebring from Jan. 21-25, to acknowledge the

signing of the Vietnam Peace Accord 40 years ago on Jan. 27, 1973.

The Sebring Recreation Club, 333 Pomegranate Ave., will host Shuffleboard Tournament/Any Doubles in Avon Park Scrambles at 9 a.m. Monday. Shuffleboard league is at 1:15 p.m. Wednesday. Shuffleboard Tournament, Two Pros/Any Doubles at 9 a.m. Thursday. Shuffleboard Tournament/All Amateurs/Draw Doubles at 9 a.m. Friday. Ice cream shuffleboard at 1:15 p.m. Saturday, followed by a board meeting at 3 p.m. Call 385-2966.

The Sebring Elks 1529 Wacky Wednesday will be from 5-6:30 p.m.; meal is \$6.50. For dancing only, Allen will provide the music from 4:30-7:30 p.m.; cost is \$3. Friday buffet is from 5-6:30 p.m., \$12. Dance to Buddy Canova's music from 6:30-9:30 p.m. for \$3. Call 471-3557.

AARP offers Driver Safety program

AVON PARK — AARP Driver Safety Program Class will be held from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., complete class in one day only, on Wednesday at Resurrection Lutheran Church, 324 E. Main St. No driving, no tests. A possible discount on car insurance, good for three years.

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

LIMC workshop on Thursday

SEBRING — There will be a Lake Istokpoga Management Committee (LIMC) Workshop at 10 a.m. Thursday in Conference Room 2 of the Bert J. Harris Jr. Agricultural Center, 4509 George Blvd. All interested persons are invited to attend.

OBITUARIES

ARIANNA DOWNS

Arianna Downs, infant daughter of Joshua Benton and Briann Downs, passed away Dec. 26, 2012 at home. She was born Oct. 3, 2012 in Maine.

She is survived by her parents, Joshua Benton and Briann Downs of Lake Wales; a brother, Mason Benton of Lake Wales; grandparents, Connie Hodge of Sebring and George Benton of Sebring, and Paul and Peggy Downs of Lake Wales; great-grandmother, Ethel Hodge of Avon Park; and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

A memorial service will be held from 6-8 p.m. Jan. 25 at Union Congregational Historical Chapel in Avon Park. Cremation arrangements were handled by Marion Nelson Funeral Home of Lake Wales.

Walter was born Dec. 28, 1938 and had been a resident of Lake Placid, Fla., since 1992, coming from Philadelphia, Pa. He served in the United States Marine Corps from 1959 to 1963.

Walter is survived by his brothers, Bob Katz of Arizona, Jacob Katz and Ted Katz, both of Philadelphia, Pa., and Joseph Katz of Idaho; and brother-in-law, Joe Bonett of Lake Placid, Fla.

A memorial service will be held on Thursday, Jan. 24, 2013 at 11 a.m. at St. James Catholic Church, 3380 Placid Lakes Drive, Lake Placid, FL 33852.

JULIA WHITE

Julia White, age 64, passed away on Wednesday, Jan. 16, 2013 in Sebring, Fla. She was born in Amburg, Germany on

June 30, 1948 to Francis and Tekla (Mazur) Wawro. She was a yoga/dance instructor and of the Catholic faith. She was a lover of yoga and dance and enjoyed spending time with family and raising orchids. She was a resident of Sebring since 2007 coming from Daytona Beach, FL.

She is survived by her son, Joseph White, and her sister, Adele Wawro, of Sebring, Fla.

Contributions may be made in her memory to The Salvation Army. Cremation arrangements entrusted to: Stephenson-Nelson Funeral Home Sebring, Fla.



Katz

WALTER KATZ
Walter A. Katz, 74, passed away Dec. 24, 2012.

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

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News-Sun photo by CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY

Participants at the legislative delegation's public hearing Friday make use of the opportunity to make personal contact with state senators Bill Galvano and Denise Grimsley (and state Representative Cary Pigman, just out of the picture).

Many speak up for social services

Continued from page 1A

Dr. Barry Hummel, representing the Tobacco Prevention Network of Florida, asked that loose tobacco and "filtered cigar cigarettes" be taxed as other tobacco products are taxed.

June Fisher, county administrator, asked the delegation to make it possible for municipal-elected officials to meet with county-elected officials at the county seat.

Sheriff Susan Benton asked the legislators to support legislation to end texting while driving.

The plan to centralize the distribution of license through a third party vendor was not a sensible one, Tax Collector Erik Zwyer said. People will have to order the tag over the Internet and wait for it to arrive, yet the Tax Collector's office still does all the processing.

"I'm all about saving money," Zwyer said, "but there are no savings in this model. It will cause delays

and problems, especially for industry fleets.

"Our job is to serve the public. We shouldn't be so laser focused on money that customer service suffers."

The Heartland Ridge Home Owners Association asked that developers acting as managers be forced to be financially transparent when dealing with association money.

Gingerlee Mitchellindo, a private citizen, said there had to be a better way for citizens to protect themselves from unethical government behavior.

She recommended simplifying paperwork.

"So that every day citizens who see (an ethical) wrong being done by their government and desire to address it to see the wrong righted will not be dissuaded by the cumbersome and sometimes forced repeatable paperwork and costs of the process to file a complaint."

Tim Cook, director of Florida Hospital Heartland Division, told the delegation, "Medicaid money is most on our minds. It is a real factor here." This was why, he added, regarding fluctuating allotments, "... without stability and the ability to predict, it is hard to plan."

Cook warned the delegation that mental health services in the county, except help for seniors, was virtually non-existent.

Labor officials said those industry job gains were partially due to increases in food services and drinking places; food and beverage stores; employment services; ambulatory health care services; and transportation equipment manufacturing.

Industries losing jobs over the year included total government jobs, construction, information services and financial activities.

Those industry job losses reportedly were attributed to declines in local government; heavy and civil engineering, construction; automotive repair and maintenance; telecommunications; and insurance carriers and related activities.

Jobs being filled in Highlands

Continued from page 1A

Other industries gaining jobs included trade, transportation, and utilities, professional and business services, private education, health services and manufactur-

ing. Labor officials said those industry job gains were partially due to increases in food services and drinking places; food and beverage stores; employment services; ambulatory health care services; and transportation equipment manufacturing.

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tion, information services and financial activities.

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Students look at future through science

Continued from page 1A

"Science helps everybody," Austin says. "You can look inside things now; before, nobody knew how to do it."

"Science is cool," adds Scott. "Math stays the same; science is always changing."

"You can't change things just over night," Dakota warns. "They are definitely happening; we just can't see them happening."

Orpheus agrees, "Science will always continue. It takes time to develop new inventions."

As to the future: "We're going to discover new types of fish deep down in the sea," Morgan says.

"Medicine will become more effective," says Kailey. "Like today you can get shingles if you had chicken pox. We'll be able to stop that."

"Instead of money we'll have (embedded) chips to keep track," Emily says.

"A remote control to choose your own weather at your house," Chloe says.

"In time, this classroom will be different," says Colbey. "The white board will be like a big iPad."

"Awesomes," all around.

"There will be new discoveries of disease and treasures," Victor says, "and we'll be much better getting into space."



News-Sun photo by CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY

Sixth-graders Nyssa Gunthorp (from left), Kadi Ealy, Colby Bowers, John Shannon and Victor Salinas collaborating on a team project at Sebring Middle School.

"I don't think it will be so good," Paul says. "I think we'll have to put on masks to go outside and stay inside most of the time."

Briana agrees. She says, "We have to be more eco-friendly, otherwise no one will live to be 100. The poles are melting. We have to go slower with science. We have to take care."

"We need to make a better engine," Scott says, "one that balances horsepower with torque."

Someone says flying cars would be a big improvement — there is so much room in the sky to drive, and at so many different levels. The idea does not meet a warm reception.

"Flying cars, floating traffic lights, it's not really different from cars. It might be a bad idea," Emily says.

"Flying cars are even more dangerous," Morgan agrees.

"If there were flying cars," says Lance, "you'd go faster with a normal car on the ground. The roads would be empty, everyone would be up in the air."

The students strongly believe outer space is our future.

From Moon settlements to colonies on Mars; from machines to create breathable air to space suits good enough to use on Mercury or Venus, the young people brimmed with excitement and ideas. For them, moving planets one day might even be possible.

"You never know what's next," says Robert. "Some day we might have Nike shoes that walk on water."

Emily gets the last words, "When we get old I think we'll be telling our kids how hard our life was and what we didn't have."

HCSO searches for teen in shooting incident

Continued from page 1A

all law enforcement agencies enroute to their destination. All intersections were cleared by other law enforcement personnel who aided EMS in the safe and timely delivery of the victim to a level 3 trauma center.

Hayes said the victim has since received extensive medical treatment and is expected to survive the incident, although he is still unable to speak with detectives.

Acting on information gathered at the hospital, deputies and detectives responded to the area of Highway Park Liquors, 101 Crestmore St., in an attempt to gather details about the shooting and secure any possible evidence at the scene. Hayes said it was learned that several juveniles were in the area that evening and left in a vehicle.

The investigation continues as to the circumstances of the shooting. Deputies have recovered two firearms believed to be involved with the incident.

The Highlands County Sheriff's Office is seeking information on the whereabouts of Marquay Rockmore. He is described as a black male with black hair and brown eyes, approximately 6-foot tall, weighing approximately 135 pounds.

The investigation is ongoing at this time. Anyone with information on the location of Rockmore, or with any other information on this case is requested to contact the Highlands County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigations Unit and Detective Hank Smith at 402-7250. Anyone with information who wants to remain anonymous and be eligible for a cash reward is asked to call Heartland Crime Stoppers at 1-800-226-TIPS(8477), or on the Internet at www.heartland-crimestoppers.com. Anonymity is guaranteed.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

TO: HIGHLANDS COUNTY HOMEOWNERS

FROM: C. RAYMOND MCINTYRE, HIGHLANDS COUNTY PROPERTY APPRAISER

RE: HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION FILING PERIOD

The annual filing period for Homestead Exemption is January 1, 2013 through March 1, 2013. Please visit our office at the Government Center in Sebring to file applications for all exemptions.

The following is a list of all exemptions offered to you as a resident of Florida:

- **Homestead Exemption (Maximum of \$50,000):** In order to qualify you must own your home and make it your permanent residence on or before January 1, 2013 **and** be a full-time resident of Florida (requires Florida driver's license if you drive, Florida vehicle tag for your vehicle if you own a vehicle, and voter's I.D. in the county in which you live if you are a registered voter.) If divorced please provide copy of your divorce papers.
- **Additional Senior Homestead Exemption (\$15,000):** To qualify you must meet the requirements listed above for homestead exemption **and** you must be over 65 years of age (as of January 1, 2013) and have an adjusted gross income of **\$27,030 (household income)** or less for the year 2012. Please contact our office for more details on income requirements for this exemption. (This exemption amount applies only to the taxable value for Board of County Commissioners.)
- **Widow's Exemption (\$500):** To qualify you must meet the same criteria as listed above for Homestead Exemption and you must be a widow.
- **Widower's Exemption (\$500):** To qualify you must meet the same criteria as listed above for Homestead Exemption and you must be a widower.
- **Disability Exemption (Varies depending on the type and level of disability):** To qualify you must meet the same requirements listed above for Homestead Exemption and certain requirements regarding doctor's documentation or VA's letter regarding your disability. Contact our office for specific requirements concerning this exemption.

We will have clerks in Avon Park and Lake Placid to take applications at the following locations and times:

Avon Park – City Hall Council Chambers – Wednesday January 23rd From 10am to 4pm Address: 110 E. Main St.

Lake Placid – City Office – Monday & Tuesday January 28th & 29th From 10:00 am to 4:00 pm Address: 311 W. Interlake Blvd

We are located at 560 South Commerce Avenue in Sebring or you can contact us at the following number:
Sebring (863-402-6659)

Knights help Special STARS



Courtesy photo

Larry Pierce, Grand Knight for the Knights of Columbus Council 5441 in Sebring, (center) presents a \$1,500 check to Special STARS Recreation Club Activities Director Joshua Croston and Special STARS athlete Sara Canali. The money will assist Special STARS to provide 13 different sports and seven recreational activities this year for more than 350 children and adults in Highlands County with mental and physical disabilities. There is also a separate Special STARS program in Hardee County.

Agency: NC Camp Lejeune water contaminated in 1953

By ALLEN G. BREED and MARTHA WAGGONER

Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — Many more Marines and their relatives could be eligible for compensation for illnesses now that a federal agency determined that the water at North Carolina's Camp Lejeune was contaminated four years earlier than previously thought.

In a letter to the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry said computer modeling shows that drinking water in the residential Hadnot Point area was unsafe for human consumption as far back as 1953. President Barack Obama signed a law last year granting health care and screening to Marines and their dependents on the base between 1957 and 1987.

"This is yet another piece of the puzzle that's coming together and slowly exposing the extent of the contamination at Camp Lejeune — and the Marine Corps' culpability and negligence," said Mike Partain, a Marine's son who was born at the southeast North Carolina base and who says he is one of at least 82 men diagnosed with breast cancer. "This is four years overdue."

The Marines were slow to react after groundwater sampling first showed contamination on the base in the early 1980s. Some drinking water wells were closed in 1984 and 1985, after further testing confirmed contamination from leaking fuel tanks and an off-base dry cleaner.

Health officials believe as many as 1 million people may have been exposed to tainted water. It's not clear how many Marines and family members will be affected by the expansion of the time line, but Partain estimates thousands.

In a letter to Gen. Allison Hickey, VA undersecretary for benefits, the head of the toxic substance registry noted that a preliminary water modeling report showed that the period covered under the 2012 legislation didn't go back far enough, and that volatile organic compounds exceeded maximum contaminant levels at Hadnot Point as early as August 1953.

"I hope this information is useful as the Department of Veterans Affairs evaluates claims from veterans who served at USMC Camp Lejeune prior to the release of our full water modeling

report in the spring," agency Director Christopher J. Portier wrote in the letter, dated Wednesday.

The letter was first released publicly during a meeting Thursday of the agency's community assistance panel at the disease registry headquarters in

Atlanta. Former Marines and family members angrily questioned officials about why these studies have taken so long to complete.

Marine Corps Capt. Kendra Motz said she got the disease registry letter Thursday. She didn't have immediate comment on it.

TSA to remove controversial X-ray scanners

By JOSHUA FREED

AP Business Writer

Those airport scanners with their all-too-revealing body images will soon be going away.

The Transportation Security Administration says the scanners that used a low-dose X-ray will be gone by June because the company that makes them can't fix the privacy issues. The other airport body scanners, which produce a generic outline instead of a naked image, are staying.

The government rapidly stepped up its use of body scanners after a man snuck explosives onto a flight bound for Detroit on Christmas day in 2009.

At first, both types of scanners showed travelers naked. The idea was that security workers could spot both metallic objects like guns as well as non-metallic items such as plastic explosives. The scanners also showed every other detail of the passenger's body, too.

The TSA defended the scanners, saying the images couldn't be stored and were seen only by a security worker who didn't interact with the passenger. But the scans still raised privacy concerns. Congress ordered that the scanners either produce a more generic image or be removed by June.

On Thursday Rapiscan, the maker of the X-ray, or backscatter, scanner, acknowledged that it wouldn't be able to meet the June deadline. The TSA said Friday that it ended its contract for the software with Rapiscan.

The agency's statement also said the remaining scanners will move travelers through more quickly, meaning faster lanes at the airport. Those scanners, made by L-3 Communications, used millimeter waves to make an image. The company was able to come up with software that no longer produced a naked image of a traveler's body.

The TSA will remove all 174 backscatter scanners from the 30 airports they're used in now.

The TSA will remove all 174 backscatter scanners from the 30 airports they're used in now. Another 76 are in storage. It has 669 of the millimeter wave machines it is keeping, plus options for 60 more, TSA spokesman David Castelvetter said.

Not all of the machines will be replaced. Castelvetter said that some airports that now have backscatter scanners will go back to having metal detectors. That's what most airports used before scanners were introduced.

The Rapiscan scanners have been on their way out for months, in slow motion.

The government hadn't bought any since 2011. It quietly removed them from seven major airports in October, including New York's LaGuardia and Kennedy airports, Chicago's O'Hare, and Los Angeles International. The TSA moved a handful of the X-ray scanners to very small airports. At the time, the agency said the switch was being made because millimeter-wave scanners moved passengers through faster.

Rapiscan parent company OSI Systems Inc. said it will help the TSA move the scanners to other government agencies. It hasn't yet been decided where they will go, said Alan Edrick, OSI's chief financial officer, in an interview.

Scanners are often used in prisons or on military bases where privacy is not a concern. "There's quite a few agencies which will have a great deal of interest" in the scanners, Edrick said.

OSI is taking a one-time charge of \$2.7 million to cover the money spent trying to develop software to blur the image, and to move the machines out of airports, Edrick said.



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STATE

Gov.'s staff ordered to testify in recording case

By GARY FINEOUT
Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE — Several current and former employees in the administration of Gov. Rick Scott are being ordered by a judge to testify in a sensational criminal case that centers on allegations of illegal taping.

It is still unclear after Friday's hearing whether Lt. Gov. Jennifer Carroll will be forced to answer questions in the criminal case against her former aide that has also included allegations of improper relationships in Carroll's office.

Carletha Cole, who was fired last year, was arrested in 2011 and accused of giving a reporter a secret recording containing a conversation between Cole and Carroll's chief of staff. Cole has not been charged with making the recording — nor have prosecutors said exactly when the recording was made.

Circuit Judge Frank Sheffield initially ruled that Carroll must answer questions from lawyers representing Cole. But then he changed his mind at the urging of Scott's top lawyer. Sheffield said Carroll would be questioned last and only if Cole's lawyers could show her testimony was needed.

Sheffield, however, made it clear that questions of Scott administration employees will be limited to illegal taping and whether or not top officials working for the governor had ordered widespread taping as alleged by Cole.

The judge said lawyers could not ask Carroll or anyone else about the lieutenant governor's sexual preference or whether or not her office was the "absolute worst place in the world to work."

"We are not going to try the lieutenant governor's office," Sheffield said.

Cole's attorneys have asserted that their client was being set up because she witnessed unprofessional behavior by Carroll and other employees, including walking in on Carroll and a female aide in a "compromising position." Carroll, who is a former Navy officer and married, has called the allegations "false and absurd."

Attorney Stephen Webster suggested other employees in Carroll's office placed recordings on Cole's computer and she assumed they were public records. A spokesman for the governor's office has previously denied that there was a widespread policy of taping people.

It is against Florida law to record someone without consent, but there have been legal questions about recordings made in public buildings. Cole is charged with a third-degree felony and could face up to five years in prison.

The current and former employees who were ordered to answer questions include Carroll's travel aide Beatriz Ramos, former chief of staff Steve MacNamara, and former chief of staff Mike Prendergast.

The Scott administration last year had tried to get the judge to shield both Ramos and Carroll from answering any questions but Sheffield

21 invasive pythons killed so far in Florida contest

By JENNIFER KAY
Associated Press

IN THE FLORIDA EVERGLADES — The man known as "Alligator Ron" has a lifetime of experience in the Florida Everglades, a fleet of airboats at his disposal and knows the habitats of furry prey for large reptiles. He still couldn't lead a pack of hunters to a single Burmese python.

That's the catch in Florida's "Python Challenge": Even experienced hunters with special permits to regularly stalk the exotic snake through Florida's swamplands are having trouble finding them for a state-sponsored competition.

"When these snakes are in the water, in the vegetation, they blend in naturally to where you can't hardly see them," said state wildlife commissioner Ron Bergeron, whose nickname is emblazoned on the rudder of his black airboat, over the image of him riding an alligator.

The vast majority of roughly 1,000 people who signed up to hunt Burmese pythons on public lands from Jan. 12 through Feb. 10 are amateurs when it comes to pythons. Only about 30 hold permits for harvesting pythons throughout the year.

The permit holders might have a slight edge when it comes to handling snakes, but the tan, splotchy pythons have natural camouflage that gives them an important advantage in the ecosystem they have invaded.

He has caught a python in

As of Thursday, 21 pythons had been killed for the contest, according to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

It's hard to pin down exactly how many Burmese pythons slither through Florida's Everglades, but officials say their effect is glaringly obvious. According to a study released last year, sightings of raccoons, opossums, bobcats, rabbits and other mammals in the Everglades are down as much as 99 percent in areas where pythons are known to live.

It's believed that the pythons are devouring the native wildlife and officials worry the snakes' voracious appetite will undermine the ongoing, multimillion-dollar effort to restore natural water flow through the Everglades.

Bergeron led U.S. Sen. Bill Nelson (D-Fla.) into the Everglades to hunt pythons Thursday afternoon. They splashed from their airboat through knee-deep water into several islands that rise in small bumps above the sawgrass, but they always emerged empty-handed.

They didn't flush out any of the mammals Bergeron thought he'd see, either. The only thing they did find: signs of feral hogs, another problematic invasive species.

"Rabbits were like rats. Growing up, you saw them everywhere," said Jim Howard, a Miami native and a python permit holder participating in the contest. "I haven't seen a rabbit in 20 years. I don't see foxes. I hardly see anything."

He has caught a python in



MCT photo
The python hunt is on in the Everglades. As of Thursday, 21 pythons had been killed for Florida's 'Python Challenge,' one by Lake Placid's Calvin Turner.

the Everglades in each of the last two years, though. Each was more than 12 feet long and contained more than 50 eggs.

He returned to those locations Wednesday, poking under ferns and discarded wooden boards with a hook at the end of a 3-foot-long stick. All he found were the sheddings of some large snake — each transparent scale was the size of a fingertip.

After spending hours steering his boat along 14 miles of canals to levees and embankments where pythons

might lurk, Howard extended the hook toward the dense, impenetrable grass that stretched all the way to the horizon, with no landmarks or vantage points.

Millions of acres in any direction in the Everglades are exactly the same. From that perspective, the hunt for well-hidden pythons seems futile.

"We're looking at inches," Howard said.

Officials say the number of pythons caught during the contest isn't as important as the data they provide.

"I'm going to be ecstatic if

we see 100," said Frank Mazzotti, a University of Florida professor of wildlife ecology who is helping the commission with the contest.

He continued to low-ball expectations for the final tally. "I'm happy with 11. I'm going to be happy with whatever we have. The small number only proves that they're really hard to find," he said.

The state hopes to use the information from python necropsies — particularly what's in their stomachs — to improve their attempts at dealing with the snakes.

"Our list of what pythons eat is not complete yet," Mazzotti said.

The population of Burmese pythons, an invasive species in Florida, likely developed from pets released into the wild, either intentionally or in the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew in 1992. They can grow to be more than 20 feet long and have no natural enemies in Florida other than very large alligators or cold weather, which drives heat-seeking snakes onto sunny roads and levees.

Florida prohibits owning or selling pythons for use as pets, and federal law bans importation and interstate sale of the species.

Mazzotti had one tip for hunters frustrated by the pythons' near-invisibility: Stop and listen for a dry, rustling sound in the grass.

"It sounds like something large," he said.

Online: Python Challenge: <http://pythonchallenge.org/>
Follow Jennifer Kay on Twitter at www.twitter.com/jnkay

Florida tightening juvenile justice monitoring

By BILL KACZOR
Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE — State officials on Friday announced plans for quality improvements and tighter monitoring of juvenile justice residential and detention facilities following the arrest last month of a staff member accused of battering a 15-year-old girl in the Florida Panhandle.

The new efforts include enhancing mental health training, routinely interviewing youths and reviewing less serious incidents by the state. Such incidents formerly were handled by private providers or program managers.

"Our primary concern is the health and safety of Florida's youth," said

Department of Juvenile Justice Secretary Wansley Walters. "We are enhancing services to give kids the best foot forward so they can lead rewarding lives."

Ninety-five percent of the residential facilities are privately operated, and the state is planning this year to outsource the remaining five. Those facilities are separate from detention centers, which are state- or county-operated for high risk offenders.

The privately operated Milton Girls Academy, northeast of Pensacola, last month agreed to end its residential contract with the state after the arrest and reports by other children who expressed worries about their safety.

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CHALK TALK



Courtesy photo

Dr. Erin Hinds, a local veterinarian, reads to one of the classes at Woodlawn Elementary School during Celebrate Literacy Week, Jan. 14-18.

Woodlawn students celebrate Literacy Week

Special to the News-Sun

SEBRING — Jan. 14-18 was Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! This is a statewide initiative held to promote literacy and the enjoyment of reading for children and adults of all ages. Students and staff at Woodlawn Elementary School celebrated literacy with daily activities.

Monday was "Paint Woodlawn Red and Read". Students participated in the Million Minutes Marathon and 515 WES students read 10,300 minutes, which contributed to the statewide 30 million-minute goal. Tuesday was "Team up to Read" and WES wore their favorite team clothing. That day some very special community members teamed up as "Mystery Readers" to read to classrooms sharing special books and how reading is a part of their everyday lives.

The students loved this and WES would like to thank those who took time from their busy day to promote reading at Woodlawn. They include Cheryl Vermilye, WES reading coach; Paul Blackman, Highlands County Sheriff's Office; Anita Bible, Kaye Wise and Bonnie Brown, all retired



Courtesy photo

Nuno Norberto took some time out of his work as Minister of Music at First Baptist Church of Sebring to read to the children at Woodlawn Elementary School.

teachers/principals; Dr. Erin McIntyre Hinds, veterinarian; Eric Zwyer, Highlands County Tax Collector; Michelle Jolin, Mid Florida Credit Union; Joyce McClelland, The School Board of Highlands County; Nuno Norberto, Minister of Music, First Baptist Church of Sebring; Lauren Taylor, college student; Raymond McIntyre, Highlands County Property Appraiser; Wilma Tindell, school resource officer; Donna Howerton and Jan Shoop, school board members; and Wally Cox, Highlands County School Superintendent.

Woodlawn will continue to celebrate literacy everyday because the staff and faculty know that reading is the heart of everything.

Child Development classes set for spring

Special to the News-Sun

AVON PARK — South Florida State College's Corporate and Community Education Department is offering child care classes in Spring Term 2013.

Introduction to Child Care is a 40-hour class that will cover child care facility rules and regulations; health, safety, and nutrition; identifying and reporting child abuse and neglect; child growth and development; behavioral observation and screening; and special needs appropriate practices. The class will meet from 5:30-9 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, Feb. 5 through March 26 at the SFSC Hardee Campus, 2968 US 17 N., Bowling Green. The cost is \$199.99 and includes six manuals.

Completion of both the FCCPC I and II courses are key elements to earning a Florida Child Care Professional Credential (FCCPC). FCCPC I and II

address eight core areas of knowledge and skill associated with delivery of quality education to preschool children and builds upon the content of the state-mandated training courses previously completed by the caregiver.

An FCCPC I course will be held Mondays and Wednesdays, Jan. 23 through April 29 at the SFSC Highlands Campus, 600 W. College Drive, Avon Park. The cost is \$300 and the course will be taught in English. An FCCPC II course will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays, Jan. 15 through April 2 at the SFSC Lake Placid Center, 500 E. Interlake Blvd. The cost is \$300 and the course will be taught in English. Both classes will be from 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Register in Building B at the SFSC Highlands Campus or any SFSC campus or center. For information call 784-7032.

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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.

- Index**
- 1000 Announcements
 - 2000 Employment
 - 3000 Financial
 - 4000 Real Estate
 - 5000 Mobile Homes
 - 6000 Rentals
 - 7000 Merchandise
 - 8000 Recreation
 - 9000 Transportation

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DEADLINES

Publication Place by:
 Wednesday 4 p.m. Monday
 Friday 4 p.m. Wednesday
 Sunday 4 p.m. Friday
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ADJUSTMENTS

- Please check your ad for errors the first day it appears since the News-Sun will not be responsible for incorrect ads after the first day of publication. If you find an error, call the classified department immediately at 314-9876.
- 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.

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION
 CASE NO.: 282012CA000494GCAXMX
 US BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR YALE MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST, SERIES 2007-1, Plaintiff,
 vs.
 BERTHA GAIL MOLTZ F/K/A BERTHA GAIL ROTROFF; BRUCE WAYNE MOLTZ; UNKNOWN TENANT, IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY,
 Defendants.
RE-NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure Sale dated the 3rd day of August, 2012, and entered in Case No. 282010CA000842A000XX, of the Circuit Court of the 10th Judicial Circuit in and for Highlands County, Florida, wherein US BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR YALE MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST, SERIES 2007-1 is the Plaintiff and BERTHA GAIL MOLTZ F/K/A BERTHA GAIL ROTROFF; BRUCE WAYNE MOLTZ and UNKNOWN TENANT 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 6th day of February, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:
 LOT 16, BLOCK 153, OF SEBRING HIGHLANDS, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 1, PAGE 97, 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.
 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 4th day of January, 2013.
 Robert W. Germaine
 Clerk Of The Circuit Court
 By: /s/ Toni Kopp
 Deputy Clerk
 January 13, 20, 2013

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO. 12-14 GCS
 THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF CWABS INC., ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-13 Plaintiff,
 vs.
 DERRICK J. ROBINSON, A/K/A DERRICK JEROME ROBINSON, et al.
 Defendant(s)
NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45
 NOTICE IS HEREBY given pursuant to an Order or Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated August 14, 2012, and entered in Case No. 12-14 GCS of the Circuit Court of the 10th 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 OF CWABS INC., ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-13, is the Plaintiff and Derrick J. Robinson, a/k/a Derrick Jerone Robinson and Teresa M. Robinson, are the Defendants, the Clerk of Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in the Jury Assembly Room, Basement, of the Highlands County Courthouse, 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, FL 33870, at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time, on February 12, 2013, the following described property set forth in said Order of Final Judgment, to wit:
 Lot 13 and 14, Block 3, Highlands Park Estates, Section D, a Subdivision according to the Plat or Map thereof described in Plat Book 4, at Page(s) 86, of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida
 Tax ID: C013528-02000400070.
 IF YOU ARE A PERSON CLAIMING A RIGHT TO FUNDS REMAINING AFTER THE SALE, YOU MUST FILE A CLAIM WITH THE CLERK OF COURT NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS AFTER THE SALE. IF YOU FAIL TO FILE A CLAIM, YOU WILL NOT BE ENTITLED TO ANY REMAINING FUNDS. AFTER 60 DAYS, ONLY THE OWNER OF RECORD AS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MAY CLAIM THE SURPLUS.
 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 the Office of the Court Administrator at (863) 534-4686 (Voice) or (863) 534-7777 (TDD) or (800) 955-8770 (Florida Relay Service), at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.
 DATED at Highlands County, Florida, this 10th day of January, 2013.
 Robert W. Germaine, Clerk
 Highlands County, Florida
 By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
 Deputy Clerk
 January 20, 27, 2013

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO. 12-819-GCS
 U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR TBW MORTGAGE-BACKED TRUST MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-3, Plaintiff,
 vs.
 DAWN D. BONECUTTER A/K/A DAWN BONECUTTER AND BILLY R. BONECUTTER A/K/A BILLY BONECUTTER, et al.
 Defendants.
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated January 3, 2013, and entered in Case No. 12-819-GCS of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for Highlands County, Florida, wherein U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR TBW MORTGAGE-BACKED TRUST MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-3, is the Plaintiff and DAWN D. BONECUTTER A/K/A BILLY BONECUTTER; HIGHLANDS INDEPENDENT BANK; UNKNOWN TENANTS are the Defendant(s). Robert Germaine as The Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at 430 S. COMMERCE AVENUE, SEBRING, FL 33870 AT 11:00 A.M. on February 6, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:
 LOT 21, BLOCK 201, LEISURE LAKES SECTION THREE, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGE 25, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.
 Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.
 Dated this 4th day of January, 2013.
 Robert Germaine
 As Clerk of the Court
 By: /s/ Lisa Tantillo
 As Deputy Clerk
 January 13, 20, 2013

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO. 12-857 GCS SECTION NO.
 MIDFLORIDA CREDIT UNION F/K/A MIDFLORIDA FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, Plaintiff,
 v.
 RICHARD HAROLD JORDAN; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF RICHARD HAROLD JORDAN; TENANT #1; TENANT #2; and ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, AND UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN-NAMED DEFENDANTS WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS
 Defendants.
AMENDED NOTICE OF ACTION
 TO: ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, AND UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN-NAMED DEFENDANTS WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS
 YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose on the following real property in Highlands County, Florida:
 Lots 1 and 2, Block 88, SHEET 1 OF LAKE WOOD TERRACES, a subdivision according to the plat thereof recorded at Plat Book 2, Page 50, in the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida, and 1/2 contiguous closed Wilson Avenue.
 ADDRESS: 3408 Golfview Rd., Sebring, FL 33875
 has been filed against you in the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit, Highlands County, Florida, and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses to the Complaint, if any, to Gregory A. Sanoba, Esq., 422 South Florida Avenue, Lakeland, Florida 33801, on or before February 26, 2013, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.
 DATE: January 15, 2013.
 BOB GERMAINE
 Clerk of the Court
 By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
 Deputy Clerk
 January 20, 27, 2013

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 28-2010-CA-001186 SEC.:
 CITIMORTGAGE, INC., Plaintiff,
 v.
 LEONARDO SIFONTE HERNANDEZ; MISLEIDYS RODRIGUEZ PEREZ A/K/A MISLEIDYS RODRIGUEZ; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; PATRICIA WOODS; AND SEBRING HILLS ASSOCIATION, INC., Defendants(s).
NOTICE OF SALE
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order of Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure dated January 3, 2013, entered in Civil Case No. 28-2010-CA-001186 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 6th day of February, 2013, 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 5, BLOCK 20, SEBRING HILLS SOUTH, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 8, PAGE 93, 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 4th DAY OF JANUARY, 2013.
 By: /s/ Lisa Tantillo, Deputy Clerk
 ROBERT W. GERMAINE
 CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
 HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
 January 13, 20, 2013

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 28-2011-CA-000813 SEC.:
 DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE OF INDIAMAC LOAN TRUST MORTGAGE BACKED CERTIFICATES SERIES 2005-1 UNDER THE POOLING AND SERVICING AGREEMENT DATED JUNE 1, 2005, Plaintiff,
 v.
 LENNY GRANT; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS
 Defendants(s).
NOTICE OF SALE
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order of Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure dated January 4, 2013, entered in Civil Case No. 28-2011-CA-000813 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 6th day of February, 2013, 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:
 TRACT 20 OF AN UNRECORDED SUBDIVISION IN SECTION 16 AND 17, TOWNSHIP 35 SOUTH, RANGE 30 EAST, HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
 COMMENCE AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID SECTION 16; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 57'46" EAST, ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 16, A DISTANCE OF 155.35 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 09'00" EAST, PARALLEL WITH THE WEST LINE OF SAID SECTION 16, A DISTANCE OF 1842.70 FEET, TO A POINT ON THE SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE OF U.S. HIGHWAY NO. 98; THENCE SOUTH 88 DEGREES 53'14" EAST, ALONG SAID SOUTH RIGHT OF WAY LINE, A DISTANCE OF 237.00 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 09'00" WEST, PARALLEL WITH THE WEST LINE OF SAID SECTION 16, A DISTANCE OF 1837.94 FEET, TO A POINT ON THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 16; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 57'46" WEST, ALONG SAID SOUTH LINE, A DISTANCE OF 236.97 FEET TO THE BEGINNING. TOGETHER WITH AND SUBJECT TO AN EASEMENT FOR INGRESS AND EGRESS OVER THE NORTH 30.0 FEET THEREOF.
 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 4th DAY OF JANUARY, 2013.
 By: /s/ Toni Kopp, Deputy Clerk
 ROBERT W. GERMAINE
 CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
 HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
 January 13, 20, 2013

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 09-725-GCS
 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, acting Through FARM SERVICE AGENCY f/k/a FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, Plaintiff,
 v.
 ELLIS L. WALTON, et al., Defendants.
NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated this 10th day of January 2013 entered in Case No. 09-725-GCS of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for Highlands County, Florida, wherein United States of America, acting through FARM SERVICE AGENCY f/k/a FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE is Plaintiff, and Ellis L. Walton, Patricia K. Walton n/k/a Patricia Walton Ward, Capital One, F.S.B. and State of Florida are Defendants, The Clerk will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash on the 6th day of February 2013 at 11:00 a.m. at the Main Courthouse located at 403 S. Commerce Avenue, Jury Assembly Room, Sebring, Florida 33870 the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:
 Lot 4, Block 14 of SUN 'N LAKES ESTATES ACRES, SECTION 27, according to the Plat thereof as recorded in Plat Book 8, Page 24, of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida.
 Property Address: 175 Impatiens Street, Lake Placid, FL 33852.
 DATED this 10th day of January, 2013.
 BOB GERMAINE, Clerk of Courts
 Highlands County
 By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
 Deputy Clerk
 January 20, 27, 2013

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION CASE NO: 12-821 GCS
 SunTrust Bank Plaintiff,
 vs.
 Frank L. Dencklau; Unknown Spouse of Frank L. Dencklau; Unknown Tenant #1; Unknown Tenant #2
 Defendants.
NOTICE OF ACTION - CONSTRUCTIVE SERVICE
 TO: Frank L. Dencklau and Unknown Spouse of Frank L. Dencklau
 Last Known Address: 1058 Jonquil Street, Lake Placid, FL 33852
 YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in Highlands County, Florida:
 LOT 23, IN BLOCK 22, OF LEISURE LAKES SECTION FOUR, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT, THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGE 29, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.
 has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Yashmin Chen-Alexis, Esquire, BROOK & SCOTT, PLLC., the Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 1501 N.W. 49th Street, Suite 200, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309, within 30 days after the first publication of this notice, and file the original with the Clerk of this Court either before service on the Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint or petition.
 DATED on January 3, 2013.
 ROBERT GERMAINE
 AS CLERK OF THE COURT
 By: /s/ Toni Kopp
 AS DEPUTY CLERK
 January 13, 20, 2013

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION NO: 12-829-GCS
NOTICE OF ACTION
 IN RE: S&P CAPITAL CORPORATION, a Florida corporation, vs. WHITMORE ENTERPRISE, LLC, a Florida limited liability company; DEVON WHITMORE and NORMAN WHITMORE
 TO: DEVON WHITMORE, IF ALIVE, OR IF DEAD, THEN HIS UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES OR ASSIGNS
 YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property located in Highlands County, Florida:
 Lot 3, Block 28, SUN 'N LAKES ESTATES ACRES, according to the Plat thereof, recorded in Plat Book 8, Page 24, of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida. Said lands situate, lying and being in Highlands County, Florida.
 has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on William G. Shofstall, attorney for Plaintiff, S&P CAPITAL CORPORATION, whose address is P.O. Box 210576, West Palm Beach, Florida 33421, and file the original with the Clerk of the above-styled court on or before thirty (30) days after the first date of publication; otherwise a default will be entered against you for the relief prayed for in the Complaint.
 PUBLISH JANUARY 13 AND 20, 2013.
 WITNESS my hand and the Seal of said Court at Highlands County, Florida on this 7th day of January, 2013.
 BOB GERMAINE
 CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
 HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
 (Circuit Court Seal)
 By: /s/ Toni Kopp
 As Deputy Clerk
 January 13, 20, 2013

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT CIVIL COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO.: 28-2011-CA-000647 Division
 BRANCH BANKING AND TRUST COMPANY Plaintiff,
 vs.
 ANNE MARIE DUNCAN, SPRINGLAKE VILLAGE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., AND UNKNOWN TENANTS/OWNERS, Defendants.
NOTICE OF SALE
 Notice is hereby given, pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure for Plaintiff entered in this cause on, in the Circuit Court of HIGHLANDS County, Florida, I will sell the property situated in Highlands County, Florida described as:
 LOT 16, IN BLOCK G, OF SPRING LAKE - VILLAGE VIII, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 11, AT PAGE 8, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA,
 and commonly known as: 1208 LAKESIDE WAY, SEBRING, FL 33876; including the building, appurtenances, and fixtures located therein, at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash, Sales are held in the Jury Assembly Room in the basement of the Highlands County Courthouse located at 430 S. Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida 33870, on February 11, 2013 at 11 a.m.
 Any persons claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.
 Dated this 9th day of January, 2013.
 Clerk of the Circuit Court
 By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
 Deputy Clerk
 January 20, 27, 2013

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT CIVIL COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY CIVIL DIVISION CASE NO.: 28-2011-CA-000337 Division
 CENLAR FSB Plaintiff,
 vs.
 THURMAN L. HARLOW, UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF SHIRLEY M. HARLOW; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF THURMAN L. HARLOW, AND UNKNOWN TENANTS/OWNERS, Defendants.
NOTICE OF SALE
 Notice is hereby given, pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure for Plaintiff entered in this cause on, in the Circuit Court of HIGHLANDS County, Florida, I will sell the property situated in Highlands County, Florida described as:
 LOT 26, BLOCK 22, OF SUN 'N LAKE ESTATES OF SEBRING, UNIT 2, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 9, PAGE 48, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA,
 and commonly known as: 3916 RAMIRO ST., SEBRING, FL 33872; including the building, appurtenances, and fixtures located therein, at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash, Sales are held in the Jury Assembly Room in the basement of the Highlands County Courthouse located at 430 S. Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida 33870, on February 11, 2013 at 11 a.m.
 Any persons claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.
 Dated this 9th day of January, 2013.
 Clerk of the Circuit Court
 By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
 Deputy Clerk
 January 20, 27, 2013

Subscribe to the News-Sun Call 385-6155

NOTICE OF SALE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO Valencie Gasper that on 02/02/2013 at 11am at Dwight's Mini Storage at 1112 Persimmon Ave. Sebring, FL 33870. The personal property in Unit #1 of Valencie Gasper will be sold or disposed of PURSUANT TO F.S. 83.806(4).
 January 20, 27, 2013

Classified ads get fast results

Any persons claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the lis pendens must file a claim within 60 days after the sale.
 Dated this 9th day of January, 2013.
 Clerk of the Circuit Court
 By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
 Deputy Clerk

1050

Legals

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IN THE CIRCUIT CIVIL COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA,
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY
CIVIL DIVISION
CASE NO.: 28-2012-CA-000446

Division
WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.
Plaintiff,
vs.
HERBERT G. ORELLANA, ELIZABETH ORELLANA,
THUNDERBIRD MANOR, INC., AND UNKNOWN
TENANTS/OWNERS,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure for Plaintiff entered in this cause on, in the Circuit Court of HIGHLANDS County, Florida, I will sell the property situated in Highlands County, Florida described as:

UNIT A-201, THUNDERBIRD HILL MANOR CONDOMINIUM, ACCORDING TO THE DECLARATION OF CONDOMINIUM RECORDED IN O.R. BOOK 969, PAGE 225, AND AMENDMENT RECORDED IN O.R. BOOK 970, PAGE 602, AND AMENDMENT RECORDED IN O.R. BOOK 1095, PAGE 0394, AND ALL OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

and commonly known as: 611 MANOR CIR #A-201, SEBRING, FL 33872; including the building, appurtenances, and fixtures located therein, at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash. Sales are held in the Jury Assembly Room in the basement of the Highlands County Courthouse located at 430 S. Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida 33870, on February 11, 2013 at 11 a.m.

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

Dated this 9th day of January, 2013.

Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
Deputy Clerk
January 20, 27, 2013

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 28-2012-CA-000647
SEC.:

DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE HOLDERS OF THE HSI ASSET SECURITIZATION CORPORATION TRUST 2007-HE1,
Plaintiff,
v.

ARTHUR D. MORSE; ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER, AND AGAINST THE HEREIN NAMED INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANT(S) WHO ARE NOT KNOWN TO BE DEAD OR ALIVE, WHETHER SAID UNKNOWN PARTIES MAY CLAIM AN INTEREST AS SPOUSES, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; AND AVON PARK LAKES ASSOCIATION Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order of Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure dated January 4, 2013, entered in Civil Case No. 28-2012-CA-000647 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 8th day of February, 2013, 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 9 AND 10, BLOCK 46, AVON PARK LAKES RED HILL FARMS ADDITION, UNIT J, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 5, PAGE 66, 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 8th DAY OF JANUARY, 2013.

By: /s/ Toni Kopp, Deputy Clerk
ROBERT W. GERMAINE
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
January 13, 20, 2013

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
OF FLORIDA IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY
GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION
CASE NO. 28-2012-CA-000905

OCWEN LOAN SERVICING, LLC,
Plaintiff,
vs.
HILDA MINA, et al.,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION

To: HILDA MINA, 6713 Kenwood Place, Sebring, FL 33876

SAMIR A. MINA, 6713 Kenwood Place, Sebring, FL 33876
LAST KNOWN ADDRESS STATED, CURRENT RESIDENCE UNKNOWN

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose Mortgage covering the following real and personal property described as follows, to-wit:

LOT 20, BLOCK BB, SPRING LAKE VILLAGE VII, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 11, PAGE 7, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

LESS AND EXCEPT THAT PORTION OF SAID LOT 20, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN AT THE NORTHWESTERLY CORNER OF LOT 20, BLOCK BB, SPRING LAKE VILLAGE VII, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 11, PAGE 7, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA; RUN THENCE S 74 DEGREES 21'03" E ALONG THE NORTHERLY LINE OF SAID LOT 20 FOR 40.91 FEET; THENCE S 15 DEGREES 36'46" W FOR 125 FEET TO A POINT ON THE SOUTHERLY LINE OF SAID LOT 20; THENCE N 74 DEGREES 21'03" W ALONG SAID SOUTHERLY LINE OF LOT 20 FOR 40.99 FEET TO THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID LOT 20; THENCE N 15 DEGREES 38'57" E ALONG THE WESTERLY LINE OF SAID LOT 20 FOR 125.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on Sara Collins, McCalla Raymer, LLC, 225 E. Robinson St. Suite 660, Orlando, FL 32801 and file the original with the Clerk of the above-styled Court on or before 30 days from the first publication, otherwise a Judgment may be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

WITNESS my hand and seal of said Court on the 11th day of January, 2013.

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
As Clerk of the Court
By: /s/ Lisa Tantillo
Deputy Clerk
January 20, 27, 2013

1050

Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: 28-2010-CA-000538

BANK OF AMERICA, N.A., acting by
and through GREEN TREE SERVICING LLC,
in its capacity as Servicer,
345 St. Peter Street
1100 Landmark Towers
St. Paul, Minnesota 55102,
Plaintiff,
v.
BASIL M. BERNARD, et al.,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT, pursuant to Plaintiff's Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above-captioned action, I will sell the property situated in Highlands County, Florida, described as follows, to-wit:

LOT 12, 13 & 14, BLOCK 2, LAKE HUNTLEY COVE, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 12, PAGE 27, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA. Commonly known as: 153 Huntley Dr. South, Lake Placid, FL 33852.

at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash on the Highlands County Courthouse, 590 S. Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida 33870, at 11:00 AM (EST), on the 13th day of February, 2013.

If you are a subordinate lien holder claiming a right to funds remaining after the sale, you must file a claim with the Clerk of Court no later than 60 days after the sale. If you fail to file a claim, you will not be entitled to any remaining funds.

Notice to 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 the Court Administrator's office not later than seven days prior to the proceeding.

Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
Deputy Clerk
January 20, 27, 2013

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

CASE NO. 09001785GCS

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON AS SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO THE BANK OF NEW YORK AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS CWABS, INC., ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-21,
Plaintiff,
vs.

CHARLES E. ANDERSON; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF CHARLES E. ANDERSON; JUDITH F. ANDERSON; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF JUDITH F. ANDERSON; IF LIVING, INCLUDING ANY UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF SAID DEFENDANT(S), IF REMARRIED, AND IF DECEASED, THE RESPECTIVE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, ASSIGNEES, CREDITORS, LIENORS, AND TRUSTEES, AND ALL OTHER PERSONS CLAIMING BY, THROUGH, UNDER OR AGAINST THE NAMED DEFENDANT(S); UNKNOWN TENANT #1; UNKNOWN TENANT #2;
Defendant(s)

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to a Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above-styled cause, in the Circuit Court of Highlands County, Florida, I will sell the property situated in Highlands County, Florida, described as:

LOTS 7683, 7684, 7685, 7686 AND 7687 AVON PARK LAKES, UNIT NO. 24, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 5, PAGE 22, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

A/K/A

2304 NORTH ROXBURY ROAD
AVON PARK, FL 33825

at public sale, to the highest and best bidder, for cash, in the Jury Assembly Room in the basement of Highlands County Courthouse located at 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida at 11:00 A.M., on the 13th day of February, 2013.

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.

Witness, my hand and seal of this court on the 13th day of February, 2013.

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
Deputy Clerk

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

January 20, 27, 2013

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL ACTION
CASE NO.: 28-2009-CA-001300

DIVISION:

CHASE HOME FINANCE LLC,
Plaintiff,

vs.

JARED ANDERSON, et al.,
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Mortgage Foreclosure dated January 07, 2013 and entered in Case No. 28-2009-CA-001300 of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for HIGHLANDS County, Florida wherein JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO CHASE HOME FINANCE, LLC, is the Plaintiff and JARED ANDERSON; THE FLORIDA HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION, A PUBLIC CORPORATION; TENANT #1 N/A STANLEY NELSON 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 7th day of February, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

¹Plaintiff name has changed pursuant to order previously entered.

LOT 10, IN BLOCK 2, OF HIGHLANDS PARK ESTATES, SECTION R, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 5, PAGE 17, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

A/K/A 360 PERSHING AVENUE, 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 January 8, 2013.

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
F09087050 CHASEDIRECT-CONV-Team
3-F09087050

**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.

January 13, 20, 2013

Contact Us...

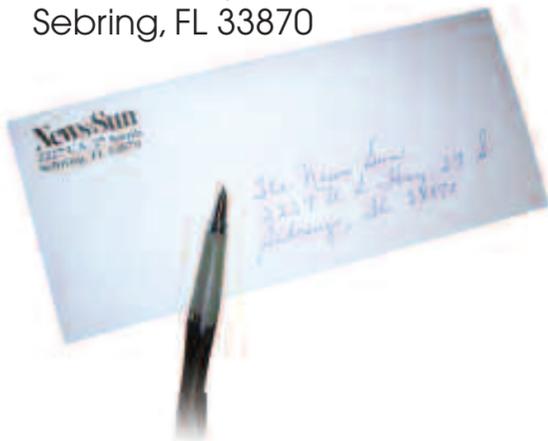
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1050

Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL ACTION
CASE NO.: 28-2009-CA-001665
WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. SUCCESSOR BY
MERGER TO WELLS
FARGO HOME MORTGAGE, INC.
Plaintiff,
vs.
JEFFOERY SCOTT KEITH A/K/A JEFFOERY S.
KEITH A/K/A JEFFOERY KEITH, et al,
Defendant(s).
NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED FORECLOSURE SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated January 4, 2013 and entered in Case No. 28-2009-CA-001665 of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for HIGHLANDS County, Florida wherein WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO WELLS FARGO HOME MORTGAGE, INC. is the Plaintiff and JEFFOERY SCOTT KEITH A/K/A JEFFOERY S. KEITH A/K/A JEFFOERY KEITH; SUNTRUST BANK; 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 8th day of February, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment.
LOT 7, BLOCK 6, ORANGE BLOSSOM COUNTRY CLUB COMMUNITY, UNIT 14, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 10, PAGE 6, PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.
A/K/A 2227 PLEASANT DRIVE, SEBRING, FL 33875
Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale
WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of the Court on January 8, 2013.

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

Florida Default Law Group, P.L.
P.O. Box 25018
Tampa, Florida 33622-5018
F09107520 WELLSLPS-SPECFLHMC-Team
1-F09107520

**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.
January 13, 20, 2013

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL ACTION
CASE NO.: 28-2012-CA-000235
DIVISION:
BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.,
Plaintiff,
vs.
GREGG S. FOSTER, et al,
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Mortgage Foreclosure dated January 7, 2013 and entered in Case No. 28-2012-CA-000235 of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for HIGHLANDS County, Florida wherein BANK OF AMERICA, N.A. is the Plaintiff and GREGG S. FOSTER; BRENDA M. FOSTER A/K/A BRENDA MARIE FOSTER; GSF ENTERPRISE, INC.; are the Defendants, The Clerk of the Court will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM IN THE BASEMENT OF THE HIGHLANDS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 430 SOUTH COMMERCE AVENUE at 11:00 AM, on the 7th day of February, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment.

*Plaintiff name has changed pursuant to order previously entered.
LOT 62 AND LOT 63, SYLVAN SHORES ESTATES, SECTION E, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE 33, PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.
A/K/A 1558 CAMELLIA COURT, 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 January 8, 2013.

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
F11028292 COUNTRY-CONV B/C-R-jmyers-Team
2-F11028292

**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.
January 13, 20, 2013

NOTICE UNDER FICTITIOUS NAME LAW
PURSUANT TO SECTION 865.09
FLORIDA STATUTES
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of EXACT CORE TAX SERVICE located at 406 South 6th Avenue in the County of Hardee, in the City of Wauchula, Florida 33873, intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations of the Florida Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida.
Dated at Sebring, Florida, this 19th day of January, 2013.
Exact Core, Inc.
January 20, 2013

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT ORDINANCE
Please take notice that Ordinance No. 1351 will be presented to the City Council for adoption upon its second and final reading at the City Council Chambers, 368 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida 33870, on the 5th day of February, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. A copy of the proposed Ordinance can be obtained from the office of the City Clerk. Any person may appear and be heard with respect to the proposed Ordinance. The proposed Ordinance is entitled as follows:
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 17-77 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SEBRING BY RE-INSTATING REGULATIONS FOR A-FRAME SIGNS FOR A TEMPORARY PERIOD OF TIME; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
Pursuant to Section 286.0105 of the Florida Statutes, as amended, the City Council hereby advises that if any interested person decides to appeal any decision made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at the proceedings, he will need a record of the proceeding and that, for such purpose, he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.
This notice shall be published on January 20, 2013.
/s/ Kathy Haley
Kathy Haley, City Clerk
City of Sebring, Florida
Robert S. Swaine
Swaine & Harris, P.A.
425 South Commerce Ave.
Sebring, FL 33870
City Attorney
January 20, 2013

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1055 Highlands County Legals

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT ORDINANCE
Please take notice that Ordinance No. 1351 will be presented to the City Council for adoption upon its second and final reading at the City Council Chambers, 368 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida 33870, on the 5th day of February, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. A copy of the proposed Ordinance can be obtained from the office of the City Clerk. Any person may appear and be heard with respect to the proposed Ordinance. The proposed Ordinance is entitled as follows:
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 17-77 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF SEBRING BY RE-INSTATING REGULATIONS FOR A-FRAME SIGNS FOR A TEMPORARY PERIOD OF TIME; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
Pursuant to Section 286.0105 of the Florida Statutes, as amended, the City Council hereby advises that if any interested person decides to appeal any decision made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at the proceedings, he will need a record of the proceeding and that, for such purpose, he may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.
This notice shall be published on January 20, 2013.
/s/ Kathy Haley
Kathy Haley, City Clerk
City of Sebring, Florida
Robert S. Swaine
Swaine & Harris, P.A.
425 South Commerce Ave.
Sebring, FL 33870
City Attorney
January 20, 2013

1050 Legals

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

CENLAR FSB Plaintiff, vs. AUSTIN M. GREENAN, MARY J. GREENAN, PLACID LAKES AVIATION ESTATES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC. AND UNKNOWN TENANTS/OWNERS, Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE Notice is hereby given, pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure for Plaintiff entered in this cause on, in the Circuit Court of HIGHLANDS County, Florida, I will sell the property situated in Highlands County, Florida described as:

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

Dated this 9th day of January, 2013. Clerk of the Circuit Court By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak Deputy Clerk January 20, 27, 2013

1100 Announcements

CHECK YOUR AD

Please check your ad on the first day it runs to make sure it is correct. Sometimes instructions over the phone are misunderstood and an error can occur.

If We can assist you, please call us:

314-9876

News-Sun Classified

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The News-Sun of Sebring, FL, has an immediate opening for a NEWS EDITOR to lead our local and digital content efforts. We are a tri-weekly newspaper in sunny central Florida. We are looking for a hands-on editor with a positive attitude who can bring the best out of a team of reporters.

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2100 Help Wanted

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2100 Help Wanted

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CONSTRUCTION INSPECTOR Full-time Inspector needed for Govt funded project in Zolfo Springs for 3-4 months. Heavy construction and utility pipeline experience a must.

ELDERLY WOMAN NEEDS Companion to assist in daily living includes free room & board. Must have medical knowledge of Diabetic, Incontinent & Urinary Bag Flushes. We will train. 863-214-2074.

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5050 Mobile Homes For Sale

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5050 Mobile Homes For Sale

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6300 Unfurnished Houses

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7000 Merchandise

7040 Appliances

REFRIGERATOR * General Electric * 21.7 cu. ft. White Side By Side with Ice Maker. \$175. 863-385-4757

WASHER ADMIRAL Heavy Duty, 6 cycle, hardly used. Excel cond. \$250. 863-659-1581 after 8am.

7180 Furniture

SPRING AIR Queen Mattress \$197 2 SIDED FLIP-OVER Queen Mattress \$597 TV Stands, Bookcases, Room Dividers, Dining Sets, Lamps, Curios AND MORE! Recliners \$247 up WICKER: Bedrooms, Living Rooms, Barstools PLUS!! We are paying cash for gold, over 35 yrs in Highlands County & now buying U.S. Military Items. HIGHPOINT FURNITURE 2346 U.S. 27 N, SEBRING We are located across from The Home Depot

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7260 Musical Merchandise

KIMBALL CONSOLE PIANO. Absolutely new throughout as attested by our Professional Piano Tuner. Includes bench. \$1000 firm. Call 863-655-5642

PIANO ** HASTINGS SPINET ** Mahogany Color, Like New, Excellent Condition, 1 Owner, Well Maintained. You Must Move. \$400. Call Dennis 863-202-5579

7300 Miscellaneous

COMPUTER - Microsoft W laptop, exc. cond. HP Pavilion ZV 6000 AMD Ash-ton 64 processor, 3200+ w/pwr. Now (2.0gh2.512KB cache) up to 2,000 MHZ sys, 60 GB hard drive. DVD/CD/combo drive. \$199. W/ extras. 863-471-0098

GAS GRILL - A Commercial Infrared Char - Broil w/ cover, gas bottle & gas. Almost NEW! Very little used. Must See! New grill only would cost \$269. Complete package \$160. 863-453-7027

NEW HEALTH MASTER Living Well Montel As seen on TV. With DVD and Instruction & Recipes Book. Purchased at \$197, will sell for \$125. Call 863-385-4612

7310 Bargain Buys

ARMOIRE W/DRAWERS & Shelves. Dark wood. Good cond. \$60. 863-471-3607 or 863-446-1766

BLENDER CUISINART Power Edge, 1000 watt die cast. Brand new w/original packaging. \$75 obo. Call 863-452-2260

DRILL 1/2" reversible. Electric, heavy duty, industrial rated. \$50 obo. Call 863-441-4418

LARGE POOL, Deck, good liner & railing. Approx. 14x32. Free! You Remove & Clean area. Must see. Call 863-452-1817

RECORD ALBUMS Collection of Rock. Led Zeppelin, Aerosmith, Van Halen & more. 37 total. \$100 obo. Call 863-452-2260

VACUUM CLEANER- Hoover Wind Tunnel with Attachments. Used 4 months. \$75. 863-382-0329

WALKER W/5" wheels, folds up. Will deliver in Lake Placid area. \$30. Call 863-441-4418

7320 Garage & Yard Sales

SEBRING - "TOWN & COUNTRY MHP" Park Wide Sale! Sat., Jan. 26th, 8am - 1pm. Park on Cooper Rd. and walk the park. Golf Carts available for those medically in need of assistance. Club House offering coffee, donuts, hamburgers, hot dogs, baked goods, books, puzzles and misc. Trash & Treasure Sale Items.

SEBRING - Multi-family Community Wide Sale @ Hickory Ridge Drive (2.5 miles E on 98) before RR tracks, turn right & follow signs, Jan. 25 & 26, 8am-3pm.

ST. AGNES EPISCOPAL CHURCH 21st. Annual "Trash & Treasure Sale" Sat. Jan. 26, 8am 3240 Lakeview Drive., Sebring. Don't Miss This One! All Proceeds Go To Local Charities!!

7420 Heating & Air Conditioning

NEW CENTRAL AIR. Still in Box. 10 year Warranty. Installation & References Avail. \$1490. 863-658-4707

7500 Livestock & Supplies

QUALITY HORSE HAY Rolls & CATTLE "CALLIE BERMUDA" Rolls. Located behind Hammock State Park. For Information Call 863-446-5162 Or 863-445-0009

7520 Pets & Supplies

NOTICE

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

8000 Recreation

8050 Boats & Motors

PRECISION SAILBOAT 16.5 Ft. 4 Stroke Mercury Motor, Performance Trailer, Bimini top, Sails, Covers, Sleeps Two. Very Fine Condition. Asking \$5500. Lake Placid 863-465-7554

8400 Recreational Vehicles

HEARTLAND SUNDANCE 5th wheel. 35', 4 slides. 2012. Electric Awning & Jack. Washer/Dryer & Fireplace. Island Kitchen. Loaded! \$33,000. Call 630-631-1795.

MONTE CARLO 40' Fifth Wheel, 2012. 2BR., 3 Slide outs. Washer/Dryer. 2 A/C's. Fully Self Contained. Must sell. \$34,000. Call 630-631-8722

8450 Motor Homes

9000 Transportation

9440 Sport Utility Vehicles

FORD EXPEDITION XLT 1998. 2 wheel drive. 183K mi. Asking \$2750. Call 863-385-3499

9450 Automotive for Sale

2001 MERCURY VILLAGER 109K Miles 7 Passenger / All Power / Very Nice Condition / Runs Great / Needs A/C Work. \$3500 OBO 863-414-4539

2006 NISSAN Altima 2.5 S / 4dr., automatic, all power, great MPG, well cared & serviced, must see! Priced to sell. Asking Below Kelly Blue Book!! Sorry This Is Sold!!

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Five-Day forecast for Highlands County

TODAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Clouds and sun with a shower	Times of clouds and sun	Partly sunny and cool	Sunny much of the time	Partly sunny and beautiful
77° / 57°	76° / 53°	68° / 45°	70° / 49°	72° / 50°
Winds: NNE at 6-12 mph	Winds: NNW at 6-12 mph	Winds: NNE at 8-16 mph	Winds: NE at 6-12 mph	Winds: N at 6-12 mph

Almanac

Temperature
Readings at Archbold Biological Station in Lake Placid

High Tuesday	82°
Low Tuesday	40°
High Wednesday	84°
Low Wednesday	52°
High Thursday	84°
Low Thursday	41°

Heat Index
For 3 p.m. today

Relative humidity	65%
Expected air temperature	77°
Makes it feel like	70°

Barometer

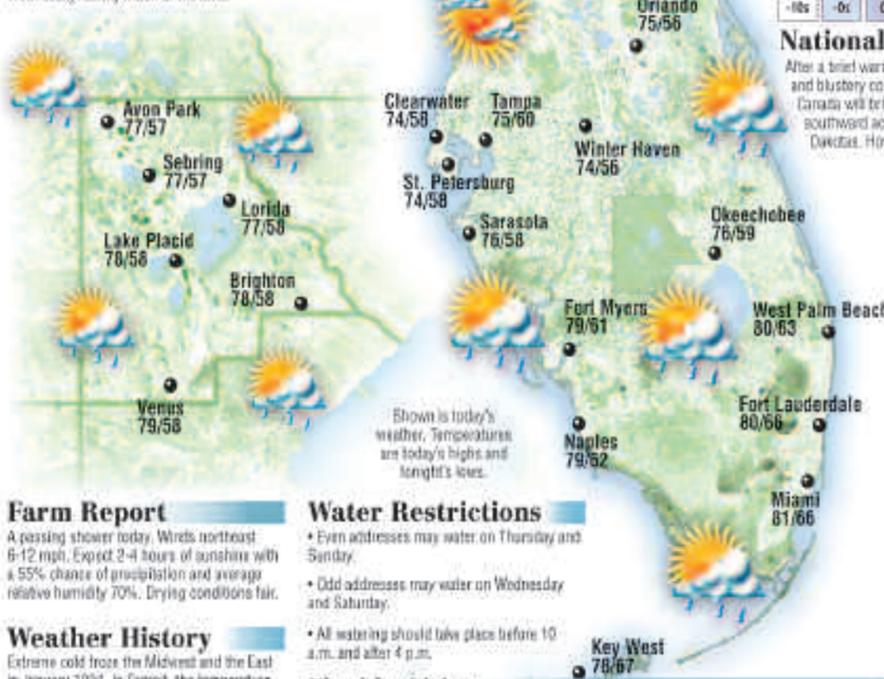
Tuesday	30.12
Wednesday	30.08
Thursday	30.25

Precipitation

Tuesday	0.00"
Wednesday	0.00"
Thursday	0.00"
Month to date	0.03"
Year to date	0.03"

Regional Summary

Clouds and sun today with a passing shower. Mostly cloudy and mild tonight with a shower in places. Clouds and sun tomorrow. Tuesday: partly sunny and cool. Wednesday: sunny much of the time.



Farm Report

A passing shower today. Winds northeast 6-12 mph. Expect 2-4 hours of sunshine with a 55% chance of precipitation and average relative humidity 70%. Drying conditions fair.

Weather History

Extreme cold from the Midwest and the East in January 1994. In Detroit, the temperature stayed below zero for 57 straight hours, the second longest period on record.

Sun and Moon

	Today	Monday
Sunrise	7:14 a.m.	7:14 a.m.
Sunset	6:00 p.m.	6:01 p.m.
Moonrise	12:58 p.m.	1:42 p.m.
Moonset	1:48 a.m.	2:40 a.m.



Water Restrictions

• Even addresses may water on Thursday and Sunday.

• Odd addresses may water on Wednesday and Saturday.

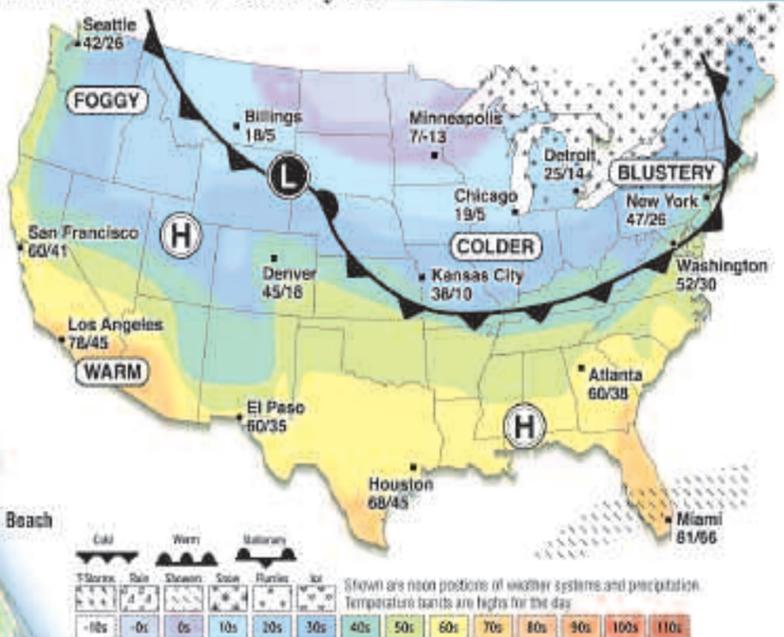
• All watering should take place before 10 a.m. and after 4 p.m.

Florida Cities

City	Today	Mon.	Tue.
Cape Coral	78/60pc	76/58pc	70/40pc
Clearwater	74/58pc	72/54pc	66/40pc
Coast Springs	81/63pc	78/63pc	75/58pc
Daytona Beach	72/55pc	72/49pc	64/41pc
FL. Inst. Tech.	80/66pc	81/65pc	78/63pc
Fort Myers	79/51pc	76/57pc	71/50pc
Gainesville	72/49pc	67/49pc	60/30pc
Hollywood	80/64pc	81/63pc	76/50pc
Homestead AFB	80/63pc	80/62pc	76/50pc
Jacksonville	70/48pc	66/37pc	59/30pc
Key West	78/67pc	78/66pc	74/64pc

Weather (W): s=sunny, pc=partly cloudy, c=cloudy, sh=showers, t=thunderstorms, r=rain, sf=snow flurries, ar=arise, f=fog.

National Forecast for January 20



National Summary

After a brief warmup to start the weekend across portions of the Northeast and eastern Great Lakes, much colder and blustery conditions will be found to end the weekend today. A clipper storm system passing through southern Canada will bring snow showers to the Great Lakes and interior Northeast. Blustery cold air will continue to press southward across the northern Plains and Midwest while a few snow showers swing across Montana and the Dakotas. However, low clouds and fog will linger over part of the Northeast.

U.S. Cities

City	Today	Mon.	Tue.
Albuquerque	52/25pc	49/24pc	55/27pc
Atlanta	60/38pc	59/26pc	49/27pc
Baltimore	60/26pc	58/21pc	78/18pc
Birmingham	58/33pc	50/22pc	42/22pc
Boston	46/22pc	29/18pc	23/9pc
Charlotte	58/33pc	51/25pc	41/18pc
Chattanooga	49/16pc	48/20pc	53/29pc
Chicago	19/5pc	9/4pc	18/6pc
Cleveland	30/17pc	20/8pc	14/8pc
Columbus	32/7pc	24/6pc	14/0pc
Dallas	66/37pc	48/31pc	55/46pc
Denver	45/18pc	50/29pc	60/31pc
Detroit	25/14pc	30/7pc	16/9pc
Harrisburg	47/23pc	29/17pc	25/12pc
Honolulu	77/65pc	78/67pc	80/68pc
Houston	68/45pc	68/44pc	62/43pc
Indianapolis	30/15pc	18/1pc	14/1pc
Jackson, MS	62/39pc	59/26pc	50/29pc
Kansas City	38/10pc	28/1pc	35/29pc
Lexington	49/22pc	29/5pc	20/10pc
Little Rock	58/04pc	45/22pc	43/28pc

World Cities

City	Today	Mon.	Tue.
Aspenico	89/71pc	89/74pc	80/78pc
Athens	66/53pc	65/52pc	65/52pc
Beirut	60/56pc	71/62pc	75/58pc
Berlin	22/18pc	22/18pc	22/14pc
Bermuda	79/62pc	70/55pc	65/53pc
Calgary	16/19pc	10/12pc	2/19pc
Dublin	37/27pc	37/28pc	40/28pc
Edmonton	2/14pc	9/3pc	13/3pc
Freeport	78/65pc	77/67pc	73/62pc
Geneva	45/29pc	33/31pc	40/22pc
Havana	83/62pc	82/63pc	79/63pc
Hong Kong	79/64pc	72/64pc	73/64pc
Jerusalem	59/47pc	67/52pc	71/47pc
Johannesburg	70/56pc	70/57pc	75/59pc
Kiev	23/18pc	25/17pc	21/8pc

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Heart & Vascular Center

Sebring 70s in full swing

Special to the News-Sun
SEBRING – The weather was ideal again for the Sebring Seventy and Over Softball League at the Highlands County Sports Complex Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

On Tuesday the Silent Salesman and Highlands Independent Bank played an exciting game with both teams hitting well.

The Salesman dominated in the run department for five innings with an 11-6 lead.

The Bank boys proved they were not done yet and tied the score 12-12 at the end of seven innings.

The Bank's rally in the 8th inning was cut short by a slick, inning-ending double play.

In the bottom of the 8th inning the Salesman loaded the bases with walks.

Having a good day at the plate for the Salesman were Victor Rodriguez going 3-for-4, including a triple.

Fred Moore, Norm Grubbs and Bill Todd each had a double in their 3-for-4 day.

Larry Ambuel and Fred Moore connected for three hits each. Bob Iott had 2-for-3 and scored two runs.

Don Day had a long triple to go with his game winning final hit to seal the 13-12 win.

Highlands Independent Bank's hits were all singles.

Giving it what seemed to be their best efforts, Jim Quartier went 4-for-4 and Harry Bell was 4-for-5.

Jose Torres came out having 3-for-5 and Ray Concepcion batted 2-for-3.

Royal Palms Bowling Center squeaked by Andrews Allstate Insurance with a 15-14 win.

Palms' Doug Hanover had a two-base hit with the bases loaded.

Charlie Quinn went 3-for-4 and Gene Hanford had a double and triple for his 2-4 times at bat.

The Palms scored one more run in the 8th inning to win the game.

Jim Longman made two outstanding catches to aid his teammates.

Andrews Allstate Insurance had a good game, also.

Galo Gonzalez had three

See 70s, Page 3B



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE
Gus Owens finds some space between Scott Colley, No. 10, and Nathan Stanley to get this shot off in Avon Parks win at Lake Placid Friday.

Highlands Hoops

By DAN HOEHNE

daniel.hoehne@newssun.com

It was a mix and match Thursday and Friday in area prep basketball action with wins and losses going every which way.

Lake Placid's Lady Dragons rolled to double-digit wins on the road both nights, running past Okeechobee by 22 Thursday and topping Avon Park 51-37 Friday night.

Fresh off seeing senior Alex Coyne score her 1,000th career point Monday night, Lake Placid came out on fire against the Lady Brahms, with an 18-2 first-quarter tilt setting the tone for the game.

The Dragons then made it a regular-season sweep against the county and district rival Red Devils to remain unbeaten in district

play.

Another county sweep went the other way Friday, as the Avon Park boys got their second win of the season over Lake Placid.

After escaping with a three-point win in a December contest, the Devils cruised to a 34-17 halftime lead Friday on their way to a less tense victory and keep their own district record unblemished.

The Lady Blue Streaks took one on the chin Thursday, losing a late lead against district front-runner Winter Haven and taking a three-point loss, 42-39.

But rather than have a let-down effort the following night, they took out their frustrations on an overmatched, visiting Lake Gibson squad by a whop-

ping 63-16 count.

The Sebring boys weren't as fortunate Friday as, after a near upset at Winter Haven Tuesday, the road weary Blue Streaks didn't have much to offer in a 21-point loss at Lake Gibson.

The Blue Streaks travels continue Monday at DeSoto before getting a long-awaited for home date Tuesday against Kathleen.

The Lady Streaks next travel to Frostproof while the Lady Dragons will be hosting Riverdale, both on Tuesday, and the Green Dragon boys are off until a Friday contest at Okeechobee.

The Lady Red Devils travel to George Jenkins Thursday and the boys are off until a Monday, Jan. 28, game at Sebring.



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE
Mary Grace Bates has the ball and the goal in her sights, but three Lady Bulldogs have her in their sights as Frostproof held on for a 1-0 win to take the District 10-2A title Friday night.

Lady Dragons settle for runner-up

By DAN HOEHNE

daniel.hoehne@newssun.com

LAKE PLACID – That proverbial hump couldn't quite be gotten over Friday night, as the Lady Dragons finished as District 10-2A Tournament runner-ups after a 1-0 loss to top-seeded Frostproof.

The regular season contests

between Lake Placid and the Lady Bulldogs had provided a glimmer of hope that this third time might be the charm for the Dragons, as they had fallen in 2-1 and 3-1 matches.

And it would be another pitched battle on the pitch with the two squads striving for the district title and a home date in the first round of

the Regional Quarterfinals.

The Lake Placid defense hung tough, keeping the serious Frostproof shot attempts to a minimum, though offensively they had a hard time getting any serious threats of their own.

On a few occasions throughout the night, the Lady Dragon youth

showed up a bit, perhaps, as charges into the Bulldog zone took a little too long to develop with the dribbler waiting an extra few steps before sending the ball ahead.

Those scant few moments allowed the Frostproof defenders to

See LP, Page 4B

Finishing strong



Courtesy photo

Record wise, it has been another tough season for Avon Park soccer. But upon a closer look, improvements are evident and progress will be sure to follow. And the regular season ended on a high note as Martin Maldonado got a Red Devil score and the defense held for a 1-0 win over All Saints Thursday, marking the first program win in three years.

Streaks, Dragons duel to two ties

By TAYLOR TUBBS

News-Sun correspondent

SEBRING – The Lake Placid Dragons and the Sebring Streaks battled it out for the second straight night at Firemen's Field on Friday night for the Streak's senior night.

On Thursday night the Streaks traveled to Lake Placid for the Dragon's senior night, and both games ended in a similarly indecisive manor, with tied scores.

On Thursday the teams battled to a 2-2 tie, while on Friday neither team was able to get a score on the board, leaving the final at 0-0.

"We managed to tie in a very exciting game both nights," said Sebring head coach Keith Bowyer. "Lake Placid has a strong team this year."

In Friday's game, Lake Placid was on the offensive early on with an early shot on goal by Yoyi Gomez.

Sebring retaliated back with a beeline shot by Filemon Chavez that bounced off of the Lake Placid keeper and away from the net.

Osvaldo Orduna of Lake Placid had an offensive breakaway towards the Sebring goal that was stopped short by Junior Chavez.

The back-and-forth continued with a number of offensive attempts by Sebring's Jared Lang.

Lang had a sprint toward the Dragon's goal, but a

See TIES, Page 3B



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE
Sebring's David Magana keeps the ball ahead of Green Dragon Osvaldo Orduna Friday night as the county foes battled to their second tie in as many nights.

THE SCOREBOARD



LIVE SPORTS ON TV

National Football League

WILD-CARD PLAYOFFS
Saturday, Jan. 5
Houston 19, Cincinnati 13
Green Bay 24, Minnesota 10
Sunday, Jan. 6
Baltimore 24, Indianapolis 9
Seattle 24, Washington 14

DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS
Saturday, Jan. 12
Baltimore 38, Denver 35, 20T
San Francisco 45, Green Bay 31
Sunday, Jan. 13
Atlanta 30, Seattle 28
New England 41, Houston 28

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS
Sunday, Jan. 20
San Francisco at Atlanta, 3 p.m. (FOX)
Baltimore at New England, 6:30 p.m. (CBS)

PRO BOWL
Sunday, Jan. 27
At Honolulu
AFC vs. NFC, 7 p.m. (NBC)

SUPER BOWL
Sunday, Feb. 3
At New Orleans
AFC champion vs. NFC champion, 6 p.m. (CBS)

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	25	13	.658	—
Brooklyn	24	16	.600	2
Boston	20	19	.513	5.5
Philadelphia	17	23	.425	9
Toronto	14	26	.350	12

Southeast Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	26	12	.684	—
Atlanta	22	17	.564	4.5
Orlando	14	25	.359	12.5
Charlotte	10	29	.256	16.5
Washington	8	29	.216	17.5

Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	25	16	.610	—
Chicago	23	15	.605	.5
Milwaukee	20	18	.526	3.5
Detroit	14	25	.359	10
Cleveland	10	31	.244	15

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	31	11	.738	—
Memphis	25	13	.658	4
Houston	21	20	.512	9.5
Dallas	17	24	.415	13.5
New Orleans	13	26	.333	16.5

Northwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Oklahoma City	32	8	.800	—
Denver	24	18	.571	9
Utah	21	19	.525	11
Portland	20	19	.513	11.5
Minnesota	16	20	.444	14

Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Clippers	31	9	.775	—
Golden State	23	15	.605	7
L.A. Lakers	17	22	.436	13.5
Sacramento	15	25	.375	16
Phoenix	13	28	.317	18.5

Thursday's Games
New York 102, Detroit 87
L.A. Clippers 90, Minnesota 77
Milwaukee 98, Phoenix 94
Miami 99, L.A. Lakers 90

Friday's Games
Chicago 100, Boston 99, OT
Philadelphia 108, Toronto 101, OT
Indiana 105, Houston 95
Charlotte 106, Orlando 100
Brooklyn 94, Atlanta 89
Memphis 85, Sacramento 69
San Antonio 95, Golden State 88
Washington 112, Denver 108
Oklahoma City 117, Dallas 114, OT

Saturday's Games
San Antonio at Atlanta, late
Sacramento at Charlotte, late
Memphis at Chicago, late
Houston at Minnesota, late
Golden State at New Orleans, late
Cleveland at Utah, late
Milwaukee at Portland, late
Washington at L.A. Clippers, late

Sunday's Games
L.A. Lakers at Toronto, 1 p.m.
Dallas at Orlando, 6 p.m.
Boston at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Denver, 8 p.m.

LEADERS

	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Bryant, LAL	40.4	26.2	15.7	29.7
Durant, OKC	38.4	32.9	17.2	29.3
Anthony, NYK	30.9	20.0	9.0	29.2
James, MIA	38.7	17.7	10.1	26.3
Harden, HOU	31.4	33.4	10.4	26.0

REBOUNDS

	OFF	DEFT	TOT	AVG
Howard, LAL	13.3	3.2	4.5	12.7
Randolph, MEM	15.6	2.6	4.1	11.6
Asik, HOU	13.2	3.2	4.5	11.2
Vucevic, ORL	13.2	3.0	4.3	11.1
Chandler, NYK	17.1	2.4	4.1	11.0

ASSISTS

	G	AST	AVG
Rondo, BOS	34	3.7	11.0
Paul, LAC	37	3.5	9.7
Vasquez, NOR	39	3.5	9.0
Holiday, PHL	36	3.2	9.0
Westbrook, OKC	40	3.3	8.3

STEALS

	G	STL	AVG
Paul, LAC	37	9.7	2.62
Conley, MEM	37	8.6	2.32
Westbrook, OKC	40	8.0	2.00
Lin, HOU	41	8.2	2.00
Jennings, MIL	38	7.4	1.95

BLOCKS

	G	BLK	AVG
Sanders, MIL	37	11.8	3.19
Ibaka, OKC	38	10.8	2.84
Duncan, SAN	41	11.4	2.78
Hibbert, IND	41	11.2	2.73
Howard, LAL	36	9.3	2.58

FIELD GOAL PERCENTAGE

	FG	FGA	PCT
Chandler, NYK	17.3	25.7	.673
Jordan, LAC	15.5	25.9	.598
Splitter, SAN	15.4	25.9	.595
Howard, LAL	22.8	38.9	.586
Ibaka, OKC	22.4	40.1	.559

3-POINT PERCENTAGE

	3FG	3FGA	PCT
Curry, GOL	11.3	24.5	.461
Novak, NYK	8.0	17.8	.449
Korver, ATL	8.6	19.5	.441
Foye, UTA	8.9	20.5	.434
Allen, MIA	6.4	14.8	.432

FREE THROW PERCENTAGE

	FT	FTA	PCT
Martin, OKC	13.9	15.2	.914

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

MONDAY
Noon Texas A&M at Alabama SUN
2 p.m. Harvard at Memphis SUN
3:30 p.m. Cincinnati at Syracuse ESPN
5:30 p.m. Oklahoma State at Baylor ESPN
7:30 p.m. Georgetown at Notre Dame ESPN

TUESDAY
7 p.m. Michigan State at Wisconsin ESPN
7 p.m. Pittsburgh at Providence ESPN2
7 p.m. North Carolina State at Wake Forest SUN
9 p.m. Kentucky at Alabama ESPN
9 p.m. Tulane at Memphis SUN

GOLF

SUNDAY
10:30 a.m. EuroPGA – Abu Dhabi Championship GOLF
3 p.m. PGA – Humana Challenge GOLF
7:30 p.m. PGA – Mitsubishi Electric Championship GOLF

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

SUNDAY
5 p.m. Huntington Prep vs. New Hampton ESPN

NBA MONDAY

1 p.m. Indiana at Memphis ESPN
7 p.m. San Antonio at Philadelphia TNT
9:30 p.m. L.A. Lakers at Chicago TNT

NFL PLAYOFFS

SUNDAY
3 p.m. San Francisco at Atlanta FOX
6:30 p.m. Baltimore at New England CBS

SKATING SUNDAY

4 p.m. Skating and Gymnastics Spectacular NBC

SKIING SUNDAY

3 p.m. U.S. Freestyle Cup NBC

TENNIS SUNDAY

11 a.m. Australian Open, Round of 16 ESPN2
9 p.m. Australian Open, Round of 16 ESPN2

MONDAY
9 p.m. Australian Open, Quarterfinals ESPN2

TUESDAY
2 p.m. Australian Open, Quarterfinals ESPN2
9 p.m. Australian Open, Quarterfinals ESPN2

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

SUNDAY
1 p.m. Wake Forest at Boston College SUN
2 p.m. Auburn at Kentucky 38
3 p.m. Maryland at Georgia Tech ESPN2
3 p.m. Florida State at North Carolina State SUN
5 p.m. Texas A&M at Georgia ESPN2
10:30 p.m. Iowa State at Oklahoma State SUN

WOMEN'S COLLEGE GYMNASTICS

SUNDAY
10:30 a.m. Florida at LSU SUN
Times, games, channels all subject to change

Fredette, SAC	64	70	.914
Durant, OKC	329	363	.906
Paul, LAC	146	162	.901
Redick, ORL	82	91	.901

Transactions

BASEBALL

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE —
Suspended Oakland RHP Gary Daley Jr. and free agent 1B Austin Gallagher 50 games for violations of the Minor League Drug Prevention and Treatment Program.

American League

BALTIMORE ORIOLES—Agreed to terms with C Matt Wieters, INF Chris Davis, LHP Troy Patton and LHP Brian Matusz on one-year contracts.

BOSTON RED SOX—Agreed to terms with RHP Alfredo Aceves, RHP Andrew Bailey, RHP Daniel Bard, RHP Joel Hanrahan, LHP Andrew Miller, LHP Franklin Morales and OF Jacoby Ellsbury on one-year contracts.

CHICAGO WHITE SOX—Agreed to terms with 2B Gordon Beckham and OF Alejandro De Aza on one-year contracts. CLEVELAND INDIANS—Agreed to terms with RHP Chris Perez, RHP Justin Masterson, RHP Joe Smith, RHP Matt Albers, OF Drew Stubbs and C Lou Marson on one-year contracts.

DETROIT TIGERS—Agreed to terms with RHP Doug Fister, RHP Rick Porcello, LHP Phil Coke, C Alex Avila, OF Brennan Boesch and OF Austin Jackson on one-year contracts.

HOUSTON ASTROS—Agreed to terms with SS Jed Lowrie, RHP Bud Norris and LHP Wesley Wright on one-year contracts.

KANSAS CITY ROYALS—Agreed to terms with RHP Luke Hochevar on a one-year contract.

LOS ANGELES ANGELS—Agreed to terms with LHP Jason Vargas and RHP Tommy Hanson on one-year contracts.

MINNESOTA TWINS—Agreed to terms with LHP Brian Duensing and C Drew

Butera on one-year contracts. NEW YORK YANKEES—Agreed to terms with LHP Boone Logan on a one-year contract.

OAKLAND ATHLETICS—Agreed to terms with LHP Jerry Blevins and 1B Brandon Moss on one-year contracts.

SEATTLE MARINERS—Agreed to terms with 1B/DH Kendrys Morales and SS Brendan Ryan on one-year contracts.

TAMPA BAY RAYS—Agreed to terms with OF Sam Fuld, INF Matt Joyce, RHP Jeff Niemann and INF Ryan Roberts on one-year contracts.

TORONTO BLUE JAYS—Agreed to terms with LHP J.A. Happ and INF/OF Emilio Bonifacio on one-year contracts and C Josh Thole on a two-year contract.

National League ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS—Agreed to terms with RHP Ian Kennedy, RHP Brad Ziegler, INF Chris Johnson and LHP Tony Sipp on one-year contracts.

ATLANTA BRAVES—Agreed to terms with OF Jason Heyward, RHP Cristhian Martinez, RHP Kris Medlen, LHP Eric O'Flaherty and LHP Jonny Venters on one-year contracts.

CHICAGO CUBS—Agreed to terms with RHP Jeff Samardzija and LHP James Russell on one-year contracts.

COLORADO ROCKIES—Agreed to terms with OF Tyler Colvin on a one-year contract.

LOS ANGELES DODGERS—Agreed to terms with C A.J. Ellis and RHP Ronald Belisario on one-year contracts.

MIAMI MARLINS—Agreed to terms with RHP Ryan Webb on a one-year contract.

MILWAUKEE BREWERS—Agreed to terms with RHP John Axford, RHP Burke Badenhop and RHP Marco Estrada on one-year contracts.

NEW YORK METS—Agreed to terms with C Landon Powell on a minor league contract. PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES—Agreed to terms with LHP Antonio Bastardo on a one-year contract.

LOCAL SCHEDULE



Avon Park

TUESDAY: Boys Soccer at District 10-2A Tournament, Hardee, vs. DeSoto, 8 p.m.
THURSDAY: Girls Basketball at George Jenkins, 6/7:30 p.m.; Boys Soccer at District 10-2A Tournament, Hardee, vs. Hardee, 8 p.m., if necessary



Lake Placid

TUESDAY: Girls Basketball vs. Riverdale, 6/7:30 p.m.; Boys Soccer at District 10-2A Tournament, Hardee, vs. Mulberry, 6 p.m.
THURSDAY: Girls Basketball vs. Hardee, 6/7:30 p.m.; Boys Soccer at District 10-2A Tournament, Hardee, vs. Frostproof, 6 p.m., if necessary
FRIDAY: Boys Basketball at Okeechobee, 6/7:30 p.m.; Girls Basketball vs. Lake Wales, 6/7:30 p.m.



Sebring

MONDAY: Boys Basketball at DeSoto, 6/7:30 p.m.; Girls Weightlifting at Travis Todd Invite, 4 p.m.
TUESDAY: Boys Basketball vs. Kathleen, 6/7:30 p.m.; Girls Basketball at Frostproof, 6/7:30 p.m.; Boys Soccer at District 13-3A Tournament, Lake Wales, vs. Winter Haven/Tenoroc winner, 6 p.m.



SFSC

FRIDAY: Baseball vs. College of Central Florida, 1 p.m.
SATURDAY: Baseball at Seminole State College, 1 p.m.; Softball at Kick-Off Classic, Clearwater, TBD
SUNDAY, Jan. 27: Baseball at Lake Sumter, 1 p.m.
MONDAY, Jan. 28: Baseball at Webber International, 6 p.m.

SPORTS SNAPSHOTS

YMCA Spring Soccer

SEBRING – The Highlands County Family YMCA is having a sign up for their Spring Soccer Program, ages 3-14. Any questions, please call 382-9622.

SFSC Opening Day

AVON PARK – South Florida State College baseball hosts Dr. Stephens Day at the Ball Park on Friday, Jan. 25. Opening ceremonies begin at 12:45 p.m. at SFSC Panther Field.

The celebration begins with the opening ceremony, an appreciation ceremony for Dr. and Mrs. Stephens, followed by Dr. Stephens throwing out the first pitch for the Panthers home opener against the College of Central Florida.

The fun continues with plenty of great snacks and panther athletic apparel available at the Panther concession stand.

Throughout the game, announcer Hal Graves will award prizes for those who can muster the answers to his famous baseball trivia.

The public is welcome to attend, and admission to the opening day game is free for everyone.

AP Softball Sign-ups

AVON PARK – Sign-ups for the 2013 Avon Park Girls Softball season are going to be held at the field from 5-7 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 18, from 9 a.m.-Noon on Saturday, Jan. 19 and from 9-11 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 26.

Registration fee is \$60 per child, \$50 per sibling(s), if you are signing up more than one child.

Please bring a copy of your child's birth certificate if she is a first-year player – if she played last year, a copy is on file.

Registration forms will also be located at the Top Shop if you are unable to make one of the listed dates.

Checks are to be made payable to APGS.

For questions or more information, call Cindy Bennett at 443-1663.

Lady Streak Tennis Camp

SEBRING — The Sebring High School girls tennis team will be hosting their first annual Tennis Camp on Saturday, Feb. 2.

The camp will run from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the Thakkar Tennis Center located in the Country Club of Sebring.

The camp is open to girls and boys ages four to 18.

Instruction will be available for all levels of play.

Lunch will be provided and all participants will receive a camp T-shirt.

Cost is \$25 per student with family discounts available.

For registration and/or more information, call Coach Hollinger at 471-5513.

SFSC Hosts Heartland Games

70s seeing hit parades in high-scoring games

Continued from 1B

triples and one single in his 4-for-5 times up.

Jerry Kuffman went 3-for-4 with a double and triple.

Mel Gross was 3-for-4 including a double and Tom Ashley and John Pena each had 3-for-4.

VFW4300 toppled Buttonwood Bay with an 18-0 shutout.

Their Cal Bready had four hits.

Also, having four hits were Bob Fulcher and Bob Roth, who also had a double.

Ron Lewis and Dennis Burkholtz each had three hits.

For Buttonwood, the game was close and exciting until their opponents broke it open in the 7th and 8th innings.

The closest scoring game on Thursday was between the undefeated Royal Palms Bowling Center and

Highlands Independent Bank with Royal Palms finishing in the lead.

The Palms' Kyle Saunders and Andy Timmemanis each had 3-for-4, including a double, and Mo Pier had 3-for-4.

Charlie Quinn was the winning pitcher.

Highlands Bank again had one home run off the bat of Don Cunningham who also had 3-for-4 to his credit.

Gene Phillips was 2-for-4 with a triple, Jose Torres went 4-for-4 and Harold Baucom had 3-for-3.

Going 3-for-4 was Woody Woodward.

Andrews Allstate Insurance was credited with a win over the Buttonwood Bay Rebels with a final 14-7 victory.

Galo Gonzalez hit a double in his 3-for-3 times at bat. Mel Gross was 4-for-4.

Four batters having 3-for-3 were Marvin Knutilla, Jerry

Kuffman, John Pena and Rudy Pribble.

Dick Ostrick rounded out the game with 3-for-4.

The Buttonwood Bay Rebels came up on the short end of a 14-7 finish against the Andrews Allstate Insurance Team.

Several of the Rebels had a hot bat as Jim Monroe and Tom "Moose" Morrisette were 3-for-4 at the plate.

A quartet having 2-for-3 were John Deggen, John Jeffery, Nelson Richardson and Rich Vancuren.

The combination of Jack Grasso, Tom Morrisette and Jim Monroe turned three double plays.

The Silent Salesman played the first place undefeated VFW 4300 team, hoping to end their winning streak.

That didn't happen as the VFW players had other plans. They dominated the game

from the start to breeze to an easy victory of 19-8.

VFW's Bob Fulcher went 4-for-4, including a two-base hit.

Cliff Skearns had a double in his two hits and Cal Bready had two doubles in going 3-for-3.

Bob Roth and Doran Quigg each had three hits.

The Salesman hit the ball well, but a couple VFW double plays cut short potential rallies.

Don Day led the Salesman with a double and three singles.

Victor Rodriguez had 4-for-4, scoring each time.

Fred Moore kept up his hot hitting with a 4-for-4 game.

The games are played each Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 10 a.m., bleachers are furnished.

The location of the Complex is behind the Train Depot in Sebring.

January Sebring Kayak Tours

Special to the News-Sun
SEBRING – If getting out more often is one of your new year resolutions then we have two suggestions for you – take advantage of our (new for 2013) "Frequent Kayaker" program, and start right away.

The "Frequent Kayaker" program is simple: Join us for five trips throughout the year and the sixth one is free.

To get you started right away, here are the trips we have scheduled for the rest of January.

**Saturday, Jan. 26
Moonlight Tour /
Don Jose**

We will meet and launch at 5 p.m. from Veterans Park and dock at Don Jose's Mexican Restaurant for dinner.

You will experience a sunset like you've never witnessed before.

After dinner it will be out under the full moon.

Exact paddling location and time is up to the group.

\$39 per person (includes single or tandem kayak, equipment and dinner).

\$29 per person (for those bringing their own kayak-includes dinner)

To reserve a spot call, text or email us as soon as possible.

For trips that include lunch/dinner you will be issued a \$20 voucher/gift card for use at the restaurant.

Please note that we reserve the right to cancel trips that do not meet the minimum number of participants.

Conditions such as high winds, waves or lightning may force us to cancel.

Call us now at (863) 202-0815 and get started early in 2013.

Te'o tells ESPN: Not involved in creating hoax

By RALPH D. RUSSO

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Notre Dame linebacker Manti Te'o insisted he had no role in the bizarre hoax involving his "dead" girlfriend and told ESPN on Friday night that he was duped by a person who has since apologized to him.

In an off-camera interview Friday with ESPN, Te'o said Ronaiah Tuiasosopo, a 22-year-old acquaintance who lives in California, contacted him two days ago and confessed to the prank.

Deadspin.com first exposed the scheme on Wednesday and indicated Tuiasosopo was involved in it.

"I wasn't faking it," ESPN quoted Te'o as saying during the 2 1-2 hour interview. "I wasn't part of this. When they hear the facts they'll know. They'll know there is no way I could be a part of this."

Te'o said he first met Tuiasosopo in person after the Southern California game in November.

According to the linebacker, Tuiasosopo told him he was the cousin of Lennay Kekua, the woman who Te'o believed he had fallen for through Internet chats and long phone conversations.

But Kekua never existed.

"Two guys and a girl are responsible for the whole thing," Te'o told ESPN. "According to Ronaiah, Ronaiah's one."

The Tuiasosopo family has declined several interview requests from The Associated Press since Wednesday.

Te'o said he never met Kekua face-to-face and when he tried to speak with her via Skype and video phone calls, the picture was blocked.

Still, he didn't figure out the ruse.

He also told ESPN that he lied to his father about having met Kekua.

To cover that up, he apparently lied to everyone else.

After he was told Kekua had died of leukemia in early September, Te'o admitted he

mised the public about the nature of the "relationship" because he was uncomfortable saying it was purely an electronic romance.

"That goes back to what I did with my dad. I knew that. I even knew that it was crazy that I was with somebody that I didn't meet," he said. "So I kind of tailored my stories to have people think that, yeah, he met her before she passed away."

Te'o's first interview since the story broke came at the end of a day that started with Notre Dame posting a podcast of athletic director Jack Swarbrick's radio show, during which he implored the Heisman Trophy runner-up to speak publicly about the episode.

Already, it had turned the feel-good story line of the college football season into a dark and strange one.

Te'o took Notre Dame's advice, but this was no Lance Armstrong-with-Oprah Winfrey made for TV mea culpa.

ESPN conducted the interview with Te'o at the IMG Academy in Bradenton, Fla., where Te'o is preparing for the NFL draft and hopes to be among the first-round picks.

The network produced only still photos of the interview, with reporter Jeremy Schaap sitting at large table with the linebacker.

Schaap then provided details on "Sports Center" and a story was posted on ESPN.com.

Some wondered whether Te'o had been in on the fake girlfriend scheme in an attempt to gain positive publicity and attention.

Schaap said Te'o firmly denied that.

The nation's best defender also said the hoax affected his play in the BCS national championship, a 42-14 loss to Alabama in which he performed poorly.

Te'o told ESPN that he wasn't entirely sure he was

the victim of a hoax until earlier this week, just two days ago, when Tuiasosopo apologized.

As Notre Dame officials said earlier, he did get a call from the person posing as Kekua on Dec. 6 — but it was to tell him she had not died at all, and to carry on their courtship.

Te'o was confused.

He finally confided in his parents over Christmas break in his home state of Hawaii and told Notre Dame coaches what was going on Dec. 26, according to Swarbrick.

"My relationship with Lennay wasn't a four-year relationship," Te'o said. "There were blocks and times and periods in which we would talk and then it would end," but he offered her a "shoulder to cry on" when she told him her father had died.

Te'o said he was told Kekua was in a coma following an April 28 car accident, but she awoke the following month.

He never made an attempt to visit her in the hospital.

"It never really crossed my mind. I don't know. I was in school," he told ESPN.

Then came the day in September when his grandmother died and the woman known as Kekua reached out to him.

"I was angry. I didn't want to be bothered," he told ESPN. "We got in an argument. She was saying, you know, I'm trying to be here for you. I didn't want to be bothered. I wanted to be left alone. I just wanted to be by myself. Last thing she told me was 'Just know I love you.'"

Te'o was told later that day Kekua had died.

ESPN did not play audio of the interview, relying instead on descriptions of Te'o and his statements from reporter Schaap.

Audio clips were posted later.

According to the reporter, Te'o was calm, and had no

interest in going on camera.

"He was very relieved, he told me at the end of it, to have had a chance to tell his story," Schaap said.

Te'o told ESPN the relationship with Kekua dated to his freshman year at Notre Dame, the 2009-10 season, and they met via Facebook.

Te'o also provided details of just how devilish the hoax was — how Kekua spoke to his mother about Mormonism, how he could hear a supposed ventilator when she was in her coma, even how she sought his checking account number so she could send him some money (he declined).

At the Notre Dame student union early Saturday, many people didn't even seem to notice the story about Te'o playing out on television.

Tony Stedge, a freshman from Seattle, said he supports Te'o, but he'd still like to hear from the star player.

"I think he should be able to do it in his own time, whenever he is comfortable," he said.

Te'o's comments to ESPN though made it sound as if he is ready to put this all behind him — and Tuiasosopo.

"I hope he learns," Te'o said. "I hope he understands what he's done. I don't wish an ill thing to somebody. I just hope he learns. I think embarrassment is big enough."

Associated Press writer Tom Coyne in South Bend, Ind., contributed to this report.

Ties send off both Green Dragon, Blue Streak seniors

Continued from 1B

defender blocked the ball.

Less than one minute later, Lang took a free kick on the Lake Placid goal as a result of a handball penalty.

Lake Placid's goalie, freshman Alfredo Algaira, was able to make the save when the shot headed straight for the center of the net.

With five minutes remaining in the first half, Lake Placid took an indirect kick that sailed just to the right of the Streak's goal.

Despite close calls by both teams, the scored remained 0-0 going into the halftime break.

At the 37-minute mark, Hunter Livingston of Sebring had a shot on goal that sailed just over the top bar of the goal.

Directly after, Wilfredy Moreno of Lake Placid had a shot on goal that was grabbed up by the Streak goalie, Ethan Smith.

Filemon Chavez of Sebring took an indirect kick at the 32-minute mark that was stopped by the Dragon's wall.

Four minutes later, Lang of Sebring nearly headed the ball into Lake Placid's net.

Moreno kept on the attack and had a number of shots on goal in the second half.

With 15 minutes remaining, a chip was taken out of the Dragon's offensive

when Moreno was taken out due to an injury.

The back-and-forth continued between the teams for the remainder of the game, and the match was too even to provide a victor, once again.

"I think we played a very good game tonight," said Lake Placid head coach James Ashley. "We had Sebring on their heels."

Bowyer was also happy with the result, but has bittersweet feelings about seeing his seniors go.

"They're good kids," said Bowyer. "I didn't pull them out at all, so we didn't see much subbing this game."

For now, both teams paid tribute to their seniors this week and look toward their respective district tournaments early this week.

"I don't mind being the fifth seed," said Ashley. "We've had a lot of injuries, and close games, 2-1 and 3-2 type games. The record could easily be reversed. We're a strong team."

The Dragons face Mulberry at 6 p.m. Tuesday in Wauchula with Hardee hosting the District 10-2A Tournament, with Avon Park facing DeSoto in Tuesday's 8 p.m. match.

Sebring, a second seed in the District 13-3A standings, is also in action Tuesday night, in Lake Wales, facing the winner of Monday's Winter Haven, Tenoroc match, at 6 p.m.

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Armstrong emotional when recalling talk with son

CHICAGO — Lance Armstrong finally cracked.

Not while expressing deep remorse or regrets, though there was plenty of that in Friday night's second part of Armstrong's interview with Oprah Winfrey.

It wasn't over the \$75 million in sponsorship deals that evaporated over the course of two days, or having to walk away from the Livestrong cancer charity he founded and called his "sixth child."

It wasn't even about his lifetime ban from competition, though he said that was more than he deserved.

It was another bit of collateral damage that Armstrong said he wasn't prepared to deal with.

"I saw my son defending me and saying, 'That's not true. What you're saying about my dad is not true,'" Armstrong recalled.

"That's when I knew I had to tell him."

Armstrong was near tears at that point, referring to 13-year-old Luke, the oldest of his five children.

He blinked, looked away from Winfrey and, with his lip trembling, struggled to compose himself.

It came just past the midpoint of the hourlong program on Winfrey's OWN network.

In the first part, broadcast Thursday, the disgraced cycling champion admitted using performance-enhancing drugs when he won seven straight Tour de France titles.

Critics said he hadn't been contrite enough in the first half of the interview, which was taped Monday in Austin, but Armstrong seemed to lose his composure when Winfrey zeroed in on the emotional drama involving his personal life.

"What did you say?" Winfrey asked.

"I said, 'Listen, there's been a lot of questions about your dad. My career. Whether I doped or did not dope. I've always denied that and I've always been ruthless and defiant about that. You guys have seen that. That's probably why you trusted me on it.' Which makes it even sicker," Armstrong said.

"And, uh, I told Luke, I said," and here Armstrong paused for a long time to collect himself, "I said, 'Don't defend me anymore. Don't.'"

"He said OK. He just said, 'Look, I love you. You're my dad. This won't change that.'"

Winfrey also drew Armstrong out on his ex-wife, Kristin, whom he claimed knew just enough about both the doping and lying to ask him to stop.

He credited her with making him promise that his comeback in 2009 would be drug-free.

"She said to me, 'You can do it under one condition: That you never cross that line again,'" Armstrong recalled.

"The line of drugs?" Winfrey asked.

"Yes. And I said, 'You've got a deal,'" he replied. "And I never would have betrayed that with her."

A U.S. Anti-Doping Agency report that exposed Armstrong as the leader of an elaborate doping scheme



JIM LITKE

Associated Press

on his U.S. Postal Service cycling team included witness statements from at least three former teammates who said Kristin Armstrong participated in or at least knew about doping on the teams and knew team code names for EPO kept in her refrigerator.

Postal rider Jonathan Vaughters testified that she handed riders cortisone pills wrapped in foil.

Armstrong said in the first part of the interview that he had stayed clean in the comeback, a claim that runs counter to the USADA report.

And that wasn't the only portion of the interview likely to rile anti-doping officials.

Winfrey asked Armstrong about a "60 Minutes Sports" interview in which USADA chief executive Travis Tygart said a representative of the cyclist had offered a donation that the agency turned down.

"Were you trying to pay off USADA?" she asked.

"No, that's not true," he replied, repeating, "That is not true."

Winfrey asks the question three more times, in different forms.

"That is not true," he insisted.

USADA spokeswoman Annie Skinner replied in a statement: "We stand by the facts both in the reasoned decision and in the '60 Minutes' interview."

Armstrong has talked with USADA officials, and a meeting with Tygart near the Denver airport reportedly ended in an argument over the possibility of modifying the lifetime ban.

A person familiar with those conversations said Armstrong could provide information that might get his ban reduced to eight years.

By then, he would be 49.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because he was discussing a confidential matter.

After retiring from cycling in 2011, Armstrong returned to triathlons, where he began his professional career as a teenager, and he has told people he's desperate to get back.

Winfrey asked if that was why he agreed to the interview.

"If you're asking me, do I want to compete again ... the answer is hell, yes," Armstrong said. "I'm a competitor. It's what I've done my whole life. I love to train. I love to race. I love to toe the line — and I don't expect it to happen."

Yet just three questions later, a flash of the old Armstrong emerged.

"Frankly," he said, "this may not be the most popular answer, but I think I deserve it. Maybe not right now ... (but) if I could go back to that time and say, 'OK, you're trading my story for a six-month sus-

pension?' Because that's what people got."

"What other people got?" Winfrey asked.

"What everybody got," he replied.

Eleven former Armstrong teammates, including several who previously tested positive for PEDs, testified about the USPS team's doping scheme in exchange for more lenient punishments.

Armstrong said in the first part of the interview that he knew his "fate was sealed" when his most trusted lieutenant, George Hincapie, who was alongside him for all seven Tour wins between 1999-2005, was forced to give Armstrong up to anti-doping authorities.

"So I got a death penalty and they got ... six months," Armstrong resumed. "I'm not saying that that's unfair, necessarily, but I'm saying it's different."

Armstrong said the most "humbling" moment in the aftermath of the USADA report was leaving Livestrong lest his association damage the foundation's ability to raise money and continue its advocacy programs on behalf of cancer victims.

Originally called the Lance Armstrong Foundation, the cyclist created it the year after he was diagnosed with a form of testicular cancer that had spread to his brain and lungs.

Doctors gave him 50-50 odds of surviving.

"I wouldn't at all say forced out, told to leave," he said of Livestrong. "I was aware of the pressure. But it hurt like hell. ..."

"That was the lowest," Armstrong said. "The lowest."

Armstrong's personal fortune had sustained a big hit days earlier.

One by one, his sponsors called to end their associations with him: Nike; Trek Bicycles; Giro, which manufactures cycling helmets and other accessories; Anheuser-Busch.

"That was a \$75 million day," Armstrong said.

"That just went out of your life," Winfrey said.

"Gone?" Winfrey repeated.

"Gone," he replied, "and probably never coming back."

So was there a moral to his story?

"I can look at what I did," he said. "Cheating to win bike races, lying about it, bullying people. Of course, you're not supposed to do those things. That's what we teach our children."

Armstrong paused to compose himself before a final mea culpa.

"I just think it was about the ride and losing myself, getting caught up in that, and doing all those things along the way that enabled that," he said. "The ultimate crime is, uh, is the betrayal of those people that supported me and believed in me."

"They got lied to."

AP Sports Writer Jim Vertuno in Austin, Texas, and National Writer Eddie Pells in Denver contributed to this report.

LP heads to St. Pete Tuesday

Continued from 1B

find their marks and recover.

The contest remained scoreless through much of the first half until, with just 2:18 left to go before the break, a Bulldog corner kick found its way into the midst of a scrum in front of the goal and sent into the net for the only score Frostproof would end up needing to capture the win.

That Lake Placid youth, though, has been marked by its never-quit attitude and tendency to ramp it up when faced with a deficit.

So the second half saw the intensity mount as the effort meter continued to rise.

But the Lady Bulldogs would hold their ground and hang on for the district title.

This means, in addition to holding the honor, they get a home contest Tuesday against District 9-2A runner-up Clearwater Central Catholic.

For the Dragons, whom head coach John Merlo saw reach relatively unexpected heights this season, a trip to the state playoffs is another pleasant surprise.

Then again, they will have to hit the road Tuesday to face District 9-2A champion St. Petersburg Catholic, 1-0 winners over Clearwater.



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE

This individual battle personified the hard-fought district championship contest Friday night as Lady Dragon Samantha Phipers and Frostproof's Lizet Rojas-Aguilar fight to get to the ball they both have their eyes on.

"Knowing we'd be in the playoffs against one of those

teams, the girls asked me if they really had a chance," Merlo said. "I told them it will be tough, but if we play our best we can play with

them, keep it close and you never know what can happen.

"But however it goes, it's been a great season and this is great experience for these girls to be getting."

Jaguars hire UM's Fisch as offensive coordinator

By MARK LONG

Associated Press

New Jacksonville Jaguars coach Gus Bradley has turned to a former colleague for his first hire — maybe his most important one.

Bradley hired Miami Hurricanes offensive coordi-

nator Jedd Fisch to the same position Saturday, charging him with remodeling one of the league's worst offenses.

The Jaguars ranked 29th in the league in total offense this season, slightly better than their last-place finish in 2011.

Fisch spent the last two years as Miami's play-caller and quarterbacks coach, and his pro-style offense was consistently one of the most efficient in the country.

The Hurricanes made significant progress in his second season.

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LEISURE LIVING

RV Show motors into Lee Civic Center

Special to the News-Sun

FORT MYERS —

Promising outdoor traveling adventure and family fun, the Fort Myers Recreation Vehicle Show motors into the new year at the Lee Civic Center this Jan. 24-27, according to Dan Wylie, president of Florida RV Trade Association-Region One.

This year's RV extravaganza promises to continue providing attendees the opportunity to see the latest and best camping products available to local RVers and lovers of the great outdoors offered by 17 RV dealers, Wylie says. "Attendees can view hundreds of recreation vehicles of all different types, sizes and prices. It also features 75 outdoor and camping supply vendors," he says.

"For many years, the Fort Myers RV Show has been the top RV show in Florida and the Southeast simply because of the high quality products, outstanding displays and cost-saving prices," Wylie explains. "I'm proud to say this emphasis on quality has enabled the show to grow into the largest dealer show in Florida and one of the largest RV shows in the Southeast."

The 28th Annual Fort Myers RV Show features 17 dealers from throughout Florida displaying a large selection of new 2013 recreation vehicles of all styles, brands and price ranges, including folding campers, gas and diesel motorhomes, travel trailers, toy haulers, fifth wheels, park models and van campers.

Besides RVs, the show offers attendees the chance to



MCT Photo

The Fort Myers Recreation Vehicle Show is set for Jan. 24-27 at Lee Civic Center.

browse 75 outdoor and camping vendors displaying equipment and accessories to help outfit RVers or provide information on camping throughout the nation. Items include new braking systems, RV insurance, specialized camping equipment and high-tech engine enhancers for fuel efficiency.

Recent research conducted by Dr. Richard Curtin, RV industry analyst and director of consumer surveys at the University of Michigan, reveals 8.5 percent of U.S. households now own RVs, up from 8.0 percent in 2005. RV ownership rates have surged among adults 35-54 and 55 and over, according to Curtin. In the 35-54 demographic, RV ownership rose from 9.0 percent in 2005 to 11.2 percent today. Among those 55 and older, ownership rates grew from 8.6 percent to 9.4 percent.

And, with the economy stretching consumers' budgets, RV travel remains an affordable option. PKF's

spring 2011 Vacation Cost Comparison Study shows that RV trips remain the most affordable way for a family to travel because of the significant savings on air, hotel and restaurant costs, which continue to rise. The study showed that a family of four can save 27-59 percent on vacation costs by traveling in an RV, depending on the type of trip taken and RV used. A two-person travel party (the typical empty-nest couple) would save 11-46 percent. With continuing high fuel prices, more than 80 percent of RV owners say their RV vacations cost less than other forms of vacation.

To combat rising fuel prices, RV manufacturers have improved fuel economy through the use of plastic composite materials that have reduced the weight of many RVs by as much as 25 percent. Fuel prices would need to more than double from their current level to make RVing more expensive for a family of four than other

forms of travel, the PKF study showed.

The lure of RVing is bearing fruit as the Recreation Vehicle Industry Association (RVIA), recently reported that year-to-date total shipments rose to 277,300 units in 2012, a nearly 10 percent gain over 2011. The expected gain of 4.5 percent for 2013 shipments would mark four consecutive years of RV market growth.

"For the majority of RV buyers, the interest on their purchase is tax deductible since it qualifies as a second home," Dan continues. "Now is the time to buy since RV prices have never been lower, making the RV lifestyle surprisingly affordable."

The 28th Annual Fort Myers RV Show is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Jan. 27. Admission is \$8 with children under 16 free. Parking is free. Thursday's tickets are discounted to \$5 each.

Right at Home: spring decor's best blues

By KIM COOK

Associated Press

As the new year begins, bringing new colors into our homes can help refresh and recalibrate our spirits. This spring, blues may be just the tonic we need.

Many color marketing and manufacturing groups have named some version of blue among their 2013 colors of the year. AzkoNobel likes indigo; Pantone's top palette includes Monaco Blue, a mix of royal and navy; Color Marketing Group chose mid-range blues. That means that lots of home retailers will be singing the blues this spring, in a good way.

Blues range from energetic to restful. They can call to mind the graduated blues of the sky or those of the oceans, rivers and lagoons.

Blues play well with most colors, textures and room styles.

Rustic woven elements bring indigo home with a traditional, often global sensibility. Canadian designer Windsor Shaw pairs indigo silk drapes with a jute rug, for example. Sleek lacquerware and silver accessories take blue into smart city-modern territory.

Blue and white is a combination with lots of possibilities. Sara Peterson, HGTV Magazine's editor in chief, says, "We love soft blue-grays in master bedrooms, with white linens and dark wood furniture. Light blue is really pretty on painted kitchen cabinets

with white countertops. In a kid's room, cobalt blue is fun when paired with painted white furniture and bursts of bright accent colors, like fuchsia or lime green."

RH Baby and Child has a reversible navy and natural braided wool rug, while Restoration Hardware offers Ben Soleimani's heathered navy pinstripe rug; both would be great bases for other navy touches in a room. (www.rhbabyandchild.com; www.rh.com)

Crate & Barrel and CB2 have some peppy peacock-blue pieces in the spring collections. The latter's got the low-slung Avec sofa, skinny John floor lamp, and the Yolo flat-weave rug in a fresh, fun peacock and white circle print. (www.crateandbarrel.com)

At C&B there's the little Willa wooden chair in perky peacock, and the Kruger patio side table and stool come in a deep ultramarine called Harbor Blue. (www.cb2.com)

This spring, Target's Threshold collection features an array of landscape blues, focusing on one in particular.

"As we traveled through Europe and Asia on our trend trips, teal started to become more prominent," says Julie Guggemos, vice president of product development.

Target's spring collection includes an ikat print shower curtain, a floral door mat and a ceramic lamp in teal. (www.target.com)

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Courtesy photo

Lake Wales artist Tom Freeman, specializing in Florida landscapes and animals, will participate in Saturday's Art and Fine Craft Show.

Hnat joins list of artists for Art and Fine Craft Show

Special to the News-Sun
SEBRING – Nationally known artist Frank Hnat will have some of his work displayed at the Lake Placid Art League's 26th annual Art and Fine Craft Show at the Bert J. Harris Jr. Agricultural Center, 4509 George Blvd. on Saturday.

Hnat is a painter specializing in wild birds and wildlife done in pen and ink with pastels and watercolors. He has work in the Smithsonian Institute of Natural History and has done work for the National Wildlife Federation.

Other artists featured in Saturday's show will include

nationally-known Lake Wales artist Tom Freeman, a painter specializing in Florida landscapes and animals, will be participating. He is also the painter of several Lake Placid murals.

Kelvin Hair, an artist with oil paintings of Florida scenes done in the Highwaymen tradition, is also participating in the Art and Fine Craft Show.

Among a medley of fine crafts at the show will be the work of contemporary wood artist John Henry. The beautiful wood turned bowls and objects explore the natural beauty of wood. They are a

dialogue between an artist and the wood on the lathe a balancing act between precise control and the forms of chance, a collaboration of hand, machine, mind and matter.

Many other artists including photographer Elzbieta Weron, watercolor artist Nancy Flora Adams and textile artist Darlene Phipers.

The hours of the event will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free and door prizes donated by more than 50 vendors will be awarded throughout the day. Refreshments will also be available.



Courtesy photos

The work of Frank Hnat will be part of the Lake Placid Art League's Arts and Fine Crafts Show on Saturday at the Bert J. Harris Jr. Agriculture Center.

Robert Walker, local author, to tell family 'Journey Story' at Historical Society

Special to the News-Sun

SEBRING – Rev. Robert Walker will speak to the Sebring Historical Society membership Saturday at their quarterly luncheon meeting. The event will be held at the Jack Stroup (Sebring) Civic Center on Lakeview Avenue at noon. Attendees are to bring a dish to share, and the cost is \$2 each, to cover table service, beverage, and building rent. The public is invited to attend.

Walker will be telling his family's story as part of the "Journey Stories" program sponsored by the Smithsonian Institute, the Florida Humanities Council, and the Highlands County Art League.

Walker is a graduate of E.O. Douglas High School in Sebring, with a Bachelor of Science degree from Tuskegee Institute and a master's degree from Springfield College in Massachusetts. His professional career was

primarily in guidance, counseling and teaching at the Lantana Youth Correctional facility, from which he retired in 1998.

Walker is the author of the book, "The Way Things Were," which is his personal account of growing up in a small southern town during the days of segregation. He has also written a sequel to this book that will be published in the near future.

Charlie and Anna Belle Walker, Robert's parents, moved to Sebring from Millen, Ga. in 1940. They raised their three children here in Sebring, and all of them achieved college degrees and distinguished careers. In addition, the Walker grandchildren have also followed in their parents' footsteps and have successful careers in the military, law, medicine and education.

For further information, call 471-2522.

Heartland Cultural Alliance awards grants to local organizations

Special to the News-Sun

SEBRING – The Heartland Cultural Alliance is the designated Local Arts Agency for Highlands County and as such is authorized by state and county government to collect and distribute funding to local art and culture organizations.

The State of Florida Department of Transportation returns \$20 to HCA for each Florida State of the Arts specialty license plate sold in Highlands County. This money is distributed through a HCA granting program to local not-for-profit organizations for funding art and culture related projects.

The HCA has awarded the following grants:

- Toby the Clown Foundation, Inc. - \$500 for the American Clown School's classes and supplies; and

- The Children's Museum - \$500 to supplement museum money to provide supplies for the Discovery Camp pro-

gram planned for summer of 2013.

For more information on the granting program contact Fred Leavitt, 402-8238 or by email at info@heartlandculturealliance.org.

www.heartlandculturealliance.org.

To learn more about the Heartland Cultural Alliance visit www.heartlandculturealliance.org.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

SFSC MOFAC presents Sand and Sea

Special to the News-Sun
AVON PARK — South Florida State College's Museum of Florida Art and Culture (SFSC MOFAC) presents its third exhibition of the season, Sand and Sea, from Jan. 23-Feb. 28 at SFSC Highlands Campus, Avon Park.

The Sand and Sea exhibition is a culmination of three artists working in varying mediums and art forms, while inspired by a shared theme — sea shells. Rick Crawford is known for his turned wood artwork of sea shells and shell fragment; John Bunker for his acrylic paintings of sea shells and floral elements; and Terry Powell for sea shell jewelry, decorative pieces, and replicated tool artifacts. They will share an opportunity to demonstrate the uses of a natural form in both science and art.

Crawford sees the form of the sea shell in its complete or fragmented state as a work

of art. His pieces are created by turning wood, adding texture and color, and carving features into the wood surface. The forms are derived from found and reclaimed wood and molded into a sculpture that keeps its organic shape and feel but resembles an entirely new natural form. The artist states, "My current work embodies an exploration of the tactile world around us, using strong textural elements of material reduction."

Acrylic paint is the medium artist Bunker uses to interpret the sea shell in its natural form. The artwork gives the viewer a perspective on a simple form they may have never noticed other than in passing.

A former archeologist and artist, Powell exhibits the science element of the sea shells' natural form with his handmade items inspired by authentic artifacts he has discovered through his research.

Tools made with sea shells and other items were created to improve and aid in the lives of early peoples. Powell will also exhibit his re-creations of handmade ancient sea shell jewelry.

The MOFAC Sand and Sea exhibition will invoke thought and comparisons between beauty and science in forms that occur everywhere in nature. SFSC MOFAC is open to the public from 12:30-4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Patrons of the Artist and Matinee series may view the exhibition one hour prior to performances, and group tours are available by appointment. For more information about the museum, exhibitions, and workshops, or to request a museum tour, contact Mollie Doctrow, curator, SFSC MOFAC, at 784-7240, or visit the SFSC MOFAC website at www.mofac.org.



Courtesy photo

Internationally known Christian concert pianist Jim Hendricks will be in concert Saturday at St. John United Methodist Church in Sebring.

Christian concert pianist performs Saturday at St. John UMC

Special to the News-Sun
SEBRING —

Internationally-known Christian concert pianist Jim Hendricks will be in concert at 3 p.m. Saturday at St. John United Methodist Church.

A musically-gifted child, he became a professional as a teenager. After high school he performed with legends such as Dave Brubeck, Della Reese and many others. When touring with the Glen Miller orchestra, he realized it was time to follow God's calling into Christian ministry.

Hendricks has performed at more than 1,200 churches around the country, including three performances at the Crystal Cathedral. He will offer

arrangements of traditional and contemporary Christian music. People of all ages with diverse tastes in music are sure to enjoy this program.

St. John is at 3214 Grand Prix Drive (just behind Walmart).

Call the church office at 382-1736 or check out his website - Jim Hendricks ministries.

Federal court hears 'Sister Wives' lawsuit

By PAUL FOY
Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — A federal judge heard arguments on whether Utah can prohibit plural marriage but issued no immediate ruling in a lawsuit by the stars of the reality show "Sister Wives."

Kody Brown and his four wives claim the law is unconstitutional. The family fled Utah for Las Vegas last year under the threat of prosecution. They did not attend Thursday's hearing in Salt Lake City, leaving arguments to a constitutional law professor.

"The Browns wanted to show people that a plural family is not a monstrosity," said Jonathan Turley of The George Washington University. "They don't commit collateral problems."

Turley said the Browns' only sin was opening their family to the TLC hit series, which drew the attention of Utah authorities.

"The state is saying if you didn't do this TV show, you wouldn't have a problem," he said.

South African Lira dedicating Zulu love song to Obamas

Associated Press
JOHANNESBURG — South African singing sensation Lira says she will dedicate a Zulu love song to United States President Barack Obama and his wife, Michelle, when she performs at Monday's inaugural ball in Washington, D.C.

away by the invitation. She told South African talk show host Redi Tlhabi her career has "gone way beyond my wildest dreams ... I'm extremely excited, it blows my mind."

On Talk Show Radio 702 this week Lira promised to dedicate a song of her own

composition called "Ngiyazifela" to America's first couple.

"It talks about being so in love with one's partner and I think Michelle and Obama are such an inspiring couple, I just want to pay a tribute to that." Ngiyazifela is Zulu slang for being madly in love.

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Green tree frogs provide beautiful music as well as rain advisories

Listening to the sound of frogs singing in the evening may be one of the most comforting and soothing sounds in nature. Apparently, frogs sing for different reasons and in different ways. Some frogs have vocal pouches that are different sizes that stretch out and serve as a resonating chamber. Others make noises without any such chamber or sac.

Large frogs make low, deep sounds, which means they call at a low frequency. While small frogs use high frequency by singing with high chirping noises.

Green tree frogs (*Hyla cinerea*) are sometimes dubbed "rain frogs" because they sing the loudest when the weather is damp. From a distance the call of this frog sounds a bit like a cowbell, but when one gets closer to the frog it sounds more like quick-quick-quick, ow-oo-ah.

Green tree frogs are native to Florida. They are a small amphibian and are usually about two and a half inches in length. They are generally some shade of green, ranging from lime green to yellowish-olive depending on

light and temperature. They are marked with a light colored line running from the jaw to the groin and some have patches of white or gold on their skin. They are smooth skinned frogs with very large toe pads. The males are smaller than the females.

These tiny green critters prefer lots of floating plants on the water where they can seek a dry spot and hop from one surface to another in search for food. They are insectivores and enjoy a meal of flies, mosquitoes, crickets and most any bug that gets close enough to snatch up with their quick tongue.

This amazing, tiny creature can actually jump up to eight feet in a single leap. Since it is small in stature, it must be quick to escape those that would like to make a meal of it. It is able



News From The Watershed

Corine Burgess

to stick to smooth surfaces with its large toe pads and can climb up walls or glass with minimal effort.

Another fascinating feature of this tiny frog is that it can use its front legs to help push food caught on their tongues into their mouths.

Green tree frogs have large eyes to see and hunt in the dark. The iris of the eye is golden.

Like most amphibians, this frog enjoys land and water, although this particular species is adapted for living in trees. The preferential habitats are wetlands such as swamps, marshes, grasslands and large trees near water. Green tree frogs are most active at night and can be found in or near trees searching for prey. During the day, the frog usually sleeps or rests on a nearby plant where it is camouflaged well and not visible to passing predators, which include Cuban tree frogs, snakes, birds and lizards.

Most females breed only once a year with a clutch of about 400 eggs, which take from four to 14 days to hatch. Males use a distinct call to attract the females



Courtesy photo

Green tree frogs are native to Florida and have been dubbed 'rain frogs' because they sing the loudest when the weather is damp.

that is different from their other songs. Once the male has enticed a female, he grasps on to her in an effort to fertilize the eggs. Males will mate with as many females as they can.

These amazing creatures have the ability to change the color of their skin when necessary. They also produce chemicals that act as insect repellent. They get the water they need by absorbing it through their skin and they have lungs, but they breathe through their skin as well. They also have some webbing on their feet to assist swimming. The fingers are

one-third webbed and the toes are three-quarters webbed. They are also equipped with long strong hind legs to help them leap and shorter front legs for gripping.

Green tree frogs are one of the species that are in danger from their exotic relatives, the Cuban tree frogs. These invasive, larger frogs have found their way here from other areas of the world and certainly threaten the very existence of many species of native creatures.

Green tree frogs are one of the most beautiful, colorful frogs in Florida and are a

treat to observe. They are an essential part of the food chain and are also vital ecosystem indicators due to their ability to absorb pollutants and chemicals in their environment. Hopefully, they will continue to thrive in nature and entertain future generations with their beautiful songs.

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

PLACES TO WORSHIP

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. Johnnattan 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 Altvater leads the youth in their quest to become more like Christ. Sunday night worship at 6 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study and Prayer meeting at 7 p.m. along with youth worship in the youth facility, and missions training for all children. Call the church at 655-1524.

■ **First Baptist Church of Lake Placid**, Knowing God's Heart and Sharing God's Hope, 119 E. Royal Palm St., Lake Placid, FL 33852 (863) 465-3721, Website: www.fbclp.com. Email: information@fbclp.com. Sunday services - Traditional Service 9 a.m., Contemporary Service 10:30 a.m. Link Groups at 9 and 10:30 a.m., 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. Parrish office/mailling address: 882 Bay St., Sebring, FL 33870, 385-0049, 385-6762 (Spanish); fax, 385-5169; email, office@stcath.com; website, www.stcath.com. School Office/Mailing, Principal Dr. Anna V. Adam, 747 S. Franklin St., Sebring, FL 33870; 385-7300; fax, 385-7310; email school@stcath.com. School office hours 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Clergy: Very Rev. José González, V.F., frjose@stcath.com or 385-0049; Parochial Vicar, Rev. Victor Caviedes, 385-3993; Assisting Priest (retired), Rev. J.

Peter Sheehan; Deacons, Rev. Mr. James R. McGarry and Rev. Mr. Max M. Severe. WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE: Saturday: - 3:30 and 5 p.m. (vigil); Sunday - 8 and 10 a.m., 12 p.m. (Spanish), 5 p.m. (Holy Family Youth Center), every third Sunday of the month at 2 p.m. (French Mass). Daily Mass: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. and 12 p.m. Saturday at 9 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation: 7:15-7:45 a.m. first Friday, 2:30-3:15 p.m. Saturday and 9-9:45 a.m. Sunday. Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.

■ **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**, 154 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.

'Dear Abby' advice columnist dies at age 94

By STEVE KARNOWSKI
Associated Press Writer

MINNEAPOLIS — Pauline Friedman Phillips, who under the name of Abigail Van Buren, wrote the long-running "Dear Abby" advice column that was followed by millions of newspaper readers throughout the world, has died. She was 94.

Publicist Gene Willis of Universal Uclick said Phillips died Wednesday after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease.

Phillips' column competed for decades with the advice column of Ann Landers, written by her twin sister, Esther Friedman Lederer. Their relationship was stormy in their early adult years, but later they regained the close relationship they had growing up in Sioux City, Iowa.

The two columns differed in style. Ann Landers responded to questioners with homey, detailed advice. Abby's replies were often flippant one-liners.

Phillips admitted that her advice changed over the years. When she started writing the column, she was

reluctant to advocate divorce:

"I always thought that marriage should be forever," she explained. "I found out through my readers that sometimes the best thing they can do is part. If a man or woman is a constant cheater, the situation can be intolerable. Especially if they have children. When kids see parents fighting, or even sniping at each other, I think it is terribly damaging."

She willingly expressed views that she realized would bring protests. In a 1998 interview she remarked: "Whenever I say a kind word about gays, I hear from people, and some of them are damn mad. People throw Leviticus, Deuteronomy and other parts of the Bible to me. It doesn't bother me. I've always been compassionate toward gay people."

If the letters sounded suicidal, she took a personal approach: "I'll call them. I say, 'This is Abby. How are you feeling? You sounded awfully low.' And they say, 'You're calling me?' After they start talking, you can suggest that they get pro-

fessional help."

Asked about Viagra, she replied: "It's wonderful. Men who can't perform feel less than manly, and Viagra takes them right off the spot."

About working mothers: "I think it's good to have a woman work if she wants to and doesn't leave her children unattended — if she has a reliable person to care for them. Kids still need someone to watch them until they are mature enough to make responsible decisions."

One trend Phillips adamantly opposed: children having sex as early as 12 years old.

"Kids grow up awfully fast these days," she said. "You should try to have a good relationship with your kids, no matter what they do."

The woman known to the world as Ann Landers died in June 2002. Later that year, the family revealed that Phillips had been diagnosed



Dear Abby

with Alzheimer's disease. By then Phillips' daughter, Jeanne Phillips, who had helped her mother with the Dear Abby column for years, was its sole author.

Pauline Esther Friedman, known as Popo, was born on Independence Day 1918 in Sioux City, Iowa, 17 minutes after her identical twin, Esther Pauline (Eppie.). Their father was a well-off owner of a movie theater chain. Their mother took care of the home. Both were immigrants from Russia who had fled their native land in 1905 because of the persecution of Jews.

"My parents came with nothing. They all came with nothing," Phillips said in a 1986 Associated Press interview. She recalled that her parents always remembered seeing the Statue of Liberty: "It's amazing the impact the lady of the harbor had on them. They always held her dear, all their lives."

The twins spent their growing-up years together. They dressed alike, they both played the violin, they wrote gossip columns for their high school and college newspapers.

They attended Morningside College in Sioux Falls. Two days before their 21st birthday, they had a double wedding. Pauline married Morton Phillips, a businessman, Esther married Jules Lederer, a business executive and later founder of Budget Rent-a-Car. The twins' lives diverged as they followed their husbands to different cities.

The Phillippes lived in Minneapolis, Eau Claire, Wis., and San Francisco, and had a son and daughter, Edward Jay and Jeanne. Esther lived in Chicago, had a daughter, Margo, and in 1955 she applied for and was given the job of writing the advice column. She adopted the existing column's name, Ann Landers.

Pauline, who had been working for philanthropies and the Democratic Party, followed her sister's lead, though she insisted it wasn't the reason for her decision. She arranged for an interview with an editor of the San Francisco Chronicle and presented sample columns, arguing that the paper's lovelorn column was boring.

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 Luke Willittz at 385-2293 or visit the Web site at www.newlife-sebring.com.

■ **Resurrection Lutheran Church - ELCA**, 324 E. Main St., at Memorial Drive, Avon Park. Pastor Rev. John C. Grodzinski. Sunday worship at 8 and 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School at 9:15 a.m. Fragrance Free Service Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Open Communion celebrated at all services. "God's Work, Our Hands."

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 problem. 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. Dustin Woods, interim lead 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.

■ **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.fpcpc.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

■ **Emmanuel United Church of Christ**, Jesus didn't reject people, neither do we. Join us for worship every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. and you'll be embraced by a compassionate congregation that is all-inclusive. We're at the corner of Hammock and Hope. Choir and Bell Choir practice on Wednesday; Bible studies throughout the week. 471-1999; sebringemmanuelucc.com.

BUSINESS

Keeping funeral costs affordable

Anyone who's put a loved one to rest knows that death is not cheap. According to the National Funeral Directors Association, the average adult funeral cost \$6,560 in 2009 (their most current data). That doesn't include such common add-ons as a cemetery plot, headstone, flowers, obituaries and limousine, which can add thousands to the bill.



Personal Finance

Because death is a frequently avoided topic, many people aren't armed with information about the many variables – and costs – involved in planning a funeral. Thus, just when survivors are grieving and most vulnerable, they're bombarded by decisions that must be made quickly, often without even knowing what their loved one would have wanted.

The key message for the living is to decide on preferred funeral arrangements ahead of time and to convey those wishes to your family – ideally in your will.

Another important lesson: Know your legal rights and what funeral-related goods and services cost so you – or your survivors – don't feel pressured into buying things you don't want or need. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) oversees "The Funeral Rule," which regulates how funeral providers must deal with consumers. Among its provisions:

Upon request, funeral homes must provide an itemized price list of all their goods and services, whether you call (even anonymously) or visit in person.

You have the right to choose among their offerings (with certain state-mandated exceptions) and are not required to purchase package deals containing unwanted items.

Prior to purchasing a casket or outer burial container from a funeral home, they must share descriptions and prices before showing you stock on hand.

Providers that offer crema-



MCT Photo

The average adult funeral cost in 2009 was \$6,560. A key message for the living is to decide on preferred funeral arrangements ahead of time, and know what funeral-related goods and services cost.

tions must make alternative containers (besides caskets) available.

Note: The Funeral Rule does not apply to third-party sellers such as casket and monument dealers, or to cemeteries that lack an on-site funeral home.

If your beliefs don't require following specific funeral protocols, here are a few ways to reduce costs while still honoring the deceased and their survivors:

Veterans, immediate family members, members of the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service and certain civilians who've provided military-related service may be entitled to burial at a national cemetery with a grave marker. Burial is free, but families are responsible for funeral home expenses and transportation to the cemetery.

A \$255 lump-sum death benefit is available to surviving spouses or minor children of eligible workers who

paid into Social Security.

For many, cremation is a viable, less expensive option to burial. If you plan to hold a viewing first before the cremation, ask whether you can rent an attractive casket for the ceremony.

Some families prefer not to hold a public viewing. For them, "direct cremation" or "immediate burial" may make sense. Because the body is promptly cremated or interred, embalming and cosmetology services are not necessary, which saves hundreds of dollars. Also, with direct cremation you can opt for an unfinished wood coffin or heavy cardboard enclosure for the journey to the crematorium.

You can purchase a casket or cremation urn from a source other than your funeral home. The funeral home cannot assess handling fees or require you to be there to take delivery.

The death of a loved one is always upsetting, but you

may be able to ease your family's emotional and financial burdens by planning ahead.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs. To follow Jason Alderman on Twitter visit www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney.

SFSC Dental Hygiene Clinic open to county residents

Special to the News-Sun

AVON PARK – As part of its Dental Hygienist student training, South Florida State College's Dental Hygiene program will offer teeth cleaning, X-rays, and sealants to the public.

"The clinics give the students a variety of patients to treat, building a broader base for practicing in the future," said Dr. Deborah Milliken, SFSC dental education professor. "The student performs the procedure, then the instructor checks the work. The patient isn't completed until the job is perfect."

Services offered during the clinics are adult teeth cleaning for \$20-40, children living in Highlands County qualify for services at no cost to the parent.

The clinics are held at the Dental Education Building (the sixth entrance on the right along College Drive from Highway 27), SFSC Highlands Campus. The clinic is open January through April, 9 a.m. to noon and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Adults should plan to make an initial appointment for a 30-minute screening. They will fill out a medical and dental history form and have vital signs taken (blood pressure, pulse, temperature, and respiration). The patient is assigned to a particular student, who will call to schedule a second appointment. Children are seen immediately.

To make an appointment, call 784-7020.

'Starting Your Business' class set

Special to the News-Sun

AVON PARK - You've got the idea. Now you need to know how to get on your way.

"Starting Your Business" is a class that teaches just that.

From how to determine feasibility and legal structure to the type of license you will need, this class covers all the essentials that will help you get started. "Starting Your Business" is a free seminar presented by

the Small Business Development Center at University of South Florida.

The class will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 30 at South Florida State College Corporate and Continuing Education Room T24 from 12:30-3 p.m. The seminar will be presented by David Noel, certified business analyst with the SBDC. Seating is limited, so call Noel at 784-7378 to reserve a seat in the seminar or for further information.



Take Stock In Children
Would like to thank some of the busiest people in Highlands County for taking the time to mentor our scholars:

- | | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Holly Anderson | Jon Draper | Cathy Lewis | Jeff Roth |
| Doug Andrews | Ruth Drozinski | MaryAnn Lewis | Richard Rucker |
| Elizabeth Andrews | Debra Elliott | Charlotte Lohrer | Olivia Scott |
| Robert Barger | Sureka Flemming | Janet Lynch | Vivian Scott |
| Kimberly Batty-Herbert | Gail Ford | Carmen Manejkowski | Carolyn Sellers |
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| Maryel Clare | Nat Imsdahl | Winifred Quesenberry | Arlene Tuck |
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| Nancy Deyrup | Shannon Kelly | Mike Rider | Dustin Woods |
| Felecia Dozier | Val Klossner | Annie Rodriguez | Eric Zwayer |

You can take part by donating one hour a week as a mentor. For more information, please call the South Florida State College Foundation at 453-3133.



Inspirational Thoughts & Scriptures

Inspirational Thoughts

by Patricia Valentine



Romans 8: 18-19, "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God." That is a powerful scripture. There is a time coming when God will so possess His children that we will manifest His glory to the whole world. We all await the day that we become like Christ. It is waiting for the day we become God's holy love revealed to a world that desperately needs that love. Suffering is part of the human experience. In life there will always be times of pain, sickness and misery. In a fallen world, they're unavoidable. But that suffering, as the scripture reads, is nothing compared to the glory God has prepared for us. We have to share in Christ's sufferings in order to share in His glory. As the song writer wrote the words, no cross, no crown. You can know with an assurance, the glory has always far eclipsed the suffering. Go back and read Ecclesiastes 3:1, "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven." Seasons have a beginning and an end. No season lasts forever. You may be experiencing some pain today, but remember, the suffering we endure is nothing compared to the glory God has prepared for us. Be Blessed!

Stephenson-Nelson Funeral Home
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Sebring, 386-2125
111 E. Cardle St.
Avon Park, 409-3101
Chris T. Nelson
Craig M. Nelson
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BUSINESS

Businesses partner with Tanglewood for annual Residents' Cancer Benefit

By NEIL SIMPSON
Special to the News-Sun

SEBRING — With preparations well under way for the 2013 Tanglewood Residents' Cancer Benefit activities, time must be taken to say thanks to all of the local business people who help to make the Cancer Benefit events possible. As the snowbirds flock back to Central Florida, more pressure is put on local businesses to support a variety of worthwhile causes and Tanglewood is honored that so many are willing to back our efforts.

The local newspapers have been wonderful in printing articles. Thanks to the News-Sun, Highlands Today, and the Heartland SunTimes for their ongoing support.

We rely on major sponsors to make certain our events can be successful. Thanks to NewsomEye for sponsoring our kick off concert in November. On Feb. 5, Heartland National Bank will

be partnering with us for our Lasagna Dinner for the seventh year. Bill Jarrett Ford will be offering the "Drive for the Cure" on Feb. 6. Golf Fore a Cure at Pinecrest G.C. is being sponsored once again by Alan Jay Automotive Network and Edward Jones/Alan J. Holmes. The finale, on Feb. 19 will be co-sponsored by Drs. Thakkar & Patel, Edward Jones/Alan J. Holmes, Hometown America and NewsomEye.

As well, numerous merchants contribute raffle prizes and the following have already agreed to sponsor holes at our golf tournament: Alligator Pack & Ship, A-Kill Pest Control, Central Florida Roofing, Cool's Automotive, Hayes Automotive, Palms of Sebring.

From all of us at Tanglewood, thanks for helping us to raise funds for cancer research.



Drs. Patel and Thakkar



Alan Holmes



Dr. Newsom



Heartland National Bank



Bill Jarrett Ford

Items from famed nightclub Studio 54 go to auction

By MATT SEDENSKY
Associated Press

WEST PALM BEACH — A trove of memorabilia from Studio 54 is going up for bid in an auction that is resurrecting those long-ago nights at the iconic 1970s clubhouse with a legacy greater than its lifespan.

Mementos kept by the late Studio 54 co-owner Steve Rubell, including paparazzi photographs, letters and art-

work once belonging to the New York club's A-list guests, are being auctioned off Saturday in West Palm Beach.

The items give a fascinating glimpse of life at 54: photographer Fran Lebowitz shoulder-to-shoulder with pop artist Andy Warhol. A stone-faced Frank Sinatra staring off in the distance. Diana Ross, arms flailing on

the dance floor. Robin Williams, Dustin Hoffman, Michael Jackson, Elton John, Cher — and on and on and on.

Rubell's partner, Bill Hamilton, finally decided to part with the treasures, more than 23 years after Rubell's death at the age of 45. The boxes of newspaper clippings, photographs and everything else had spent

decades in their apartment on West 55th Street in Manhattan, where Hamilton still lives.

Giving up the items was hard, said Hamilton, who was too young to ever enjoy Studio 54 himself. He decided to auction them, in part, because he got married last year and wanted to shed some of his possessions. But as he took a final look at the photos, he was reminded of Rubell's generosity and how much fun he helped create.

Rubell and Ian Shrager opened Studio 54 in 1977 and sold it in 1981.

Cornerstone Hospice has Hispanic Care Team



Courtesy photo
Reviewing the roster of bilingual patients at Cornerstone Hospice's Sparta Road office in Sebring, three members of the nonprofit's Hispanic Care Team get ready to assist in their own language patients and families with difficulty in understanding the English of oftentimes complex healthcare terminology. From left, Diana Perkins RN, resident of Sebring; Elizabeth Bryant, clinical liaison, resident of Lake Placid and Maria Serapio Rojas, certified nursing assistant, resident of Avon Park.

Sebring CRA hosts Retail Academy Workshop for downtown businesses

Special to the News-Sun
SEBRING — The Sebring Community Redevelopment Agency is hosting its first Retail Academy Workshop at 5:15 p.m. Monday, Feb. 4 at the Sebring Civic Center.

The Retail Academy is a series of workshops designed for small retail businesses in the Downtown Sebring CRA District. This series is presented by the Sebring Community Redevelopment Agency and the Small Business Development Center for Downtown Sebring business owners, managers, volunteers and employees. In this first workshop, attendees will learn how to provide exceptional customer service and merchandise business for sales success.

Why should Downtown Sebring businesses attend?

Good customer service is the lifeblood of any business; create a competitive sales advantage; create customer loyalty equals repeat customers; location, location, location: display product for maximum sales;

good product design, selection, pricing and packaging equals sales.

The first workshop, Customer Service & Merchandising Class, will be held on Monday, Feb. 4 at the Sebring Civic Center from 5:15-8:15 p.m. Light refreshments served. To reserve a seat, call the CRA office at 471-5104 no later than Wednesday, Jan. 30.

The mission of the CRA is to bring about the economic revitalization of an established target area. To create a re-investment environment that attracts private investors into the area. To promote improvements within the redevelopment area through renovation and restoration of buildings, as well as to encourage new construction. To acquire the funding necessary to make the infrastructure improvements necessary to attract investment dollars and improve the assessed taxable value of district properties and to assist the Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Merchants in their efforts to market the downtown businesses.

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DEED TRANSFERS

Sept. 13

Joann A. Bergkamp to Miachel L. Gannon, L30 Blk 123 Sun North Est. Sec. 9, \$3,000.

William Drew Adams to John Edward Corcoran Jr., L2A Blk Q Tomoka Heights Sec. III, \$92,500.

Bettina Brumwell to Kirk A. Sheldon, L5 PT L6 Blk 1 DeSoto City 2nd Sub, \$43,000.

Sebring Lake Development Group to Gairrt Harden Thompson, L33/34 Blk 26 Sebring Lakes Unit 2A, \$60,000.

Billy M. Giles to Thomas M. Steele, L9/10 Blk 11 Highlands Park Est. Sec. R, \$4,000.

Beth Kariofyllis to Francisco Gonzalez, L17 Blk 3 Country Club Sebring Phase 2 Sec. 6 Nature's Walk, \$322,500.

Martha Lou Donaldson to Anthony J. Rosa, L2 Blk 44 DeSoto City 2nd Sub, \$145,000.

ALT Bank to Dan A. Fain, L21 Blk 52 Orange Blossom Est. Unit 15, \$3,800.

Sept. 14

Johnny C. Amyzdalitsis to Federal National Mortgage Assn., L31 Kingswood Manor Tract A, \$85,300.

John J. Moore Sr. to Susan E. Weber, Unit 6 Pines of Lake Huntley, \$40,000.

Juan Oscar Gonzalez to James L. Baker, L20 Blk 16 Sebring Hills S., \$2,900.

Juan Oscar Gonzalez to James L. Baker, L22 Blk 15 Sebring Hills S., \$2,900.

Emily D. Morris to John V. Sawyer, L9 Blk 260 Sun'N Lake Est. Sec. 20, \$74,000.

Carl Duncan Thomas to Robert L. Brown, PT L7A Blk J Tomoka Heights Sec. 5/Others, \$124,500.

Gene C. Newsome to Adesh Budhraj, L9780-9782/9802-9804 Avon Park Lakes Sub Unit 30, \$70,300.

Patricia L. Stanley to Robert M. Eads, L9 Blk 4 Venetian Village Rev., \$86,000.

Lake Placid Development Corp. Inc. to Victor E. Elliott, L37 Blk 38 Placid Lake Sec. 4, \$12,900.

Lake Placid Development Corp. Inc. to Dennis A. Hickey, L21 Blk 44 Placid Lakes Sec. 5, \$12,900.

Lake Placid Land Development Corp. Inc. to Denzil R. Davis, L13 Blk 45 Placid Lakes Sec. 5, \$9,900.

Avon Park Est. Corp. to Dalmar L. Hooper, PT L8 Blk 51 Avon Park Est. Unit II, \$21,900.

Donald B. Soldini to Akshai Mansingh, L56 Blk 75 PT Placid Lakes Sec. 7 Resub, \$29,900.

Donald B. Soldini to Heriberto Cruz-Vargas, L69 Blk 37 Placid Lakes Sec. 5, \$12,000.

Leisure Lakes Development Inc. to Sunita Ganpat, L13 Blk 60 Leisure Lakes Sec. 16, \$17,200.

John D. Gwynn to William E. Tatgenhorst, Unit 3-A Building 3 Lake Park Village Condo Phase II, \$102,000.

Scott L. Fettinger to Douglas Smith, L10/25 PT L11/24 Blk 118 Lakewood Terraces, \$97,900.

Helen M. Welter to Thomas S. Crutchfield, PT

Sec. 11-36-28/Other, \$128,000.

Helen M. Welter to Thomas S. Crutchfield, PT Sec. 11-36-28/Other/Easements, \$70,000.

William R. Celentano to Jessica Garcia, L12 PT L13 Blk 187 Woodlawn Terrace, \$39,500.

Lynn D. White to Connie Fowler, L5 Tomoka Heights Sec. VIII, \$230,000.

Adam Martin to David E. Shanklin, L13 Blk 14 Sebring Ridge Sec. G, \$122,200.

Harvey Gammage to Kathryn Johnston, Parcel 75 Highlands Homes Sub, \$25,000.

Sept. 17

Jose Delgado to Thi Van Huong, L9 Blk 6 Orange Blossom Est. Unit 9, \$72,000.

Pamela C. Howey to Cynthia L. Parker, L23 Valencia Acres Sub Unit II, \$20,000.

Federal National Mortgage Assn. to Kim Sunhee, L2 Blk 251 Sun'N Lake Est. Sebring Unit 13, \$94,900.

Joseph C. Bruns III to Lost Ball Investments, PT L15/16 Blk 207 Altamont Place Add, \$6,000.

Helen Schwandt to Jeffrey T. Person, L1/2 Cavender Villas, \$11,000.

Bert A. Washburn to David G. Knighton, L10 PT L9 Blk 263 Lake Sebring Sub, \$40,000.

Mark W. Smith to Roy J. Hall, L35 Blk 1 Buttonwood Bay Phase I, \$80,000.

Cecilia Hernandez to Don J. DeVaughn, L22 Blk 6 Leisure Lakes Sec. 1, \$39,000.

Highlands Ridge Holdings to John L. Walker, Unit 25 Villages of Highlands Ridge Phase VIII, \$220,000.

Sept. 18

Marie P. Cumby to Robert L. Payne, PT Sec. 20-34-28, \$45,000.

Wells Fargo Bank to David J. Oxford, L1/9 Blk 2 Lucas Lake Est. Sub, \$19,000.

Green Tree Servicing to Lorenzo Michael Felton, L37/38 Blk 21 Placid Lakes Sec. 2, \$35,700.

TD Bank to Jonathan Harrison, L15 Blk 135 Leisure Lakes Sec. 6, \$61,000.

Daniel A. Tilleman to Lakewood Chapel, L207 Fairmount Mobile Est., \$24,000.

Kathy Lauger to Vishwanauth Tilack, L26/28 Blk 28 Sun'N Lake Est. Sebring Unit 2, \$52,800.

John Bissett to Greg Nason, L5/6 Blk K Spring Lake Village VIII, \$182,000.

M.E. Gose Inc. to Jorge Juver, L12/13 Blk 93 Lakewood Terraces, \$133,900.

Suntrust Bank to John B. Cooke, L10816-10820 Avon Park Lakes Unit 33, \$1,000.

Sept. 19

Helen M. Welter to Thomas S. Crutchfield, PT Sec. 11-36-28/Easement, \$40,000.

Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp. to Michael Charles Griffin, L78 Istokpoga Shores Unit 5, \$38,500.

Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp. to Richard Picard, PT L4 Blk 12 Town of Avon Park, \$34,900.

Raymond Dale Smith to National Residential Nominee Services Inc., L22 Eiland Est., \$185,000.

Deutsche Bank National Trust Co. to Carl Andersen, L23 Blk 269 Sun'N Lake Est. Sebring Unit 13, \$59,100.

Timothy A. Garant to Larry Bowman, L15 Sylvan Shores Est. Sec. E, \$70,000.

Dana L. Hillis to Joey M. Hammett, L19 Blk D Lake Placid Camp Florida Resort Replat, \$33,500.

Midflorida Credit Union to Frank A. Celentano, L26 PT L27 Blk 55 Lakewood Terraces, \$34,000.

MTGLQ Investors LP to Chad Anderson, L20 Blk 20 Sun'N Lake Est. Unit 2, \$38,000.

Tauchen's Triangle T Ranch to John R. Tauchen, PT Sec. 35-35-29, \$21,000.

Sept. 20

William H. Elfers to Brian Weston, L7B Hidden Creek Villas, \$50,000.

Jeffrey E. Futch to H. Earl Crutchfield, L6 Edgewater Point Sub, \$600,000.

Jolene P. Bohanon to Mi Tierra Ranch, PT Sec. 30-39-30/Others, \$671,300.

Helen M. Welter to Helen M. Welter, PT Sec. 2-36-28/Easement, \$65,000.

Wells Fargo Bank to Pamela F. Josey, L22 Blk 63 Sun'N Lakes Est. Sebring, \$88,500.

HSBC Bank USA to Olga Garcia, L15 Blk 107 Sun'N Lakes Est. Sebring Unit 8, \$65,100.

Deutsche Bank National Trust Co. to Charles L. McKibben, L4439-4441 Avon Park Lakes Unit 14, \$45,500.

JDG Properties to Steve O. Caldwell, L11/12 Blk 127 Placid Lakes Sec. 10, \$52,500.

Gerald H. Sherod to Verl V. Monnin, L42 Blk E Lake Placid Camp Florida Resort, \$87,500.

Marquis Dion Woodcock to Stephen Dumser, L7 Blk 7 Orange Blossom Est. Unit 9, \$113,500.

Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp. to Sandra L. Pelski, L6 Blk 147 Lake Wood Terraces, \$39,800.

Sept. 21

Garrett Bisogo to James E. Cummins Jr., L8 Highlands Sunshine Ranches Unrec/Easement, \$123,800.

William W. Rankhorn to Janice Kreulen, Unit 16-A Bluffs of Sebring Condo Phase XI, \$120,000.

Michael M. Payne to Eric T. Zwyer, PT Sec. 20-34-28/Easement, \$35,000.

Douglas B. Eldredge to Larry McElroy, L40 Sparta Circle, \$67,000.

Federal National Mortgage Assn. to Miguel Martinez, L14 Blk 60 Sun'N Lake Est. Sebring Unit 5, \$75,000.

Highlands Independent Bank to Amanda G. Barber, L14 Blk 327A Leisure Lakes Sec. 9, \$75,000.

Terrence Turbyfill to Breakers Investment Group, L39 Blk 285 Sun'N Lake Est. Sec. 20, \$164,000.

Corey Pressley to

Henrietta Harmon, L16 Blk 1 Oak View Sub, \$21,000.

Sept. 24

Mi Tierra Ranch to Kelvin Moreno, PT Parcel 3 In Sec. 29-39-30, \$3,100.

Benjamin Bierman to Harris E. Nitzke, L6 Blk 35 DeSoto City 2nd Sub, \$80,000.

Donna E. Borges to Federal National Mortgage Assn., L7 Blk 34 Sebring Country Est. Sec. 2, \$101,400.

Fannie Mae to Frank Ison, PT L6 Blk 217 Placid Lakes Sec. 20, \$88,500.

Gary L. Rapp to James E. Tompkins, L7 Moon Ranch Est., \$40,000.

DLRT to Kathleen L. Doherty, L4 PT L3 Blk 58 Original Town of Sebring, \$162,000.

Hugo Riano to Jorge J. Velazquez Munoz, L6401 Las Palmas Resort, \$8,500.

Sept. 25

Robert L. Brown to David M. Womacks, L29/30 Blk 51 Placid Lakes Sec. 6, \$204,000.

Taylor Bean & Whitaker Mortgage Corp. to Heartland Construction Inc., L1 Blk 187 Sun'N Lake Est. Sebring Unit 11, \$55,000.

Atlas FL 1 SPE to Guy R. Hendricks III, PT Tract B Orange Blossom Country Club Community Unit 14, \$25,000.

Deutsche Bank National Trust Co. to Ted O. Edgar, Tract 279 Sebring Lakes Acres Unit 2 Unrec, \$35,900.

Nicole Moreau to Daniel Voicu Bosca, L22 Blk 26 Sebring Country Est. Sec. 3, \$63,000.

Joh L. Haugh Jr. to Raquel Eugenio, L21 PT L20 Blk B Orange Heights Sub Parcel M/Other \$69,000.

Sept. 26

Geraldine Allegra Donnelly to Besser Holding, PT Sec. 34-39-28/Other/Easement, \$1,331,400.

Deutsche Bank National Trust Co. to April Johnson, L5 Blk M Lake Jackson Heights, \$79,900.

Joseph Mirabello Sr. to William C. Brauer, L16 Pine and Lake Sub, \$134,000.

Highlands Independent Bank to T.E. James Custom Homes Inc., L2D Northwood Sub, \$265,000.

Sept. 27

Ray Buford Sutton to Robert C. Little, L2 Blk 4 Highlands Park Est. Sec. F, \$135,000.

David Castillo to Azelia c. Tuason, L68 Blk 275 Sun'N Lake Est. Sebring Unit 13, \$90,000.

James Williams to Kenneth James Benna, L7B Thunderbird Hill Village Sec. 1, \$50,000.

Frank L. Dencklau to Mark E. Lay, L23 Blk 22 Leisure Lakes Sec. 4, \$150,000.

Thomas Brennan Fraser to Clarence D. Lyons, L11 Blk 2 Orange Blossom Est. Unit 9, \$50,000.

Highlands Independent Bank to Ronald D. Baker, L416 Golf Hammock Unit V, \$197,000.

Raymond W. Miller to Duncan M. Foster, L13 Sylvan Shores Est. Sec. E, \$86,000.

John E. Entry IV to Howard Chad Pritchett, PT Sec. 12-38-30/Easements, \$17,000.

Linda G. Marlow to Judith E. Cayton, L264 Sebring Hills, \$65,000.

Matthew W. Fessenden to Jonathan Joles, L16 Blk 16 Leisure Lakes Sec. 1, \$81,000.

Midflorida Credit Union to Michael Weaver, L3 Blk F Spring Lake Village VI, \$140,000.

Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corp. to Michael Giannino, L18 PT L17 Blk 182 Woodlawn Terrace Sub, \$35,000.

Judith E. Cayton to Herbert L. Hill, L13873-13875 Avon Park Lakes Unit 44, \$100,000.

Sept. 28

Eugene Longo to Smoak Groves Inc., PT Sec. 35-36-29, \$32,000.

Beverly Jane DeLong to Cathy Ann Crews, L13/14 Blk 115 Lake View Place Sub, \$25,000.

Federal National Mortgage Assn. to Harbour Portfolio VII LP, L10 Blk 3 Lake Letta Est., \$13,900.

James G. Smith to Carol L. Carter, Unit 314 Lake Damon South II, \$52,500.

Sylvia A. Edwards to Zoltan J. Szilagyi, L13 PT L14 Blk 116 Lakewood Terraces Sub, \$40,000.

Bert Thomas Reed to Bank of New York Mellon, L29 Blk A Meadowlake Sub, \$587,600.

Frank B. Duffy to Maureen E. Savitsky, L57 Blk 744 Sun'N Lake Est. Sebring Unit 15 R1, \$225,000.

Martha P. Morris to John C. Hunter, PT L1/2 Blk F Hillside Lake Est., \$37,000.

Richard J. Doud to Donald R. Dawson, L32 Country Club of Sebring Phase 3 Sec. 2 Sterling Oaks, \$246,000.

Joseph E. McClelland to Shelley S. Johnston, PT Sec. 19-39-29, \$9,000.

Highlands Independent Bank to Hovis & Box, L8 Blk 65 Town of Sebring 2nd Add, \$148,000.

Tim Blackman to Julian Deleon, PT L14 Blk 2 Town of Avon Park, \$40,000.

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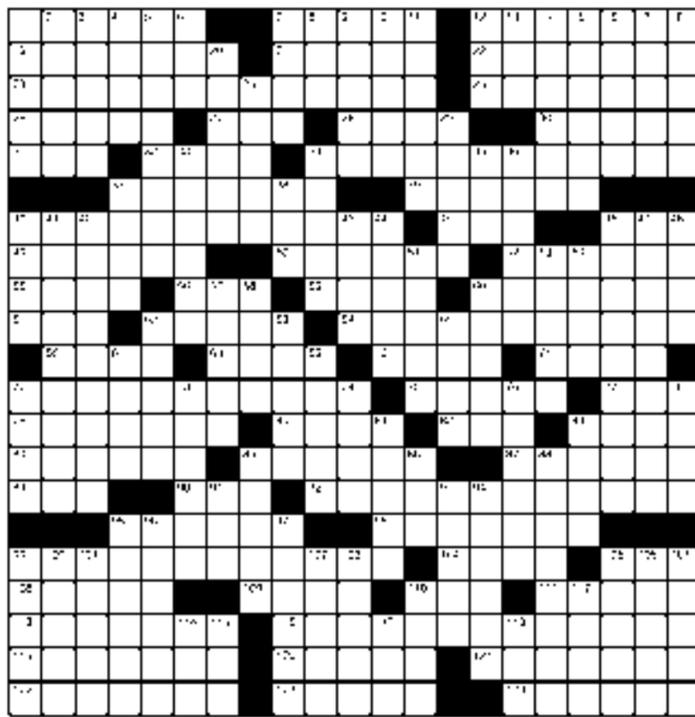
DIVERSIONS

TURNING HEADS

ACROSS
 1 OVER THE TOP, DESIGN-WISE
 7 GOES LIKE THE WIND?
 12 FAIRLY SHARED
 19 LIKE MUCH SUMMERY FOOTWEAR
 21 MAUVE RELATIVE
 22 "WILD THING" RAPPER
 23 NAIL SALON SUPPLIES?
 25 WAS HUMBLLED
 26 BUD'S PROMISE
 27 MIDSECTION
 28 POPULAR SKIING DESTINATION
 30 FORMER NBA COACH BROWN
 31 HOWEVER
 32 EXAM FOR A JR.
 34 COUCH-JUMPING AND YARD-RUNNING?
 37 CUSTOMARILY
 39 GETTING THE WRONG ORDER AND SUCH
 40 TONGUE TWISTER?
 45 68-ACROSS NEIGHBOR
 46 ABCAM AGCY.
 49 DAWN-OF-MAMMALS EPOCH
 50 WEDDING ACQUISITION
 52 MULTITUDE
 55 FAN SOUNDS
 56 LINCOLN LOGS, E.G.
 59 ONE AND ONLY
 60 FORMER BUICK SEDAN
 61 MEAN AMIN
 62 FUNERAL LIGHTING?
 64 GOOD GOLF ROUNDS?
 66 ACTRESS WARD
 68 WHERE MANHATTAN IS: ABBR.
 70 ALLUVIUM
 71 ITALIAN HOT SPOT
 72 ENERGETIC GHOSTS?
 75 "OLIVER TWIST" CRIMINAL
 77 HOLDER AND RENO: ABBR.
 79 CERTAIN UKRAINIAN
 80 THEY'RE WORTH 1.0
 82 SOCCER ____
 83 CLASSIC NAME IN SHOES
 84 ONES WITH MANY FEET

85 SNOOPY, FOR ONE
 87 MIMOSA FAMILY TREE
 89 ROAD COURSE CURVE
 90 AIRPORT UNIFORM INITIALS
 92 TORCHES IN DRACULA'S CRYPT?
 95 ED OF "MODERN FAMILY"
 98 BARBECUE FARE
 99 SHARP DRESSER FEATURES?
 104 ____ BEACH, FLA.
 105 RAIDERS' GP.
 108 WHEN DOUBLED, NORTHWEST WINE VALLEY
 109 FOLLOW
 110 TITLE FOR JACKSON OR KING: ABBR.
 111 "WEST SIDE STORY" SONG
 113 SHORT OPERATIC SOLO
 116 TALK SHOWS?
 119 APARTMENT DWELLERS, TYPICALLY
 120 ONE WAY TO READ
 121 LONDON-BASED NEWS AGENCY
 122 LIGHTHOUSE LENS INVENTOR
 123 COZY SPOTS
 124 MUSIC PRODUCER ESTEFAN

DOWN
 1 SIDESTEPPED
 2 LOADS
 3 DO A GARDENER'S CHORE
 4 ____ MANY WORDS
 5 TRIES TO PUT OUT, AS A SMALL FIRE
 6 DEAR
 7 REPUTATION STAIN
 8 WEE, IN A SMALL WAY
 9 ONE STUCK IN A BAR?
 10 ATTENDED
 11 LONG DIVISION?
 12 SCHOOL SUPPORT GP.
 13 MALARKEY
 14 LIKE SOME GROUNDERS
 15 GIVES A NEW NAME TO
 16 STORY
 17 DOUGHNUT-



Solution on page 6B

SHAPED
 18 ENTR' ____: PLAY INTERVALS
 20 DICK FRANCIS HAS FOUR OF THEM
 24 PROVIDE, AS MONEY
 29 "MULE TRAIN" SINGER
 33 FIREARM FEATURE
 34 QUICK LOOKS
 35 COMPUTER PROGRAM SUFFIX
 36 DOLLARS : CENTS :: ____ : KOPECKS
 37 COPIES
 38 "____ MIZ"
 40 ACTRESS GARR
 41 IMPROMPTU PICTORICAL LOCALES
 42 GO-GETTERS
 43 CONFINED, WITH "UP"
 44 LUAU DANCES
 46 EPONYMOUS ITALIAN MATHEMATICIAN
 47 REVITALIZED
 48 ANOTHER NAME FOR SAINT AGNES
 51 FINISHING TOUCH OF A SORT

53 GERMAN INDUSTRIAL CITY
 54 AMBLE, E.G.
 57 PEST CONTROL NAME IN A RED DIAMOND
 58 OENOPHILE'S CONCERN
 60 FIRE
 62 NO LONGER IN
 63 NOT NICE AT ALL
 65 PAN OR ROAST
 67 MINUS
 69 LIEU
 72 AFFECTIONATE VALEDICTION
 73 KINDERGARTEN CRAFTSMAN
 74 LILY THAT'S UTAH'S STATE FLOWER
 76 DIAGNOSTIC MACHINE
 78 TROUBLE SPOT
 81 RESPONDS TO A YELLOW
 83 DOJO ACCESSORIES
 85 "THE JUNGLE BOOK" BEAR
 86 BRIT. RECORD LABEL
 88 ELEMENT IN STAIN-

LESS STEEL
 91 TASTE
 93 TOOL BOX ITEM
 94 "THE NERVE!"
 95 SMALL HOOTERS
 96 TIDY
 97 LIKE SOME OF THE SAHARA
 99 SLEEPY, E.G.
 100 LESS DONE
 101 DRESS STYLE
 102 HALL OF FAME FOOTBALL COACH EARLE "GREASY" ____
 103 RED-LINED ITEMS, PERHAPS
 105 THE LITTLE MERMAID
 106 FLOWER-SHAPED PASTA
 107 CHILDISH COMEBACK
 110 MALBEC AND MERLOT
 112 ____ SPUMANTI
 114 ONE PAST DUE?
 115 MANUAL TRANSMISSIONS?: ABBR.
 117 KING IN A STEVE MARTIN SONG
 118 SUCCESS SIGN

By JIM HYRES

Scorpio should not cave in to emotions

Metro News Services

Aries (March 21-April 20) – Aries, patience and calm is the way out of a tricky situation. You also may want to keep your opinions to yourself until everything gets settled, which shouldn't take long.

Taurus (April 21-May 21) – Taurus, though you may be pinching pennies that doesn't mean you cannot make a purchase that will benefit the household. Make a budget so you'll learn how to spend wisely.

Gemini (May 22-June 21) – You may need to subscribe to a new way of thinking, Gemini. The way you have been doing things lately is not working out too well. Ask a family member for advice.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) – Cancer, it can be easy to get into a routine and then in a rut. Try switching up just one thing from your daily tasks, and it could provide a breath of fresh air.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 23) – Leo, take advantage of the many opportunities for you to meet new people and forge new friendships this week. You may just meet someone who changes your life.

Virgo (Aug. 24-Sept. 22) – Virgo, too much of a good thing can make it difficult to focus on other tasks and responsibilities. Make the effort to stay focused so you don't find yourself falling behind.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) – Libra, you will likely find yourself in a domestic groove over the next few days. Use the time to get creative in the kitchen,

Horoscopes

straighten up the abode and do some decorating.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) – Scorpio, don't allow your emotions to get the best of you during a disagreement this week. Be sure to gather all of the facts before you form an opinion.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) – Sagittarius, this is the perfect week to correct any wrong impressions you might have made. Be overly generous with all the people you meet.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20) – Capricorn, speak up if you don't like the way something is being done. Change can't happen if you don't voice your opinion, so overcome your reservations.

Aquarius (Jan. 21-Feb. 18) – Aquarius, if you want to broaden your horizons you will have to explore beyond your comfort zone. It may not always be comfortable, but it can be adventurous.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) – Pisces, you have many questions, but not enough answers are coming your way. Delve a little deeper this week.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

Jan. 20 - Gary Barlow, singer, 42; Jan. 21 - Geena Davis, actress, 57; Jan. 22 - Steve Perry, singer, 64; Jan. 23 - Doutzen Kroes, model, 28; Jan. 24 - Neil Diamond, singer, 72; Jan. 25 - Patrick Willis, athlete, 28; and Jan. 26 - Ellen Degeneres, TV host, 55.

Rebuilding with God

Winds howled, rain slashed, windows rattled. It seemed we could hear nails being pulled out of the shingles on the roof. We hunkered down in our 'safe' place to ride it out several years ago. It was unlike anything we had ever experienced.



Pause And Consider
Jan Merop

Yet, it was nothing compared to super storm Sandy that ripped through the Northeast with no regard to humble abode or majestic mansion.

The residents and first responders were left to pick up after what looked like war-torn remnants of a war; this being a war between three storms.

Amidst the rubble of their lives, emotions ran rampant. Fear, anger, hopelessness and despair fought for residence in hearts and minds too stunned to believe this had happened to them.

And yet, words of gratitude fell from trembling lips; thankfulness to God that they and their loved ones were spared; and that where there is life, there is hope.

We can never fully imagine what such loss feels like unless we've experienced it personally; the despair, hopelessness, not knowing where to turn or what to do next. But to dwell in that despair invites further ruin ... to one's emotions and spirit.

That's why I'm so thankful for those who rush in from neighboring states to restore power, offer hope, a hand up and

whatever is needed. And, as I pray for those affected, I pray for organizations like Samaritan's Purse who quickly responds to disasters that strike our nation.

They go in with readiness, willingness and expertise to help people rebuild. But besides hammers and saws, power tools and other equipment, they bring another tool ... the Bible. With this tool, the hope of the Gospel of Jesus Christ is given along with muscle, sweat and tears; and, that deeper healing of the heart is met.

The outpouring of God's love is felt as each one becomes quiet before God and hears his still small voice.

In Isaiah 61: 1; 2 & 3, NKJV we read, "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me ... To comfort all who mourn... to give them beauty for ashes ... the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness." We read in verse 4 about rebuilding.

"And they shall rebuild the old ruins, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the ruined cities."

But in Psalm 127:1 we're reminded, "Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it; unless the Lord guards the city, the watchman stays awake in vain."

I trust they will rebuild with God. Selah

Jan Merop of Sebring is a News-Sun correspondent.

Stubborn grandma knits name she wants on baby's afghan

Dear Abby: I'm two months pregnant with my second child. Our first child is a boy. My problem is my mother. She loves her grandson dearly, but she's desperate for a granddaughter.

Recently, the subject of names came up. Although we have already decided on a name if the child is a boy, we had not discussed girls names at length.

When Mother asked me what the girl's name would be, I said I had always liked "Melody," and that if I had my way, that is what I'd name a girl. My mother immediately started knitting an afghan with the name Melody on it.

A week later, my husband said that while he didn't mind the name Melody, he thought we should decide on a name together. I tried to tell Mom that Melody might not be the name we choose. Her response was, "Well, my granddaughter will always be Melody to me."

Mom and I are very close, but she can be extremely stubborn. What's the best way to tell her we have decided on another name? – **What's in a Name in Canada**

Dear What's: Tell her in plain English, and do it before the afghan has to be unraveled and redone. If she insists on completing the

blanket with the wrong name, accept it graciously and quietly donate it to charity.



Dear Abby

Dear Abby: I was a busy wife, mother and grandmother who had always been active and involved in my church and community. When my beloved husband died three years ago, everything changed. I became so consumed by grief, all my regular activities suddenly meant nothing to me.

My children and grandchildren were busy with their own families and careers. I missed having someone to talk to and began feeling deeply lonely, even in a crowd.

Then something remarkable happened: I learned I have an incurable cancer. I was so scared and worried, I couldn't eat or sleep. One of my sons took me to a world-famous cancer center. Everyone I met there was loving and kind, and radiated positive feelings. Once again, I felt surrounded by love – and it changed my outlook.

I was able to return to my hometown for further treat-

ment in a cancer center here, and I return to the larger center for follow-ups. Now I have the best of two worlds – a world-famous cancer center a plane ride away, and the ability to sleep in my own bed at night. I also have people in two centers who treat me with love and respect. Community and church members are rallying around me to show their support. I feel blessed and content, and the best part is I am no longer afraid.

Abby, what do you think about my change in attitude? Am I in denial or experiencing some new stage of grief? I don't want to have cancer. I don't want to leave everyone behind. But I am not afraid to die. – **Loving Every Day Without Fear**

Dear Loving: What you have experienced could be called an epiphany. In your case, it may be the simple, striking and illuminating discovery that once you felt again surrounded by love, respect and security, leaving this world and joining your husband in the next no longer held terror, but gave you peace.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box

69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069. Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: 'Abby's Favorite Recipes' and 'More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby.' Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

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Lincoln PG-13 (Daniel Day-Lewis, Sally Field) 1:30 • 4:40 • 7:50	The Last Stand R (Arnold Schwarzenegger, Genesis Rodriguez) 1:45 • 4:15 • 6:50 • 9:25

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A day of pomp and tradition



With all of the excitement surrounding the 57th presidential inauguration, it's easy to forget there have been many inaugurations before it. Over the years, the event has become highly formalized, with the day's scheduled events taking on almost ritualistic significance. — *McClatchy-Tribune*



HARRY S. TRUMAN LIBRARY/NATIONAL ARCHIVES/MCT

President-elect Dwight Eisenhower, center left, and his wife, Mamie, leave a church in Washington, D.C. on the morning of his inauguration in 1953.

Morning worship service

Officially begun in 1933 with Franklin Delano Roosevelt's attendance of a church service at St. John's Episcopal Church (Washington quietly visited a church before his first inauguration), nearly every president since has decided to participate in faith services on the morning of the inauguration. While most presidents went to Protestant or other Christian churches, John F. Kennedy, the nation's first Roman Catholic president, attended services at Holy Trinity Church.



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS/MCT

President-elect Woodrow Wilson, left, and President William H. Taft share a laugh at the White House prior to Wilson's inauguration in 1913.

Procession to the Capitol

Every president has had a form of procession to the swearing-in ceremony, but the procedure we see today was established in 1849 with Zachary Taylor's inauguration ceremony. After being escorted to the White House by the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies — commonly referred to as the JCCIC — the president-elect, vice-president-elect and their spouses are joined by the outgoing president and vice president to journey to the Capitol for the swearing-in ceremony. Most presidents have ridden to their inaugurations in a carriage or automobile. Thomas Jefferson and Andrew Jackson both walked to their ceremonies. In 1869, Andrew Johnson became the third outgoing president to not accompany his successor on the procession; Johnson was inside the White House until his term expired at noon, signing last-minute bills into law.



CHUCK KENNEDY/POOL/MCT

Joseph Biden, left, takes the oath of office as vice president at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C., in 2009.

Vice president's swearing-in ceremony

The Constitution specifically requires the vice president and other elected officials to step forward to take an oath to defend the Constitution, but unlike the presidential oath, it does not specify the form that oath must take. Also unlike the presidential oath, a variety of public officials can and have administered the oath to the incoming vice president. The oath, dictated by Congress, is the same one repeated by senators, representatives and other government officers, and has been in use since 1884. Since 1981, the swearing-in ceremonies have been held at the west front terrace of the Capitol.



ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL/LIBRARY OF CONGRESS/MCT

President Bill Clinton delivers his address during his second inauguration at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C., in 1997.

President's swearing-in ceremony and inaugural address

Article II, Section 1 of the U.S. Constitution includes the oath of the office of president. The president is typically sworn in by the chief justice of the Supreme Court in front of the Capitol, though this has frequently changed due to circumstance. The oath reads:

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

And, of course, the president's swearing-in ceremony is accompanied by the inaugural address, which is often the most anticipated portion of the inauguration. Though George Washington's first address was lackluster, other addresses have set the tone for the presidency. William Henry Harrison gave his inaugural address — the longest on record — in bitterly cold and inclement weather, which was widely speculated to have caused his death a month later.



TANNEN MAURY/POOL/MCT

Former President George W. Bush departs from the U.S. Capitol in a helicopter after the inauguration of President Barack Obama in 2009.

Departure of the outgoing president

The 1889 "Handbook of Official and Social Etiquette and Public Ceremonies at Washington" described the ceremony this way:

"His departure from the Capital is attended with no ceremony, other than the presence of the members of his late Cabinet and a few officials and personal friends. The President leaves the Capital as soon as practicable after the inauguration of his successor."

But from the start — the 1798 inauguration of John Adams, attended by Washington — the public has always paid a great deal of attention to the outgoing president. In recent years, newly installed presidents have accompanied their predecessors to a helicopter waiting to see the former president and his spouse off.



YURI GRIPAS/POOL/MCT

President George W. Bush seats between Tricia Lott, wife of Sen. Trent Lott (R-Miss.) and First Lady Laura Bush at the 2005 Inaugural luncheon.

Inaugural luncheon

This tradition started in 1897, when the Senate Committee on Arrangements gave a luncheon for President William McKinley. Other presidents played host in a similar manner — in 1945, Roosevelt hosted more than 2,000 guests at the White House. The tradition did not begin in its current official form until 1953, when President Dwight Eisenhower and 50 other guests of the JCCIC ate creamed chicken, baked ham and potato puffs in the Old Senate Chamber. The JCCIC luncheon usually includes speeches, gifts from the JCCIC and toasts to the new administration.



NATIONAL ARCHIVES/MCT

Ronald Reagan, left, and his wife, Nancy, wave to the crowd from the presidential limousine during the 1981 Inauguration Day parade.

Inaugural parade

Going back to the first, the parade is an Inauguration Day standby. When the JCCIC has concluded its luncheon, the president and vice president will journey down Pennsylvania Avenue to the White House amid streamers, confetti and general celebration. While the first parades were informal affairs, James Madison was accompanied by cavalry during his 1809 inauguration, setting the tone for the future. Abraham Lincoln's second inauguration in 1865 — 148 years before this year's swearing-in of Barack Obama — was the first time blacks were allowed to march in the parade.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

■ **Jan. 19:** Just like in 2009, the Obama and Biden families — as well as members of the president's cabinet — will dedicate their time to serving others as part of a National Day of Service to celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. A youth concert will be held that evening at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington honoring the children and spouses of those serving in the armed forces.

■ **Jan. 20:** For the seventh time in U.S. history, Inauguration Day, mandated by the Constitution as January 20, falls on a Sunday. In keeping with previous Sunday Inauguration Days, President Obama and Vice President Biden will participate in a private swearing-in.

■ **Jan. 21:** A ceremonial public swearing-in will take place at the U.S. Capitol.

After the ceremony, the president attends a luncheon organized by the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies (JCCIC) in the Statuary Hall in the U.S. Capitol.

Following the luncheon, the inaugural parade will go along Pennsylvania Ave., from the steps of the Capitol building to the White House.

In the evening the president attends official balls, which are planned by the Presidential Inaugural Committee.

■ **Jan. 22:** The sworn-in president and vice president will participate in a prayer service at the Washington National Cathedral. The service will be web-cast live at www.nationalcathedral.org.



COREY LOWENSTEIN/RALEIGH NEWS & OBSERVER/MCT

First Lady Michelle Obama, left, dances with President Barack Obama at the President's Home States Ball in 2009.

Inaugural ball

Though the practice began informally, with multiple balls following Washington's first inauguration, the growing number of balls necessitated the construction of dedicated ballrooms in Judiciary Square. Eventually, the idea of a single ball that could accommodate thousands of guests was embraced by partygoers who wished to view the newly sworn-in president. The event was canceled for the first time in 1853, when Franklin Pierce wished to mourn the loss of his son. Sixty years later, Woodrow Wilson firmly canceled the inaugural ball, and the practice of private parties sprang up when Warren G. Harding asked for a simple affair without pageantry to mark the occasion of his inauguration. In 1949, Harry Truman revived the practice of the ball, and Eisenhower's inauguration in 1953 necessitated a second ball due to great demand for tickets. The number of balls reached a high of 14 during the second inauguration of President Bill Clinton in 1997.