

We Wish You a Merry Christmas!

NEWS-SUN

Highlands County's Hometown Newspaper Since 1927

Fiscal cliff looms

PAGE 1C

Youth Super Bowl champions abound

PAGE 1D

Dear Santa ...

Elementary students' letters to Santa Claus

PAGE 1B



Sunday, December 23, 2012

www.newssun.com

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Forecast



Mostly sunny and pleasant

High 69 Low 47

Complete Forecast PAGE 8A

Online



Question: Should assault weapons be banned?

Yes 57.3%

No 42.7%

Total votes: 110

Next question:

Do you feel children are safer with military or law enforcement on school campuses?

Make your voice heard at www.newssun.com

Obituaries

Rosie Shaffer

Age 72, fo Avon Park

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Table with 2 columns: Category and Page Number. Includes Business (1C), Centennial Notebook (2A), Classifieds (3C), etc.

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No place like home for the holidays

By CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY christopher.tuffley@newssun.com

SEBRING — Here is a story for Christmas. The kind of true-life tale that brings memories of reunion, joy, and love flooding back into the mind.

Tray Hill belongs to Highlands County. An only child, he entered the world here, growing up in Sebring and graduating from Sebring High School in 1999.

Elementary School's first classes.

Tray's father, John, is part owner of the Depot Restaurant in Avon Park. His mother, April, is a hair stylist working a few doors down from her husband.

When he graduated from high school, Mrs. Hill said, Tray needed to find his way.

"There was no war on and we tried to talk him into enlisting, but instead he tried his hand at a lot of different things. He ended up at Strato.net for several

years.

"Then, when he was 28 he came to us and said he wanted to join the Army.

"I cried for days, because now there was a war on. We tried to talk him out of enlisting," she said.

Not for long.

The Hills chose to support their son every way they could. Even when their hearts were in their throats after Hill

See HOME, page 7A



Courtesy photo Army Specialist Tray Hill, SHS Class of 1999, returned to Highlands County Saturday. He served a nine-month tour in Afghanistan.

Honoring a rich history



News-Sun photo by SAMANTHA GHOLAR

E.O. Douglas alumni are lead by well-loved instructors Mrs. L.B. White and Mr. Bob Saffold (right), also alumni, Friday morning during their school's walk/song as a part of the monument unveiling and the 2012 reunion.

E.O. Douglas school monument unveiled

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR sgholar@newssun.com

SEBRING — Dozens of E.O. Douglas alumni filled in around the famous old oak tree at the former campus (now the Highlands County School District offices) Friday morning for a trip down memory lane and the unveiling of the very first E.O. Douglas monument.

Former teachers and students braved the chilly weather to pay their

respects for the colleagues and instructors who touched so many lives over the years.

E.O. Douglas was Highlands County's black only high school. The doors were open on the school from 1941 until integration in 1967. Many of the schools' former students went on to become teachers, businessmen and entrepreneurs in the com-

See ALUMNI, page 4A



News-Sun photo by SAMANTHA GHOLAR The E.O. Douglas monument stands proudly under the beloved oak tree on the former campus. The monument was unveiled Friday morning as part of the E.O. Douglas 2012 reunion.

High schools improve their grades

By CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY christopher.tuffley@newssun.com

SEBRING — Florida released the 2012 high school grades Friday. The news is good in Highlands County.

Avon Park raised its grade to a "C", after a decade of "D"s.

Sebring High School earned its first "B", and Lake Placid High School maintained a "B" for the second year in a row. Lake Placid's "B" in 2011 was the first earned by any Highlands County high school.

Andy Tuck, chairman of The School Board of Highlands County, was pleased and proud. "I think principals and teachers have done an awesome job," he said. "Lake Placid maintained its 'B' and Avon Park and Sebring both increased a letter grade. All the teachers and staff are to be commended."

Improving schools has been a major goal at the federal, state and district levels for more than a decade. Grading was tightened, new assessments put into place, teachers held to higher standards and more strictly scrutinized.

While there has been controversy over unfunded mandates passed down from the state legislature, the federal Race To The Top program helped fund several major changes, particularly in teacher evaluation and development.

Of the 16 elementary, middle and high schools, seven are "C" schools; four are "B" schools; three are "A" schools; and only one, Memorial Elementary — the county's newest public school, is a "D" school.

Five schools maintained the same grade as the year before and four schools improved a grade. Seven schools lost a grade.

Lake Placid must replace town clerk in 2013

By CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY christopher.tuffley@newssun.com

LAKE PLACID — With longtime Town Clerk Arlene Tuck's retirement coming up in March, the town council is already discussing what should be done after she leaves.

For decades the streamlined, small-government model worked well for Lake Placid. A town clerk was enough

Question remains on if town needs administrator after Tuck retires

administer town council policy.

The council and concerned citizens, however, pointed out at a recent council meeting that times have changed.

For example, there is a lot more paperwork. County, state and federal

governments have been adding mandates, requiring more detailed reports and shortening deadlines. New rules and regulations have rained down on cities and towns, administration staff say. The times call for tighter, more

sophisticated organization.

Some people argue the town should add a town administrator position, keeping the town clerk.

Other people think one person can handle the work load. They prefer the idea of an administrator/clerk blended into one position.

See LAKE, page 7A

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Change in AP recycling pick up, not for garbage

AVON PARK – There will be a change in pick up of recycling materials for residents in the city of Avon Park. There will be no pick up of items on Wednesday. Due to the holidays, recycle pick up was moved to Thursday.

There will be no change in garbage service for the Christmas holiday.

Contact Public Works-Sanitation Department at 452-4429 with questions.

Scribes Night Out offers 'Open Mike'

SEBRING – Scribes Night Out, the semi-monthly event that gives local authors a chance to be heard, meets this at 6 p.m. today at Brewster's Coffee House, 2191 U.S. 27 N. (just south of the Home Depot). The event is open to the public and admission is free.

No featured reader is scheduled; however, the evening will be devoted to an "Open Mike" format in which visitors can volunteer to read a brief sample of their own writings. Moderating the program will be veteran adventure writer Jack Everett, from Liverpool, England.

For more information, call Art Lefkowitz, event facilitator, at 385-1554.

Dec. 29-30: HLT presents Blend

SEBRING – Highlands Little Theatre will present Blend, an a cappella quartet that brings back all of those fun loving memories of the '50s and '60s with a twist of fun, on Dec. 29-30.

Be amazed at the unbelievable sound and sight while four young men take the audience back with songs such as "Come, Go With Me" and "In the Still of the Night". Blend is a show not to miss. The real strength of Blend lies in their ability to entertain crowds of all ages with their renditions of songs that most everyone has heard at one point or another.

Adult tickets are \$12 in advance, \$15 the day of show. Youth tickets are \$7 in advance, \$10 the day of show. For tickets or more information, call 382-2525 or visit www.HighlandsLittleTheatre.org

Events planned at lodges, posts

AVON PARK
The American Legion Post 69 will have karaoke by Naomi today. Christmas Eve party is from 4-7 p.m. Monday. Karaoke by KJ on Wednesday and music by Patsy on Friday; call for times. Doo Wop dinner tickets are on sale now at the bar. For more information, call 453-4553.

LAKE PLACID
The Lake Placid Moose Lodge 2374 will host karaoke by Firemen today; call for time. Volunteer party, music by Larry Musgrave is from 6-10 p.m. Monday. Karaoke by Bama Jam on Wednesday and Friday, music by Franke E. on Thursday and by Big Freddie on Saturday. All times from 6-10 p.m. For more information, call 465-0131.

Continued on page 6A



Artist James Hahn (from left) and art agent Hugh Liddle listen as Sebring Mayor George Hensley describes the importance of Hahn's mural to the City of Sebring Friday afternoon during the dedication of the mural.

Centennial Mural dedicated to city

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR
sgholar@newssun.com

SEBRING – Several gathered at the sight of James Hahn's newest completed piece of artwork just before the Circle on North Ridgewood Friday afternoon. Hahn is best known for his Cabbage Patch Kids murals but has become well known in the Heartland for his gallery work.

Since October, Hahn and his wife Kay have worked for hours on end to create the perfect piece that will capture the essence of Sebring and the community's rich culture.

"As an artist, everything is a canvas to him (James). We kept passing by this huge white wall and my husband thought 'I've got to have that,'" Kay said.

James agreed that the open space would be the perfect place to create a one-of-a-kind piece that will portray what is the heart and soul of Sebring.

"We'd come through town and I'd just see it. When we finally got it (the wall) I thought how to represent Sebring from the start to now," James said.

As the project began in early October, Hahn created the background and the backdrop not knowing fully yet what the mural would become. The fan that is placed at the top center of the wall posed a nice challenge for Hahn, though he tackled it with genius. (The mural was complete the first week of December.)

"He said to me 'what about a seaplane ...' We live on Lake Jackson and always see them landing. It was perfect," Kay said.

Once the first hurdle was behind them, James went on to fill in the wall with empty photograph frames not yet knowing what to fill them with.

After the background and



Artists Kay and James Hahn dedicate their Sebring Centennial Mural Friday afternoon amongst local dignitaries and friends. The couple composed, designed and painted the mural to encompass the heart and soul of the community since its beginnings in 1912.

big detailing was nearly finished, he was hit with more ideas on what would be the best additions to the piece.

"I didn't know what I wanted to fill those with when I started. It came to me as I worked, as the mural progressed," James said.

The plan worked out great. The first picture within the mural is a hand-painted photo of Sebring's founder, George Sebring, back in 1912. Following George Sebring's photo is a number of local "wonders" of which every resident is familiar – cattle, oranges, race cars and the current mayor of Sebring, George Hensley.

"I started with George and I ended with George," Hahn said with a laugh.

Hensley is portrayed riding in a convertible along the Centennial parade route.

"This spells out clearly the history of our city," Hensley said. "It says so much about our neighborhood and out community ... We've had an incredible year and I have a feeling this is the start of the next 100 years in Sebring."

The Hahns thanked a number of individuals who helped make the mural possible – Jen Brown, city of Sebring staff, Mike Carr, and Katie

Eldridge, who donated the wall and gave the property to the Hahns for the mural. All those people and so many more were all a part of a beautiful piece of art that will become another part of Sebring's rich history.

Recording history

The digital age may be upon us and maybe it is an iPad world. The big newspapers may want us to go online to get the news, and the growth of social media has us thinking we are all journalists with the ability to make the news when, where and how we want. Nevertheless, scrapbooks are still important. Small businesses are still important. We, as small towns and communities, are still important.

The fact is a newspaper in a small town is its backbone. It's there for the good and the bad. It's there for history's sake. It's there for local news that you may or may not find in other places. It's there to put your kids picture in the paper, to let everyone know who got married, who died, who's a local hero, what's new in town; it's what the News-Sun is for us.

The News-Sun is Highland County's oldest newspaper and has had many names through the years. Staff members have come and gone. However, its dedication to Sebring and all of Highlands County remains the same.

As a true partner in the community, it is here to report about the county's growth, challenges and the people who make this the best county in Florida.

The following history lesson is from an article in the commemorative book, "The 100 Years of Sebring", written by News-Sun publisher Romona Washington. Romona began her career at the News-Sun in 1980, and in 2009, she was named pub-



Centennial Notebook
By Jen Brown

lisher. Scott Dressel became editor in 2009, and they both have been a pleasure to work with during this year.

The first newspaper published in Sebring was called the Sebring News. Only one issue, that of August 1912, was officially documented. The enduring Sebring News was inaugurated June 23, 1928. It was established by Eugene Schaefer of the Broking Printing Company, and the editor was N.A. Broking, who also served as business manager and staffer. The duo was publishing the Bowling Green News in Hardee County when they fulfilled an interest to start a publication in Highlands County. The newspaper experienced steady growth during the Great Depression, except for a couple of years in the early 1930s.

The newspaper was sold March 21, 1946 to the Perry Group of newspapers. Broking continued as editor, although Schaefer had sold his interest in the newspaper in 1937. Prior to the Sebring News, area residents gained their news from a variety of publications. W.M. Hetherington,

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	Dec. 20 (n)	4 8 8 3	
	Dec. 20 (d)	2 5 3 6	
CASH 3	Dec. 21 (n)	3 2 6	
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	Dec. 20 (n)	0 4 8	
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EDITORIAL & OPINION

TODAY'S EDITORIAL

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus

Editor's note: Eight-year-old Virginia O'Hanlon wrote a letter to the editor of New York's Sun, and the response written by veteran newsman Francis Pharcellus Church was printed as an unsigned editorial Sept. 21, 1897. It has become the most reprinted newspaper editorial ever, and the News-Sun presents it every year in the issue before Christmas.

Dear Editor:
I am 8 years old.
Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus.
Papa says, 'If you see it in The Sun it's so.'
Please tell me the truth; is there a Santa Claus?
Virginia O'Hanlon
115 West Ninety-Fifth Street.

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been

affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus. It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith

then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the won-

ders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You may tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

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Twenty-six precious souls

I meant to write a Christmas column this week, talking about the upcoming holiday and maybe poking a little lighthearted fun at my last-minute preparations. But it's very hard for me to get into that kind of mood this week. Not when a madman decided last week it would be a good idea to shoot up an elementary school. Twenty-six people died, not counting the killer who turned his weapon on himself and his mother.

Twenty-six people. Twenty of them young children. It hurts just to type that. What kind of human being targets six-year-olds? What could possibly have been going through the killer's mind that would justify this atrocity?

People are upset, and rightly so. When evil paints a target on the innocent, we should have strong feelings about it. We should weep with the families of the victims and pray for them. We should be angry that someone chose to commit an act of such despicable evil. The day we don't feel anything when something like this happens is the day we've lost something vital to our humanity. I pray that never happens to any of us.

Because the killer used guns, gun control has come up for debate yet again. According to a poll conducted by CNN, a "bare majority" of respondents favor major restrictions on gun ownership, if not an outright ban. Before you take these poll numbers seriously, however, keep in mind three things: the number of people polled was ridiculously small (620 people!), the margin of error in the poll is plus or minus 4 percent, and the poll was taken the Monday and Tuesday after the shootings, while emotions are still running high.

Oh, and one more thing: in the same poll a little over half the respondents think such attacks will continue to happen no matter what the government does.

I can understand why people run to the gun control argument. It is on the surface an easy fix. Just ban this or that type of gun,

Laura's Look

Laura Ware

and everything will be fine. At least that's the impression I get from some of their arguments.

I hate to be the bearer of bad news, but I really doubt that more gun laws are going to solve this. Because when you get right down to it, the gun isn't the real problem.

A gun is a tool. A tool capable of horrific damage, but still merely a tool. It takes a human being to put it to evil or good use. And gun control fails in general to address the human element, despite things such as background checks.

The real problem that causes attacks like the one in Newtown is a societal one. There are people in our country who have lost their moral compass. They believe the lives of others have little to no worth. And that they can act with impunity.

This is not so easy to fix. Because in many ways our country its has lost its moral compass. That brings consequences. When we as a society lose our way, is it really so shocking that young people will stray off the path?

Am I saying that a return to God and old fashioned values would prevent things like the shooting in Newtown? I am not arrogant enough to say it would prevent it 100 percent. But it could reduce the number of such atrocities.

This has been a difficult column to write. Because in the end, as long as people have free will, we run the risk of horrible things happening. And sometimes all we can do is hug our loved ones and pray that it doesn't happen again for a long, long time. I wish I could give you more than that.

Laura Ware is a Sebring resident. She can be contacted by e-mail at bookwormlady@embarqmail.com Visit her website at www.lauraware.com. Guest columns are the opinion of the writer, not necessarily those of the staff of the News-Sun.



TODAY'S LETTERS

Instead of paying bonus, hire some people

Editor:
I will make this short. Is it a bonus or the bone? More than \$200,000 for bonus money to people who are drawing a paycheck? Shades of present and past county officials.

Why give a bonus to people who draw a paycheck? Why not hire 10 workers to give some relief to at least 10 families or more. Most county (employees) have two paychecks coming in to their homes, so let the people in charge bring some cheer for some veterans or people who have not had a check.

We need to start kicking these non-caring people out of the positions they hold when not in the best interest of the people of the county. We have a very high unemployment rate here, so 10 people, look how much that would help even if the job just lasted one year, then they can get unemployment and might be saving homes.

Wake up county.
Clarence Neeley
Lake Placid

Wake me up from this dream

Editor:
Please bear with me in my older age as I'm stuck in memories past. You see, I remember a time when every time I ate out, I choked on cigarette smoke from some stranger at a nearby table, who couldn't enjoy the pleasures of food without blowing their smoke my way in a small, crowded eatery.

Thirty minutes later I had severe asthma attacks and I'd vow I'd never go back to that place again! It took experts nearly 50 years to realize the dangers of second-hand smoke and do something about it.

And now, I remember the day when my rights ended where someone else's

began. Do you remember that, Mr. Editor? My friends tell me I'm dreaming. They say we've always had the right to infringe on the rights of others.

They also tell me our state supreme court says that it's OK for others to blast their music as their freedom of speech, even though my ears and my nerves are suffering the damage.

Please Mr. Editor, write me a Dear Virginia letter that reassures me it's not true and that on Christmas morning I'll wake up and find under my tree, my rights to peace and quiet and that a new, sane, reasonable supreme court is on the bench. Because you see, Mr. Editor, if they're right, then I'll be deaf and in my grave before the experts realize the damage and do something about it.

Jo Antley
Sebring

Bouquets

Many help with Christmas at Y

Editor:
The sound of Christmas is in the air. The second annual Christmas at the Y was full of magical holiday fun as more than 450 people came to celebrate with us on Dec. 14 and 15.

Both nights featured spirited holiday performances from Justus Martin, The Wacasters, and Nala Price. Our very own Dave Scheck lead participants through our always popular cake walk while other Y staff and many volunteers helped by working at our concessions, games, bounce house, giant slide, and train ride.

A special thanks to Santa for coming to take pictures with all of the children who came, and thank you to Delaney Photography for donating their time and talents to capture all the moments with our jolly, red cloaked friend.

The Highlands County Family YMCA would also like to thank all of our sponsors and supporters for the

evening. We would not be able to have the impact we do without your help and support: E-Stone USA Corporation, Signtastic, Taylor Rental, ABC Discount Appliance Inc., Highlands Independent Bank, LaQuinta Inn & Suites, Windmill Farms & Nurseries, Dr. T.C. Lackey, Champion for Children, Papa Johns, C.N.S. Auctions, Air & Electrical Services, Don Jose's Mexican Restaurant, Delaney Photography, Henry's Country Motors, Bowyer Physical Therapy, Rob Livingston, Attorney, AXA Foundation, Dr. Nasim Khan, P.S. Signs & Graphics, Pizzano's, Carol's Upholstery, Publix Southgate, Sebring Pawn, Eric Zwyer, All About Lawns, Positive Mobility, Waldron Chiropractic, Nurse On Call, Party Monster, and RCH Vending.
Highlands County Family YMCA

Central Security, HCSO help priceless

Editor:
Are you looking for a security system?

Only Jack knows why it was necessary to go outside at 2:20 a.m. Friday morning. Neglected to disengage the security system, as the door was opened, the alarm went off. Took several minutes to get to the keypad to shut the system off. Usually Central Security calls to make sure everything was O.K. There was no call. Less than 10 minutes later a flashlight was seen in my backyard - when asked what he was doing, the deputy then explained Central Security called the sheriff due to an alarm activation - the deputy was checking the property.

A sense of security is a priceless item - at 2:20 a.m., it is serene.

I am so thankful for the immediate response of Central Security and the sheriff's office.

Audra I. Aubin
Sebring

EDITORIAL PAGE POLICY

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

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

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

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



Alumni gather under the oak

Continued from page 1A
 munity but always remembered the lessons learned at their beloved E.O. Douglas. After integration, many of the students of Highlands County, both black and white, became acquainted with one another, a fact many feel lucky to have.

School Superintendent Wally Cox spoke during the E.O. Douglas Monument Ceremony Friday about the memories he had of the many alumni from the school.

"I was a young person attending an all-white Sebring High School in 1967. I always thought that if I was a student at E.O. I probably wouldn't have liked moving from my school to this new place. I can't imagine it was easy. But I'm grateful for it (integration). It's been a blessing to me and to so many in the community. I have so many more friends now that I wouldn't have. Our paths just wouldn't have crossed," Cox said.

"As hard as the change was, it's been a blessing to many of us."

Several of the teachers from E.O. impacted not only its students lives, but the lives of those like Cox who never even entered the school's doors. Cox praised two E.O. instructors specifically — Coach William Blanding and Principal Samuel Nixon Jr.

"He was a very honest man," Cox said of Blanding. "Mr. Nixon was just a wonderful man. He taught me what being a servant leader is all about."

Many alumni followed the superintendent's address; all stating the same facts about their school and the great teachers they had.

Class of 1959 graduate



The E.O. Douglas Alumni Foundation Monument Committee members untie the monument that has been revealed to dozens of alumni Friday morning.

Mattie Wyche praised beloved music instructor Mrs. L.B. White following a beautiful solo song dedicated to former classmates and E.O.

"Thank God for Mrs. White. I played around a lot and she made me sing even when I didn't want to. Mr. (Robert) Saffold stayed on me and told me 'Mattie Robinson, you better straighten up' and Major Callahan introduced me to Christ in the school house and I thank him for that," Wyche said.

Barbara Hobbs, class of 1949 graduate, had fond memories of the old oak tree under which the new monument now stands.

"There are so many things that went on under this old tree. I'm glad this tree can't talk," Hobbs said with a laugh. "It's been 60 years

since I've been here and it holds so many beautiful memories. I will never forget this tree."

Hobbs went on to describe the many schemes and plans she and her classmates conjured up under the old oak tree. Tales of cafeteria strikes and dress code violations filled the air with laughter as alumni remembered their strict principal, Nixon, and the full lunch menu they were served daily.

At the close of the ceremony, E.O. Douglas Alumni Foundation Board President Rev. Robert Walker stated the importance of the monument for every person in the community.

"So much of our history was lost. It wasn't written down; it was lost, discarded and just thrown away," Walker said. "It took a lot of

research to find all these people and their writings. Today we are honoring some dynamic men. These men had to have been just as smart, intelligent and fearless as Mr. Nixon."

The E.O. Douglas monument features the name of each of the principals on record. Eight men's names are engraved on a beautiful stone that now stands proudly under the school's old, beloved oak tree.

"We will be adding to this," Walker said. "This will become a place with beautiful walkways and fountains for our grandchildren and great-grandchildren to enjoy."

"This isn't the last thing that we are doing." The monument unveiling kicked off the beginning of the E.O. Douglas 12th bi-annual reunion.

Support available for military veterans

By CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY

christopher.tuffley@newssun.com
 SEBRING — Donald "Bud" Wallen sat down with the News-Sun for a conversation on Friday. He is a volunteer with Employer Support of Guard and Reserve, known by its initials as ESGR. Very few members of the reserves or national guard know about the organization, Wallen said, and he wants to change that.

Created by the Department of Defense, ESGR is designed to help the reservists and guardsmen called to active duty or serving their monthly and annual obligations — and their spouses — who are having difficulty with their civilian employers.

Problems for the part-time soldiers and their families grew after 9/11, Wallen said, because so many were called to active duty for significant periods of time.

"In the beginning, many employers were firing them," Wallen said. "And there was no one to explain the laws protecting reservists and guardsmen to those employers, or speak to them on behalf of the employees."

The ESGR provides an ombudsman to work out

any difficulties.

In addition, in March of 2012 the ESGR joined with the National Chamber of Commerce Foundation and Capital One for their H2H program — Heroes 2 Hire — a coordinated effort to secure 500,000 employment commitments for veterans of all kinds. In 2012, H2H's goal was to hold 400 job fairs — also open to husbands and wives of veterans.

The fairs bring business and job seekers together.

Wallen said most employers are understanding and supportive. Some even go out of their way. Those outstanding businesses are honored as Patriotic Employers.

"Tom Dettman (Sebring Police Chief) and Susan Benton (Highlands County sheriff) have both been honored as Patriotic Employers," Wallen said. "That means they look for vets, reservists or guards to hire."

The next job fair close to Highlands County is Jan. 13 in Tampa.

For more information contact Wallen at 346-7611 or dwallen@comcast.net, or Ernie Lombardi, the H2H director for the S/E Region, at (202) 657-2455 or elombardi@uschamber.com.

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 Tickets: \$19, \$22, \$25
 Sponsors: Alan Jay Automotive Network (Gold) Dr. and Mrs. Rulx Ganthier Jr. (Gold)

FANFARE FOR THE AMERICAN HERO
 Saturday, Jan. 19 • 7:30 p.m.
 SFSC Theatre for the Performing Arts
 Inspirational tribute to our soldiers and first responders
 Tickets: \$19, \$22, \$25
 Sponsors: Dr. and Mrs. George D. Leidel (Gold) Tim and Vivian Cook (Bronze) Carol Emery (Bronze) Joan H. Haritt (Bronze)

CHINA NATIONAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
 Monday, Jan. 28 • 7:30 p.m.
 SFSC Theatre for the Performing Arts
 This amazing 90-piece orchestra makes its first appearance on our stage.
 Tickets: \$33, \$36, \$39
 Sponsors: Florida Hospital Heartland Medical Center (Platinum) Dr. and Mrs. Placido M. Roquiz Jr. (Bronze) Dr. Dini H. Rada/Heartland Pathology Associates (Bronze) Barbara A. Platte D.D.S. and Robert Gillmore (Bronze)

THE LENNON SISTERS
 Thursday, Feb. 14 • 7:30 p.m.
 SFSC Theatre for the Performing Arts
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 Tickets: \$33, \$36, \$39
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Courtesy photo

Tamara Cruz (second from left) and Judith Vekasy (fourth from left), community health workers, accept their Diabetes University certificates from Kelly Johnson, Natoy Baker-Robinson, and Dr. Edward Shahady (left to right).

Network recognizes local providers for quality diabetes care

Special to the News-Sun
SEBRING – Heartland Rural Health Network Inc. hosted a Diabetes Master Clinician Program (DMCP) graduation event on Dec. 7 at Inn on the Lakes to recognize two local providers and the Network's two Community Health Workers for achieving excellence in quality diabetes care for rural populations in Highlands and Hardee counties.

Kelly J. Johnson, HRHN executive director, opened the event with a welcome to Dr. Kathleen Welch Wilson and team from Hardee Family Medical Group and Dr. Miguel Beltre and team from Sun 'N Lake Medical Group as well as Dr. Edward Shahady, DMCP medical director, and Tamara Cruz and Judy Vekasy, HRHN's community health workers. Natoy Baker-Robinson, DMCP coordinator, explained her commitment to the program and to the providers and staff involved in the DMCP.

Those present were recognized with individual certificates as well as both practices being recognized

by the Florida Academy of Family Physicians Foundation as Centers of Diabetes Excellence.

Shahady reviewed a PowerPoint that reflected each practice's data within the diabetes registry. He discussed opportunities and successes of both practices.

Cruz and Vekasy were also presented with Diabetes University certificates.

Upon distributing the certificates the floor was opened for comments. Welch-Wilson said, "I can see the progression at each (patient's) visit after they see a CHW." Beltre said, "Because of this program, my medical office has changed how we treat diabetes."

The Diabetes Master Clinician Program is a team effort and the dedication to serving patients within a community-based setting helps contribute to the overall achievement of diabetes goals and the success of the DMCP as a whole.

For further information, contact Baker-Robinson at 452-6530, ext. 301.



News-Sun photo by KATARA SIMMONS

William Booker, 7, lights up Saturday morning, while shopping for toys during the Florida Sportsman Christmas Shopping Spree at Kmart in Sebring. Booker was one of more than 100 children who received a \$60 gift card to make their Christmas dreams come true. Youngsters aged 7-17 from throughout the Heartland pre-applied with the Florida Sportsman Association to receive a gift card.



News-Sun photo by KATARA SIMMONS

Christmas comes early for 100 children

Robert Saffold, founder of the Florida Sportsman Association, gives people instructions before the start of the annual Christmas Shopping Spree at Kmart in Sebring. Saffold has organized the local shopping spree event for 30 years, helping provide Christmas presents to children in need. To learn more or to make a contribution contact Saffold at 381-5166.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Continued from page 2A

VFW Post 3880 will host Christmas hors d'oeuvres at 4 p.m. Tuesday. For details, call 699-5444.

SEBRING

The Sebring Moose Lodge 2259 will host music by Larry Musgrave on Wednesday; call for time. Women of the Moose Joint Officers Business meeting is at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, followed by a general meeting at 8 p.m. Music by Frank E. from 6-10 p.m. Friday. Music by Gary and Shirley from 6-10 p.m. Saturday. See an officer for details of New Year's Eve dinner. Music by Long Shot. Any questions, call 655-3920.

The Sebring Recreation

Club, 333 Pomegranate Ave., will host Shuffleboard Scrambles at 1:15 p.m. Monday. Nickel Scrambles is at 1:15 p.m. Wednesday. Mini-shuffleboard Tournament at 1:15 p.m. Friday. For more information, call 385-2966.

The Sebring Elks Lodge 1529 Activity Committee meets at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday in the dining room. Wacky Wednesday from 5-6:30 p.m.; meal costs \$6.50. To dance only, costs \$3. Music will be provided by Frank E. from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Friday buffet from 5-6:30 p.m. for \$12. To dance only, costs \$3. Dance to Don and Allen from 6:30-9:30 p.m. For more information, call 471-3557.

OBITUARY

ROSIE SHAFFER

Rosie Louise Struempff Shaffer, 72, of Avon Park, Fla., died Monday Dec. 10, 2012, in the Cox South Hospital in Springfield, Mo. Rosie was born on March 2, 1940 in Osage County, Mo. She is the daughter of Rose Conner Struempff and the late Charles Struempff. Rosie was married to Franklin A Shaffer.

Surviving Rosie is her mother, Rose Struempff of Belle, Mo.; daughter, Bonnie Patricia Olsen (Tom) of Fort Myers, Fla.; granddaughters, Laura and Katherine; and great-granddaughter, Nyla; daughter, Delorse Reinsch (Michael) of Gladstone, Mo.; grandchildren, Justin, Billy and Christopher; and great-grandchildren, Jacob and

Jake; son, Franklin Schaffer of Avon Park, Fla.; daughter, Wanda Sue Brockwell of Berryville, A l a s k a ; granddaughters, Danielle and Cindy (H a v e y) Horton; and great-grandchildren, Emberly, Joslynn, Samatha and Tessa Jean; son, Mark Wayne Shaffer (Veronica) of Belle, Mo. Also surviving Rosie is her son Luke's family, grandchildren Josh, Zachary and



Shaffer

Tommy; great-grandchildren Danielle and Christian; and daughter Gale's family of four grandchildren. She is survived by four brothers, Clarence Struempff of Desoto, Mo., Jack Struempff of St. Clair, Mo., and Larry and Henry Struempff, both of Belle, Mo.; and a sister, Anne Marie Dingley of Belle Mo.

Rosie is preceded in death by her husband, Franklin; a son, Bill Luke Shaffer; and daughter, Gale VandeBrake.

Condolences may be made by contacting Patricia Olsen at (239) 994-5044.

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

888-728-6234 Cornerstonehospice.org

To my dear ones left behind
I have just had Christmas in heaven;
A glorious, wonderful day!
I stood with the saints of the ages,
Who found Christ the truth and the way.
I sang with the heavenly choir;
Just think, I who longed so to sing!
And oh what celestial music
We brought to our savior and king.
No Christmas on earth could compare;
You know how I always loved Christmas,
It seemed such a wonderful day.
With all my loved ones around me,
Now I can see why I loved it,
And oh what a joy it will be
When you and my loved ones are with me
To share in the glories I see.
So, dear ones on earth, here is my greeting
Look up till the day dawn appears
Oh what a Christmas awaits us,
Beyond all our parting and tears!!!

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HazMat team called out



The Sebring Police Department and Sebring Fire Department respond to Capital Pawn on Friday afternoon to investigate an envelope containing an unknown white powdery substance. The envelope was addressed to an employee of the pawn shop who opened it and notified authorities. The Sebring Fire Department's HazMat team was dispatched to retrieve a sample of the substance, which was tested on the scene using specialized equipment. According to Sebring Fire Department Chief Brad Batz, "I determined it was not hazardous and sent the remaining substance to the lab for further analysis."

News-Sun photo by KATARA SIMMONS

Lake Placid faces town clerk decision next year

Continued from page 1A

Police Chief Phil Williams provides a third choice. He has expressed an interest in becoming Lake Placid's administrator.

"I'm happy being police chief," Williams said. "I'm not even sure they (the council) know what they want to do at this point. This gives them some additional flexibility. We'll just have to wait and see."

Williams paused, then gave a half jokingly warning, "I couldn't be objective if the subject of the police depart-

ment came up."

Mayor John Holbrook echoed Williams' general assessment. "We still haven't decided," he told the News-Sun. "We did change the wording of our open position advertisement, changing it to clerk/administrator. The position will be advertised until Jan. 7, so nothing happens until then."

"We want to do something in January," Holbrook added. "We want there to be time for Arlene to get the new person acclimated as to how the town goes about its business, and what the pending issues are."

Marline Barger, part of a small, informal, citizen group, said two essential points need to be acknowledged by the council and mayor: The council must provide the new position with the authority to carry out the assigned responsibilities and it must not micro-manage town staff.

In terms of applicants Barger said, "We'd like the council to cast the net and see what's out there." Should Williams be interviewed for the job, however, Barger said,

"Phil will do a fine job. But he should be sure to interview the council just as much they

interview him. He should insist on getting the authority needed to get the job done."

The issue should be given a high priority, Barger added. "March is only three months away a lot needs to be done before Arlene leaves," Barger said.

"We need a timeline, and we need to follow that timeline."

News-Sun has been here since 1927

Continued from page 2A

an editor and publisher of the Sebring News and publisher and co-owner of the Avon Park Sun, noted a Sebring Recorder published Feb. 20, 1913; another Sebring News published Jan. 9, 1914; the Sebring White Way published Nov. 26, 1914; and the Sebring American published March 8, 1929.

In addition, there was a Highlands American, which was a combination of the Sebring White Way and the Sebring American. There was also a Highlands County News. When the Sebring White Way was sold to Perry Newspapers in 1945, the name changed to the Sebring News, which also included a merger with the Sebring American. A competing paper, Highlands Herald, was also purchased by Perry and merged with The Sebring News. In 1971, Hetherington retired and the Avon Park and Sebring newspapers were bought by

General Newspapers, Inc. Six months later, the newspapers were sold to the New York Times Company.

In 1983, the Avon Park Sun and Sebring News merged their efforts to produce the first Sunday News-Sun edition. Both papers were eventually merged to become the New-Sun, with the addition of the Friday publication coming in 1996 to make it what it is today. In 2000, the newspaper was sold to Better Built Newspapers and in 2004, HarborPoint Media took ownership of the property.

The News-Sun, Highlands County's Hometown Newspaper since 1927, cares about the community they serve. They celebrate their history, they continue their tradition, and they thank you for sharing your stories. Newspapers like the News-Sun report on local news stories with accuracy and depth that effect their readers, they distribute to individuals and in doing so, they cultivate a

community.

By residents reading the News-Sun it enables them to educate our citizens, it ensures that they continue to flourish as an important resource and to help maintain a healthy democracy. All you need to do is your part and support the News-Sun, read it so you'll know what's happening in your community.

Once again, I give sincere thanks to the News-Sun for allowing me the newspaper space to keep everyone informed throughout the Centennial Year, for all of the Centennial coverage, for participating in The Centennial Bed Race, and for being such a pleasure to work with.

Next week will be the final 'Centennial Notebook' article; it will be the last hoorah.

Jen Brown was a member of the Sebring Centennial Committee and is a member of the Sebring Historical Society.

Home for the holidays

Continued from page 1A

deployed to Jalalabad, Afghanistan on March 12, 2012. Even when he re-enlisted recently.

"He blossomed in the Army," said Mrs. Hill, pride resonating in her voice. "I knew he would do well. He graduated with honors from basic training, and just before he came home he was named Soldier of the Month."

A specialist, Hill repairs small arms, which means everything from hand-guns to howitzers. His role is critical. He is the man who makes sure every soldier's weapon fires every time the trigger is squeezed.

When faulty weapons could not get to Hill, he went to the weapons, including those in distant, dangerous places. His tour of duty lasted nine months.

Assigned to the 4th Battery, 4th Infantry Division, Hill and his fellow soldiers returned to the United States in December. They landed at Fort Carson in Colorado Springs to process through the Army's re-integration program. A formal welcome home ceremony was planned. Mrs.

Hill was not going to let her son walk off the plane from Afghanistan without somebody waiting with a warm hug, so she flew out.

The ceremony "took your breath away," Mrs. Hill said. "It was 2:30 in the morning, but the place was packed, including children. There was a Santa Claus and bounce houses and all kinds of food."

The returning soldiers began to march in, four abreast. "Smoke came in from underneath the doors and the song 'Proud to be an American' was playing loud," Mrs. Hill said, unable to keep the emotion out of her voice. "They really did it up right."

The Hills are grateful Tray is back home, with all his fingers and toes. They couldn't think of a better Christmas gift.

He's in the United States and I'm sleeping a lot better," Mrs. Hill said.

Tray arrived home Saturday — to a massive surprise party in his family's yard. Family, his friends, his parents' friends, and neighbors got together, all eager to say, "Thank God you're back, safe and sound."

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NOTICE OF CITY OF SEBRING ELECTION

QUALIFYING, EARLY VOTING, CLOSING OF VOTER REGISTRATION ROLLS AND SIGNATURE UPDATE INFORMATION

Notice is hereby given that the City of Sebring will hold an election on March 12, 2013 to elect two Councilmembers. This will be for a three-year term.

The qualifying period begins Tuesday, January 8, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. and ends Friday, January 18, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. To qualify, the candidate must be a legally qualified voter and a permanent resident of the City of Sebring. Qualifying must be done at Sebring City Hall, 368 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida. The precincts open 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. on election day as follows:

- Precinct 7 & 11S – Sebring Elks Lodge – 2618 Kenilworth Blvd., Sebring
- Precinct 8 & 15S – Sebring Recreation Club – 333 Pomegranate Ave., Sebring
- Precinct 9 – Boys & Girls Club – 111 N. Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd., Sebring
- Precinct 10 – Sebring Masonic Lodge – 1809 Home Avenue, Sebring

Early voting for the City of Sebring will be from Monday, March 4, 2013 through Friday, March 8, 2013 starting at 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Supervisor of Elections Office located at 580 South Commerce Avenue, Room 201A, Sebring, FL.

The voter registration books will close on February 11, 2013. If you have any questions about voter registration, polling locations or absentee ballots please call the Supervisor of Elections office at (863) 402-6655.

If your signature has changed since you registered to vote, you may need to provide a signature update to the Elections office. Signatures on petitions and absentee ballots are always checked against the original voter registration signature, and it is the responsibility of the voter to be sure the signature is updated when it changes. If you need to update your signature, please call the Elections Office at (863) 402-6655 to have a form sent to you.

Kathy Haley
Kathy Haley, CMC, City Clerk

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Five-Day forecast for Highlands County

TODAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Mostly sunny and pleasant	Mostly sunny and nice	Partly sunny and pleasant	Some sun with t-storms possible	Mostly sunny and cooler
69° / 47°	75° / 54°	78° / 61°	80° / 48°	65° / 46°
Winds: ESE at 3-8 mph	Winds: S at 4-8 mph	Winds: SSE at 6-12 mph	Winds: SW at 8-16 mph	Winds: N at 6-12 mph

National Forecast for December 23

Legend: Cold (Snow, Ice, Sleet), Warm (Rain, Drizzle), Sunny (Sun, Partly Sunny, Cloudy). Shows mean positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands and highs for the day.

Almanac

Readings at Archbold Biological Station in Lake Placid

High Tuesday	65°
Low Tuesday	38°
High Wednesday	81°
Low Wednesday	45°
High Thursday	83°
Low Thursday	51°

Heat Index: For 3 p.m. today: 69°

Relative humidity: 32%

Expected air temperature: 69°

Makes it feel like: 66°

Barometer: Tuesday 30.07, Wednesday 30.07, Thursday 30.10

Precipitation: Tuesday 0.00", Wednesday 0.00", Thursday 0.02", Month to date 2.16", Year to date 57.74"

Regional Summary

Mostly sunny and pleasant today. Clear tonight. Mostly sunny and nice tomorrow. Tuesday: pleasant with clouds and sun. Wednesday: partly sunny with thunderstorms possible. Thursday: sunny and cooler.

Key West 72/65, Naples 72/54, Fort Myers 71/53, West Palm Beach 73/60, Miami 74/62, Fort Lauderdale 74/64, Okeechobee 68/46, Sarasota 67/52, St. Petersburg 67/54, Tampa 66/52, Clearwater 67/55, Sebring 69/47, Avon Park 69/48, Lake Placid 71/48, Brighton 69/48, Venus 71/48, Orlando 65/48, Daytona Beach 63/39, Jacksonville 63/39, Gainesville 64/41, Ocala 64/40, Tallahassee 63/45, Apalachicola 62/53, Pensacola 65/56.

Shows today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

National Summary

Cold and blustery weather is in store for New England today as a gusty west wind eases in a few snow showers and clouds from time to time. Farther south, there will be lighter winds and summer skies across the Ohio Valley into the northern mid-Atlantic states. A weak zone of low pressure will spawn scattered showers across Louisiana and Mississippi, as well as southern Arkansas. Cold and windy weather will develop over the Dakotas and eastern Montana, with light snow later in the day.

U.S. Cities

City	Today	Mon.	Tue.
Albuquerque	49/29pc	40/26pc	43/24pc
Atlanta	58/45pc	60/30t	54/42t
Baltimore	46/30pc	43/35t	43/37pc
Birmingham	57/50pc	67/37t	56/37t
Boston	40/30t	37/30t	37/25t
Charlotte	59/30pc	54/37t	53/34t
Chicago	34/27pc	34/24t	32/25pc
Cleveland	36/27pc	37/25pc	33/23pc
Columbus	43/31pc	40/25t	34/25pc
Dallas	69/43pc	59/30pc	43/20t
Denver	49/23t	39/11pc	21/5t
Detroit	30/23pc	34/25pc	32/21pc
Houston	43/27pc	42/25pc	37/18pc
Indianapolis	42/29pc	36/22t	35/22pc
Jackson, MS	63/35t	67/41t	59/29t
Kansas City	28/14t	29/11pc	18/3t
Los Angeles	63/37pc	63/37t	39/29pc
Little Rock	62/44t	54/32pc	49/21t
Los Angeles	61/32pc	64/47t	65/47pc
Louisville	48/40pc	44/29t	43/29pc
Memphis	56/49pc	53/30t	43/26t
Minneapolis	31/24pc	30/13t	31/18pc
Mississippi	20/8t	16/2t	11/2t
Nashville	52/45t	54/30t	47/32t
New Orleans	70/61t	73/58t	72/41t
New York City	41/30pc	41/33pc	35/29pc
Norfolk	53/39t	53/41pc	48/40pc
Oklahoma City	50/25pc	49/22pc	39/10t
Philadelphia	44/31pc	43/32pc	41/29pc
Phoenix	64/47pc	63/45t	61/45t
Pittsburgh	37/27pc	32/29t	35/24pc
Portland, ME	34/25pc	35/20t	31/17t
Portland, OR	44/35t	43/35t	41/35t
Raleigh	59/38t	56/37t	54/39pc
Rochester	36/23t	34/25pc	33/21t
St. Louis	62/28t	34/25pc	33/16pc
San Francisco	58/47t	54/41pc	52/46t
Seattle	44/34t	43/34t	43/34t
Wash., DC	46/34pc	46/34t	44/30pc

Tides

Readings at St. Petersburg

High	12:33 p.m.
Low	5:19 a.m.
High	10:03 p.m.
Low	3:32 p.m.

Readings at Palm Beach

High	4:55 a.m.
Low	10:49 a.m.
High	4:57 p.m.
Low	11:09 p.m.

Lake Levels

Readings at 7 a.m., yesterday

Lake Jackson	78.30'
Lake Okeechobee	15.16'
Normal	14.51'

UV Index Today

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

10 a.m.	3
Noon	5
2 p.m.	3
4 p.m.	1

0-2 Low; 3-5 Moderate; 6-7 High; 8-10 Very High; 11+ Extreme

Sun and Moon

	Today	Monday
Sunrise	7:10 a.m.	7:11 a.m.
Sunset	5:41 p.m.	5:41 p.m.
Moonrise	2:20 p.m.	3:01 p.m.
Moonset	3:03 a.m.	2:55 a.m.

Full Moon: Dec 29, Last Moon: Jan 4, New Moon: Jan 11, First Moon: Jan 18

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	70/52t	73/57t	78/65pc
Clearwater	67/55t	73/62t	77/66pc
Deerfield Beach	72/62t	77/63t	80/69pc
Daytona Beach	63/48t	72/54t	75/60pc
Deltona	74/44t	77/64pc	79/71pc
Fort Myers	71/53t	77/59t	79/66pc
Gainesville	64/41t	70/53t	73/58t
Hollywood	73/60t	78/62pc	79/70pc
Homeside AFB	73/59t	78/61pc	79/60pc
Jacksonville	63/39t	70/53t	73/58t
Key West	72/65t	76/65pc	78/72pc
Maitland	73/59t	78/61pc	79/60pc
Melbourne	66/48t	73/56t	77/60pc
Miami	74/62t	77/64pc	80/70pc
Miami Beach	73/60t	77/62pc	79/65pc
Miami Lakes	66/48t	73/56t	77/60pc
Miramar	66/48t	73/56t	77/60pc
Orlando	66/48t	74/55t	78/61pc
Pensacola	63/45t	70/53t	73/58t
Plant City	62/45t	69/54t	70/60t
St. Augustine	62/45t	69/54t	70/60t
St. Petersburg	67/54t	73/59t	76/63pc
St. Petersburg Beach	67/52t	73/57t	77/65pc
Tallahassee	63/45pc	68/57t	71/59t
Tampa	66/52t	72/55t	78/64pc
W. Palm Bch	73/60t	77/62pc	79/65pc
Winter Haven	66/48t	73/56t	77/60pc

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Lake Country Elementary

Dear Santa,
Can I get a game a pc game for Christmas because evrybody got a game Can I get a game.
Love, Kelvis

Dear Santa,
I want for Christmas is tablit anda bikk and a baby dlou and a Christmas tree anda Christmas book For my BrutnrAJ and x box I want 2 tablit.
Love, Antranique

Dear Santa,
All I Want for Christmas is a mini Bike and a ATV and SaS for my mini Bike and my ATV. We wish you a Mery Christmas and a happy noyer.
Love, Blaine Stephen

Dear Santa,
I want for Christmas is a 3Dsa tblet, and legos and games for Xbox 360 and cars and lego car andI hop you are redey for geven preset for Christmas.
Love, Alex

Dear Santa,
All I want for Christmas is a bike and a mustache and a fire truck and a train truck and I wot a ipod and a DS with 2 games and a nerf gun and a I nore bike
Frome Ethan

Dear Santa,
AllI want for Chrisxmex isa samong.
Love, Cameron Mivejc

Dear Santa,
I whunt a Tomes set,can I hav the hd shop ples
Love, Arthur

Dear Santa,
All I wed like is close and games for Dsi and krards erasers and dry erase markers a pet poir it and a toy lif saver. Have a mary christmas.
From: Gio

Dear Santa,
I want a pinguine, Mavie up, neclis, baby dolls, close, shoes, new glasses, eyer raings, face wisy, high hilses,a new back pack, a tablit, fanger nale pol-ish, raingas, face nails.
Love, Carissi

Dear Santa,
I want for christmas SDS it gun. Loying love bear bug ipob.
From Jordan

Dear Santa,
I want a iphone, Phone, bike, Zidra wache, Zidra fanger nails,Joulry, School Suplies, Sharpiner, pinsals, marakers, earaser, paper, A big math book. A big science and I hop you, your wife and the raindeers have had a good Christmas.
Love, lamy'ja

Dear Santa,
I want a roking horse stompes and dream light and a bike and a game and a play shopping toys and others stuff. I hope you have your randers ready for Christamas.
from Veronica

Dear Santa,
I wad like roler, scalse for chrismas. And a horse watch. And Please a maacanical pencil. And wen I get Back I will Be Behaveb. And I hope you have a Safe chrip this year and miss crass and the efs.
Love Jackie

Dear Santa,
I wad like Games for me wii and a xbox360 and I hope your raindeers are redy.
Love, Gabino

Dear Santa,
Im am Sarey I didnot rint you a note in a log time.And for Christmas I wat to have a Pas word groll. And tell the els I sed hiyer And I wish to macke my teech wish cam chroo. And plees tellmy il the redeeys ir vaye like my food I made for vem.And can you poot in my stocing and howsee ball.
Love Cameron Edwers

Dear Santa,
AllI want for christmas is a kittin,camra, forweeler, tablit, man,ereing, I hope you have a grat year Tel Misis, clos to macke jinjerbred cokies and I want to glow my deck down.
Brendon Alexander Carrion

Dear Santa,
AllI want for christmas is a kitting,camra, forweeler, tablit, man,ereing, I hope you have a grat year Tel Misis, clos to macke jinjerbred cokies and I want to glow my deck down.
Brendon Alexander Carrion

Dear Santa,
For xmas I want a nook color, a new bike, gak coler mixer, a dog, and a new bed.
P.S. mery xmas from all Genisis Mikel and KoBy

Mrs. Wilson's 2nd Grade Class

Dear Santa,
I have been a good boy I like helping my Mom and Dad because they might get hoct for christms I Want a X box 360 and a car Please. Happy Christmas.
Love, Erik

Dear Santa,
I am a good boy at School and at home.Santa I amadons good are you doing good? I wishfora Xbox 360.I was for and wii 2.and a yo-yo For chris-mas.
Love Luis Diaz

Dear Santa,
Im a good girl Im Special because I help my mom out with my brothes. you are the best Person inthe whole wide world your the best because you give alot of presents I Love you.May I please have a pink quad and a pink touch screen tablet.and an light green ds lXL. May I Please have I also want a Ipod and the cover is light green and the Ipod color is going to be pink and I also Want a light green cover and the real Phone color is going to be Pink and I also want a light green lap Top.
Love, Ayla

Dear Santa,
I want a X box 360 and a game Named Call of Duty Black ops 2. also want a trick bike and a double X scoot-er. also want a H a t

Dear Santa,
I want a X box 360 and a game Named Call of Duty Black ops 2. also want a trick bike and a double X scoot-er. also want a H a t

Dear Santa,
I want a X box 360 and a game Named Call of Duty Black ops 2. also want a trick bike and a double X scoot-er. also want a H a t

SANTA'S MAILBOX

Editor's Note: As much as possible, the letters are printed just as they were written by the students at Lake Country and Fred Wild Elementary Schools. Some letters did not have the teacher's name on them, but we're sure Santa can figure it out.

Wleels and a 305 and Mario car7 anda sky lander giant and santa is going to give my family a happy cnristmas.
your friend, Carlos G.

Dear Santa,
how are you doing today good I hope So Santa I have been a good boy Past The week I wovd like a Tablet. and a riestick too Santa and I left you Some cookies and milk on The counter and help my baby brother do his math.
Love, Lazavion

Dear Santa,
I have been a Good boy I have been doing math writing science and reading.I have friends named Lazavion, Frankie,CarlorG.,Carlo sH and Zack I want Call of Duty Back ops 2 and wipe out.I always obey my momand dad and I want Sky I andergiant.Hav a Good Holiday.
your friend, Yahir

Dear Santa,
I want a x Box 360 please.I am a good boyat shool and sometimes iam a bad boy. sometimes i Like to play the g a m e .
M y

Dear Santa,
I have been a Good boy I have been doing math writing science and reading.I have friends named Lazavion, Frankie,CarlorG.,Carlo sH and Zack I want Call of Duty Back ops 2 and wipe out.I always obey my momand dad and I want Sky I andergiant.Hav a Good Holiday.
your friend, Yahir

Dear Santa,
I want a x Box 360 please.I am a good boyat shool and sometimes iam a bad boy. sometimes i Like to play the g a m e .
M y

brother Rey be git to Play the game too. Sanktal Whant a gamefor the xBox360 call Call of dutyBlack ops two. I Will do my best on the sPelling test on Friday. I Love Christmas because you can get presents.
Love, Frankie Cortes

Dear Santa,
I am being a good boy I am in second grade. theseare the things I want. I want a 3D, a new mario Brothers 2 for 3Ds mariocart/super mario 3D1 and mario and sonic for myBrother. and can you get a 3Ds for my Brother. MarioKickers mario cart. Mario lennwlians formers for3Ds. I want a new Pistol For my Dad and whatever mom wants.
Love, Zack

Dear Santa,
how are you today?I hope you have a good Chrstmas you are so Special to me. I have been a good boy and practicing my spelling words. I left you s o m e

cookies I really love my sister. happy Holiday Santa.
Love, Carlos H.

Dear Santa,
I am being a good leader and a good girl. I am good with my mom and dad and my broth-ers.I help my mom clean every-thing but sometimes I clean by myself. Dear Santa cluas When I come from school I take care of my little brother and my to cousins. May I please have a real puppy and a game Please can I please have a real bike and I want a DVD and a real gold-fish. I also want a real bunny.
Love Yosenia

Dear Santa,
I have been a good girl. I have been good at helping my Sister and my mom. I do suff like clean my room. At school I am a good helper too. I help my sister pick up paper outside some timesI help my mom cook. May I please have a bike, a real puppy and a kitchen I want a game and the DVD Magascar n. I want a coloring book pencils and sharpened pencils. I also want playdough and a doll. I want a bunny too.
Your friend, Laura Castro

Dear Santa,
I am a Good Girl.I help peo-ple like my mom andI Love Christmeis day I wish I could havea lot of Toys.I wish now that I can have a beautiful Christmas dayand you and your elves Happy Chrstmas Santa
Love, Isela

Dear Santa,
IDo my Homework WhenI get outof School. and I Do my Class room at School Toso clean myroom I love Chrstmas merry

Christmas I want a Xbox360 anda 3Ds and SaparmakinBrother Love Galilea

Dear Santa,
I am insecond grade. I work hard atschool everday, we do Science and otheractivities. we DoreadandIwant a 3DS and a game called Steet fighter. I Love Christmas too. Santa Iwant anipodand Mario cart2 for my mom and my Dad I want a new jacket. I aleane, shirt for my mom.
from Doyan Martinez

Dear Santa,
When I get home after shcool I do my homework. May I please have a pet hamestir. may I Please have a wii you. may I Please have a new clock.
From Landon

Dear Santa,
I have been a good girl. and everything on the hotm of this is what i want mad it is A American Girl doll and som bak in the back and a Za Za pet A baby sheep, dog A baby Zobb.
from Sophia Wheeler

Ms. Brown's first-grade class

Dear Santa,
We love you because you bring us presents. Do you like snow? Santa will you give me some school clothes for Christmas?
Love, Colton

Dear Santa,
How are your elves? How are you reindeer? I love you.
Love, Giovanni

Dear Santa,
How are your elves? How old are you? Is Mrs. Claus good? Are you watching us? Are you strong? You are big. How can you live in the North Pole?
Love, Ricardo

Dear Santa,
I hope you have a happy hol-iday. How old are you? How are the elves? You are nice. I hope I can sing you a Christmas song. The elves work so hard, that's why I want to say thank you.
Love, Josselyn

Continued on page 3B

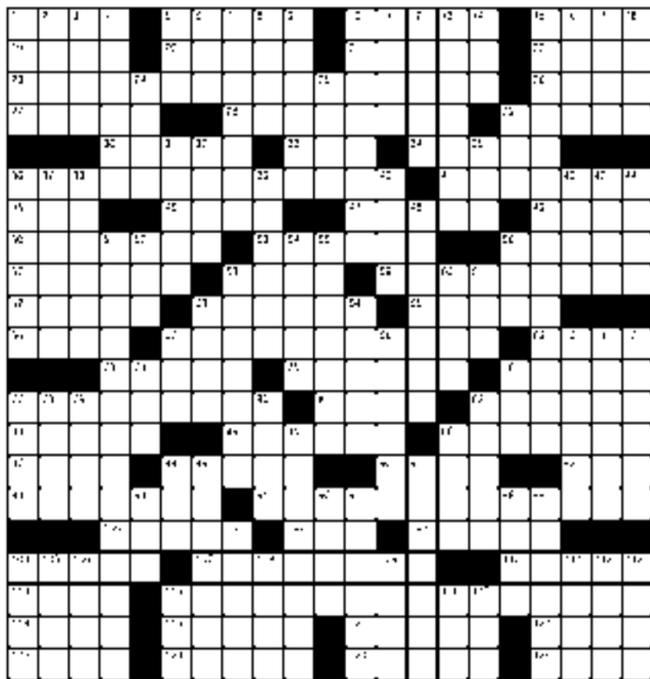




DIVERSIONS

SECRET AGENT

- ACROSS**
- 1 To be, to Balzac
 - 5 Perfume oil
 - 10 "It ___ to me ..."
 - 15 Classic pop favorite?
 - 19 Number on le menu
 - 20 "Next week on ..." ad
 - 21 It's blocked by sun-block
 - 22 Gives the sack
 - 23 *Scenic souvenirs
 - 26 Slow roller on a baseball diamond?
 - 27 Cuddle, in a way
 - 28 Delivered a sermon
 - 29 Little green man?
 - 30 Place for a pin
 - 33 "Eww, more than I need to know!"
 - 34 Take exception
 - 36 *Acupuncturist's target
 - 41 One way or another
 - 45 "Malcolm in the Middle" dad
 - 46 Get rid of
 - 47 Egyptian Christians
 - 49 Prefix with cab
 - 50 Flips (through)
 - 53 Oscar-winning foreign language film based on a Fugard novel
 - 56 Sap
 - 57 Fesses up to
 - 58 Memorable tumbler
 - 59 *Nonconformist, idiomatically
 - 62 Browns quickly
 - 63 To-do list items
 - 65 Aptly named fruits
 - 66 Shore flier
 - 67 *Cookies sent from home, say
 - 69 "¿Cómo ___ usted?"
 - 73 Apt to mope
 - 75 Sofa cushion concerns
 - 76 Legal right
 - 77 *Repair shop item
 - 81 Old-style "once"
 - 82 One just starting
 - 83 Intense passion
 - 84 Van Gogh master-
- DOWN**
- 1 "House" actor
 - 2 Voyage
 - 3 Puerto ___
 - 4 Lauds
 - 5 Earth Day mo.
 - 6 Afternoon ora
 - 7 Brings down
 - 8 Love of Latin
 - 9 Faced head-on, as a challenge
 - 10 To the point
 - 11 Cole Porter's "Well, Did You ___?"
 - 12 Put one's foot in it
 - 13 Most miffed
 - 14 Part of MS-DOS: Abbr.
 - 15 *Protected area
 - 16 Teacher's handout
 - 86 Totals
 - 87 Fall guy
 - 88 Three-star mil. officer
 - 90 Wheel with a knife nearby
 - 92 ___ de Cologne
 - 93 Seventh-inning ritual
 - 95 *Tense subject?
 - 100 Space ___
 - 102 Zip
 - 103 "It's the Hard-Knock Life" musical
 - 104 Singer LuPone
 - 107 Didn't go along
 - 110 Guitar parts
 - 114 Et ___
 - 115 *British Sunday meal staple
 - 118 O'Brien predecessor and successor
 - 119 Video game plumber
 - 120 Looks for a vein
 - 121 Pierre's South Dakota?
 - 122 Eight-legged team
 - 123 Rhett's last words
 - 124 Actress MacDowell
 - 125 Agents "hiding" in the answers to starred clues



Solution on page 3B

- 17 Rosemary, e.g.
- 18 "___ with my little eye ..."
- 24 Señor's "some"
- 25 Author Hoag
- 29 Mess (up)
- 31 Whines
- 32 Oldest of the gods, in Plato's "Symposium"
- 35 Cal. pages
- 36 Put into words
- 37 Takeover engineer
- 38 Composer of the "Beetlejuice" score
- 39 Diminutive
- 40 Chuck
- 42 Rattletrap
- 43 Garfield's pal
- 44 Building addition
- 48 Agreeably sharp-tasting
- 51 *Smokey Bear's bailey-wick
- 52 NYPD ranks
- 54 Typos and such
- 55 Fatty-acid esters
- 56 Soft & ___: Dial product
- 58 MacGyver, so to speak
- 60 Trendy fleece-lined boots
- 61 Malt beverage
- 63 It's often raw
- 64 Goosebump raiser
- 67 Target on the green
- 68 Mouth
- 70 "Evidently"
- 71 "Fresh entertainment" mint
- 72 Eschewed cooking
- 74 On top of, to poets
- 76 Abbey title
- 77 Yields to gravity
- 78 Bapt. or Meth.
- 79 Feast of Esther month
- 80 Nonkosher
- 82 Certain club restriction
- 85 Together
- 86 Cereal box title
- 88 HDTV feature, often
- 89 Pulitzer-winning Cormac McCarthy novel
- 91 Like a McJob
- 94 Mai ___
- 96 Wednesday's mom, to Gomez
- 97 Last syllable
- 98 Fruit discard
- 99 Thing out on a limb
- 101 Caesar's land
- 104 ___ Alto
- 105 Michael's "Family Ties" role
- 106 Pea piercer
- 108 Milk choice
- 109 Leprechaun's turf
- 111 Mention
- 112 Sack opener?
- 113 Boot camp NCOs
- 115 Soprano Sumac
- 116 I.M. with plans
- 117 Employ

By ERIK AGARD

The capacity of Christmas giving

Is there anything that tickles hearts of all ages in anticipation and hope as much as brightly wrapped surprises under the Christmas tree?



Pause And Consider
Jan Merop

A few years ago my husband gave me a lovely necklace that he creatively wrapped and placed under the tree Christmas Eve.

Christmas morning I saw a white teddy bear sitting on a wreath wrapped in beads and garland while holding a pretty package. I couldn't wait to discover the hidden treasure. Ken's love and the festive presentation enlarged the capacity of the gift.

He related how I was on his mind one day while he delivered the mail. He passed a yard sale, saw the bear and wreath and his imagination took flight.

Just think how a simple shoe box filled with lovingly chosen gifts and delivered through Samaritan's Purse has the capacity to bring joy and eternal hope to a child we have never met.

The "c" in peace reminds me that nothing compares with the capacity of Christmas giving in the first Christmas story.

Wise men from the East came to Jerusalem. "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him," the Bible tells us in Matthew 2: 2, NKJV.

Though they presented Jesus with gold, frankincense and myrrh, first they

worshipped him. Worship enlarged their hearts to present him with these significant gifts that held far more meaning than being costly. Gold represented purity and righteousness of life; frankincense was used for incense in sacrifices; and, myrrh was for use as a perfume and for embalming.

The magnitude of these gifts went far beyond their initial appearance to symbolize what was yet to come in Jesus' life; his purpose to provide our salvation.

However, the greatest capacity in Christmas giving was displayed when God the Father gave his Son, Jesus Christ (John 3: 16). Jesus showed us the Father through his life here on earth (John 14: 9 b) and then took our place on the cross. After his death, resurrection and ascension, he sent the Holy Spirit to indwell believers (John 14: 16-17).

Peace is found in the person of Christ. It is eternal, available, and beyond our capacity to imagine.

This extravagant gift of incredible capacity and magnitude is a gift for time and eternity. It requires only one thing of us. We must receive it with hearts of faith. Then who we are and what we do will flow out of the capacity of God's love. Selah

Jan Merop is a News-Sun correspondent.

New educational options open to Gemini this week

Special to the News-Sun
Aries (March 21-April 20) – Both social and business communication require some tact this week, Aries. You can handle it, and you should be prepared to meet some interesting people.
Taurus (April 21-May 21) – Taurus, your confidence and energy are strong, but you seem to be having difficulty sitting still for enough time to get a handle on other people's opinions and viewpoints.
Gemini (May 22-June 21) – New options present

themselves that are excellent for educational pursuits, Gemini. Friends will be supportive of any ideas that you devise, even if they seem a little off-center.
Cancer (June 22-July 22) – Cancer, this week you could gain the attention of people in high positions. Use the opportunity to get your best points heard if you have the chance.
Leo (July 23-Aug. 23) – Leo, this should be one of those glorious weeks when you have the feeling that everything is moving along

Horoscope

smoothly and according to your master plan.
Virgo (Aug. 24-Sept. 22) – Virgo, your confidence is high and there is just about nothing that you fear or think you cannot handle this week. Float along on these feelings of euphoria for a while.
Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) – Libra, you will show leadership in your profession over the next several days. This also will extend into

your personal life, where you may have more energy in home affairs.
Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) – Scorpio, indulge your curiosities, as your imagination and creativity are very high. Projects that require artistic work or writing should be the top priority on your list.
Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) – Sagittarius, this is a good week to explore new business opportunities. Apply your efforts to solving some complex problems that others have shied away from.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20) – Capricorn, your feelings of restlessness might be because you're not accustomed to sitting still for too long. You will think of ways to fill the time.
Aquarius (Jan. 21-Feb. 18) – Broaden your social contacts, Aquarius, and this way you will extend your professional reach as well. There always are opportunities for networking.
Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) – You may find that needs at home quickly drain you of any energy, Pisces.

Simplify your routine to find some relief.
Famous birthdays
Dec. 23 - Susan Lucci, actress, 66; Dec. 24 - Stephanie Meyer, author, 39; Dec. 25 - Sissy Spacek, actress, 63; Dec. 26 - Beth Behrs, actress, 27; Dec. 27 - Bill Goldberg, wrestler, 46; Dec. 28 - Maggie Smith, actress, 78; Dec. 1 - Ted Danson, actor, 65.

Hunt for childhood friends yields surprising discovery

Dear Abby: While searching for two of my husband's childhood friends, with his knowledge, I believe I may have found a child he doesn't know is his. I'm not positive that the child is his, but the time frame and location indicate that he could be, and there's a strong resemblance to my husband's brother. (I have seen photos on the Internet.)
I am curious whether my hunch is correct, but I'm afraid of asking the questions, not knowing how they would be received. My husband is a kind and caring person, a great husband and father. The child could have been conceived during a casual, one-night stand before we started dating.
I now wish I had never found this information because by not asking, I feel like I'm in denial, and by not saying anything to him, I feel like a terrible person. If the child is his, the mother has kept this from him for more than 10 years.

I'd really appreciate some input. What's the right thing to do?
– *Wondering in the Southwest*
Dear Wondering: I see nothing to be gained by withholding this from your spouse. Tell your husband about your research, and what you think you may have turned up. Then ask if he is acquainted with the child's mother. The resemblance could be coincidental, or the child could have been fathered by another family member.
Dear Abby: One of my fond memories of my father when I was growing up was that he would always order my mom's meal when we were out for dinner. Of course, she decided what she wanted to eat, but when the waiter came, my dad would always say, "My wife would like the ..." Now that I'm older and married, my husband does the same for me.
One couple we dine out



Dear Abby

with regularly gives me a difficult time about this "tradition." They make comments like, "Oh, Susan's not allowed to speak in a restaurant." The wife has also told me she thinks it's disrespectful to me when my husband orders my food. I have explained that it was a cherished memory of mine and not something forced on me. It's like when a man opens a door for a woman. I can definitely open the door myself,

but I appreciate the sweet gesture.
I try to respect opinions that differ from my own, and I don't expect everyone to do as I do. Do you think I'm living in the Stone Age?
– *Susan in Virginia*
Dear Susan: No, I do not; you appear to be living quite happily in the present. While the tradition you and your husband are observing is "antiquated," you are hurting no one.
Please allow me to make an observation: When couples dine out together socially, they are supposed to relax, entertain each other and have a good time. Giving you "heartburn" regarding who orders your dinner is rude, particularly since this couple has done it more than once and has been

given an explanation. From my perspective, you might enjoy your evenings out more if you shared them with this particular couple less often.
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. What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in 'What Every Teen Should Know.' Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)



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Skyfall PG-13 (Daniel Craig, Judi Dench) 12:45 • 3:45 • 6:45 • 9:45
Playing for Keeps PG-13 (Gerard Butler, Jessica Biel) 2:05 • 4:35
Red Dawn PG-13 (Chris Hemsworth, Josh Peck) 7:30 • 9:45

Suick Cinemas
Information.....385-9980
Office.....385-9908

Classified ads get results!



LETTERS TO SANTA

Continued from page 1B

Dear Santa,
How old are you? I wish you had a phone. I wish that you have a good time. How old are you Santa? How are the elves? I love you.
Love, Lisette

Dear Santa,
I wish for you snow. I've never seen snow before but I want snow to play. I would like to make a snowman. I like your elves.
Love, Luis J.

Dear Santa,
We love you Santa. You give toys to kids. You live in the North Pole. Is it snowing at the North Pole? You have a Merry Christmas.
Love, Kyler

Dear Santa,
How are the elves? How are the reindeer? Will you come to our classroom? I love you Santa, 100%.
Love, Andy

Dear Santa,
Merry Christmas! How are the elves? Santa, how are the reindeer? How is the snow at the North Pole? I like Santa's sleigh. Merry Christmas Santa!
Love, Charles

Dear Santa,
I wish you would come to see us. I wish you a merry Christmas. I wish to go with you. I wish you would bring your reindeer. I wish I could see your elves.
From Justin

Dear Santa,
I love you. Thank you for making presents for people. How old are you? Where do you keep the reindeer?
Love, German

Dear Santa,
How old are you? I hope your holiday is wonderful. I hope you have good fun. How are the elves?
Love, Jacqueline

Dear Santa,
I hope you have a wonderful Christmas. I hope you have fun. How are the elves? I love you.
Love, Teraje

Mrs. Moretz's Class

Dear Santa,
Hi Santa and elves! How are you? I hope you are feeling well. Be safe on your big trip. I will leave you cookies and milk. I will be a good girl. Give girls and boys lots of toys. Get a good night sleep. Santa, can I get one Furby?
Love, Sophya A.

Dear Santa,
Hi! How are you? How are the elves doing? Santa, tell me at Christmas...if you remember. I am excited! I will leave some cookies with milk for you. I will be in Arizona. So, I won't be able to see you this Christmas. What stinks this Christmas? Seth won't be able to see you. I would like a dollhouse like the other one. I am soooo sad because I won't be able to see you.
Love, Kayleigh B.

Dear Santa,
Hi! Santa, how are you? I want a dress. Are your elves good at working hard? The elves are working. I hope you are well soon. How are you? Are you good? I will leave cookies and milk for you. I will leave carrots for your reindeer. I love you. Merry Christmas, Santa. I want a Nintendo 3DS.
Love, Monica C.

Dear Santa,
Hi! How are you? How are your elves? I want a Pop the Pig. I hope you are well. I love you Santa said Bailee! You are the best in the world. Don't forget about Shelby. A horse? Merry Christmas. Santa, I will leave you milk and cookies and carrots. I got my dog and my cat a stocking.
Love, Bailee

Dear Santa,
Hi Santa. What are you doing? I think your elves are making toys. Do your reindeer fly? I think your reindeer fly. I

will leave you cookies and milk next to the table. I want a toy dog please. You are the best! Merry Christmas! Be safe on your trip.
Love, Jacqueline D.

Dear Santa,
How are you Santa? Are you feeling good? Can you bring a Power Rangers movie please?
Love, Jacob H.

Dear Santa,
Hi Santa. How are you? I hope you are fine. Merry Christmas Santa. I will leave some cookies. I hope your elves are working hard. Be safe at your big trip. Will you please bring me one Wii? Where do you live Santa? Do you got a lot of toys?
Love, Emanuel L.

Dear Santa,
Hi Santa! How are you? You are well. I will get a bike.
Love, Christian P.

Dear Santa,
Hi! How are you Santa? I am good. I hope you are well. How are your elves doing Santa? Be safe on your big trip. Santa, I will leave some milk and cookies at my home. Bring me two skateboards please. Thank you.
Jose R.

Dear Santa,
Hi! Santa, I am a good boy. Santa, and thank you for bringing the presents too. Merry Christmas Santa! Please bring a new Nintendo 3DS.
Love, Luis R.

Dear Santa,
Hi Santa! How are you? Are you feeling good? Be safe at your big trip. Are your elves working hard? Are they? Where do you live? How is it out there? Is it cold or hot? I will leave you some cookies and milk by the table. I hope you are well. I want a Xbox please.
Love, Yasmin R.

Dear Santa,
Hi! How are you? How are your reindeer? How are your elves? I hope that you are well. I want one little remote control car please. Merry Christmas Santa!
Love, David R.

Dear Santa,
Hi! How are you doing? I am good. I am excited that Merry Christmas is come. My family will be together. Can you bring me a ball please? I will leave some milk and cookies by the tree. Have a grateful trip. Have a great Merry Christmas!
Love, Griselda R.

Dear Santa,
Hi. How are you? I hope you are well. I will leave you cookies on the table. I am happy it is Christmas. I want a new scooter.
Love, Frankie S.



Dear Santa,
I hope that you will be safe on your trip. Santa are your elves working hard? Santa, can I have one toy? It is a football.
Love, Edward W.

Mrs. Holden's first-grade class

Dear Santa,
How are the elf's? Have the elfs been nice and good. I have been good. I hope I'll get a dollhouse. MERRY CHRISTMAS!
Love, A. Hill

Dear Santa,
Your elf is at my house we named him chip chip. I hope your reindeer are worm. How is Rudof? Is it cold up there. Are your elves wrking hard on those toys. I have been good this year. I hope I get a camra and stuff animals Rudof and razor scutr. Merry Christmas.
Love, J. Walker

Dear Santa,
How is Rudph? I have been good this year. A cupl of times I have been on Blue. Can you get me a white board with markers? And that is all. Thank you!
Love, M. Bond

Dear Santa,
How are you and how are your elves? How is Rodof doing? Ples can I have a camra? Can I ples have a long jupp rope? Merry Christmas.
Love, B. Walker

Dear Santa,
How are your rainDears? Today I have been so good this year. Can you get me thees things a remote cinchroll truck and a Bowan arrow and a chockBored and a toy reindeer teddy Darr and a snow Glowd. Merry Christmas.
Love, J. Morey

Dear Santa,
How are you and Mrs. Claus? Is it cold out there? Are you staying warm? I hope you are not staying cold? And can you get me a doll. I have to wook a little hard. Can you get me some chak. I also want a some jokes books. Merry Christmas.
Love, Y. Carrillo

Dear Santa,
How is Rodph doowing? And How are your elves doowing? Did I be good or meen I hope I get stopes and a wite bord with mrckers with diffent ckullrs and

Merry Christmas and thank you.
Love, V. Diaz

Dear Santa,
Am I on the nice list or the naughty list? Dear Santa I have been good. I have been on super student. Hi Mrs. Claus can I have blingals? Thank you. Can I have a purple DS? Can I have a staf animals that is Rudof and Clay? Thank you. Merry Christmas to your elves and you and Mrs. Claus.
Love, Y. Becerra

a allechreck skcoodr and I like Crismes.
Love, P. Sapp

Dear Santa,
How is roudoof? I ben riley good. I hope I get a nice bicke. Thank you. Merry Christmas Santa.
Love, C. Winslow

Dear Santa,
Hows Rodoff Santa? I been good. I ples want a toy cat. I ples want a toy dog. I ples want a big lin. I ples want a toy pet cat. I want a little cat that is black. I ples want a duck. Marry Christmas!
Love, M. Garduno

Dear Santa,
How are yor reindeer? I ben rely good. I hope I get noo stopes sliprs. I hope I get a doll. Thank you Merry Christmas.
Love, M. Martinez-Martinez

Dear Santa,
How are all the Reindeer? Have the elf's been doing lots of work? Please can you get me a lego set? I want a lego set because I have been a good gril this year. I hope you guys have a Meery Cristmas.
Love, E. Hopper

Dear Santa,
How are your elves? How is Mrs. Claus? I have been very good. This year. Ples can I get a wii? You're the best Santa.
Love, H. Hall

Dear Santa,
How is Rudof? How is Mrs. Claus? I have been good this year! Is it cold up there? Are you bouth warm over there? Are your elves working on those toys? I hope I get a ipad this year. Merry Christmas Santa and Mrs. Claus.
Love, C. Hernandez

Dear Santa,
How are your randeer and you? I would want a box of animals with deer in it.
Love, C. Bobo

Dear Santa,
How are you? I'm good. How are your rain deur? I would like a kittin and a Xbox game Moreda com bait and a bike. And Xbox 370.
Love, D. Gaskins

Dear Santa,
How do Santa? Good. I want a car and a Xbox 370 and a toy gun.
Love, A. Andrews

Dear Santa,
How is Northpole going wel. I want a Xbox 37.
Love, A. Sparks

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I am doing find. I want a bike for Christmas ples Santa. Thank you.
Love, S. Ramirez

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I want a Xbox 360, and a bike and some games.
Love, C. Curry

Dear Santa,
How are you doing? I want a PSP and a P3 and Madden 13. I want a Xbox 360 and a PlayStation, Clos, Shos.
Love, J. Jenkins

Dear Santa,
How are the redes. They are doing good? Wut I wnt for Kimsis is a transform.
Love, W. Yargee

Dear Santa,
How is the Northpole? How is your raineers! For Christmas I want a Xbox 360 and a Spiderman toy that has a car with it.
Love, J. Ruiz Cardova

Dear Santa,
How is the Northpole? I want a pet.
Love, E. Oyola

Dear Santa,
I want a mot cnl bot and a bic and a mot cnl helicopt.
Love, T. Glacin

Dear Santa,
How are you? I'm good. How are your rain deur? I would like a kittin and a Xbox game Moreda com bait and a bike. And Xbox 370.
Love, D. Gaskins

Dear Santa,
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Love, D. Gaskins

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Love, E. Oyola

Dear Santa,
I want a mot cnl bot and a bic and a mot cnl helicopt.
Love, T. Glacin

Continued on page 4B

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HOLIDAY DEADLINES

The holidays are here and in order for our staff to be able to enjoy the time with their families, we must move our deadlines for religion news up for a couple of days.

The deadline for the Dec. 28 and Jan. 4 publications will be at 5 p.m. the previous Friday, one week prior to the publication date.

Inspirational Thoughts & Scriptures



Inspirational Thoughts
by Patricia Valentine

Ecclesiastes 11:6, "In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand: for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both shall be alike good." To reap a harvest, you need seed to sow and ground to sow it in. You also need something else, the proper season. Isaac sowed in the middle of a famine. The land all around him was shriveled; it did not appear to be the right time to scatter seed on the ground. But Isaac had a word from God if he would stay where he was, God would prosper him, Genesis 26:2. He acted on that word without considering what the world would think of it, and he reaped his promised harvest.

Sometimes we may hold back and miss the opportunity God has given us; the season for sowing passes and is gone forever. Do not neglect the season for sowing. Remember what you are holding back could bring joy to someone during this holiday season. Wishing you a safe and blessed Christmas. Share the love of Jesus with someone. From my heart to yours, Merry Christmas!

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LETTERS TO SANTA

Continued from page 3B
Drt Bike. Thank you. It is me Santa, from Travis.
Travis

Dear Jesus,
You are kind. I like your angels. I love you Jesus. I know that you tac care of everbody. Please may I have a remot knontroll boat please.
Love, L. Bermudez

Dear Santa,
May I please have some caw-boy boots with ziprs ples.
From J. Merlo

Dear Santa,
Can you please do a nis job of Christmas. I wot a new pair of chaps.
From L. Turner

Dear Santa,
I wold like a PSP! Do you no why? I like a PSP! I wold like a PSP.
From J. Sullivan

Dear Santa,
I boots. Santa can you give me boots. Please!
From C. Padilla

Dear Santa,
I want a skateboard. And I want a remot ctrol mustr truc.
From A. Hill

Dear Santa,
please can I have cawboy boots to please and can I have chaps? Can I have a horse too?
From D. Rix

Dear Santa,
How are you? Can you bring me presents? You are niys. Did you know that you are niys to kids. I will like a Ipod and a dog.
From Y. Martinez

Dear Santa,
How is Mrs. Claus is she good or bad I hope she is good. I wood like cowboy boos and a book and comepruter and a DSP.
From S. Chillemi

Dear Santa,

May I have a toy horse, it moves.
From C. Worley

Dear Santa,
I want candy canes. I don't have candy canes! I rele wut to have candy canes.
From A. Meza

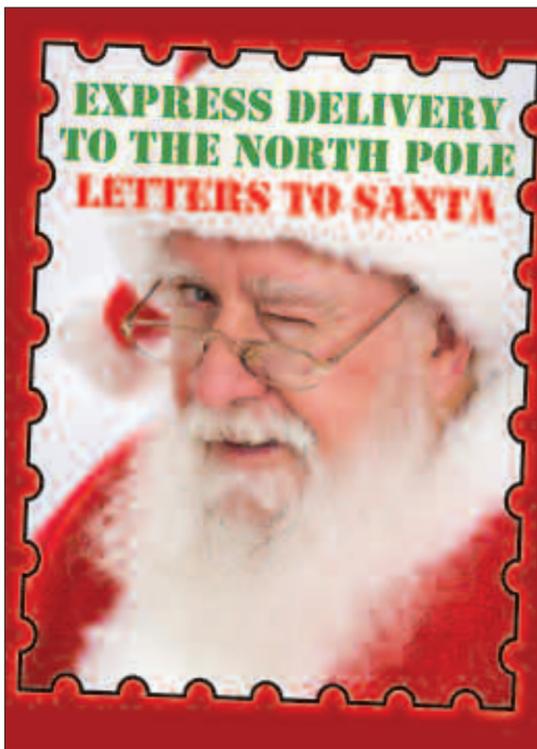
Dear Santa,
Can you please bring me a mama horse! And a mama dog because I love horses and I love dogs too.
From J. Vargas

Fred Wild Elementary

Dear Santa Clause:
Christmas is coming Soon. And I know that I'm on the nice list! I am wrting to let you Know what I would lik for chris mis this year. I would like a basball glove becus I do not have a baseball glove to my baseball Set. Next I whude like a bag whith a lot of army guysand toy guns. Finally I whude like an I ndiana JCD whip becuse I need that sol I can look like Indiana Jones I have worked all year. these are the giftsI would like for christmas thanks in advarve!
Siselely, Clay

Dear Santa Clause,
Christmas is comeing soon and I Know I am on the nice list! I am writting to let you know What I would like for Chrstmas this year.I Would like a barbie doll because it has a nice camera.Also I Would DS3 because my sister has one.I want to get I can be Anything I want Barbie Doll, So I can practice beingdif-ferent things like a nurse, adoc-ter and work with babies.I have worked all year. Those are the gifts I would like for Christmas. Thanks in advarve!
Sinerely, Lexis .W

Dear Santa Clause.
Christmas is coming soon and I know. I am writing to let you know What I would likefor Christmus this year. I will lik a



Ipod So I can Texx PePle in I'm gowing to do to tak peaher's I have worked hard all year. Those are the gifts I Would like for christmas. thanks in advance.
Sincerely, Cheyenne

Dear Santa Cluse,
Christmas is coming soon and I know I am on the nice list! I am writing to tellyou What I want for Christmas. For Christmas I want A football. With a football I can play catch. For Christmas I want a soccer ball. With a soccer ball I can play Soccer. Finally, For Christmas I want a glob. With A glob I can look at countries. I have worked all year. Those are what I want for Christmas this year.

thanks an advance!
James Thomas

Dear santa clause:
Christ masis comming soon andI know I am on thenice list I amwriteing tolet you Know what I would likefor Christmas

this year. I would like a lectric gu-am to Play mucik. I would also like an IPod to text tomyfriends and I would likean a Fell core to louf ur in the sky. I ha et wordek all year thesar thingI want Christmas.
Sincerbly, Travis

Dear Santa Clause:
Christmas is coming soon and I know I am on the nice list!! amwriting to let you know what I would like for Christmas this year. Frist,I would like an Ipod so Ican shareit withmy brother. Next,I would like a 3DDS so I can play 3D gamesonit. and take pichers.Finally,I would like is a Nerf gun so me and my brother can play together.I have work hard all year.Those arethe gifts I would like for Christmas.Thanks in Advance.
Sincerely, Shyann deBree

DearSantaClause:
Christmas is coming soon and I Know I AM on the nice

list. I AM Writing to Let youknow WhatI Would LikeforchristMas. ABaBy ALivesowwhen Iget-BoardAIPod sowl canPlay games, A Phon to call PePle WhenI need help.
Romeshia Walker

Dear Santa Clause
Christmas is coming soon and I know I am on the Nice List I am witing to letyou know What I wold like for christmas. I What The Wrold toy4 Begin so we can be peace I Will likea PSP. I will likea Nd 3DS
Michael Harris

Dear Santa: Christmas iscoming soonand I know I am on the nice list I would like For Christmas is a byguns becus me and myFriends so we can Play Amyr. I Would like a PSP and gams the names is Gta vid/tvsta and LiFFle CH Stoyso I can Play With my friends.I like a boox bike becus me and my friends. I have worked hard all year. Those are the gifts I would like for Christmas.
Thank in advance Raymond

Santa Claus:
Christmas is coming soon and I Know I an on the nish lesht So I hoop you will bwing me a Ipod because I love music.Clothe because I do not havea lot of clothes.Finally,water Slide because I love to Play in water.I have work hard all year. those are the gifts I would like for christmas.
Thanks in Advance.
Sincerely, Alexis Wilson

Dear Santa Claus:
christmas is comingsoon andI Know ThatI am on the nice list.I am writing to let youknow WhatI Would like for christmas. 1. Iwouldlikababyaliveto PlayWithit,I Would like a Qla la looptistoplay With it. 2. I wanta DS toplay with it. I have worked hard allyear. Thosare thegifts.Iwoullike for christmas. Thanks inadvance!
JolYanis Muniz Franco

Dear Sant Claus:
Christmas is coming soon and I know I am on the nice list! I am writing to let you know what I would like for Christmas This year. For Christmas I would like an ipad with a small phone so I cold us it for emer-gareies only. Nexd I wold like a barbie dream house so when I am done playing with my barbi- es I can put thim in thare. Last but not leust I would likea moxie girl becuse my brother ruinie my outh one. I would also like to sleep with it I have worked hard all year. Those are the gifts I would like for Christmas.Thanks in advance.
Sincerely, Evy

Dear Santa,
I've beegood. I've been nice to mybrothers and sisters.I forchristmas I wanta a DS because mybrother won't I et me play his.
Your friend, Alan

Dear Santa,
I've beengood. whenIgo to the mall,I keepmy hands to my self and do not touch anything i wouldlikea hound dog for christmas. iknow my dad wouldbe happy with adog too.
Your friend, Tyler

Dear Santa,
I've been good. I helpmy mom. with thedishes. I claar my baby sister when shegets dirty. for christmas.I would. an Ipad. I want an I pad Because you can play. a gerbild.
Your friend, Alex

Dear Santa,
I've been good. I help my mom to wash the dishes.I also help her clean the house and help her match socks. For Christmas,I would likea cars toy. Cars is my favorite movie and I Know I'll play with it a lot.
Your friend, Luis

Dear Santa,
I've been good. clean my

Continued on page 5B

Heartland Circuit Lutheran Church Christmas Schedules

Christ Lutheran Church - LCMS

Rev. Scott McLean (Pastor)
1320 County Road 64, Avon Park, FL 33826
(1/2 mile East of the Avon Park High School past the 4-way stop sign.)
863-471-2663

Our Christmas Worship Schedule includes:

- December 23rd, Sunday 10 AM
- 4 Advent Divine Worship
- December 24th, Monday 7 PM
- Christmas Eve Candlelight Divine Worship
- January 6th, Sunday 10 AM
- Epiphany Divine Worship

Faith Lutheran Church - LCMS

Rev. Robert Reinhardt (Interim Pastor)
2740 Lakeview Drive, Sebring, FL 33870
863-385-7848

Our Christmas Worship Schedule includes:

- December 24th, Christmas Eve, Monday 5:30 PM
- Family Service with Children's Program
- December 24th, Christmas Eve, Monday 11:00 PM
- Candlelight Service w/Holy Communion
- December 25th, Christmas Day, Tuesday 10:00 AM
- "Nine Lessons and Carols"
- December 31st, New Year's Eve, Monday 6:30 PM
- Worship with Holy Communion
- January 6th, Sunday 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM
- Divine Worship

Trinity Lutheran Church - LCMS

Rev. Richard Norris (Pastor)
25 Lakeview Street, Lake Placid, FL 33852
863-465-5253

Our Christmas Worshp Schedule includes:

- December 23rd, Sunday 10 AM
- Worship
- December 24th, Monday 7:00 PM
- Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship
- December 25th, Tuesday 10:00 AM
- Christmas Day with Holy Communion
- January 6th, Sunday 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM
- with Holy Communion

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church - AALC

Rev. Jim Weed (Pastor)
4348 Schmacher Road, Sebring, FL 33872
863-414-6346

Our Christmas Worship Schedule includes:

- December 23rd, Sunday 10:30 AM
- Divine Worship
- December 24th, Monday 7:00 PM
- Christmas Eve Candlelight Divine Worship
- January 6th, Sunday 10:30 AM
- Divine Worship



LETTERS TO SANTA

Continued from page 4B

bedroom. I would like a basketball hoop and backboard for christmas. I Love basketball and I already have a ball. I really want to practice my shooting.
Your friend, Keke

Dear Santa,
I've been good. I have stayed on green for christmas. I would like a puppy. My other dog died, and I would like a new dog to keep my brothers from fighting.
Your friend, Mackenzie

Dear Santa,
I've been good. I help my papa fix his truck I help mama clean the house. I would like clothes and shoes and a foot ball for christmas. I'd like to have same new clothes for school. My brother and sisters play football together.
Your friend, Brian Hunte

Dear Santa,
I've been good at church. I friend's I'm nice to his mom for Christmas I would like a LKGO NiNJA my friend and I always watch the NiNja movies and they are my favorite.
Your friend, Patrick

Dear Santa,
I've been good. I listen to my mom. I would like a big sword to play Star Wars. Thank you.
Your friend, Elias Lopez

Dear Santa,
I've been good. I help my brother and sister. For Christmas I would like a toy dinosaur because I like dinosaurs. I hope it does not make a mess in your sled.
Your friend, Porter Neal

Dear Santa,
I've been good this year. I've been nice to my big brother. I help my dad. For Christmas I would like a PS3. My brother and I want to play badly.
Your friend, Angel

Dear Santa,
I've been good by obeying the rules and help my mom wash the dishes. I've been helping my dad wash the car. I've vacuumed the car. For Christmas I would like a dog. I want to be responsible for the dog. I want the dog because my other dog died.
Your friend, Emmanuel

Dear Santa,
I've been good. I was helping my mother clean the dishes. I was helping my stepdad trim the tree. I was helping my uncle take out the trash. I was helping my baby brother walk. I did my homework. For Christmas, I would like a Nuby 2. I would like it because it has learning games on it.
Your friend, Jady

Dear Santa,
I've been good helping my mom. Clean for Christmas I would like a Barbie. because mine broke
Your friend, Brianna

Dear Santa,
I've been good. I been cleaning with my mom and I've been sweeping the floor. For Christmas I would like a bunny very much. I want a baby one to take care of and pet. Thank you, Santa.
Your friend, Angelina



Ms. Liles' Second Grade Class

Dear Santa,
My name is Madisen and I am in second grade at Fred Wild Elementary. I want my three front teeth to grow, a Justin Bieber mug, and a new DS game. I've been good, just ask my elf.
Love, Madisen

Dear Santa,
I am in second grade at Fred Wild Elementary. My name is Jorge Flores. I like to play and read. I wish for a toy train for Christmas because it can carry my car toys.
Love Jorge F.

Dear Santa,
My name is JTerien I want a 3DS for Christmas.
Love, JTerien

Dear Santa,
My name is Cesar Paul I am eight years old. I want a Xbox for Christmas and a game for it

called Skylanders Giants I've only been bad two times. Please bring me a Xbox for Christmas.
Love, Cesar Paul

Dear Santa,
I want a dog for Christmas because Lewis needs a friend.
Love, Treyvon

Dear Santa,
My name is Connor I am in second grade and I go to Fred Wild Elementary School. I am a good boy. I would like an iPad for Christmas.
Love, Connor

Dear Santa,
My name is Angellina and I live in Florida. I want a 3DS for Christmas. Thank you Santa. And I've been a good girl. I forgot I'm 7 years old.
Love Angellina

Dear Santa,
I'm 7 years old. I'm in 2nd grade. My name is Jesus Marin. I've been a good little boy. Please bring me a toy helicopter for Christmas.
Love, Jesus

Dear Santa,
My name is Summer. I have tried to be a good little girl this year. This year I would like a iPod touch because AJ and Simon have one and I feel left out.
Summer Johnson

Dear Santa,
My name is Gloria Jean Philippe I would like a doll for Christmas. I like dolls so much.
Love, Gloria

Dear Santa,
My name is Jorge Librado. I am in second grade. My age is

7 years old. I want a book that comes with a Ninjago, a green Ninja.
Love, Jorge

Dear Santa, My name is Eric. I am 8 years old and I am a good boy. My family lives in Florida. What I want for Christmas is a Wii U because the games for the Wii U are more expensive than the Wii U games. Because the Wii U games are like \$30 dollars or more.
Love, Eric

Mrs. Word's second-grade class

Dear Saint nicks
My name is Jamiyah Fields my dad works very hard every week he gives me presents for Christmas. he is my best Dad. he gives me bicycles and he is going to buy me a phone if I ask him he is going to buy me lots of presents.
Love, Jamiyah Fields

Dear Santa,
I love you Santa. I wish my mom can come back home. For Christmas I want a DSi and a baby alive. And a nail polish. My brother wants for Christmas is a teddy bear. My sister wants for Christmas is a iPad. I want a iPad too. And a phone.
Love your friend Aliyah Thomas

Dear Santa,
Santa I wish you could get me a computer for Christmas. I wish you could get me a board game the title is the electric battle ship. I want a bop it shash toy.
Love, Bruce

Dear Santa,
I want My PaPi and my MaMi and my brother. Then we can be a family all over again and all I want
PS. Love, Marianna

Dear Santa
I want a lot of toy cars and I want a tricycle that then I want a bike
Love, Michael McCracken

Dear Santa:
for Christmas I want Donats 10000 donats. for Christmas I want an iPad.
love, Jose

Dear Santa,
You are my favorite elf! Know you work very hard all year long you work hard and hard and I wish you a merry Christmas Santa.
Love, Janiyia

Dear Santa,
I want toys for Christmas, like a doll and a bicycle and lots of other things. My sister wants a toy phone and a little bike that she can ride on.
Love, Brenda Hernandez

Dear Santa
I want a narf gun for Christmas. I want a dozen of donuts for Christmas. I want a iPod touch for Christmas.
Love, Ryan, xxxxxxxx

Dear Santa
I want a dotush every day. I want a cowbeeir, I want a mochril helcotr. I want a dog. I want a ecis. I want a igoo I want 1000 dolcers.
Love Aidan

Continued on page 6B

Welcome to a

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Announcing our innovative alliance with

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LETTERS TO SANTA

Continued from page 5B

Dear Santa,
I wish I can have a gun-forchristmas. I wish I can have a snake Christmas.
Love, Tori

Dear Santa
You are my favorite elf I know you work very hard all year. en to Bey happy.
Love, A. Orlurrndo

Dear Santa,
You are my favoriter elf Santa I know you areverybise i want a dog.
Love, Dedra

Dear Santa,
I love the prezins you gave me. This time I want a fat cat and I want it to be black and you by the cat food ok.I wish I can see you but I know it's your job but I saw Rodof's nose it is very brite red.And I want a liter box I can't by that. Thank you. one question how much cookeis did you have. Wish you a merry Christmas. And one more am I on this good list.
Love, Xiana Vilain

DearSanta,
yoyare my faveriteelf
Love Michael

Ms. Wack's Class
Dear santa,it Whant for chrmas 4 X, Box c.brI,I want The Game The amazing Spyt ear Man.
Luove Mike

Dear Santa
I want IPOP
Love John

Der Santa
I want paya8me.go seen PRQP or gAcem xBox360
Love, D.J.

Dear Santa,
I wnat to git a PuPy for crismis. I wut clos for my PuPPy Santa. I want a ba d for my PuPy. I want a Don for my Pupy.
Love Tanna

Dear Santa,
I wot lvg rgm Santa. I wot tos fam Santa. I wot tell Santa BuT for crimis. I wut for cims PS a boy ard Cat. Dear Santa I wot a Cat for MY arb dog. I wot my mom ard my DaD Santa.
Bridgett Luv

Dear Santa,
I wont a pupeu for crismis bnd a chootoy.
Love Camren.

Dear Santa,
what I whate for Crismise is a

bick and a Pare of rotrle sikas and best of all a Barbeey greeme hous.
Love, Chloe

Dear Santa.
I like a dies for crismes and escebur and computer
love Matthew

Dear Santa,
I would like a tedetora and a bick
Love Owen.

Dear Santa,
I want a BDDs
Love Darrius

Dear Santa,
I Want For Christmas is Lago Frands. I would Litte gad.
Love Jasmine

Dear Santa,
May i Ples get a D.S and a Ray Barie Set and a SoBet Set.
Love Cameron.

Dear Santa.
what I want for Christ maS isa mu shing of snow cone S and a Des for Christmas
Love Dayanara

DeAr sAntA,
I wlld Like A ar Bik inA Box rotk in A L A t opin A BiG.
Love Dyveon

Dear Santa
I want for crismis n d I want a brown truck gos intre grass.

Dear Santa
Crismess I wot cash for DaD. n I wot A Play Stashns. n I wot A cat n A Dog. n I wot Big Bas fish. n I wot A noow has. n I wot A cor. n I wot A rig for my Dad
Love Larry.

Theresa Whidden's Class
Dear Santa,
I want a Board Game a doll house an a biclye.What is it like in the North pole?
Love, Nevaeh, Age 7

Dear Santa,
How do you get in our house? Sunta you are the best guy I ever saw. Santa do you have magic? Santa do you have a elf?
Love, Jayden G., Age 7

Dear Santa,
I want three things. First, I want a phone5. Next I want a talking dinosaur. Last I want a game Lbp Kart rhg.
Love, Jakob C., Age 7

Dear Santa,
How do you make toys for all the boys and the girls? Santa can you bring me a puppy for Christmas and can you try to make it real?Oh and Santa, you

are the best in the world.And I hope you like the puppy so that way I like the puppy. And can you bring me a doll that has a pink dress with loud shoes.
Love, Kimberly L., Age 6

Dear Santa,
I want a Barbie doll That can sing.I want a Barbie doll that has wings. How is Mrs. Clause doing?I want a ipod too.
Love, Rachel K., Age 6

Dear Santa,
I want everything you need for a dollhouse andacar. How many raindear do you have?
Love, Georgianna N., Age 6

Dear Santa,
I want al phone anda lab top and a Reymisterio shirt and a xbox 360. and a DS. I pad.
Love, Angel S., Age 7

Dear Santa,
I would like a toy hores because I like horses. And I would like if you would give my brother some thing spshell. And I want a Chloc 3ds 3ds land game
Love, Chloe M., Age 6

Dear Santa,
How is Mrs.Claus doing? tell her I said hi. Tell one of your elfs to come to my house.
Love, Amar R., Age 7

Dear Santa,
For Chrismas I want my Mom to have a book. And my dad to have a new tv. And last but not least my sister to have a new chair.
Love, Michael S., Age 7

Dear Santa,
I wish I had a baby doll.And my Mom would like a box of chokill please Santa.
Love, Arrianna S., Age 6

Dear Santa,
I want a ipad.I want a pet sh ark in a tank and another dog that isa parteshin dog and a whole bunch of leggoes. I want to see a elf alive for my birthday Desember 28.Makeit snow.
Love, Jonah, Age 6

Dear Santa,
You have done allof all these Chrismis bin coud you and your elfs make a Sir Gara. resaller. I relly Love what you didall of thies yeear.I love you so mulch,I relly want to go to the north Pool and a lot of other stuff. And coud one of your elfves come to my house.
Love, Austin B., Age 7

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. "Worshipping God in Spirit and in Truth." Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10 a.m.; Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday: Worship, 7 p.m. Pastor Eugene Haas. Phone 471-0924.
■ **First Assembly of God**, 4301 Kenilworth Blvd., Sebring. The Rev. Wilmont McCrary, pastor. Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship and KIDS Church, 11 a.m.; Evening Worship, 7 p.m. Wednesday Family Night, (Adult Bible Study), LIFE Youth Group, Royal Rangers, Missionettes, 7:30 p.m. Phone 385-6431.

BAPTIST

■ **Avon Park Lakes Baptist Church**, 2600 N. Highlands Blvd., Avon Park, FL 33825. George Hall, Pastor. Christ centered and biblically based. Sunday worship services, 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Nursery facilities are available. Bible studies at 9:45 a.m. Sunday and 7 p.m. Wednesday. Prayer Time 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday. Bible classes at 9:45 a.m. are centered for all ages. Choir practice at 5 p.m. Sunday. Church phone: 452-6556.
■ **Bethany Baptist Church (GARBC)** We are located at the corner of SR17 and C-17A (truck route) in Avon Park. Join us Sunday morning at 9:00 AM for coffee and doughnuts, followed with Sunday School for all ages at 9:30. Sunday morning worship service begins at 10:30 a.m., and evening worship service is at 6 p.m. On Wednesdays, the Word of Life teen ministry and the Catelyst class (20's+) begin at 6:30 PM. The adult Bible and Prayer Time begins at 7 p.m. For more information go to www.bethanybaptistap.com or call the church office at 863-452-1136.
■ **Faith Missionary Baptist Church**, off State Road 17 North of Sebring at 1708 LaGrange Ave. Sunday School, 10 a.m.; Morning Worship, 11 a.m.; Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday Service, 7 p.m. Deaf interpretation available. Ken Lambert, Pastor. Phone 386-5055.
■ **Fellowship Baptist Church**, 1000 Maxwell St., Avon Park, FL 33825. Sunday: Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday: Evening Service, 7 p.m.; Children/Youth, 7 p.m. Telephone: 453-4256. Fax: 453-6986. E-mail: office@apfellowship.org; Web site, www.apfellowship.org.
■ **First Baptist Church of Avon Park**, 100 N. Lake Ave., Avon Park. Rev. Jon Beck, pastor; Charlie Parish, associate pastor/youth and families; Joy Loomis, music director; Rev. Johnattan Soltero, Hispanic pastor. 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, 6:7-30 p.m.; Prayer Meeting/Bible Study, 6 p.m.; Worship Choir Practice, 6 p.m.; Mission Programs for Children, 6:45 p.m. Hispanic Services: Sunday school at 9:30 a.m., worship service at 11 a.m. Wednesday Bible study at 7 p.m. Sunday broadcast on Cable TV Channel 6. Call 453-6681 for details. "In the heart of Avon Park, for the hearts of Avon Park."

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

■ **First Baptist Church of Lake Placid**, Knowing God's Heart and Sharing God's Hope, 119 E. Royal Palm St., Lake Placid, FL 33852 (863) 465-3721, Website: www.fbclp.com. Email: information@fbclp.com. Sunday services - Traditional Service 9 a.m., Contemporary Service 10:30 a.m. Link Groups at 9 and 10:30 a.m., Wednesday Activities: Family dinner at 5 p.m. (\$4 per person, reservations required). Prayer meeting, Youth Intersections, and MaxKidz Extreme meet at 6:15 p.m. The church is at 119 E. Royal Palm St., Lake Placid. For information, call 465-3721 or go to www.fbclp.com.

■ **First Baptist Church of Lorida** located right on U.S. 98 in Lorida. Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m. for all ages. Sunday worship services are at 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Preschool care is provided at the 11 a.m. worship service. Wednesday evening Bible Study and Prayer meeting is at 6:30 p.m., followed by adult choir rehearsal. From September the AWANA groups meet. First Lorida is the "Place to discover God's love." For more information about the church or the ministries offered, call 655-1878.

■ **First Baptist Church, Sebring**, 200 E. Center Ave., Sebring, FL 33870. Telephone: 385-5154. Rev. Nuno Norberto, associate pastor, minister of music and senior adults, and Dixie Kreulen, preschool director. Group Bible Studies, 9:15 a.m.; Blended Service, 10:30 a.m.; Mission 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. Scaggis, pastor. Church phone: 382-3552. Home phone: 214-3025. Affiliated with the National Association of Free Will Baptists, Nashville, Tenn.

■ **Sparta Road Baptist Church, (SBC)** 4400 Sparta Road. Rev. Mark McDowell, Pastor. Sunday school, 9:45 a.m.; Sunday Morning Worship, 11 a.m.; Sunday Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday: Prayer/Bible Study, 6 p.m. Nursery provided. For information, call 382-0869.

■ **Southside Baptist Church (GARBC)**, 379 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring. David C. Altman, Pastor. Sunday School for all ages, 9:30 a.m.; Morning Worship Service, 10:45 a.m.; Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday: Student ministry, 6:30 p.m.; Awana kindergarten through fifth grade, 6:30 p.m.; Adult Midweek Prayer and Bible Study, 7 p.m. A nursery for under age 3 is available at all services. Provisions for handicapped and hard-of-hearing. Office phone, 385-0752.

■ **Spring Lake Baptist Church**, "Where the Bible is Always Open." Pastor Richard Schermerhorn, 7408 Valencia Road; 655-2610. Assistant Pastor Ronald Smith, 386-1610. On U.S. 98 at the Spring Lake Village II entrance. Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. for all ages; Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m.; Sunday Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday Mid-week Bible Study and Prayer Service, 6:30 p.m. Nursery available for all services.

■ **Sunridge Baptist Church, (SBC)** 3704 Valerie Blvd. (U.S. 27 and Valerie, across from Florida Hospital), Sebring. Tim Finch, pastor. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Morning Worship, 10:45 a.m.; and Sunday Evening Service, 6 p.m. Wednesday: Prayer, Bible Study, and Youth, 6:30 p.m. Nursery provided. For information, call 382-3695.

CATHOLIC

■ **Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church**, 595 East Main St., Avon Park, 453-4757. Father Nicholas McLoughlin, pastor. Saturday Vigil Mass is 4 p.m. in English and 7 p.m. in Spanish; Sunday mass 8 and 10:30 a.m. in English. Weekday mass at 8 a.m. Confessions are at 3:30 p.m. Saturday. Religious Education Classes are 9-10:20 a.m. Sunday for grades K through 8th. Confirmation class is from 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday. Youth Nights grades 6th and up, 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday.
■ **St. Catherine Catholic Church**, 820 Hickory St., Sebring. Mailing address: 882 Bay St., Sebring, FL 33870, 385-0049; fax, 385-5169; email, office@stcatho.com; website, www.stcatho.com. Very Rev. José González, V.F., frjose@stcatho.com; Parochial Vicar, Rev. Victor Caviedes, 385-3993; Assisting Priest (retired), Rev. J. Peter Sheehan; Deacons, Rev. Mr. James R. McGarry and Rev. Mr. Max M. Severe. Parish office hours, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. CONFESSIO: First Friday 7:15-7:45 a.m.; Saturday 3-3:45 p.m.; Or by appointment with any priest. WEEKEND

MASS SCHEDULE: Saturday Vigil: 4 p.m.; Sunday: 8 and 10 a.m.; Sunday Spanish Mass: noon; Last Sunday of the month: 2 p.m. (Creole/French); Sunday Family Mass 5 p.m. (Holy Family Youth Center). DAILY MASS SCHEDULE: Monday through Friday: 8 a.m. and noon; Saturday: 9 a.m. ■ **St. James Catholic Church**, 3380 Placidview Drive, Lake Placid, 465-3215. Father Michael J. Cannon. Mass schedule: Summer (May 1 to Oct. 31) - Saturday Vigil, 4 p.m.; Sunday 8 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.; Weekdays, 9 a.m. December thru Easter - Saturday, 4 p.m.; Sunday, 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.; Weekdays 9 a.m.; and Holy Days 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m., first Saturday at 9 a.m.

CHRISTIAN

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

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

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

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

CHRISTIAN & MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

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

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

■ **Christian Science Church**, 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. (Sunday 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.



Lake Placid Christmas Bird Count tradition continues Thursday

Special to the News-Sun

LAKE PLACID — Birders of all abilities will take part in the 26th annual Lake Placid Count and the National Audubon Society's 113th Christmas Bird Count.

The challenge every year is to find new species, more species and individuals than in previous years within the 15-mile diameter Lake Placid Count Circle centered in Lake Placid near U.S. 27 and Lake Grassy.

Archbold Biological Station and Highlands County Audubon Society work together to arrange and oversee the 24-hour event.

Many highly skilled observers from other areas of Florida and out of state join locals to form teams searching for usual and unusual new species, many beginning before dawn searching for owls, rails and other "early birds."

Last year, 10 teams of 38 field observers plus seven persons counting at feeders tallied a species count of 152 (highest is 155) and individuals numbering 47,067.

Last year, 2,248 counts and 63,223 volunteers in all 50 states and all Canadian provinces — plus

From Dec. 14 through Jan. 5, tens of thousands of volunteers throughout the Americas take part in an adventure that has become a family tradition among generations

99 count circles in Latin America, the Caribbean and the Pacific Islands — tallied more than 60 million birds.

Each of the citizen scientists who annually braves snow, wind, or rain, to take part in the Christmas Bird Count makes an enormous contribution to conservation. Audubon and other organizations use data collected in this longest-running wildlife census to assess the health of bird populations — and to help guide conservation action.

If your home is within the boundaries of the Lake Placid Christmas Bird Count Circle — the town of Lake Placid, Sylvan Shores, Highlands Park Estates, part of Leisure Lakes, Placid Lakes, or Sun 'N Lakes South, you can stay home and report the birds visiting your yard and/or feeder.

If you have never taken part in a

CBC before and want to participate this year as a feeder watcher, call 465-1904 or (269) 932-8934 prior to the count.

Another nearby count to join is the Avon Park Air Force Range Circle CBC on Jan. 5. Call 452-1034 or (360) 904 4415 as soon as possible.

From Dec. 14 through Jan. 5, tens of thousands of volunteers throughout the Americas take part in an adventure that has become a family tradition among generations.

Families and students, birders and scientists, armed with binoculars, bird guides and checklists go out on an annual mission — often before dawn.

For more than 100 years, the desire to both make a difference and to experience the beauty of nature has driven dedicated people to leave the comfort of a warm

house during the holiday season. From feeder-watchers and field observers to count compilers and regional editors, everyone who takes part in the Christmas Bird Count does it for love of birds and the excitement of friendly competition — and with the knowledge that their efforts are making a difference for science and bird conservation.

The count began in 1900 when Dr. Frank Chapman, founder of Bird-Lore, which evolved into Audubon magazine suggested an alternative to the holiday "side hunt," in which teams competed to see who could shoot the most small game, including birds. Chapman proposed that people count birds instead.

More than a century later, by helping monitor shifts in wildlife populations associated with climate changes, birders can assist land

management ranging from habitat modeling to farming practices.

How Christmas Bird Count helps protect species and their habitat:

The data collected by observers for more than the past century allow researchers, conservation biologists and other interested individuals to study the long-term health and status of bird populations across North America.

When combined with other surveys such as the Breeding Bird Survey, it provides a picture of how the continent's bird populations have changed in time and space for more than the past hundred years.

The long term perspective made possible by the Christmas Bird Count is vital for conservationists. It informs strategies to protect birds and their habitat — and helps identify environmental issues with implications for people as well.

For example, local trends in bird populations can indicate habitat fragmentation or signal an immediate environmental threat, such as groundwater contamination or poison from improper use of pesticides.

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 EFC**, 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 service 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. Come worship and fellowship with us. 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."

■ **Trinity Lutheran Church — LCMS**, 25 Lakeview St., Lake Placid, FL 33852; 465-5253. The Rev. Richard A. Norris, pastor; Susan C. Norris, Trinity Tots Preschool director; and Noel Johnson, minister of youth and family life. Worship schedule after Easter through December: Worship service 10 a.m., and Education Hour, 8:45 a.m. Worship schedule for

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

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

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

■ **Calvary Church**, 1825 Hammock Road, Sebring, FL 33872; 386-4900. An independent community church. Sunday morning worship, 10 a.m.; Bible study, 11:15 a.m.; Sunday evening service, 6 p.m. Pastor Lester Osbeck. A small friendly church waiting for your visit.

■ **Christian Training Ministries Inc.**, on Sebring Parkway. Enter off County Road 17 on Simpson Avenue. Sunday service is at 10 a.m.; Wednesday Bible study at 7 p.m. A nursery and children's church are provided. The church is part of Christian International Ministries Network, a full gospel, non-denominational ministry. Linda M. Downing, minister, lindadowning@live.com. Casey L. Downing, associate minister, caseydowning@hotmail.com. Church phone: 314-0482. Web site: www.ctmforme.com

■ **Crossroads of Life**, 148 E. Interlake Blvd., Lake Placid, FL 33852; Tel. 863-655-9163. The place of your Divine appointment. We expect our supernatural God to transform our lives through His power and grace. Come, learn of His plan and destiny for you. With His plan we receive His provision along with His perfect timing and opportunity. What you have longed for, but have been missing, can now be received. The direction you have been thirsty for will suddenly quench your parched soul. Come to experience what you have been missing for so long — empowerment in every area of life. We teach, train and send forth to win souls. You don't speak English — no 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. Andrew Katsanis, senior pastor. Saturday Worship, 6:30 p.m. Sunday, 9 and 11 a.m. Tuesday 6 p.m. Grace Bible Academy Adult Investigating Truth; first and third

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

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

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

■ **Union Church**, 106 N. Butler Ave., Avon Park, FL 33825. Contemporary worship service is at 6:30 p.m. Saturday with Pastor Tiger Gullett. Sunday traditional worship service is at 7:45 a.m. and 9 a.m. Contemporary Sunday worship service is at 10:45 a.m. Nursery and children's church on Saturday nights and 9 and 10:45 a.m. Sundays. Breakfast and lunch menus at Solid Grounds. Senior Pastor is Bill Breylinger. Office: 453-3345. Web page at www.weare-union.org.

■ **Unity Life Enrichment Centre**, new location, 10417 Orange Blossom Blvd. S., Sebring, FL 33875; 471-1122; e-mail unity@vistanet.net. Web site, www.unityofsebring.org. 10:30 a.m. Sunday Celebration Service, Nursery and Children's Church. Weekly Classes, Christian Bookstore and Cafe, Prayer Ministry, Life Enrichment Groups. Rev. Andrew C. Conyer, senior minister transforming lives from ordinary to extraordinary.

PRESBYTERIAN

■ **Covenant Presbyterian Church (PCA)**, 4500 Sun 'N Lake Blvd., Sebring, 33872-2113. A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America. Sunday morning worship: Traditional service, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday school, 9:15 a.m. Wednesday evening Prayer Meeting, 6 p.m.; Children's/Youth Group, 5:30-7 p.m.; choir practice, 7:15 p.m. Phone: 385-3234; Fax: 385-2759; e-mail: covpres@strato.net; Web site: www.cpcsebring.org. Office hours: 8:30-12:30 a.m. Monday-Friday.

■ **First Presbyterian Church ARP**, 215 E. Circle St., (two entrances on LaGrande), Avon Park, FL 33825. Phone: 453-3242. The Rev. Robert Johnson is the pastor. Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.; Sunday Worship, 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday Bible study, 10:30 a.m.; Potluck dinner, 6 p.m. third Wednesday; choir practice, 6:30 p.m. each Wednesday; Mary Circle business meeting, 1 p.m. second Wednesday; Sarah Circle business meeting, 4 p.m. second Thursday; Women's Ministries Combined Bible study, 4 p.m. third Thursday. Be a part of a warm, caring church family with traditional services, following biblical truth.

■ **First Presbyterian Church, ARP**, 319 Poinsettia Ave., Sebring, FL 33870. 385-0107. Email: faith@htn.net. Rev. Darrell A. Peer, pastor. Sunday School, all ages, 9:30 a.m.; Worship Service, 11 a.m. Youth Group (middle school and high school age), 3:30-6:30 p.m. Tuesdays. Wednesday: Adult Bible Study, 10:30 a.m. Nursery available during worship. Call the church

office for more information and other classes.

■ **First Presbyterian Church, ARP**, www.fpcjp.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 Wedg. Choir Director: Suzan Wedg. 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. 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.



Green heron considered to be one of the most intelligent birds

We've probably all heard of some species of animals that utilize tools. But did you ever hear of a bird using gizmos to get dinner? Green herons (*Butorides virescens*) are one of the unique creatures that use tools and are considered to be one of the most intelligent birds on the planet. They use bait, such as insects, feathers, berries, small sticks or a crust of bread to lure fish close by. They drop it onto the surface of the water and when the unfortunate finned creatures check out the grub, the crafty green heron grabs the fish. This is one interesting bird.

Green herons live near water. They generally inhabit freshwater wetlands such as ponds or stream sides, although they may be found near salt water where they must adapt to the rhythm of the tides. Wherever they claim as home, green herons prefer thick vegetation near the water's edge.

They are generally solitary creatures and have little or no tolerance for other types of birds. They don't forage in groups. The dining process consists of standing still on shore or in shallow water or perched upon nearby branches to wait for passing prey. They eat fish, frogs, and most any invertebrate or vertebrate they can get their beaks around.

They remain monogamous for a season. Once the male has won over the female with an enthusiastic mating ritual that includes flying in front of her and puffing up



News From The Watershed

Corine Burgess

his head and neck plumage, he selects a nesting site. Green herons nest in swampy areas or forests that overlook water with plants nearby. They build their nests in shrubs, trees and sometimes on the ground. They use sticks for building materials. Nesting season is one of the few times that these solitary creatures may gather in a group.

Females lay anywhere from two to six light green eggs. The eggs aren't usually laid in the same day and the second egg may be six days from the first. Once the female has finished laying the eggs, both parents help with the incubation, which lasts about 20 days.

Once hatched, the mom and dad bird share in the feeding duties. Fledglings may begin to leave the nest as early as 16 days and are ready to fly at about 23 days. They stay near the parents until they are capable of defending themselves at about one month old. The green heron may breed two times per year.

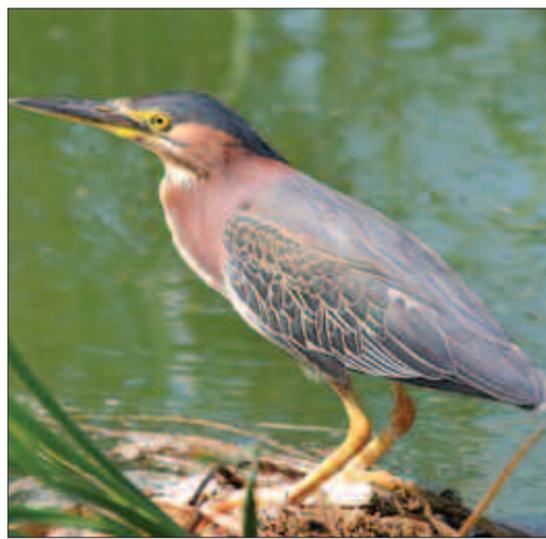
Many folks call this bird

the green-backed heron. It is one of the smaller herons and is about the size of a large crow. It may range from a foot and a half to two feet long and sports a dark head with a black crest. The back and wings of the bird are a dark gray-green to dark gray-blue and the neck is rust colored with a white line down the front. The long, sharp pointed bill is dark and the short legs may be orange or yellow. The neck appears to be pulled in tight against the body.

Females are smaller than the males and are not as colorful. Juvenile green herons are a bit duller in coloration and until they mature their legs and bill are greenish-yellow. When first hatched out of the eggs, the birds are covered in down feathers which are light grey on top and white on the underside.

Here are some interesting facts about green herons from the BioKids, Kids' Inquiry of Diverse Species: - The oldest known wild green heron was a banded bird that was captured when it was almost 8 years old. There is very little information on lifespan of these birds.

- Green herons use their keen vision, hearing, and sense of touch to perceive their environment. They have especially acute vision that helps them to capture prey. Green herons have an elaborate set of calls and body postures that they use for communicating with other green herons. Examples are their elaborate courtship dis-



Courtesy photo

Green herons are considered to be extremely intelligent birds. They use bait, such as insects, feathers, berries, small sticks or a crust of bread to lure fish close by and once the prey goes after the bait, the heron has its meal.

plays, warning calls when a predator is detected, and territorial displays.

- The heavy bill of a green heron enables them to capture large prey. Feeding can take place at any time, day or night. Typically, prey is captured with a darting stroke of the head and neck, lunging the body towards the victim and either grabbing or impaling the prey. The most common feeding technique is to stand in a crouched position with neck and head retracted. Standing often alternates with slow walking in a crouched posture in the water or bordering vegetation. Herons use their feet to stir up animals in the water, making them move and then capturing them. They may also dive from perches head first into deep water, although this isn't a very efficient method. Green herons do best catching prey in shallow water.

- Snakes, crows, and common grackles are known to eat green heron eggs. Raccoons eat nestlings.

Adult birds may be preyed on by large birds of prey. Green herons remain vigilant to protect themselves from predators. They also utter warning calls when predators approach.

- Green herons are important predators of fish and invertebrates in the aquatic ecosystems where they live. - Green herons are not considered threatened or endangered. They are fairly common in appropriate habitats throughout their range. They are killed by fish hatcheries to prevent them from eating young fish, suffer as a result of wetland loss to farming and development, and can accumulate poisons in their tissues from pesticide use and toxic releases into waterways.

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.

Creators of viral eagle snatch video admit hoax

MONTREAL — The creators of a video purporting to show an eagle swooping down and snatching a toddler from a Montreal park that went viral after being posted on YouTube earlier this week now say it was a hoax.

The four people behind the video said Thursday that the video was intentionally created as a part of a class project to create a viral video hoax at a new-media training institute in Montreal.

The video has been viewed millions of times on YouTube and written about in various newspaper and websites around the globe.

'Gangnam Style' reaches 1B views on YouTube

NEW YORK — Viral star PSY has reached a new milestone.

The South Korean rapper's video for "Gangnam Style" has reached 1 billion views, according to YouTube's own counter. It's the first time any clip has surpassed that mark on the streaming service owned by Google Inc.

It shows the enduring popularity of the self-deprecating video that features Park Jae-sang's giddy up-style dance moves. The video has been available on YouTube since July 15, averaging more than 200 million views per month.

Justin Bieber's video for "Baby" held the previous record at more than 800 million views.



SECTION **C** BUSINESS

News-Sun

Sunday, December 23, 2012

ERA Advantage announces agent awards

Special to the News-Sun
SEBRING — ERA Advantage Realty of Highlands and Hardee Counties recently announced its highest-producing sales associates.

The winners include: Mark Lambert, Top Listing Agent and Top Sales Agent; Darrin Mills, Spirit Award and Beyond Excellence in Rentals; Anita Zahn, Beyond Excellence in Short Sales; and Janie Passmore, Most Improved Short Sales.

"Through their dedication, these professionals lead our local real estate market by providing each client the most comprehensive products and services," said Greg Karlson, Broker/owner. "Our top producers truly embody the ERA core values of innovation, collaboration and superior service and exemplify ERA Advantage Realty's commitment to hard work and cus-



The ERA Advantage Realty 2012 award winners included Darrin Mills (from left), Mark Lambert, Anna Parnell and Anita Zahn.

tomers satisfaction."

"We are also pleased to announce Laura Higgins as Top Listing and Top Selling

agent for the month of November. Laura's professional attitude and meticulousness in her work habits is

truly the mark of a stellar agent," Karlson said.

Contact Karlson at 381-4932.

Resolve to be financially secure in 2013

When it comes to making New Year's resolutions, getting into good shape financially ranks right up there with losing weight and eating healthier. All three goals require discipline and planning; and, as you've no doubt experienced, it's



Personal Finance
Jason Alderman

not unusual to encounter setbacks along the way. Don't let losing a minor battle here or there convince you to surrender on the bigger war. You'll probably have more success if you start out taking small steps, learning from your mistakes and gaining momentum as you go.

Here are a few suggestions for better managing your personal finances in the New Year:

The first step on the road to financial health is to create a budget you can live with. If you're new to budgeting or haven't been successful in the past, start slowly. For a few months write down every cent you spend: mortgage/rent, utilities, food, gas, medical copayments, credit card interest — the works. You'll be surprised where your money goes.

At the same time, compare money coming in (income) to money going out (expenses). If you're just breaking even or losing money each month, you need to boost your income and/or aggressively trim spending. Try these strategies:

- Pay bills on time and send at least the minimum amount due. You'll avoid late fees and related interest rate increases; plus, you'll improve your credit score.

- Balance your checking account regularly and use in-network ATMs to avoid overdrafts and fees.

- If your employer offers flexible spending accounts, use them to pay health and dependent care expenses with pretax dollars.

- Raise insurance deductibles and shop around for better rates.

- Once you start reducing expenses, use the savings to pay down debts more quickly. Try making a table of all outstanding credit card and loan balances and their corresponding interest

See FINANCIAL, page 2C

Boehner on avoiding cliff: 'God only knows'

By ANDREW TAYLOR
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — House Speaker John Boehner signaled on Friday he's still open to negotiations with President Barack Obama on avoiding across-the-board tax increases set to hit taxpayers Jan. 1, but sounded pessimistic about reaching a grand deal with the president.

"How we get there, God only knows," Boehner told a Capitol Hill news conference just hours after his rank-and-file handed him a stunning tactical defeat.

The Republican leader spoke the morning after he was forced by his members to abandon legislation that would have raised taxes on incomes

'I'm interested in solving the major problems that face our country.'

JOHN BOEHNER
Speaker of the House

above \$1 million.

"We didn't have the votes to pass it," Boehner said glumly.

In the aftermath, Boehner said any deal with the president to avoid the looming "fiscal cliff" would require more compromise by Obama and greater involvement of Senate Majority Leader

Harry Reid, D-Nev., and the minority leader, Mitch McConnell, R-Ky.

"I'm interested in solving the major problems that face our country," Boehner said. "And that means House leaders, Senate leaders and the president are going to continue to have to work together to address those concerns."

House Majority Leader Eric Cantor, R-Va., who stood by Boehner's side, said, "We stand ready to continue in dialogue with this president to actually fix the problem."

Boehner dismissed suggestions that the embarrassment late Thursday night

See BOEHNER, page 2C



Merry Christmas

from all of us

May the coming year bring peace, joy and enlightenment to you and those you cherish.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!



HIGHLANDS INDEPENDENT BANK



BUSINESS



House Speaker John Boehner (left) and President Barack Obama have struggled to reach a deal to avoid the fiscal cliff. MCT

Boehner pessimistic on deal as fiscal cliff deadline nears

Continued from page 1C

over the legislation would cost him his speakership, second in line to the presidency. "While we may have not been able to get the votes last night to avert 99.81 percent of the tax increases, I don't think — they weren't taking that out on me," he said. "They were dealing with the perception that somebody might accuse them of raising taxes."

Obama has said he will press ahead with Congress in search of a deal and that the two sides are relatively close to a long-sought budget bargain. But Boehner on Friday depicted an impasse.

"I told the president on Monday these were my bottom lines," Boehner said. "The president told me that his numbers — the \$1.3 trillion in new revenues, \$850 billion in spending cuts — was his bottom line, that he couldn't go any further." Boehner and the White House differ on how to classify key elements of Obama's latest offer, particularly whether to count interest savings on the national debt as a spending cut.

The White House says Obama offered \$1.2 trillion in spending cuts, matched by \$1.2 trillion in higher taxes.

White House Press Secretary Jay Carney said on Thursday that Obama has "never said either in private or in public that this was his final offer. He understands that to reach a deal it would require some further negotiation."

"There is not much further he could go, because after all, unlike his counterparts in this negotiation, he has already gone halfway on both sides

of the equation."

Boehner's attempt to retreat from a longstanding promise to maintain Bush-era tax rates for all was designed to gain at least some leverage against Obama and Senate Democrats in the fiscal cliff endgame. Thursday's drama was a major personal defeat for the speaker, who retains the respect and affection of his tea party-infused conference, but sometimes has great difficulty getting them to follow his leadership.

What Boehner called his "Plan B" was crafted to prevent tax increases set to kick in Jan. 1 on virtually every taxpayer. But it also would have provisions that would let rates rise for those at the upper income range — a violation of long-standing Republican orthodoxy that triggered opposition inside the party.

The hope was that successful House action on the measure would force Senate Democrats to respond. But Reid made clear that Plan B would have been dead on arrival in the Senate.

The latest events leave little time for Obama and bruised lawmakers to prevent across-the-board tax increases and deep spending cuts from taking effect with the new year. Economists say the combination threatens a return to recession for an economy that has been recovering slowly from the last one.

The House will not meet again until after Christmas, if then, and the Senate is expected to meet briefly on Friday, then not reconvene until next Thursday.

In arguing for legislation with a million-dollar thresh-

old for higher tax rates, Boehner said the president has called for protecting 98 percent of people from a tax increase. His bill would "protect 99.81 percent of the American people from an increase in taxes."

A companion bill that was meant to build GOP support for the tax legislation called for elimination of an estimated \$97 billion in cuts to the Pentagon and certain domestic programs over a decade. It cleared the House on a partisan vote of 215-209 and is an updated version of legislation that passed a little more than six months ago.

Those cuts would be replaced with savings totaling \$314 billion, achieved through increases in the amount federal employees

contribute toward their pensions and through cuts in social programs such as food stamps and the health care law that Obama signed earlier in his term.

Earlier in the week, Boehner and Obama had significantly narrowed their differences on a compromise to avoid the fiscal cliff.

But Republican officials said members of the GOP leadership had balked at the terms that were emerging. Democrats said Boehner's abrupt decision to shift to his Plan B — legislation drafted unilaterally by Republicans — reflected a calculation that he lacked support from his own members to win the votes needed for the type of agreement he was negotiating with the president.

Financial resolutions for the new year

Continued from page 1C

rates. Then, each month pay the minimum amount due on each — except pay as much as possible on the account with the highest interest rate. Once that one's paid off, move to the next-highest rate account and so on.

Another smart move is to have an emergency fund in case of financial upheaval (layoff, medical emergency, unexpected car repairs, etc.) Ideally you should save enough to cover six months' of expenses, but don't be discouraged if that sounds insurmountable: Start slowly by saving a few dollars each week. You won't miss it and your little nest egg might just save you from needing an expensive short-term loan to cover an unplanned bill.

If something terrible happened to you, would your family be protected financially? Make sure you have a valid will, durable power of attorney, health

care proxy and living will. Numerous books, online articles and sample forms are available if you want to draft them yourself, but you should probably review your documents with a financial advisor or attorney to avoid potential legal problems. Also, make sure you have adequate life and disability insurance.

It's debatable how much Social Security will be able to contribute toward your retirement income in coming decades, so if you're not already participating in your employer's 401(k) plan or an IRA, make that one of your top financial resolutions.

Sticking to resolutions is never easy — if it were, we'd already be doing them. But striving to improve your financial situation now will pay off big-time down the road.

Jason Alderman directs Visa's financial education programs. To follow Jason Alderman on Twitter go to www.twitter.com/PracticalMoney.

Consumer confidence hits 5-month low

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Confidence among U.S. consumers has sunk to its lowest point since July, according to a monthly index.

The University of Michigan says its consumer sentiment index for December fell to 72.9, a sharp drop from the November reading of 82.7. The November figure was a five-year high.

Peter Newland, an econo-

mist at Barclays, says consumer confidence has dropped because of uncertainty over whether Congress and the Obama administration will reach a budget deal to avert sharp tax increases and government spending cuts set to take effect in January.

Economists said confidence could fall further if the standoff over the "fiscal cliff" persists into 2013.

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1000 Announcements

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION
 CASE NO.: 28-2009-CA-001039
 THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUST COMPANY, N.A. AS SUCCESSOR TO JPMORGAN CHASE BANK N.A. AS TRUSTEE FOR RAMP 2006R23, Plaintiff,
 vs.
 WILLIE J. WIGGINS, JR. et al Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated December 7, 2012, and entered in Case No. 28-2009-CA-001039 of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for HIGHLANDS COUNTY, Florida, wherein THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON TRUST COMPANY, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK TRUST COMPANY, N.A. AS SUCCESSOR TO JPMORGAN CHASE BANK N.A. AS TRUSTEE FOR RAMP 2006R23, is Plaintiff, and WILLIE J. WIGGINS, JR. et al are Defendants. I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, beginning at 11:00 a.m., in the JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM, BASEMENT, 430 S. Commerce Avenue, Sebring, FL 33870, in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes, on the 7th day of February, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Summary Final Judgment, to wit:
 LOT 720, SEBRING RIDGE SECTION C, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE 54, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.
 and all fixtures and personal property located therein or thereon, which are included as security in Plaintiff's mortgage.
 Any person claiming an interest in the surplus funds 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 at Sebring, HIGHLANDS COUNTY, Florida, this 7th day of December, 2012.

Robert W. Germaine
 Clerk of said Circuit Court
 By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
 As Deputy Clerk

If you are a person with a disability who needs assistance in order to participate in a program or service of the State Courts System, you should contact the Office of the Court Administrator 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.

December 23, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CASE NO.: 28-2011-CA-000044
 SEC.:

CITIMORTGAGE, INC., Plaintiff,
 v.
 FELIPE ACEVEDO, JR.; MARIA ANGELA ACEVEDO; 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, GRANTEE, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; SPRINGLAKE VILLAGE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC., Defendants(s).

NOTICE OF SALE
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Order Granting Plaintiff's Motion to Reset Foreclosure Sale dated December 4th, 2012, entered in Civil Case No. 28-2011-CA-000044 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 13th day of March, 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 14, BLOCK Q, SPRING LAKE VILLAGE II, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 9, PAGE 43, 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 7th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2012.

By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
 ROBERT W. GERMAINE
 CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
 HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
 December 23, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CASE NO.: GC-12-000399
 BANK OF AMERICA, N.A. Plaintiff,
 vs.
 JEROME J. PALAZZOLO; MICHELLE PALAZZOLO; UNKNOWN TENANT I; UNKNOWN TENANT II; SOUTH BEAR POINT PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC., and any unknown heirs, devisees, grantees, creditors, and other unknown persons or unknown spouses claiming by, through and under any of the above-named Defendants, Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
 NOTICE is hereby given that the undersigned Clerk of the Circuit Court of Highlands County, Florida, will on the 16th day of January, 2013, at 11:00 o'clock A.M. at the in the Jury Assembly Room in the basement of the Highlands County Courthouse located at 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida at 11:00 A.M., offer for sale and sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for cash, the following-described property situated in Highlands County, Florida:
 A PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE COUNTY OF HIGHLANDS, STATE OF FLORIDA, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:
 TRACT 4
 COMMENCE AT THE INTERSECTION OF THE SOUTHWESTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF SOUTH BEAR POINT BOULEVARD AND THE WESTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF S.C.F.E. RAILROAD; THENCE SOUTH 12 DEGREES 38 MINUTES 45 SECONDS WEST ALONG THE WESTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF S.C.F.E. RAILROAD, A DISTANCE OF 1879.85 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE CONTINUE SOUTH 12 DEGREES 38 MINUTES 45 SECONDS WEST A DIS-

1050 Legals

TANCE OF 364.57 FEET; THENCE NORTH 55 DEGREES 42 MINUTES 48 SECONDS WEST, A DISTANCE OF 1371.51 FEET TO A POINT LYING ON THE SOUTHERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY LINE OF SOUTH BEAR POINT DRIVE AND TO A POINT ON A NON TANGENT CURVE TO THE RIGHT HAVING A RADIUS OF 520.00 FEET, A CENTRAL ANGLE OF 14 DEGREES 36 MINUTES 07 SECONDS, AND A CHORD BEARING OF NORTH 38 DEGREES 13 MINUTES 36 SECONDS EAST, 132.16 FEET; THENCE NORTHEASTERLY ALONG THE ARC A DISTANCE OF 132.52 FEET; THENCE NORTH 45 DEGREES 31 MINUTES 38 SECONDS EAST, A DISTANCE OF 211.07 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 55 DEGREES 42 MINUTES 48 SECONDS EAST, A DISTANCE OF 1186.83 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.
 CONTAINING 10 ACRES, MORE OR LESS,
 pursuant to the Final Judgment entered in a case pending in said Court, the style of which is indicated above.

Any person or entity claiming an interest in the surplus, if any, resulting from the foreclosure sale, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens, must file a claim on same with the Clerk of Court within 60 days after the foreclosure sale.
 WITNESS my hand and official seal of said Court this 5th day of December, 2012.
 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, (941)534-4690, within seven (7) working days of your receipt of this notice; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call (TDD) (941) 534-7777, or Florida Relay Service 800-955-8770.

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
 By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
 Deputy Clerk
 December 23, 30, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY CIVIL DIVISION
 CASE NO. 09001562GCS
 CITIMORTGAGE, INC. Plaintiff,
 vs.
 TROY A. KNIGHT A/K/A TROY KNIGHT; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF TROY A. KNIGHT A/K/A TROY KNIGHT; TRACY KNIGHT; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF TRACY KNIGHT; IF LIVING, INCLUDING ANY UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF SAID DEFENDANT(S), IF REMARRIED, AND IF DECEASED, THE RESPECTIVE UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEE, 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:
 LOT 9 AND 10, BLOCK E, ASA LEWIS SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 73, PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.
 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 January 8, 2013.

DATED THIS 7TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2012.
 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 7th day of December, 2012.

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.

December 16, 23, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CASE NO.: 10-1255 GCS
 JUDGE: J. David Langford

TD BANK, N.A. as successor in interest to RIVERSIDE NATIONAL BANK OF FLORIDA by and through FDIC as Receiver
 v.
 C.I.G. DEVELOPMENT, INC.; H.M.P. BUILDERS, INC.; LEISURE LAKES HOME OWNERS CIVIL ASSOCIATION, INC.; HARRY M. POSIN; STUART M. POSIN and UNKNOWN TENANTS IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY

NOTICE OF SALE
 The Clerk of the Circuit Court hereby gives notice of the following foreclosure sale in the above referenced matter:
 A. The Property to be sold is:
 LOT 25 and 26, Block 164, 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
 Having a street address of 1059 Oriole Street, Lake Placid, FL 33852
 B. The Clerk's Sale will take place on January 8, 2013, bidding begins at 11:00 AM, Eastern Time in the Basement of the Highlands County Courthouse - Jury Assembly Room, 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida 33870.
 C. The sale will be made pursuant to the Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated November 5, 2012.
 D. TD BANK, N.A. as successor in interest to RIVERSIDE NATIONAL BANK OF FLORIDA by and through FDIC as Receiver V. C.I.G. DEVELOPMENT, INC.; H.M.P. BUILDERS, INC.; LEISURE LAKES HOMEOWNERS CIVIL ASSOCIATION, INC.; HARRY M. POSIN; STUART M. POSIN and UNKNOWN TENANTS IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY; CASE NO.: 10-1255 GCS.
 E. This sale is being made by ROBERT W. GERMAINE, Highlands County Clerk of the Circuit Court, Tenth Judicial Circuit, by and through a deputy Clerk of Court.
 F. 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 the seal of the Court on December 7, 2012.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE
 CLERK OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY COURT
 By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
 Deputy Clerk

Pursuant to a 545.031(2), this notice must be published once to weeks for two consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the sale is to be held with the second publication being at least five days prior to the sale date.

1050 Legals

Publication Dates: December 16 and December 23, 2012.
 Via: The News-Sun
 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 ADA Coordinator in the Administrative Office of the Court, Highlands County Courthouse; telephone number (863) 534-4690 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.

December 16, 23, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION
 CASE NO.: 2009-CA-000704
 BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP l/k/a Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, L.P. Plaintiff,
 vs.
 Daniel Parker; Unknown Parties in Possession #1; Unknown Parties in Possession #2; If living, and all Unknown Parties claiming by, through, under and against the above named Defendant(s) who are not known to be dead or alive, whether said Unknown Parties may claim an interest as Spouse, Heirs, Devisees, Grantees, or Other Claimants Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order rescheduling foreclosure sale dated December 5, 2012 entered in Civil Case No. 2009-CA-000704 of the Circuit Court of the 10th Judicial Circuit in and for Highlands County, Florida, wherein BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP l/k/a Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, L.P. Plaintiff and Daniel Parker are defendant(s). I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, AT THE JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM IN THE BASEMENT OF THE HIGHLANDS COUNTY COURTHOUSE LOCATED AT 430 SOUTH COMMERCE AVENUE, SEBRING, FLORIDA AT 11:00 A.M., January 8, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to-wit:
 LOT 16, IN BLOCK 165, OF PLACID LAKES SECTION 13, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 8, PAGE 13, 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 any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact Court Administration at 430 S. Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida 33870, telephone (863) 534-4690, within two (2) working days of receipt of this Notice; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 1-800-955-8771.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE
 CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
 Highlands County, Florida
 By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
 Deputy Clerk of Court

ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF:
 SHAPIRO, FISHMAN & GACHE', LLP
 2424 North Federal Highway, Suite 360
 Boca Raton, Florida 33431
 (561)998-6700
 (561) 998-6707

December 16, 23, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION
 CASE NO.: 28-2010-CA-000914
 DIVISION:

HSBC BANK USA, N.A., Plaintiff,
 vs.
 RAFAEL BERMUDEZ, et al, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated November 16, 2012, and entered in Case No. 28-2010-CA-000914 of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for Highlands County, Florida in which HSBC Bank USA, N.A., is the Plaintiff and Rafael Bermudez, Julia Bermudez, Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., are defendants, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in/on the Jury Assembly Room in the basement, Highlands County Courthouse, 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, FL 33870, Highlands County, Florida at 11:00 AM on the 9th day of January, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Foreclosure:
 LOT 588, SYLVAN SHORES ESTATES, SECTION "D", ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE 13, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.
 A/K/A 1574 OAK AVE, 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 60 days after the sale.
 Dated in Highlands County, Florida this 12th day of December, 2012.

Clerk of the Circuit Court
 Highlands County, Florida
 By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
 Deputy Clerk

Albertelli Law
 Attorney for Plaintiff
 P.O. Box 23028
 Tampa, FL 33623
 (813)221-4743
 CH-11-86160
 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, (863) 534-4690, within two (2) working days of your receipt of this (describe notice); if you are hearing or voice impaired, call TDD (863) 534-7777 of Florida relay Service 711. To file response please contact Highlands County Clerk of Court, 590 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, FL 33870-3867, Tel: (863) 402-6591; Fax: (863) 402-6664.
 December 16, 23, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY CIVIL DIVISION
 CASE NO. 28-2010-CA-001014
 CITIMORTGAGE, INC., Plaintiff,
 vs.
 SCOTT C. GRACE, et al. 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:
 Lot 11, Block 10, ORANGE BLOSSOM ESTATES SUBDIVISION UNIT 11, according to the plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 7, Page 48, of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida
 To include a:

1050 Legals

2006 SCTB VN SBHGA1500501329A 0095899344
 2006 SCTB VN SBHGA1500501329B 0095899431
 A/K/A
 576 Anna Ave
 Sebring, FL 33875
 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 January 9, 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 7th day of December, 2012

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.

December 16, 23, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL DIVISION
 CASE NO.: 05000043GCS
 CITIMORTGAGE, INC. Plaintiff,
 vs.
 MICHAEL S. PLANETA, et al Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated December 6, 2012, and entered in Case No. 05000043GCS of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for HIGHLANDS COUNTY, Florida, wherein CITIMORTGAGE, INC., is Plaintiff, and MICHAEL S. PLANETA, et al are Defendants, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, beginning at 11:00 a.m., in the JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM, BASEMENT, 430 S. Commerce Avenue, Sebring, FL 33870, in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes, on the 8th day of March, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Summary Final Judgment, to wit:
 LOT 20, BLOCK 14 OF LEISURE LAKES SECTION 1, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGE 5 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA, and all fixtures and personal property located therein or thereon, which are included as security in Plaintiff's mortgage.
 Any person claiming an interest in the surplus funds 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 at Sebring, HIGHLANDS COUNTY, Florida, this 7th day of December, 2012.

Robert W. Germaine
 Clerk of said Circuit Court
 By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
 As Deputy Clerk

If you are a person with a disability who needs assistance in order to participate in a program or service of the State Courts System, you should contact the Office of the Court Administrator 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.

December 23, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT CIVIL COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY CIVIL DIVISION
 CASE NO.: 28-2012-CA-000149
 Division

CENLAR FSB Plaintiff,
 vs.
 LLOYD C. RESPRESS A/K/A LLOYD RESPRESS, LAURA RESPRESS, RHS INDUSTRIES, INC. RETIREMENT FUND, 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 December 7, 2012, in the Circuit Court of HIGHLANDS County, Florida, I will sell the property situated in Highlands County, Florida described as:
 THE SOUTH 190 FEET OF THE NORTH 390 FEET OF THE WEST 192 FEET OF THE EAST 225 FEET OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 6, TOWNSHIP 35 SOUTH, RANGE 29 EAST, HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA, and commonly known as: 4205 SPARTA RD, SEBRING, FL 33875; 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 January 9, 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 7th day of December, 2012.

Clerk of the Circuit Court
 By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
 Deputy Clerk
 December 16, 23, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION
 CASE NO.: 28-2009-CA-000971
 DIVISION:
 DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE ON BEHALF OF GSAA HOME EQUITY TRUST 2006-16, Plaintiff,
 vs.
 MARSHAS MYRTHIL, et al, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Mortgage Foreclosure dated December 7, 2012 and entered in Case No. 28-2009-CA-000971 of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for HIGHLANDS County, Florida wherein BANK OF AMERICAN, N.A., SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO BAC HOME LOANS SERVICING, LP FKA COUNTRYWIDE HOME LOANS SERVICING, LP1, is the Plaintiff and MARSHAS MYRTHIL, THE UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF MARSHAS MYRTHIL; 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 SPOUSE, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEE, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; TENANT #1 N/K/A JERRY VANWY, TENANT #2 N/K/A JENNIFER VANWY, and TENANT #3 N/K/A

1050 Legals

SERGIO CHAVEZ 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 11th day of January, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:
 Plaintiff name has changed pursuant to order previously entered.
 LOT 15, IN BLOCK 1, OF ALTANONT PLACE ADDITION NO. 2, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 10, PAGE 45, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.
 A/K/A 2211-2215 MELADY AVENUE, SEBRING, FL 33870
 Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale
 WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of the Court on December 7, 2012.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE
 Clerk of the Circuit Court
 By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
 Deputy Clerk

Ronald R Wolfe & Associates, P.L.
 P.O. Box 25018
 Tampa, Florida 33622-5018
 F09055290 SPECIALIZED-CONV B/C---Team 4 - F09055290
 **See Americans with Disabilities Act
 In accordance with the Americans Disabilities Act, persons with disabilities needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the individual or agency sending the notice at Echevarria & Associates, P.A., P.O. Box 25018, Tampa, FL 33622-5018, telephone (813) 251-4766, not later than seven (7) days prior to the proceeding. If hearing impaired, (TDD) 1-800-955-8771, or voice (V) 1-800-955-8770, via Florida Relay Service.

December 23, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION
 CASE NO.: 28-2009-CA-001651
 DIVISION:

SUNTRUST BANK, N.A. Plaintiff,
 vs.
 JUAN DE LA CRUZ , et al, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Mortgage Foreclosure dated December 7, 2012 and entered in Case No. 28-2009-CA-001651 of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for HIGHLANDS County, Florida wherein SUNTRUST BANK1, is the Plaintiff and JUAN DE LA CRUZ, et al, 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 14th day of January, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

Plaintiff name has changed pursuant to order previously entered.
 LOT 46, IN BLOCK 73, OF SUN'N LAKE ESTATES OF SEBRING, UNIT 6, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 9, AT PAGE 52, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.
 A/K/A 4309 CORTEZ BOULEVARD, SEBRING, FL 33872
 Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale
 WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of the Court on December 7, 2012.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE
 Clerk of the Circuit Court
 By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
 Deputy Clerk

Ronald R Wolfe & Associates, P.L.
 P.O. Box 25018
 Tampa, Florida 33622-5018
 F09106230 SUNTRUST-CONV---Team 4 - F09106230
 **See Americans with Disabilities Act
 In accordance with the Americans Disabilities Act, persons with disabilities needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the individual or agency sending the notice at Echevarria & Associates, P.A., P.O. Box 25018, Tampa, FL 33622-5018, telephone (813) 251-4766, not later than seven (7) days prior to the proceeding. If hearing impaired, (TDD) 1-800-955-8771, or voice (V) 1-800-955-8770, via Florida Relay Service.

December 23, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CIVIL ACTION
 CASE NO.: 28-2010-CA-000260
 DIVISION:

WELLS FARGO BANK, NA, Plaintiff,
 vs.
 MALLEJIN NAPOLES, et al, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Mortgage Foreclosure dated September 01, 2011 and entered in Case No. 28-2010-CA-000260 of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for HIGHLANDS County, Florida wherein WELLS FARGO BANK, NA is the Plaintiff and MALLEJIN NAPOLES; HILCO RECEIVABLES, LLC, AS ASSIGNEE OF PROVIDIAN/WMB; MIDLAND FUNDING, LLC, AS ASSIGNEE OF ASPIRE VISA; 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 January, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

LOT 173, SEBRING RIDGE, SECTION C, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE 54, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.
 A/K/A 787 MEMORIAL DRIVE, SEBRING, FL 33870
 Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale
 WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of the Court on December 5, 2012.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE
 Clerk of the Circuit Court
 By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
 Deputy Clerk

Ronald R Wolfe & Associates, P.L.
 P.O. Box 25018
 Tampa, Florida 33622-5018
 F10002702 MNMC-PHA--Team 1
 **See Americans with Disabilities Act
 In accordance with the Americans Disabilities Act, persons with disabilities needing a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding should contact the individual or agency sending the notice at Echevarria & Associates, P.A., P.O. Box 25018, Tampa, FL 33622-5018, telephone (813) 251-4766, not later than seven (7) days prior to the proceeding. If hearing impaired, (TDD) 1-800-955-8771, or voice (V) 1-800-955-8770, via Florida Relay Service.

1050 Legals

A/K/A 2103 - 2107 COLMAR AVENUE, SEBRING, FL 33870
 Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale.
 WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of the Court on December 7, 2012.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE
 Clerk of the Circuit Court
 By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
 Deputy Clerk

Ronald R Wolfe & Associates, P.L.
 P.O. Box 25018
 Tampa, Florida 33622-5018
 F10035011 CHASEDIRECT-SPECIFMLC---Team
 3 - F10035011

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

December 23, 30, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
 OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
 IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CIVIL ACTION
 CASE NO.: 28-2012-CA-000641
 DIVISION:

HSBC BANK USA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE HOLDERS OF DEUTSCHE ALT-A SECURITIES MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST, SERIES 2006-AR1, Plaintiff,
 vs.
 R. DANIEL KOPPEN, et al,
 Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Mortgage Foreclosure dated December 06, 2012 and entered in Case No. 28-2012-CA-000641 of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for HIGHLANDS County, Florida wherein HSBC BANK USA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE HOLDERS OF DEUTSCHE ALT-A SECURITIES MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST, SERIES 2006-AR1, is the Plaintiff and R. DANIEL KOPPEN; KAREN KOPPEN; JAMES P. EGAN; SUZETTE EGAN A/K/A SUZETTE EGAN; JAY WEINSTEIN; SUSAN WEINSTEIN; HEARTLAND NATIONAL BANK; TENANT #1 N/A GINA HITT, and TENANT #2 N/A AARON HITT 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 January, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

LOT 52, COUNTRY CLUB LAKE ESTATES, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 8, AT PAGE 44, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.
 A/K/A 504 SPORTSMAN AVENUE, SEBRING, FL 33875-5149

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale.
 WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of the Court on December 7, 2012.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE
 Clerk of the Circuit Court
 By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
 Deputy Clerk

Ronald R Wolfe & Associates, P.L.
 P.O. Box 25018
 Tampa, Florida 33622-5018
 F12000281 WELLSFP-CONV-R-bmellette-Team
 1-F12000281

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

December 16, 23, 2012

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 9th day of January, 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
 December 16, 23, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
 OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
 IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CIVIL ACTION
 CASE NO.: 28 2012 CA 000747
 DIVISION:

WELLS FARGO BANK, NA,
 Plaintiff,
 vs.
 MONA D. SMALLS A/K/A MONA DARLENE
 SMALLS A/K/A MONA SMALL A/K/A MONA
 TRACEY, et al,
 Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Mortgage Foreclosure dated December 04, 2012 and entered in Case No. 28 2012 CA 000747 of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for HIGHLANDS County, Florida wherein WELLS FARGO BANK, NA is the Plaintiff and MONA D. SMALLS A/K/A MONA DARLENE SMALLS A/K/A MONA SMALL A/K/A MONA TRACEY; ALVIN E. SMALLS A/K/A ALVIN EEVERND SMALLS A/K/A ALVIN SMALLS A/K/A ALVIN SMALL; THE UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF ALVIN E. SMALLS A/K/A ALVIN EEVERND SMALLS A/K/A ALVIN SMALLS A/K/A ALVIN SMALL N/A N/A; NEKA SMALLS; WELLS FARGO BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (101 N. PHILLIPS AVENUE SIOUX FALLS, SD 57104) SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO FIRST UNION NATIONAL BANK; CITIBANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (701 EAST 60TH STREET NORTH SIOUX FALLS, SD 57104) SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO CITIBANK (SOUTH DAKOTA), N.A.; STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE; RBS INDUSTRIES, INC. RETIREMENT FUND; HSBC BANK NEVADA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (1111B TOWN CENTER DRIVE LAS VEGAS, NV 89134) SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO HOUSEHOLD BANK (SB), N.A.; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; LVNV FUNDING, LLC; are the Defendants, The Clerk of

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 Email: amarsella@newssun.com

1050 Legals

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 January, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

LOT 11, BLOCK 200, OF SUN 'N LAKE ESTATES, SECTION 19, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 8, PAGE 88, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

A/K/A 458 ALOHA AVENUE, LAKE PLACID, FL 33852-00

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

WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of the Court on December 7, 2012.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE
Clerk of the Court
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
Deputy Clerk

Ronald R Wolfe & Associates, P.L.
P.O. Box 25018
Tampa, Florida 33622-5018
F12005518 WELLSLPS-SPECFNMA-R-mtomlin-son-Team 1-F12005518

**See Americans with Disabilities Act

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

December 16, 23, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION FILE NO. PC 12-270

IN RE: ESTATE OF PHYLLIS A. PSZYK Division Probate Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of PHYLLIS A. PSZYK, deceased, whose date of death was March 9, 2012, is pending in the Circuit Court for HIGHLANDS County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Clerk of the Court, Highlands County Courthouse, 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida 33870. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of PHYLLIS A. PSZYK, deceased, whose date of death was March 9, 2012, is pending in the Circuit Court for HIGHLANDS County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Clerk of the Court, Highlands County Courthouse, 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida 33870. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of PHYLLIS A. PSZYK, deceased, whose date of death was March 9, 2012, is pending in the Circuit Court for HIGHLANDS County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Clerk of the Court, Highlands County Courthouse, 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida 33870. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court

1050 Legals

WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

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

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

The date of first publication of this Notice is December 16, 2012.

Personal Representative: Anna Boothroyd 5342 Ivory Dr. Sebring, Florida 33875

Attorney for Personal Representative: John K. McClure

Attorney for Anna Boothroyd Florida Bar Number: 286958

MCCLURE & LOBOZZO 211 S. Ridgewood Drive Sebring, Florida 33870

Telephone: (863) 402-1888 Fax: (863) 402-2436 E-Mail: kelly@mlaw.net

December 16, 23, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO. 11000634GCS

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF THE CWABS INC., ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-16, PLAINTIFF,

VS. GARY B. BINGER, ET AL., DEFENDANT(S).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated September 20, 2012, in the above action, I will sell to the highest bidder for cash at Highlands, Florida, on April 15, 2013, at 11:00 AM, at Basement of courthouse in Jury Assembly Room - 430 S. Commerce Ave., Sebring, FL 33870 for the following described property:

LOT 60, GOLF HAMMOCK UNIT TWO, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 12, PAGE 47, 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 sixty (60) days after the sale. The Court, in its discretion, may enlarge the time of the sale. Notice of the changed time of sale shall be published as provided herein.

DATED: Clerk of the Circuit Court By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak Deputy Clerk of the Court

Prepared by: Gladstone Law Group, P.A. 1499 W. Palmetto Park Rd., Suite 300 Boca Raton, FL 33486

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you should contact the individual or agency sending the notice at Echevarria & Associates, P.A., P.O. Box 25018, Tampa, FL 33622-5018, telephone (813) 251-4766, not later than seven (7) days prior to the proceeding. If hearing impaired, (TDD) 1-800-955-8771, or voice (V) 1-800-955-8770, via Florida Relay Service.

December 16, 23, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION FILE NO. PC 12-270

IN RE: ESTATE OF PHYLLIS A. PSZYK Division Probate Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of PHYLLIS A. PSZYK, deceased, whose date of death was March 9, 2012, is pending in the Circuit Court for HIGHLANDS County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Clerk of the Court, Highlands County Courthouse, 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida 33870. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of PHYLLIS A. PSZYK, deceased, whose date of death was March 9, 2012, is pending in the Circuit Court for HIGHLANDS County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Clerk of the Court, Highlands County Courthouse, 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida 33870. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of PHYLLIS A. PSZYK, deceased, whose date of death was March 9, 2012, is pending in the Circuit Court for HIGHLANDS County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Clerk of the Court, Highlands County Courthouse, 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida 33870. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

All other creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against decedent's estate must file their claims with this court

ceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact, 255 North Broadway Avenue, Bartow, FL 33830 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.

December 23, 30, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION FILE NO. PC 12-508 Division Probate

IN RE: ESTATE OF RAGNVALD F. KVAAS, Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of RAGNVALD F. KVAAS, deceased, whose date of death was November 16, 2012, and whose social security number is 474-36-3986, is pending in the Circuit Court for Highlands County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is 590 S. Commerce Avenue, Sebring, FL 33870. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

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

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

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

The date of first publication of this Notice is December 16, 2012.

Personal Representative: Sandra Doran 3 E. Elaine Circle Prospect Heights, IL 60070

Attorney for Personal Representative: /s/ Robert E. Livingston Florida Bar No. 0031259 445 S. Commerce Avenue Sebring, Florida 33870 Telephone: (863) 385-5156

December 16, 23, 2012

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION FILE NO. PC 12-270

IN RE: ESTATE OF PHYLLIS A. PSZYK Division Probate Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The administration of the estate of PHYLLIS A. PSZYK, deceased, whose date of death was March 9, 2012, is pending in the Circuit Court for HIGHLANDS County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of which is Clerk of the Court, Highlands County Courthouse, 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida 33870. The names and addresses of the personal representative and the personal representative's attorney are set forth below.

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1055 Highlands County Legals

HIGHLANDS COUNTY LEGAL NOTICES

The following legal notices are from the Highlands County Board of County Commissioners and are being published in the font, size, and leading as per their specifications.

1100 Announcements

CHECK YOUR AD

Please check your ad on the first day it runs to make sure it is correct. Sometimes instructions over the phone are misunderstood and an error can occur. If this happens to you, please call us the first day your ad appears and we will be happy to fix it as soon as we can. If we can assist you, please call us: **385-6155 News-Sun Classified**

1200 Lost & Found

FOUND SMALL Dog. Avon Park area on Thursday 12-13. Call 772-321-2730

2000 Employment

DR'S OFFICE in Lake Placid hiring full time MEDICAL ASSISTANT. Send reply to Box 119, The News-Sun, 2227 U.S. 27 South, Sebring FL, 33870.

2100 Help Wanted

BUSY EYE CLINIC has openings in all positions, F/T & P/T. Send resume to: P.O. Box 991 Lake Placid Fl. 33852

BUSY REAL ESTATE OFFICE Seeking full time, licensed Buyer's Agent to handle 12+ leads a week. Call Susan Compton at Century 21 Compton Realty (863) 465-4158 or send resume to compton@htn.net

DELIVERY TRUCK DRIVER For ORNAMENTAL NURSERY Apply: Peace River Growers, 3521 N. Nursery Road, Zolfo Springs. Florida 33890. EOE

EXPERIENCED SECRETARY Part Time, Seasonal, with knowledge of Word. Tuesday - Friday, Noon - 4pm, Background Check & Finger Printing required. Cell 954-240-8193

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

SUNSHINE PAYDAY LOANS Full time clerk needed Must be organized and Have excellent Customer Service skills Fax resumes to: 863-678-2170

Classified ads get fast results

4000 Real Estate

4080 Homes for Sale Sebring

* BEAUTIFUL - FURNISHED * Dbl. Wide in Woodhaven Estates, 1400 sq. ft. 2BR, 2BA, spacious Master BR w/ walk in shower & closet, breakfast bar, vaulted ceilings, upgraded furn., & appliances, irrigation system. \$48,900.00. 717-264-0904

LEASE / LEASE OPTION *SUN 'N LAKES* 3000 + sq. ft., 3/BR / 2BA, 2/C.G. Owner Will Finance up to 65% of selling price. For info on financing, Call 954-270-5242

5000 Mobile Homes

5050 Mobile Homes For Sale

AVON PARK *PRICE REDUCED* Furn. 2br / 2ba, w/ Land. Rent Free. Not in a park. Renovated / Painted / New Laminate / Carpets / Kit Cupboards. Just bring a toothbrush. 863-453-4338

PALM HARBOR HOMES New Home Stimulus \$5K for your used Mobile Home Any Condition 800-622-2632 ext 210

SEBRING - Mobile Home / Double wide with 2 Lots. 2BR, 2BA Utility Room, Carport, Frt. Porch, Deed restrictions, 115 Sunbird Place. 55+ \$39,900.00 863-382-4141 Or 863-414-7090

6000 Rentals

6050 Duplexes for Rent

SEBRING CUTE 2BR, 1Ba, Tile floors, Screen porch. Quiet Area near Mall. Most pets OK. 1928 Theodore St. RENTED!!!!

SEBRING NICE 2/1 DUPLEX. Great location, washer & dryer in unit. \$550/mo. plus \$5



Courtesy photo

Sgt. Dave Stewart, Deputy Wayne Gunn, Lt. Jack Bailey, Deputy Ernest Gelinas, Sgt. Kyle Albritton, Det. Chris Gunter, Deputy Alfredo Campos, and Sgt. Mike Delaney make up the Highlands County SWAT competition team.

Highlands SWAT team competes in event

Special to the News-Sun
SEBRING — The Highlands County Sheriff's Office Special Weapons And Tactics (SWAT) team participated in the 30th Anniversary SWAT Roundup International held at the Orange County Sheriff's Office Range Dec. 2-7. The event featured 51 teams from across the globe and included education, training, a trade show and competition.

The Orange County Sheriff's Office, Orlando Police Department, Florida SWAT Association, Winter Park Police Department, Maitland Police Department and the Criminal Justice Institute at Valencia Community College collaborated to present this event. Along with several teams from across Florida and the

United States, teams from Sweden, Bosnia, Hungary, Jamaica, St. Maarten, Brazil, Switzerland and Romania took part.

The competition was made up of six individual challenges: Hostage Rescue, Two Man-Four Gun Challenge, Pricher Scramble, Officer Rescue, Tower Scramble and Obstacle Course. The Marion County Sheriff's Office team won the overall title with San Antonio (Texas) Police Department finishing second. The Highlands County Sheriff's Office team finished a commendable 25th in the competition, which included an 11th place finish in the Two Man Four Gun Challenge and a 15th place in the Obstacle Course segment.

HCSO Lieutenant Jack Bailey, SWAT Team leader,

was very pleased with the performance of the team. "For some of the teams in this competition, SWAT is their only duty where our team members are full time deputies and participate in SWAT on a part-time basis. Taking this into consideration, I feel we did an exemplary job and I'm very proud of the performance of our team."

According to Sheriff Susan Benton, "We should be so proud of our team, not just for their performance but for their readiness and willingness to serve our citizens at this advance level in these dangerous situations."

For complete results of the 30th Anniversary SWAT Roundup International, you may visit www.swatroundup.net.

Sheriff's Office issues holiday safety tips

Special to the News-Sun
With the holiday season in full swing, people are busy with thoughts of gifts to buy, meals to prepare and guests to entertain. Sometimes these activities lead to carelessness in daily routines and normal safety precautions.

The following tips are brought to you by the Highlands County Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention Unit in order to help you have a safe holiday season:

'Please pray for our deputies who will be working throughout the holidays that they are able to serve you well and go home safely to their families.'

SUSAN BENTON
sheriff

At home

- Be sure to lock doors and windows when leaving, even for a short time.
- Keep holiday gifts from being seen through a window or doorway. Store gifts before leaving.
- Turn on lights and radio or television when going out for the evening to give the appearance that someone is in the house.
- If you are leaving for the holiday, put some lights on timers to come on at various times of the night throughout the house. Also remember to stop mail and paper deliveries until you return.
- Be wary of strangers soliciting charitable donations. Ask for identification and how the money will be spent.
- Avoid leaving boxes from purchases on the curb for trash pick-up. Take an extra moment and break down the box so the previous contents are not readily identifiable.

When shopping

- Shop in daylight hours if possible. If your shopping

- goes into night time hours, park in a lighted area with plenty of pedestrian traffic. Never park in an isolated area or in a dark parking lot.
- If you make a trip to your car and deposit packages, lock them in the trunk. You may even want to re-park the car in another safe location, closer to your next shopping destination. Always lock the car also, to keep thieves from accessing the trunk through the trunk release located in the glove compartment.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash. Pay for purchases with credit or debit cards when possible. This also gives you a record of your purchases in the event something needs to be returned.
- Be extra careful with purses and wallets. Do not put purses in shopping carts, and keep wallets in an inside jacket pocket, not a back trouser pocket.
- Be aware of the proximity of your children. Teach them to go to a store clerk or

cashier if you become separated.

Holiday parties

- Choose the designated driver before anyone starts drinking. The designated driver is someone who has not consumed any alcoholic beverages.
- Don't let guests drink and drive. Provide alternative transportation for intoxicated persons.
- Have non-alcoholic beverages available for party guests and designated drivers.
- Serve food before serving alcoholic beverages. High protein foods stay in the stomach longer and delay the absorption of alcohol into the system so be sure to have some of these on your menu.

Most importantly, take a little extra time to arrive at your destination safely.

And Sheriff Susan Benton adds, "Hug each other and tell your loved ones how much they mean to you. Please pray for our deputies who will be working throughout the holidays that they are able to serve you well and go home safely to their families."

"God bless you and I wish you all a very safe holiday."

Get the paper



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NEWS-SUN • 385-6155

Warmest wishes to you and your family

Wauchula State Bank
Established 1929

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SECTION D SPORTS

News-Sun

Sunday, December 23, 2012

AP Mitey Mites honored for three-peat



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE

Avon Park Youth Football head coach Reggie Knighten and his three-time Mitey Mite Super Bowl champions were honored at halftime of Thursday's Lady Devil win over Lake Gibson. Knighten spoke to his players and the crowd about perseverance and playing with heart as winning strategies on the field and in life. And if the results have been any indication, his young players are certainly on the right track.

UCF's Bortles dominates in Beef 'O' Brady's Bowl

By FRED GOODALL
Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG — Blake Bortles is just one of the reasons why Central Florida feels good about its chances of being successful in the new-look Big East.

The red-shirt sophomore turned the Beef 'O' Brady's Bowl into a personal showcase Friday night, throwing for three touchdowns and running for another to pace a 38-17 victory over Ball State in UCF's final game as a member of Conference USA — a league the Knights won twice in eight seasons.

"He's an outstanding player, and he scared me ... coming in with his feet and

his ability to escape in the pocket and keep his eyes down the field and make plays," Ball State coach Pete Lembo said.

"He did that basically from the beginning of the game until the end when he came out," Lembo added. "I can't believe that this guy's not going to be a pro prospect if he continues to develop the way he has. So I'm very, very impressed with him and obviously the supporting cast."

Bortles directed a balanced attack that gained 494 yards total offense.

UCF's defense did its part by holding the high-scoring Cardinals to their lowest point total of the

season. "Offensively, this is one of the best games we had all year," Bortles said. "Everyone just really picked up and went, and that's why we won the way we did."

Bortles threw for 271 yards and three touchdowns.

The red-shirt sophomore also rushed for a career-high 80 yards and scored on a 6-yard run that helped UCF (10-4) build a 21-point halftime lead.

"I thought Blake did everything he needed to do by making the right decisions," UCF coach George

See KNIGHTS, Page 5D

Dragons take two from ever-improving Avon Park

By DAN HOEHNE
daniel.hoehne@newsun.com

AVON PARK — A high-scoring first half paved the way to the Lady Dragons 5-0 win over Avon Park Thursday night, though that result was also a testament to the continued progress seen by the Lady Red Devils.

"We know it's a rebuilding year," head coach Chris Sboto said. "So it's all just about making progress as we go."

Lake Placid That might have been a bit hard to see at times, early on.

5
Avon Park **0** For though they battled, the hard-charging Lake Placid offense broke onto the scoreboard just under nine minutes in when Jenna Blount lofted a kick from 30-yards out that sailed just over the leaping hands of Avon Park keeper Rosa Cuellar, and just under the crossbar.

Less than two minutes later, Michelle Hunter got past the defense on a break and hammered a shot home for a 2-0 lead.

The Lady Devils were able to seize control at times and boot it deep for breakaways and scoring chances — though



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE

Michelle Hunter clears the ball away from Avon Park's Darlene Satine on this possession and would later use her powerful left leg to score one of Lake Placid's goals in Thursday's 5-0 win.

none would quite come to fruition with Dragon keeper Tamija Douglas able to cover what shots came her way.

Back on the attack, Lake

Placid had a corner kick in the 20th minute that saw the ball disappear into a mass of bodies, get deflected out, but collected and cashed in by

Sonia Becerra for a 3-0 Lady Dragon lead.

It held there until the 26th

See LP, Page 4D

Seminole stifles Blue Streaks

By LAUREN WELBORN
News-Sun correspondent

SEBRING — Perhaps the Christmas vacation started a bit too early for the Sebring boys' varsity basketball team, as a sluggish start and a few too many missed opportunities led to a 63-32 loss to Bradenton Southeast Thursday night.

Twelve consecutive Seminole points went unanswered in the first quarter before Quantre Rouse drained a three-pointer at the 1:44 mark to put the Streaks on the board.

Ezell Gammage and Connor Cook added some successful shots of their own before ending the quarter.

With the board now at 14-7, the Streaks offense seemed to be working out some the kinks.

The start of the second quarter, however, began with another Southeast run.

But this time, only seven Seminole points went up before Sebring would respond, with Gammage offering up a two-pointer to put the score at 21-9.

An extended scramble below the net finally saw a lay-up for Luke Ancrum

shortly thereafter.

Ancrum shared the title of point leader of the night along with Conner Cook, each with a total of five points for Sebring.

Cook and Duran Randolph put up a few more for Sebring in the second, to prove they still had a little fight left in them.

However, Bradenton Southeast point leader Antonio Roy also offered up two of his twelve points in the second quarter.

Along with the supporting efforts of his Seminole teammates, Roy and Southeast held onto the lead going into halftime, 38-14.

Despite Gary DeMarest making the first shot of the second half, the Steaks could not make sufficient enough gains to catch up to the Bradenton bunch in the third, seeing a deficit of 39 points.

With the gap in score came a running clock during the fourth quarter, which really put the pressure on Sebring to step up their game.

Terrell Williams, Kevin Alvarado and Decarus Jones responded to the pressure, but the final

See SEBRING, Page 5D

Champion Eagles earn their Day



Courtesy photo

Mayor George Hensley holds up the Super Bowl Championship trophy won by the Highlands Youth Football Junior Varsity Eagles as he honored the team with a proclamation for their own day Tuesday, Dec. 4.

Special to the News-Sun
SEBRING — The Highlands Eagles Junior Varsity Team made history in Sebring on Saturday, Nov. 17, as they won the Super Bowl Championship.

This was the first team from Sebring to make it to the big game and win the championship.

This victory has brought so much to this JV Team and will literally go down in the history books in the City of Sebring as they were honored by the Mayor George Hensley and the City Commissioners at the council meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 4, at 6 p.m.

Coach Cliff Howell, coach Sonny Harris and some of the players from the Eagles squad, along with their families, attended the meeting.

As the meeting was called to order, Mayor Hensley took

the podium to address the audience.

He began by addressing the coaches and families discussing the importance of working with the youth of our city and thanking them for giving so much to youth sports programs in an effort to support their children.

Mayor Hensley continued by congratulating coach Howell and Harris and the players on their successful season and the Super Bowl victory as he began to read aloud the following:

"Whereas, on October 13, 2012, the Highlands Eagles Junior Varsity football team, finished the regular season defeating all of their opponents, giving them undefeated status with a perfect 10-win and 0-loss record, defeating their opponents by a com-

See EAGLES, Page 5D



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE

Conner Cook looks to get the offense going Friday night and would tie for team-high scoring honors. But there just wasn't enough scoring to keep things close with visiting Southeast.



THE SCOREBOARD

LIVE SPORTS ON TV



COLLEGE BASKETBALL SUNDAY

11:30 p.m. Diamond Head Classic, Semifinal. ESPN2
7:30 p.m. Diamond Head Classic, 3rd-place game ESPN2
9:30 p.m. Diamond Head Classic, Final ESPN2

COLLEGE FOOTBALL MONDAY

8 p.m. Sheraton Hawaii Bowl— Fresno State vs. Southern Methodist ESPN

NBA TUESDAY

Noon Boston at Brooklyn. ESPN
3 p.m. New York at L.A. Lakers ABC
5:30 p.m. Oklahoma City at Miami. ABC
8 p.m. Houston at Chicago ESPN
10:30 p.m. Denver at L.A. Clippers ESPN

NFL SUNDAY

1 p.m. Cincinnati at Pittsburgh. CBS-6
1 p.m. St. Louis at Tampa Bay FOX
4 p.m. Regional — Chicago at Arizona or N.Y. Giants at Baltimore FOX
8:20 p.m. San Francisco at Seattle. NBC

SKIING SUNDAY

2 p.m. Audi Birds of Prey, Giant Slalom NBC
Times, games, channels all subject to change

Atlanta	15	9	.625	2.5
Orlando	12	14	.462	6.5
Charlotte	7	19	.269	11.5
Washington	3	21	.125	14.5

Central Division

Chicago	15	10	.600	—
Milwaukee	14	11	.560	1
Indiana	15	12	.556	1
Detroit	8	21	.276	9
Cleveland	5	23	.179	11.5

WESTERN CONFERENCE Southwest Division

Memphis	18	6	.750	—
San Antonio	20	8	.714	—
Houston	13	12	.520	5.5
Dallas	12	15	.444	7.5
New Orleans	5	21	.192	14

Northwest Division

Oklahoma City	21	5	.808	—
Minnesota	13	11	.542	7
Denver	14	13	.519	7.5
Utah	14	13	.519	7.5
Portland	12	12	.500	8

Pacific Division

L.A. Clippers	20	6	.769	—
Golden State	18	9	.667	2.5
L.A. Lakers	12	14	.462	8
Phoenix	11	15	.423	9
Sacramento	8	18	.308	12

Thursday's Games

Minnesota 99, Oklahoma City 93
 Miami 110, Dallas 95
 Portland 101, Denver 93

Friday's Games

Philadelphia 99, Atlanta 80
 Toronto 93, Orlando 90
 Milwaukee 99, Boston 94, OT
 Chicago 110, New York 106
 Indiana 99, Cleveland 89
 Detroit 100, Washington 68
 Memphis 92, Dallas 82
 San Antonio 99, New Orleans 94
 Golden State 115, Charlotte 100
 L.A. Clippers 97, Sacramento 85

Saturday's Games

Chicago at Atlanta, late
 Detroit at Washington, late
 Utah at Miami, late
 Memphis at Houston, late
 Indiana at New Orleans, late
 Cleveland at Milwaukee, late
 Charlotte at Denver, late
 Phoenix at Portland, late
 L.A. Lakers at Golden State, late

Sunday's Games

Philadelphia at Brooklyn, 3 p.m.
 Minnesota at New York, 5 p.m.
 Utah at Orlando, 6 p.m.
 Dallas at San Antonio, 7 p.m.
 L.A. Clippers at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
 Portland at Sacramento, 9 p.m.

LEADERS

Scoring

	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Bryant, LAL	257	198	768	29.5
Anthony, NYK	212	137	617	28.0
Durant, OKC	234	216	725	27.9
Harden, HOU	179	206	610	25.4
James, MIA	227	92	575	25.2
Westbrook, OKC	194	131	557	21.4
Pierce, BOS	177	141	545	21.0
Aldridge, POR	184	93	461	21.0
Curry, GOL	187	91	545	20.2
Lee, GOL	225	89	539	20.0

Rebounds

	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG
Varejao, CLE	138	223	361	14.4
Randolph, MEM	117	192	309	12.9
Howard, LAL	101	215	316	12.2
Asik, HOU	83	201	284	11.4
Lee, GOL	87	216	303	11.2
Hickson, POR	95	153	248	10.8
Noah, CHI	94	173	267	10.7
Duncan, SAN	50	230	280	10.4
Jefferson, UTA	59	206	265	10.2
Chandler, NYK	112	147	259	10.0

Assists

	G	AST	AVG
Rondo, BOS	23	281	12.2
Paul, LAC	26	245	9.4
Westbrook, OKC	26	230	8.8
Holiday, PHL	23	203	8.8
Vasquez, NOR	26	225	8.7
Williams, Bro	25	205	8.2
Calderon, TOR	28	210	7.5
Parker, SAN	26	188	7.2
Lawson, DEN	27	189	7.0
James, MIA	23	156	6.8

M. Williams, UTA	23	156	6.8
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STEALS

Paul, LAC	26	68	2.62
Conley, MEM	23	56	2.43
Jennings, MIL	25	57	2.28
Westbrook, OKC	26	54	2.08
Rondo, BOS	23	47	2.04

BLOCKS

Ibaka, OKC	26	80	3.08
Sanders, MIL	24	71	2.96
Hibbert, IND	27	75	2.78
Howard, LAL	26	68	2.62
Duncan, SAN	27	69	2.56

Transactions

BASEBALL

MAJOR LEAGUE
 BASEBALL—Suspended Atlanta RHP Billy Bullock 50 games following a second violation for a drug of abuse under the minor league drug prevention and treatment program.

American League
 BALTIMORE ORIOLES—Assigned OF Steve Pearce outright to Norfolk (IL).
 DETROIT TIGERS—Announced SS Gustavo Nunez, Rule 5 draft selection, was returned by the Arizona Diamondbacks which sent him outright to Toledo (IL).
 HOUSTON ASTROS—Agreed to terms with RHP Jose Veras on a one-year contract.

MINNESOTA TWINS—Agreed to terms with RHP Rich Harden on a minor league contract.
 NEW YORK YANKEES—Sent RHP Jim Miller outright to Scranton/Wilkes-Barre (IL).

SEATTLE MARINERS—Agreed to terms with RHP Jeremy Bolderman on a minor league contract.
 TORONTO BLUE JAYS—Claimed OF/INF Russ Szalner off waivers from the Cleveland (AL). Assigned RHP Mickey Storey outright to Buffalo (IL).

National League

CHICAGO CUBS—Agreed to terms with OF Nate Schierholtz on a one-year contract. Announced LHP Jeff Beliveau was claimed off waivers by Texas and RHP Sandy Rosario was claimed off waivers by San Francisco. Announced LHP Gerardo Concepcion cleared waivers and was assigned outright to Kane County (MWL).

MILWAUKEE BREWERS—Agreed to terms with LHP Tom Gorzelanny on a two-year contract.
 SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS—Claimed RHP Sandy Rosario off waivers from Chicago Cubs.

FOOTBALL

National Football League
 NFL—Fined Atlanta S Chris Hope \$30,000 for his helmet-to-helmet hit on New York Giants WR Victor Cruz in a game on Dec. 16. Fined Atlanta WR Roddy White and New York Giants CB Corey Webster \$7,875 apiece for a skirmish during the game. Fined San Francisco S Dashon Goldson \$21,000 for an illegal hit; Tennessee DE Antonio Smith and New York Jets DE Quinton Coples \$15,750 each for helmet-to-helmet hits; Baltimore WR Anquan Boldin and Baltimore CB Cary Williams \$15,750 each for unnecessary roughness; and San Diego CB Antoine Cason and Tennessee S Jordan Babineaux \$7,875 apiece for unnecessary roughness.

JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS—Claimed RB Jonathan Grimes off waivers from Houston.
 MINNESOTA VIKINGS—Reinstated CB Chris Cook from injured reserve.

COLLEGE

NCAA—Suspended Texas basketball player Myck Kabongo for 23 games for accepting impermissible benefits and providing false statements during an investigation into the infractions. The suspension included the 10 games he has already missed.

CALIFORNIA—Named Barry Sacks defensive line coach and Randy Stewart defensive backs coach.
 LIMESTONE—Named Drew Anthony recruiting and defensive coordinator.

LOCAL SCHEDULE



THURSDAY: Girls Basketball vs. Tenoroc, 12/2:30 p.m.
THURSDAY, Jan. 3: Girls Basketball at Fort Meade
FRIDAY, Jan. 4: Boys Basketball vs. Sebring, 6/7:30 p.m.; Boys Soccer at All Saints Academy, Noon; Girls Soccer at All Saints Academy, 10 a.m.
SATURDAY, Jan. 5: Boys Basketball vs. Kathleen, 7:30 p.m.; Girls Basketball vs. Kathleen, 6 p.m.



THURSDAY, Jan. 3: Boys Basketball vs. Sebring, 6/7:30 p.m.
FRIDAY, Jan. 4: Boys Basketball vs. Okeechobee, 6/7:30 p.m.
MONDAY, Jan. 7: Girls Basketball at Clewiston, 6/7:30 p.m.; Girls Soccer at Sebring, 6/7:30 p.m.



THURSDAY: Boys Basketball hosts Taveniere Tournament, TBA
FRIDAY: Boys Basketball hosts Taveniere Tournament, TBA
SATURDAY: Boys Basketball hosts Taveniere Tournament, TBA
THURSDAY, Jan. 3: Boys Basketball at Lake Placid, 6/7:30 p.m.

SPORTS SNAPSHOTS

YMCA Last Day 5K

SEBRING – The YMCA is looking forward to bringing in the New Year with our 3rd annual Last Day 5K.

The race will take place at the Y on Saturday, Dec. 29.

The cost is \$20 by December 26 or \$25 anytime after that.

Children 10 years old and under are \$10. Pre-registration starts at 8 a.m. and goes to 8:45 a.m. on race day, race time is 9 a.m.

Any questions, call 382-9622.

Winter Leagues

SEBRING – The Highlands County Parks and Natural Resources Department announces that the 2013 Winter Softball Leagues will start the week of January 14.

Leagues will include Women's, Church and Recreational and are open to all adults and youth, 16-years and older.

Registration and fees are due by Monday, Jan. 7 - No Exceptions!

Fees are \$375 per team that includes a \$15 sanctioning fee for the year.

For any further information please call Bob Keefe at 381-8284 or leave a message at 402-6755.

Golf Fore a Cure

SEBRING – At the Wednesday, Dec. 5, meeting of the Tanglewood Golf Association (TGA), Dave Napier, Director of Golf, announced that TGA would be sponsoring the 8th annual Golf Fore a Cure charity golf tournament to be held at Pinecrest G.C. on Saturday, Feb. 9.

The tournament has raised close to \$40,000 for breast cancer research since its inception and is now an integral part of Tanglewood's annual cancer benefit.

The tournament will have a scramble format with prizes for the top teams in each category.

Lunch is included in the \$50 entry fee.

There will also be a raffle, 50/50 draw and an auction.

Registration begins on Saturday, Jan. 5.

At this point, Alan J. Holmes of Edward Jones has committed to sponsoring the event.

A co-sponsor is also being sought.

A large group of volunteers will be canvassing local businesses seeking hole sponsorships for \$75, as well as prizes to be raffled or auctioned.

For further information about hole sponsorships or to contribute a prize please call 382-8349.

Tanglewood Pickleball

SEBRING – A whopping 145 members signed up for the Tanglewood Pickleball Association's 2012 season and members are now being registered for 2013.

At least two dozen of these players can be seen outside the gates to Tanglewood's four pickleball courts early each morning, waiting for the courts to open and the first serves to cross the nets at precisely 8 a.m.

Pickleball has really caught on here in Tanglewood, as it has across the continent.

It is well-suited to seniors due to the badminton size court which greatly reduces the distances to be covered.

It is a fast-paced partners game which

requires excellent had-eye coordination.

Tanglewood is pleased to be hosting one of Florida's first Pickleball Tournaments of 2013 on Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 5 and 6, when teams from surrounding communities will take to the courts for the annual Winter Classic Pickleball Tournament.

These games will be based on skill level as opposed to age bracket.

Franza induction

AVON PARK – It's never too early to secure a spot to take in Joe Franza's induction into the Florida Athletic Coaches Association Hall of Fame.

Tickets are not available at the door.

The 37th FACA Hall of Fame induction ceremonies will be on Saturday, Jan. 12, 2013 at the Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront Resort, beginning with a Noon luncheon.

The luncheon and induction are open to all friends and family, at \$35 per person if purchased prior to Friday, Dec. 21.

Tickets after this dates will be \$50 each, and no tickets will be sold after Friday, Jan. 4.

Luncheon tickets can be purchased by contacting FACA at (850) 727-8117, or PO Box 13805, Tallahassee, FL 32317.

Tickets are not mailed, but held at the door for pick up.

Hotel reservations are available at (386) 254-8200 – Please request the FACA Group rate of \$99.

The Hall of Fame is the highest honor given by the FACA and is designed to recognize FACA members for years of coaching tenure in Florida high schools, for dedication to the FACA and for outstanding coaching accomplishments.

Don't miss out on seeing one of Highlands County's own bestowed with this great honor.

LP Senior Softball

LAKE PLACID – Lake Placid Senior Softball is currently holding practice on Wednesdays at 9 a.m. at the Lake June Ballfield.

If you are 50+ and enjoy playing the game for fun, come out, hit and field a few, and get ready for the 2013 season which opens the first week in January.

For information, visit lpssoftball.com.

Highlands Senior Softball

SEBRING – The Highlands County Senior softball over 60 league will be playing starting play on Monday, Jan. 7, with games taking place each Monday and Wednesday.

To sign up, or for more information, call John Kloet at 655-5241 or Steve Blazing at 382-6442.

Sebring 70s Softball

SEBRING – Seniors 70 and older will be organizing a league starting in early January.

It will be a drafted league. Games will be played at the Highlands County Sports Complex on Tuesday's and Thursday's starting at 10 a.m.

Interested seniors should contact Harry Bell at 382-0542 or Bill Todd at 385-5632, or see them at the Sports Complex on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

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News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE
In the midst of leaping Lady Dragons and Devils, that's Avon Park goalkeeper Rosa Cuellar deflecting the corner kick away Thursday night.

LP takes two, AP looking better

Continued from 1D

minute when another break-away added to it.

This time, it was Yarensi Sanchez who slipped past and secured the long pass before powering a shot into the net.

Later, with just over two minutes left in the half, freshman Mary Grace Bates capped off the scoring when she gathered a loose ball in the goalie box and punched it in.

Capped off the scoring, not just for the half but for the match as well, as the Lady Devil defense kicked it up a notch in the second half and held serve over the final 40 minutes to at least take some solace on the night.

"Lake Placid is such a

good team and strong program, they showed what they're capable of in the first half," Sbotto said. "They're the sort of team you can't

'That showed the way we're capable of playing.'

CHRIS SBOTO

Lady Devil head coach

make a mistake against or else they will take advantage in a hurry.

"But we continued to play hard throughout, and to be able to stay with them and keep them off the board in the second half, that's defi-

nately something to be proud of," he continued. "That showed the way we're capable of playing."

In the nightcap of the co-ed twin-bill, the Lake Placid boys stayed ahead of an also improving Red Devil squad for a 3-0 win.

Both teams will have some time off for the holidays before returning to the pitch.

The Avon Park teams travel to All Saints Academy Friday, Jan. 4, for an early pair of matches with the girls playing at 10 a.m. and the boys at Noon.

The Lake Placid boys are off until Tuesday, Jan. 8, before hosting LaBelle, while the Lady Dragons visit Sebring Monday, Jan. 7, before traveling to Clewiston the following night.

Jaguars claim RB Grimes

Associated Press.

JACKSONVILLE — The Jacksonville Jaguars have claimed running back Jonathan Grimes off waivers from Houston.

Grimes played in nine games this season, six with the Texans and three with the New York Jets.

He carried twice for 6 yards with the Jets.

The Jaguars needed depth at running back. Maurice Jones-Drew (foot) and Rashad Jennings (concussion/shoulder) are out Sunday against New England, and backups Jalen Parmele and Jordan Todman are on injured reserve.

An undrafted rookie from William and Mary, Grimes had a team-best 130 yards

rushing for Houston in the preseason.

He was waived in final cuts and signed to the practice squad.

The Jets claimed him in September and waived him Oct. 30.

The Texans claimed him the following day and parted ways with him Thursday.

FTA Heartland December Activities

Friday-Saturday, Dec. 29-30

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

This is a follow-up to the Backpacking 101 Course held on Dec. 1 and is only those

who have completed the Backpacking 101 Course or those who have had previous backpacking experience.

The trail leads through moderately rolling hills with pine forests, prairies, wetlands, scrub and marshy lakeshore

along Lake Arbuckle.

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

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

Plenty going on at the YMCA

Special to the News-Sun
SEBRING — Bruce Moellendick, former PGA trainer, is the instructor for the YMCA's youth golf program starting in December.

The classes will be held twice a week for four weeks for ages 5 to 15, cost is \$35 for members, \$45 for non-members.

For more information on this program please contact us at 382-9622 ask for Kevin Stoker.

Master Val Henry and Master Hank Henry have joined the YMCA team in providing authentic traditional martial arts.

Master Henry has trained many state, national, and international champions over the past 24 years.

Classes are Tuesday and Thursday from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. starting at the beginning of each month.

Cost is \$50 for members, \$60 for non-members.

We at the YMCA also offer a wonderful Gymnastics program starting from preschool to advance.

If you would like to get your child in Gymnastics call the "Y" and ask out about our classes.

We do registration at the

beginning of each month. Prices have been pro-rated due to the holiday season.

Upcoming Events

YMCA's Last Day 5K - The YMCA is looking forward to bringing in the New Year with our 3rd annual Last Day 5K.

The race will take place at the Y on Saturday, Dec. 29.

The cost is \$20 by December 26 or \$25 anytime after that.

Children 10 years old and under are \$10.

Pre-registration starts at 8 a.m. and goes to 8:45 a.m. on race day, race time is 9 a.m.

Camp Holiday Hoopla - The YMCA is offering 8 days of fantastic fun.

The Camp Holiday Hoopla will be taking place December 20, 21, 26-28, and January 2-4.

The camp hours will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and it will include a wide range of activities like arts and crafts, gymnastics, a field trip, fitness and nutrition, and all kinds of sports.

Ages include 5-12 and camp fees are \$15 for one time registration, a \$20 daily fee, or if you would like to

do all eight days it is \$125. T-shirts and lunch will be provided.

Open House at the "Y" - Looking to join a gym that fits your needs? Why not join the YMCA?

We have been meeting the needs of Highlands County for over 25 years and we offer something for everyone.

On Saturday, Jan. 5, stop in to the Highlands County Family YMCA for our Open House.

From 9 a.m.-2 p.m. the YMCA will be giving free tours and offering membership specials that include waiving joiner fees, health assessments, and BOGO rates on our daily punch cards.

YMCA has not only one, but two heated pools and a splash pad for your family to enjoy.

Come check us out and enjoy the water.

Pool Hours - Monday-Friday - 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday - 8 a.m.-4:45 p.m.; Sunday - 11 a.m.-4:45 p.m.

For questions contact the "Y" at 382-9622.

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Eagles honored with 'Champions Day'

Continued from 1D

bined score of 229 to 47 points.

Whereas, on November 3, 2012, the Highlands Eagles Junior Varsity football team defeated the Dundee Hornets 40-6 in round two of the playoffs to move on to the NFC Junior Varsity Championship Game

Whereas, on November 10, 2012, the Highlands Eagles Junior Varsity football team defeated the Auburndale Bulls 6-0 to become the first NFC Divisional Champions in the Sunshine Police Athletic League (PAL) Conference, Junior Varsity Division.

Whereas, on November 17, 2012, the Highlands Eagles Junior Varsity football team faced the undefeated Lakeland Hurricanes and defeated them 19-12 in overtime to become the Sunshine PAL Junior Varsity

Super Bowl Champions at Firemen's Field in Sebring, Florida.

Whereas, this was the first time ever a Youth Super Bowl Championship football game has been held in Highlands County; a local team played in a Super Bowl game in Sebring and the first team to win the Super Bowl Championship game in Sebring.

Whereas, this was the first time any team from the Highlands Youth Football and Cheer organization successfully made it to the championship round and the first Highlands Eagles team to win the Super Bowl Championship.

Now therefore, be it Proclaimed, that I, George Hensley, Mayor of the City of Sebring, Florida do hereby proclaim that December 4, 2012, shall be recognized and celebrated as Highlands Eagles Junior Varsity Super

Bowl Champions Day in the City of Sebring, Florida and encourage all residents to extend congratulations to the coaches and players for their outstanding performance."

As the Eagles JV coaches and players stood proudly before the Council and audience, Mayor Hensley presented each player and the coaches with a signed copy of the Proclamation and shook hands with them all.

Mayor Hensley talked with the players about positions they played and asked the players if they had any stories they would like to share that occurred during the season.

Rodrigo Nolan shared that he forgot his helmet and shoulder pads during the NFC Championship game in Haines City and had to borrow some from the Pee Wee team to play in the game.

Coch Harris shared that

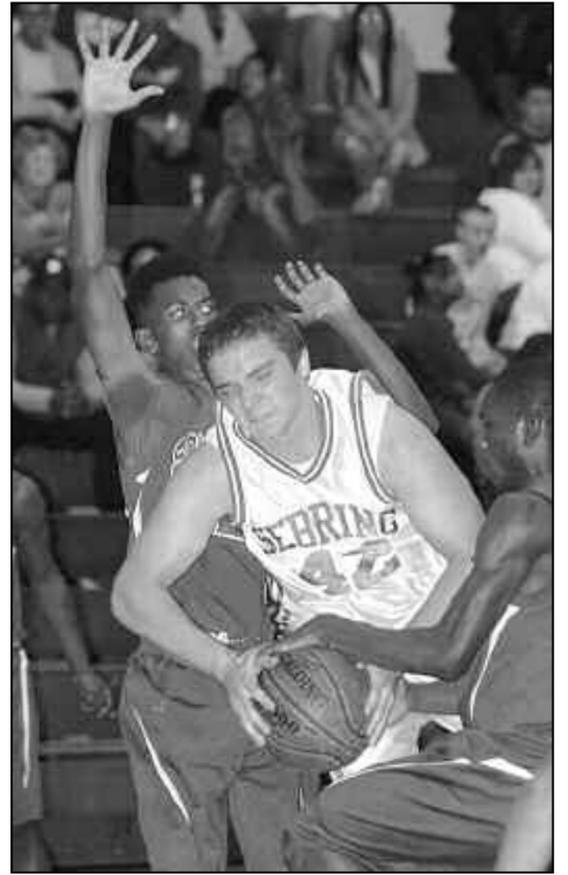
the football book got soaked in the rain because it got left in coach Howell's truck, and Jalen Williams shared that he left his shoes in Dundee during an away game.

Coch Harris and Howell showed Mayor Hensley the Super Bowl trophy and the Mayor proudly took the trophy and held it up high for the council and audience to see as everyone in the audience applauded.

Coch Howell and Harris both thanked Mayor Hensley for this honor and privilege.

This was another memorable moment to go along with the victory of the Super Bowl.

This was the first time ever any youth football team or organization in the City of Sebring to have a Proclamation awarded to them and they certainly earned it.



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE
Gary DeMarest found the traffic pretty heavy in the lane against Southeast Friday night.

Sebring falls Friday

Continued from 1D

point went to a Seminole free-throw in the last seconds to finalize their win 63-32.

This defeat bit just as hard as the frigid weather outside, as the Streaks have faced similar struggles this season.

"They didn't show up," said head coach Princeton Harris. "They had no type of intensity, no type of fight."

"We've got to keep working. They've got to come to

be ready; you can't take days off."

They will have a few days off to enjoy the holiday, of course, but better have their game faces on Thursday as they host the opening night of the annual Taveniere Tournament.

"There could be some changes," Harris said. "If they're not going to be ready to play, I've got some people that will."



The 2012 Super Bowl Champion Highlands Youth Football Junior Varsity Eagles.

Courtesy photo

Knights beat up on Ball State

Continued from 1D

O'Leary said. "Basically, he made the right decisions that moved us down the field. He really showed tonight why he's our guy out there."

Bortles tossed first-half TD passes of 7 and 5 yards to Latavius Murray, who also scored on a 2-yard run. J.J. Worton's 7-yard scoring reception made 35-10 late in the third quarter.

Ball State (9-4) was hoping to finish with at least 10 wins for the third time in school history, however its offense sputtered while being held 18 points below its season average. Keith Wenning threw a 7-yard TD pass to Willie Snead early in the second quarter, but the Cardinals

didn't get into the end zone again until Snead scored on a 16-yard reception with 5 minutes remaining.

Bortles completed 22 of 33 passes without an interception to become UCF's first 3,000-yard passer since 2002. His three TD passes were a career-best and tied the Beef 'O' Brady's Bowl record.

Wenning, meanwhile, was 22 of 34 for 217 yards and two TDs for Ball State, which had a six-game winning streak snapped before an announced crowd of 21,759.

The Cardinals were 3 for 9 on third-down conversions and finished with 288 yards, nearly 200 below their season average.

"Obviously, to stay on the field on third down is critical,

and (there is) very little margin for error for our offense," Lembo said. "It wasn't a horrible day offensively by any means, but not quite to the degree we needed to stay in the game."

UCF, one of several schools joining the Big East next season, rebounded from an overtime loss in the Conference USA title game to finish with double-digit victories for the third time since stepping up to the Football Bowl Subdivision. The Knights also won 10 in 2007 and 2010, when they were Conference USA champions.

The Knights' loss to Tulsa in the Conference USA title game kept them close to home for the postseason.

Instead of heading to the Liberty Bowl for the second time in three years, coach George O'Leary and his players settled for a 100-mile trek west from Orlando to Tropicana Field, the home of Major League Baseball's Tampa Bay Rays.

O'Leary also brought his team to St. Petersburg in 2009, losing to Rutgers by three touchdowns. Friday night's victory improved the 66-year-old coach's record to 4-5 in bowl games, including a 2-3 mark with UCF.

Ball State's first bowl appearance since 2008 is the

latest step in an impressive turnaround under Lembo, whose team suffered early losses to Clemson, Kent State and Northern Illinois before winning six straight down the stretch to put themselves into a position to fill the Big East's slot in the Beef 'O' Brady's game because the league didn't have enough bowl-eligible teams to meet its commitment.

The Cardinals beat two teams from BCS conferences in the same season for the first time, defeating Indiana and South Florida in consecutive weeks. They had the

MAC's second-most productive offense at 471.3 yards and 35 points per game and won four times by scoring the winning points in the final 2 minutes or overtime.

"It's not the way you kind of desire to go out as a senior, but I'm proud of my teammates for even getting us to the point," Ball State linebacker Travis Freeman said. "The guys worked hard and trained hard all year round for this opportunity. We didn't seize it, but I'm proud of my teammates for what they've done."

K Kaeding signs with Miami; Carpenter placed on IR

Associated Press

DAVIE — Former Pro Bowl kicker Nate Kaeding signed Friday with the Miami Dolphins, whose recent wave of injuries sent kicker Dan Carpenter to injured reserve because of a right groin injury.

Carpenter went 22 for 27 on field-goal tries this season.

He first appeared on the injury report Thursday, when he was limited in practice.

The Dolphins (6-8) were relatively healthy for much of the season, but they've placed three players on injured reserve this week and could be without both starting wide receivers Sunday against Buffalo.

Receiver Davone Bess (back) and linebacker Koa Misi (ankle) were ruled out.

Among those listed as questionable were receiver

Brian Hartline (back), cornerback Nolan Carroll (knee) and defensive tackle Randy Starks, who has missed practice this week because of a personal matter.

Hartline and Carroll practiced Friday on a limited basis.

Despite the recent injuries, coach Joe Philbin said he's

not feeling snake bit.

"Not at all," he said. "It's a demanding game and unfortunately guys get injured in this game. That's just the landscape of the profession."

Kaeding is the most accurate field-goal kicker in NFL history at 87 percent (180 of 207), and he made the Pro Bowl in 2006 and 2009.

He first appeared on the injury report Thursday, when he was limited in practice.



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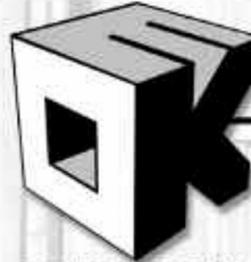
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And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

Luke 2:10-11 (ESV)



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