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Send 'em Soaring
LIVING, B14

And the winner is ...

SFSC game halted in ninth inning, tied 1-1

SPORTS, B1

Final five

Finalists named for Heartland Idol

SPORTS, B1

Sunday, March 24, 2013

www.newssun.com

Volume 94/Number 36 | 75 cents

Forecast



Strong T-storms later in the day

High Low

87 61

Complete Forecast
PAGE A14

Online



Question: Home sales are up and unemployment is down. Do you think the economy is truly recovering?

Yes
24.8%

No
75.2%

Total votes: 105

Next question:

Should the county commission approve the Swamp Hammock issue on Tuesday?

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Obituaries

Ethelda Ables

Age 90, of Sanford

Ernest Higgins

of Ocoee

Ed Jordon

Age 68, of Sebring

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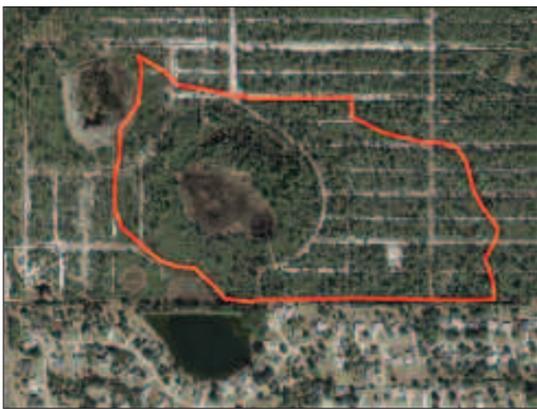
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Campfire caused blaze that threatened Golf Hammock



News-Sun photo by SAMANTHA GHOLAR

Desoto City firefighters hustle to wet down an area of a wildfire just behind Golf Hammock Thursday afternoon. The fire gained momentum suddenly after high winds picked up blowing the flames onto dry brush.



News-Sun photo by SCOTT DRESSEL

An aerial photo from the Division of Forestry (left) shows the area burned in Thursday's fire. The north edge of the Golf Hammock subdivision is at the lower part of the overhead view, and was in great danger as the flames raged in the treetops just feet from homes Thursday afternoon.

No injuries, little structural damage

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR
sgholar@newssun.com

SEBRING — The Highlands County Fire Services and the Florida Forest Services have determined the cause of the Quail Wildfire that began Thursday afternoon in the Sebring Hills area.

At 4:55 p.m. Thursday the wildfire ignited due to a campfire. The fire spread over 60 acres and threatened homes in the Golf Hammock subdivision and Sebring Hills area.

Heyeck, a 25-year police veteran from New Jersey, said he'd seen plenty of fires and wasn't scared.



More photos
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"It started burning pretty fast," said Fred Heyeck, whose Golf Hammock house was closest to the approach of the fire at around 5:15 p.m. "You could hear the wind sucking into that fire."

Heyeck, a 25-year police veteran from New Jersey, said he'd seen plenty of fires and wasn't scared.

"I've got my hoses ready," he said. "It sounded like traffic was coming," said Erica Gardner, who lives next to Heyeck. "Then all of a sudden you saw it, there was black smoke."

Fire personnel from nearly a dozen entities had control over the wildfire at approximately 7:15 p.m. after Florida Forest Service dozers established control lines all around the fire.

See FIRE, A5

Swamp Hammock on agenda for county

Commission to vote on disputed property Tuesday

By BARRY FOSTER
News-Sun correspondent

SEBRING — Another round for the proposed Swamp Hammock Recreational Club is slated for the Highlands County Commission's monthly night meeting at 5 p.m. Tuesday at the government center in Sebring. It will be the second time in as many months for the hearing and yet another turn on the twisting road developers have been on for better than a year.

Plans to revamp a defunct equestrian development on Marguerite Road reportedly came to light last year after neighbors were alerted by Facebook posts as to activities on the property.

At the time, competitive mud bog

See SWAMP, A9

LP man charged in fatal crash

By BARRY FOSTER
News-Sun correspondent

LAKE PLACID — Polk County sheriff's officials have charged Jeffery A. Harris of Lake Placid with driving while license suspended or revoked causing death.

The 21-year-old Lake Placid man was believed to have been at the wheel of a Nissan four-door that went across the median of U.S. 27 near Cypress Gardens Boulevard on Wednesday, colliding with two other vehicles.

The Wednesday evening crash claimed the life of 20-year-old Suleyka Najera, also of Lake Placid.

Polk County Sheriff's officials say Harris had been released from the Lake City Correctional Facility earlier that

See DRIVER, A9

Home-grown stars help AP get Home Field Advantage

Youth baseball fields to get makeover

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR
sgholar@newssun.com

AVON PARK — Durrah Martin Complex will be getting a new and improved look in the coming weeks as Walmart, The Scotts Company and Warner Brother Pictures have all teamed together for the Ultimate Home Field Advantage Project.

Add Avon Park hometown hero Tom "Flash" Gordon and his son, current Dodgers' star Dee Gordon were key in getting the project to spend an estimated \$40,000 to upgrade the fields where both played as youngsters.

The campaign is in conjunction with Warner Brother Pictures' release of the Jackie Robinson biopic "42."

"It will be fairly similar to most refurbishment. Lots of seeding and feeding, there's going to be work done to all of the pitchers' mounds, leveling the ground out and lots of other things," said Chris Strunk, the Scotts Company Manager of Sports Marketing & Sponsorship.

Saturday's rededication and refurbishment ground breaking

See FIELDS, A9



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE

Former MLB pitcher and Avon Park native Tom "Flash" Gordon speaks to an excited crowd of dignitaries, young athletes, residents and family members Saturday morning at Durrah Martin Field. Gordon is one of the many partners and supporters of the Ultimate HomeField Advantage Project which will fund the total cost of ball field refurbishment.

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Plea deal in works for defendant in Doty case

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR
sgholar@newssun.com

SEBRING — Nicole Hebert, one of the defendants in the Aaron Doty murder case, is scheduled to appear in court at 1:15 p.m. Monday for a possible plea deal.

Hebert allegedly drove her boyfriend, Kenneth Felipe, 19, and Jonathan R. Rodriguez, 20, to Orlando following the June 2012 murder of the 20-year-old Doty.

Hebert has been held in the Highlands County Jail on a \$250,000 bond since her arrest last summer, charged with accessory after the fact.

Defense attorney Robin H.

Alleged getaway driver due back in court Monday

Stevenson of Bartow is representing Hebert and has been working on a plea deal. If a deal is struck and accepted by Circuit Court Judge Angela Cowden, the entire case could change drastically.

“What happens if the deal is accepted depends,” Stevenson said. “Both sides have to reach a deal and the judge has to approve it. I can not speak on the details because it’s currently being worked on. But I spoke with the State Attorney’s Office this morning and we are working out the details.”



Hebert

It is believed Hebert will cooperate in the prosecution process of the other defendants. Assistant State Attorney Steve Houchin said Friday that “plea discussions are going on.”

“Any plea agreement calls for her cooperation and testimony with the case. “It doesn’t change the case, not in relation to the other defendants. It

would just be treated as another piece of evidence; her testimony would just be another piece of evidence. We’ll see if she cooperates (with the prosecution),” said Houchin.

Court dates and pre-trial hearings are in place for the remaining defendants in the Doty case: Travis Makris and Giovanni Burgos (both out on bond) will be in court for pre-trial hearings at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 17.

Makris is charged with accessory after the fact. He allegedly kept the

clothing and shoes of Felipe and Rodriguez wore during Doty’s murder.

Burgos offered his Orlando apartment to the alleged murderers once they had fled Highlands County, investigators say.

Rodriguez and Felipe will reappear before Cowden for their third pre-trial hearing at 8:30 a.m. Thursday, April 18.

Both the state and defense asked for another pre-trial hearing at the last hearing in late February.

Each sides stated the case is complex and more time is needed to prepare before case is ready for trial or jury selection.

Final five chosen for Heartland Idol finale



News-Sun photo by KATARA SIMMONS
Ashley Nicole Elder gets into character Thursday evening during her rendition of Michael Jackson’s 80’s hit ‘Man in the Mirror’. Elder was chosen to move on to the final round of the 2013 Heartland Idol season which will be held Saturday.

Winner to be crowned Saturday

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR
sgholar@newssun.com

SEBRING — Five finalists were named Thursday evening during the semi final round of Heartland Idol. Contestants Ashley Elder, Mary Hazel Teope, Lindsey Sears, Gary Johnson and Adam Meredith will have a double round of singing to prepare themselves for when the 2013 Heartland Idol finale kicks off Saturday.

The ‘80s-inspired semi-finals Thursday brought back some memories for many of the judges as well as audience members; contestants sang an array of ‘80s hits from pop to heavy metal.

Judges were impressed by Teope’s rendition of Whitney Houston’s “I Wanna Dance With Somebody” and were fully entertained with Meredith’s high energy performance of Billy Idol’s “White Wedding”.

The finale will entail the five contestants to sing a designated song, chosen and revealed by Idol judges during Thursday’s show. In the second round of competition,



News-Sun photo by KATARA SIMMONS
An electrifying, high-energy performance of Billy Idol’s ‘White Wedding’ landed long time performer Adam Meredith into the 2013 Heartland Idol final round.

singers will perform any song of their choice, Idol founder Diana Walker explained.

Senior Idol brought in a low number of contestants, but Walker was pleased that former Idol contestant Charlie Barksdale, 89, walked away the winner.

“The number was very low but all three of the entries were great singers,” Walker said.

The 2013 Idol finale will be a family fun type of event.

Beginning at 3 p.m. guests are invited to the YMCA to enjoy an Easter Egg Hunt, the ‘2 Pack Challenge’ Oreo cookie eating contest, Beef O Brady’s Nuclear Wing Challenge, beach volleyball contest and more.

Idol finale singers will take the stage at 6 p.m. Idol Fun Day starts at 3 p.m.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Atlantic City Boys perform at Tanglewood

SEBRING — Tonight is a night of the music of the ‘50s with the vocals of the Atlantic City Boys. Their harmony is almost unbeatable and the songs of the time were outstanding with hits such as “Oh What a Night,” “Sherry,” “Can’t Take My Eyes Off Of You,” “Walk Like A Man” and so many more.

Doors and snack bar opens at 6:15 p.m. and show at 7 p.m. Cost just \$12.

Gulledge is featured reader at Scribes’ Night Out

SEBRING — The humorous stories of author Jim

Gulledge will be read at Scribes’ Night Out at 6 p.m. today at Brewster’s Coffee House. An “Open Mike” program segment follows.

Gulledge, a “Florida Cracker” born in Fort Pierce, began writing as a retirement hobby in 1995. His book, “Heart Strings and Funny Bones,” (October 2009) contains moer than 80 stories, some of which will be read along with recent works. Gulledge’s experiences with family, friends, pets and creations from his “nutty mind” cover the globe and have been sure hits at other SNO evenings.

The public is invited free of charge. Early arrival is suggested for seating purposes. Anyone interested in reading from their own original works should sign up in

advance with Suzanna Crean, this month’s hostess. Contact Art Lefkowitz at 385-1554 for more information.

Orchid Society meets Monday

SEBRING — The Orchid Society of Highlands County will hold its monthly meeting at 7 p.m. Monday at the Jack R. Stroup Center, formerly known as Sebring Civic Center, 355 W. Center Ave. This is also the society’s annual meeting and there will be an election of officers.

For this month’s meeting, Paul Storm will present a topic on Schomburgkia orchids.

Continued on page A5

Highlands County’s quality of health ranks 37th in state

By CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY
christopher.tuffley@newssun.com

SEBRING — Here’s the news about the county’s health in a nutshell: In a ranking among states, Florida places 34th out of 50 for the second year in a row. In a ranking of Florida counties, Highlands County places 37th out of 67.

In other words, Highlands County is in the bottom half of a bottom-half state.

This information comes from two annual reports.

“Rankings,” is an online resource with county-level health outcome data. The latest report was released Wednesday.

Rankings is a project by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the University of Wisconsin. The website debuted in 2009.

“America’s Health

Rankings,” is released every December by the United Health Foundation. It provides health outcome data at the state level.

Both reports use the same criteria in arriving at a ranking. The information gathered covers a wide range of public health issues.

Twenty-five factors were examined including rates of smoking; teen births; crime; obesity; access to physicians and dentists, healthy food and recreation facilities; and high school graduation percentages.

The Florida Department of Health in Highlands County released a statement about the county’s ranking, saying there are areas of progress and areas that need to be improved.

For example, while the rate of teen birth has decreased over the past three years, adult obesity

has risen 13 percent.

The Teen Pregnancy Prevention Alliance’s lowering the rate of teen pregnancy is an example of how the united efforts of many agencies and organizations is the best way to solutions, the health department said in its release.

“These Rankings show us where our community faces challenges and through our collective efforts we will strive to improve the health of our residents,” said Mary Kay Burns, administrator of the Florida Department of Health in Highlands County.

St. Johns County ranked first in the state; Union County ranked last.

Vermont ranked first nationally, for the fourth year in a row; Mississippi tied with Louisiana for last.

For county information go to www.county-healthrankings.org.

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	Lottery Center		<p>March 20 7 11 23 30 35 47 x:2 <i>Next jackpot \$13 million</i></p> <p>March 16 1 6 24 27 33 53 x:5 March 13 15 30 34 44 47 49 x:5</p>
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	<p>March 20 13 14 17 43 54 PB: 15 <i>Next jackpot \$320 million</i></p> <p>March 16 3 7 21 44 53 PB: 16 March 13 5 9 28 32 38 PB: 29</p>	<p><i>Note: Cash 3 and Play 4 drawings are twice per day: (d) is the daytime drawing, (n) is the nighttime drawing. PB: Power Ball</i></p>	

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Springtime on the Mall Festival draws shoppers, eaters to Avon Park



News-Sun photo by SCOTT DRESSEL

Shoppers browse the vendors Saturday morning at the Springtime on the Mall Festival in Avon Park. The annual event draws thousands to downtown each year.



News-Sun photo by SCOTT DRESSEL

Jerry Whidden adds blueberries to pancakes as Bill Jarrett works the other griddle Saturday morning during the Avon Park Noon Rotary's annual pancake breakfast in conjunction with the Springtime on the Mall Festival. More than 700 meals of hotcakes and sausage were served.

Former airport, Raceway leader Ed Jordon dies

By BARRY FOSTER

News-Sun correspondent

SEBRING — Ed Jordon, the former manager at Sebring's airport who oversaw operations in the late 1980s and to the 1990s, has passed away. He reportedly succumbed to a long illness at a Fort Lauderdale care facility this past Thursday morning.

Born in Avon Park and raised in Sebring, Jordon was educated at the University of Florida before joining the United States Air Force. Among other things, he did a tour of duty in Vietnam, served a tour as a unit commander in Guam and was assigned to the White House Communications Agency through the Pentagon.

There, Jordon served under Presidents Jimmy

Carter and Gerald Ford. His duty was to establish formal communications with the mainstream media and was with Ford the day of an assassination attempt on the President.

In 1987, he was tapped to become the manager at the Sebring Airport. During Jordon's tenure at that job, there were a number of major changes and improvements.

One of the most notable was the movement of the Sebring Race off the airport runways.

That new arrangement paved the way for the permanent racing facility that fans know today.

"He was really great to work with," said Sebring International Raceway President Tres Stephenson,

who originally was hired as

an assistant airport manager under Jordon's predecessor Bill Peebles. "He had a decorated military career that he brought to the table; very personable and organized."

The relocation of the race track also set the stage for a number of improvements at the airport itself.

Those included renovation of the runways, the construction of T-hangars and the development of a fuel farm for aircraft.

After Jordon left as manager of the Sebring Airport, he took a job with Polk County, where he specialized in road work and development.

Jordon also served as an instructor and a dean at Heartland Christian School.

Jordon's full obituary is on page A5.

Man crashes in car, arrested

By CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY

christopher.tuffley@newssun.com

AVON PARK — This story is a reminder it's wise to glance into the back of a car on getting in.

A woman went to a doctor's appointment Thursday. She parked and locked her car at 210 N. U.S. 27.

When she returned to later, however, she found a young white man sound asleep on her back seat.

When deputy sheriff Justin Roan arrived on the scene, the man, 20-year-old Dylan Harper initially refused to cooperate, but was taken into custody.

Prior to transporting sleeping beauty, the

deputy searched the possessions Harper had in the car, looking for anything that would be considered illegal in jail. He found a plastic

bag containing small baggies, each filled with a leafy green substance that field tested positive as marijuana. He also found a "large straight razor" lying on the seat where Harper had been sleeping.

Harper was in the county jail Saturday under \$8,750 bond, charged with burglary of a conveyance, petit theft, resisting an officer without violence, distribution of marijuana and possession of drug equipment.

Harper

Special Magistrate reveals findings to city, fire union

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR

sgholar@newssun.com

SEBRING — Ongoing negotiations between the union representing Sebring firefighters and the city centered around wages, pension and disciplinary action are nearing a close after 18 months of back and forth between the two entities.

Special Magistrate Leonard T. Helfand submitted his recommendations to the Sebring Professional Firefighters Association #3210 President Ross Edmonds and to the City of Sebring's labor attorney Brian Koji on March 20.

The City and Union were dissenting on the six impasse issues of pension, discipline, wages, promotions, health insurance and three standard operation guidelines (SOG's). Helfand's findings showed that he leaned toward the union's side in the majority of the six issues recommending that the city provide clarification

tion to a handful of the items.

Helfand found that the union's suggestion regarding the promotional process were "worthy of consideration" by the city. Helfand suggested that the city provide greater flexibility, mandatory testing and a review panel for such promotions.

The biggest issue for both sides was pension. The city has stated that they wanted to do away with the defined benefit plan and move to a 401a (similar to the private sector 401k) plan. After much research and analysis the city's stance is that the current pension plan would render a huge and costly problem for the city in the near future.

Union members feared the loss of their pension as well as their benefits if the city changed the plan. They felt the evidence was lacking to show that the city would be unable to afford the cost of the current plan in the future.

Helfand stated the following in his recommendation:

"The disappearance of defined benefit plans in state and local government, including in the City of Sebring, reflects current fiscal realities. However, the deletion of current employees from the defined benefit plan, whether vested or non vested, without sufficient economic justification appears to the Special Magistrate to be unwarranted. That new employees have to plan to retire a little differently is consistent with economic realities, but to impose such a change midstream on existing employees seems unfair."

City Administrator Scott Noethlich stated that once the magistrate has given his recommendations, a special meeting and the findings will be brought to the city council. No date has been set for the meeting at this time.

State's Universal Health plans to be liquidated

Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE — State health officials say nearly 60,000 Medicaid members will be transferred to new health plans as two Universal Health companies are about to be liquidated.

A Leon County Judge ordered Universal Health Care Insurance Company into receivership on Friday. That company and sister company Universal Health Care Inc. will go into liquidation in April.

Agency for Health Care Administration Secretary Liz Dudek says she is making every effort to ensure that patients will still be able to see their same primary care

doctor under the new plans.

She said Medicaid recipients on Universal plans

should receive a letter in the mail next week explaining the process and their options.

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Firefighter placed on leave as investigations begin

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR

sgholar@newssun.com

SEBRING — The ongoing investigation into alleged domestic abuse reports of Fire Union President and Sebring firefighter Ross Edmonds has resulted in an administrative leave.

Chief Brad Batz has contacted Edmonds via formal letter informing him of his initiation of investigation; the letter is dated Wednesday, March 20.

"It has been brought to the

City's attention that you were arrested on or about March 18, 2013 and charged with allegations involving domestic abuse. I have also recently become aware that similar charges may have been made against you in the recent past," Batz's letter read.

Through further investigation, Batz and City officials will determine the next step in the issue.

Edmonds has been advised that the investigation may result in further disciplinary

action. Batz's next move, pending the investigation, could be to place Edmonds on administrative leave without pay.

An informal meeting at City Hall is scheduled for Edmonds in which he is allowed to present "any information relevant to this issue." A union representative may also be present at the meeting.

Edmonds remains on paid administrative leave at this time.

EDITORIAL & OPINION

TODAY'S EDITORIAL

Making policy that unites not divides

Wednesday morning, youthful energy and optimism met the real world.

A group of undergraduates from Harvard spent a week studying Lake Placid and creating environmentally sustainable land use proposals. The students presented their ideas to Highlands County planners, County Commission Chairman Jack Richie, former county commissioner Barbara Stewart and Mark Deyrup, senior research biologist at Archbold Biological Station, who all provided feedback.

What the experienced county leaders and professionals told the students about the realities of getting things done is educational for everyone.

One of the biggest challenges in turning policy into action is who takes the lead, Richie said, adding he meant finding "the true leaders in a neighborhood,

not the wannabes." This isn't always as simple it might seem, he said. Some communities have more than one leader, occasionally with divergent views. "Getting them together can be a chore. Be careful of what you wish for," Richie said.

Another essential ingredient, he added, is to not lose sight of the larger picture. For example, a bike path or community center might be wonderful ideas, but unless provision is made for ongoing maintenance, an otherwise wonderful idea may fail.

Community support is critical. When considering projects, Deyrup said, planners have to think in terms of actual problems people face, as well as getting the public involved. "Start small, do it right, and go on from there," he said.

For example, it's one thing to propose restoring important wetland areas, it's another thing to get homeowners to agree — especially when they like their scenic view and spend a lot of money to get and maintain it.

Finally, communities can seriously

divide over an issue. Richie said there is a divide in Highlands County between the "oldies," whose families have been here generations, and "newbies" from cities up north. "It's a very serious thing," he said, because each group has different perspectives and goals.

This reminds us of the current battle regarding Swamp Hammock, and how it ties into one of Deyrup's most important points: When planning be careful when connecting two different systems together. Ag-tourism, for instance, is an attempt to wed two systems going in different directions — agriculture in Highlands County is unstable at this time, while tourism is on the rise. It's not an optimum intersection of interests, Deyrup said.

Bringing a mechanized, noisy business into a quiet ranching area is the quintessential example of two different systems colliding. No matter what happens in Tuesday's commission vote on Swamp Hammock, that collision has already split the community. Now the question becomes how to move on.

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Republican post-mortem

Laura's Look

Laura Ware

So Republicans have spent the last few months trying to figure out what happened in last year's election, when Mitt Romney was soundly beaten by President Obama. This week, according to a report on abcnews.go.com, the Republican National Committee with some others issued a report that has been called an autopsy of 2012's election.

The upshot of the report? Republicans need to reach out more to minorities, women, and gays. They should also be more "inclusive," supporting comprehensive immigration reform, and allowing for more disagreement in the party over hot button issues.

For example, the article quotes Glenn McColl, a committeeman from South Carolina, as saying, "The party should be proud of its conservative principles but just because someone disagrees with us on 20 percent of the issues does not mean we can't come together on the rest of the issues we do agree on."

Other measures were spoken of, including cutting the number of debates and perhaps moving the GOP convention to June or July.

Reaction to the report has been mixed. Rush Limbaugh and other conservatives have criticized the project; Rush for example saying that the report didn't address the party's real problem. The real problem? The party does not embrace conservatism, instead, tries to shy away from it.

Back to abcnews.go.com, Matthew Dowd, a political consultant, has an opinion article that claims to know the answer to the Republicans' woes. According to him, the party needs to confess that the things the party stands for are "out of sync with the majority of America." He also dismisses Limbaugh's claim, saying that more conservatives turned out for Romney in 2012 than turned out for Bush in 2004.

As an ex-member of the Republican Party, I watch all this with a raised eyebrow. I've been out of the party for several years now, when I decided we were no longer traveling in the same direction. Let me drop a hint: the party hadn't become too conservative for me.

I will tell you I know of voters who did not partici-

pate in this last election because they saw no substantive difference between Romney and the president. Despite efforts to paint Romney as a conservative by some, it was clear that he was not. He was a moderate, like John McCain was in 2008. In fact, the party's leadership pushed away conservatives, afraid that they would alienate independent voters. It sure worked, didn't it?

I haven't been able to confirm Matthew Dowd's claim that more conservatives voted in 2012 than in 2004. It seems to me that I read that even with that, there were millions of conservatives who simply, like those I cited above, stayed home. Or wrote in another candidate.

Does the Republican party need to reach out? I think perhaps they do. But one of the groups they need to reach out to are conservatives like me, who have been tired of being pushed away by them.

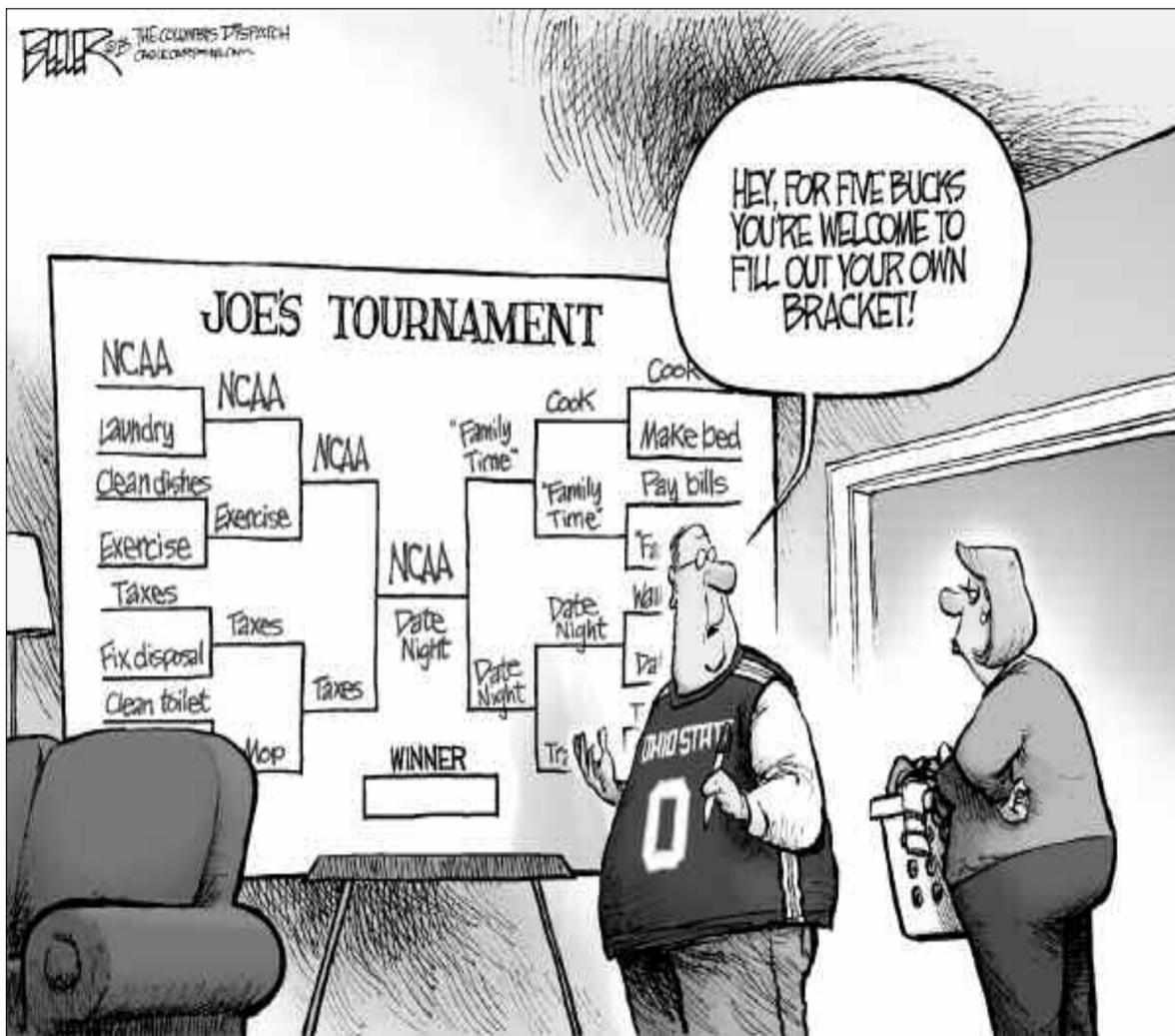
And yes, conservatives need to fight against the negative PR that paints us as hateful and intolerant. The truth of the matter is we've let others define us for far too long. It's time we show the world what we really are.

Does that mean compromising conservative principles? I fear that's the direction the Republican Party is headed in. But I think they can, as the Bible says, speak the truth in love. Yes, it may mean liberals and some independents won't vote for them. But it might get independents like me back in the fold — and give others a reason to go to the ballot box.

Or the party can keep doing what it's been doing. If that's the road they take, don't be surprised if they lose another election. Or if conservatives get fed up and seek another home. Me? I'll keep watching with great interest. Who knows? They might turn things around. Or complete their self-destruction. We'll see.

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.

Anonymous letters will be automatically rejected. Please keep your letters to a maximum of 400 words. 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.



TODAY'S LETTERS

Say 'No' to Swamp Hammock development

Editor:

"Environmental Activist Gives His O.K. to Swamp Hammock Development!". That certainly would make for a good headline. However, the author of this letter would never place his reputation in jeopardy by condoning the proposed development.

Unfortunately, most of the members of the Planning & Zoning Board have put their reputations on the line, and, again, unfortunately, some of our county commissioners have placed their reputations in jeopardy as they have ignored the common, most basic rule pertaining to land use, and that is: You cannot alter your property in such a manner as to diminish the worth of neighboring properties, or alter your land to the detriment of your neighbor's property.

Inasmuch as certain members of the Zoning Board have ignored this rule, they should be asked to resign from the board. The county commissioners who have ignored this common law will have to answer to the people at our next election. Most everyone knows what a fighter Bert Harris Jr. was when it came to property rights. You will find that Mr. Harris always came down on the side of the property owner whose land would be adversely effected by an act of government. We the people appreciated the important job Mr. Harris did for Highlands County as he toiled in the State Legislature, and as an acknowledgement for that service, we named our Ag Center with his name.

There are many ways to "skin-a-cat" (oops! sorry cat lovers!) but there is only one way to resolve the Swamp Hammock development, and that is for

the county commissioners to say "No!".
Hank Kowalski
Lake Placid

Supreme Court should look at Patriot Act

Editor:

An attack on free speech, freedom of the press, due process cannot stand.

The American Supreme Court must decide if it will obey the will of the American people, or obey the rogue government and rogue military industrial complex.

A past president and American general said it best.

Dwight David Eisenhower, the World War II military hero who spent his presidency fighting for peace, is perhaps best remembered for this warning in a farewell address on Jan. 17, 1961.

In the councils of government, we must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex. The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will persist ... We should take nothing for granted. Only an alert and knowledgeable citizenry can compel the proper meshing of the huge industrial and military machinery of defense with our peaceful methods and goals, so that security and liberty may prosper together.

American freedom can only exist with the freedom of speech and a free press.

The freedom of the press is under attack by the Patriot Act and secrecy laws, putting a fancy name on a terrorist law that destroys due process that protect us all and keeps our nation free.

The true heroes of America are those

newsmen and women who put their very lives on the line reporting the truth each and every day.

The military industrial complex, by using the Patriot Act and the secrecy laws are destroying America's free press.

As Eisenhower stated, "The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will persist... We should take nothing for granted. Only an alert and 'knowledgeable citizenry' can compel the power meshing of the huge industrial and military machinery of defense with our peaceful methods and goals, so that security and liberty may prosper together.

The Supreme Court should look at America's Patriot Act and its rulings on secrecy and its effect on a free press, a free people and due process.

Billie E. Jewett
Sebring

Bouquet

STR8 UP appreciates community's help

Editor:

STR8 UP Youth Ministry would like to thank the businesses and communities of Highlands County for supporting our fundraising efforts. We are both humbled and pleased to announce that we have met our financial goal; we will be able to take more than 50 youth to see "The Story of Jesus" on March 30.

The kids worked very hard at car washes and a yard sale to raise the money for this trip. The scholarships and contributions from many mean so much to the kids and board of directors.

STR8 UP Youth Ministry

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Continued from A1

Guests are invited to attend and knowledge of orchids is not required to attend. For additional information contact Lori Thompson at 382-7924 or by e-mail at oshc9@aol.com or go to the website <http://orchidsocietyhighlands.org/>.

Highlands Tea Party meets Tuesday

SEBRING – The Highlands Tea Party meets at Homer's Restaurant only on the first, second, third and fifth Tuesdays.

On Tuesday, the group will meet at 5 p.m. at the Highlands County Board of County Commission meeting at the Highlands County Government Center (board room), 600 S. Commerce Ave.

Monthly bunco planned at Shrine Club

SEBRING – The public is invited to play bunco at the Highlands Shrine Club, 2604 State Road 17 South, at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday. The event is open to new or experienced players. Cost is \$4 per person. Phone 382-4111 for information.

Big Brothers Big Sisters 'Start Something'

SEBRING — The Sebring Community Board and Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast invites the public to "Start Something" in Sebring, hosted by the Cowpoke's Watering Hole on Thursday. Mix and mingle from 6-7 p.m.; program begins 7 p.m.

The goal is to match the 96 children in Sebring who are ready for a "Big." To accomplish this, help is needed. Take in a magnificent evening while enjoying complimentary beer and wine along with fabulous hors d'oeuvres.

Seats are limited. RSVP today by calling Jackie Young at 402-9001 or email jyoung@bbbssun.org. This is not a fundraising event.

Events planned at lodges, posts

AVON PARK
Combat Veterans Memorial VFW Post 9853 will have NASCAR on the screen at 3 p.m. today. Music by Tom McGannon from 5-8 p.m. Friday. Karaoke by Johnny B. from 5-8 p.m. Saturday. For information, call 452-9853.

The American Legion Post 69 will host karaoke by Naomi from 4-7 p.m. today. Monthly birthday bash; bring a dish. Karaoke by KJ from 4-7 p.m.

Fire stopped before homes lost

Continued from A1

The wildfire is currently contained, according to Florida Fire Service Wildfire Mitigation Specialist Melissa Yunas.

Yunas stated that no firefighter injuries had been reported as of noon Friday.

Firefighters Hardee County, West Sebring, Sun 'n Lake North, Highlands Lakes, Lorida, Highlands Park, DeSoto City, City of Sebring, Highlands County Fire Service and Florida



Courtesy photo

The Avon Park Meals on Wheels organization joined the more than 1,000 Meals on Wheels National Association organizations in order to promote Mayors for Meals on Wednesday. Deputy Mayor Brenda Gray accompanied volunteers as they delivered meals to the home bound, elderly and low-income members of the community. Pictured are (from left) are Pat Borst, Teresa Alley (dietician at Royal Care, food supplier), Rosella Thomas, Brenda Gray, Charlotte John Greiner and Tom Jones.

Wednesday. Music by Patsy on Friday; call for time. Easter dinner for children and youth on Sunday, March 31; call for time. For details, call 453-4553.

LAKE PLACID

The Lake Placid Moose Lodge 2374 will host Steak-O and NASCAR on the screen today; call for times. Karaoke by Fireman from 6-10 p.m. Karaoke by Fireman from 6-10 p.m. Wednesday. Music by Frank E. from 6-10 p.m. Thursday. Music by Pressure Point from 6-10 p.m. Friday. Wounded Warrior Charity and Poker Run on Saturday; call for time. Music by Frank E.; call for time. Karaoke by Bama Jam from 6-10 p.m. Sunday, March 31. For details, call 465-0131.

The American Legion Post 25 will host music by Gary and Shirley from 5-8 p.m. today. Casino trip at 8:30 a.m.; call 655-0232 for details. L & L Duo will provide music from 5-8 p.m. Wednesday. Music by Clayton from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Friday. Moose Riders at 3 p.m. Saturday. Karaoke by Gary from 6-9 p.m. For more information, call 465-0975.

The Lake Placid Elks Lodge 2661 will host music by Big Freddie from 5-8 p.m. Monday. BPOE board meeting is at 7:30 p.m. BPOE Initiation is at 7 p.m. Tuesday. Music by Frank E. on Friday; call for time. For more information, call 465-2661.

SEBRING

The Sebring Moose Lodge 2259 will have NASCAR on the screen today; call for time. Corn Hole from 3-6 p.m. Texas Hold-em at 7 p.m. Monday. Moose Riders' Ride at 11 a.m. Tuesday. Music by Gary and Shirley from 5-9 p.m. Wednesday. Moose Riders Ride at 11 a.m.

Forest Service helped fight the fire.

A total of 33 individuals were present on the scene working to contain the wildfire.

County firefighters and state wildland firefighters will continue to work on site to ensure the wildfire does not restart.

At least 16 homes were saved from the wildfire, which burned directly behind the homes. One storage shed received minor damage.

Mayors for Meals

ETHELDA ABLES

Ethelda B. "Teddy" Ables
Jan. 26, 1923 – March 18, 2013

Third child of eight children born to Adger DeWitt Bowen and Ethel Eubanks Bowen in Oakway, S.C., during a blizzard which prevented the doctor from arriving at the Bowen farmhouse in time to assist with her birth. Grew up on the family farm in the foothills of the Blue Ridge with her three brothers, Dewey, Lamar and Hulan and three sisters, Frances, Wyona and Patricia, all of whom predeceased her. (The first child, a boy, died at birth.) Attended and graduated at age 16 from Oakway, S.C. schools where her mother was a teacher and her father a school board trustee. Attended Winthrop College (nka Winthrop University) for three semesters before eloping with Clifford M. Ables Jr. (aka "Kip") of Seneca, S.C. on March 15, 1942. Gave birth to Clifford M. Ables III on Feb. 19, 1943 and Michael B. Ables on May 22, 1945.



Ables

Moved to Sanford, Fla. with husband and Clifford M. Ables III in 1944, where she resided to date of death. An amazing woman who tenderly cared for her husband, who had a chronic disease, diabetes mellitus (Type I diabetes) from childhood, and who predeceased her in a tragic auto accident in October 1983, in which she was also injured, but recovered sufficiently to live almost 40 years before lung cancer got the best of her shortly after her 90th birthday. Teddy, the nickname given to her by her college roommate, was an amazing woman who was successful in occupations for which she had no training or experience, from selling ladies clothing at the Hollywood Shops in downtown Sanford to serving as the guidance department's secretary at two different middle schools (the second at the invitation of the principal who chose his staff for a brand new school). She was amazing because she never stopped learning, from college to Toastmasters to typing to computers to crossword puzzles in the daily newspaper which she read "cover to cover". She encouraged and supported her son's activities wholeheartedly,

from Vacation Bible School to Cub Scouts to PTA during their childhood and youth, and instilled in them a love of learning and the desire to always do their best. Teddy was a Proverbs 31 wife and mother as a living example of the love of Jesus Christ. With her husband and sons she was a charter member of Pinecrest Baptist Church in Sanford.

She was amazing because in 2003 at the age of 80, she contracted non-Hodgkin's lymphoma cancer, quit smoking "cold-turkey" and successfully completed six months of chemotherapy, including a bout with pneumonia. Up to that time, she fully maintained her lawn and flower beds, cleaned the valleys on her roof and the gutters of her home.

Now she rejoices with her husband, parents, brothers and sisters in the presence of the Lord and we who are left behind, Clifford M. Ables III and wife, Elaine; Michael B. Ables and wife, Judith; grandchildren, Clifton, Jason and wife Yonca, Jennifer, and Jeremy and wife, Andrea; great-grandchildren, Joey, Kaley, Juliana, Kaya, Kaia and Micah, grieve, but not as the world grieves, because our faith is in Jesus Christ, as was Teddy's, and we will be together again on resurrection day (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18).

Visitation was Saturday with service at First Baptist Church, Sanford. Interment at Oaklawn Cemetery. Online condolences are welcome at gramkoffuneralhome.com. Arrangements entrusted to Gramkoff Funeral Home & Crematory, 500 E. Airport Blvd., Sanford, FL 32773 (407-322-3213).

ERNEST HIGGINS

Ernest J. Higgins passed away on Friday, March 15, 2013 at his home in Ocoee, Fla. Ernest was the son the late W.Vernon and Catherine Higgins.

He was preceded in death by his son, John Higgins, and brother, Bill Higgins.

Ernest is survived by his wife, Johnny Ruth Higgins; son, Michael Higgins; daughter, Karen Lynn (Higgins) Sarafian; grandchildren, Falecia, Brent, Brook and Tanner; and a great-grandchild, Rylee. He is also survived by brothers, David Higgins (Kay) of Fort Myers, Fla., Robert Higgins of

Sebring, and Richard Higgins of Lakeland; and his sister, Joan Hartt of Avon Park, Fla.

Ernest graduated from Sebring High School, 1955 and served in the U.S. Army, spending two years in Germany. He attended Georgia Tech in Atlanta and worked for Honeywell. He spent most of his life working in the citrus business.

A memorial service and Celebration of Life will be held at a later date in Ocoee, Fla. Memorials may be sent to The Salvation Army.

MARSHALL "ED" EDWARD JORDON

Marshall "Ed" Edward Jordon, age 68, of

Sebring, passed away Friday, March 22, 2013. He was born May 3, 1944 in Avon Park to Dr. Marshall Elmore and Pauline (Williford) Jordon. Ed served in the U.S. Air Force for 21 years before retiring as a colonel in 1988. After retiring to Sebring, Ed served as director of the Sebring Airport/Raceway, teacher and dean at Heartland Christian School and in road development for Polk County.

Ed was a man of God who aimed to honor God in all walks of his life. He is survived by his wife Judy K. Jordon; son Matthew Edward Jordon (wife, Tena; children, Elizabeth, Nathaniel, Danielle and Frances); daughter Heather Jordon Clark (husband, Tec; children, Nicole and Christian); four great-grandchildren and

his aunt, Dorothy Williford, wife of the late J.T. Williford.

Funeral services will be held on

Tuesday, March 26, 2013 at 10 a.m. with Rev. Todd Patterson officiating at Bible Fellowship Church. Interment will follow in the Bougainvillea Cemetery. Family will receive friends on Monday, March 25, 2013 from 5-7 p.m. at the Stephenson-Nelson Funeral Home. For those who wish, the family suggests that contributions be made to the charity of your choice.

Funeral arrangements entrusted to:

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

www.stephensonnelsonfh.com

Thursday. House Committee and Loyal Order of the Moose business meeting at 6:30 p.m.

General meeting at 8 p.m. Music by Long Shot Band from 6-10 p.m. Friday. Music by Big Freddie from 6-10 p.m. Saturday. For details, call 655-3920.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4300, 1041 Lakeview Drive, will host a Post Tiki Hut Deck party today. Music donated by Frank E. and Friends (brats, beer and more). Karaoke with BilDi from 5-8 p.m. Frank E. music from 6-9 p.m. Tuesday. LT music from 6-9 p.m. Friday. Golf Tournament on Saturday. Gary Oliver music from 6-9 p.m. Ham dinner with all the fixings beginning at 2 p.m. Sunday, March 31 for \$6. Karaoke with Mega Soundz from 5-8 p.m. For more information, call 385-8902.

The Sebring Recreation Club, 333 Pomegranate Ave., will host Shuffleboard Scrambles at 1:15 p.m. Monday. Shuffleboard Scrambles at 1:15 p.m. Wednesday. Mini-Shuffleboard Tournament at 1:15 p.m. Friday. Ice Cream Shuffleboard at 1:15 p.m. Saturday. Easter carry-in dinner at 1 p.m. Sunday, March 31. For more information, call 385-2966.

The Sebring Elks Lodge 1529 will host Wacky Wednesday with social hour from 5-6 p.m. Dinner is \$6.50. To dance only to Allen's music from 4:30-7:30 p.m., it is \$3. Good Friday Easter buffet is from 5-6:30 p.m. for \$12. Dance only for \$3 to Two Smooth's music from 6:30-9:30 p.m. For more information, call 471-3557.

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Inspirational Thoughts & Scriptures



Inspirational Thoughts
by Patricia Valentine

Psalm 56:3-4, "What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee. In God I will praise his word, in God I have put my trust; I will not fear what flesh

can do unto me." It is in the midst of life's storm that God lets us glimpse Him and worship Him as we never can otherwise. We sometimes get in an emotional storm because God wants to hear us say what David said: "What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee. When you are in the shadows and you see no way out, you have been taken there for a purpose, and that purpose is entirely about your view of Him. It's only when you realize He's all you have that you discover He's all you need. Be Blessed!

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Brush fire threatens Golf Hammock, Sebring Hills



News-Sun photo by KATARA SIMMONS

A helicopter scoops up water out of a lake in Golf Hammock Thursday afternoon as part of the effort to fight a brush fire that threatened homes in the area.



News-Sun photo by SCOTT DRESSEL

Concerned residents of Golf Hammock watch as the flames creep close to their homes Thursday afternoon.



The fire spread quickly Thursday afternoon after winds picked up in the Golf Hammock subdivision.

News-Sun photo by SAMANTHA GHOLAR



News-Sun photo by KATARA SIMMONS

Flames burn to within feet of houses Thursday afternoon.



News-Sun photo by KATARA SIMMONS

Smoke from Thursday's fire blocks the sun in Sebring Hills, east of the fire.

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HLT's latest is a fast-paced, revenge-is-sweet comedy

'Sex Please, We're Sixty' tickets selling out quickly



Photo courtesy of HLT
The cast of 'Sex Please We're Sixty' (From left) Allen Grosman; Sue McCollum; Ellen Lemos; Marcia Ward; Linda Wells-Grosman; Ken Hall; and Bill Farmer.

By CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY
christopher.tuffley@newssun.com

SEBRING — Highlands Little Theatre's latest production, "Sex Please We're Sixty," opened Wednesday to a sold-out audience. Tickets are already hard to come by. Those who want a belly laugh — or two — shouldn't wait to get tickets.

The play, directed by Art Harriman, is "Golden Girls" gone slapstick.

The plot revolves around an experimental drug that does for women what Viagra does for men.

The action takes place in a cozy bed and breakfast where the drug for women are mixed with Viagra. Events spin out of control in hilarious ways.

At least five doors open onto the single set of the bed & breakfast's reception lobby. Characters constantly pop in and out with split second timing, like slapstick in the 1930s and 40s. One-line zingers fly.

"The play puts the men in menopause," Sue McCollum said laughing out loud. She plays Hillary Hudson — a party to the pill exchange.

Glenn Fowler, the assistant director, said men identify and love the play, too.

"Sex Please We're Sixty" is not crude. There are mild sexual innuendoes, but they

are funny and inoffensive.

As close to a message as the play has is simply, "more mature people still have the sizzle," said McCollum.

Harriman, who has been involved with too many HLT productions to count, is especially excited about this play. "It's a chance to give our more mature and experienced actors a venue to show their superb skills," he said.

Playing late middle-aged men and women with aches and pains was in some ways easy for the cast. Between bad knees, hearing aids, recent cataract operations and cases of flu during rehearsal, the actors mirror their characters.

But that doesn't mean they limp slowly with droopy shoulders. The action is non-stop.

The central character is Bud the Stud, 70 going on 17. It is he who gets the comeuppance that drives the action. The role is so physical two men are playing the part: Allan Grosman for the Saturday matinee; Bill

Farmer all other performances.

Linda Wells-Grosman plays Mrs. Stancliffe the bed & breakfast's organized and repressed owner.

Ken Hall is Henry Mitchell, a retired chemist and the inventor of the woman's pill. He has been proposing to Mrs. Stancliffe for more than 20 years.

Ellen Lemos plays Victoria Ambrose, a romance novelist without romance, but not without hope.

Marcia Ward plays Charmaine Beauregard, a sassy southern belle of a flirt. What with all bending and kneeling, Ward said, she's had to protect her elbows and knees. "I pack more rubber than Firestone," she said.

Again, be advised the show is already 80 percent sold out, Fowler said, act quickly by calling the box office 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Friday at 382-2525

Or, go to www.highlandslittletheatre.org/.

Highlands Little Theatre
Our 30th Season!
presents...

Sex Please We're Sixty
An American Farce
By Michael & Susan Parker

March 20-31, 2013
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Matinees on Sat & Sun - 2:30 PM
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CHALK TALK

Highlands County Fair livestock show champions



Courtesy photo
Jordan Faucett had the Grand Champion Steer during the 2013 Highlands County Fair.



Courtesy photo
Kinley Bennett had the Grand Champion Hog during the 2013 Highlands County Fair.



Courtesy photo
Garrett Martinez had the Reserve Grand Champion Steer during the 2013 Highlands County Fair.



Courtesy photo
Bo Deen had the Reserve Grand Champion Hog during the 2013 Highlands County Fair.

Soil & Water Conservation District Youth Speech Contest set April 16

Special to the News-Sun
SEBRING — The Highlands Soil & Water Conservation District Speech Contest will be held at 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 16, in the auditorium of the Bert Harris Agricultural Center, 4509 George Blvd.

The contest is open to any student enrolled in grades 6-12 in Highlands County. This includes public, private, home, or virtual school students. The statewide topic this year is: "Where does your water shed?"

This contest is designed to develop

leadership through participation in public speaking activities and stimulate interest in conserving our natural resources, especially as it relates to agriculture.

Speeches are limited to between six and eight minutes in length. Local judges will score contestants on content, composition and delivery. Contestants may use notes while speaking but visual aids may not be used.

Contestants will compete for cash prizes of \$150 for first place, \$100 for

second place and \$50 for third place. The winner of this district contest may advance to the Area 4 speech contest and the winner of the Area 4 contest winner will advance to the state competition.

The program is open to all interested students. To register, please call the district office at 402-7020, print off an entry form from the website www.highlandsswd.org or pick up an entry form in your school's office. Deadline for entering the contest is 5 p.m. on April 11.

APHS Culinary Arts team shines at competition in Orlando



Courtesy photo
Avon Park High School Culinary Arts team basks in their win along with APHS Principal Tealy Williams at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando. The team was one of 50 high school teams to participate in four different competitions at the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association Education Foundation (FRLAEF) ProStart State Competition. The team brought home the school's first ever first place win for the Waiter Relay competition. Each of the three winners (Mariah Claitt, Roxanne Guerndt and Zana Sutton) of the competition brought home a gold medal and were awarded a \$10,000 scholarship from Keiser University. (From left) Roxanne Guerndt, Tealy Williams, Kathryn Welch, Mariah Claitt, Ever Mendoza, Zack McKinney, Kevin O'Connor, David Castillo and Zana Sutton.

Snapshots

Abela chosen for Army Field Band Jazz Ambassadors

LAKE PLACID – The Lake Placid High School Band is proud to announce one of its very own musicians has been nominated, and was selected, by the Army Band, from among many top musical band applicants, to perform with this year's United States Army Field Band Jazz Ambassadors.

Junior class honor student Ashton Drake Abela, Lake Placid High School's band captain, was one of only three in the county to be awarded this honor and will represent Lake Placid High with "Dragon Pride" as he plays his saxophone with this unique and extraordinary premier musical ensemble at South Florida State College.

LPHS Concert Band prepares for Spring Concert

LAKE PLACID – Lake Placid High School's Concert Band will present its Spring Concert during the school's Fine Arts Gala. The music concert will showcase the school's concert band, orchestra and the chorus.

The concert will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 2 in the high school's Commons. This musical extravaganza is free and the entire town is invited.

A raffle fundraiser will be available to benefit the Music Department.

Academy plans Kindergarten Open House

AVON PARK – Walker Memorial Academy, at 1525 W. Avon Blvd., has dual term accreditation. Join in the "Kindergarten Roundup" on Thursday, April 4.

Call 453-3131, ext. 201 to sign up for one two-hour session at 9 a.m. or 5:30 p.m.

Visit the classroom, meet the principal, tour the campus, and feel free to ask questions for pre-testing.

Cowgirls and Buckaroos must be 5 years old before Aug. 15, 2013.

For financial assistance, check out www.StepUpForStudents.org.

LPHS Band hosts Honor Band rehearsals

LAKE PLACID – The Lake Placid High School

Band will host the annual Honor Band rehearsal in the school's band room.

Lake Placid High School's honor music students Ashton Abela, Erik Yakes, Alexandria Kling, Helen Moretto, Adrian Villamore, Shelly Villamore, Nelida Torres, and Ethan Havlock, and students from several other counties will congregate

from 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, May 7 to rehearse selected musical pieces they will be performing at this year's Honor Band Concert scheduled for 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 14 at South Florida State College in Avon Park.

The public is invited to enjoy what is expected to be an outstanding performance by Highland County's most gifted music students.

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Fields to get face-life thanks to Home Field Advantage project

Continued from A1

brought together dozens of dignitaries and representatives from all of the partnering entities.

Gordon, a former all-star relief pitcher, was thrilled to be a part of the ceremony that paid tribute to the very fields he got his start on.

"This is the community that I love and support in every possible way, because it loves and supports me in every possible way. My experience playing baseball began on these, the fields that I loved.

"Coach Ronnie Jackson, I love you, he is such a big part of my life, he watched me catch right here on this back field. I'm happy to see my community was chosen for this.

"The first thing that came to my mind was that I don't want to be no other place than that place that supported me," Gordon said.

The partnering entities all stated that the purpose of the refurbishment is to reach out to the local children in the community. The large crowd of dignitaries, coaches, volun-

"This is the community that I love and support in every possible way, because it loves and supports me in every possible way. My experience playing baseball began on these, the fields that I loved."

TOM GORDON
former MLB all-star

teers and family members all showed their support in the project which will benefit kids for many years to come.

"I'm happy that Walmart is a part of this to give the youth the opportunity to come out and play on a field that they can be proud of. They can learn not only baseball skills but the basic skills of life, from discipline to respect and the importance of academics," said Walmart

District Manager Rob Goding.

Mayor Sharon Schuler was happy to see the hard work of so many local individuals and entities come together for the children.

"It's a huge feat. The city did not put this together. It was the work of so many others. But getting this all together and having this done is just wonderful and it's all for the children. That's what it's all about," Schuler said. "We have so much gratitude. The more we can do to keep them (kids) off the street, then that's what we should be doing."

Jackson, who coached Gordon at Avon Park High School during his hall-of-fame coaching career, was beaming.

"This is great. It's just unbelievable. He (Gordon) could've take this somewhere else but he brought it back here to his home. He's always supported the community and this is going to be something that the kids will love and appreciate," said Jackson.

MOFAC opens new exhibit



News-Sun photo by CHRISTOPHER TUFFLEY

(From left) Jim Rigel, Jim Robertson, John McClure and James Dion, members of the Back Porch Revival, entertain at South Florida State College Thursday evening. The college's culinary school catered the event, which celebrated the opening of the Dragons in Paradise exhibit at the Museum of Florida Arts and Culture. Dedicated to man's relationship with the giant reptiles, it includes fun displays of alligator and Florida souvenirs. The museum is open from 12:20 to 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Admission is free.

Driver faces charges in crash that killed LP woman

Continued from A1

day and was heading back to Lake Placid when he lost control of the car.

The car went into the northbound lane of U.S. 27 and collided with a Nissan sport utility vehicle driven by 39-year-old Raquel Fox of Reunion.

The force of the impact caused the SUV to flip. Harris' car then was hit by a Saturn Vue, driven by Royce Pierson of Lake Wales.

Harris was taken to Lakeland Regional Medical Center. Authorities say when he recovers, he will be taken immediately to the Polk County jail.

Fox and her 16-year-old son, Rashad, were transported to Heart of Florida Hospital in Haines City. The 81-year-old Pierson and his 79-year-old wife Constance also were taken to Lakeland Regional Medical Center.

Deputies say it appears Najera was the only person involved in the crash that was not wearing a seat belt.

Additional charges against Harris are pending and they say the investigation is ongoing.

"Traffic laws are no different than any other law we have in place, they are there for a reason: to keep people safe," said Polk county Sheriff Grady Judd. "If you violate the law and hurt someone, you will go to jail, period."

Swamp Hammock debate to continue on Tuesday

Continued from A1

events seemed to be the focus of attention. However, since then representatives Gabe White and Jeff Kennedy have revealed a multifaceted development that could accommodate everything from concerts to off-road motorsports, with such facilities as a gun range and Renaissance festivals thrown in for good measure.

There were 26 separate conditions placed on the property by the Highlands County Planning and Zoning Commission as part of a pending agreement with the county. Those appeared to be no problem for the applicants.

However, before the item on the county commission's February nighttime session got under way in earnest, commission attorney J. Ross Macbeth brought the hearing to a standstill when he told commissioners that both Florida Statutes and Highlands County code required that all written communications received by commissioners on the matter would need to be made part of the record before final action could be taken.

The language revolves around "presumed prejudicial effect of ex parte communications in a quasi-judicial hearing," such as the matter involving the proposed zoning change for the Swamp Hammock property.

According to the statute, revelation of the substance of the communications received by commissioners and the identity of the persons, groups

or entities, then making that information part of the record would be sufficient transparency to allow commissioners to proceed with final action.

The same rules would apply to site visits, investigations or expert communications taken as research into the matter.

Nevertheless, commissioners continued with nearly five hours of pros and cons from citizens and lobbying from attorneys on both sides before postponing their decision until Tuesday.

Macbeth repeated the explanation at the most recent county commission meeting last week. Calling it "a refresher course," he again cautioned commissioners they would need to have such information entered as part of the record before any final decision could be made.

"If you have written communications you've received keep this in mind," he said. "If you will locate those communications and make them part of the record they will not be considered to be prejudicial. The same would go for site visits, investigations or expert opinions received outside the hearing."

The hotly contested matter has boiled down to a decision on property rights. Owners of the land have contended they should be allowed to develop it as they wish, with neighbors saying the traffic and noise would disturb their way of life and be detrimental to their livestock, which is their livelihood.

While proponents of the development have contended

that their plans could bring a new business and new tourists to the area, neither the Highland County Economic Development Commission/Industrial Development Authority nor the Highlands County Tourist Development Commission have taken the matter up for consideration in regards to the potential impact on the county.

It is expected to be another marathon session Tuesday evening before the commission.

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1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CASE NO.: 09001269GCS
 SEC.:
 CITIMORTGAGE, INC., Plaintiff,
 v.
 HUMBERTO COLLAZO; 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; UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order of Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure dated March 18, 2013, entered in Civil Case No. 09001269GCS of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for Highlands County, Florida, wherein the Clerk of the Circuit Court will sell to the highest bidder for cash on 18th day of April, 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 631 IN BLOCK D OF SYLVAN SHORES ESTATES, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 7, 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.

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
 Phone: (863) 534-4686
 TDD: (863) 534-7777

DATED AT SEBRING, FLORIDA THIS 19th DAY OF March, 2013.

/s/ Priscilla Michalak
 Deputy Clerk
 ROBERT W. GERMAINE
 CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
 HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
 March 24, 31, 2013

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT CIVIL COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY CIVIL DIVISION
 CASE NO.: 28-2011-CA-000306
 Division
 SUNTRUST MORTGAGE, INC. Plaintiff,
 vs.
 ARCADIO DIAZ, JR., MARIA M. RIVERA-DIAZ, MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AND UNKNOWN TENANTS/OWNERS, Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure for Plaintiff entered in this cause on March 19, 2013, in the Circuit Court of HIGHLANDS COUNTY, Florida, I will sell the property situated in Highlands County, Florida described as:

LOT 29, BLOCK 4, HARDER HALL COUNTRY CLUB II, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 13, PAGE 46, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

and commonly known as: 414 DOZIER AVE, 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 April 17, 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 19th day of March, 2013.

Clerk of the Circuit Court
 By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
 Deputy Clerk
 March 24, 31, 2013

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CASE NUMBER: 11-506-GCS
 LEO H. CHRISTENSEN and CAROL A. CHRISTENSEN, Husband and Wife, Plaintiffs,
 vs.
 GEORGE B. BRYANT and CLARA J. BRYANT, Defendant.

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to a final decree of foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause in the Circuit Court of Highlands County, Florida, I will sell the property situate in Highlands County, Florida, described as:

Lot 11041, Lot 11042, and Lot 11043, of AVON PARK LAKES, UNIT No. 34, according to the plat thereof recorded in Plat Book 5, Page 38, of the Public Records of Highlands County, Florida, which has the address of: 3130 N. Pocatello Road, Avon Park, FL 33825

at public sale, to the highest and best bidder for cash, in the Jury Assembly Room in the basement of the Highlands County Courthouse located at 430 South Commerce Avenue, in Sebring, Florida at 11:00 A.M. on the 16th day of April, 2013.

(SEAL)

ROBERT W. GERMAINE
 CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
 By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
 Deputy Clerk
 March 24, 31, 2013

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CASE NO. 2010-CA-000864-XXAX-MX
 U.S. BANK TRUST, N.A. PLAINTIFF,
 v.
 KEVIN LOPEZ and YESENIA LEBRON LOPEZ, husband and Wife, et al. DEFENDANTS.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated March 1, 2013 and entered in Case No. 2012 CA 000864 in the 5th Judicial Circuit Court of Highlands County, Florida. Plaintiff is Foreclosed Asset Sales and Transfer Partnership, and the Defendants are KEVIN LOPEZ and YESENIA LEBRON LOPEZ, et al and any and all parties claiming by, through, under and against the herein individual defendants 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. I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash auction held at the Highlands County Courthouse, Jury Assembly Room, 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, FL 33870, at 11:00 a.m. after having first given notice as required by Section 45.031, Florida Statutes on the 11th day of April, 2013.

The property located in HIGHLANDS County, Florida described as:

Lot 27, Block 64, Sun 'n Lakes Estates of Sebring, Unit 5, according to the Plat thereof, as recorded in Plat Book 9 at page 51, of the public records of Highlands County, Florida

AKA 3929 Mendoza Avenue, Sebring, FL 33875

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

Dated this 12th day of March, 2013.

By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
 DEPUTY CLERK
 Clerk of the Circuit Court
 March 17, 24, 2013

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CIVIL ACTION
 CASE NO.: 11-00620
 DIVISION:
 JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff,
 vs.
 ALBERT L. SCARPATI, III, et al, Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to an Order Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated March 8, 2013, and entered in Case No. 11-00620 of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for Highlands County, Florida in which JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association, is the Plaintiff and Albert L. Scarpati, III, Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Quicken Loans, Inc. Rhonda Scarpati, 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 24th day of April, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment of Foreclosure:

LOT 4 AND THE NORTHWESTERLY 30 FEET OF LOT 5 LESS A TRAPEZOIDAL PARCEL WITHIN THE SOUTHWESTERLY 23 FEET OF SAID LOTS, OF BLOCK 242, OF SEBRING HEIGHTS SUBDIVISION, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 2, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA, MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCE AS A POINT OF BEGINNING AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 5, OF BLOCK 242, THENCE SOUTHEASTERLY FOLLOWING THE SOUTHERLY RW OF TASESCHEE DRIVE A DISTANCE OF 30 FEET TO A POINT, THENCE SOUTH 30 DEGREES 13 MINUTES 47 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 133.48 TO A POINT; THENCE NORTH 61 DEGREES 38 MINUTES 30 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 30.01 FEET TO A POINT; THENCE NORTH 86 DEGREES 00 MINUTES 45 SECONDS WEST A DISTANCE OF 55.71 FEET TO THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 4, THENCE IN A NORTHEASTERLY DIRECTION ALONG A LINE COMMON TO LOTS 3 AND 4 A DISTANCE OF 155.7 FEET TO A POINT ON THE SOUTHERLY RW LINE OF TASESCHEE DRIVE, THENCE ALONG A CURVE TO RIGHT HAVING A RADIUS OF 619.9 AN ARC DISTANCE OF 70 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

AK/A 727 TASESCHEE DR., SEBRING, FL 33870-2357

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 8th day of March, 2013.

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

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CASE NO.: 10000727GCS
 SEC.:
 THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON F/K/A THE BANK OF NEW YORK AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE TO JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A., AS TRUSTEE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF POPULAR ABS, INC. MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES SERIES 2005-5, Plaintiff,
 v.
 DENNIS LEE BROUWER, JR.; HEATHER LYNNE BROUWER; CITIFINANCIAL EQUITY SERVICES, INC. Defendants(s).

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order of Final Summary Judgment of Foreclosure dated March 19, 2013, entered in Civil Case No. 10000727GCS 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 17th day of April, 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 16, BLOCK 159, OF PLACID LAKES, SECTION THIRTEEN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 8, PAGE 13, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Commonly Known As: 621 STAR FRUIT AVENUE, LAKE PLACID, FL 33852

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim within 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
 Phone: (863) 534-4686
 TDD: (863) 534-7777

DATED AT SEBRING, FLORIDA THIS 20th DAY OF March, 2013.

/s/ Priscilla Michalak
 Deputy Clerk
 ROBERT W. GERMAINE
 CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
 HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
 March 24, 31, 2013

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CIVIL ACTION
 CASE NO.: 10000496GCS
 DIVISION: GENERAL
 PNC BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO NATIONAL CITY REAL ESTATE SERVICES, LLC, SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO NATIONAL CITY MORTGAGE, INC. F/K/A NATIONAL CITY MORTGAGE COMPANY, Plaintiff,
 vs.
 KAREN M. DUNCAN; et al., Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned Clerk of Court of HIGHLANDS County, will on the 16th day of April, 2013, at 11:00am, EST in the Jury Assembly Room, the basement of the Highlands County Courthouse, 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, FL, 33870, offer for sale and sell at public outcry to the highest and best bidder for cash, the following described property situate in HIGHLANDS County, Florida:

LOT 12, PINE AND LAKE SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 14, PAGE 3, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

pursuant to a Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered in Case No. 10000496GCS of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit in and for HIGHLANDS County, Florida, the style of which is indicated above.

WITNESS MY HAND and seal of this Court on March 19, 2013.

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

****See Americans with Disabilities Act****

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, 255 N. Broadway Avenue, Bartow, Florida 33830, (863) 534-4686, 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.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal this 7th day of March, 2013.

BOB GERMAINE
 Clerk of the Circuit Court
 By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
 As Deputy Clerk
 March 17, 24, 2013

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
 Case No. 2012 CA 000978 GCS
 FARM CREDIT OF FLORIDA, A.C.A. SUCCESSOR BY MERGER TO FARM CREDIT OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA, A.C.A. Plaintiff
 vs.
 TOIA L. ADDISON, LEWIS F. ADDISON, HIGHLANDS INDEPENDENT BANK, A FLORIDA BANKING CORPORATION, TENANT #1 AND TENANT#2, THE NAMES BEING FICTITIOUS TO ACCOUNT FOR UNKNOWN PARTIES IN POSSESSION OF THE PROPERTY, Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to an Amended Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated the 15th day of March, 2013, entered in the above-entitled cause in the Circuit Court of Highlands County, Florida, wherein Lewis F. Addison, Toia L. Addison and Highlands Independent Bank are the Defendants, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash in the Jury Assembly Room of the Highlands County Courthouse, at 430 S. Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida, at 11:00 a.m. on the 24th day of April, 2013, the following described property ("Property") in Highlands County, Florida:

LOT 19 AND LOT 20, BLOCK 392, LEISURE LAKES SECTION SEVENTEEN, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 9, PAGE 15, PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

TOGETHER WITH ALL LEASES, RENTS, ISSUES AND PROFITS ARISING FROM THE PROPERTY including the buildings and appurtenances located thereon and together with the fixtures situate therein.

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

March 17, 24, 2013

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
 CASE NO.: 2010-CA-001226
 GMAC Mortgage, LLC Plaintiff,
 vs.
 NANCY E. PERTWEE A/K/A NANCY PERTWEE AND JOHN G. PERTWEE A/K/A JOHN PERTWEE, WIFE AND HUSBAND; MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR GREENPOINT MORTGAGE FUNDING, INC.; UNKNOWN TENANTS IN POSSESSION #1 AS TO 614; 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, GRANTEE, OR OTHER CLAIMANTS Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order of Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated March 5, 2013 entered in Civil Case No. 2010-CA-001226 of the Circuit Court of the 10th Judicial Circuit in and for Highlands County, Florida, wherein GMAC MORTGAGE, LLC., Plaintiff and NANCY E. PERTWEE A/K/A NANCY PERTWEE, WIFE AND HUSBAND are defendant(s), I, Clerk of Court, ROBERT W. GERMAINE, 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., April 24, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to-wit:

LOT 29, IN BLOCK 135, OF PLACID LAKES SECTION ELEVEN, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 8, PAGE 7, 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

March 17, 24, 2013

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
 GENERAL JURISDICTION DIVISION
 Case No. 12001008GCAXMX
 U.S. Bank, National Association, as Trustee for the Holders of the Specialty Underwriting and Residential Finance Trust, Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2006-AB3, Plaintiff,
 vs.
 Angel D. Avila, et al Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Summary Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated March 7, 2013, entered in Case No. 12001008GCAXMX of the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit, in and for Highlands County, Florida, wherein U.S. Bank, National Association, as Trustee for the Holders of the Specialty Underwriting and Residential Finance Trust, Mortgage Loan Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2006-AB3 is the Plaintiff and Angel D. Avila; Unknown Spouse of Angel D. Avila; Hector L. Centeno; Justa Badillo Centeno a/k/a Justa Badillo are the Defendants, that I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at, the Jury Assembly Room in the basement of the courthouse, 590 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, FL 33870, beginning at 11:00 AM on the 8th day of April, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Final Judgment, to wit:

LOT (562), SEBRING RIDGE, SECTION B, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE(S) 46, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Dated this 8th day of March, 2013.

Robert Germaine
 As Clerk of the 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.

March 17, 24, 2013

1050 Legals

Albertelli Law
 Attorney for Plaintiff
 P.O. Box 23028
 Tampa, FL 33623
 (813) 221-4743
 (813) 221-9171 facsimile
 eService: servealaw@albertellilaw.com
 10-53803

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.

March 17, 24, 2013

1050 Legals

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1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT CIVIL COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA,
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY
CIVIL DIVISION
CASE NO.: 28-2012-CA-000528
Division

CENLAR FSB
Plaintiff,
vs.
JOHN E. TRACEY, LISA M. TRACEY, WELLS
FARGO BANK, N.A. F/K/A FIRSTMERIT BANK, NA-
TIONAL ASSOCIATION F/K/A THE OLD PHOENIX
NATIONAL BANK, WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A.
F/K/A WACHOVIA BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIA-
TION, 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 March 18, 2013, in the Circuit
Court of HIGHLANDS County, Florida, I will sell the
property situated in Highlands County, Florida de-
scribed as:

LOT 4, BLOCK 16, OF FIRST RESUBDIVISION
OF PINECREST LAKES, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT
THEREOF, RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 3, PAGE 7,
OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS
COUNTY, FLORIDA.

and commonly known as: 1302 TALBOTT CIRCLE,
AVON PARK, FL 33825; 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 Court-
house located at 430 S. Commerce Avenue, Se-
bring, Florida 33870, on April 18, 2013 at 11
a.m.

Any persons claiming an interest in the sur-
plus 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 19th day of March, 2013.
Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
Deputy Clerk
March 24, 31, 2013

IN THE CIRCUIT CIVIL COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA,
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY
CIVIL DIVISION
CASE NO.: 28-2012-CA-000748
Division

BRANCH BANKING AND TRUST COMPANY
Plaintiff,
vs.
KATHLEEN ANN MERSKIN AND UNKNOWN TEN-
ANTS/OWNERS,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF SALE
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to a Final
Judgment of Foreclosure for Plaintiff entered in
this cause on March 18, 2013, in the Circuit
Court of HIGHLANDS County, Florida, I will sell the
property situated in Highlands County, Florida de-
scribed as:

LOT 289, OF WEST SEBRING ESTATES, SEC-
TION B, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS
RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE 43, OF THE
PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY,
FLORIDA.

and commonly known as: 4414 WOOD AVE., SE-
BRING, FL 33875; including the building, appur-
tenances, 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 lo-
cated at 430 S. Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Flo-
rida 33870, on April 18, 2013 at 11 a.m.

Any persons claiming an interest in the sur-
plus 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 19th day of March, 2013.
Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
Deputy Clerk
March 24, 31, 2013

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE 10TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO: 28-2012-CA-000904
Plaintiff,
vs.

DAVID HENRY GERHART; TERESA WEBB
GERHART, et al.
Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final
Judgment of Foreclosure dated March 19, 2013,
entered in Civil Case No.: 28-2012-CA000904 of
the Circuit Court of the 10th Judicial Circuit in Se-
bring, Highlands County, Florida, Bob Germaine,
the Clerk of the Court, will sell to the highest and
best bidder for cash at the courthouse located at
590 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring at 11:00
A.M. CST on the 17th day of April, 2013 the fol-
lowing described property as set forth in said
Summary Final Judgment, to-wit:

LOT 8, BLOCK PP, SPRING LAKE-VILLAGE V, A
SUBDIVISION ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT
THEREOF RECORDED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, IN AND FOR
HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA, IN PLAT BOOK
10, PAGE 23.

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

Dated this 19th day of March, 2013.
BOB GERMAINE
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 APPEAR-
ANCE OR VISIT TO THE COURTHOUSE AS POSSI-
BLE. 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.

March 24, 31, 2013
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
OF FLORIDA, IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY
CIVIL DIVISION
Case No. 28-2012-CA-001035
Division

JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION
Plaintiff,
vs.
LUIS O. SARDUY, ESTHER GARZON,
RODRIGO GARZON, et al.
Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION
TO: RODRIGO GARZON
CURRENT RESIDENCE UNKNOWN
LAST KNOWN ADDRESS
2307 OAK BEACH BLVD
SEBRING, FL 33875

UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF JOHN T. MAHONEY,
III
CURRENT RESIDENCE UNKNOWN
LAST KNOWN ADDRESS
5 EDGE HILL DR
BRIDGEWATER, MA 02324

You are notified that an action to foreclosure a
mortgage on the following property in Highlands
County, Florida:

LOT 5, BLOCK 17, OF OAK BEACH COLONY,
ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF, AS RE-
CORDED IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE 20, OF THE
PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY,
FLORIDA.

commonly known as 2307 OAK BEACH BLVD, SE-
BRING, FL 33875 has been filed against you and
you are required to serve a copy of your written
defenses, if any, to it on Laura E. Noyes of Kass
Shuler, P.A., plaintiff's attorney, whose address is
P.O. Box 800, Tampa, Florida 33601,
(813)229-0900, on or before April 23, 2013, (or
30 days from the first date of publication, which-
ever is later) and file the original with the Clerk
of this Court either before service on the Plaintiff's
attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a
default will be entered against you for the relief
demanded in the Complaint.

1050 Legals

Dated: March 12, 2013.

CLERK OF THE COURT
Honorable ROBERT W. GERMAINE
590 S. Commerce Avenue
Sebring, Florida 33870-3701
/s/ Toni Kopp
Deputy Clerk

(COURT SEAL)
March 17, 24, 2013

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO.: GC-11-000591
JPMORGAN CHASE BANK, N.A.
Plaintiff,
vs.

JACQUELINE GREEN F/K/A JACQUELINE J.
SULLIVAN; BRIAN SULLIVAN; UNKNOWN SPOUSE
OF JACQUELINE GREEN F/K/A JACQUELINE J.
SULLIVAN; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF BRIAN SULLI-
VAN; UNKNOWN TENANT I; UNKNOWN TENANT II,
and any unknown heirs, devisees, grantees, credi-
tors, 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 17th day of April, 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 Ave-
nue, 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
situate in Highlands County, Florida:

LOTS 13 & 14, BLOCK 7, OF HIGHLANDS
PARK ESTATES, SECTION J, ACCORDING TO THE
PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 5,
PAGE 41, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGH-
LANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

pursuant to the Final Judgment entered in a case
pending in said Court, the style of which is in-
dicated 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 19th day of March, 2013.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. If you are a
person with a disability who needs any accom-
modation 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, 255 N. Broadway Ave-
nue, Bartow, Florida 33830, (941)534-4686,
at least 7 days before your scheduled court ap-
pearance, or immediately upon receiving this notifi-
cation if the time before the scheduled appearance
is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice im-
paired, call 711.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE, CLERK
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
Deputy Clerk
March 24, 31, 2013

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL ACTION
CASE NO.: 28-2009-CA-000045
DIVISION:

DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST
COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR LONG BEACH
MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2005-1,
Plaintiff,
vs.
CAROL A. WELLER, et al,
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final
Judgment of Mortgage Foreclosure dated March
7, 2013 and entered in Case No.
28-2009-CA-000045 of the Circuit Court of the
TENTH Judicial Circuit in and for HIGHLANDS
County, Florida wherein DEUTSCHE BANK NA-
TIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR
LONG BEACH MORTGAGE LOAN TRUST 2005-1
is the Plaintiff and CAROL A. WELLER; THE UN-
KNOWN SPOUSE OF CAROL A. WELLER; 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 INTER-
EST AS SPOUSE, HEIRS, DEVISEES, GRANTEEES,
OR OTHER CLAIMANTS; BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.;
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 April, 2013, the following described property as
set forth in said Final Judgment:

LOT 74, COUNTRY CLUB LAKE ESTATES, AC-
CORDING TO PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT
BOOK 8, PAGE 44, PUBLIC RECORDED OF HIGH-
LANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.
A/K/A 4120 MEDINA WAY, SEBRING, FL
33875

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

WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of the Court
on March 8, 2013.
ROBERT W. GERMAINE
Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
Deputy Clerk

Ronald R Wolfe & Associates, P.L.
P.O. Box 25018
Tampa, Florida 33622-5018
F08113885 MOSS-WAMU-CONV-R-jzephir-Team
3-F08113885

**See Americans with Disabilities Act
In accordance with the Americans Disabilities Act,
persons with disabilities needing a special accom-
modation 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.

March 17, 24, 2013
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL ACTION
CASE NO.: 28-2010-CA-000681
DIVISION:

BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.,
Plaintiff,
vs.
JASON T. WHITE A/K/A JASON THOMAS WHITE,
et al,
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Final
Judgment of Mortgage Foreclosure dated March
19, 2013 and entered in Case No.
28-2010-CA-000681 of the Circuit Court of the
TENTH Judicial Circuit in and for HIGHLANDS
County, Florida wherein BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.
is the Plaintiff and JASON T. WHITE A/K/A JASON
THOMAS WHITE; ANDREA B. MEDAUGH A/K/A
ANDREA BETH MEDAUGH; 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 17th day of April, 2013,
the following described property as set forth in said
Final Judgment:

LOT 695, SEBRING HILLS, ACCORDING TO
THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 6,
PAGE 2, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDED OF HIGH-
LANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.
A/K/A 227 QUAIL 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

1050 Legals

a claim within sixty (60) days after the sale
WITNESS MY HAND and the seal of the Court
on March 19, 2013.

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

Ronald R Wolfe & Associates, P.L.
P.O. Box 25018
Tampa, Florida 33622-5018
F10028713 COUNTRY-SPECFNMA--Team
2-F10028713

**See Americans with Disabilities Act
In accordance with the Americans Disabilities Act,
persons with disabilities needing a special accom-
modation 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.

March 24, 31, 2013
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL ACTION
CASE NO.: 28-2012-CA-000553
DIVISION:

WELLS FARGO BANK, NA,
Plaintiff,
vs.
CARIDAD B. ARENCIBIA, et al,
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED FORECLOSURE SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Or-
der Rescheduling Foreclosure Sale dated March
18, 2013 and entered in Case No.
28-2012-CA-000553 of the Circuit Court of the
TENTH Judicial Circuit in and for HIGHLANDS
County, Florida wherein WELLS FARGO BANK, NA
is the Plaintiff and CARIDAD B. ARENCIBIA; LAKE
HAVEN ESTATES HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION,
INC.; are the Defendants. The Clerk of the Court
will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at
JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM IN THE BASEMENT OF
THE HIGHLANDS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 430
SOUTH COMMERCE AVENUE AT 11:00 AM, on the
16th day of April, 2013, the following described
property as set forth in said Final Judgment:

LOT 17, BLOCK 15, SECTION ONE, LAKE HA-
VEN ESTATES, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT
THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE 6
PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY,
FLORIDA.

A/K/A 4511 LEWIS AVENUE, SEBRING, FL
33875-5138

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 March 20, 2013.

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

Ronald R Wolfe & Associates, P.L.
P.O. Box 25018
Tampa, Florida 33622-5018
F12008511 WELLSLPS-SPECFNMA-R-rtmolin-
son-Team 1 - F12008511

**See Americans with Disabilities Act
In accordance with the Americans Disabilities Act,
persons with disabilities needing a special accom-
modation 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.

March 24, 31, 2013
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
FILE NO. 13-85 PC

IN RE: ESTATE OF
ROGER CURWEN PERKINS,
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of ROGER
CURWEN PERKINS, deceased, File Number 13-85
PC, is pending in the Circuit Court for Highlands
County, Florida, Probate Division, the address of
which is 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring,
Florida 33870. The names and addresses of the
personal representative and the personal repre-
sentative's attorney are set forth below.

All creditors of the decedent and other per-
sons having claims or demands against decen-
dent's estate, including unmatured, contingent, or
unliquidated claims, on whom a copy of this notice
is served must file their claims with this court
WITHIN THE LATER OF 3 MONTHS AFTER THE
DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTI-
CE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE
OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other per-
sons having claims or demands against decen-
dent's estate, including unmatured, contingent, or
unliquidated claims, on whom a copy of this notice
is served must file their claims with this Court
WITHIN 3 MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE
FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

ALL CLAIMS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOR-
EVER BARRED.
The date of first publication of this Notice is
March 17, 2013.

Personal Representative:
/s/ Bruce W. Perkins

Attorney for Personal Representative:
/s/ Michael L. Keiber
MICHAEL L. KEIBER, ESQUIRE
Law Office of Michael L. Keiber, P.A.
129 South Commerce Avenue
Sebring, FL 33870
(863)385-5188
Florida Bar No. 620610

March 17, 24, 2013
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
FILE NO. PC 13-86
Division Probate

IN RE: ESTATE OF
BEVERLY J. FULLWIDER
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of BEVERLY J.
FULLWIDER deceased, whose date of death was
February 19, 2013, and whose social security
number is XXX-XX-1087, is pending in the Circuit
Court for Highlands County, Florida, Probate Divi-
sion, the address of which is 590 S. Commerce
Avenue, Sebring, FL 33870. The names and ad-
dresses 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 es-
tate 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
DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTI-
CE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE
OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other per-
sons having claims or demands against decen-
dent'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 PE-
RIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, IN SECTION 733.702
OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOR-
EVER 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
March 24, 2013.

Personal Representative:
/s/ Richard G. Martin
8010 Ferndale Rd.
Louisville, KY 40291

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

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT CIVIL COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF FLORIDA,
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY
CIVIL DIVISION
CASE NO.: 28-2012-CA-000864
Division

CENLAR FSB
Plaintiff,
vs.
KEVIN M. BOND, BRANDY M. BOND, SYLVAN
SHORES ASSOCIATION, INC., HIGHLANDS
INDEPENDENT BANK, 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 March 18, 2013, in the Circuit
Court of HIGHLANDS County, Florida, I will sell the
property situated in Highlands County, Florida de-
scribed as:

LOT 138, SYLVAN SHORES ESTATE, SECTION
D, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RE-
CORDED IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE 13, OF THE
PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY,
FLORIDA.

and commonly known as: 1521 TAMAH BLVD.,
LAKE PLACID, FL 33852; 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 Court-
house located at 430 S. Commerce Avenue, Se-
bring, Florida 33870, on April 18, 2013 at 11
a.m.

Any persons claiming an interest in the sur-
plus 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 19th day of March, 2013.
Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
Deputy Clerk
March 24, 31, 2013

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
FILE NO. PC 13-99
Division Probate

IN RE: ESTATE OF
ANNE K. GRODOWSKY,
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of ANNE K.
GRODOWSKY, deceased, whose date of death
was February 4, 2013, and whose social security
number is XXX-XX-1173, is pending in the Circuit
Court for Highlands County, Florida, Probate Divi-
sion, the address of which is 590 S. Commerce
Avenue, Sebring, FL 33870. The names and ad-
dresses 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 es-
tate 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 NOTI-
CE OR 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE
OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM.

All other creditors of the decedent and other per-
sons having claims or demands against decen-
dent'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 PE-
RIODS SET FORTH ABOVE, IN SECTION 733.702
OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE WILL BE FOR-
EVER 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
March 24, 2013.

Personal Representative:
/s/ Fred J. Feiler
42 Hudson Street
Oneonta, NY 13820

Attorney for Personal Representative:
/s/ Robert E. Livingston
Florida Bar No. 0031259
445 S. Commerce Avenue
Sebring, Florida 33870
Telephone: (863) 385-5156
Facsimile: (863) 385-1161

March 24, 31, 2013
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
FILE NO. PC 13-109

IN RE: ESTATE OF
FRANCES C. NASH
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
(Summary Administration)
TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS
AGAINST THE ABOVE ESTATE:
You are hereby notified that an Order of Sum-
mary Administration has been entered in the es-
tate of FRANCES C. NASH, deceased, File Number
PC 13-109, by 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, Se-
bring, Florida 33870; that the decedent's date of
death was January 19, 2013; that the total value
of the estate is \$70,000.00 and the names and
addresses of those to whom it has been assigned
by such order are: Judith A. Lang, 32 Pine Tree
Lane, Burr Ridge, IL 60527; Sally Monahan, 711
Portofino Dr., Arlington, TX 76012; and Bradley
Lang, 1501 Pershing Drive, Unit C, San Francisco,
CA 94129-3304.

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE NOTIFIED

IN THE CIRCUIT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL DIVISION
CASE NO. 12-652-GCS

Division No.
Section.

ROSE ACCEPTANCE, INC.
Plaintiff(s),
vs.
YVONNE LOFORTE, et al,
Defendant(s)

NOTICE OF SALE
PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 45

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to an Order or Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated March 19th, 2013, and entered in Case No. 12-652-GCS of the Circuit Court of the 10TH Judicial Circuit in and for HIGHLANDS County, Florida, wherein ROSE ACCEPTANCE, INC. is the Plaintiff and YVONNE SUAREZ A/K/A YVONNE LOFORTE; AMAURIS LOFORTE; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF TAMMY L. LABRADOR; UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF ALEJANDRA LABRADOR SR AND UNKNOWN SPOUSE OF ALEJANDRA LABRADOR JR are the Defendants, I will sell to the highest and best bidder for cash at the main entrance of the Highlands County Courthouse, 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida, at 11:00 a.m. on the 17th day of April, 2013, the following described property as set forth in said Order of Final Judgment, to wit:

LOT 7, BLOCK 7, SUN 'N LAKES ESTATES ACRES, SECTION 27, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 8, PAGE 24, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

LESS AND EXCEPT A PORTION OF LOT 7, BLOCK 7, OF SUN 'N LAKES ESTATES ACRES, SECTION 27, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 8, PAGE 24, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCE AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID LOT 7, THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 52'31" EAST ALONG THE NORTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY OF POLK STREET FOR A DISTANCE OF 165.624 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 07'54" EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 264.004 FEET, THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 52'31" EAST FOR A DISTANCE OF 165 FEET TO A POINT ON THE WEST LINE OF SAID LOT 7, THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 07'54" EAST ALONG THE WEST LINE OF SAID LOT 7 FOR A DISTANCE OF 264.004 FEET TO THE SOUTHEAST CORNER OF SAID LOT 7, THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 52'31" WEST ALONG THE NORTHERLY RIGHT OF WAY OF POLK STREET FOR A DISTANCE OF 165.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

LESS AND EXCEPT A PORTION OF LOT 7, BLOCK 7, OF SUN 'N LAKES ESTATES ACRES, SECTION 27, AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 8, PAGE 24, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN AT THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF SAID LOT 7, THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 07'18" EAST A DISTANCE OF 435.50 FEET, THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 55'50" EAST A DISTANCE OF 100.076 FEET, THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 07'54" WEST A DISTANCE OF 435.50 FEET, THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 52'31" WEST A DISTANCE OF 100.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

SUBJECT TO AND TOGETHER WITH A 25 FOOT EASEMENT OVER THE EAST 25.00 FEET AND THE SOUTH 35 FEET FOR ROAD ACCESS.

INCLUDES A 2001 LIMI MOBILE HOME, SERIAL NUMBER FLA14616038A & FLA14616038B and commonly known as: 144 POLK ST., LAKE PLACID, FL 33852

IF YOU ARE A PERSON CLAIMING A RIGHTS 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 TITLED TO ANY REMAINING FUNDS. AFTER 60 DAYS, ONLY THE OWNER OF RECORDS OF THE DATE OF THE LIS PENDENS MAY CLAIM THE SURPLUS.
DATED AT HIGHLANDS County, Florida, this 19th day of March, 2013.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE, Clerk
HIGHLANDS County, Florida
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
Deputy Clerk

"In accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, persons in need of a special accommodation to participate in this proceeding shall, within seven (7) days prior to any proceeding, contact the Administrative Office of the Court, HIGHLANDS County, 590 SOUTH COMMERCE AVENUE, SEBRING, FL 33870, County Phone: 863-402-6594 TDD 1-800-955-8771 or 1-800-955-8770 via Florida Relay Service".

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Lake Placid: 863-441-2514

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Rachel Hicks, Owner
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Lakeview Dr., Sebring
863-202-0152

Bell Fisheries Inc.
Farm Raised Catfish. We sell by the pound or you can come & catch yourself in our 3 acre pond! We have two large docks you can fish from. We also have large trophy Bass and Bream that we feed twice a day. Great fun for everyone, call or come by and see us!
James L Bell, Jr., Owner
120 Sandspur Lane,
Lake Placid, FL 33852
863-465-7112
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4060 Commercial Dr. • Sebring, FL 33870
CERTIFIED SERVICE DIVISION
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(863) 385-0517
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1100 Announcements

CHECK YOUR AD
Please check your ad on the first day it runs to make sure it is correct. Sometimes instructions over the phone are misunderstood and an error can occur. If this happens to you, please call us the first day your ad appears and we will be happy to fix it as soon as we can.
If We can assist you, please call us:
314-9876
News-Sun Classified

1200 Lost & Found

FOUND ORANGE TABBY Kitten, 3 to 4 months old. Very friendly. Hyacinth Ave & Lakewood Road Area. Call 863-385-6630

LOST 3 CATS! 1 White neutered male w/gray spots on side & gray tail. 2 Spayed females, 1 gray and black striped tabby w/green eyes & 1 tan gray and orange calico w/stripes on legs. Spring Lake Area. REWARD OFFERED. Call 863-214-3441

2000 Employment

2100 Help Wanted

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, Avon Park Community Child Development Center.
Minimum Qualifications:
1) Bachelor's degree in education, early childhood education or organizational management, with at least 24 credit hours in early childhood education. 2) Five (5) years experience in early childhood education. 3) Ability to use Microsoft Office programs: Word, Excel, Outlook, Power Point and E-time for payroll. 4) Physical requirements: To perform essential functions and tasks which may include exerting up to 20 pounds of force occasionally and/or 10 pounds of force as frequently as necessary; lifting, crawling, kneeling, bending, stooping, pulling and pushing, if required. 5) Satisfactory clearance of criminal history (DCF screening), records check, drugs creening and financial integrity report. 6) Valid Driver's license.
Responsibilities:
Has knowledge and experience in early childhood child development and curriculum. Leadership position to develop and manage the early childhood services for children and their families at Avon Park Community Child Development Center. Focus on teacher preparation ad staff development, ensuring compliance with funding sources for education and staff qualifications.
DEADLINE: April 10, 2013.
Reply to: Send application and resume to Pat Landress, P. O. Box 868, Avon Park, FL 33826 Other information: For inquiries regarding salary and benefits, call Pat Landress @ 863-471-5583

ADVERTISE ON THIS PAGE TODAY!
Call Anita at: 863-385-6155 or Email: amarsella@newssun.com

2100 Help Wanted

Classified ads get fast results

* BUSY MEDICAL PRACTICE *
Has Full Time & Part Time positions available. Please send Resume to: P. O. Box 991 Lake Placid, Florida 33862

SEEKING AN Experienced Expanded Function Dental Assistant, Qualified in Temporary Crowns. Full time position. Send resume to P.O. Box 468, Sebring, Florida 33871.

THRIFT STORE MANAGER
Lake Placid Store, (30) hours a week, responsible for the sale and processing of donated items to the NU-HOPE elder Care Services Thrift Store. Apply in person at NU-HOPE Elder Care Services, Inc. 6414 U.S. 27 South, Sebring, FL. EOE DFWP.



EXPERIENCE THE JOYS AND REWARDS Of Being A Comfort Keeper If you have a passion for improving the quality of life for others while helping people live independently and happily in their own homes, you could be a Comfort Keeper! We are now hiring CNA, HHA and Home-maker Companion Positions in the Highlands County area. We offer flexible full-time or part-time hours. Contact us to learn more about how you can develop a rewarding career enriching the lives of others with Comfort Keepers. Apply online today at: <http://ck381.ersp.biz/employment> 863-385-9100

2100 Help Wanted

CENTURY STORAGE IS SEEKING A Motivated, friendly and outgoing associate for a position at Sebring's premier self storage facility. The position requires customer service, cleaning, light maintenance and handling customer transactions.
Call 863-386-0880 or email resume to bayview@century-storage.com.

GENERAL PLANT LABORERS and OTHER VARIOUS POSITIONS needed for local precast hollowcore company. Experience in concrete manufacturing preferred.
Email resume to juliem@floridaprecast-ind.com Fax: 863-655-1215 Phone: 863-655-1515.

PARTS PERSON

Lykes Citrus Division has an opening for a full time Parts Person at their Basinger Grove Shop. Duties include answering phones, parts ordering, inventory control, distribution/stocking, invoicing of incoming /outgoing parts, ability to lift 25 lbs. Successful applicants should possess 1 year experience in parts inventory or related field and have computer skills.

Lykes Citrus Division offers competitive wages and benefit package including Medical, Dental, Vision, Life, AD&D and LTD insurance plus paid vacation and holidays.

Interested applicants should apply in person at:

Lykes Citrus Division
7 Lykes Road
Lake Placid, FL 33852

Lykes Citrus Division is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer/ Affirmative Action/ Drug and Tobacco Free Workplace/ M/F/D/V.

PICK UP & DELIVERY DRIVER for Lake Placid Store - part time, primarily for pick up and delivery of donated items for resale at the Lake Placid Store, Must have a clean driving record. Apply in person at NU-HOPE Elder Care Services, Inc. 6414 U.S. 27 South, Sebring, FL. EOE DFWP.

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

2100 Help Wanted

RENT KING IS NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS for CSR/Sales position. Must have clean driving record and pass drug screen and background check. Apply in person @ 810 US HWY 27, Avon Park.

SEVERAL TUTORS NEEDED Monday - Thursday 3 - 5pm. for students in K-12 grade. One tutor needed Monday through Friday from 8 - 3pm. for student in 8th grade. \$25.00 - \$30.00 per hr. Please Call 786-326-5179 or 305-825-1006 for more information. Position to start immediately.

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

TREE SERVICE IS SEEKING Exp. Tree Worker. Drivers License required Leave detailed message at 863-465-7491

3000 Financial

4000 Real Estate

4040 Homes For Sale

DINNER LAKE fixer upper on one acre, 3 BR, 2 BA, wood burning fireplace and garage. Arbuckle Creek Rd between BP and boat ramp. Home owner motivated to sell. Call 863-385-3162 for showing. Ad Start Date:

4080 Homes for Sale Sebring

SEBRING - 1505 Hydee St., Water Front CBS, 2BR, 2BA, 2 car garage. Nice, located on canal directly into Lake Charlotte, dock, covered boat house, \$80,000 - C. Wesley Ward, Broker 863-385-7606 Cell 863-202-6515. Extra lot available.

4100 Homes for Sale Lake Placid

LAKE PLACID 8 homes for sale. 108 Anderson St., 190 Crestmore Dr., 142 Vision St., 147 Zion St., 106 E. Smith Ave., 134 E. Smith Ave., 161 E. Smith Ave., 172 E. Smith Ave. All Properties for \$60,000. Call David at 917-952-3348.

5000 Mobile Homes

5050 Mobile Homes For Sale

PALM HARBOR RETIREMENT COMMUNITY HOMES \$8500 off, 2/2 & 3/2 from \$39,900 Call John Lyons 800-622-2832 EXT 210 for details <http://www.palmharbor.com/model-center/plantcity/>

5050 Mobile Homes For Sale

SEBRING - DOUBLE WIDE 55 plus Sebring Village 2BR, 2BA, 12' X 20' screened porch, carport, W/D, Sears appl., new water heater, irrigation sys, new galvanized roof. Pets 25lb. max. \$10,000. obo 863-655-0876

SEBRING - Mobile Home / Double wide with 2 Lots. 3BR, 2BA Utility Room, Carport, Frt. Porch, Deed restrictions, 115 Sunbird Place. 55+ \$39,900.00 863-382-4141 Or 863-414-7090

SEBRING - REMODELED SINGLE WIDE MOBILE HOME 12' X 60' with Land. 2BR 1 1/2 BA, 12' X 24' Screened Porch. Call for more info 863-382-9203

6000 Rentals

6050 Duplexes for Rent

LAKE PLACID * TOMOKA HEIGHTS * Gated 55+ Community, Lg. 1 Br, 1Ba, Furn. / Unfurn., Screened Lanai, W/D, Clubhouse, heated pool. No Pets - No smoke \$500/mo. annual 863-840-1337

6150 Furnished Apartments

SEBRING FURNISHED/UNFURNISHED 1BR or Studios, on the circle. Some Utilities incl. \$450 - 600. Attn: Vets. Special programs for veterans, subsidize payments, call to see if you qualify. 863-386-9100.

6200 Unfurnished Apartments

AVON PARK * LEMONTREE APTS * 1BR \$520 mo. + \$350 Sec. Deposit, available immediately. Washer/Dryer & WSG included. Pets OK! Call Alan 386-503-8951

AVON PARK - NW - APARTMENTS 2BR/2BA \$450 mo. New 1BR/1BA \$395 mo. Plus 1st & Sec. Central Heat & Air. No Dogs or Cats. 863-449-0195

LAKE PLACID - APARTMENTS & HOMES for rent from \$350 / mo. Call Sara Rios @ CENTURY 21 Compton Realty 863-465-1458

AVON PARK RENT SUBSIDIZED
1,2,3,& 4 BR Apts in a Central Location, Separate Family & Elderly/Disabled properties; Ridgedale Apts, Lakeside Park & Delaney Hgts. Based on household income.
No Application Fee!
Please Call 863-452-4432 TTY 800-955-8771 On-Line Applications! www.AvonParkHA.org

6200 Unfurnished Apartments

SEBRING * SUN 'N LAKE * 1BR, 1BA. Includes TV, Wi Fi internet, cable, elec. No Pets or Smoker. Single \$500/mo. or Couple \$550/mo. \$500 Sec. Deposit. 863-214-6027

6250 Furnished Houses

LAKE PLACID - Near Lake Placid Boat Ramp, with Lake Access. Very Nice 2BR,1BA, Appliances, A/C. \$550/mo. plus \$50 water. 863-465-1354.

6300 Unfurnished Houses

LAKE PLACID 3/2 131 Loquat Rd. Screened patio. \$700/mo. + \$1,000. security. Call 305-804-5464

\$100.00 OFF FIRST MONTH'S RENT!
AVON PARK
North Central Heights Homes, a new "Rent Restricted" single family home development in Avon Park. Rents average in the low to mid 500's & 600's! 2, 3 and 4 BR Available!
DON'T DELAY APPLY TODAY! NO APPLICATION FEE!
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY
CALL:
TTY 800-955-8771 863-452-4432 On-line Applications www.avonparkha.org

SEBRING * NICE * 2BR, 2BA, 1CG, Cathedral Ceiling. 6530 Mattee Road. \$700 Monthly, Plus \$750 Security Deposit. Call 863-385-3101

6400 Rooms for Rent

SEBRING- FEMALE 42 / 55 yrs to share House, Garage, W/D & Kitchen. 1Br, 1Ba, Split Plan, TV & I-net hookup, elec. & water included. \$500/mo. w/ \$200 deposit. 863-991-3878

6550 Warehouses for Rent

LAKE PLACID - WAREHOUSES for rent from \$47 / mo. & Commercial space for rent from \$428 / mo. Contact Sara Rios, Compton Rental Properties. 863-465-4158

6600 Business & Offices For Rent

PROFESSIONAL OFFICE space avail., 600 sq.ft., Golf View Plaza, Sebring, 1251 US Hwy 27 S., across from Lake Jackson. Exceptional location, great parking. 863-385-5510, 863-414-3829.

6750 Commercial Rental

SEBRING AVAILABLE. 3922 Kenilworth Blvd, 3000 sq ft, \$1100/mo: (Will split in half) BA, lg overhead doors, near Sebring High School. Call Chip. Boring 863-385-0077 or Cell 863-381-1298

7000 Merchandise

7020 Auctions

AUCTION!
10AM, Thurs, March 28

4524-SF Commercial building 746 US-27 N. Avon Park Auction held onsite and online

1:30pm, Thurs, March 28 9379-SF Home on Lake June 363 Catfish Creek Rd. Lake Placid Auction held onsite and online

16+ Commercial AC 511 US-27 , Venus Auction site: 363 Catfish Creek Rd, Lake Placid and online

23+ Agricultural AC Steve Roberts Special Zolfo Springs Auction site: 363 Catfish Creek Rd, Lake Placid and online

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800-257-4161 higgenbotham.com
M.E.Higgenbotham, CAI, CES, AARE AU 305 AB158

7040 Appliances

RANGE TOP Surface unit, digital. 1 yr. old. Paid \$1000. Asking \$200. Call 863-532-0354

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7180 Furniture

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NOTICE

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9100 Motorcycles & ATVs

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The News-Sun is seeking an experienced, FT circulation manager. This position is responsible for growing circulation of the News-Sun, for executing face-to-face outside sales, circulation reporting, budgeting and managing relationships with delivery vendor(s) and two direct reports. Candidates should have a minimum of 2 years of high-level circulation managing experience including experience in outside sales and retention programs. Must have familiarity with circulation audit bureau regulations as well as periodic postal regulations. Strong computer skills including Word and Excel, experience in MediaSpan a plus. Excellent benefits, salary + bonus.
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Five-Day forecast for Highlands County

TODAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Strong thunderstorms, mainly later	Breezy with sun and clouds	Cool with partial sunshine	Cool with plenty of sunshine	Sunny; cool in the a.m., then nice
87° / 61°	76° / 50°	69° / 42°	67° / 43°	73° / 48°
Winds: SW at 12-25 mph	Winds: NW at 10-20 mph	Winds: NNW at 7-14 mph	Winds: NNW at 6-12 mph	Winds: NNE at 6-12 mph



Almanac

Temperature
Readings at Archbold Biological Station in Lake Placid

High Tuesday	85°
Low Tuesday	56°
High Wednesday	80°
Low Wednesday	50°
High Thursday	75°
Low Thursday	32°

Heat Index
For 3 p.m. today

Relative humidity	54%
Expected air temperature	87°
Makes it feel like	91°

Barometer

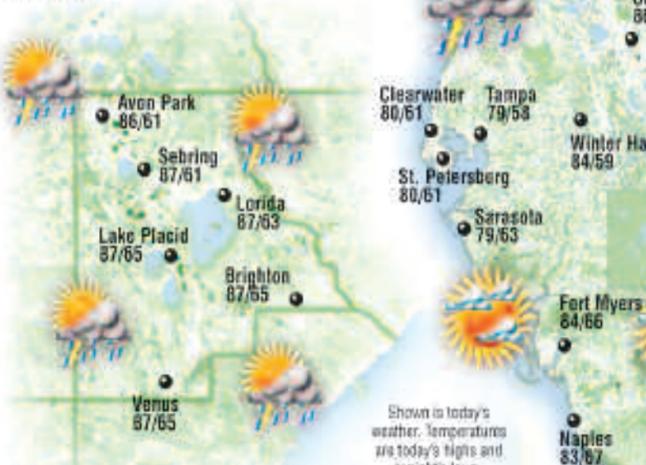
Tuesday	29.93
Wednesday	29.93
Thursday	29.96

Precipitation

Tuesday	0.00"
Wednesday	0.03"
Thursday	0.00"
Month to date	0.13"
Year to date	1.97"

Regional Summary

A couple of thunderstorms around, mainly later, when they can be strong today, windy and warm with clouds and sun. Partly cloudy tonight. Breezy tomorrow with intervals of clouds and sun.



Farm Report

A couple of thunderstorms around today, mainly later, when they can be strong. Winds southwest 15-25 mph. Expect 3-6 hours of sunshine with a 65% chance of precipitation.

Water Restrictions

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

Weather History

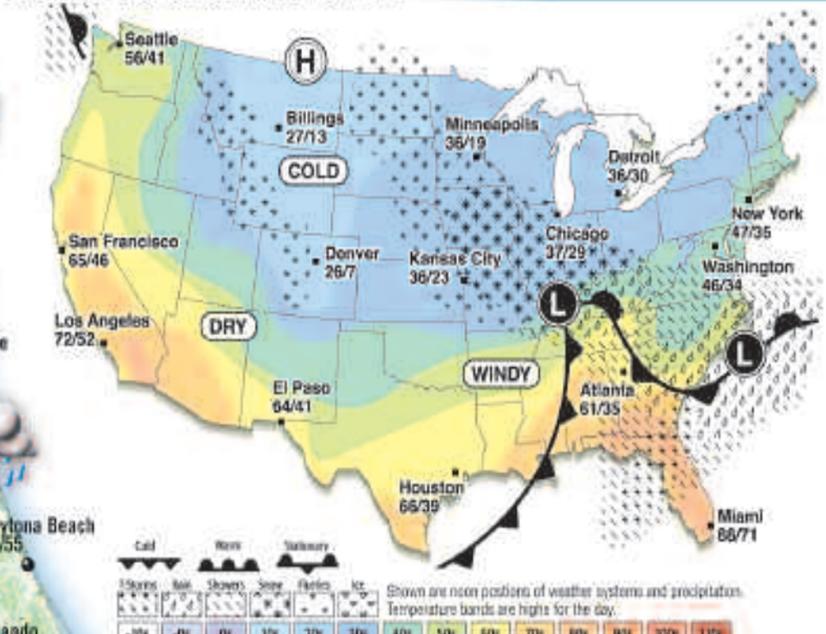
Kansas City, Mo., knows the danger of severe spring thunderstorms and tornadoes. However, on March 24, 1912, 25 inches of snow accumulated in 24 hours.

Sun and Moon

	Today	Monday
Sunrise	7:26 a.m.	7:28 a.m.
Sunset	7:39 p.m.	7:40 p.m.
Moonrise	5:19 p.m.	8:36 p.m.
Moonset	5:22 a.m.	6:00 a.m.



National Forecast for March 24



National Summary

The center of a large storm will move into the Tennessee River Valley today, spreading impacts from the Plains to the Southeast. Snow will continue to fall in Iowa and Missouri, as snow begins in Indiana and Ohio. While rain will push ahead of the storm's center, into the Carolinas and eventually the Delmarva Peninsula, thunderstorms will continue to threaten the Southeast from Tennessee to Florida. Some thunderstorms in eastern Georgia and Florida may be strong, containing damaging wind gusts.

U.S. Cities

City	Today	Mon.	Tue.
Albuquerque	51/28/pc	51/30/s	57/35/s
Atlanta	61/35/1	57/29/pc	49/33/s
Baltimore	45/31/v	38/22/s	48/32/s
Birmingham	47/32/1	52/31/pc	52/31/s
Boston	46/32/pc	42/22/c	45/32/pc
Charlotte	40/34/1	54/31/pc	53/31/pc
Chengde	23/14/1	27/15/1	43/23/pc
Chicago	37/29/s	39/27/s	39/25/v
Cleveland	32/27/c	38/30/s	37/28/s
Columbus	36/23/s	38/30/s	37/27/s
Dallas	55/24/s	56/23/s	58/29/s
Denver	35/21/1	39/16/c	45/30/s
Detroit	36/20/c	37/28/s	39/27/s
Harrisburg	44/32/pc	36/22/s	42/29/c
Honolulu	74/63/s	80/67/c	82/68/pc
Houston	66/29/s	62/28/s	65/28/s
Indianapolis	34/27/s	32/27/s	36/29/s
Jackson, MS	64/33/pc	55/32/s	54/30/s
Kansas City	38/23/s	37/28/s	41/25/pc
Louisville	48/30/1	39/23/s	41/25/pc
Little Rock	54/31/pc	52/30/pc	52/30/s

World Cities

City	Today	Mon.	Tue.
Auckland	89/71/s	88/70/s	89/71/s
Athens	65/54/s	67/54/c	68/52/pc
Beirut	65/54/s	71/62/s	70/61/pc
Berlin	32/17/s	34/18/pc	35/21/pc
Bethesda	67/64/s	33/65/pc	66/58/pc
Calgary	25/11/pc	25/11/pc	32/22/pc
Dublin	36/28/s	38/30/c	33/30/s
Edmonton	24/21/pc	32/19/pc	32/13/pc
Frederick	62/73/pc	78/64/pc	71/59/s
Geneva	57/44/s	53/37/c	56/38/c
Havana	90/68/s	87/63/pc	79/61/pc
Hong Kong	81/68/1	75/68/c	75/70/1
Jerusalem	59/45/s	72/55/s	80/52/pc
Johannesburg	75/57/1	75/54/1	73/52/1
Kiev	23/19/pc	26/19/s	25/16/c

Florida Cities

City	Today	Mon.	Tue.
Cape Coral	84/65/pc	75/52/pc	71/47/pc
Clearwater	80/61/1	88/52/pc	83/43/pc
Orlando	87/65/pc	81/54/pc	72/49/1
Fort Myers	84/66/pc	76/52/pc	71/47/pc
Key West	84/75/pc	78/63/pc	68/58/1

World Cities

City	Today	Mon.	Tue.
Miami	85/71/pc	83/58/1	73/52/1
Miami Beach	87/65/1	79/50/pc	70/43/pc
Orlando	86/68/1	74/48/pc	68/42/pc
Panama City	88/70/pc	82/56/pc	73/50/1
St. Augustine	82/54/1	87/48/pc	82/38/s
St. Petersburg	80/61/1	86/53/pc	84/47/pc
Sarasota	79/63/1	73/51/pc	69/45/pc
Tallahassee	83/68/1	85/59/1	82/52/1
Tampa	79/68/1	67/58/pc	65/44/pc
W. Palm Bch	87/78/pc	78/64/pc	72/49/pc
Winter Haven	84/59/1	73/49/pc	67/41/pc



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News-Sun

Sunday, March 24, 2013

Gordon helps Durrah Martin improvement



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE

From left, City Council member Terry Heston, Clark Foundation founder Jerry Clark, Deputy Mayor Brenda Gray, Mayor Sharon Schuler, Thomas Gordon, Wal-Mart District Manager Rob Goding, Scott's Company Manager Chris Strunk and County Commissioner Jim Brooks break ground Saturday morning for the refurbishing of fields at the Durrah Martin Baseball Complex in Avon Park. The Ultimate Home Field Advantage Project, a partnership between Wal-Mart, Scott's, Warner Brothers Studios, MLB.com, Hillshire Farms along with the Clark Foundation and Thomas Gordon Foundation chose Durrah Martin among the select fields around the country for improvement.

Lady Dragons tame Titans after loss to Streaks

By ALEX COYNE

News-Sun correspondent

LAKE PLACID – Lake Placid softball hosted the Tenoroc Titans Friday night.

A little rain didn't stop the Dragons from playing solid, ending the game in the fifth inning due to the 10-run mercy rule, 14-4.

With players coming back, fresh off injuries and illness, the defense looked significantly different.

"Things happen during the course of the season – illness, injury, family occasions – the girls need to learn to step up in different positions rather than getting comfortable in one position," head coach Alicia Cheshire stated. "This was a good opportunity to get some experience in those different positions."

The Titans managed to get numbers on the board early, but the 1-0, first-inning lead was the only lead they would possess on the night.

It was not until the second inning that the Dragons scored some runs.

Breauna Corley and Carly Hopper both rapped out singles, stole three consecutive bases, and landed runs on wild pitches.

Shelbi Bertram scored the third run of the inning, and Lake Placid ran away with the lead.

A walk and three quick outs allowed Lake Placid to go on a third inning rally in the bottom of the frame.

Annie Weber-Callahan started things off with a single, and three stolen bases for



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE
 Laine Weber-Callahan puts a charge into this run-scoring triple Thursday night at Sebring.

a run.

Courtney Delaney was walked, stole second and third, and was brought in by Corley's single.

Corley stole her way to third as Hopper was walked and managed to steal second base.

Raveen Gobourne's single brought Corley in, and Laine Weber-Callahan earned two RBI on her stand-up double.

Taylor Test followed in Weber-Callahan's footsteps by earning herself a double and an RBI.

Annie Weber-Callahan then got on first and had one last RBI of the inning, and the scoreboard read 10-1 in

the Dragons' favor going into the fourth.

A walk for the Titans, a few stolen bases, and a base hit left Tenoroc with one run in the top of the fourth.

Corley's single and a pair of stolen bases allowed Kaeli Sperlock to bring her home on a single.

Tamija Dougless was hit by a pitch and an overthrow stealing second brought Sperlock home.

Laine Weber-Callahan was also walked, and Douglas found her way to home plate closing the fourth inning with a score of 13-2.

In hopes of keeping lead above 10, the Dragons fell

just short of the mercy rule in the top of the fifth inning when two runs were allowed for the titans.

It was 13-4, and the Dragons had to score just one run to call the game.

Annie Weber-Callahan started the bottom of the fifth with a single.

Delaney was soon thrown out at first, but the productive out allowed Callahan to advance to second base.

Corley then stepped up to the plate and cracked one down the third base line for a standing triple.

Weber-Callahan made it

See LP, Page B4



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE
 Josh Townsend fires to first on this double play attempt Friday as South Florida and St. Petersburg battled to a 1-1 tie before rains postponed the game in the ninth.

Panthers comeback halted by rain

By DAN HOEHNE

daniel.hoehne@newssun.com

AVON PARK – After another close Suncoast Conference loss Wednesday, 7-5 to visiting St. Petersburg, the South Florida State College Panthers looked to even up the series at home Friday night.

And though they got a stellar pitching performance from starter Travis McPherson, their own bats were held in check as well.

The hard-throwing right hander rolled through a one, two, three first on a grounder, strike out and fly out, though Titan starter Chris Chism nearly matched him, giving up just a two-out single to Lucas Bagnara in a scoreless bottom of the first.

St. Pete's got a runner on when Dexture McCall bounced one up the middle with one out in the second.

But McCall was forced at second on a Skylar Fox grounder to short, and Fox was soon picked off first on an alert throw from catcher Josh Baber.

South Florida mounted a mild threat in the bottom of the third when Carlos Matamoros walked with two out and Seth Abeln followed with an infield single.

But Chism induced a grounder to third to get out of it.

Things stayed scoreless into the fifth when the Titans put a pair of hits together to put runners on the corners.

An errant pitch soon got

away and the scoreboard was dented, though McPherson recorded the next three outs in order to limit the damage.

The Panthers would even it up in the sixth, when Bagnara knocked Matamoros in and it would remain at 1-1 into the ninth, when the rains came and halted the proceedings.

The game is scheduled to be completed on the Titans next visit, Wednesday, April 17, though South Florida was at St. Petersburg Saturday to try to get a win in what now becomes the middle game of the three-game set.

The Panther tie was the one bit of good news from late-week, area baseball.

Avon Park fell at Frostproof Friday, 7-1, as the Red Devil offense, an early-season wrecking crew, continues its' recent struggles.

Lake Placid lost a close decision against DeSoto Friday, 4-3, despite starting pitcher Tyler Carr's 11 strike outs.

This followed a 9-0 Thursday loss to LaBelle for the Dragons.

And though freshman Jimmy Peck put a charge into one Thursday night at Winter Haven, belting a late-inning, three-run homer, Sebring came up well short in a 12-6 loss to the Blue Devils.

The Blue Streaks host Avon Park Monday, while Lake Placid travels to Hardee Tuesday for their next contest.

South Florida surprises with split

By DAN HOEHNE

daniel.hoehne@newssun.com

AVON PARK – And the roller-coaster ride has begun.

In a season that has already had its' share of ups and downs, South Florida softball's Thursday split to open the Suncoast Conference schedule was a stark example of both.

Hosting the Polk State Eagles, the Lady Panthers could do little right in the first-game, 12-0 loss.

An error, stolen base and an RBI single got the Eagles on the board in the first, and things held steady into the

third – when things began to fall apart.

Errors, hesitations on plays and timely Polk hits – including a one-hop rocket that caromed off the right shoulder of starting pitcher Alexis Adams – brought four runs in for a 5-0 lead.

A game Adams gutted it out and went the rest of the way, but the Eagles were connecting and the defense behind her wasn't exactly stellar, while the offense offered up little.

"I couldn't even tell you

See SFSC, Page B4



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE

Lexi Belardi and the Lady Panthers bounced back from a calamitous conference opener to win Thursday's nightcap over visiting Polk State.



News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE
 Travis McPherson had a strong outing Friday, limiting St. Petersburg to a lone run before rains postponed the 1-1 tie.

THE SCOREBOARD

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-New York	41	26	.612	—
x-Brooklyn	40	28	.588	1.5
Boston	36	32	.529	5.5
Philadelphia	26	42	.382	15.5
Toronto	26	43	.377	16

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-Miami	54	14	.794	—
Atlanta	38	31	.551	16.5
Washington	25	43	.368	29
Orlando	18	52	.257	37
Charlotte	16	52	.235	38

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Indiana	43	26	.623	—
Chicago	36	31	.537	6
Milwaukee	34	34	.500	8.5
Detroit	23	47	.329	20.5
Cleveland	22	47	.319	21

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-San Antonio	53	16	.768	—
Memphis	46	22	.676	6.5
Houston	38	31	.551	15
Dallas	33	36	.478	20
New Orleans	24	46	.343	29.5

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Oklahoma City	51	19	.729	—
x-Denver	48	22	.686	3
Utah	34	35	.493	16.5
Portland	33	36	.478	17.5
Minnesota	24	43	.358	25.5

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-L.A. Clippers	47	22	.681	—
Golden State	39	31	.557	8.5
L.A. Lakers	36	34	.514	11.5
Sacramento	25	44	.362	22
Phoenix	23	47	.329	24.5

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division

Friday's Games

New York 99, Toronto 94
Indiana 102, Milwaukee 78
Oklahoma City 97, Orlando 89
Portland 104, Atlanta 93
Miami 103, Detroit 89
Houston 116, Cleveland 78
New Orleans 90, Memphis 83
Dallas 104, Boston 94
San Antonio 104, Utah 97, OT
Minnesota 117, Phoenix 86
Washington 103, L.A. Lakers 100

Saturday's Games

Detroit at Charlotte, late
Toronto at New York, late
Indiana at Chicago, late
Boston at Memphis, late
Sacramento at Denver, late
Washington at Golden State, late
Brooklyn at L.A. Clippers, late

Sunday's Games

Atlanta at Milwaukee, 3 p.m.
Charlotte at Miami, 6 p.m.
San Antonio at Houston, 7 p.m.
Chicago at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
Portland at Oklahoma City, 7 p.m.
Utah at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.
Brooklyn at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Philadelphia at Sacramento, 9 p.m.

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Pittsburgh	24	8	0	48	114	83
New Jersey	14	11	6	34	78	85
N.Y. Rangers	15	13	2	32	71	73
N.Y. Islanders	13	15	3	29	90	105
Philadelphia	13	16	1	27	81	92

Northeast Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Montreal	20	5	5	45	97	75
Boston	20	6	3	43	84	61
Ottawa	16	9	6	38	78	67
Toronto	16	12	3	35	94	90
Buffalo	12	15	4	28	84	99

Southeast Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Winnipeg	16	14	2	34	81	96
Carolina	15	13	2	32	85	86
Washington	14	16	1	29	89	88
Tampa Bay	13	16	1	27	98	90
Florida	9	16	6	24	77	111

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Chicago	24	3	3	51	102	66
Detroit	15	11	5	35	85	80
St. Louis	16	11	2	34	87	83
Columbus	13	12	6	32	73	80
Nashville	12	13	6	30	75	84

Northwest Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Minnesota	17	10	2	36	77	71
Vancouver	15	9	6	36	83	83
Edmonton	11	11	7	29	72	85
Calgary	11	14	4	26	82	101
Colorado	11	14	4	26	75	92

Pacific Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Anaheim	22	4	4	48	100	76
Los Angeles	17	11	2	36	88	75
San Jose	13	10	6	32	71	77
Dallas	14	13	3	31	78	88
Phoenix	13	14	4	30	80	87

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Friday's Games

Pittsburgh 4, N.Y. Islanders 2
Columbus 5, Calgary 1
Washington 6, Winnipeg 1
Detroit 5, Anaheim 1

Saturday's Games

Tampa Bay at Ottawa, late
San Jose at Minnesota, late
Vancouver at Los Angeles, late
Boston at Toronto, late
Buffalo at Montreal, late
Florida at New Jersey, late
Columbus at Nashville, late
Colorado at Dallas, late
St. Louis at Edmonton, late

Sunday's Games

Florida at N.Y. Islanders, 5 p.m.
Washington at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Winnipeg, 8 p.m.
Vancouver at Colorado, 8 p.m.
St. Louis at Calgary, 8 p.m.
Detroit at Anaheim, 8 p.m.

MLB Preseason

AMERICAN LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct
Kansas City	19	6	.760
Baltimore	16	6	.727
Seattle	18	8	.692
Cleveland	15	10	.600
Detroit	15	11	.577
Tampa Bay	14	12	.538



LIVE SPORTS ON TV

AUTO RACING

SUNDAY

2:30 p.m. NASCAR – Auto Club 400 FOX

BOWLING

SUNDAY

1 p.m. PBA – Tour League Qualifier ESPN

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

SUNDAY

11 a.m. NIT Tournament ESPN
Noon NCAA Tournament CBS
2:30 p.m. NCAA Tournament CBS
5 p.m. NCAA Tournament CBS
6 p.m. NCAA Tournament TNT
7 p.m. NCAA Tournament TBS
8:30 p.m. NCAA Tournament TNT
9:30 p.m. NCAA Tournament TBS

MONDAY

7 p.m. NIT Tournament ESPN
9 p.m. NIT Tournament ESPN
11:30 p.m. NIT Tournament ESPN2

TUESDAY

7:30 p.m. NIT Tournament ESPN

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

SUNDAY

1 p.m. Mississippi State at Kentucky SUN

GOLF

SUNDAY

9 a.m. EuroPGA – Maybank Malaysia Open GOLF
12:30 p.m. PGA – Arnold Palmer Invitational GOLF
2:30 p.m. PGA – Arnold Palmer Invitational NBC
5 p.m. PGA – Mississippi Gulf Resort Classic GOLF
7 p.m. LPGA – Kia Classic GOLF

MONDAY

Noon Tavistock Cup – Day 1 GOLF

TUESDAY

11 a.m. Tavistock Cup – Day 2 GOLF

MLB PRESEASON

MONDAY

1 p.m. Boston at Baltimore ESPN

TUESDAY

1 p.m. St. Louis at N.Y. Mets ESPN

NBA

SUNDAY

7 p.m. Chicago at Minnesota WGN

TUESDAY

7 p.m. New York at Boston TNT
9:30 p.m. L.A. Clippers at Dallas TNT

NHL

SUNDAY

8 p.m. Tampa Bay at Winnipeg SUN

TUESDAY

7:30 p.m. Buffalo at Tampa Bay SUN

SOCCER WORLD CUP QUALIFIER

TUESDAY

3:55 p.m. France vs. Spain ESPN2
10:30 p.m. Mexico vs. United States ESPN

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

SUNDAY

Noon NCAA Tournament ESPN2
2:30 p.m. NCAA Tournament ESPN2
5 p.m. NCAA Tournament ESPN2
7:30 p.m. NCAA Tournament ESPN2

MONDAY

7 p.m. NCAA Tournament ESPN2
9 p.m. NCAA Tournament ESPN2

TUESDAY

7 p.m. NCAA Tournament ESPN2
9 p.m. NCAA Tournament ESPN2

Times, games, channels all subject to change

Chicago	11	10	.524
Boston	14	13	.519
Texas	13	13	.500
Minnesota	12	13	.480
Houston	11	13	.458
Oakland	10	12	.455
Toronto	11	14	.440
New York	11	16	.407
Los Angeles	6	15	.286

NATIONAL LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct
Atlanta	16	12	.571
Colorado	13	11	.542
Arizona	13	13	.500
St. Louis	12	12	.500
Chicago	14	15	.483
Philadelphia	12	13	.480
San Francisco	11	12	.478
New York	10	11	.476
San Diego	13	15	.464
Washington	11	13	.458
Pittsburgh	11	14	.440
Miami	10	13	.435
Los Angeles	10	15	.400
Milwaukee	9	14	.391
Cincinnati	9	15	.375

NOTE: Split-squad games count in the standings; games against non-major league teams do not.

Friday's Games

Philadelphia 7, Atlanta 6
Pittsburgh 6, Tampa Bay (ss) 4
Detroit 4, Washington 3

N.Y. Yankees 9, Minnesota 7
Baltimore 6, Tampa Bay (ss) 3
Toronto 1, Boston 0
Houston 3, St. Louis 2
Chicago Cubs 4, Milwaukee 1
Kansas City 13, L.A. Angels 9
Colorado (ss) 14, Texas 9
Cincinnati 6, L.A. Dodgers 5
San Francisco 11, Colorado (ss) 6
N.Y. Mets 4, Miami 2
Arizona 7, Cleveland 5
Seattle 3, San Diego 1
Oakland 4, Chicago White Sox 4, tie

Saturday's Games

Houston vs. Atlanta (ss), late
St. Louis vs. Miami, late
N.Y. Yankees vs. Detroit, late
Minnesota vs. Tampa Bay, late
Philadelphia vs. Baltimore, late
Atlanta (ss) vs. Toronto, late
Washington vs. N.Y. Mets, late
Pittsburgh vs. Boston, late
L.A. Angels (ss) vs. Chicago Cubs, late
Arizona vs. Kansas City, late
Milwaukee vs. L.A. Angels (ss), late
Texas vs. Cincinnati, late
Oakland vs. San Francisco, late
Cleveland vs. Seattle, late
Chi. White Sox vs. L.A. Dodgers, late
San Diego vs. Colorado, late

Sunday's Games

Boston vs. Philadelphia at Clearwater, 1:05 p.m.
Miami vs. Houston at Kissimmee, 1:05 p.m.

LOCAL SCHEDULE



MONDAY: Baseball at Sebring, 7 p.m.; JV Baseball vs. Sebring, 6 p.m.; Girls Tennis at Hardee, 4 p.m.

TUESDAY: Baseball vs. Booker, 7 p.m.; Softball vs. Hardee, 7 p.m.; Boys Tennis vs. Sebring, 4 p.m.; Girls Tennis at Sebring, 4 p.m.

Avon Park



TUESDAY: Baseball at Hardee, 7 p.m.; JV Baseball vs. Hardee, 6 p.m.; Track at Clewiston, 4:30 p.m.; Weightlifting vs. DeSoto, 5:30 p.m.; Tennis at DeSoto, 4 p.m.

THURSDAY: Baseball vs. Hardee, 7 p.m.; JV Baseball at Hardee, 6 p.m.; Softball vs. Moore Haven, 7 p.m.; Track at Sebring, 4:30 p.m.; Boys Tennis vs. LaBelle, 4 p.m.; Girls Tennis at LaBelle, 4 p.m.

Lake Placid

Florida Gulf Coast stuns Georgetown 78-68

By JIM O'CONNELL

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — College basketball, meet Florida Gulf Coast.

A school so new it wasn't eligible for the NCAA tournament until last year busted a load of brackets Friday night.

With 24 points from Sherwood Brown and a healthy dose of swagger, FGCU upset second-seeded Georgetown 78-68 in the second round of the South Regional.

"This is our first time being in the NCAA tournament. To actually go out there and win that first game, it means something really special to us," said Brown, who was the first of the players to head toward the Florida Gulf Coast cheering section with several seconds still on the clock.

The Eagles used a 21-2 second-half run to pull away from the Hoyas and then held on in the final minute to become just the seventh No. 15 seed to beat a No. 2.

"It's an unbelievable feeling. We played a very tough team in Georgetown. They have great players. They're a historic school," forward Chase Fieler said. "So being a newer school it's very exciting for us to be able to win a game like that and for the NCAA history. That's exciting and impressive to be a part of that."

Bernard Thompson had 23 points for Florida Gulf Coast, the champions of the Atlantic Sun Conference.

FGCU (25-10) will play seventh-seeded San Diego State, which beat No. 10 seed Oklahoma 70-55, in the third round on Sunday.

"We decided we can play with anybody and we did," said FGCU point guard Brett Comer, who finished with 12 points, 10 assists and just two turnovers.

Comer was part of a play late in the game that almost brought down the house, throwing an alley-oop pass from the corner that Fieler grabbed and threw down with a one-handed dunk.

"Nothing special. It's something me and him have done this year," Comer said. "We knew what was going to happen there. Time and place didn't matter. I knew he'd catch it. You saw the result. The whole place went nuts and we really got the momentum from there."

Said Fieler: "That might be the highest I've ever jumped. We'll have to check the video. Brett has great vision. That was his 10th assist. He just threw it up and I had to go get it."

Just a night before, Harvard — the nation's oldest university, founded in 1636 — pulled off a major upset over third-seeded New Mexico.

Now, one of its youngest — FGCU's first student was admitted in 1997 — has an even bigger one.

The Eagles' monster run gave them a 52-33 lead with 12:28 to play.

The Hoyas staged a furious rally to get within 72-68 with 52 seconds left but the Eagles went 6 of 10 from the free throw line to seal it.

"In the second half, we



MCT photo
Florida Gulf Coast guard Sherwood Brown (25) hugs teammate Brett Comer (0) as they beat Georgetown in the second round of the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament at the Wells Fargo Center in Philadelphia, Friday.

pushed the ball, we got out, we ran, we made shots, got some alley-oop dunks to energize the crowd. I'm very proud of our players," said coach Andy Enfield, whose wife — supermodel Amanda Marcum — was shown several times on the arena's big screen.

For those who don't know FGCU, and that was probably plenty of people as of Friday afternoon, Florida Gulf Coast is a state university in Fort Myers with an enrollment of about 12,000 students.

This is FGCU's first tournament and Georgetown's 29th, including the 1984 national championship.

But the Eagles did beat Miami earlier this season.

It was another disappointing NCAA exit for the Hoyas (25-7), who have lost to a double-digit seed in their last four appearances.

The last time they made it to the second weekend of the tournament was in 2007, when they reached the Final Four.

"I wish I could, trust me, more than anyone on this Earth," Georgetown coach John Thompson III said when asked if he could figure out the losses to lower seeds. "I've tried to analyze it, think about it, look at it, think about what we should do differently and I don't know."

Markel Starks had 23 points for the Hoyas, a tri-champion of the Big East regular season and one of the top defensive teams in the nation.

That didn't seem to bother the Eagles much.

While Georgetown came in allowing 55.7 points per game, FGCU beat that number by 9:22 to play when it led 57-40.

The Hoyas allowed opponents to shoot 37.6 percent from the field, fourth-best in the country.

The Eagles shot 42.9 percent (21 of 49) and they held the Hoyas to 37.5 percent from the field (24 of 64).

Big East Player of the Year Otto Porter Jr. had 13 points on 5-of-17 shooting and 11 rebounds.

On this night he couldn't match Brown, the A-Sun's player of the year.

Porter, a sophomore who said he hasn't made a decision yet on whether to return to Georgetown next season, said "winning is hard."

"They got out in transition, and that started their run," he said. "They started knocking down the shot. It's hard when a team is knocking down shots like that."

The FGCU fans who made the trip to Philadelphia were loud all game.

The rest of the crowd at Wells Fargo Center joined them during the big run and there's nothing to bring fans together like rooting against a heavy favorite.

"I don't think anybody on our team has ever played in front of that many people," said reserve forward Eddie Murray, who had nine points.

The Eagles charged at their fans when the game ended and — after some of them shook hands with Hall of Famer and TV analyst Reggie Miller — it was a celebration that could be felt all the way to back to campus.

The Hoyas used an 8-0 run to take an 18-11 lead midway through the first half but that's where their offense went cold — very cold.

The Eagles closed the half on a 13-4 run as Georgetown missed nine straight shots and committed five turnovers.

FGCU took a 24-22 lead on two free throws by Eddie Murray with 26 seconds left.

In another example of how out of synch Georgetown was offensively, the Hoyas passed the ball around as the halftime horn sounded, allowed the Eagles to keep their lead.

As the night wound down, one fan yelled at the Eagles to stick around Philly a couple of more days.

"Get a cheese steak, kid! Get a cheese steak!"

The crowd then paid Florida Gulf Coast the ultimate tribute: the E-A-G-L-E-S! Eagles! chant reserved for their favorite NFL team.

Strange as it sounds, Heat want to get better

By TIM REYNOLDS

Associated Press

MIAMI — The Miami Heat have won 25 straight games, turned what was a super-close Eastern Conference race into a runaway and seem to be finding different ways to prevail on a nightly basis.

And no, they are not particularly thrilled with themselves right now.

From the Heat perspective, it's almost like they are simultaneously slumping and streaking after facing double-digit deficits in three consecutive games, yet finding ways to win them all, much like each of the 22 games that preceded this week.

"I'm taking the world view, that we have room to improve," forward Shane Battier said. "By no stretch of the imagination are we playing our best basketball right now. We're winning ball games, but we have a lot of room for improvement. We have not started well the last couple games and our defensive focus has not been there. It's been there in the second half and when we need it, but we need to do it more consistently."

Even as they move closer to the NBA-record winning streak of 33 straight established by the Los Angeles Lakers in 1971-72, the bigger concern in the Heat locker room is that they are nowhere near a playoff gear with just 14 games remaining before the postseason arrives.

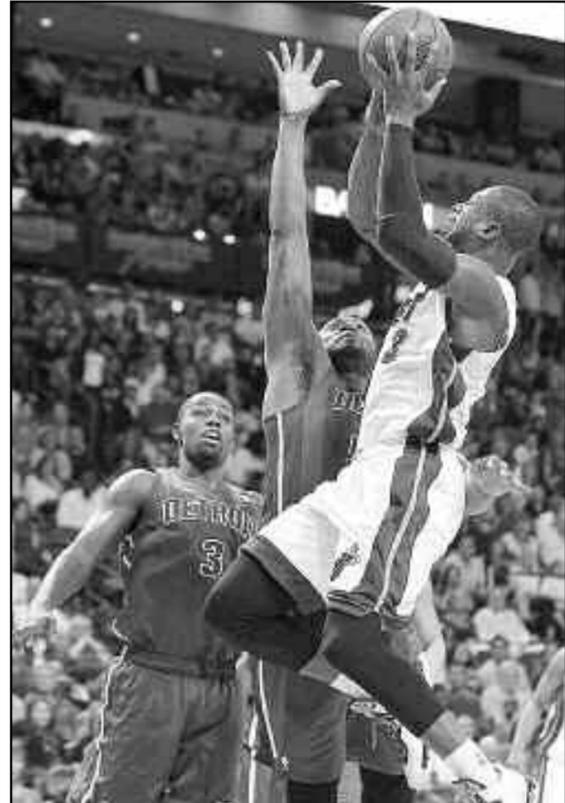
They've trailed after five of their past six opening quarters, been losing at half-time in three straight outings and have been outshot in three of their last six contests.

The next opportunity to fix some of those issues comes Sunday at home against Charlotte (16-52) — a team that has won two straight, yet is a mere 38 games behind the Heat (54-14) in the East standings.

"It's on the radar, no question about it," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "We need to put together complete games. That's three games in a row where we haven't gotten off to that energetic start that we're looking for. We'll have an opportunity to get back to it on Sunday. No excuses. We're not making excuses for ourselves, the schedule or anything. Just more consistency."

The latest close call wasn't exactly all that close.

Miami trailed Detroit by 11 points on Friday night, before clamping down in the second half and pulling away for a 103-89 win, with



MCT photo
Dwyane Wade goes to the basket against Detroit defenders Rodney Stuckey, left, and Jason Maxiell in the fourth quarter Friday. The Heat defeated the Pistons, 103-89.

LeBron James finishing with 29 points, eight assists and eight rebounds.

"We never expect anything to be easy," James said. But the 17-point deficit at Boston (and a separate 13-point hole in the fourth quarter) that was followed by the 27-point lead Cleveland held over the Heat in a most bizarre game on Wednesday may be perceived as some warning signs, and the Heat freely acknowledge they have to be addressed.

At the same time, though, to say the reigning NBA champions are nervous about where they are right now would be a gross exaggeration.

"Everybody wants us to win by 30 every night," guard Dwyane Wade said. "Sorry, guys. It's not possible."

Wade said he has seen mentions on his Twitter timeline lately from fans who aren't exactly pleased with the close calls, with one mention saying that the Heat are causing heart attacks.

He doesn't see the in-game lulls as causes of angst. He sees them as fun.

"I think it's great for the game," Wade said. "Keep people entertaining, keep people watching, keep people in the stadium for most of the game. ... For us, it doesn't matter if we're up or down. We play games within games. We go on runs at different times. We have a lot of confidence. We don't do it on purpose, but we have a lot of confidence in our team and we can go on runs very fast."

That's been proven.

Erasing the 13-point Boston lead in the final 8 minutes on Monday, a 45-12 run over a 12-minute stretch in Cleveland on Wednesday, a 19-8 start in the opening minutes of the fourth quarter to pull away from the Pistons for good on Friday, those are just the latest examples of what Wade says is the Heat calling card.

In Spoelstra's eyes, it's helping the playoff-readiness process.

"Teams are coming at us. That's a good thing," Spoelstra said. "We can't sleepwalk into a game. We have to bring it, we have to play well at both ends, we have to dig, we have to earn wins and we're playing against our opponents' best games. That only helps. That sharpens you. The more you get tested in this league, the better you get, as long as you handle it the right way."

If the Heat beat Charlotte, the win streak goes to 26.

And then yet another road test — the latest big challenge in a month where the Heat play a schedule loaded with 18 games and almost no practices — awaits, with games every other night starting Monday at Orlando, Chicago, New Orleans and San Antonio.

"I enjoy going on the road and hearing fans say, 'You guys suck,'" Wade said. "Really? We're not too bad. When the playoffs start, we're going to have to buckle down and it becomes a new season. But right now, in this season, man, we're enjoying it."

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LP rebounds, Lady Streaks on a roll

Continued from B1

home, and the game was called at 14-4.

"The girls needed a good win," coach Cheshire said after the game. "I love my girls. They have been working so hard."

The win came on the heels of a tough loss Thursday night at Sebring.

It was a back-and-forth affair in the early going between the county rivals.

But a sixth-inning explosion broke it open for the Lady Blue Streaks in their 13-6 win over visiting Lake Placid.

The Lady Dragons got on the board first, plating two in the top of the first on an RBI infield hit from Annie Weber-Callahan and a double in to left-center by Delaney.

But Sebring answered back in their half of the frame.

Starting pitcher Chelsea Bassett helped her own cause with an RBI single and Alison Hoffner followed with a run-scoring single to right.

A Morgan Andrews ground-out brought another run in and a wild pitch plated another to put the Streaks up 4-2.

Lake Placid got one run back in the top of the second, with Laine Weber-Callahan powering a triple to the fence in center to bring home a run and make it 4-3, where it stayed as Sebring was held off the board in their half of the second.

The Dragons then got the lead back in the top of the third, with two runs coming in on a No. 1 hit to make it a 5-4 game.



Alison Hoffner muscled up on this run-scoring hit in Sebring's Thursday win over Lake Placid.

But the Streaks claimed it right back with two in the bottom of the third and held the narrow gap over the next two innings.

But it was in the sixth that the put up a touchdown without the extra point to put it away.

"It's been a few years since we've played them, but Lake Placid is definitely improving," Sebring head coach Joe Sinness said. "They hit more balls than we did, but our timing was better."

"We are struggling with our mental errors the most and we really need to work on that before we get to districts."

Before the district tournament arrives, the Lady Streaks had the rest of their

News-Sun photo by DAN HOEHNE

district schedule to play and were off to a good start Friday.

They jumped out to an early 5-1 lead at Lake Gibson through two innings before Friday night's rains rolled through Lakeland and postponed the contest.

Sebring is back at it with three games this week, traveling to Hardee Monday, and hosting both LaBelle Tuesday and Avon Park Thursday.

The Lady Dragons are off until Thursday, when they face visiting Moore Haven, before traveling to Charlotte High School on Friday.

News-Sun Sports Editor Dan Hoehne contributed to this article.

SFSC bounces back big

Continued from B1

what happened in that game," sophomore center-fielder Amanda Byers said. "We lost it every way you could."

And the coaching staff let them know about it during the break between games.

"We just told them pretty much how bad they did," assistant coach Heather Barnes said. "Then I talked them about how they can't go back and change anything from last game, but they can come back and fight and take control of their season."

And in as shocking a turnaround as could be expected after the disheartening opener, that's just what the Panthers did, taking the nightcap with a 7-3 win.

After scratching for a second-inning score, South Florida blew it open in the third on a pair of two-run homers.

Byers jacked the first one over the right-center field fence and soon after, freshman first-baseman Caitlyn Lytle powered one over the fence with a runner on.

From there, starting pitcher Gennifer Raulerson kept the Eagles grounded,



News-Sun file photo by DAN HOEHNE
Caitlyn Lytle crushed a two-run homer in the Lady Panthers big second-game win over Polk Thursday.

giving up just three hits and two runs through the first six innings.

"Then I gave up two hits and they scored one more in the seventh," Raulerson said with a tinge of frustration. "But I pitched well and it was good to get the win."

Which is something Byers saw as something the team should expect.

"We played like we can in

that second game," she said. "If we keep playing like that, we should have no problems. Play like we can and we'll keep winning."

They'll be put to the test with a pair of road dates this week, traveling to Clearwater to face St. Petersburg College Tuesday and to Plant City for a doubleheader against Hillsborough Thursday.

Tubbs sets another standard

By DAN HOEHNE

daniel.hoehne@newssun.com

Taylor Tubbs is at it again, breaking new ground and downing new opponents.

On Tuesday, March 19, the standout Sebring runner saw a scant field of runners for the female 1,600-meters.

As she has done on a few other occasions, Tubbs asked if the girls and boys could run the distance together – and for the first time the officials agreed.

Having a chance in this upped level of competition, the Florida signee made the most of it.

"I was running with my teammate Damien Foster, and we were staying pretty even the first two laps," she said. "On the third lap I was feeling good and really started to kick in."

That extra little push turned out to be a big change in her time as Tubbs topped the field and set a new personal best with an eye-popping 4:54.50.

It was Tubbs first time breaking the vaunted 5-minute mark, breaking her previous best time by a whopping six seconds.

The mark puts her as the second fastest time at 1,600 meters in the state this season, fourth best in the nation.

"It wasn't that my adrenaline got going, running against the boys," Tubbs said. "I'm friends with all the guys and we run together all the time in practice anyway, but I hadn't been able to race them."

Well race them she did, and vaulted herself into a new strata of runners, being recently featured in a story at flrunners.com, which made note of her number four standing in the country.

"That's just crazy, I looked at it and said that can't be



News-Sun file photo by DAN HOEHNE
Taylor Tubbs vanquished two opponents at Tuesday's track meet, a field of boys and girls in the 1,600 meters, as well as the 5-minute mark.

right," Tubbs said. "I'm from Sebring, Florida and this is all over my head. It was just a little home meet, and these other people are going to

Nationals and things like that."

Over her head, maybe for now, but she is certainly closing the gap.

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| Oriental Restaurant (4) | _____ | Frame Shop (62) | _____ |
| Steak in Town (5) | _____ | Print Shop (63) | _____ |
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- One entry per person.
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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



Courtesy photo

Lotela Gold, a nine-piece show band from Avon Park, will be playing golden hits from the 1950s and 1960s from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Friday, April 5 at Highlands Inn, Sebring.

Lotela Gold show set for April 5 at Highlands Inn

Special to the News-Sun
SEBRING — Lotela Gold will bring back a blast from the past as they hit the stage for a special '50s and '60s musical show open to the public from 7:30-9:30 p.m., Friday, April 5, at Highlands Inn.

This nine-piece show band is based out of Avon Park and began performing together in the fall of 2011. Although recently formed, the members of the band bring years of experience in the entertainment industry by performing either gospel and/or rock 'n roll music. The group has played at concerts, private parties and dances in central and western Florida. They just finished performing at the Highlands County Fair.

Several members of the band decided the name

Lotela Gold was appropriate for this group since they practice near Lake Lotela in Avon Park and they perform gold cover songs.

Lotela Gold focuses on the great songs that here hits from the 1950s and early 1960s. The band emphasizes its superb vocal harmonies and seven of the nine members are featured vocalists at various times during the show. They bring back the sweet memories of the past by singing songs to pay tribute to Elvis, Sam Cooke, Buddy Holly and Ricky Nelson. Costume changes throughout their show keep the audience entertained.

In addition to vocalists, the group features musicians who play guitar, bass, drums, keyboard and a variety of percussion instruments.

There will be plenty of

room for dancing in the banquet hall at the Highlands Inn that can seat up to 300 people. The décor will be set up in the '50s theme so dig out that poodle skirt, leather jacket and bobbie socks to feel a part of the show.

Tickets will be sold in the lounge in advance for \$10 for show only and \$15 at the door. They must be purchased by April 4. There is also a dinner and show ticket for \$18 that needs to be purchased in advance to guarantee seating.

Call 446-0824 to make a dinner reservation at Classic Buffet in the Highlands Inn or stop by the Highlands Inn Lounge to purchase tickets any time after 4 p.m. Highlands Inn is at 6525 U.S. 27 North, Sebring, in front of Florida Hospital Heartland Medical Center.



Cornerstone

CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

Now Accepting Applications for Students

Cornerstone Christian Academy (CCA) is very excited about opening our doors in August of 2013 for the 2013-2014 school year. CCA is a Kingdom Education, Christian school and will strive to provide the highest level of Biblically-based education as our students strengthen their relationship with Christ. CCA has high admission standards and is seeking students that are on or exceeding grade level with exemplary conduct. Our students will be challenged academically in a safe, structured, and distraction-free environment.

We will be enrolling students in grades Kindergarten through Fifth grade in 2013-2014. It is anticipated to add grade levels each year to Cornerstone Christian Academy. All of our teachers will be highly effective and state certified.

If you are interested in learning more about Cornerstone Christian Academy, please contact Jenny Cornell, Headmaster at (863) 453-0894.

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TECHNOLOGY

Monitoring your kids on Facebook? That's so 2009

By ANNE FLAHERTY

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — After Friendster came MySpace. By the time Facebook dominated social media, parents had joined the party, too. But the online scene has changed - dramatically, as it turns out - and these days even if you're friends with your own kids on Facebook, it doesn't mean you know what they're doing.

Thousands of software programs now offer cool new ways to chat and swap pictures. The most popular apps turn a hum-drum snapshot into artistic photography or broadcast your location to friends in case they want to meet you. Kids who use them don't need a credit card or even a cellphone, just an Internet connection and device such as an iPod Touch or Kindle Fire.

Parents who want to keep up with the curve should stop thinking in terms of imposing time limits or banning social media services, which are stopgap measures. Experts say it's time to talk frankly to kids about privacy controls and remind them - again - how nothing in cyberspace every really goes away, even when software companies promise it does.

"What sex education used to be, it's now the 'technology talk' we have to have with our kids," said Rebecca Levey, a mother of 10-year-old twin daughters who runs a tween video review site called KidzVuz.com and blogs about technology and education issues.

More than three-fourths of teenagers have a cellphone and use online social networking sites such as Facebook, according to the Pew Research Center's Internet and American Life Project. But Facebook for teens has become a bit like a school-sanctioned prom - a rite of passage with plenty of adult chaperones - while newer apps such as Snapchat and Kik Messenger are the much cooler after-party.

Even Facebook acknowledged in a recent regulatory filing with the

Securities and Exchange Commission that it was losing younger users: "We believe that some of our users, particularly our younger users, are aware of and actively engaging with other products and services similar to, or as a substitute for, Facebook," the company warned investors in February.

Educators say they have seen kids using their mobile devices to circulate videos of school drug searches to students sending nude images to girlfriends or boyfriends. Most parents, they say, have no idea.

A stay-at-home mom of eight kids in Burke, Va., Eileen Patterson said she used to consider herself fairly tech savvy and frequently spends time on Facebook. But she was shocked to learn her kids could message their friends with just an iPod Touch mp3 player. She counts nine wireless devices in her home and has taken to shutting off her home's Wi-Fi after 9 p.m., but she describes her attempt to keep tabs on her kids' online activity "a war I'm slowly losing every day."

"I find myself throwing up my hands every now and again," Patterson said. "Then I'll see something on TV or read an article in the paper about some horrible thing that happened to some poor child and their family, and then I try to be more vigilant."

Mobile apps refer to the software applications that can be downloaded to a mobile device through an online store such as Apple's iTunes. According to the Federal Trade Commission, there are some 800,000 apps available through Apple and 700,000 apps on

Google Play.

Among the most popular mobile apps among kids is Instagram, free software that can digitally enhance photos and post them to your account online. Kids on Instagram whose parents closely monitor their text messages, Facebook posts or emails can also chat with their friends using the service. Their photos can also be shared on other social media sites such as Facebook, which bought Instagram last year.

Then there's Snapchat, among the top 10 free iPhone apps available.

Snapchat lets a user send a text, photo or video that purportedly self-destructs within 10 seconds of being opened - or warns a user if the recipient takes steps to quickly capture it for posterity before it disappears.

Kik Messenger also allows unlimited texting for free and effectively offers anonymity to users.

As with anything online, each of these services comes with caveats.

Snapchat acknowledges on its website that messages aren't guaranteed to disappear: Anyone receiving a text or photo can within 10 seconds capture a "screenshot," taking a photo of their device's screen, and save that image. Video also can be downloaded, although Snapchat says it alerts senders when material is saved.

Instagram is considered tame as long as kids adjust their privacy settings to limit who can see their photos and don't post nudity, which could subject them to child pornography laws. But Levey said many parents don't know their kids are using Instagram until there's trouble - usually when kids post inappropriate photos at parties and these begin to circulate among their social circles.

Parents often hand their kids a mobile device without understanding exactly what it can do, said Dale Harkness, a technology director at Richmond-Burton Community High School in Richmond, Ill. He estimates that even without using social media services, the average high school student probably transmits some

150 texts a day.

"It's not anything that every parent and grandparent hasn't already seen," Harkness said. The problem, he adds, is that actions "get documented, replayed and sent around." He said that students "forget how fast it moves and how far it goes."

That was the case at Ridgewood High School in Ridgewood, N.J., where a male student allegedly took a screenshot of nude pictures sent to him by female classmates via Snapchat, then posted the pictures on Instagram. According to a letter to parents by the school district's superintendent that was later posted online, police warned students to delete any downloaded pictures or face criminal charges under child pornography laws.

In the Ohio rape case involving two football players, social media both added to the humiliation of the victim and helped prove her case. The defendants and their friends had recorded the attack and later joked about it on a video. The case didn't come to light until the girl read text messages among friends and saw a photo of herself naked.

There are general security concerns, too. F-Secure, a cybersecurity company, said some new social networking services have become targets for spreading malicious hacker software and propagating scams.

In January, the FBI arrested a man in Los Angeles, Karen "Gary" Kazaryan, 27, of Glendale, Calif., on charges that he hacked into hundreds of social media and email accounts, including Facebook and Skype, and found nude photos and personal passwords that women had stored online. He allegedly used the photos to try to coerce women into disrobing for him via Skype and threatened to post their private photos to their Facebook accounts if they refused to comply, according to the indictment.

Online services also routinely collect personal data, such as a person's birthdate or the location of their phone.



With the plethora of ways for kids to communicate online through smartphones, completely monitoring your children's internet life is nearly impossible

Metro

technology director at Richmond-Burton Community High School in Richmond, Ill. He estimates that even without using social media services, the average high school student probably transmits some

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RELIGION

Community Good Friday service planned

Special to the News-Sun
SEBRING — The annual Sebring area community Good Friday service will be held at 1:30 p.m. March 29 in the First United Methodist Church, 126 S. Pine St.

The service is titled, "Conversations Around the Cross" and will include brief meditations by local clergy on Pilate, the Chief Priests, the Roman centurion, the two thieves, Jesus and concluding with Joseph and Nicodemus. Between each segment will be Scripture readings, hymns, or special music.

Rev. A.C. Bryant, host pastor, will preside. Meditations will be presented by Rev. David Smalley, Church of the Brethren; Chaplain Willie Mincey, Cornerstone Hospice; Rev. Mr. Max Severe, St. Catherine Catholic; Rev. Darrell Peer, First Presbyterian; Rev.

Ronald DeGenaro Jr., St. John United Methodist; and Rev. Cecil Hess, Palms of Sebring and the Church of Buttonwood Bay.

Scripture readers will be Majors Bruce and Vicki Stefanik, Salvation Army; Chaplain Cecil Kent, Good Shepherd Hospice; Chaplain David Springer, Good Shepherd Hospice; Rev. George Miller, Emmanuel United Church of Christ; and Bishop Steve Austin, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Music will be provided by the host choir; George and Carol Kline; Friends Barbershop Quartet; and Jill Jernigan.

The event is sponsored annually by the Sebring Ministerial Association.

A free will offering will be received.

For further information, call 382-1737.

Southside Baptist holds pancake cook-off



Courtesy photo

The second annual pancake cook-off was held at Southside Baptist Church on Saturday. Eleven different entries were sampled by more than 150 people from the neighborhood who showed up. The winning entry was 'Apple Pecan Cinnamon Swirl' pancakes made by Bill and Betty Work. Pastor David Altman said that this year's cook-off was a great success, and thanked the many from the church who worked hard to make this a success.

Living Lord's Supper at FBC Sebring

SEBRING — First Baptist Church of Sebring will present the Living Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

The drama portrays the disciples expressing their innermost thoughts when Jesus announces that one of them will betray Him. The choir and orchestra will enhance these significant events.

The public is invited to

one of the two free services Thursday or Friday at 7 p.m. at 200 E. Center Ave., Sebring.

Cantata today

SEBRING — The Cantata "No Greater Love" by Eugene Peterson will be presented at 10:05 a.m., Sunday, March 24, by the Sebring Church of the Brethren Temple Choir and directed by Joslyn Brown. The church is located at 700 S. Pine Street, across from the Palms.

Gov. vetoes religious freedom bill in Ky.

FRANKFORT, Ky. (AP) — Gov. Steve Beshear has vetoed a bill that supporters said would provide stronger protections of religious rights in Kentucky.

The second-term Democrat took the action on Friday, the final day to do so. Beshear has been under pressure from the American Civil Liberties Union of Kentucky and

other groups to veto the measure that they contend could allow people to discriminate against gays, lesbians and others in the name of religion.

Meanwhile, church groups have been urging Beshear to sign the bill. They said Kentucky should be allowed to join 16 other states that provide similar protections.

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 Catylist class (20's+) begin at 6:30 PM. The adult Bible and Prayer Time begins at 7 p.m. For more information go to www.bethanybaptistap.com or call the church office at 863-452-1136.

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

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

■ **First Baptist Church of Avon Park**, 100 N. Lake Ave., Avon Park. Rev. Jon Beck, pastor; Charlie Parish, associate pastor/youth and families; Joy Loomis, music director; Rev. 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. Dr. Allen Higginbotham, Interim Pastor; 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. Website www.fbsebring.com

■ **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 Aruckle Creek Road.) Sunday School, 9 a.m.; Morning Worship, 10:15 a.m.; Evening Service, 6 p.m. Mid-week service, Wednesday, 6 p.m. Daily Prayer and Bible Study, 8 a.m., Hamman Hall. Pastor Gerald Webber and Associate Pastors Don Messenger and Ted Ertle. Phone 382-4301.

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

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

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

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

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

CATHOLIC

■ **Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church**, 595 East Main St., Avon Park, 453-4757. Father Nicholas McLoughlin, pastor. Saturday Vigil Mass is 4 p.m. in English and 7 p.m. in Spanish; Sunday mass 8 and 10:30 a.m. in English. Weekday mass at 8 a.m. Confessions are at 3:30 p.m. Saturday. Religious Education Classes are 9-10:20 a.m. Sunday for grades K through 8th. Confirmation class is from 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday. Youth Nights grades 6th and up, 6:30-8 p.m. Wednesday.

■ **St. Catherine Catholic Church**, 820 Hickory St., Sebring. Parrish office/mailling address: 882 Bay St., Sebring, FL 33870, 385-0049, 385-6762 (Spanish); fax, 385-5169; email, office@stcatho.com; website, www.stcatho.com. School Office/Mailing, Principal Dr. Anna V. Adam, 747 S. Franklin St., Sebring, FL 33870; 385-7300; fax, 385-7310; email school@stcatho.com. School office hours 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Clergy: Very Rev. José González, V.F., frjose@stcatho.com or 385-0049;

Parochial Vicar, Rev. Victor Caviedes, 385-3993; Assisting Priest (retired), Rev. J. Peter Sheehan; Deacons, Rev. Mr. James R. McGarry and Rev. Mr. Max M. Severe. WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE: Saturday: - 3:30 and 5 p.m. (vigil); Sunday - 8 and 10 a.m., 12 p.m. (Spanish), 5 p.m. (Holy Family Youth Center), every third Sunday of the month at 2 p.m. (French Mass). Daily Mass: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. and 12 p.m. Saturday at 9 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation: 7:15-7:45 a.m. first Friday, 2:30-3:15 p.m. Saturday and 9-9:45 a.m. Sunday. Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.

■ **St. James Catholic Church**, 3380 Placidview Drive, Lake Placid, 465-3215. Father Michael J. Cannon. Mass schedule: Summer (May 1 to Oct. 31) - Saturday Vigil, 4 p.m.; Sunday 8 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.; Weekdays, 9 a.m. December thru Easter - Saturday, 4 p.m.; Sunday, 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.; Weekdays 9 a.m.; and Holy Days 8 a.m., 9:30 a.m. and 7 p.m., first Saturday at 9 a.m.

CHRISTIAN

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

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

■ **Sebring Christian Church**, 4514 Hammock Road, Sebring, FL 33872. Tod Schwingel, Preacher; Josh Knabel (812-618-7118), 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/lakeplacidcofc/>.

■ **Sebring Parkway Church of Christ**, 3800 Sebring Parkway, Sebring, FL 33870; 385-7443. Minister: Kevin Patterson. Times of service are: Sunday Bible Class, 9 a.m.; Sunday Worship Service, 10 a.m.; Sunday Evening Service, 6 p.m.; Wednesday Bible Class, 7 p.m.

CHURCH OF NAZARENE

■ **First Church of the Nazarene of Avon Park**, P.O. Box 1118., Avon Park, FL 33825-1118. 707 W. Main St. Randall Rupert, Pastor. Sunday: Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. for all ages; morning worship at 10:45 a.m.; and evening service at 6 p.m. Wednesday evening service is at 7 p.m. with special services for children and adults. Special services once a month for seniors (Prime Time) and Ladies ministries. If you need any more information, call 453-4851.

■ **First Church of the Nazarene of Lake Placid**, 512 W. Interlake Blvd., Lake Placid, FL 33852. Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Morning worship, 10:45 a.m.; Evening service, 6 p.m. Wednesday evening, 7 p.m. Classes for adult children and youth. Call 465-6916. Pastor Tim Taylor.

CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN CHRISTIAN UNION

■ **Community Bible Church - Churches of Christ in Christian Union**, (Orange Blossom Conference Center) 1400 C-17A North (truck route), Avon Park. Presenting Jesus Christ as the answer for time and eternity. Sunday morning worship service, 10:30 a.m. Nursery provided. Junior Church activities at same time for K-6 grade. Sunday School Bible hour (all ages), 9:30 a.m. (Transportation available.) Sunday evening praise and worship service, 6 p.m. Wednesday evening prayer service, 7 p.m. Children and youth activities at 7 p.m. Wednesday. Everyone is welcome, please come worship with us. Tom Schwankweiler, Pastor. Phone 453-6052.

RELIGION

Pope: Dialogue with Islam, olive branch to China

By NICOLE WINFIELD

Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — Pope Francis called Friday for more dialogue with Islam and offered an olive branch to China and other countries that don't have diplomatic relations with the Holy See.

In his first foreign policy address as pope, Francis delivered his remarks in Italian rather than the traditional French — another indication that the Argentine-born pope is less than comfortable speaking languages other than Italian and his mother-tongue Spanish.

The occasion was an audience with ambassadors from the 180 countries that have diplomatic relations with the Holy See, in which Francis explained he would work for

peace, the poor and to "build bridges" between peoples.

He noted that even his title "pontiff" means bridge-builder.

Francis said it was important to intensify dialogue among different religions "particularly dialogue with Islam" and to deepen the church's outreach to atheists.

The Vatican's relations with Islam hit several bumps during Pope Benedict XVI's papacy: He outraged Muslims with a 2006 speech quoting a Byzantine emperor as saying some of the Prophet Muhammad's teachings were "evil and inhuman." And in 2011, the pre-eminent institute of Islamic learning in the Sunni Muslim world, Cairo's Al-Azhar institute, froze dialogue with the Vatican to

protest Benedict's call for greater protection of Christians in Egypt.

However, the Vatican said Friday that Al-Azhar's chief imam, Sheik Ahmed el-Tayyib, sent a message of congratulations to Francis for his election and hoped for cooperation.

That's a possible sign of a thaw in relations with the arrival of a pope whose inter-faith outreach while archbishop of Buenos Aires has been well-documented.

Francis also said he wanted to begin a "journey" with countries that don't yet have diplomatic relations with the Vatican.

Benedict had made improving relations with China a priority, given the millions of faithful who

belong to China's underground Catholic Church, but tensions remain particularly over the appointment of bishops. China insists on naming them, while the Vatican says only the pope can name bishops.

China congratulated Francis for his election but said establishing formal relations would depend on the Vatican cutting diplomatic ties with Taiwan and ceasing activities Beijing considers as interference in its internal affairs — a reference to bishops' appointments.

The Holy See also doesn't have diplomatic relations with Saudi Arabia.

The latest country added to its list of diplomatic recognition was South Sudan, just last month.

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PLACES TO WORSHIP

EPISCOPAL

■ **St. Agnes Episcopal Church**, 3840 Lakeview Drive, Sebring, FL 33870. Sunday Services: Holy Eucharist Rite I - 7:45 a.m., Holy Eucharist Rite II - 10 a.m. Midweek service on Wednesday at 6 p.m. Sunday School for all ages at 9 a.m. The nursery is open 8:45 a.m. until 15 minutes after the 10 a.m. service ends. Wednesday: Adult Bible study, 9:30 a.m. Visitors are always welcome. Church office 385-7649, for more information.

■ **St. Francis of Assisi Anglican Episcopal Church**, 43 Lake June Road, Lake Placid, FL 33852. Phone: 465-0051. Rev. Elizabeth L. Nelson, Rector. Sunday Worship, 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Wednesday evening: Holy Communion with Healing Service, 6 p.m. Thursday: Holy Communion with healing service, 9 a.m. Child care available at the 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Sunday service.

EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AMERICA

■ **The Church of the Way EFCA**, 1005 N. Ridgewood Drive, Sebring. Sunday school and worship service at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Youth activities, 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays. The Way is a church family who gathers for contemporary worship, teaching of God's Word, prayer and fellowship. Come early and stay after for fellowship time. Child care and children's church are provided. Reinhold Buxbaum is pastor. The Way - A place for you. Office Phone: 471-6140, Church Cell Phone: 273-3674. Email: thewaychurch@hotmail.com. Web site: www.TheWayChurch.org

GRACE BROTHERS

■ **Grace Brethren Church**, 3626 Thunderbird Road, (863) 835-0869. Dr. Randall Smith, senior pastor. Sunday services at 9 a.m., 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Wednesday services at 7 p.m. We offer "Kid City" Children's Ministry throughout all services, and there are various other classes for teens, married couples, "prime-timers," and Bible studies in Spanish. "Kid City" Day Care, Preschool and After-School Monday-Friday: 7 a.m.-6 p.m. (For registration call: 385-3111). Check us out on the Web at www.sebring-grace.org.

INDEPENDENT

■ **First Christian Church**, 1016 W. Camphor St., Avon Park, FL 33825; (863) 453-5334; on the Web at www.firstchristianap.com. Our motto is "Jesus is First at First Christian Church." Greg Ratliff, Senior Minister; Bible School 9 a.m.; Worship 10 a.m.; Wednesday studies for all ages, 6 p.m. Nursery provided for all events.

INTERDENOMINATIONAL

■ **World Harvest and Restoration Ministries**, (non-denominational) 2200 N. Avon Blvd., Avon Park, FL 33825. Phone: 452-9777 or 453-3771. Sunday service: Sunday School, 10 a.m. and worship, 11 a.m. Wednesday services: 7 p.m. prayer meeting/Bible study. Pastor: W.H. Rogers.

LUTHERAN

■ **Atonement Lutheran Church (ELCA)**, 1178 S.E. Lakeview Drive., Sebring. David Thoresen, Deacon, Spiritual Leader, on first, third and fifth Sunday each month, and Rev. Jefferson Cox on the second and fourth Sunday of each month. Jim Helwig, organist/choir director. Worship service at 9:30 a.m.; Holy Eucharist is every Sunday. Coffee hour on the first and third Sunday of each month. Council meeting on the first Tuesday of month; Ladies Group WELCA meets at noon second Tuesday of month with lunch. Bring a dish to pass. Labyrinth Prayer Garden open seven days a week to congregation and community. Come grow with us. Phone 385-0797.

■ **Christ Lutheran Church Avon Park - LCMS**, 1320 County Road 64, 1/2 mile east of Avon Park High School past the four-way stop sign. Sunday Divine Worship is at 10 a.m. Holy Communion is celebrated every week with traditional Lutheran Liturgy, hymns and songs of praise. Fellowship time with coffee and refreshments follows worship. For information call Pastor Scott McLean at (863) 471-2663 or see christlutheranavonpark.org.

■ **Faith Lutheran Church - LCMS**, 2740 Lakeview Drive, Sebring. Reverend Robert Reinhardt, Pastor. Church phone: 385-7848, Faith Child Development Center, 385-3232. Sunday Traditional Worship Service, 8 a.m.; Sunday Praise Worship Service, 10:30 a.m. Communion is served the first, third and fifth Sunday of the month. Sunday school and Bible classes, 9:15 a.m. Worship service is broadcast at 8 a.m. on WITS 1340 AM each Sunday. Educational opportunities include weekly adult Bible studies. Faith's Closet Thrift Store (385-2782) is open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday. All are warmly welcome in the Family of Faith.

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

■ **New Life Evangelical Lutheran Church**, 3725 Hammock Road, a Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) in fellowship with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS). Sunday Worship at 10 a.m.; Bible Study, 9 a.m. For more information, call Pastor Luke Willitz 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 Pre-School director; and Noel Johnson, minister of youth and family life. Worship schedule after Easter through December: Worship service 10 a.m., and Education Hour, 8:45 a.m. Worship schedule for

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

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

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

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

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

■ **Grace Bible Church**, 4541 Thunderbird Road, (second church on left) Sebring, FL 33872. Phone: 382-1085. Dustin Woods, lead pastor. Sunday Worship, 6:30 p.m. Saturday, 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.

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

PRESBYTERIAN

■ **Covenant Presbyterian Church (PCA)**, 4500 Sun 'N Lake Blvd., Sebring, 33872-2113. A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America. Sunday morning worship: 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.fpcp.com, 117 N. Oak Ave., Lake Placid, 465-2742. The Rev. Ray Cameron, senior pastor; the Rev. Drew Severance, associate pastor. Sunday - Traditional Worship, 8 and 9:30 a.m.; Contemporary Worship, 11 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m. Wednesday evenings: Adult Bible Study 7 p.m. (Nursery available), Youth Group - (middle and high school) 7 p.m., RockSolid (kindergarten through fifth grade) 7 p.m. Family Biblical Counseling available by appointment.

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

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST

■ **Avon Park Seventh-day Adventist Church**, 1410 West Avon Blvd., Avon Park. Phone: 453-6641 or e-mail: avonparksda@embarqmail.com, Sabbath School, 9:30 a.m. Saturday. Church Service 10:45 a.m. Saturday. Wednesday prayer meeting 7 p.m. Community Service hours on Tuesday and Thursday is from 9:00 a.m. till 2 p.m. A sale takes place the first Sunday of each month. Senior Pastor Frank Gonzalez. Walker Memorial Academy Christian School offering education for kindergarten through 12th grades. ALL ARE WELCOME. Associate Pastor is Ryan Amos. Website is www.discoverjesus.org

■ **Sebring Seventh-Day Adventist Church**, 2106 N. State Road 17, Sebring; 385-2438. Worship Services: 9:15 a.m. Worship hour, 11 a.m. Prayer meeting, Tuesday, 7:15 p.m. Community service: every Monday 9-11 a.m. Health Seminar with Dr. Seralde, every Friday, 10:00 a.m. Pastor Nathan Madrid.

THE CHURCH OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

■ **The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints**, 3235 Grand Prix Dr., Sebring, FL 33872; (863) 382-9092 Steve Austin, Bishop; Mark Swift, 1st Counselor; Del Murphy, 2nd Counselor. Family History Center (863) 382-1822. Sunday Services: Sacrament Meeting, 10-11:10 a.m.; Gospel Doctrine, 11:20 a.m. to noon; Priesthood/Relief Society, 12:10-1p.m.; Primary for children, 11:15 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Youth Activities: Wednesdays, 7-8:20 p.m. Scouts: first and third Wednesday, 7-8:20 p.m. Activity Days: 8-11 yr old Boys and Girls, second and fourth Wednesdays, 7-8:20 p.m.

THE SALVATION ARMY

offices for more information and other classes.

■ **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. Rev. John A. Bryant, pastor. Rev. Claude H.L. Burnett, pastoral assistant. Rev. Jerry McCauley, visitation pastor. Sunday worship services: Worship Service, 8:30 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. Loving nursery care provided every Sunday morning. Youth Fellowship, 5 p.m. We offer Christ-centered Sunday school classes, youth programs, Bible studies, book studies and Christian fellowship. We are a congregation that wants to know Christ and make Him known. Check out our church website at www.memorialumc.com or call the church office at 465-2422.

■ **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.

Wildflowers are not just pretty; they provide many benefits



News From The Watershed

Corine Burgess

Spring is here and soon wildflowers will be popping up all over. Florida has many varieties of the colorful blossoms that range in size, color and



Courtesy photo
Sunflowers are more than pretty to look at, the beautiful yellow and brown blooms offer seeds, oil and other products we need.

shape. In fact, when Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de Leon sighted land, which happened to be what we now call Florida, he deemed it La Florida, which means "land of flowers."

But what exactly is a wildflower? According to the Florida Wildflower Foundation, wildflowers are "any flowering herbaceous species, or woody species with ornamental flowers, which grew wild within the state's natural ecosystems in the 1560s when Florida's first botanical records were created."

In order to understand why Florida is rich with wildflowers, it's important to appreciate the nature of the land. Historically, fire played an important part in the Sunshine State's makeup. Lightning would strike and fires would burn for miles uninterrupted. The flames reduce the fuel on the ground and prevent the forest from being taken over by other types of trees and plants, which is called succession.

Once fire has passed through an area, the nutrient cycle increases; soil pH is raised and nitrogen fixation is stimulated. Many seeds from wildflowers need the heat from the fire to break out of their shell. Others may remain dormant until they are burned.

At first glance, it may appear that the fire has destroyed everything in its path. But if you could look underground, you would see that the roots and seeds have survived. Stimulated by the nutrients from the ash, heat and open spaces, wildflowers will begin to grow and increase flowering.

Another reason that wildflowers are so abundant is the fact that they are a food source to many animals. Herbivores such as rabbits, mice and deer eat the plants and disperse the seeds naturally. Insects play a part in the process as well. Birds eat the seeds or perhaps the bugs that visited the wildflowers and they help spread the seeds.

Wildflowers are also important nectar sources for many creatures. In fact, having these beautiful wildflow-

ers in your yard will provide an attractive landscape as well as habitat for birds and insects, including butterflies.

Plants play a vital role on our planet. Many times taken for granted, plants such as wildflowers serve humans and wildlife in many ways. How would the earth look if there were no plants? Forests, grasslands and swamps are filled with diverse vegetation which beautifies the land. Wildflowers are used in landscaping and beautifying highways and cities. Many varieties also make excellent picked flowers for a splash of color indoors or on the patio.

Plants provide many of the components of the medicines we use. In fact, approximately 80 percent of all medicinal drugs originate from wild plants. Wildflowers provide food for humans as well as wildlife. Take the sunflower, for example. The bright yellow and brown flower offers seeds, oil and other products we need. The banana yucca (yucca baccata), which sports a very elaborate bloom, is used for food, medicine, fiber, and dye. Ninety percent of the world's food comes from 20 plant species

Wildflowers help the air quality of our planet. Plants take in carbon dioxide and produce oxygen by a process called photosynthesis.

Having plenty of vegetation around ensures that we have enough air to breathe and that it will be fairly filtered and clean.

The same is true with our water. Plants play an important role in the quality of our water, filtering it as it passes by to ensure that many of the pollutants are removed. Plants also increase water clarity by reducing erosion. With roots holding the soil in place, it is less likely to end up in the drink!

Even our weather is influenced by plants. Having lots of trees and plants, including wildflowers, in an area can moderate climates. Many of the horrendous historical droughts have been attributed to the fact that areas were devoid of vegetation especially forests.

Wildflowers are more than just pretty! They serve humans and wildlife in so many important ways. These bright blooming plants make a great addition to your gardens. By planting wildflowers you will increase the plant and animal diversity in your neighborhood and help wildlife have a place to hide and stay.

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.

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BUSINESS

Smith promoted at Ben Hill Griffin Inc.

Special to the News-Sun
AVON PARK — Ben Hill Griffin III, chairman of the board and C.E.O. of Ben Hill Griffin Inc., announced the selection of Emery Smith as vice president of Citrus Marketing and Industry Relations.

Griffin congratulated Smith on this promotion and commended him for his dedication and commitment to the company.

Smith joined Ben Hill Griffin Inc. on May 16, 1997. He was responsible for the environmental/safety/permits for the company. He was promoted to director of Fruit



Smith

Management and Regulations in August 2007.

He resides in Avon Park with his wife, Tiffany and their twins, Rhett and Rhea.

'Starting Your Business' class set

Special to the News-Sun
AVON PARK — You've got the idea. Now you need to know how to get on your way.

"Starting Your Business" is a class that teaches just that.

From how to determine feasibility and legal structure to the type of license you will need, this class covers all the essentials that will help you get started. "Starting Your Business" is a free seminar presented by the Small Business Development Center at University of South Florida. It is designed for persons thinking of starting a

small business or who have started a business and want to make sure they did it correctly.

The class will be held on Wednesday at South Florida State College Corporate and Continuing Education Room T24 from 2-4:30 p.m.

The seminar will be presented by David Noel, certified business analyst with the SBDC.

Seating is limited, so call Noel at 784-7378 to reserve a seat in the seminar or for further information.

Signature Salon Suites opens second county location

Special to the News-Sun
SEBRING — Signature Salon Suites has recently opened a second location at 1548 Lakeview Drive, in the Towne Square Shopping Center at the high traffic corner of Lakeview Drive and Kenilworth Boulevard.

"The Towne Square Shopping Center is one of the most recognizable and historic shopping centers in Sebring and we are excited to be a part of the revitalization of this center" said Glenn Moree, business development and marketing manager for Signature Salon Suites Inc. "It's exciting to be a part of the Downtown Sebring business community. Our Sun 'N Lake location filled up so quickly we couldn't wait to get the second location open."

Tenants at the Downtown Sebring location includes Nailz by Gloria Too, Beacon Ministries Outreach Salon Services, and Sara Giller Organics.

"We have room for more talented professionals. Suites are currently available for hair stylists, barbers, a massage therapist and a facial specialist. We provide a comfortable, safe environment for beauty professionals to operate their own business. It's a unique concept that promotes small business growth," Moree said.

For more information on licensing a suite call 446-2878. For information on services offered at both locations of Signature Salon Suites visit the website at signaturesalonsuites.com.

FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski to step down

Associated Press
NEW YORK — The chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, Julius Genachowski, on Friday announced his resignation in the "coming weeks."

The country's top telecommunications regulator told a staff meeting of his decision Friday morning. His impending departure was reported Thursday by several news outlets.

Genachowski, 50, was appointed in 2009 and has hewed a middle line between the desires of public-interest groups and the telecom industry, which hasn't enamored him to either side.

His tenure has seen continued adoption of broadband and ever higher Internet connection speeds, especially on the wireless

side, but consumer groups saw the approval of Comcast's acquisition of NBC as a mistake, while AT&T Inc. suffered a severe blow when its acquisition of T-Mobile USA was blocked.

"For those of us who represent the public, Chairman Genachowski's term can best be described as one of missed opportunities," said public-interest group Public Knowledge.

SFSC positively impacts the local economy, study shows

Special to the News-Sun
AVON PARK — South Florida State College enriches the lives of students, increases students' lifetime income, generates revenue, reduces the demand for social services, and contributes to the growth of the local economy, according to a recent study conducted by Economic Modeling Specialists, International (EMSI).

SFSC is one of 28 colleges in the Florida College System (FCS). According to a related report on the FCS recently released by the Council of Presidents, Florida's 28 colleges pump \$26.6 billion per year into the state's economy by producing graduates who are better prepared to become high-income earners.

The FCS Council of Presidents noted that the colleges were designed in part to promote economic development for Florida, and the report shows just how well the colleges of the FCS live up to that mission.

Some of the key findings of the 79-page report that examined SFSC's economic impact in 2011-12 are these.

- College operations make a net contribution of \$19.5 million to the regional economy annually through income of faculty and staff and their purchases of supplies and services, stimulating the economy and increasing profits for local businesses. According to the study, "Nearly all employees of SFSC (94 percent) live in the SFSC service area. Faculty and staff earnings contribute to the region's overall economy, while their spending for groceries, apparel, and other household expenditures helps support local businesses."

The study went on to say that "SFSC is also a purchaser of supplies and services. Many of SFSC's vendors are located in the SFSC service area, creating a ripple effect that generates additional jobs and income throughout the economy."

- Students who achieve a college degree from SFSC can expect higher earnings. Associate degree graduates go on to earn an average \$31,900 annually. Bachelor's degree graduates can expect to earn an average of \$45,800. According to the study, "Students who move from a high school diploma to an associate degree may expect approximately \$8,300 in higher annual income. The difference between a high school diploma and the attainment of a bachelor's degree is ... up to \$22,200 in higher income."

- SFSC graduates incur a net contribution of \$171.8 million to the regional economy annually. According to the study, each year, graduates enter the local workforce after attending the college, bringing with them the skills they acquired. Over time, these skills accumulate, steadily increasing the training level and experience of the workforce. This sparks a chain reaction in which the higher earnings of students generate additional

rounds of consumer spending, while new skills translate into increased business output and higher property income, causing still more consumer purchases and local multiplier spending. The sum of these direct and indirect effects comprises the total impact of past and present student productivity on regional income.

- The rate of return on an investment in education for an SFSC graduate is 18.8 percent. Although students give up time and forego earnings to attend college, they benefit from a lifetime of higher earnings relative to what they would have been earning had they not chosen to go to college. According to the study, costs comprise the total of tuition, fees, and earnings forgone. Benefits

comprise the higher earnings of students as a result of their education.

- Taxpayers enjoy a good return on their investment, with SFSC graduates and employees paying taxes and their higher education levels reducing medical costs, crime rates, and income assistance.

"The information provided in this study demonstrates just how important our college is to the overall economy of our college district," said Dr. Norm Stephens, SFSC president. "We will use this information as a benchmark to measure our progress in the future as we continue our efforts to serve the people and the business in Florida's Heartland."

Florida's colleges remain the primary point of access

to higher education in Florida, with 66 percent of the state's high school graduates pursuing postsecondary education beginning at a Florida college, and 82 percent of freshman and sophomore minority students in public higher education attending one of Florida's 28 colleges. Each year, approximately 80 percent of the college-bound high school graduates from the five high schools in Highlands, DeSoto and Hardee counties enroll at SFSC during the year after graduating from high school.

For detailed information about the EMSI study, see Florida College System Economic Impact. To learn more about the Florida College System, visit <http://www.fldoe.org/fcs/>.



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BUSINESS

Richards to lead Heartland Association of Realtors as executive



Richards

Special to the News-Sun
SEBRING – Heartland Association of Realtors announces the appointment of Sheila Richards as association executive.

“Sheila’s experience as a licensed agent and in association management is well suited to lead Heartland’s members into the future as we continue to enhance membership services moving forward in the ever changing real estate industry” said Ann Pollard, Heartland Association 2013 president.

Richards obtained her Florida Real Estate Sales Associate license in 2005 and maintains a current license. She was a sales associate first with Coldwell Banker Highlands Properties and then with MC 2000 Realty. She was awarded

Rookie of the Year for the Lake Placid board in 2006 and the Board Member Achiever in 2007.

In 2008, she accepted the position of interim executive for the Lake Placid Board of Realtors and became their association executive in 2009. The Lake Placid board merged with the Heartland Association in 2011. After the consolidation, Richards managed Heartland’s Lake Placid branch office and was the director of education until her appointment as association executive this month.

The Heartland Association of Realtors, originally known as the Sebring Board of Realtors, was chartered by the National Association of Realtors on November 8, 1955, when Henry G. Bailey was president of the Board.

The five charter members were Henry Bailey, Grayce McCoy, Virginia Rebman, Henry Norris and Jeannie Perminger. The Heartland Association of Realtors forms a 3-way membership for its members with two parent groups, the National Association of Realtors in Chicago, and the Florida Association of Realtors in Orlando.

The purpose of the Heartland Association of Realtors is to serve all segments of its membership by providing programs, products and services to enhance the member’s freedom and ability to conduct their individual businesses successfully, with integrity and competency, and through collective action to promote the extension and preservation of the right to

own, transfer and use real property.

The association was established to exert a beneficial influence upon the real estate profession, to promote and maintain high standards of conduct as set forth in the Realtors Code of Ethics, to provide a unified medium for the profession, to further the interest of home and other real property ownership, as well as to provide a multitude of services to the membership. Many programs and activities result from the hard work and dedication of staff, committee members and association leadership.

Insurance you can probably do without



Personal Finance
Jason Alderman

I’m a big believer in having the appropriate amount of insurance, especially when it comes to your health and personal liability. But if money is tight and you want to get the most bang for your buck, there are a few types of insurance you can probably do without – or that may duplicate coverage you already have elsewhere:

— Extended warranties. When you buy a car, appliance or electronic device, the salesclerk usually will try to sell you an extended warranty. These policies often duplicate coverage already provided in the manufacturer’s warranty. Plus, many credit cards provide an additional warranty on items purchased with the card.

— Smartphone insurance. After shelling out big bucks for a smartphone, you might be tempted to buy replacement insurance. Just be aware that you’ll probably pay a hefty deductible and likely receive a refurbished phone, possibly not even the same model. My advice: Keep your old phone to reactivate in case you drop or lose the new one.

— Flight accident insurance. The risk of dying in a plane crash is miniscule and already covered by regular life insurance. Also check your credit card cardholder agreement, since many cover such accidents for tickets purchased with their card.

— Child life insurance. Life insurance is intended to provide economic protection for a person’s dependents, so unless your children are movie stars supporting you, this coverage is probably unnecessary. You can better protect their future by stowing those monthly premiums in an emergency savings account or buying additional term life insurance for yourself.

— Pet insurance. With veterinary treatments now rivaling human medicine (organ transplants, chemotherapy, etc.), you could easily spend a small fortune keeping Fido alive. Before buying pet insurance, however, compare plan features carefully and weigh the expense you’d pay out over your pet’s

lifetime. For example, monthly premiums increase with your pet’s age, deductibles and copayments are typically higher than for human coverage and there are usually predetermined per-year and per-condition caps. Plus, preexisting and hereditary conditions usually are not covered.

— Rental car insurance. In most cases, the optional insurance offered by car rental agencies duplicates existing coverage you already have. However, before automatically rejecting agency coverage, ask your insurance company and credit card issuer whether you are fully covered for rental cars. A few considerations:

- Coverage through your auto policy often expires after 30 days or less of renting the car.

- Sports cars, luxury models, SUVs and trucks are often excluded.

- Travel outside service areas typically is forbidden – especially across foreign borders or in rough terrain.

- If you don’t carry comprehensive and collision coverage on your own car, your insurance may not cover a rental. Also, ask whether such coverage is limited to your own car’s value, since most rentals are new.

- Ask what happens if you violate rental agreement terms (e.g., driving recklessly or allowing unauthorized drivers).

— Specified disease insurance. Some people take out supplemental health and life insurance against specific conditions such as cancer, heart disease or stroke. Before buying, make sure you have adequate major medical insurance, which already covers such conditions. And carefully review the policy for restrictions. For example, many cancer insurance policies won’t pay for outpatient care or cover skin cancer, and impose fixed-dollar limits on specific procedures.

When it comes to your budget – and your family’s security – it pays to know which insurance is essential and which you can probably skip.

For more from Jason Alderman, visit www.practical-moneyskills.com

New look for New Beginnings Thrift Shop

Special to the News-Sun
LAKE PLACID – There’s a new look for the New Beginnings “Boutique” Thrift Shop.

This newly renovated store is inviting to those hoping to find treasures and bargains galore.

Merchandise includes wide selections of shoes and clothing for men, women, teens, children and babies. There are toys, tools, kitchen items, glassware, dishes, small appliances, books, holiday décor and furniture.

As one walks through the boutique, one will find inventory arranged for easy and fun shopping.

If one returns in a week, one will find new treasures or that much needed tool that wasn’t there last shopping trip.

Every day there are special price reductions.

One will also see an area in the shop dedicated to those enduring economic hardship.

This section of the boutique contains items of clothing that can be purchased as cheaply as 10 items for \$1.

After expenses are covered, revenue support goes to another step in helping the community?

New Beginning’s Store is just that, a new beginning for a special home called Potter’s House for women and children in distress. Potter’s House has provided

new beginnings for its residents for the past 33 years. Potter’s House has housed more than 3,000 women and children ranging in age from 2 days to 91 years.

How does the Potter’s House rebuild lives?

It provides a safe, accepting environment in which residents are encouraged to revisit God and to rebuild their lives.

In order to provide women and children with the best tools needed to rebuild their lives, New Beginnings has several goals to achieve for the Potter’s House: to renovate an unused office building to provide separate living space for mothers and their children; to upgrade the existing school for children; to improve the existing food bank so that it better serves the residents and those in the community in need; and New Beginnings would like to offer, through the Potter’s House, classes in basic life skills, parenting, and cooking.

Through the years, the Lake Placid community has generously supported New Beginnings’ Potter’s House with money, materials, time, and skilled labor.

Recently, Suzanne’s Boutique and Estate Sales generously donated to New Beginnings Thrift Store.

The residents of New Potter’s House asks for their continued donations to



Courtesy photo

Tony Rey, manager of New Beginnings Thrift Shop, helps a customer.

Potter’s House so it can better serve this community’s distressed women and children, thereby strengthening the whole Lake Placid community.

Items needed now are

donations of beds, furniture, and linens.

Donations may be dropped off.

For further information, contact Evelyn Cresce at 465-4999.

PepsiCo says it doesn’t need to make a big acquisition despite contrary report

NEW YORK (AP) — PepsiCo Inc. issued a statement Friday saying it doesn’t see the need for any major acquisitions after a newspaper report suggested activist investor Nelson Peltz could push the snack-and-soda giant to merge with Oreo cookie maker Mondelez International.

The Telegraph of London cited unnamed sources saying Peltz has been building stakes in both companies in recent weeks.

In a short statement, the Purchase, N.Y.-based company said that it doesn’t comment on market rumor or speculation.

“As we’ve said before, we are making strong progress in

our strategy to deliver long-term growth and create shareholder value,” the company said.

In addition to its soda business, PepsiCo owns Frito-Lay snacks, Gatorade and Quaker Oats.

Mondelez International Inc., which split from Kraft Foods Group Inc. last year, also said it was satisfied with

its portfolio as it stands.

A representative for Peltz’s Trian Fund Management declined to comment.

PepsiCo has long been the subject of rumors that it would spin off its underperforming beverage business.

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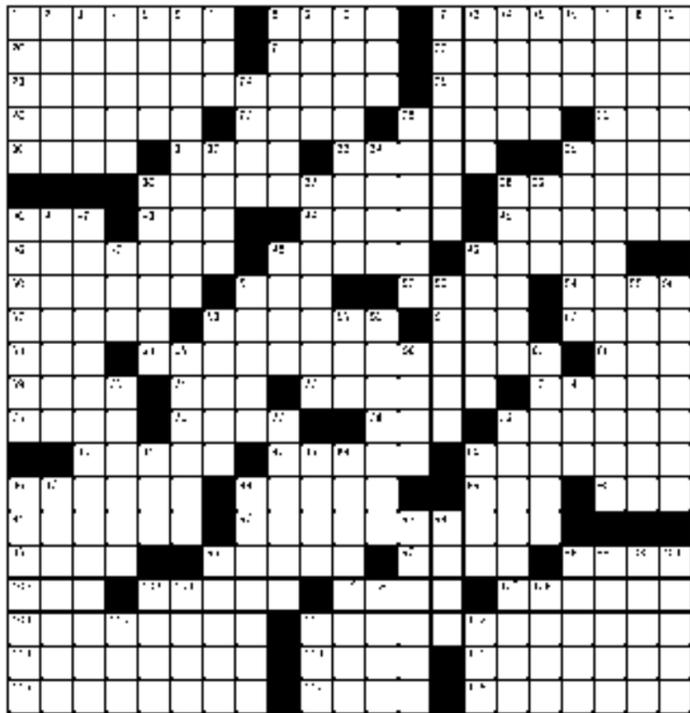
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DIVERSIONS

IF EVER I WOULD LEAVE YOU

By M. BLAKE & M. CALLUM

- ACROSS**
- 1 Term attributed to architect Le Corbusier
 - 8 Black cloud : anger :: light bulb : ___
 - 12 Amazon checkout option
 - 20 Everest climbers
 - 21 Brits' outerwear
 - 22 "Who would refuse that?!"
 - 23 CliffsNotes bio of a civil rights leader?
 - 25 Shoebox creations
 - 26 Worshipped
 - 27 Five-star
 - 28 "Awakenings" drug
 - 29 Biblical suffix
 - 30 Curtain
 - 31 It can be spun two ways
 - 33 Author Potok
 - 35 Hungary's Nagy
 - 36 Junk-rated salad?
 - 38 Stereotypical Monroe roles
 - 40 TV funded by "Viewers Like You"
 - 43 Arctic explorer John
 - 44 Gretzky, once
 - 45 TV reporter Peter
 - 46 Oregon Coast Aquarium city
 - 48 "Sesame Street" crank
 - 49 Garson of Hollywood
 - 50 Some 6-Downs
 - 51 NYU, for one
 - 52 Edinburgh native
 - 54 Bonus, in adspeak
 - 57 Beat
 - 58 Monkeyshines
 - 61 "Give Peace a Chance" co-songwriter
 - 62 Crossword solver's ref. book
 - 63 Lip-reading alternative: Abbr.
 - 64 Popular cosmetic surgery?
 - 68 Terrestrial newt
 - 69 Frat jacket P's
 - 71 Title for Connery
- DOWN**
- 72 Online persona
 - 73 One about to shoot
 - 75 Small flightless bird
 - 76 Sticks on
 - 78 Miguel's "more"
 - 79 Mena of "The Mysteries of Pittsburgh"
 - 80 Story in la maison
 - 82 Pros' foes
 - 85 Approached dusk
 - 86 Title for Dickens's Defarge
 - 88 Liquid fat
 - 89 It may be tapped
 - 90 Rare shoe width
 - 91 Team with a star in its logo
 - 92 Winnebago-driving elder?
 - 95 Slangy negatives
 - 96 Getting warm
 - 97 "Uh, excuse me ..."
 - 98 Pet pad
 - 102 Pavarotti's trio
 - 103 Not in any way
 - 105 Kindle read
 - 107 Colonel Klink's clink
 - 109 Applied during a massage
 - 111 Prison?
 - 113 Causing worry
 - 114 Film adventurer, informally
 - 115 Lose freshness
 - 16 '70s fad items shipped in boxes with air holes
 - 117 Most '90s Prizms
 - 118 Parched
 - 1 Tin Pan Alley gp.
 - 2 Tenant in Carlton the Doorman's building
 - 3 Voice above baritone
 - 4 Snoop Dogg's discoverer
 - 5 Sport with feinting
 - 6 Snack stand array
 - 7 William Donovan's WWII org.
 - 8 "That's about it"
 - 9 Rhett's last word



Solution on page B9

- 10 Varied
- 11 Use the reference desk
- 12 More flighty
- 13 Down in the dumps, say
- 14 Dud
- 15 ___ Bora: Afghan mountain area
- 16 Harpers Ferry's st.
- 17 Art teacher's tip for drawing a lion?
- 18 Semi-quickly
- 19 Most swanky
- 24 Title for Devereux
- 28 Moms, before knot-tying lessons
- 32 Act as accomplice to
- 34 Symbolic dance
- 35 "My turn"
- 36 On the blink
- 37 Japanese TV pioneer
- 38 MacLane who played General Peterson on "I Dream of Jeannie"
- 39 Spleen
- 40 Pirates' home
- 41 Jim of "According to Jim"
- 42 What the team's goat mascot did?
- 47 Common string that omits Q
- 48 Twice tetra-
- 49 Toast, with "a"
- 51 Bergen dummy
- 53 Unconscious states
- 55 Ring figure
- 56 In the saddle of, traditionally
- 58 Thespian's whisper
- 59 Ohio cager, briefly
- 60 Triathlete's need
- 65 Siouan speakers
- 66 Updated midflight nos.
- 67 More high-strung
- 70 Long-necked strings
- 74 Bobby Rydell's ___ Got Bonnie"
- 77 Sickly-looking
- 79 King novel with two
- apostrophes in the title
- 81 Latin lover's word
- 83 Sparks and Beatty
- 84 Mountain, e.g.
- 85 Cleanse
- 86 Seductress
- 87 Generally speaking
- 88 Chinese teas
- 93 Kwan and Kerrigan
- 94 Prefix with stat
- 96 Armor problem
- 98 Sonoran flora
- 99 A train may be headed for it
- 100 Plymouth pokies
- 101 Wetlands wader
- 103 2013 Northeast superstorm
- 104 Like Pindar's poetry
- 106 Chinese intro
- 108 "Intelligence for Your Life" radio host
- 110 Cold comment
- 111 Short pack item
- 112 Flushing Bay airport letters

Tears of sorrow and hope



Pause And Consider
Jan Merop

Lazarus, Jesus' dear friend, had already been dead four days when Jesus came to the grieving sisters, Mary and Martha. Jesus heartfelt response is found in John 11: 35, NKJV, "Jesus wept."

Clearly, he would have spared the family the grief they were now experiencing had that been the best choice. His heart ached for their sorrow. But, with Jesus, even in tears of sorrow there is hope. For in this particular situation, he was not only going to redeem their loss; but open the eyes of many who had not yet believed that he was indeed the Messiah.

Soon after raising Lazarus from the dead, the time comes for Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Multitudes greet him shouting, "Hosanna! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!' The King of Israel." (John 12: 13b)

And, indeed, he was that. But, their timing is off and their understanding of why he came is still obscured by wanting their physical reality changed. So even in the waving of palm branches and their adulation and enthusiasm, they are missing the greater reality: their own hearts becoming his throne.

When Jesus arrived in the city of Jerusalem, he went straight to the temple of God and drove out the money changers, overturning their tables and scatter-

ing the animals. They had turned his house of prayer into a 'den of thieves' (Matthew 21:12). In so doing, he revealed their money-hungry hearts. And yet, the blind and the lame

responded to the compassion beating in his heart... "and He healed them." (vs. 14b)

At this point, Jesus continues to challenge the religious elite; but by the time we reach Matthew 23: 37, it is evident that even in his challenges he is courting Israel, wooing her, desiring that she come to true faith and belief in him as their long-awaited Messiah. And once again we sense his tears.

"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!"

I hear his grief, pain and sorrow, don't you? How much more could he have done to prove that he fulfilled their Scriptures? But, yet, even in this heartfelt declaration of despair, hope is not far off.

For there is more he will do. More tears are to come. But eternal hope will spring from the unseen reality that for a time will still be blurred by those tears. Selah

Jan Merop of Sebring is a News-Sun correspondent.

Friend stayed silent about pastor's sex addiction

Dear Abby: My best friend of more than 12 years — the pastor of a large church — was sent to prison several months ago for soliciting sex with two minor children. While I despise what he did, I have enough intimate knowledge to know this was a one-time thing. He's a sex addict and, while this does not forgive the act, it was just an escalation of his addiction.

I have decided to forgive him and be supportive. I send him a small amount of money each week and provide emotional support. My problem is, I knew about his addiction for 11 of the 12 years we have known each other. I feel I could have prevented all this from happening if I had told others, intervened and helped him get treatment. How do I apologize to all of those who loved and supported him, not

knowing he wasn't celibate? — *The Guilty Enabler*

Dear Enabler: Excuse me? "Just" an escalation of the man's sex addiction? The man's lack of character is appalling. That you would turn a blind eye to what he was doing indicates that you have issues of your own that need resolving. Forget about apologizing. You can't make this better. What's done is done.

Dear Abby: My boyfriend was raised in a family that didn't celebrate holidays, including birthdays. They converted to that religion when he was 10, and while he no longer identifies with that religion, he still doesn't recognize any celebrations.

I was raised with all the traditions surrounding the holidays and the family time that comes with it. I feel they are very important. I



Dear Abby

have tried explaining this to him, but his attitude toward holidays borders on hatred.

He recently told me he wants me to stop including him in activities or conversations related to holidays and birthdays, and I'm not sure what to do. He finds the same activities acceptable as long as they don't happen around a holiday and are not associated with one.

Would it be unfair to ask him to compromise and share certain traditions with me, in light of the fact that he has no family traditions

to bring to the table? — *No Happy Birthdays*

Dear No Happy Birthdays: You could ask him to compromise, but it would be unrealistic to expect that someone with his ingrained attitude will do so. A fish and a bird may love each other, but it doesn't mean they can happily cohabit. If you want a happy relationship, find someone whose traditions more closely resemble your own.

Dear Abby: I'm an almost 18-year-old girl. I hoped that by now I would be over my fear of the dark, but I'm not. I can't sleep without the TV, go outside after dark or walk through my house at night without being terrified. I always feel as if there is "something" there, no matter how many times I shine a light to check. I'm pretty sure this is irrational, but I

don't know what to do. — *Scaredy-Cat in Florida*

Dear Scaredy-Cat: When someone has an irrational fear, the thing to do is to consult a licensed psychotherapist and discuss it. There are counselors who specialize in phobias, and your physician may be able to refer you to one.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069. Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447.

Good news headed your way this week, Aquarius

Metro Services

Aries (March 21-April 20) — Aries, a mountain of responsibility has put pressure on you. Although you cannot shy away from what has to be done, you can put a smile on your face when tackling your tasks.

Taurus (April 21-May 21) — Taurus, something special will take place in the next few days and you will be on hand to experience all of it. Magical moments are to be made with a romantic partner.

Gemini (May 22-June 21) — Gemini, you may want to think before you speak when a friend asks for advice. The truth might hurt, so it could be wise to keep quiet for the time being.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) — Cancer, a stroke of inspiration leads

Horoscope

you on a creative journey. Things will calm down toward the end of the week when you have to focus on more tangible things.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 23) — Leo, someone you know wants to step things up to another level, but you may not be ready to take that kind of plunge. Talk over your feelings in a kind way.

Virgo (Aug. 24-Sept. 22) — Virgo, family has been on your mind lately, and you may feel it's best to spend the majority of your free time at home rather than out. Make good use of your time.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Libra, a chance encounter has you rethinking what you want to accomplish in the

next few weeks. You are second-guessing all of your plans because of this surprise.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — A decision you made could have long-term effects, Scorpio. You'll probably find that you have to do some damage control this week to get things back on track.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Sagittarius, all indications point to a monumental change in your life. Wait to see what occurs and put big decisions or vacations on hold.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20) — Capricorn, it can be tempting to toss away your responsibilities and simply have fun. But then you will be so backed up it could take quite a while to dig out from under your to-do list.

Aquarius (Jan. 21-Feb. 18) —

Aquarius, just when you need a bit of sunshine, a satisfying piece of good news arrives. Your spouse or partner plays a significant role in this positive development.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) — Pisces, a tangled web is forming around you, but with quick wit you will manage to steer clear of the meleé.

Famous birthdays

March 24, Jim Parsons, Actor (40); March 25, Aretha Franklin, Singer (71); March 26, Amy Smart, Actress (37); March 27, Pauley Perrette, Actress (44); March 28, Lady Gaga, Singer (27); March 29, John Popper, Singer (46); March 30, Robbie Coltrane, Actor (63).

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It's the perfect time to learn kite-flying basics

Send 'em soaring

By **JAMIE GUMBRECHT**
McClatchy Newspapers

With a little luck and a gentle breeze — and a few tips from experts — you may never know a plummeting kite again. We asked Byron Bell and Jessica Mayes, a kite-flying couple and members of KICK — Kite Flyers in Central Kentucky — to share how to choose the best kite for you. But there are a few essentials to consider before you get started:

- In some areas, spring and fall are best seasons for kites. But if you're going to the beach, you'll likely be able to fly a kite any time of the year.
- If the wind is slower than 5 mph, you're probably wasting your time. If it gets over 20 mph, expect a broken kite. The ideal wind speed is from 5 mph to 12 mph.
- A kite can cost as little as \$50 and as much as \$1,000. Find the right kite for your skill level and interest. And try shopping online or ordering with a club for wholesale prices.

TYPES OF KITES

Here are some basic types of kites, along with examples from the catalog of Premier Kites, a major online source for kites based in Hyattsville, Md. (www.premierkites.com).

Diamonds

These classically shaped kites are old favorites for a reason: They're easy to find or build on your own. Most need a tail to be good fliers. **Who should use it:** Anybody, especially kids and inexperienced fliers. **When to use it:** Winds 7-20 mph (when leaves and twigs are constantly moving up to when small trees will sway). **What the fliers say:** "The tail on the kite gives it some stability," Mayes says. "It helps aerodynamically to get some lift."

Rokkakus

Rokkakus are six-sided Japanese kites that are taller than they are wide. They're sometimes used in battles where the fliers try to ground each others' kites while they're in the air. (These fights are popular in several Asian countries, although people there often use small, diamond kites with glass-coated line for cutting.) **Who should use it:** Only fliers with practice — fighter kites can be tough to handle. **When to use it:** Winds 4-18 mph. **What the fliers say:** "I don't think anybody's going to have rokkaku battles" at kite festivals, Bell says.

Box kites

Box kites are part of a branch called cellular kites. They can be big, like the one above, and complex looking, but a lightweight one is easy to fly. **Who should use it:** Anybody tired of the old diamonds and deltas. **When to use it:** Winds 7-20 mph (when leaves and twigs are constantly moving up to when small trees will sway). **What the fliers say:** "More complicated to build but very easy to fly," Bell says. "I used to make them from dowel rods and model airplane paper. Alexander Graham Bell made some huge cellular kites also."

Deltas

This kite doesn't have the iconic diamond shape, but it's popular for being easy to fly, especially in low-wind situations. **Who should use it:** Anybody, especially kids and inexperienced fliers. **When to use it:** Winds 5-18 mph (from when you can feel wind on exposed skin up to when small trees will sway). **What the fliers say:** "It's more like a miniature hang glider," Bell says.

Sport kites

Sport kites are steerable and often used for stunts. (Think synchronized swimming without the water.) They use two or more lines, instead of the single line found on many other kites. **Who should use it:** Anybody can figure them out, but don't expect to be a daredevil on your first fly. **When to use it:** Winds 4-20 mph. **What the fliers say:** With dual lines, "you can steer those left and right," Mayes says. "The more lines, the more control and the more difficult to fly."

Soft kites

Soft kites inflate like a large balloon and require a lot of wind and strength to manage. They come in shapes such as fish or puppies or giant blue or orange lobsters. **Who should use it:** Strong fliers with a sense of humor and patience — you'll have to wait for wind and answer to excited crowds. **When to use it:** Winds 9-22 mph. **What the fliers say:** "The kite club has a 21-foot inflatable lobster, but you have to get a pretty good wind to get it going," Mayes says.

HORNBEAM SLED KITE

For your first plunge into kite making, the "sled" is hard to beat. It's the ultimate in simplicity — two sticks and a plastic bag — and it's a great kite for kids. The Hornbeam design, featuring a crescent-shaped cutout at the leading edge, eases the sled's tendency to collapse in side winds. These directions are for a 24-inch kite, but the design easily can be scaled up to larger dimensions. However, sled kites develop lots of "pull" as they grow in size. Sleds like steady, light winds.

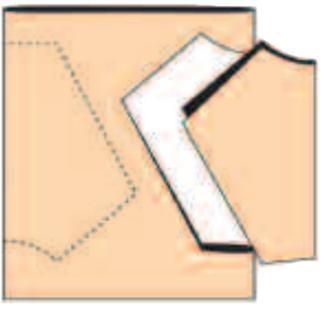
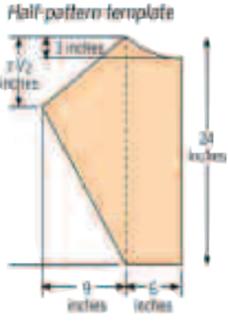
Kitchen garbage bags make nice sled kites, as do plastic lawn bags. You can decorate them with markers or colorful stickers. Plastic shopping bags also work well, and they often come already decorated.

Materials and tools

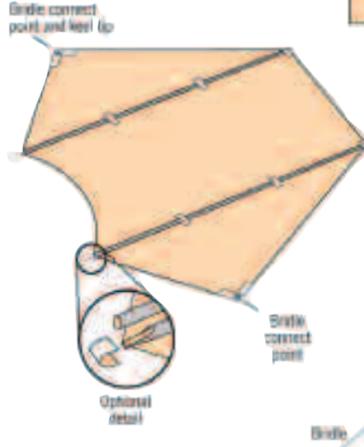
- 1 large plastic kitchen garbage bag (13 gal. size, 2 feet by 2 feet 5 3/4 inches)
- 2 hardwood dowels, 1/4 inch by 24 inches
- Fiberglass-reinforced strapping/packing tape
- Straightedge or yardstick
- sharp knife

1. Following the measurements in the illustration, make the half-pattern template from heavy paper or cardboard.

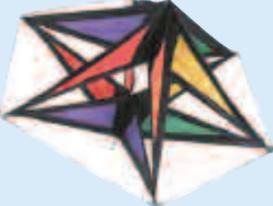
2. Two kites may be cut from one trash bag. Lay the bag flat and align the straight side of the template along the bag's side, as shown at right. Cut out a half-pattern for a complete kite.



3. Use 3-inch strips of tape to secure the dowels in position as shown at left. Reinforce the bridle connect points with an overlapping section of strapping tape; punch holes in the keel tips for the bridle. (Optional detail: The tape will hold the dowel tips more securely if the dowel ends are sanded flat as shown.)



4. For the bridle, tie a 12-foot piece of string to the bridle connect points, then form a loop at the middle of the bridle using an overhand knot and attach the flying line. Adding two 6-foot by 1-inch crepe paper tails to the aft ends of the dowels makes the kite more stable in higher winds.



KITE PHOTOS COURTESY OF PREMIER KITES

