



NEWS-SUN

www.newssun.com

Highlands County's Hometown Newspaper Since 1927

Wednesday-Thursday, December 4-5, 2013

Volume 94/Number 145 | 50 cents

Streaks get defensive

Sebring smothers rival Dragons for easy win

SPORTS, B1

Healthy sweets

Use watermelon for a different take on Valentine's Day

INSIDE ON B12



Phone store robbed

Police searching for man who held up a MetroPCS store in Sebring

INSIDE ON A2



Gentle giants get pampered

Clydesdales spent Tuesday resting up for busy week

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR

samantha.gholar@newssun.com

SEBRING — Sebring has always been known for horsepower. But not this kind.

Ten undeniably beautiful and majestic Clydesdales filled the stable area of the Highlands County Fairgrounds Tuesday morning prepping for a full day of beauty routines. The 10 horses traveled from Merrimack, N.H., to Sebring to take part in Friday's Christmas parade.

On Tuesday, an eight-person crew worked their way through the daily routines of feeding, watering and cleaning the enormous horses.

Handlers Manny Meza and Pat Lyons stood on stools in order to wash the manes of two Clydesdales. Each of the four legs were shampooed to a fresh white coat.

"They're usually good with the baths. They don't like when their ears get wet, though," said Meza, a 22-year-employee with the Budweiser Clydesdale crew.

Lyons, whose only been a part of the crew for one and a half years, said that the washing of all the Clydesdales, which are all males, takes up the better part of the day.

"It's a process," Lyons said.

Two horses, Victor and Diamond, were getting the royal treatment mid-morning as Lyons and Meza brushed their coats



Katara Simmons/News-Sun

Horse handler Manny Meza scrubs Victor on Tuesday morning, one of 10 Budweiser Clydesdales that are in town for a few upcoming events. Meza said he has been working with the horses for 22 years.

squeaky clean before leading each of the massive horses back to the stable with the remaining eight.

"We brought 10 with us. This is the traveling hitch. We have about five that stay in Merrimack. If one of them gets sick or something on the road we can trade him out from either there or St. Louis if it's closer," said the lone female handler, Brittny Corrigan.

Corrigan worked on feeding duty Tuesday morning, delivering bails of hay to the beautiful, gentle giants.

"They get along pretty well with each other and with people

See CLYDESDALES, A7



Katara Simmons/News-Sun

Clydesdales lovingly groom each other while waiting for a bath Tuesday morning at the Highlands County Fairgrounds. The famous horse team is in town to take part in the Sebring Christmas parade as well as some other area events.

Mailing a gift? Better get packing

Shipping deadlines are coming up soon

By BARRY FOSTER

News-Sun correspondent

SEBRING — 'Tis the season for packing shipping and mailing, and local residents who want to get packages, boxes and bags to their destinations by Christmas day have a number of deadlines they need to heed.

Some of those deadlines already have come and gone, making that famous whooshing sound as they flew by.

"The deadline for regular first class mail such as greeting cards for Africa, South America and Central America was Monday,"

See SHIPPING, A6

County to pay for field fees with TDC cash

By BARRY FOSTER

News-Sun correspondent

SEBRING — Highlands County commissioners Tuesday morning declined to waive the fees for the Sebring Firemen for the rental of the county's sports complex for the Florida Athletic Coaches' Association State All-Star football practices.

Instead, the \$755 will be paid for from tourist tax funds. In moving the issue forward, Highlands County Commissioner Don Elwell, who currently serves as the commission's liaison to the Tourist Development Commission, suggested the action would be a precursor of things to come.

"This expense — for the fields and the lighting — is a general fund expense," he said. "In the past we

See COUNTY, A7



Elwell



It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas

Phil Attinger/News-Sun

Reindeer and gingerbread dancers from Center Stage Dance Studio get into the holiday spirit for Monday's Avon Park Christmas Parade. The parade also featured racing lawnmowers, an airplane, marching bands and, of course Santa Claus. See more pictures on A3 and online at www.newssun.com.

Index

Business	B10
Celebrations	B7
Classifieds	A9
Clubs	B8
Crossword Puzzle	B11
Dear Abby	B11
Editorial & Opinion	A4
Friends & Neighbors	B9
Sudoku Puzzle	B11
What's Cooking	B12



Pleasant High 83 Low 62

Details, A10



Fresh trees help prevent holiday fires

By PHIL ATTINGER

phil.atinger@newssun.com

SEBRING — Whether enjoying conversation around a backyard fire pit or gathering under a well-lit Christmas tree, holiday revelers can do a lot this season to prevent home fires and wildfires.

The Florida Forest Service wants everyone to enjoy the winter holidays with safety in mind. Calin Ionita, sen-

ior forester with the Florida Forest Service, warns that a small fire in or near a Christmas tree can grow large very quickly, taking the house as well as nearby houses and wildlands when fanned by winter winds.

Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they have a higher chance to be dead-

See FIRE, A7



Metro

Picking a fresh tree and using the proper lights are keys to preventing what could turn out to be a deadly fire.

Phone ... 385-6155

Fax ... 385-2453

Online: www.newssun.com

Call us for a no or low-down payment loan today!

Wendy Turner
Fairmont - 402-1776
Member FDIC NMLS # 803387

Christy Page
Lake Jackson - 471-1972
NMLS # 803383

JoAnn Chandler
Lake Placid - 465-3553
NMLS # 803372



Sunset & Symphony at Bok Tower Saturday

Special to the News-Sun
LAKE WALES — Bok Tower Gardens' 12th Annual Sunset & Symphony concert takes place Saturday, Dec. 7 at 6 p.m., with pre-show events beginning at 4:30 p.m.

The Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra and Singing Tower carillon will perform together in a special holiday edition of one of Central Florida's favorite outdoor concerts in celebration of the 85th anniversary of the Gardens.

Flaming torches will illuminate the Olmsted-designed pathways leading up to the 205-foot Singing Tower, housing one of the world's great carillons and featuring the Gardens' world-class carillonneur, Geert D'hollander. Guests are encouraged to prepare elaborate picnics and experience a magical evening as the sun sets atop Iron Mountain.

The Orlando Philharmonic will perform a program of holiday classics, such as "The Nutcracker Suite," "Sleigh Ride," "T" was the Night Before Christmas," "Carol of the Bells," "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year," and "We Wish You a Merry Christmas," among others. The performance features guest conductor Paul Hostetter, and guest vocalists Priscilla Bagley and Kevin Kelly.

Concert tickets include general Gardens' admission so guests may enter anytime during the day for picnics.

The Holiday Home Tour at Pinewood Estate also will be open until 6 p.m., but requires an additional entry fee. The Instrument Petting Zoo, a chance to meet the musicians and learn about their individual instruments, begins at 4:30 p.m. Families can try their hands at a variety of instruments with the help of Orlando Philharmonic musicians on the Olmsted House lawn.

The popular picnic contest will award prizes for Most Original, Best Holiday Themed, and Best Overall.

Judging takes place at 5:30 p.m. and winners will be announced during intermission. Pre-ordered boxed picnic selections are available from the Blue Palmetto Café, with food and beverages available for sale at the Hilltop Café concession from 3:30 to 8 p.m.

The Gift Shop and Visitor Center will remain open until after the concert. Visitors are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or blankets, insect repellent and flashlights. Handicapped parking and shuttle service will be available.

Tickets are \$20 for the general public and \$18 for members. Day-of-concert ticket prices are \$25 for both the general public and members. Children ages 5 to 12 are \$10 in advance; \$12 at the gate; under 5 are admitted free. Group discounts are available.

Tickets may be purchased online at www.BokTowerGardens.org, by calling the Gardens at 863-734-1222.



Phil Attinger/News-Sun
Sebring Police and Highlands County Sheriff's deputies search for a robber Monday morning with the help of the Sheriff's Office K-9 bloodhounds. The Metro PCS store at Kenilworth Drive and Sebring Parkway was robbed at approximately 9:26 a.m., according to Police Cmdr. Steve Carr. No one was hurt. The suspect was described as a middle-aged Hispanic man standing 5-foot-9-inches tall, weighing 150 pounds and wearing a blue, long-sleeve shirt, jeans and a fedora.

Police searching for phone store robber

News-Sun staff

SEBRING — Police are searching for the man who held up the MetroPCS phone store Monday morning at the corner of Sebring Parkway and Kenilworth Drive in Sebring.

Cmdr. Steve Carr of the Sebring Police Department said the robber was described as a middle-aged Hispanic man standing 5-foot-9-inches tall and weighing 150 pounds. He was wearing a blue, long-sleeved shirt, jeans and a dark fedora-style hat, Carr said.

The robbery took place at 9:26 a.m. No one was injured, but the suspect got away with an undisclosed amount of cash.

Sebring High School, which is across the street, was locked down for a time during the search for the suspect.

Sebring police and



Phil Attinger/News-Sun
Detectives look for clues in the area outside Metro PCS at the Kenilworth Drive and Sebring Parkway intersection, which was robbed at approximately 9:26 a.m. Monday.

Highlands County Sheriff's deputies canvassed the area with the help of the Sheriff's Office K-9 bloodhounds but Carr said the hunt for the

suspect was unsuccessful. Anyone with information on the robbery is encouraged to call the Sebring police at 863-471-5108.

Pedestrian identified in fatal Lake Placid accident

News-Sun staff

LAKE PLACID — Police have identified both the pedestrian and driver in a fatal traffic incident on Thanksgiving Day.

The victim — Nicolas Juarez, 57, of Lake Placid — died from his injuries on Friday at Lee Memorial Hospital after being transported from Florida Hospital Lake Placid.

He was struck at 6 p.m. Thursday as he walked south on Main Avenue, heading toward U.S. 27. Police reports said Juarez walked out in front of a southbound truck driven by Jesus Ochoa Artega, 55, at the intersection of South Main Avenue and Payson Avenue.

This is the fourth fatal crash in Lake Placid this year, police reports said.

There is no word about whether or not charges are pending in this case.



Courtesy photo
Highlands Pedalers (from left) Judy Wright, Red Camp, Rita Bennett and Ken Reese check routes for the Highlands Bike Fest, which will be Friday through Sunday, centered at the Kenilworth Lodge in Sebring.

360 cyclists expected for 16th Bike Fest

Special to the News-Sun

SEBRING — Cyclists from 11 states and Canada are expected to converge on Sebring's roads Friday through Sunday for the 16th Annual Highlands Bike Fest, hosted by Kenilworth Lodge and Highlands Pedalers Bicycle Club.

Colorfully clad cyclists will take to the roads choosing from short rides of 20 to 30 miles all the way to "metric century" rides of 62 miles and one "century" ride of 100 miles on Saturday. The cyclists tour the scenic countryside of Highlands County and rest stops are provided as well as "sag" service, which provides on-the-road minor repairs.

The cyclists are encouraged to ride safely and follow all traffic regulations. This is not a race. Cyclists say the event's popularity is due to the renewing of friendships made, the scenic and good roads, the friendliness of the local community and the gourmet food provided by Chef Mac.

Proceeds from the three-day event support local bicycle safety programs. The Highlands Pedalers recently helped send 10 young athletes from the TriPower Team to the Ironkids Championships in Iowa.

Visit www.highlandsbikefest.com or www.highlandspedalers.com/ for details.

Community Briefs

Christmas on Main set in LP

LAKE PLACID — Local businesses on Main Avenue in Lake Placid will be taking part in Christmas on Main from 3-8 p.m. Friday.

There will be music, refreshments and a raffle drawing with multiple prizes.

Participating merchants include All Dressed Up, Alpha Natural, Amber Louise Boutique, Chef Buddy's, Chic Chick Boutique, Creative Hair Design, Molly's Treats, Old Friends, Schooni's Restaurant and Wings Of Eagles.

You can pick up your raffle ticket at any participating merchant. Each participating merchant will stamp your ticket. Ticket must be returned to Alpha Natural to qualify for drawings.

For more information, contact the Chamber of Commerce at 465-4331.

Country music returns to Shrine Club

AVON PARK — Country music will start again from 6-8 p.m. Thursday at the Shrine Club. Refreshments will be available.

Cost is \$4 for a single and \$7 per couple. The club is at 2604 State Road 17 South, just north of the Red Barn Furniture store. Phone 382-2208 for additional information.

Financial advice at Lake Placid Memorial Library

LAKE PLACID — "Tax Free Investing: It's Not What You Make, It's What You Keep," a free seminar, will be offered at 11 a.m. today.

Cheryl S. Brown, a representative from Edward Jones Investments, will provide information about tax-free investment features, tax free-investments vs. taxable investment returns, how to purchase



This week's question: Do you think Black Friday mania has gotten out of hand?

Yes
94.4%

No
5.6%

Total votes: 126

Poll open through Friday. Make your voice heard at

www.newssun.com

municipal bonds and goal achievement through tax-free investments.

The Lake Placid Memorial Library is at 205 W Interlake Blvd.

Payne featured at Scribblers and Scribes

SEBRING — The December meeting of the Florida Writer's Association Sebring Scribblers and Scribes will be held at Beef O Brady's in Sebring at 7 p.m. today with dinner earlier if desired. The speaker for the evening will be Mack Payne of Lake Placid. He is a Vietnam War veteran and a published author and speaker. He will introduce the Sebring writers to the ease in getting on various radio stations in order to get themselves know and their written word recognized.

The meeting is open to the public. Membership in FWA or Scribblers is not required and membership applications are available. Call Barbara Beswick at 402-9181.

Continued on A6

Lottery Center

FLORIDA LOTTO	Nov. 30	18 21 29 30 35 45	x:5
		Next jackpot \$38 million	
	Nov. 27	2 8 20 33 35 49	x:5
	Nov. 23	1 21 36 40 44 45	x:2
FANTASY 5 with ezmatch	Dec. 2	4 19 24 25 27	
	Dec. 1	1 16 29 32 36	
	Nov. 30	4 20 21 22 24	
	Nov. 29	1 4 17 20 22	
MEGA MONEY	Nov. 29	12 18 43 44 14	14
	Nov. 26	7 15 22 23 16	16
	Nov. 22	1 24 30 35 12	12
	Nov. 19	11 32 33 38 4	4
CASH 3	Dec. 2 (n)	7 6 6	6
	Dec. 2 (d)	3 6 4	4
	Dec. 1 (n)	8 3 3	3
	Dec. 1 (d)	0 0 6	6
FLORIDA POWERBALL	Nov. 30	5 26 44 45 57	PB: 29
		Next jackpot \$81 million	
	Nov. 27	18 25 50 55 57	PB: 17
	Nov. 23	5 12 43 52 55	PB: 10
MEGA MILLIONS	Nov. 29	9 41 43 47 57	MB: 5 x4
		Next jackpot \$257 million	
	Nov. 26	27 44 59 74 75	MB: 3 x5
	Nov. 19	14 15 29 49 63	MB: 2 x3



NEWS-SUN

Highlands County's Hometown Newspaper Since 1927

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

Office: 2227 US 27 S, Sebring, FL 33870
Office Hours: 8 a.m. – 5p.m., Mon-Fri
Phone: (863) 385-6155
Main Fax: (863) 385-1954
Newsroom Fax: (863) 385-2453

Postmaster: Send address change to: News-Sun, 2227 U.S. 27 S., Sebring, FL 33870

USPS - ISSN 0163-3988
Periodical postage paid at Sebring, FL and additional entry office(s)

Circulation, Sunday, Wednesday & Friday Editions:
If you do not receive your home delivered newspaper by 6 a.m., please phone the circulation department before 10 a.m. on Wednesday and Friday publications days, and before 11 a.m. on Sunday publication days. A replacement copy will be delivered to you. Subscribers who notify us after said times will be issued credit to their account.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES	12MO.	7% FL TAX	TOTAL
HOME DELIVERY	\$72.22	\$5.06	\$77.28
IN FLORIDA MAIL	\$107.24	\$7.51	\$114.75
OUT OF FLORIDA MAIL	\$122.41	\$8.57	\$130.98

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

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

Christmas season marches into AP



Phil Attinger/News-Sun

This plane may seem to be flying through a snowstorm, but it's only winter for a few feet around the Longs Air-Conditioning float for Monday's Avon Park Christmas Parade.



Phil Attinger/News-Sun

Santa got some help from the Avon Park Fire Department to arrive for his appearance in Monday's Avon Park Chamber of Commerce Christmas Parade. Believers in St. Nick had to wait almost two hours for his arrival, as the parade was delayed 'mid-step' by a freight train rolling through downtown Avon Park.



Phil Attinger/News-Sun
More photos online
www.newssun.com

Mayda Rivera of Charming Thrift Shop in Avon Park gave out candy to children Monday at Candy Cane Lane, a display of Christmas Trees organized by Anne Marie Feeney of Royal 4 Home Services. Jayce Vanscooter, 3, got a lollipop, opened for him by grandmother, Janet McClugage (background right).

County elections office has new online look

By BARRY FOSTER
News-Sun correspondent
SEBRING — The Highlands County Supervisor of Elections Website has a whole new look. The new site at www.votehighlands.com went live on Monday morning.

"Our vendor, VR Systems, includes website upgrades as part of their contract every few years and this year was our year to update," said Highlands County Supervisor of Elections Penny Ogg. "I think it is going to provide more information and be easier to navigate."

In addition to hosting the supervisor of elections website, VR Systems also takes care of election night reporting numbers, which are posted to the supervisor's website.

The new site has been about four months in the making, with Ogg first getting a look at a number of potential templates back in August. Once the design was agreed upon, the group then set about moving the information from the old site onto the new one.

Although visually the site is much different from its predecessor, the new incarnation still has basically much of the same information as before.

"We tried to keep a lot of it the same such as the top and side menus," she said. "We did list them in alphabetical order to make them a little easier to access," Ogg said.

One of the new features will be the candidate finance reporting section. That was given the OK by Highlands County commissioners at their Nov. 19 ses-

sion. Starting later this month, candidates will have the reports they file displayed on the supervisor's website available for public review.

A rotating slideshow, which depicts scenes from around Highlands County, also has been added. Those include Main Street in Avon Park, Sebring's Circle and the emblematic "Town of Murals" sign in Lake Placid as well as shots from Highlands Hammock State Park and at Arbuckle Creek.

"We wanted to make sure that all three towns were included at the start, but we plan to continue to add pictures as we go along to include all of Highlands County," Ogg said.

The rollout of the new site has been relatively uneventful with only a couple of glitches noted. One involved a search for the pre-filed candidates who already have announced they will be running for office.

"I figured out that we didn't have our committees like the Republican Executive Committee and Democrat Executive Committees yet listed," she said. "But when we went to the 'General 2014' menu you can find them."

Ogg said one advantage is that the staff will be able to update the site themselves, making it easier to keep it updated. She said the new site is one of the more important things she has been able to accomplish since becoming Supervisor of Elections.

"Between getting the campaign finance resolution passed through the board and now the new website we are moving ahead," she said.



Ogg



Phil Attinger/News-Sun

Accompanied by the Avon Park High School Grandiers Marching Band, the high school color guard welcomed in the Christmas season with a flourish during Monday's Avon Park Christmas Parade.



Phil Attinger/News-Sun

An open air racer would be chilly in most Christmas parades, but not in Florida in Monday's Avon Park Christmas Parade.

Circle of Cans scheduled for Friday

By SAMANTHA GHOLAR
samantha.gholar@newssun.com
SEBRING — 'Tis the season of giving and the Sebring Rotary is hoping community members will dig deep into their cupboards this year to help stock the pantry of the local Salvation Army this holiday season during Friday's annual Circle of Cans.

From 7 a.m. to 2 p.m., Sebring Rotarians will be in downtown Sebring on and around the Circle collecting canned goods and monetary donations that will go to benefit The Salvation Army.

Each year, the Circle of Cans draws hundreds of participants who line Circle Park's sidewalk with cans of various foods including beans, peas, soups, meats, etc.

The cans surround the Carousel of Lights throughout the day before being collected and taken to The Salvation Army for needy families and individuals.

Hundreds of cans are collected each holiday season that go on to feed people

throughout the holiday season and into the new year. Everyone is able to participate in the event, just simply bring a can good and/or money to drop into the famous Salvation Army holiday kettles. Cans may be

placed directly onto the Circle Park sidewalk. For more information, call 385-8538.

placed directly onto the Circle Park sidewalk. For more information, call 385-8538.

The KIFFLE KITCHEN
The Finest in Quality Baked Goods
Established in 1985 • Bath, PA
We Ship Nationally!
Exceptional Kiffles (Kolaczki) and Nut Rolls (Povitica)

Kiffles, Tossies, & Cookie Tins

Nut Rolls

Try our English Toffee!
Great Gift Ideas!

Place your holiday orders EARLY!

To order, visit: www.kifflekitchen.com or call 1-866-543-3537

"FREE TRIAL" PROGRAM
for Men, Women, & Children

**GET IN SHAPE
ADULT CLASSES
BETTER GRADES
LEARN SELF DEFENSE
AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS**

**CALL NOW!
471-2467**

For the children we offer a variety of class from pre-school up that specialize in focus and concentration in a fun atmosphere of respect and courtesy. For the adults, we have traditional martial arts classes, fitness kickboxing, and self-defense programs designed to get you in shape fast with the skills you need to protect yourself.

Where Families Grow Strong Together

The Heart Experts

**Erectile dysfunction?
Could be poor circulation.**

Call today for a free consultation.

James A. Hearn M.D.
941-206-0234

Louis D. Rosenfield M.D.
941-206-0254

Port Charlotte

4130 Tamiami Trail, Suite 200
Port Charlotte, FL

Arcadia

303 E Gibson Rd.
Arcadia, FL

Editorial & Opinion

TODAY'S EDITORIAL

Recycling plan long overdue

We thank the county commissioners for allowing County Administrator June Fisher to begin negotiations for an curbside recycling program here in Highlands County. It is about time.

In 2008, the Florida legislature decided recycling is so important to the future it mandated a new goal and time table for all communities of 100,000 or more — by 2020 (seven years away) they must be recycling 75 percent of their solid waste.

Those communities with populations under 100,000 are urged to recycle too, but participation is optional.

Highlands County's population at the last census was 98,786, so it won't be long before we face mandates too.

What the News-Sun does not understand is why county commissioners, over at least two elections, have done nothing about recycling despite its value and importance.

There are two main rea-

sons to recycle. One is that the demand for products continues to outpace the supply of raw resources, especially energy sources like oil. When demand is greater than supply it brings high prices and competition with it. With rising expectations around the world, demand — and therefore competition — will only increase. Recycling — making resources stretch farther — is enlightened self-interest.

The second reason is the political response to the first. In its efforts to get people and businesses to recycle more, the state legislature set recycling goals almost six years ago.

Instead of thinking ahead and doing its homework, however, the county com-

mission has been timid and unsure, rejecting several proposed recycling contracts, seemingly fearful of unknowns that they should have already explored.

For example, at the board of county commission meeting Aug. 28, 2012, during a discussion about an interested recycling vendor, then county commissioner Barbara Stewart said, "I strongly urge you to be cautious. I've sat here for eight years and have seen the county to be so quick to grab solutions without getting into deep details. Please, please don't rush in."

It turns out the commission took Stewart's plea to heart. It hasn't rushed into anything. In fact, it is more accurate to describe the members as dragging their feet. The reluctance directly affects us.

Currently, the people of Highlands County recycle 16 percent of our solid waste. In 2012 the state's goal was to recycle 40 percent. The

40-16 difference between what was asked and what was accomplished is so large that if it was a youth baseball score, we would have been taken off the field under the mercy rule.

Single-stream programs may not be the most effective or efficient. This is all relatively new; there will be lessons to learn. But even these early recycling systems work to help the economy and environment. They are a definite step in the right direction.

If we as a county are serious about supporting our nation, about changing to healthier habits and protecting the natural world around us, we all need to rise to the occasion. Avon Park has shown it is possible to create a viable recycling system. The commission needs to stop hemming and hawing, and get a program into place.

Then it will be our responsibility to fill the bins.

News-Sun
Highlands County's Hometown Newspaper Since 1927
2227 U.S. 27 South • Sebring, FL 33870 • 863-385-6155

NEWSROOM

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

SCOTT DRESSEL
Editor
Ext. 516
editor@newssun.com

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

ADVERTISING

VICKIE WATSON
Ext. 518
vickie.jones@newssun.com

MITCH COLLINS
Ext. 507
mcollins@newssun.com

BUSINESS OFFICE

JANET EMERSON
Ext. 596
legals@newssun.com

TODAY'S LETTERS

Serve the people

Editor:

It is an interesting point that when the majority of politicians get elected to office they forget the basic reason for being elected. To serve "at the will of the people".

The compensation and benefits for the office come from the tax paying citizens. It is those same citizens that deserve the opportunity to attend public meetings and have their voice/s heard.

The new alignment of county commissioners has chosen to reduce the number of meetings by 50 percent and to eliminate the only regularly scheduled night meeting that gave those that were unable to attend during the daytime. It appears that the will of the people and the provider of the compensation packages are not being fully served. The question is with the amount of on-the-job time reduced, should the compensation packages be reduced also?

John Larsen
Sebring

Sold for 20 pieces of silver

Editor:

The Obama Administration has sold out the Israel nation, to the brotherhood of Muslims.

Centuries ago our Supreme Commandant's Son was sold for 20 pieces of silver.

The Veteran Administration has also sold out my disability claim along with millions of disabled military claims. This has been going on for more than 40 years. It's called co-pay. The disabled veteran whose claim has not been allowed, or denied, if he wants to use a VA facility or hospital, he is charged a co-pay. As many operations can cost many thousands of dollars he could be and has been bankrupted. This is VA hospitals and VA facilities that have cost the American taxpayers trillions of dollars. Yet millions of disabled veterans have to pay co-pays.

My social security is being stolen as I write this article.

Subvention Bill HR 814 will correct this theft of disabled veterans. Please call your senator and congress to correct this theft.

The youth of this nation have also been sold out to the insurance companies. It is called Obamacare. In this merry go round of death and taxes, He is watching. He is the wind beneath my wings.

Billie E. Jewett
Sebring

Full belly hinders the hunt

Editor:

I agree with Hank Kowalski, that feral cats do prey upon small birds and other wildlife. That's why I feed feral cats.

With a full belly, the cats tend to ignore wildlife and take a nap instead.

Sheila Ryan
Sebring



Dog days of Obamacare

I've heard a lot of interesting stories of people trying, and failing, to sign up for ObamaCare, but this one takes the cake.

According to UPI, Shane Smith, of Fort Collins, Colo., had his new ObamaCare insurance opened under his dog's name.

As it goes, Smith's existing plan was canceled because it failed to meet the requirements of ObamaCare. After considerable effort, he was finally able to establish an ObamaCare policy — but the government service representative accidentally assigned the policy to Baxter, Smith's 14-year-old Yorkshire terrier.

I'll bet that could lead to some interesting medical situations:

Smith: Doctor, I strained a tendon in my foot pretty badly.

Doctor: You were chasing the mailman?

Such is the law of unintended consequences — to keep our dog analogy going — bites off way more than it can chew.

Doctors' appointments will be the least of Smith's problems, though. If the government assigned his insurance policy to his dog,

what other information might it have gotten wrong? What happens when he needs to make use of his insurance policy?

Smith to ObamaCare representative: I had cataract surgery, but my insurance company refuses to pay the claim!

ObamaCare representative: I'm sorry, Baxter, but your policy doesn't cover DOG cataracts.

Smith: My name isn't Baxter and I am not a dog!

ObamaCare representative: Then why are you barking at me?

Baxter will likely be upset with his new insurance policy, too. His premium will likely be double or triple what he was able to get before ObamaCare.

He'll bark when he realizes he has to carry maternity coverage — despite getting neutered in 1999.

He'll growl when sees how high his deductibles will be — and that Smith's middle-class income disqualifies him for government subsidies.

He'll howl when he loses his biscuits — especially since President Obama



Guest Column
Tom Purcell

promised him that if he liked his biscuits, he could keep his biscuits!

Where government bureaucracy is concerned, bureaucratic errors have a way of multiplying.

Will Smith endure a full IRS audit for taking interest deductions on a doghouse?

What happens when Smith retires and begins receiving Social Security — and the payments are to Baxter?

Baxter, already 98 in dog years, likely won't be cashing checks for long. When he passes, will Smith spend the rest of his retirement trying to correct an error that originated with ObamaCare?

Anyone who has ever dealt with government bureaucracy — anyone who has ever sat at the Department of Motor Vehicles, waiting to get a license photo taken — is aware of the limitations of government bureaucracy.

Sure, there are always going to be functions that we should rely on local, state and federal governments to do — but shouldn't we limit these functions? Do we really want something as personal and important as our

health care to be managed by government bureaucracies?

The many unintended consequences of ObamaCare are rearing their ugly heads, causing many of the program's most enthusiastic supporters to pause and ask, "Isn't there a better way to help the uninsured without the government playing such a hands-on role?"

Well, Smith says that after some effort, he thinks he got his dog's name removed from his policy. But with government bureaucracy being what it is, there are no guarantees his problem is solved.

He'll know for sure if a high-ranking ObamaCare bureaucrat makes this promise to him:

"If you want to keep your name on your insurance policy, you can keep your name on your policy!"

Tom Purcell, author of "Misadventures of a 1970's Childhood" and "Comical Sense: A Lone Humorist Takes on a World Gone Nutty!" is a Pittsburgh Tribune-Review humor columnist and is nationally syndicated by Cagle Cartoons Inc. Send comments to Purcell@caglecartoons.com/. Guest columns are the opinion of the writer, not necessarily those of the News-Sun staff.



EDITORIAL PAGE POLICY

Make sure to sign your letter and include your address and phone number. Anonymous letters will be automatically rejected. Please keep your letters to a maximum of 400 words. We have to make room for everybody. Letters of local concern take priority. Send your letter to 2227 U.S. 27 South, Sebring, FL 33870; drop it off at the same address; fax 385-1954; or e-mail editor@newssun.com. To make sure the editorial pages aren't dominated by the same writers, letters are limited to two per month and a guest column can be submitted once every three months. Opinions expressed in letters or columns are solely the opinion of that author and not necessarily the opinion of the staff or editors of the News-Sun.

December Community Calendar

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

1	2 7pm - Avon Park Christmas Parade	3	4	5	6 1-4pm - 3 rd Annual Home & Garden Tour & Poinsettia Sale (Lake Placid) 6pm - Christmas Caroling by Highlands Little Theatre 7pm - Sebring Christmas Parade	7 7pm - A Classical Christmas, Holiday Concert, First Baptist Church (Sebring) Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
8	9 6pm - Christmas on Main Street (Avon Park)	10	11	12	13 6pm - 2 nd Annual Jingle Bell Fun 5k Run/Walk and 1 Mile Fun Run (Avon Park) 'The Gift of the Magi', a play at Highlands Little Theatre, thru Dec. 15th 6-9pm - Christmas in the Village at Flywheeler Park, thru Dec. 14th	14 7pm - Lake Placid Christmas Parade 10am-noon - Santa in the Park, Stuart Park (Lake Placid)
15	16 7:30pm - SFSC presents Celtic Yuletide	17	18	19	20 6-9pm - Christmas in the Village at Flywheeler Park, thru Dec. 21st	21 6:30pm - Outdoor Holiday Movie Showing on the Highlands Art League Lawn Winter (Winter Solstice)
22	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day (Canada) Kwanzaa (12/26 - 1/1)	27	28
29	30	31 New Year's Eve				

DECEMBER 2013

Take a ride on the Tiki Taxi!
Call today! It's Fun & Free!
Lake Istokpoga Home Tours by Jen Brown
WE CALL IT PARADISE...COME SEE WHY!
Jen Brown, GRI, Waterfront Specialist
863-655-5554 • JenBrown@email.com
www.lakeistokpoga.com
Highlands Ridge Realty

Happy Holidays!
from Positive Medical Transport
Advanced Life Support • Long Distance Transport Including Out of State Critical Care • Wheelchair Services Event Stand By • Bariatric Transport Continuing Education
863-655-0030
1-877-605-3204
www.pmtinc.com

Happy Holidays!
From America First AC, for ALL your Air Conditioning and Heating needs! Thank you for your patronage!
America First
Air Conditioning & Heating
Residential • Commercial
863-453-4741 • www.americafirstac.com
2155 State Road 64 West • Avon Park, FL

Special Holiday Pricing
Janome Sewing Machine Sales and Repair, Classes, Notions, Fabric, & Sew Much More!
Introduction of the new Memory Craft 15000
Happy Holidays from **Crafty Quilters**
13221 US HWY-98 • Sebring, FL
www.craftyquiltersfl.com
863-658-2148
Special Financing Options Available

Happy Holidays
from Anderson Animal Clinic
863-655-3155 • 17751 Twitty Rd, Sebring, FL

Happy Holidays from Boner Outfitters
BONER Outfitters Online
NOTHING LIKE A BONO...
Fish it. Wear it. Ride it.
Fishing rods, Skateboards and Longboards, and Apparel. Perfect gifts for the holidays!
239 North Ridgewood Dr. • Sebring, FL
Mon-Fri: 9-5pm • Saturday: 10-2pm
Shop online: BonerOutfitters.com
863-382-0947

Holiday Greetings!
From the staff at **Comerstone**
www.comerstonehospitalice.org • www.SeriousIllness.org/Comerstone
Medicare, Medicaid, and most commercial insurances accepted
863-382-4563 • 863-742-6655
209 N. Ridgewood Dr., Sebring, FL 33870

Home & Office Essentials
www.OfficeSuppliesYouNeed.com
Notary Service, Business Cards, Copy Service, Faxing
863-465-1661
Jeanne Fortier, Owner
Mail Call Shipping
Drop-Offs Welcome
Mail Box Rentals
863-531-0081
FedEx UPS
Two Businesses - One Stop!
204 S. Main Ave. • Lake Placid, FL

Happy Holidays
from... **ROBBINS** nursery
RETAIL OR WHOLESALE!
4803 US 27 S. Sebring • 863-385-1111



Photo by Mac Stone

Acclaimed conservation photographer Carlton Ward Jr. will give a lecture at SFSC on Thursday.

Photographer Carlton Ward to be featured at SFSC Thursday

Special to the News-Sun

AVON PARK – Seacoast National Bank is co-sponsoring a reception and lecture for conservation photographer Carlton Ward Jr. at the South Florida State College’s Museum of Florida Art and Culture, 600 W. College Drive, on Thursday. The reception begins at 6 p.m., followed by the lecture at 7 p.m.

There is limited seating and reservations can be made by calling Victoria Kelley at (772) 221-7002. The lecture compliments the Florida Wildlife Corridor Exhibition and coincides with the Images of Florida exhibit by photographer Lee Dunkel.

“Carlton Ward’s presentation is a fasci-

nating look at a Florida that few of us have ever seen,” said Linda Frost, Vice President Wealth Management for Seacoast National Bank. “We are delighted to bring his wonderful and interesting presentation to the museum.”

Ward established the Florida Wildlife Corridor as a public awareness initiative in 2009. The exhibition highlights the journey of four explorers who traveled 1,000 miles in 100 days from the Everglades to the Okefenokee Swamp in southern Georgia.

Ward’s photographs are featured in magazines including “Audubon,” “Smithsonian,” “Geo,” “Nature Conservancy” and “National Wildlife.”

Community Briefs

Continued from A2

PASR meets Dec. 10

SEBRING – The Citrus Chapter of the Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees (PASR) will meet Dec. 10 at Chicane’s Restaurant in the Inn on the Lakes.

Social time will begin at 10:30 a.m. with the business meeting to start at 11 a.m. All former Pennsylvania school staff members and their guests are invited to attend the meeting and the luncheon.

For information or reservations, call Marjorie Blanda at 402-0654 no later than today.

Pine Ridge Promenaders to host dance

LAKE PLACID – The Pine Ridge Promenaders will host a square dance Thursday at Sunshine RV Resort.

Ron Reardon will be calling with the first tip starting at 7:30 p.m.. Visitors are especially welcome, and either square dance or casual attire may be worn.

The Resort is 1,000 feet east of U.S. 27 on State Road 70, south of Lake

Placid. Call 465-1737 for information.

Kenilworth Neighborhood Watch group meets

SEBRING – The Kenilworth Neighborhood Watch – serving Kenilworth Avenue, Highlands Homes, and adjoining streets – will meet at the Military SEA Services Museum on the corner of Kenilworth Boulevard and Roseland Avenue.

Watch meetings are the first Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. Open to all who wish to attend.

AMVETS plan New Year’s party

SEBRING – AMVETS Post 21 will have a New Year’s Eve party with finger foods, party favors and champagne from 8-12 p.m. with music by Diane. Tickets will be available at the Post and are \$8 per person or \$15 per couple.

Chamber hosts breakfast

AVON PARK – Avon Park Chamber of Commerce’s Christmas breakfast will be at 7:30 a.m. Thursday at the Hotel

Jacaranda. Highlands Independent Bank is this month’s sponsor.

There will be Christmas songs performed by young students to set off the day in a great way.

RSVP by noon Wednesday to 453-3350.

ABATE prepares for Toy Run

SEBRING – The 28th annual Toy Run sponsored by the ABATE of Florida, Inc. Inerstate Chapter is planned for Saturday. Cost is \$10 per person and all participants are asked to donate an unwrapped toy.

Line up will begin at 11 a.m. at the Blue Crab Restaurant, 825 N. Ridgewood Drive. The ride will begin promptly at 1 p.m., ending at the Elks Lodge, 2618 Kenilworth Blvd. There will be a 50/50, auction and turkey dinner to help bring the run to a close at 8 p.m.

Proceeds benefit local children in need during the holidays. For information, contact Ernie “G-Man” Gelinas, Inerstate Chapter president, at 873-6202 or Dale Moore, Inerstate Chapter vice president, at 414-4213.

Shipping deadlines for gifts vary depending on destination

Continued from A1

said Erica Search of Goin’ Postal. “Those countries generally take a little longer to get through.”

Search said those who missed the deadlines still have options, such as priority mail and express mail.

“Deadlines on that are set for Friday, Dec. 13, but that will cost more,” she said.

Other overseas shipments, such as those going to European and Asian destinations, should really be packed up and shipped out by Monday, Dec. 9, for regular, first-class mail.

“For military bases, you are going to want to get priority mail,” she said. “You are going to want to have that in by Dec. 10 to get it there for Christmas.”

Standard mail deadlines passed last month for most of the APO addresses, since they may take as much as three to four weeks for transit. Those generally are mailed by ZIP code.

“The good thing about APOs is that generally you are only going to pay for domestic postage,” Search said. “Once it gets to the APO center within the U.S., the military takes it.”

The last day for standard mail within the United States is Dec. 13. Standard mail is the new terminology for what used to be called parcel post. After that, said Search, it is onto the private sector services such as United Parcel Service and Federal Express for their ground services.

Depending upon where you are shipping to, that could be anywhere from

Dec. 16 to Dec. 20 to still get it there, Search said. “The benefit to that is they come with tracking and an insurance policy automatically on them.”

Search also cautioned that as the dates get closer to Christmas Day, the amount of packages being shipped around the United States and overseas begins to increase.

Those who mail early will be able to avail themselves of less expensive services and not get caught in the ever increasing volume of packages

“We are predicting that the week of Dec. 16 will be the busiest this year,” she said. “That is generally when we get slammed pretty hard and couriers will be carrying a lot more around that time. It will be better if they can get it out before that week.”

She also pointed out that for international destinations, FedEx and DHL are options that may get items delivered as late as Dec. 18-20 depending upon the country. There also are FedEx and UPS Air services within

the United States that are guaranteed for one-, two- or three-day transit times.

Those who do not do a lot of shipping may not know that there are some fairly standard items that cannot be sent, especially by air. For instance, among the common no-no’s are aerosol cans, perfume and nail polish, since they are flammable. Also prohibited is the shipment of fresh Florida citrus.

“You still cannot ship citrus out of the state of Florida without a limited distribution permit,” she said.

Goin’ Postal also does not ship firearms. They suggest a local firearms dealer for that. The business does have a website (www.goin-postalsebring.com/) for those who need additional information on the proper packing of items so they are safe in transit. There also is a tracking link so people can monitor the progress of their packages

For those who miss their appointed deadline, “miracles happen,” Search said.



ASK SHERWIN-WILLIAMS
about our **NEW** Store location

Sebring

North

WE’VE MOVED TO BETTER SERVE YOU.
WE’VE RELOCATED TO 2480 US 27 North.

Join us on   



ASK SHERWIN-WILLIAMS HOW TO SAVE

\$10 OFF*

Purchase of \$50 or more



Offer valid at the Sebring-North Sherwin-Williams store ONLY. Valid 12/4/13 through 12/31/13.



NOW OPEN!!

Sebring

North

2480 US 27 North

863-385-8838

• Mon-Fri 7am-7pm • Sat 8am-6pm • Sun 10am-6pm



Visit sherwin-williams.com

©2013 The Sherwin-Williams Company

GET YOUR LOCAL NEWS STRAIGHT FROM THE SOURCE...

NEWS-SUN
Highlands County’s Hometown Newspaper Since 1927



Make any gathering more special.

Choose from a host of platters to thrill your guests!



Fruit and Cheese Platter

Visit publix.com/entertaining now to start making short work of your holiday to-do list.

PUBLIX
DELI

HOLIDAY PLATTERS

Publix

WHERE SHOPPING IS A PLEASURE®

Circle Theatre gets magical with story book mural

Special to the News-Sun

SEBRING – The historic Circle of downtown Sebring recently got just a little more magical.

Champion for Children Foundation's ongoing restoration and opening of the Circle Theatre has added yet another element to catch the eye, and imagination, of visitors and residents of the city. A new mural has been painted on the exterior wall of the theatre.

Designed and painted by the artist team of James R. Hahn Productions, the work was in incubation for quite some time before being approved by both the Historic Preservation and Community Redevelopment boards of Sebring.

The idea for the mural was started in 2011, when Kevin Roberts, CEO of Champion for Children Foundation, and his wife,

Debbe, saw one of James R. Hahn's live painting shows. They asked the artist if a mural could be created for the theatre. Over time, the two groups worked together on other aspects of the theatre while the mural concept continued to be developed in the background.

James and his wife, Kay, work together as a mural and transformation team, and have created the marquee and interior artscape for the theatre, which had its grand opening earlier in 2013.

James Hahn says of the theatre projects, "Nothing pleases us more than having our work be a part of bringing back historic buildings into creative community use."

With Kevin Roberts' vision, the imagination of artisans, and the backing from the city's progressive leaders, the theatre revital-

ization has breathed new life into the historic downtown with the Circle Theatre becoming a hub for activity.

The story book mural specifically incorporates many different techniques with whimsical style.

James Hahn defines aspects of the work: "We took Art Nouveau lattice work elements from our interior Artscape design and used them to create an arbor for a little girl to sit on and reach for a butterfly, which is meant to symbolize reaching for dreams and aspirations."

The mural also includes huge, colorful butterflies and a tree that starts out as an illustration style image, then breaks out of the book and becomes a realistic tree limb.

"I wanted to morph a two-dimensional tree into something that looked real, using



Courtesy photo

The story book mural on the side of the Circle Theatre catches the eye, and imagination, of visitors and residents of the city. The mural has been painted by James R. Hahn Productions.

trompe l'oeil (fool the eye) and shadowing technique," Hahn said.

Having a boy swing from

a tire swing from the extended tree completes the mural that seems to pop off the wall. The mural is designed

to catch attention and make the Circle Theatre visually pleasing to children and adults alike.



Katara Simmons/News-Sun

Grounds manager Jackie Turner of the Highlands County Fairgrounds and the Budweiser Clydesdales Dalmatian mascot Brewer keep a lookout Tuesday morning as both the horses and the trucks get cleaned up and scrubbed down. Two of the semis transport horses, while the third one hauls the famous beer wagon.

Clydesdales getting ready for Sebring parade appearance

Continued from A1

for the most part. Some of the older ones are very particular. They only want to be touched in certain places at certain times and they let you know if it's not what they want. They help each other out a lot, also. They're so big they can't reach certain spots on themselves to scratch so they do it for each other," Corrigan said. "It's feeding time now so they're getting antsy."

Corrigan said that the Clydesdales eat between 40

and 50 pounds of hay, 5-13 pounds of grain and drink approximately 30 gallons of water daily.

Along for the ride, another friendly, furry face was wandering in and out of the stable and wash area. Brewer, the Budweiser Clydesdales Dalmatian mascot, stood a close watch as the horse were groomed and fed.

"He's very friendly and a sweet boy," Corrigan said.

The Clydesdales have a full week of appearances before being seen by the Sebring community in the

annual Christmas parade Friday at 7 p.m. A second opportunity to see the Clydesdales will take place at the Lakeshore Mall on Saturday.

A stop in Lakeland Thursday and one other hitch has the handlers and horses busy throughout the week.

"We love it this way, though. It's fun being busy," Corrigan said.

"We work about 320 days out of the year," said Lyons.

County TDC to pay field rental for FACA All-Star football teams

Continued from A1

have instructed similar groups to apply for TDC funds to pay for such things."

Calling it a "setting point for the future," Elwell suggested that by taking the action and proactively approving the fee payment, the county's general fund would be reimbursed. The rest of the board agreed, noting that although the procedure was "a bit backwards," the move had the approval of board attorney Ross Macbeth that it was an allowable expense.

Macbeth told commissioners, however, there were some statutory hoops they had to jump through as part of the process.

"The event must have as part of its purpose the attraction of tourists to the county," Macbeth said.

Elwell assured the board that the event indeed had been advertised to tourists, prompting a motion from Commissioner Jack Richie to approve the action. Commissioner Ron Handley also asked that the Sebring Firemen Inc. be sent a letter with instructions on how the application would work for future events.

As part of the consent agenda, the board also approved a number of other TDC requests including: a \$1,000 grant to the Highway Park Neighborhood Preservation and Enhancement District, Inc

for advertisement of its "Rising" February Black Tie Gala, as well as \$1,000 grants to the Caladium Arts & Crafts Cooperative, Inc. for the design and printing of a brochure, the Greater Lake Placid Chamber of Commerce for advertisement for the 24th Annual Caladium Festival and to the Lake Placid-based Toby the Clown Foundation for a brochure for its organization.

Fire danger can be lessened by picking right tree, lights

Continued from A1

ly, Ionita said. One out of every five tree fires is caused by a heat source, but one in every three is caused by electrical problems, often Christmas lights.

The first step to prevent such fires, Ionita said, is to pick a fresh tree — one with green needles that do not fall off when touched. Then cut at least an inch off the trunk, or ask the vendor to do it for you.

"This new cut will allow water to be taken up. Put your tree in water as soon as you get home and be sure to top-up daily," Ionita said. "A fresh tree will drink about a pint a day for the first couple of days."

A tree needs to stay wet because dried-out trees become a fire danger, Ionita said. Once a tree is placed in a stand, properly secured with plenty of water, it should be set it three feet away from any heat source: fireplace, radiator, space heater, candle, heat vent or light.

Also, make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.

Even if the tree isn't live, revelers always should follow safety guidelines with lights:

- Use only lights that have an independent testing laboratory. Some lights are only tested for indoor or outdoor use.

- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections, and connect no more than three strands of mini string sets or a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in bulbs. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of LED strands to connect.

- Never use lit candles to decorate a tree.

- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed. Check on them frequently if you are not in the same room.

Also, bring outdoor elec-

Put your tree in water as soon as you get home and be sure to top-up daily. A fresh tree will drink about a pint a day for the first couple of days.

Calin Ionita

senior forester with the Florida Forest Service

trical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer. Don't think the danger ends just because the holidays are over and the tree is down. Once a tree has gotten old and dry, it can catch fire too easily to be left alone in the home, in the garage or leaning against the outside of the house.

It's safer to consider recycling your tree, if there are local programs for it, said Melissa Yunas, Wildfire Mitigation Specialist Florida Forest Service. Contact the solid waste department in your city or county for such programs.

Christmas trees may also be ground up for mulch or used to help stabilize sand dunes, build structure for fish in a lake or pond or provide shelter for birds and other wildlife, Yunas said.

But if you decide to burn, know the rules. For example, a fire in Florida must be contained within an 8-foot diameter pile or non-combustible barrel and must be at least 25 feet from forests, 25 feet from your house, 50 feet from a paved public road and 150 feet from other occupied

buildings.

Burning yard waste does not require an authorization from the Florida Forest Service, but you should check with your local city, county or Florida Forest Service officials to see if there are any restrictions in your area, Yunas said.

"Get to know the burn laws in your area before your strike that match," Yunas said. "It is unsafe and illegal to burn wrapping paper and gift boxes."

In Highlands County, call 462-5161 or 655-6407 for the local Florida Forest Service office.

Other outdoor burning tips are:

- Never leave a fire unattended, and make sure it is out before you leave.

- Keep a shovel and water hose handy.

- Don't burn on windy days or when the humidity is below 35 percent.

- If your fire escapes, you may be held liable for suppression costs and damage to the property of others.

For details about picking out the perfect tree, contact Ionita, senior forester of the Okeechobee District at (863) 655-6409 or Calin.Ionita@FreshFromFlorida.com

For additional fire prevention tips, burning rules and regulations contact your local Florida Forest Service office online at www.floridaforestservice.com or by phone at the following numbers:

- Sebring, 655-6407
- Okeechobee, 863-462-5160

- Port St. Lucie, 772-468-3915

- Stuart, 772-221-4045

- Vero Beach, 772-778-5085

- Palmdale, 863-674-4000

Let's Go! 

Orange Blossom Tours
www.OrangeBlossomTours.com 

CALL or CLICK Today!
863-451-3040 or 855-628-0855

Coming Up:
Dec. 10: Edison/Ford Estates (Holiday Lights) & Pine Island
Dec. 18: Ringling Museum & Show Boat
FL Seller of Travel Ref. No. ST39023

Highlands Hometown Alarm Company
CENTRAL SECURITY ALARM SYSTEMS

- Camera Systems • Security Alarms
- Sound/Music • Fire Alarms

 Like us on Facebook
www.centralsec.com
Lic # EF0000229

382.3662 465.3352

Get Noticed Advertise Today!



NEWS-SUN • 385-6155

NYC train derailment airs queries about technology

By **JIM FITZGERALD** and **FRANK ELTMAN**

Associated Press

YONKERS, N.Y. — The revelation that a New York City commuter train derailed while barreling around a sharp curve at nearly three times the speed limit is fueling questions about whether automated crash-avoidance technology could have prevented the carnage.

Safety officials have championed what's known as positive train control technology for decades, but the railroad industry has sought to postpone having to install it because of the high cost and technological issues.

Investigators haven't yet determined whether the weekend wreck, which killed four people and injured more than 60 others, was the result of human error or mechanical trouble. But some safety experts said the tragedy might not have happened if Metro-North Railroad had the technology, and a lawmaker said the derailment underscored the need for it.

"This incident, if anything, heightens the importance of additional safety measures, like that one," said U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal, a Democrat from Connecticut, which also is served by Metro-North. "I'd be very loath to be more flexible or grant more time."

The train was going 82 mph as it entered a 30 mph turn Sunday morning and ran off the track, National Transportation Safety Board member Earl Weener said Monday. He cited information extracted from the train's two data recorders; investigators also began interviewing the train's crew.

The speed stunned officials — "I gulped," said U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y. Gov. Andrew Cuomo said the NTSB findings make it clear "extreme speed was a central cause" of the derailment and vowed to "make sure any responsible parties are held accountable" after investigators determine why the train was going so fast.



Four people were killed and more than 60 were injured this weekend when a train derailed in Yonker, N.Y. The train was reportedly going three times the speed limit when it left the tracks on a sharp turn.

MCT

"At this point in time, we can't tell" whether the answer is faulty brakes or a human mistake, Weener said.

The New York Police Department is conducting its own investigation with assistance from the Bronx district attorney's office in the event the derailment becomes a criminal case.

Weener sketched a scenario suggesting that the throttle was let up and the brakes were fully applied way too late to stave off the crash. He said the throttle went to idle six seconds before the derailed train came to a complete stop — "very late in the game" for a train going that fast — and the brakes were fully engaged five seconds before the train stopped.

It takes about a quarter-mile to a half-mile to stop a train going 82 mph, according to Kevin Thompson, a Federal Railroad Administration spokesman.

Investigators are not aware of any problems with the brakes during the nine stops the train made before the derailment, Weener said.

Weener would not disclose what investigators know about the engineer's version of events, and he said the results of drug and alcohol tests were not yet available.

Investigators are also examining the engineer's cellphone; engineers are allowed to carry cellphones but prohibited from using them during a train's run.

The engineer, William Rockefeller, "is totally traumatized by everything that has happened," said Anthony Bottalico, executive director of the rail employees union.

"He's a sincere human being with an impeccable record that I know of. He's diligent and competent," Bottalico said. Rockefeller, 46, has been an engineer for about 11 years and a Metro-North

employee for about 20, he said.

Positive train control, or PTC, is designed to forestall the human errors that cause about 40 percent of train accidents, and uses GPS, wireless radio and computers to monitor trains and stop them from colliding, derailing or going the wrong way. The transportation safety board has urged railroads to install PTC in some form since 1970, and after a 2005 head-on collision killed 25 people near Los Angeles, Congress in 2008 ordered rail lines to adopt the technology by December 2015.

Metro-North has taken steps toward acquiring it but, like many rail lines, has advocated for a few more years to implement a costly system that railroads say presents technological and other hurdles.

Grady Cothen, a former FRA safety official, said a PTC system would have prevented Sunday's crash if the brakes were working

normally. And Steve Ditmeyer, a former FRA official who teaches at Michigan State University, said the technology would have monitored the brakes and would not have allowed the train to exceed the speed limit.

"A properly installed PTC system would have prevented this train from crashing," he said. "If the engineer would not have taken control of slowing the train down, the PTC system would have."

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority, which runs Metro-North, began planning for a PTC system as soon as the law was put into effect, spokeswoman Marjorie Anders said. After some early-stage work such as buying radio frequencies, the MTA awarded \$428 million in contracts in September to develop the system for Metro-North and its sister Long Island Rail Road.

But the MTA has advocated for an extension to 2018, saying it's difficult to install such a system across more than 1,000 rail cars and 1,200 miles of track.

"It's not a simple, off-the-shelf solution," Anders said Monday.

On Sunday, the train was about half full, with about 150 people aboard, when it ran off the rails while rounding a bend where the Harlem and Hudson rivers meet. The lead car landed inches from the water.

The dead were identified as Donna L. Smith, 54, of Newburgh; James G. Lovell, 58, of Cold Spring; James M. Ferrari, 59, of Montrose; and Kisook Ahn, 35, of Queens.

Some of the injured remained hospitalized Monday, including seven in intensive care at one hospital and two patients in critical condition at another.

The train was configured with its locomotive in the back instead of the front. Weener said that is common, and a train's brakes work the same way no matter where the locomotive is located. Ditmeyer said the locomotive's location has virtually no effect on train safety.

Asian students dominate international test results

By **KIMBERLY HEFLING**
AP Education Writer

WASHINGTON —

American students once again lag behind many of their Asian and European peers on a global exam, a continuing trend that often is blamed on child poverty and a diverse population in U.S. schools.

Education Secretary Arne Duncan called the results a "picture of educational stagnation" as U.S. students showed little improvement over three years, failing to score in the top 20 on math, reading or science.

Students in Shanghai, China's largest city, had the top scores in all subjects, and Singapore, South Korea, Japan and Hong Kong students weren't far behind. Even Vietnam, which had its students participate for the first time, had a higher average score in math and science than the United States.

These results again raise the question of whether the United States is consistently outperformed because of the widely varied backgrounds of its students. Some are from low-income households, for example. Others don't have English as their primary language.

But some countries that outperform the United States also experience such challenges.

"Americans have got a thousand reasons that one country after another is surpassing our achievement, and I have yet to find a good excuse," said Mark Tucker, president of the National Center on Education and the Economy.

About half a million students in 65 nations and edu-

Americans have got a thousand reasons that one country after another is surpassing our achievement, and I have yet to find a good excuse.

Mark Tucker
president of the National Center on Education and the Economy

cational systems took part in the 2012 Program for International Student Assessment, or PISA, which is coordinated by the Paris-based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, or OECD.

Most results come from a sampling of scores from countries as a whole, but in China it was given in select regions.

The Education Department's National Center for Education Statistics released the results. The test, given every three years to 15-year-olds, is designed to assess students' problem-solving skills.

U.S. scores on the PISA haven't changed much since testing started in 2000, even as students in countries like Ireland and Poland have shown improvement and surpassed U.S. students.

Irish Education Minister Ruairi Quinn said the results reflected improvements among Ireland's lower-achieving students, even as the country's top students underperformed compared to those in other countries.

In Britain, scores were about the same as three years ago, prompting debate about why the country has not improved despite increased spending on education. The nation did better than the United States in math and science but was not among the top performers in any subject.

"Since the 1990s, our performance in these league tables has been at best stagnant, at worst declining," said Britain's Education Secretary Michael Gove, adding that the results "underline the urgent need for our reforms."

Gove's ruling Conservative Party and the opposition Labour Party both blamed each other's policies for the results.

Meanwhile a business organization said Britain has fallen behind in part because of "historic complacency" and a lack of focus on achievements and results compared to Asian countries.

"Countries with an unrelenting focus on the quality and rigor of their education system will be the ones who win," said Mike Harris at the Institute of Directors.

Tom Loveless, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, cautions about reading too much into the results from Shanghai, which also dominated the test in 2009. The students tested are children of the elite. They are the ones allowed to attend municipal schools because of restrictions such as those that keep many migrant children out, he said.

"The Shanghai scores frankly to me are difficult to interpret," Loveless said. "They are almost meaningless."

The carefree way
to connect
to your world

3 Series hearing aids by Starkey are designed to make listening easy and enjoyable again. With their advanced features, they're engineered to:

- Reduce listening efforts in noisy environments
- Improve listening to music and TV
- Enhance phone calls
- Virtually eliminate whistling and buzzing
- Fit comfortably, customized for your ears

3 Series can also stream sound from your TV, radio, computer and even your cell phone directly to your hearing aids. With 3 Series, you can enjoy hands-free phone conversation and listen to TV or radio at the volume you want. Others around you can listen at the volume that's most comfortable for them.

Surflink Mobile

Enjoy hands-free phone conversations with this one-of-a-kind device. That's because Surflink Mobile turns your 3 Series hearing aids into both your cell phone microphone and receiver:

- Microphone: Your hearing aids can pick up your voice and send it to the person you're talking to
- Receiver: Surflink Mobile streams the voice on the other end of the phone directly to both of your hearing aids

3 series™

Easy-to-adjust 3 Series hearing aids are available in several styles and a variety of discreet stylish colors.

Benefits

Designed to maintain speech understanding in noisy environments and reduce listening effort

.....

Virtually eliminates buzzing and whistling

.....

Makes your hearing aids resistant to water, wax, sweat, oil and corrosion

.....

Gradually and automatically learns your volume control preferences for less manual adjustments

Like us on Facebook

A portion of each purchase goes toward helping those less fortunate receive the gift of hearing.

We Support Starkey Hearing Foundation

LAMPE & KIEFER
HEARING AID CENTER, INC.
"Your ear care store"

Mon.-Fri. 9am-4pm
Closed Wednesdays
863-385-3497
lampekieferhearing.com
130 S. Commerce Ave.
Sebring, Florida

CLASSIFIEDS

1000 Announcements

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
FILE NO. PC 13-451

IN RE: ESTATE OF
NEILE L. CARPER
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 Summary Administration has been entered in the estate of NEILE L. CARPER, deceased, File Number PC13-451, 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, Sebring, Florida 33870; that the decedent's date of death was December 26, 2012; that the total value of the estate is \$15,000.00 and that the names and addresses of those to whom it has been assigned by such order are: Joan Berglund, 301 E. Walnut St., Avon Park, FL 33825; Joseph Carper, 65 Spring-creek Rd., Hill 'N' Date Farm, Barrington, IL 60010, Jennie Carper Finik, 1006 Oak Grove Ct., Valparaiso, IN 46383. ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE NOTIFIED THAT:

All creditors of the estate of the decedent and persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent other than those for whom provision for full payment was made in the Order of Summary Administration must file their claims with this court WITHIN THE TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION 733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE. ALL CLAIMS AND DEMANDS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER APPLICABLE TIME PERIOD, 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 November 27, 2013.

Attorney for Person Giving Notice:
John K. McClure
Attorney for Joan Berglund
Florida Bar No. 286958
MCCLURE & LOBOZZO
211 South Ridgewood Drive
Sebring, Florida 33870
Telephone: (863) 402-1888
Fax: (863) 402-2436
E-Mail: jkmcleadings@mllaw.net
Secondary E-Mail: johnmc@mllaw.net

Person Giving Notice:
Joan Berglund
301 E. Walnut St.
Avon Park, Florida 33825
November 27; December 4, 2013

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO: 12-1128-CA

U.S. BANK, N.A. as trustee on behalf of
MANUFACTURED HOUSING CONTRACT
SENIOR/SUBORDINATE PASS-THROUGH
CERTIFICATE TRUST 1996-8, acting by
and through GREEN TREE SERVICING LLC,
as Servicing Agent
7360 S. Kyrene Road
Tempe, AZ 85283,
Plaintiff,

v.
JOSEPH W. WEEKS, IF LIVING, BUT IF
DECEASED, THE UNKNOWN HEIRS,
DEVISEES, GRANTEEES, ASSIGNEES,
CREDITORS, LIENORS, AND TRUSTEES OF
JOSEPH W. WEEKS, DECEASED, et al.,
Defendants.

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

LOT 12, BLOCK 137, THE MAP OF
NORTSIDE SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO
THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT
BOOK 3, PAGE 32, HIGHLANDS COUNTY,
FLORIDA, TOGETHER WITH THE SOUTH 1/2
OF A VACATED STREET LYING NORTH OF
AND ADJACENT TO LOT 12; TOGETHER
WITH CERTAIN 1995 STONECREEK MOBILE
HOME, SERIAL NUMBER
FLFLR70AB22973SK21

Commonly known as: 6501 OLD OAK
AVENUE, SEBRING, FL 33870
at public sale, to the highest and best bidder,
for cash, at the Highlands County Court-
house, 430 S. Commerce Avenue, Sebring,
Florida 33870, at 11:00 AM (EST), on the
10th day of January, 2014.

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

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 Ad-
ministrator, 255 N. Broadway Avenue, Bar-
tow, Florida 33830, (863) 534-4686, at
least 7 days before your scheduled court ap-
pearance, or immediately upon receiving this
notification if the time before the scheduled
appearance is less than 7 days; if you are
hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

Dated on this 13th day of November,
2013.

ROBERT W. GERMAINE, CLERK
Clerk of the Circuit Court
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
Deputy Clerk
November 27; December 4, 2013

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CASE NO. 2009 CA 314 GCS
FCDB GMPL 2008-1 TRUST
PLAINTIFF,
v.
JOHN SAMPLES, et al
DEFENDANTS.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a
Final Judgment of Foreclosure dated Novem-
ber 6, 2013 and entered in Case No. 2009
CA 314 GCS in the 10th Judicial Circuit
Court of Highlands County, Florida. Plaintiff is
Foreclosed Assets Sales and Transfer Part-
nership, and the Defendants are JOHN SAM-
PLES, et al and any and all parties claiming

1050 Legals

by, through, under and against the herein in-
dividual defendants who are not known to be
dead or alive, whether said unknown parties
may claim an interest as spouse, heirs, devise-
es, grantees or other claimants. I will sell to
the highest and best bidder for cash auc-
tion held at the Highlands County Court-
house, 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 16th day of January, 2014.
The property located in HIGHLANDS County,
Florida described as:

LOT 6, BLOCK 109 SUN 'N LAKES ES-
TATES OF SEBRING, UNIT 8, ACCORDING TO
THE PLAT THEREOF RECORDED IN PLAT
BOOK 9, PAGE 58, OF THE PUBLIC RE-
CORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.
AKA 5100 SAN JUAN AVENUE, SEBRING, FL
33870

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 7th day of November, 2013.
By: /s/ Priscilla Michalak
DEPUTY CLERK
Clerk of the Circuit Court
November 27; December 4, 2013

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE 10TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
CIVIL DIVISION
CASE NO. 13000341GCAXMX
BANK OF AMERICA, N.A.

Plaintiff,
vs.
CHRISTOPHER L. MALONE; STACY A.
MALONE; HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA,
UNKNOWN PERSON(S) IN POSSESSION OF
THE SUBJECT PROPERTY;
Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to a Fi-
nal Judgment of Foreclosure dated Novem-
ber 26, 2013, and entered in Case No.
13000341GCAXMX, of the Circuit Court of
the 10th Judicial Circuit in and for HIGH-
LANDS County, Florida. BANK OF AMERICA,
N.A. is Plaintiff and CHRISTOPHER L. MA-
LONE; STACY A. MALONE; UNKNOWN PER-
SON(S) IN POSSESSION OF THE SUBJECT
PROPERTY; HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA;
are defendants. I will sell to the highest and
best bidder for cash at IN THE JURY AS-
SEMBLY ROOM, IN THE BASEMENT OF THE
HIGHLANDS COUNTY COURTHOUSE, AT 430
SOUTH COMMERCE AVENUE, SEBRING IN
HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA

33870-3867, at 11:00 a.m., on the 13th
day of January, 2014, the following de-
scribed property as set forth in said Final
Judgment, to wit:
LOT 2, BLOCK 21, ORANGE BLOSSOM
COUNTRY CLUB COMMUNITY, UNITS 13
THROUGH 19 INCLUSIVE, UNIT 14, AC-
CORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF RE-
CORDED IN PLAT BOOK 10, PAGE 6, OF THE
PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY,
FLORIDA.

A 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 26th day of November, 2013.
ROBERT W. GERMAINE
As Clerk of said Court
By: /s/ Toni Kopp
As Deputy Clerk

This notice is provided pursuant to Adminis-
trative Order No.2.065.
In accordance with the Americans with Dis-
abilities Act, if you are a person with a dis-
ability who needs any accommodation in or-
der to participate in this proceeding, you are
entitled, at no cost to you, to provisions of
certain assistance. Please contact the Court
Administrator at 430 South Commerce Ave-
nue, Sebring, FL 33870, Phone No.
(863)534-4690 within 2 working days of
your receipt of this notice or pleading; if you
are hearing impaired, call 1-800-955-8771
(TDD); if you are voice impaired, call
1-800-955-8770 (V) (Via Florida Relay
Services).
File No. 13-01425

December 4, 11, 2013
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
File No. PC 13-441
Division

IN RE: ESTATE OF
BYRON G. WALLACE, JR. a/k/a
BYRON GERARD WALLACE, JR.
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of BY-
RON G. WALLACE, JR. a/k/a BYRON GER-
ARD WALLACE, JR., deceased, whose date
of death was September 9th, 2013, is pend-
ing in the Circuit Court for Highlands County,
Florida, Probate Division, the address of
which is 590 S. Commerce Avenue, Sebring,
FL 33870. The names and addresses of the
personal representative and the personal
representative's attorney are set forth below.

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

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

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

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

The date of first publication of this notice
is December 4, 2013.

Personal Representative:
E. Shannon Wallace
09961 County Road 21 N
West Unity, OH 43570
Stephanie A. Davenport
427 Parkview Avenue
Bryan, OH 43506

LAW OFFICES OF
JOHN D. SPEAR, P.A.
Attorneys for Personal Representative
9420 BONITA BEACH ROAD
SUITE 100
BONITA SPRINGS, FL 34135-4515
Florida Bar No. 0521728
December 4, 11, 2013

1050 Legals

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
FILE NO. PC 13-438

Division Probate
IN RE: ESTATE OF
RICHARD D. KOHLER
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of Rich-
ard D. Kohler, deceased, whose date of
death was July 29, 2013, is pending in the
Circuit Court for Highlands County, Florida,
Probate Division, the address of which is
590 S. Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida
33870. The names and addresses of the
personal representative and the personal
representative's attorney are set forth be-
low.

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

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

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE
TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION
733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE
WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.
NOTWITHSTANDING THE TIME PERIODS
SET FORTH ABOVE, ANY CLAIM FILED TWO
(2) YEARS OR MORE AFTER THE DECE-
DENT'S DATE OF DEATH IS BARRED.

The date of first publication of this Notice
is November 27, 2013.

Personal Representative:
/s/ Linda Ross
2154 Dog Leg Drive
Sebring, Florida 33872

Attorney for Personal Representative:
/s/ Charlotte Stone
Charlotte C. Stone, Esq.
Attorney for Linda Ross
Florida Bar Number: 21297
STONE LAW GROUP, P.L.
3200 U.S. Hwy 27 S., Suite 307
Sebring, FL 33870
Telephone: (863)402-5424
Fax: (863)402-5425
E-Mail: Charlotte@StoneLawGroupFL.com
November 27; December 4, 2013

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
FILE NO. PC 13-455
Division: COWDEN

IN RE: ESTATE OF
DOLORES L. BANASIK,
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of DOLO-
RES L. BANASIK, deceased, whose date of
death was October 14, 2013, and whose so-
cial security number is XXX-XX-96XX, is
pending in the Circuit Court for Highlands
County, Florida, Probate Division, the ad-
dress of which is 430 South Commerce Avenue,
Sebring, FL 33870. The names and ad-
resses of the personal representative and
the personal representative's attorney are
set forth below.

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

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

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

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

The date of first publication of this Notice
is November 27, 2013.

Personal Representative:
/s/ Susan Lowrance
1803 Evergreen St.
Sebring, Florida 33870

/s/ Sherrie Lee Banasik
4813 Second Street
Sebring, Florida 33870

Attorney for Personal Representative:
/s/ Michael M. Disler
MICHAEL M. DISLER
Attorney for Co-Personal
Representatives
Florida Bar No. 606782
Email: mikedisler@yahoo.com
329 South Commerce Avenue
Sebring, FL 33870
Phone: 863 385-5139
Fax: 863 385-2566
November 27; December 4, 2013

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
PROBATE DIVISION
FILE NO. PC 13-456
Division: COWDEN

IN RE: ESTATE OF
HILDA SUE KEMP,
Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The administration of the estate of HILDA
SUE KEMP, deceased, whose date of death
was October 10, 2013, and whose social se-
curity number is XXX-XX-55XX, is pending in
the Circuit Court for Highlands Court, Flor-
ida, Probate Division, the address of which
is 430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring,
FL 33870. The names and addresses of the
personal representative and the personal
representative's attorney are set forth be-
low.

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

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

ALL CLAIMS NOT FILED WITHIN THE
TIME PERIODS SET FORTH IN SECTION

1050 Legals

733.702 OF THE FLORIDA PROBATE CODE
WILL BE FOREVER BARRED.

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

The date of first publication of this Notice
is November 27, 2013.

Personal Representative:
/s/ Arthur F. Miller Sr.
146 Lake Drive Blvd.
Sebring, Florida 33875

Attorney for Personal Representative:
/s/ Michael M. Disler
MICHAEL M. DISLER
Attorney for Co-Personal
Representatives
Florida Bar No. 606782
Email: mikedisler@yahoo.com
329 South Commerce Avenue
Sebring, FL 33870
Phone: 863 385-5139
Fax: 863 385-2566
November 27; December 4, 2013

Century Storage - Bayview
2609 Bayview St.
Sebring, FL 33870
(863) 386-0880

Notice of this Public Sale or Auction of the
contents of the following storage units
located at Century Storage - Bayview 2609
Bayview Street, Sebring, FL 33870 on
12/20/13 at 11:00 AM. Contents are to
contain Household Goods/Business Items
unless otherwise specified.

Unit Number	Tenant Name
A048	Fredlund, Mathew
K767	Muha, Zachary
L1123	Bingham, Claudia
L859	Brown, Latoria
L860	Brown, Latoria
L903	Brown, Latoria

Sale is being made to satisfy landlord's lien.
Cash Only. Contents to be removed within
48 hours of the sale.
December 4, 11, 2013

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
IN AND FOR HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA
JUVENILE DIVISION
CASE NO. JP13-000349-XX

IN THE INTEREST OF:
S., K. 10/13/1998
S., A. 01/04/2000

Minor children DOB
SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF ADVISORY HEARING
FOR TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS
AND GUARDIANSHIP

THE STATE OF FLORIDA TO:
LEANDRO SEGURA
DOB: 08/16/54 or 08/15/53
Address unknown

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a Petition for
Termination of Parental Rights under oath has been
filed in the above-styled Court by the Department of
Children & Families, seeking the termination of your
parental rights to:

K.S.	a white female child
born October 13, 1998	mother - Kelly Meredith
and	A.S.
born January 4, 2000	mother - Kelly Meredith

and you are hereby commanded to personally ap-
pear before the Honorable Sheryl D. Snodgrass, a
Magistrate/hearing officer in the Juvenile Division of
the Circuit Court in and for Highlands County, State
of Florida, on the 18th day of December, 2013 at
10:00 A.M., at the Highlands County Courthouse,
430 South Commerce Avenue, Sebring, Florida,
Courtroom 1A.

YOU MUST PERSONALLY APPEAR ON THE DAY AND
TIME SPECIFIED OR YOU WILL LOSE ALL RIGHTS AS
A PARENT TO THE CHILD NAMED IN THE PETITION.
YOUR FAILURE TO PERSONALLY APPEAR WILL BE
DEEMED TO BE YOUR CONSENT TO THE TERMINA-
TION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD-
REN NAMED IN THE PETITION. YOU HAVE THE
RIGHT TO HAVE AN ATTORNEY REPRESENT YOU IN
THIS MATTER. IF YOU CANNOT AFFORD AN ATTOR-
NEY, YOU MUST BE PRESENT AND REQUEST THAT
THE COURT APPOINT AN ATTORNEY FOR YOU IF
YOU WANT ONE.

In accordance with the Americans
with Disabilities Act, persons with disabilities need-
ing a special accommodation to participate in this
proceeding should contact the individual or agency
sending the notice at 1968 Sebring Parkway, Se-
bring FL 33870, Telephone (863)402-7722, 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.
ROBERT W. GERMAINE, CLERK
DATED THIS 8TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2013.
By: /s/ Anita E. Reiley
Deputy Clerk

(Clerk's Seal)
November 13, 20, 27; December 4, 2013

NOTICE OF DISPOSITION

ACCORDING TO THE FLORIDA SELF STOR-
AGE FACILITY ACT THE FOLLOWING STOR-
AGE UNITS LOCATED AT THE STORAGE
PLACE OF AVON PARK, 395 CR 17A WEST,
AVON PARK, FL 33825 WILL BE DISPOSED
OF TO AN AUCTIONEER ON DECEMBER 20,
2013 AT 10:00 AM. ALL UNITS ARE SAID
TO CONTAIN HOUSEHOLD GOODS UNLESS
OTHERWISE STATED.

Names and unit numbers are as follows:
NAME UNIT NUMBER
Calvin Crowell II 339
DISPOSITION BEING MADE TO SATISFY
LANDLORD'S LIEN MANAGEMENT RE-
SERVES ALL RIGHTS, UNDER FLORIDA LAW,
ALL PAYMENTS MUST BE MADE IN CASH.
November 27; December 4, 2013

PUBLIC AUCTION: DECEMBER 20, 2013 AT:
9:00 AM LOCATION: AVON TOWING 1102
KERSEY ST. AVON PARK, FL 33825
YEAR MAKE VIN #
2002 FORD 1FMZU72K02ZC96151
December 4, 2013

1055 Highlands County Legals

The City of Sebring will receive sealed bids in the
City Purchasing Department for:

ITB #14-015: GRAVITY SEWER LINE -
NEW TESTAMENT MISSION

Specifications & General Terms and Conditions may
be obtained from publicpurchase.com. or by
contacting Kirk Zimmerman, CPPB, by phone
863-471-5110, Fax 863-471-5168, or email:
purchasing@mysebring.com at the City purchasing
office located at 368 South Commerce Ave -
Sebring, FL 33870. If obtaining documents to the
website, it shall be the bidder's responsibility to
check for amendments/changes made to the
document.

Bid envelopes must be sealed and marked with the
bid number and name as to identify the enclosed

1055 Highlands County Legals

bid. Bids must be delivered to the City Of Sebring
Purchasing Office Attn: Kirk Zimmerman so as to
reach the said office no later than 2:00 PM,
Thursday, December 19, 2013, of the official time
clock in the purchasing office. Proposals received
later than the date and time specified will be
rejected. The City will not be responsible for the late
delivery of any bids that are incorrectly addressed,
delivered in person, by mail, of any other type of
delivery service. There will be a mandatory pre-bid
meeting on December 5, 2013 located across the
Sebring Parkway from the New Testament ession
next to the mini warehouses in Sebring, Florida at
10:00 AM.

The submitting firm will be required to comply with
all applicable laws, regulations, rules and ordinances
of local, state and federal authorities having
jurisdiction, including, but not limited to: all
provisions of the Federal Government Equal Em-
ployment Opportunity clauses issued by the Secretary
of Labor on May 21, 1968 and published in the
Federal Register (41 CFR Part 60-1, 33 F.2 7804);
all provisions of the Public Entry Crimes (Fla. Stat.
§sect:287.133, et seq, as amended) and the
provisions in Fla. Stat. §sect:287.134, et seq, as
amended, regarding discrimination.

The Sebring City Council reserves the right to accept
or reject any or all bids or any parts thereof; and
the award, if an award is made, will be made to the
most responsible bidder whose bid and qualifica-
tions indicate that the award will be in the best
interest of the City of Sebring. The council reserves
the right to waive irregularities in the bid.

Kirk Zimmerman, CPPB
Purchasing Agent
Sebring, Florida
November 27; December 4, 2013

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR TAX DEED 13000143TDS
CHAPTER 197.512 F.S.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT US BANK AS C/F FL
DUNDEE LIEN INV LLC the holder of the following
certificate has filed said certificates for a tax deed to
be issued thereon. The certificate number and year
of issuance, the description of the property, and the
names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No: 15712
Year of Issuance: 06-01-2010
Tax ID: C-03-35-29-031-0000-00H0

Description of Property:
LOT H, TIA JUANA VILLA AND MORE PARTICULARLY
DESCRIBED AS: A PORTION OF LOTS 3 AND 4,
BLOCK 1016 AND A CLOSED STREET, TIA JUANA
VILLA, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RE-
CORDED IN PLAT BOOK 2, PAGE 80 OF THE PUBLIC
RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Name in which assessed:
SANDRA L. BROOMHALL;
All of said property being in the County of High-
lands, State of Florida. Unless said certificate shall
be redeemed according to law the property de-
scribed in such certificate shall be sold to the high-
est bidder at Highlands County Government Center
in the Board of County Commissioners Boardroom
in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes at
10:

1055 Highlands County Legal Notices

HIGHLANDS COUNTY
LEGAL NOTICES

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

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR TAX DEED 13000157TDS
CHAPTER 197.512 F.S.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that US BANK AS C/F FL DUNDEE LIEN INV LLC the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificates for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No.: 11146
Year of Issuance: 06-01-2010
Tax ID: C-14-37-29-010-0050-0170
Description of Property:
LOT 17, BLOCK 5, PLACID LAKES SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGE 4 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Name in which assessed:
LEE UNDERWOOD;
All of said property being in the County of Highlands, State of Florida. Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at Highlands County Government Center in the Board of County Commissioners Boardroom in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes at 10:00 A.M., or thereafter on 8th day of January, 2014.

Dated this 7th day of October, 2013.
ROBERT W. GERMAINE
Clerk of the Circuit Court of Highlands County, Florida
Signature: /s/ Misty Blackburn
MISTY BLACKBURN, Deputy Clerk
December 4, 11, 18, 25, 2013

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR TAX DEED 13000158TDS
CHAPTER 197.512 F.S.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that US BANK AS C/F FL DUNDEE LIEN INV LLC the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificates for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No.: 11154
Year of Issuance: 06-01-2010
Tax ID: C-14-37-29-010-0100-0050
Description of Property:
LOTS 5 AND 6, BLOCK 10, PLACID LAKES SUBDIVISION, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGE 4 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Name in which assessed:
GGH 18 LLC;
All of said property being in the County of Highlands, State of Florida. Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at Highlands County Government Center in the Board of County Commissioners Boardroom in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes at 10:00 A.M., or thereafter on 8th day of January, 2014.

Dated this 7th day of October, 2013.
ROBERT W. GERMAINE
Clerk of the Circuit Court of Highlands County, Florida
Signature: /s/ Misty Blackburn
MISTY BLACKBURN, Deputy Clerk
December 4, 11, 18, 25, 2013

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR TAX DEED 13000159TDS
CHAPTER 197.512 F.S.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that US BANK AS C/F FL DUNDEE LIEN INV LLC the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificates for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No.: 11199
Year of Issuance: 06-01-2010
Tax ID: C-14-37-29-050-0370-0800
Description of Property:
LOT 80, BLOCK 37, PLACID LAKES SECTION 5, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 7, PAGE 65 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Name in which assessed:
BHARATI HARPASAD;
All of said property being in the County of Highlands, State of Florida. Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at Highlands County Government Center in the Board of County Commissioners Boardroom in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes at 10:00 A.M., or thereafter on 8th day of January, 2014.

Dated this 7th day of October, 2013.
ROBERT W. GERMAINE
Clerk of the Circuit Court of Highlands County, Florida
Signature: /s/ Misty Blackburn
MISTY BLACKBURN, Deputy Clerk
December 4, 11, 18, 25, 2013

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR TAX DEED 13000160TDS
CHAPTER 197.512 F.S.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that US BANK AS C/F FL DUNDEE LIEN INV LLC the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificates for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No.: 1121
Year of Issuance: 06-01-2010
Tax ID: C-22-33-28-010-0290-0030
Description of Property:
THE NORTH ONE-HALF OF LOT 3, BLOCK 29, SECTION 22, TOWNSHIP 33 SOUTH, RANGE 28 EAST, TOWN OF AVON PARK, AS RECORDED IN OR BOOK 1767 PAGE 1729 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Name in which assessed:
MICHAEL MARSHALL;
All of said property being in the County of Highlands, State of Florida. Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at Highlands County Government Center in the Board of County Commissioners Boardroom in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes at 10:00 A.M., or thereafter on 8th day of January, 2014.

Dated this 8th day of October, 2013.
ROBERT W. GERMAINE
Clerk of the Circuit Court of Highlands County, Florida
Signature: /s/ Misty Blackburn
MISTY BLACKBURN, Deputy Clerk
December 4, 11, 18, 25, 2013

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR TAX DEED 13000161TDS
CHAPTER 197.512 F.S.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that US BANK AS C/F FL DUNDEE LIEN INV LLC the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificates for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No.: 11223
Year of Issuance: 06-01-2010
Tax ID: C-14-37-29-062-0580-0170
Description of Property:
LOT 17, BLOCK 58, PLACID LAKES SECTION 6 RESUB, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 8, PAGE 42 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Name in which assessed:
C C ZIMMERMAN; ANNIE R ZIMMERMAN;
All of said property being in the County of Highlands, State of Florida. Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at Highlands County Government Center in the Board of County Commissioners Boardroom in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes at 10:00 A.M., or thereafter on 8th day of January, 2014.

Dated this 8th day of October, 2013.
ROBERT W. GERMAINE
Clerk of the Circuit Court of Highlands County, Florida
Signature: /s/ Misty Blackburn
MISTY BLACKBURN, Deputy Clerk
December 4, 11, 18, 25, 2013

1055 Highlands County Legal Notices

HIGHLANDS COUNTY
LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR TAX DEED 13000162TDS
CHAPTER 197.512 F.S.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that US BANK AS C/F FL DUNDEE LIEN INV LLC the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificates for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No.: 11236
Year of Issuance: 06-01-2010
Tax ID: C-14-37-29-071-0790-0220
Description of Property:
LOT 22, BLOCK 79, A RESUBDIVISION OF PLACID LAKES SECTION 7, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 8, PAGE 72 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Name in which assessed:
LIZ ERNA COLLINS; SHELLY LLANES;
All of said property being in the County of Highlands, State of Florida. Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at Highlands County Government Center in the Board of County Commissioners Boardroom in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes at 10:00 A.M., or thereafter on 8th day of January, 2014.

Dated this 7th day of October, 2013.
ROBERT W. GERMAINE
Clerk of the Circuit Court of Highlands County, Florida
Signature: /s/ Misty Blackburn
MISTY BLACKBURN, Deputy Clerk
December 4, 11, 18, 25, 2013

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR TAX DEED 13000163TDS
CHAPTER 197.512 F.S.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that US BANK AS C/F FL DUNDEE LIEN INV LLC the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificates for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No.: 11239
Year of Issuance: 06-01-2010
Tax ID: C-14-37-29-071-0800-0270
Description of Property:
LOT 27, BLOCK 80, REPLAT OF RESUB SECTION 7, PLACID LAKES, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 9, PAGE 42 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Name in which assessed:
GEORGE CARMICHAEL COKE; JACQUELINE MARIE MINTO;
All of said property being in the County of Highlands, State of Florida. Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at Highlands County Government Center in the Board of County Commissioners Boardroom in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes at 10:00 A.M., or thereafter on 8th day of January, 2014.

Dated this 8th day of October, 2013.
ROBERT W. GERMAINE
Clerk of the Circuit Court of Highlands County, Florida
Signature: /s/ Misty Blackburn
MISTY BLACKBURN, Deputy Clerk
December 4, 11, 18, 25, 2013

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR TAX DEED 13000164TDS
CHAPTER 197.512 F.S.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that US BANK AS C/F FL DUNDEE LIEN INV LLC the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificates for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No.: 11291
Year of Issuance: 06-01-2010
Tax ID: C-14-37-29-110-1390-0400
Description of Property:
LOT 40, BLOCK 139, PLACID LAKES SECTION 11, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 8, PAGE 7 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Name in which assessed:
JAMES G WHITE SR; RITA WHITE;
All of said property being in the County of Highlands, State of Florida. Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at Highlands County Government Center in the Board of County Commissioners Boardroom in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes at 10:00 A.M., or thereafter on 8th day of January, 2014.

Dated this 7th day of October, 2013.
ROBERT W. GERMAINE
Clerk of the Circuit Court of Highlands County, Florida
Signature: /s/ Misty Blackburn
MISTY BLACKBURN, Deputy Clerk
December 4, 11, 18, 25, 2013

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR TAX DEED 13000165TDS
CHAPTER 197.512 F.S.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that US BANK AS C/F FL DUNDEE LIEN INV LLC the holder of the following certificate has filed said certificates for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

Certificate No.: 11302
Year of Issuance: 06-01-2010
Tax ID: C-14-37-29-112-2160-0320
Description of Property:
LOT 32, BLOCK 216, PLACID LAKES, SECTION 11, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 8, PAGE 77 OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF HIGHLANDS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

Name in which assessed:
PAUL MORRISON TRUST;
All of said property being in the County of Highlands, State of Florida. Unless said certificate shall be redeemed according to law the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder at Highlands County Government Center in the Board of County Commissioners Boardroom in accordance with Chapter 45, Florida Statutes at 10:00 A.M., or thereafter on 8th day of January, 2014.

Dated this 7th day of October, 2013.
ROBERT W. GERMAINE
Clerk of the Circuit Court of Highlands County, Florida
Signature: /s/ Misty Blackburn
MISTY BLACKBURN, Deputy Clerk
December 4, 11, 18, 25, 2013

1100 Announcements**CHECK YOUR AD**

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

CLASSIFIED ADS**GET FAST RESULTS****2000 Employment****2100 Help Wanted**

AVON PARK Looking for FT. Warehouse & Delivery to work Tues. - Fri. 10-4:30. Valid Florida D.L. Able to lift 75lbs or more. Subject to background check. Apply in person at Main Store Tues. - Fri. Located at 2900 US. 27 S.

BADCOCK & MORE (Lake Placid) F/T Furniture Delivery/Warehouse Position available. Apply in person at 594 US Hwy. 27N Lake Placid. 863-465-2616

CHRIST ACADEMY is looking for a one year Teacher for Christian Preschool. Experience is required. Please contact 863-402-2408

DIRECTOR, CULTURAL PROGRAMS (F/T)
Application review begins: 1/6/14. Please visit

http://sfsc.interviewexchange.com for detailed position posting. 863-784-7132. EA/EO



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 Homemaker 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

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT (F/T)
Application Deadline: 12/6/13. Please visit

http://sfsc.interviewexchange.com for detailed position posting. 863-784-7132.

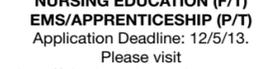
EA/EO/VETERAN'S PREF.



SECURITY GUARD (P/T)
Application Deadline: 12/10/13. Please visit

http://sfsc.interviewexchange.com for detailed position posting. 863-784-7132.

EA/EO/VETERAN'S PREF.



STAFF ASSISTANTS NURSING EDUCATION (F/T) EMS/APPRENTICESHIP (P/T)
Application Deadline: 12/5/13. Please visit

http://sfsc.interviewexchange.com for detailed position posting. 863-784-7132.

EA/EO/VETERAN'S PREF.

3000 Financial**3100 Business Opp. Wanted**

VENDORS WANTED Starting Dec 7 & every Sat, thereafter at Highlands Mini Storage on Barte Rd, (off of Cooper Rd) \$10 per week. Call Wendy at 1-603-542-2997 For Space.

4000 Real Estate**4040 Homes For Sale**

FROSTPROOF 4BR, 2BA, on Lake Clinch, where a yearly bass fishing tournament is held. Completely remodeled, new roof, bathroom, kitchen, tile floor, French door, patio, very flexible Lease-Option, or sell price \$117,500. Owner financing. 954-270-5242

4060 Homes for Sale Avon Park

AVON PARK *SELL / LEASE OPTION * 3BR, 2BA. Just Remodeled! Large Corner Lot. \$137,500. Owner Will Finance if needed. 954-270-5242

5000 Mobile Homes**5050 Mobile Homes For Sale**

AVON PARK *PRICE REDUCED.* Furn. 2br / 2ba, w/ Land. Rent Free. Renovated / Painted / New Laminate / Carpets / Kit Cupboards. Just bring a toothbrush. 863-453-3261

DOUBLE WIDE mobile home on large lot in Paradise Village 55+ Park in Lake Placid. Freshly painted and cleaned throughout. New wood flooring. Great view of Lake Clay. Boating and boat slips available. New pavilion with activities. Sellers motivated and priced to sell. 517-260-1994

5050 Mobile Homes For Sale

MOBILE HOME, MUST SELL QUICKLY ! 1995 Palm Harbor double wide, 2 bedroom and 2 bath. Loaded with updates. \$17,000. 863-446-2636.

PALM HARBOR HOMES
4/2 Stock Sequoia 2,200 sq. ft. \$12K OFF!
Starting at \$499/month
John Lyons @ 800-622-2832 ext 210 for details

5150 Mobile Homes For Rent

VENUS - New 4BR/2BA (jacuzzi in Master) A/C, tile, W/D, porch, w/option 20 acres. 8 horse barn, privacy fence, 1 bl. from Hwy 27. 731 CR 201. 786-370-2778

6000 Rentals**6050 Duplexes for Rent**

AVON PARK Beautiful Lake View. 2BR/1BA. Includes Water & Garbage. Washer & Dryer connection. Safe neighborhood. Dead End St. Pets allowed. No Pitt Bulls. \$450 + Deposit. 863-453-4914 or 863-414-2871

6100 Villas & Condos For Rent

SEBRING - 2/1 Villa. Wood floors, new fans, W/D, fridge, tile floors, patio, newly renovated. Very Private & Nice. \$550/mo. Call 561-967-7161/ 561-386-0051

6200 Unfurnished Apartments**AVON PARK RENT SUBSIDIZED**

1, 2, 3 & 4 BR Apts in a Central Location, Separate Family & Elderly/Disabled properties; Ridgedale Apts, Lakeside Park & Delanet Hgts. Based on household income.

NO APPLICATION FEE!



Please Call 863-452-4432 TTY 800-955-8771
On-Line Applications!
www.AvonParkHA.org

6250 Furnished Houses

COME ENJOY the lifestyle on beautiful Lake June Available for either seasonal or annual rental (minimum of two months). Call Tony at 561-339-1859

6300 Unfurnished Houses

AVON PARK 2 bedroom/1bath/carpport.\$650 per month,1st and last, plus \$300security.863-257-0726

FALL MOVE-IN SPECIAL!

\$100 Off 1st Month's Rent

AVON PARK

North Central Heights Homes, a new "Rent Restricted" single family home development in Avon Park. Rents range from \$350 to \$550 per month. 2, 3 and 4 BR Available! **DON'T DELAY APPLY TODAY! NO APPLICATION FEE!**



CALL:
TTY 800-955-8771
863-452-4432
On-line Applications
www.avonparkha.org

NICE 3 bedroom - 2 bath house. new paint carpet & tile. near mall, \$850. (561)662-7172

SEBRING - 2 STORY TOWN HOME 3 BR, 2 1/2 BA, 1 CG \$800/Monthly No Smoking, No pets. 863-402-1142

SEBRING 3/2/1 Quiet area. Close to Florida Hospital. Fairly new. All tile floors. Small pets welcome. \$810/mo. + First, Last + Security. Call 863-414-0942

6600 Business & Offices For Rent

SEBRING VERY Spacious, 2, 9,000lb. Car lifts, A/C compressor & lines equipped. Mechanic ready. 10,000sq.ft. Rent negotiable. Call 863-253-7514

7000 Merchandise**7040 Appliances**

G E WASHER Bisque Color Purchased April 2013 (\$475). Changing all appliances to white. Selling for \$250 FIRM. SOLD!!!!

7180 Furniture

ANTIQUO OAK Armoire With Full Door Mirror And Matching Men's Dresser. \$400. OBO 863-835-1734

7300 Miscellaneous

GREENHOUSE SMALLER, Turner, metal lean to w/door & vent. Needs new screening. \$150. You remove. Original cost \$587. Call 863-385-4648

7310 Bargain Buys

4 FT. CHRISTMAS TREE - Artificial Green color, Excellent Condition. \$15. Golf Hammock Area. 269-963-7817

AIR CONDITIONER Cover for a 13,500 A/C, on a R.V. Like New, White. \$10. 863-453-7027

BICYCLE WOMAN'S 26" Gray Ultra Terrain 18 sp. Men's 26" red. Roadmaster Mountain Pass 18 sp. \$35. 863-452-9899

CABELA OUTFITTER COTS (2) XL-Huge 85"x40"x20" (set up size) Heavy duty 600 lb capacity. Used 3 times. Orig. cost ea. \$129 Sell both for \$100. 863-414-8685

CALLAWAY DRIVER Ladies 10 degree \$45. Golf Hammock Area. 269-963-7817

COMPUTER DESK / Hutch Black wood with Doors. \$50. 863-414-0831

DEEP FRYER Family Size / T- Fal brand. Used 3 times. \$25. 863-382-7647

ELLIPTICAL - Exercise Machine plus Ab Roller. New! Both for \$100. 863-381-1161

ELLIPTICAL EXERCISE MACHINE & Ab roller. New. Both \$100. 863-381-1161

LADDER ALUM. 20' ext. Good Cond. \$50. 863-381-1161

LUGGAGE, PROTOCOL, 2 wheel upright cases, 28" & 24" + travel bag. Navy. \$50. Like new, will sell separate. 863-453-3104

METAL BAKERS RACK with Darwer at Bottom. \$50. OBO 863-414-0831

MIKASA DISHES service for 14 plus extras. Wave Pattern. All for \$50. 863-278-9152 (Evenings)

POOL CUES (2) Professional in cases. Like New! Great Christmas Gifts. Both for \$100 OBO 863-273-9152 (Evenings)

RCA TV 27" Older model. Perfect working condition. \$25. 863-382-7647

RUBBER BED MAT for a short bed pickup, in very good condition. \$30. 863-453-7027

TREADMILL EPIC folding model. Excel cond. \$100. Must pick up. 863-699-0465 or 863-243-9384.

7320 Garage & Yard Sales

AVON PARK * MOVING SALE * 198 E Canfield St. Fri & Sat, Dec 6 & 7, *8am - ? Furn, Baby Items, Household Items, Bunk Beds, Clothing (adult to children).

AVON PARK Fri. - Sat. 8 - 5pm. 1333 Memorial Dr. Something For Everyone!

Five-Day forecast for Highlands County

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Mostly sunny and pleasant	Mostly sunny and pleasant	Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny	Some sun
83° / 62°	82° / 63°	83° / 63°	83° / 64°	84° / 63°
Winds: S at 6-12 mph	Winds: SE at 6-12 mph	Winds: SE at 6-12 mph	Winds: SE at 4-8 mph	Winds: SE at 6-12 mph



Almanac

Temperature
Readings at Archbold Biological Station in Lake Placid

High Friday	79°
Low Friday	56°
High Saturday	77°
Low Saturday	60°
High Sunday	77°
Low Sunday	55°
High Monday	69°
Low Monday	59°

Heat Index
For 3 p.m. today

Relative humidity	49%
Expected air temperature	83°
Makes it feel like	84°

Barometer

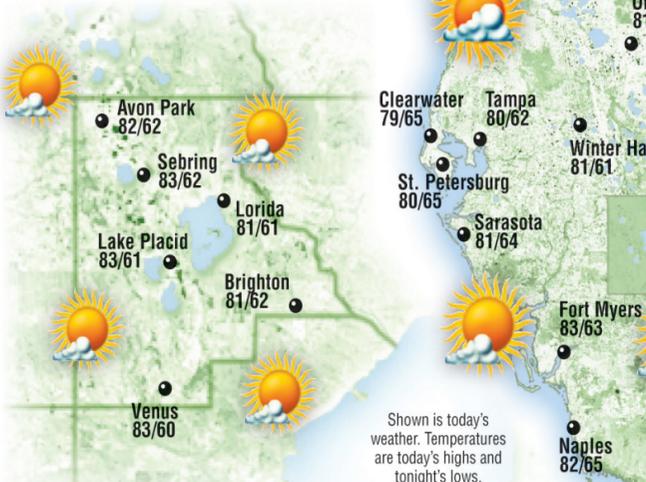
Saturday	30.12
Sunday	29.94
Monday	29.92

Precipitation

Saturday	0.02"
Sunday	0.00"
Monday	0.00"
Month to date	0.02"
Year to date	62.49"

Regional Summary

Mostly sunny and pleasant today. Mainly clear tonight. Mostly sunny and pleasant tomorrow. Friday and Saturday: mostly sunny. Sunday: some sun.



Farm Report

Mostly sunny and pleasant today. Winds south 6-12 mph. Expect 4-8 hours of sunshine with average relative humidity 65% and fair drying conditions. Mainly clear tonight.

Weather History

On Dec. 4, 1886, a snowstorm in Chattanooga, Tenn., broke records for city, including most snowfall in 24 hours: 12.0 inches and most snowfall from a single storm: 14.5 inches.

Sun and Moon

Today		Thursday	
Sunrise	6:58 a.m.	Sunrise	6:59 a.m.
Sunset	5:34 p.m.	Sunset	5:34 p.m.
Moonrise	8:28 a.m.	Moonrise	9:25 a.m.
Moonsset	7:38 p.m.	Moonsset	8:44 p.m.

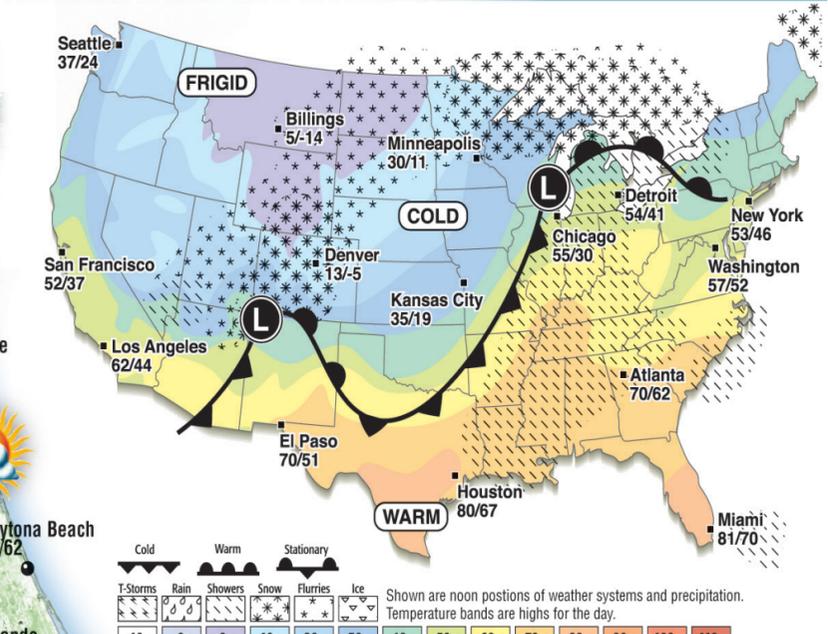
Water Restrictions

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

Florida Cities

City	Today	Thu.	Fri.	City	Today	Thu.	Fri.
Cape Coral	82/63/s	83/65/s	83/64/s	Miami	81/70/s	82/72/pc	82/72/s
Clearwater	79/65/s	82/66/s	81/67/s	Okeechobee	80/62/s	80/63/pc	81/63/s
Coral Springs	81/67/pc	82/69/pc	82/71/pc	Orlando	81/61/s	83/64/s	82/63/s
Daytona Beach	80/62/pc	81/63/s	80/63/pc	Pembroke Pines	81/68/s	82/70/pc	83/71/s
Fl. Laud. Bch	80/71/pc	82/73/pc	81/73/s	St. Augustine	75/61/pc	78/63/s	78/61/s
Fort Myers	83/63/s	84/66/s	83/65/s	St. Petersburg	80/65/s	82/66/s	81/66/s
Gainesville	79/59/pc	81/62/pc	80/61/s	Sarasota	81/64/s	82/65/s	81/64/s
Hollywood	82/68/s	83/71/pc	84/71/s	Tallahassee	79/63/pc	80/63/pc	79/65/s
Homestead AFB	80/69/s	81/69/pc	81/71/s	Tampa	80/62/s	83/65/s	82/65/s
Jacksonville	77/58/pc	80/59/pc	80/60/s	W. Palm Bch	80/70/pc	82/71/pc	82/71/pc
Key West	80/73/s	81/73/pc	82/74/s	Winter Haven	81/61/s	82/64/s	83/63/s

National Forecast for December 4



National Summary

Bitterly cold air will continue to plow southward into the northern Plains and Rockies today. High temperatures will only be in the single digits above zero, but it will feel even colder when factoring in the wind. Snow will be heavy at times across the Upper Midwest and northern Great Lakes. Snow can also be heavy in the Four Corners region and central Rockies. Temperatures will be rather warm across the Gulf Coast states with highs in the 70s and 80s. A few locations in southern Texas will soar into the upper 80s.

U.S. Cities

City	Today	Thu.	Fri.	City	Today	Thu.	Fri.
Albuquerque	59/35/pc	41/25/sh	38/25/s	Los Angeles	62/44/pc	58/42/pc	58/42/s
Atlanta	70/62/c	73/63/pc	74/54/sh	Louisville	66/52/c	57/34/r	34/26/sn
Baltimore	56/48/c	66/54/sh	59/35/r	Memphis	72/55/c	60/36/r	39/27/r
Birmingham	72/66/c	75/63/sh	66/44/r	Milwaukee	46/28/sh	33/18/c	24/10/pc
Boston	46/39/pc	56/43/c	44/35/r	Minneapolis	30/11/sn	16/-1/c	7/-8/sn
Charlotte	64/57/pc	71/60/pc	74/61/pc	Nashville	70/61/c	66/41/r	41/33/r
Cheyenne	6/-12/sn	10/-13/pc	12/-5/pc	New Orleans	77/68/pc	78/69/c	79/50/t
Chicago	55/30/sh	34/20/c	26/12/c	New York City	53/46/pc	62/54/c	56/38/r
Cleveland	56/48/c	51/33/sh	36/26/sn	Norfolk	62/54/c	71/59/pc	75/50/c
Columbus	62/53/c	57/35/sh	35/25/sn	Oklahoma City	48/27/pc	33/18/sn	27/6/sn
Dallas	74/42/pc	44/28/r	34/22/r	Philadelphia	55/46/pc	64/54/sh	56/38/r
Denver	13/-5/sn	13/-14/c	13/-11/pc	Phoenix	65/46/pc	58/35/c	55/34/s
Detroit	54/41/c	45/28/c	34/22/c	Pittsburgh	57/50/c	59/38/sh	39/29/sn
Harrisburg	52/47/pc	63/47/sh	48/36/r	Portland, ME	42/32/pc	49/39/c	43/28/c
Honolulu	82/65/s	82/66/s	83/68/pc	Portland, OR	36/19/s	34/22/pc	34/20/sf
Houston	80/67/pc	78/48/t	51/37/r	Raleigh	64/54/pc	73/61/pc	74/48/c
Indianapolis	62/40/c	44/27/r	32/18/sn	Rochester	46/44/sh	54/34/sh	35/26/sn
Jackson, MS	78/66/pc	77/53/c	56/38/r	St. Louis	64/31/c	35/21/sn	29/16/sn
Kansas City	35/19/c	25/12/pc	22/7/pc	San Francisco	52/37/pc	50/39/pc	54/42/pc
Lexington	66/55/c	60/32/r	34/26/sn	Seattle	37/24/s	35/26/pc	34/21/pc
Little Rock	69/47/c	50/31/r	32/21/r	Wash., DC	57/52/c	67/50/sh	64/43/r

World Cities

City	Today	Thu.	Fri.	City	Today	Thu.	Fri.
Acapulco	89/72/pc	89/71/pc	89/71/pc	London	45/33/r	47/33/sh	37/29/s
Athens	51/43/c	57/40/s	58/42/s	Montreal	34/32/c	44/31/c	34/19/pc
Beirut	72/60/r	63/54/pc	65/57/pc	Moscow	36/32/r	33/20/sn	32/24/sn
Berlin	39/31/r	38/31/sh	33/26/sf	Nice	64/44/s	62/44/s	63/44/s
Bermuda	70/62/pc	71/62/s	72/63/s	Ottawa	34/30/c	42/23/c	33/12/pc
Calgary	1/-15/pc	0/-15/pc	1/-15/pc	Quebec	32/21/c	35/24/sn	31/11/pc
Dublin	44/35/s	48/30/r	39/32/s	Rio de Janeiro	85/74/pc	91/76/t	86/70/r
Edmonton	1/-23/pc	-5/-23/pc	-10/-21/s	Seoul	50/37/c	48/30/c	45/28/s
Freeport	78/68/pc	80/69/pc	81/70/s	Singapore	84/75/r	88/75/r	86/75/s
Geneva	50/32/s	42/28/s	39/21/c	Sydney	90/64/c	75/55/r	75/57/s
Havana	82/65/s	83/66/s	83/65/s	Toronto	44/40/sh	48/28/sh	36/21/c
Hong Kong	75/60/s	71/61/s	72/61/s	Vancouver	33/22/s	34/25/pc	34/19/pc
Jerusalem	66/51/r	57/47/pc	57/46/pc	Vienna	41/30/pc	39/32/pc	39/27/sf
Johannesburg	78/56/t	74/56/t	74/56/t	Warsaw	40/31/c	37/30/pc	35/26/sf
Kiev	36/28/pc	34/28/c	34/24/sf	Winnipeg	9/-3/sf	7/-6/sn	2/-16/sf

DISCOVER A NEW WORLD

Prepare for one of today's fastest-growing careers by earning your next degree close to home. Through the SFSC University Center, you can earn a bachelor's or master's degree from one of our college or university partners, while attending classes at a convenient location, the SFSC Highlands Campus.

<p>Florida State University Bachelor of Science (B.S.) Degrees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer Science (Web-based) • Interdisciplinary Social Science 	<p>University of South Florida Bachelor of Science (B.S.) Degree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nursing (RN to BN) • Master of Arts (M.A.) Degree • Reading Education
<p>Hodges University Bachelor of Science (B.S.) Degree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interdisciplinary Studies 	<p>Webber International University Bachelor of Science (B.S.) Degree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Administration
<p>University of Florida Bachelor of Science (B.S.) Degree</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Administration 	

APPLY TODAY

To learn how you can enroll in bachelor's or master's degree programs through the SFSC University Center, call **453-6661, ext. 7401.**

VIEW THE SFSC SCHEDULES OF CLASSES:
www.southflorida.edu

Serving DeSoto, Hardee, and Highlands Counties

453-6661

ESTATE AUCTION of Thomas Klepinger

10AM SATURDAY DECEMBER 7

- **HOME ON 47± ACRES OFFERED IN 4 PARCELS**
2,891± SF 4 bed/ 3.5 bath home and barn at 910 Rancho Dr., Sebring, FL
- **DUPLEX AND MOBILE HOME ON 1± ACRE**
1,580± SF duplex and mobile home on Lake Sebring at 704 Memorial Dr., Sebring, FL
- **INVENTORY INCLUDES:**
1984 Chevrolet Corvette, 2005 Ford F-150, 2004 Ford F-250 Diesel Truck, Card Tables, Slot Machines, Furniture, Home Contents & Equipment

AUCTION HELD AT 910 RANCHO DR., SEBRING, FL 33876

PREVIEW 11AM-2PM SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30

800-257-4161
higgenbotham.com
auction@higgenbotham.com



Dan Hoehne/News-Sun

Rosa Ramirez clears this ball as goal keeper Tamija Douglas looks on. Ramirez would later help Douglas and the Dragons out with a game-saving play.

Lady Dragons draw even Lake Placid boys top Panthers on late goal

By DAN HOEHNE
daniel.hoehne@newssun.com
LAKE PLACID – It could have been better, but it certainly could have been worse as the Lady Dragons came away with a scoreless tie against visiting Mulberry Monday night.

Fresh off the Thanksgiving break, the action belied the final score, as both teams were active and aggressive, each with their fair share of shots on goal.

But in the end, the defenses and respective goal keepers took care of business and kept the opposing offenses off the board.

Lake Placid

0

Mulberry

0

And it was an ultimate extra effort on defense that turned away what could have been the game winner for the Lady Panthers.

Late in the match, Dragon keeper Tamija Douglas came up in the box to defend a Mulberry shot.

She deflected it, but it

bounced back to the Lady Panther, who reloaded and shot it past.

But defender Rosa Ramirez launched herself airborne and redirected the shot with her head and Douglas soon covered the loose ball to maintain the tie.

Douglas had 14 saves on the night. “We just have to capitalize when we have the chance,” Douglas said. “We had many chances to score”

Still, this was a strong Mulberry squad that is

now 8-3-2 on the season, 2-1-1 in District 10-2A play.

The Dragons now stand at 2-3-2 and 1-1-2 in district, putting them solidly in third behind McKeel and the Panthers.

Lake Placid

3

Mulberry

2

Up in Mulberry, the Lake Placid boys climbed back from an early deficit to get a district win.

The Panthers took an early 2-0 lead on goals from Elain Espinoza and Chris Gomez, but Yoyi

See SOCCER, B4

Sebring storms past Lake Placid

By DAN HOEHNE

daniel.hoehne@newssun.com

LAKE PLACID – Often a first game back after a holiday break can show some rust, some kinks that need to get worked out.

That was anything but the case for Sebring Monday night as they looked fresh and inspired from the opening tip, and ran away from the host Green Dragons to a 77-45 win.

“The key is our defense,” Blue Streak head coach Princeton Harris said afterward.

“That’s what we work on every day for most of practice. We’ll spend a few minutes on

offense, but we know we’re going to score. I’m more concerned with us getting better on defense.”

Of course, the aggressive, relentless defense Sebring employs is what often leads to scoring opportunities, which is how this one started out.

After Gary Demarest powered inside for the opening score, a quick turnover by the Blue Streak press got Demarest another score down low.

Another forced turnover then let Connor Cook get out on the break for a score, foul and three-point play.

Lake Placid finally solved the press and got a break out score from Isaac



Dan Hoehne/News-Sun

Connor Cook drives for two of his game-high 19 points in Sebring’s big win at Lake Placid Monday night.

Neverson to halt the early run.

But Cook and Terrell Williams hit three pointers, surrounding a Scott Colley free throw, and Cook scored on another fast

break to push the early lead to 15-3.

Neverson then hit a free throw and turnaround jumper, but Cook lofted a rainbow J in and broke out for another score and Luke

Ancrum got an inside bucket to make it 21-6.

The young Dragon squad was able to find its’ footing and fight back some.

See STREAKS, B4

Wheeling and dealing in MLB

By RONALD BLUM

Associated Press

NEW YORK — On a night usually dominated by news of players let loose, the Washington Nationals and Oakland Athletics filled pitching needs with trades.

Washington obtained right-hander Doug Fister from Detroit for infielder Steve Lombardozzi and left-handers Robbie Ray and Ian Krol on Monday.

Oakland acquired closer Jim Johnson from Baltimore for infielder Jemile Weeks and a player to be named.

Fister was 14-9 with a 3.67 ERA last season for the AL Central champions, who last month traded slugging first baseman Prince Fielder to Texas for second baseman Ian Kinsler.

“It gives us some flexibility for some other things we want to do,” Tigers general manager Dave Dombrowski said, insisting the trade wasn’t made to free money for a long-term deal for AL Cy Young Award winner Max Scherzer, who can leave after next season.

Fister joins a talented Nationals rotation that already includes Stephen Strasburg, Jordan Zimmermann and Gio Gonzalez.

Oakland, which also closed in on a \$22 million, two-year contract with left-hander Scott Kazmir, is revamping after losing to the Tigers in the AL division series.

The 30-year-old Johnson

led the majors with 51 saves in 2012 and tied for the big league lead last season with 50.

The two-time AL West champion A’s found their closer to replace All-Star Grant Balfour, who became a free agent after the season and is expected to command a multiyear deal.

Meanwhile, 43 players became free agents at midnight EST when their teams failed to offer 2014 contracts, a group that included 2009 NL Rookie of the Year Chris Coghlan (Miami) and St. Louis reliever John Axford.

Clubs often use the so-called tender deadline as leverage to force agreements with players they won’t go to arbitration with.

Among the players let loose were Toronto catcher J.P. Arencibia, Boston right-hander Andrew Bailey and outfielder Ryan Kalish, Mets right-hander Jeremy Hefner, Yankees infielder Jayson Nix, Tampa Bay outfielder Sam Fuld and Kansas City infielder Chris Getz.

The Los Angeles Angels gained nearly \$10 million of payroll flexibility, declining to offer contracts to pitchers Tommy Hanson, Jerome Williams and Juan Gutierrez along with third baseman Chris Nelson.

With an excess of catching after reaching an agreement to sign Brian McCann, the New York Yankees traded

See MLB, B4



MCT photo

Chad Henne has helped the Jaguars recent turnaround, which has left their opponents a little embarrassed.

Jaguars find opponents’ comments funny, insulting

By MARK LONG

Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE — Guard Uche Nwaneri has heard all sorts of excuses for opponents losing to the Jacksonville Jaguars in recent weeks.

They’re amusing — and insulting.

“It’s ridiculous,” Nwaneri said Monday. “Really, are we a high school team and you have to apologize to your city because you lost to us? Come on, man. This is the NFL. Every win is a hard-earned win.

“There’s rarely just easy sailing for any team throughout the season. When you’re able to pull out a win, you celebrate it. When you lose, you try to be as gracious as

you can in defeat. But don’t trivialize our win because we came in here with a record that wasn’t as good as yours.”

The Jaguars (3-9) have won three of their last four games, all since starting the season with eight consecutive losses by double digits.

It’s been a modest turnaround that coincides with coach Gus Bradley’s team playing better and a considerably easier second-half schedule.

The Jaguars host Houston (2-10) on Thursday night.

Despite Jacksonville’s recent success, opponents have been less than complimentary afterward.

Tennessee tight end Delanie Walker called losing

to the Jaguars “disgusting.”

Bradley’s team was winless at the time.

“I’m embarrassed,” Walker said. “A team that’s 0-8 comes in here and beats us? Beats us on our home field, that’s 0-8, the Jaguars? Come on.”

Houston running back Ben Tate said he felt bad for the city following a 13-6 loss to Jacksonville on Nov. 23.

Receiver Andre Johnson called it the “lowest point” in his NFL career.

Cleveland players were less dramatic after Sunday’s 32-28 loss to Jacksonville, but they made it clear they felt like they blew a winnable game.

“It’s funny ‘cause we’re all professional athletes

here,” Nwaneri said. “I remember when they used to have jokes about the Bengals, the Browns. The stuff they say after they lose to us, it’s like, ‘What’s somebody going to say if they lose to you, you know, because you lost to us.’ It’s funny. I don’t really care, but it is amusing to be on the field and to hear them complain.”

“It sounds like a child complaining because they can’t have their way.”

The Jaguars drove 80 yards in the closing minutes to beat the Browns.

Chad Henne found Cecil Shorts III for a 20-yard touchdown with 45 seconds

See JAGS, B4

THE SCOREBOARD



LIVE SPORTS ON TV

COLLEGE BASKETBALL WEDNESDAY

7 p.m.	Maryland at Ohio State	ESPN
7 p.m.	Wisconsin at Virginia	ESPN2
8 p.m.	Houston at Texas A&M	SUN
9 p.m.	North Carolina at Michigan State	ESPN
9 p.m.	Boston College at Purdue	ESPN2

THURSDAY

7 p.m.	West Virginia at Missouri	ESPN2
9 p.m.	Mississippi at Kansas State	ESPN2

COLLEGE FOOTBALL THURSDAY

7:30 p.m.	Louisville at Cincinnati	ESPN
-----------	--------------------------	------

GOLF THURSDAY

11:30 a.m.	EuroPGA – Hong Kong Open	GOLF
3 p.m.	Northwestern Mutual World Challenge	GOLF

NBA THURSDAY

7 p.m.	New York at Brooklyn	TNT
9:30 p.m.	Miami at Chicago	TNT

NHL THURSDAY

7:30 p.m.	Ottawa at Tampa Bay	SUN
-----------	---------------------	-----

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE SOCCER WEDNESDAY

9:30 a.m.	Juventus FC vs. FC Copenhagen	SUN
-----------	-------------------------------	-----

Times, games, channels all subject to change

Dallas at Chicago, late
Vancouver at Nashville, late
Phoenix at Edmonton, late
Los Angeles at Anaheim, late

Wednesday's Games

Montreal at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Detroit, 8 p.m.
Phoenix at Calgary, 10 p.m.

New Orleans 131, Chicago 128, 30T
San Antonio 102, Atlanta 100
Utah 109, Houston 103
Portland 106, Indiana 102

Tuesday's Games

Orlando at Philadelphia, late
Denver at Brooklyn, late
Milwaukee at Boston, late
Detroit at Miami, late
Phoenix at Memphis, late
Charlotte at Dallas, late
Oklahoma City at Sacramento, late
Toronto at Golden State, late

SCORING LEADERS

GP	G	A	PTS
Crosby, PIT	28	13	23
Malkin, PIT	28	7	28
Steen, STL	26	20	11
Getzlaf, ANH	26	13	18
Kane, CHI	28	16	14
Tavares, NYI	27	11	19
Zetterberg, DET	28	11	19
Ovechkin, WAS	25	21	8
Perry, ANH	29	15	14
Thornton, SJ	26	4	25

GOALIES

GP	MIN	GA	AVG
Harding, MIN	22	1241	30
Scrivens, LA	15	770	20
Schneider, NJ	12	732	21
Talbot, NYR	9	503	15
Rask, BOS	22	1329	42
Price, MON	22	1323	44
Mazanec, NASH	11	631	21
Fleury, PIT	23	1338	46
Bishop, TB	20	1156	40
Mason, PHI	19	1120	39

LEAGUE LEADERS

SCORING

FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Durant, OKC	126	146	28.3
Anthony, NYK	150	103	26.3
James, MIA	158	104	26.2
George, IND	159	81	24.9
Harden, HOU	110	116	24.5
Love, MIN	147	116	23.7
Martin, MIN	132	108	23.2
Aldridge, POR	168	73	22.7
Curry, GOL	122	39	22.3
Ellis, DAL	141	96	21.9

REBOUNDS

OFF	DEFT	TOT	AVG
Love, MIN	73	186	13.6
Jordan, LAC	80	151	12.8
Howard, HOU	61	172	12.3
Drummond, DET	78	129	12.2
Griffin, LAC	41	158	11.1
Vucevic, ORL	52	133	10.9
Ibaka, OKC	44	109	10.2
Davis, NOR	60	103	10.2
Hawes, PHL	30	132	10.1
Cousins, SAC	35	116	10.1

NBA EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

W	L	OT	Pts	GB
Toronto	6	10	375	—
Boston	7	12	368	5
Philadelphia	6	12	333	1
Brooklyn	5	12	294	1.5
New York	3	13	188	3

Southeast Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Miami	14	3	.824	—
Washington	9	9	500	5.5
Atlanta	9	10	474	6
Charlotte	8	10	444	6.5
Orlando	6	11	353	8

Central Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Indiana	16	2	.889	—
Chicago	7	9	438	8
Detroit	7	10	412	8.5
Cleveland	5	12	294	10.5
Milwaukee	3	13	188	12

Western Conference

Central Division

W	L	OT	Pts	GB		
Chicago	20	4	44	102	76	
St. Louis	18	5	3	39	91	60
Colorado	19	6	0	38	76	52
Minnesota	16	8	5	37	70	67
Winnipeg	13	12	4	30	78	82
Nashville	13	11	3	29	62	75
Dallas	12	9	4	28	70	73

West Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
San Antonio	15	3	.833	—
Houston	13	6	.684	2.5
Dallas	10	8	.556	5
New Orleans	9	8	.529	5.5
Memphis	8	8	.500	6

Southwest Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
Portland	15	3	.833	—
Oklahoma City	12	3	.800	1.5
Denver	10	6	.625	4
Minnesota	9	10	.474	6.5
Utah	4	15	.211	11.5

Pacific Division

W	L	Pct	GB	
L.A. Clippers	12	6	.667	—
Golden State	10	8	.556	2
Phoenix	9	8	.529	2.5
L.A. Lakers	9	9	.500	3
Sacramento	4	11	.267	6.5

Saturday's Games

Atlanta at Washington, late
Chicago at Cleveland, late
Brooklyn at Memphis, late
Minnesota at Dallas, late
Houston at San Antonio, late
Utah at Phoenix, late
Boston at Milwaukee, late

MLS Playoffs

MLS CUP

Saturday, Dec. 7: Real Salt Lake at Sporting KC, 4 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Edmonton 3, Dallas 2, SO
Vancouver 3, Carolina 2
Detroit 4, Ottawa 2

Monday's Games

Winnipeg 5, N.Y. Rangers 2
Montreal 3, New Jersey 2
Minnesota 2, Philadelphia 0
Los Angeles 3, St. Louis 2

Transactions

BASEBALL

American League

BALTIMORE ORIOLES—Agreed to terms with OF Steve Pearce and OF Nolan Reimold on one-year contracts. Declined to offer 2014 contracts to RHP Eddie Gamboa and OF Jason Pridie. BOSTON RED SOX—Declined to offer 2014 contracts to RHP Andrew Bailey and OF Ryan Kalish. OAKLAND ATHLETICS—Agreed to terms with RHP Fernando Rodriguez on a one-year contract. Acquired RHP Jim Johnson from Baltimore for INF Jemile Weeks and a player to be named. TAMPA BAY RAYS—Agreed to terms with C Jose Molina on a two-year contract. Declined to offer 2014 contracts to OF Sam Fuld and LHP Wesley Wright.

National League

ATLANTA BRAVES—Declined to offer 2014 contracts to 3B Paul Janish, 2B Elliot Johnson and RHP Cristhian Martinez. Agreed to terms with LHP Jonny Venters and INF Ramiro Pena on one-year contracts. CHICAGO CUBS—Declined to offer 2014 contracts to RHP Daniel Bard, 1B Mat Gamel and RHP Chang-Young Lim.

LOCAL SCHEDULE



THURSDAY: Boys Basketball at McKeel, 6/7:30 p.m.; Girls Basketball vs. McKeel, 6/7:30 p.m.; Boys Soccer at McKeel, 8 p.m.; Girls Soccer at McKeel, 6 p.m.
SATURDAY: Boys Soccer vs. Sebring, Noon; Girls Soccer vs. Sebring, 10 a.m.
MONDAY: Boys Soccer vs. Hardee, 8 p.m.; Girls Soccer vs. Hardee, 6 p.m.



THURSDAY: Boys Basketball at Labelle, 6/7:30 p.m.; Girls Basketball vs. LaBelle, 6/7:30 p.m.; Boys Soccer at Frostproof, 6/7:30 p.m.; Girls Soccer vs. Frostproof, 6/7:30 p.m.
MONDAY: Girls Basketball at Clewiston, 6/7:30 p.m.
TUESDAY: Boys Basketball at Mulberry, 7:30 p.m.; Girls Basketball vs. Mulberry, 6 p.m.; Boys Soccer vs. McKeel, 8 p.m.; Girls Soccer vs. McKeel, 6 p.m.



THURSDAY: Girls Basketball vs. Lake Wales, 6/7:30 p.m.; Boys Soccer at Hardee, 6/7:30 p.m.; Girls Soccer vs. Hardee, 6/7:30 p.m.
FRIDAY: Boys Basketball vs. Lemon Bay, 6/7:30 p.m.; Girls Basketball at Lemon Bay, 6/7:30 p.m.
SATURDAY: Wrestling at Avon Park Duals, 10 a.m.; Boys Soccer at Avon Park, Noon; Girls Soccer at Avon Park, 10 a.m.

SPORTS SNAPSHOTS

Jingle Bell run

AVON PARK – The 2nd Annual Jingle Bell Fun 5K Run/Walk and 1-Mile Fun Run will take place Friday, Dec. 13, at 6 p.m. at the Union Church, 106 Butler Ave., Avon Park.

Adult entry fee, by Nov. 30 it's \$20 and up to Dec. 12, \$25.

There will be no race day registrations.

Child's entry fee for the 5K is \$10, for the 1-Mile Fun Run, \$5.

All proceeds will benefit the five Avon Park area schools as they partner together to develop leadership skills in the children of our community.

Email questions to Karin Doty at dotyk@highlands.k12.fl.us.

Checks should be made payable to Jingle Bell Run, Attn: Lisa Jarrett and sent to 1305 US North 27, Avon Park, FL, 33825.

Meals on Wheels Golf Tournament

SEBRING – The 14th Annual Meals on Wheels Golf Tournament will be teeing off on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 8:30 a.m. at the host Sun 'N Lakes Golf Course.

The tournament will be a four-person scramble format and will include a \$20,000 putting contest, Hole-in-One on all holes with a car sponsored by Alan Jay Automotive.

The entry fee of \$75 per player, \$300 per team, includes golf, continental breakfast, lunch and awards.

Proceeds from the event go to benefit Sebring's Meals on Wheels.

For more information, call 202-6094.

Doty Memorial Golf Tourney

SEBRING – The Annual Brad and Aaron Doty Memorial Children's Christmas Golf Classic sponsored by All About Lawns will be held Saturday, Dec. 7, at Sun 'N Lakes Golf and Country Club.

The event will be a four-person scramble format, with an 8:30 a.m. shotgun start.

Entry fee is \$65, which includes greens fee and cart, lunch, beverages on and off the course, raffle and door prizes, range balls and lots of fun.

The Cohan Radio Group will provide Hole-in-One prizes.

Sponsorships are available, starting at just \$100.

Two Tampa Bay Buccaneer cheerleaders will also be on hand for autographs and pictures.

The tournament benefits the Champions for Children foundation, helping less fortunate, local children during the Christmas season and throughout the year.

For additional information, contact Kip Doty at 446-4008.

LP Elks Hoop Shoot

LAKE PLACID – Lake Placid Elks Lodge 2661 announces their annual local Hoop Shoot on Saturday, Dec. 14, where Lake Placid youth ages 8-13 can show their free-throw talents.

The competition is free.

A copy of the child's birth certificate will be required at registration.

Registration forms can be obtained in advance at the Lake Placid Elks Lodge by calling 465-2661.

Registration will also be held at 8 a.m., prior the contest at the Lake Placid High School.

Boys and girls participate in separate contest/divisions and three age categories per division: ages 8-9; 10-11, and 12-13.

Contestants must be 8-years old and no more than 13-years old as of April 1, 2013, to participate.

For state contests and beyond, the Elks

National Foundation covers all program costs, including participant transportation, food and housing expenses.

Lake Placid local winners of each division and age category advance through to the Florida District, State, Regional and National competitions.

Names of the national winners will be inscribed on the Elks National Hoop Shoot plaque, on permanent display in the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, MA.

Registration is at 8:30 a.m. and the contest begins at 9 a.m.

Any questions, contact John Holbrook at 465-5941.

Senior 70s Softball

SEBRING – The Highlands County Senior 70s plus league will start Tuesday, Jan. 7 at the Highlands Sports Complex.

Sign up on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9 a.m.

For more information call John Kloet at 414-4245 or Bill Todd at 385-5632.

Sebring Elks Golf Tourney

SEBRING – The Sebring Elks Lodge No. 1529 monthly golf outing will be held at Golf Hammock Golf and Country Club on Monday, Dec. 2, beginning at 8 a.m.

Cost is \$32 which includes golf, cart, lunch and prize fund.

To sign up contact Jack McLaughlin at jacknjudy33872@gmail.com or leave a message on (863) 471-3295.

Check in not later than 7:40 a.m. by the Pro Shop.

Hammock Half Marathon/5K

SEBRING – The 6th Annual Hammock Half Marathon and 5K Run/Walk is set for Highlands Hammock State Park on Saturday, Jan. 25, 2014 with a 7:30 a.m. starting time.

Custom long-sleeve Dri-fit for Half Marathon and short-sleeve Dri-fit for the 5K.

This year's Half Marathon will also feature a team relay made up of up to four individuals running 3.0, 3.0, 3.0, and 3.1 mile sections.

Relay entry rates apply to all relay team members and should be submitted together with team name by January 17 in order for proper awards to be ordered.

Those desiring an entry form may contact race director Chet Brojek at cbrojek@comcast.net or by calling 385-4736 and leaving a message. Entry fee for the 5K is \$20 thru January 17 and \$30 after the 18th thru race day.

Hammock Half Marathon fees are \$35 thru January 17 and \$45 after the 18th.

Race day registration will be from 6:45-7:10 a.m.

The race features custom trophies or plaques for overall, master and grand master champions, trophies for first thru third in 16 male and female age groups in the Half and Trophy to first in age groups and medals for 2nd and 3rd in the 5K Run/Walk.

Chip timing will be provided by Central Florida Striders.

"The Half Marathon is made up of two 6.5 mile loops that utilize the trails and portions of the loop road. It is a challenging course, but provides you a chance to see areas of the park that you would not ordinarily see," said a Striders club member.

A step beyond the ordinary, you should try running the Hammock Half on January 25.

The proceeds of the race benefit the Friends of Highlands Hammock State Park who provide thousands of dollars of support to the park each year.

Visit friendsofhighlandshammock.org for more information.

Come join the fun at our 6th Annual Hammock Half Marathon and 5K Run/Walk.

NASCAR THIS WEEK

CUP REWIND: TOP 5 RACES OF 2013

Martinsville: Mayhem & Jeff

SPEED FREAKS

A couple questions we had to ask — ourselves



Getty Images/JOHN HARRELSON
Bobby's shades aren't likely due to a bright racing future.

Which unemployed "old guy" runs more races next year, Bobby Labonte or Jeff Burton?

GODSPEAK: "B-Lab" sure sounded like a guy not ready to turn in his steering wheel just yet. **KEN'S CALL:** Bobby has that "past champ" provisional in his knapsack, so I'm thinking that's worth a few phone calls.

Speaking of aging racers, do you really think we've seen the last of Mark Martin in a race car?

GODSPEAK: He has never uttered the word "retire" in a sentence except to say, "I never said I was gonna retire."

KEN'S CALL: He's 18 years younger than Morgan Shepherd, who entered eight Nationwide races this year. The temptation is too strong; he'll race again.

The other end of the spectrum: Who's the best rookie next year, Kyle Larson or Austin Dillon?

GODSPEAK: Larson, only because Dillon is going to steal most of the hype and spotlight and therefore draw more scrutiny and pressure.

KEN'S CALL: Flip a coin. I think Larson is destined for stardom, but Dillon is better seasoned. And Richard Childress will make sure Dillon's car is fast.



Getty Images/JARED WICKERHAM

If October's Sprint Cup race at Martinsville adopted an official logo, it would look something like this. More than a fifth of the race's laps were run under caution. The caution flag flew so many times (17 in all), the flagman practically developed tennis elbow.

Editor's note: We're counting down the top five races of the 2013 Sprint Cup season. Today is No. 4, the Oct. 27 Goody's 500 at Martinsville Speedway.

Competitors were likely gulping sponsor product after the Goody's Headache Relief Shot 500 in Martinsville, Va. The Sprint Cup Series' smallest track produced the most yellow flags for the season — 17 caution periods covered 111 laps.

Jimmie Johnson and Matt Kenseth, who were in a heated battle for the Cup Series championship, combined to lead 325 of the 500 laps over the .526-mile track that's shaped like a paper clip.

As the laps wound down, Kenseth found himself in a duel with Johnson's Hendrick Motorsports teammate Jeff Gordon, who had not won a race all season.

Gordon was trying to make the most of a second chance given to him by NASCAR Chairman and CEO Brian France, who added the four-time champion to the Chase field after several teams tried to manipulate the outcome of the regular-season finale weeks earlier at Richmond. Gordon shook off a season



Getty Images/ROBERT LABERGE

When the smoke and dust cleared, however, Victory Lane provided a nice throwback sight: Jeff Gordon, finally, enjoying a long-awaited confetti shower.

of bad breaks and mishaps to stay in championship contention.

Martinsville proved to be his shining moment in a somewhat frustrating season. Gordon chased, then passed Kenseth for the lead on Lap 480, and held on for sweet victory.

The emotional triumph pushed Gordon to third place in the standings, 27 behind Johnson and Kenseth, who were tied atop the points chart. And just for good measure,

Gordon's victory clinched the Cup Series manufacturers' championship for Chevrolet.

"This meant so much," Gordon said afterward. "I feel like we've worked so hard and many weekends we've left the race track looking at one another going, 'What do we have to do?' 'We've had race cars, we've had pit stops, and we've had strategy.' I feel like I've had days where I've done my part but just couldn't get it all lined up."

KEY DATES

- Dec. 6: NASCAR Sprint Cup Series Awards, Las Vegas
- Jan. 9-10: Daytona Preseason Thunder testing (Sprint Cup)
- Jan. 11-12: Daytona Preseason Thunder testing (Nationwide)
- Jan. 13-14: Daytona Preseason Thunder testing (truck series)
- Jan. 29: NASCAR Hall of Fame, 2014 induction, Charlotte, N.C.
- Feb. 15: The Sprint Unlimited
- Feb. 16: Daytona 500 qualifying
- Feb. 18: UNOH Battle at the Beach (K&N Pro East, Whelen Modifieds)
- Feb. 20: Budweiser Duel
- Feb. 21: NextEra Energy Resources 250
- Feb. 22: DRIVE4COPD 300
- Feb. 23: Daytona 500

Do you have questions or comments about NASCAR This Week? Contact Godwin Kelly at godwin.kelly@news-jrnl.com or Ken Willis at ken.willis@news-jrnl.com



Godwin Kelly is the Daytona Beach News-Journal's motorsports editor and has covered NASCAR for 30 years. Reach him at godwin.kelly@news-jrnl.com

ONLINE EXTRAS



@nascardaytona



facebook.com/nascardaytona



news-journalonline.com/nascar



Ken Willis has been covering NASCAR for The Daytona Beach News-Journal for 27 years. Reach him at ken.willis@news-jrnl.com

New faces, new places for next season:

- Kevin Harvick:** Replaces Ryan Newman at Stewart-Haas Racing
- Ryan Newman:** Replaces Jeff Burton at Richard Childress Racing
- Kyle Larson:** Replaces Juan Pablo Montoya at Earnhardt-Ganassi Racing
- AJ Allmendinger:** Replaces Bobby Labonte at JTG Daugherty Racing
- Martin Truex:** Replaces Kurt Busch at Furniture Row Racing

- Michael Annett:** Replaces Dave Blaney at Tommy Baldwin Racing
- Kurt Busch:** Joins new fourth team at Stewart-Haas
- Austin Dillon:** Joins new fourth team at Richard Childress Racing
- Brian Vickers:** Moves from part time to full at Michael Waltrip Racing



Getty Images/CHRIS GRAYTHEN
A racer wouldn't normally like to be targeted, but Kyle Larson is OK with it.

2014 SPRINT CUP SCHEDULE

Feb. 15	Sprint Unlimited, Daytona	FOX Sports 1	June 28	Kentucky Speedway	TNT
Feb. 16	Daytona 500 qualifying	FOX	July 5	Daytona International Speedway	TNT
Feb. 20	Duels, Daytona	FOX Sports 1	July 13	New Hampshire Motor Speedway	TNT
Feb. 23	Daytona 500	FOX	July 27	Indianapolis Motor Speedway	ESPN
March 2	Phoenix International Raceway	FOX	Aug. 3	Pocono Raceway	ESPN
March 9	Las Vegas Motor Speedway	FOX	Aug. 10	Watkins Glen International	ESPN
March 16	Bristol Motor Speedway	FOX	Aug. 17	Michigan International Speedway	ESPN
March 23	Auto Club Speedway	FOX	Aug. 23	Bristol Motor Speedway	ABC
March 30	Martinsville Speedway	FOX	Aug. 31	Atlanta Motor Speedway	ESPN
April 6	Texas Motor Speedway	FOX	Sept. 6	Richmond International Raceway	ABC
April 12	Darlington Raceway	FOX	Sept. 14	Chicagoland Speedway	ESPN
April 26	Richmond International Raceway	FOX	Sept. 21	New Hampshire Motor Speedway	ESPN
May 4	Talladega Superspeedway	FOX	Sept. 28	Dover International Speedway	ESPN
May 10	Kansas Speedway	FOX	Oct. 5	Kansas Speedway	ESPN
May 17	All-Star Race, Charlotte	FOX Sports 1	Oct. 11	Charlotte Motor Speedway	ABC
May 25	Charlotte Motor Speedway	FOX	Oct. 19	Talladega Superspeedway	ESPN
June 1	Dover International Speedway	FOX	Oct. 26	Martinsville Speedway	ESPN
June 8	Pocono Raceway	TNT	Nov. 2	Texas Motor Speedway	ESPN
June 15	Michigan International Speedway	TNT	Nov. 9	Phoenix International Raceway	ESPN
June 22	Sonoma Raceway	TNT	Nov. 16	Homestead-Miami Speedway	ESPN

2013 SPRINT CUP RESULTS

Feb. 16	The Sprint Unlimited, Daytona (Kevin Harvick)	June 30	Quaker State 400, Kentucky (Matt Kenseth)
Feb. 21	Budweiser Duel 1, Daytona (Kevin Harvick)	July 6	Coke Zero 400, Daytona (Jimmie Johnson)
Feb. 21	Budweiser Duel 2, Daytona (Kyle Busch)	July 14	Camping World RV Sales 301, Loudon (Brian Vickers)
Feb. 24	Daytona 500, Daytona (Jimmie Johnson)	July 28	Your Hero's Name Here 400, Indy (Ryan Newman)
March 3	Subway Fresh Fit 500, Phoenix (Carl Edwards)	Aug. 4	GoBowling.com 400, Pocono (Kasey Kahne)
March 10	Kobalt Tools 400, Las Vegas (Matt Kenseth)	Aug. 11	Cheez-It 355 at The Glen, Watkins Glen (Kyle Busch)
March 17	Food City 500, Bristol (Kasey Kahne)	Aug. 18	Pure Michigan 400, Michigan (Joey Logano)
March 24	Auto Club 400, Fontana (Kyle Busch)	Aug. 24	Irwin Tools Night Race, Bristol (Matt Kenseth)
April 7	STP Gas Booster 500, Martinsville (Jimmie Johnson)	Sept. 1	AdvoCare 500, Atlanta (Kyle Busch)
April 13	NRA 500, Texas (Kyle Busch)	Sept. 7	Federated Auto Parts 400, Richmond (Carl Edwards)
April 21	STP 400, Kansas City (Matt Kenseth)	Sept. 15	GEICO 400, Chicagoland (Matt Kenseth)
April 27	Toyota Owners 400, Richmond (Kevin Harvick)	Sept. 22	Sylvania 300, Loudon (Matt Kenseth)
May 5	Aaron's 499, Talladega (David Ragan)	Sept. 29	AAA 400, Dover (Jimmie Johnson)
May 11	Bojangles' Southern 500, Darlington (Matt Kenseth)	Oct. 6	Hollywood Casino 400, Kansas City (Kevin Harvick)
May 18	Sprint Showdown, Charlotte (Jamie McMurray)	Oct. 12	Bank of America 500, Charlotte (Brad Keselowski)
May 18	All-Star Race, Charlotte (Jimmie Johnson)	Oct. 20	Camping World 500, Talladega (Jamie McMurray)
May 26	Coca-Cola 600, Charlotte (Kevin Harvick)	Oct. 27	Goody's Headache Relief 500, Martinsville (Jeff Gordon)
June 2	Dover 400, Dover (Tony Stewart)	Nov. 3	AAA Texas 500, Texas (Jimmie Johnson)
June 9	Pocono 400, Pocono (Jimmie Johnson)	Nov. 10	AdvoCare 500, Phoenix (Kevin Harvick)
June 16	Quicken Loans 400, Michigan (Greg Biffle)	Nov. 17	Ford EcoBoost 400, Homestead (Denny Hamlin)
June 23	Toyota/Save Mart 350, Sonoma (Martin Truex Jr.)		



Kaylor, Kaylor, & Leto P.A.

The Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers
SAME DAY CONSULTATION

Personal Injury • Medical & Nursing Home Malpractice • Workers' Compensation
Wrongful Death • Auto Accident • Social Security Disability

2141 Lakeview Dr., Sebring • 863-382-1900

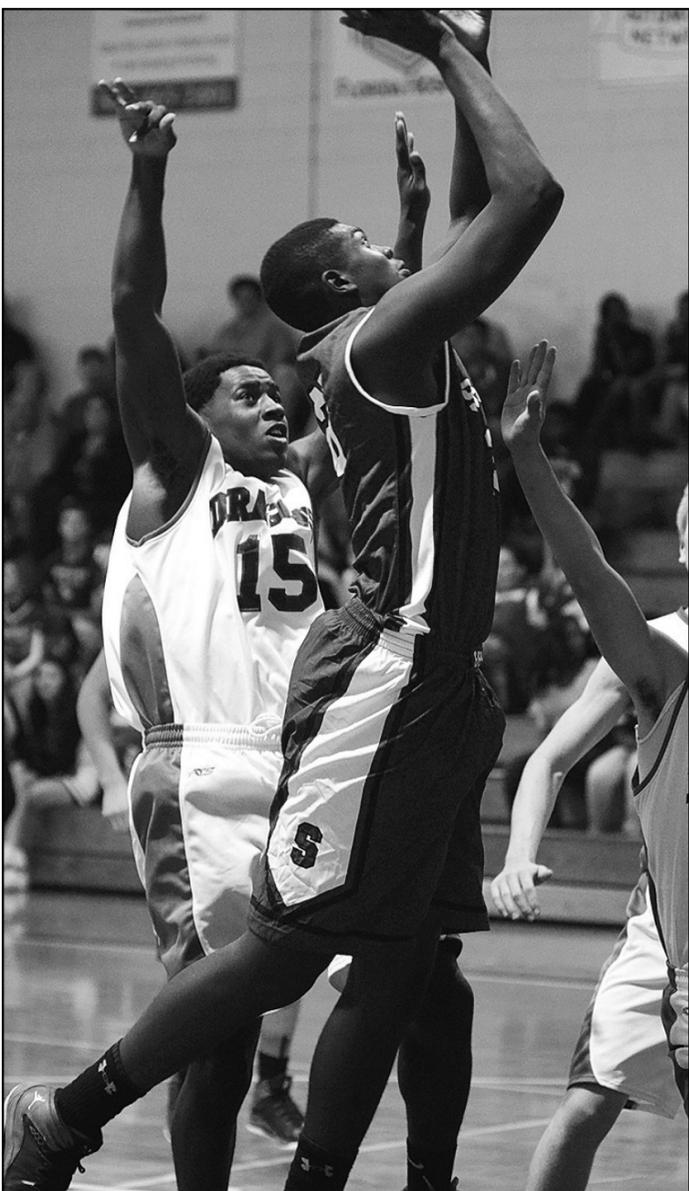
Se Habla Español • No Recovery, No Fee • FREE Consultation

Mark Kaylor

WINTER HAVEN: 863-299-1241

WWW.KKLLAW.COM

LAKELAND: 863-619-6275



Dan Hoehne/News-Sun

Luke Ancrum powers inside for a score Monday night, and would wind up with 12 points as Sebring ran away from the Green Dragons.

Streaks stay clear of Dragons

Continued from B1

Marvin Sholtz scored in the paint and Anfernee Munnings hit a pair at the line.

Jose Rinald then split a pair to cut the lead to 10, but Keizhawn Hester hit a jumper and tipped in a follow, sandwiching a Cook free throw, before Munnings hit two more free throws to make it a 26-13 margin at the break.

Sebring continued to stretch the lead out early in the second quarter as Cook, Ancrum and Williams all scored in the lane and Quantrae Rouse tickled the twines with a trey.

Lake Placid's lone score during the run was a Munnings free throw, making it a 35-14 Blue Streak lead.

A Colley free throw was followed by a Williams jumper with Munnings then stepping up to single handedly dig into the difference.

Munnings scored three consecutive hoops and Colley hit another free throw to get it back down to 37-22.

Munnings would add another pair at the line, and Kaetwon Lowe hit a jumper and Neverson

scored inside.

But Sebring would see Rolando Powery power into the paint for two buckets, Cook hit a free throw and Demarest a basket, for a 44-28 lead at the half.

Any hope for Lake Placid to keep it relatively close in the second half were soon dissipated as the Streaks blew it open in the third.

Ancrum would score eight points over the eight minute period, with Demarest adding six as Sebring outscored the Dragons 24-7.

And to add injury to insult, late in the third, Munnings hit the deck hard after being fouled on a drive to the basket and injure his left thumb.

He would shoot his free throws, but soon came out of the game for the rest of the night.

With the lead at 68-35 heading into the fourth, the running clock came when Dylan Neilander put back a missed free throw for a 35-point lead.

"It was a good effort and the guys came out aggressive," Harris said.

"We can be aggressive because we are a deep team. The talent level is pretty even so when we go to the bench, there



Dan Hoehne/News-Sun

Anfernee Munnings drives the baseline and would lead the Dragons with 16 points, but it wasn't nearly enough in Sebring's lopsided win.

really is no drop off. But it was good that everyone got a chance to play and I could rest some guys with some big district games coming up."

Sebring got their District 11-5A schedule starte Tuesday night with a visit from DeSoto and

will host Lemon Bay Friday night.

The Dragons started their District 9-4A slate Tuesday against Frostproof at home and then go back out of district Thursday with a trip to LaBelle.

Soccer sees Dragons facing Frostproof Thursday

Continued from B1

Gomez got the Dragons on the board with one goal, and evened it up by halftime on another.

From there, it was a defensive battle throughout the second half, and it looked as though it would be a night of dualing ties.

But in the waning moments, Osvaldo Orduna fired in the game winner and send Lake Placid home with the 3-2 win.

This was Mulberry's first district loss and has them at 2-1-1 in District 10-2A, 6-2-1 overall.

The Dragons now sit alone atop the district at 2-0-1, 5-0-1 overall.

Lake Placid is back in district play Thursday night, with the boys traveling to Frostproof and the girls getting a visit from the Lady Bulldogs.



Dan Hoehne/News-Sun

Claire LeBlanc gets her leg up to redirect this ball during the Lady Dragons 0-0 tie with Mulberry Monday.

Jags turning teams into whiners

Continued from B1

remaining to put Jacksonville up four.

Shorts beat cornerback Joe Haden with a double move on a third-and-9 play.

It was a happy homecoming for Shorts, who grew up in Cleveland rooting for the Browns.

He bristled Monday when asked about opponents hitting "rock bottom" by losing to Jacksonville.

"I couldn't care less what they think," Shorts said. "It's the NFL. You're going to win or lose each week. You've got to bring your best that week. For us, we're

getting better. We've been 3-1 since the bye week, so if they've got a problem with it come see us.

That's how I feel about it."

The Jaguars scored 15 points off turnovers against Cleveland, taking advantage of three turnovers late in the first half and a botched snapped in the fourth that resulted in a safety.

Those points surely helped

Jacksonville keep it close, especially since the Jaguars struggled to cover Josh

Gordon (10 catches for 261 yards and two touchdowns).

Gordon's 95-yard score with 4:09 remaining looked like it would seal a victory for Cleveland.

But the Jaguars answered — and left another team searching for answers.

"It's any given Sunday in this league," Henne said.

"Anybody can come out and beat anybody. You saw what happened. Look at Atlanta. You thought they were going to be a Super bowl contender this year and you see what happened to them. Teams are going to have struggles, but the best teams are the ones that finish strong and just keep getting better each and every week like we said and play their best football in December."

AP NFL website: www.pro32.ap.org

It's any given Sunday in this league. Anybody can come out and beat anybody.

Chad Henne
Jacksonville quarterback

Get the paper



delivered to you!

NEWS-SUN • 385-6155

FALL RATES!
Panther Creek & Cougar Trail
For Tee Times Call 655-0101

Spring Lake Golf Resort

18 HOLES
SPECIALS INCLUDE TAX & CART!

\$28 ⁰⁰	\$24 ⁰⁰	\$88 ⁰⁰
Before 11am	After 11am	Any time - Any day

MAX. 24 HOUR ADVANCED BOOKING
HIGHWAY 98 • 5 MILES EAST OF US 27

MLB trades, free agents

Continued from B1

Chris Stewart to Pittsburgh for a player to be named, and Stewart agreed to a \$1 million, one-year deal with the Pirates.

The Yankees also finalized a \$5 million, two-year contract with shortstop Brendan Ryan, who became their starter in September when Derek Jeter went back on the disabled list.

Kazmir's deal with Oakland hadn't been finalized and is pending a physical.

The 29-year-old left-hander went 10-9 with a 4.04 ERA in 29 starts and 158 innings last season for Cleveland and becomes part of a rotation that includes Sonny Gray and A.J. Griffin.

Catcher Dioner Navarro agreed to an \$8 million, two-year contract with Toronto that pays \$3 million next year and \$5 million in 2015.

The 29-year-old batted .300 with a career-high 13 homers and 34 RBIs in 89 games for the Chicago Cubs last season.

An All-Star in 2008, he has not played more than 89 games in a season since 2009 because of injuries.

Another catcher, Jose Molina, agreed to a \$4.5

million, two-year contract to remain with Tampa Bay.

Thirteen players eligible for arbitration agreed to one-year deals: San Diego left-hander Eric Stults (\$2.75 million) and right-hander Tim Stauffer (\$1.6 million); Baltimore outfielders Nolan Reimold (\$1,025,000) and Steve Pearce (\$850,000); Atlanta left-hander Jonny Venters and infielder Ramiro Pena; Washington right-hander Ross Ohlendorf (\$1.25 million); Detroit outfielder Don Kelly (\$1 million); White Sox catcher Tyler Flowers (\$950,000); Philadelphia first baseman Kevin Frandsen (\$900,000); Oakland right-hander Fernando Rodriguez (\$600,000); and Cleveland right-handers Frank Herrmann and Blake Wood (\$560,000 each).

In agreements announced Friday, the Los Angeles Dodgers reached deals with outfielder Mike Baxter and catcher Drew Butera (\$700,000 each) and left-hander Scott Elbert (\$575,000).

AP Baseball Writer Janie McCauley and AP Sports Writers Tim Booth and Larry Lage contributed to this report

UNIVERSAL CENTER OF NATURAL MARTIAL ARTS

After School Program!

5 Days a week Adult & Children Classes!

We teach:

- Brazilian jui-jitsu
- Cardio Kickboxing
- Shootfighting
- Okazaki jui-jitsu

Steve Weed
Owner & Instructor

AFTER SCHOOL PICK-UP!

NEW SIGN UPS GET A FREE BACKPACK!

Come by or call to make an appointment to find out more about our after school programs!

UNIVERSAL CENTER OF NATURAL MARTIAL ARTS
3400 Office Park Rd. • Sebring, FL 33870 • 863-382-0818

THE GIFT OF NEWS DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR

**This Christmas,
give the gift that
keeps on giving
with a subscription
to the News-Sun.**

**SUBSCRIBE TODAY!
863-385-6155
www.newssun.com**

www.newssun.com

NEWS-SUN
Highlands County's Hometown Newspaper since 1927

Five new things we now know about President Obama

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE
Associated Press
WASHINGTON — The man who lives at 1600 Pennsylvania Ave. is more than just another celebrity, or the famous face behind the government's troubled health care website. Here are five new things about President Barack Obama:

He sings in the bathroom

Obama showed off his pipes when he sang the opening lines of the Al Green classic "Let's Stay Together" at a New York fundraiser in January 2012. He apparently has had a lot of practice. Asked during an interview on BET's "106 & Park" about her husband's

unexpected turn as a balladeer, first lady Michelle Obama said he sings "all the time. Oh, yes, he's in the bathroom all the time just singing. He is always willing to sing. He's like, 'You want me to sing now, want me to sing something for you?'"

This President can cook

Obama said the mothers of the Pakistani roommates he had in college in 1980 taught him how to cook a traditional South Asian meat dish called keema, a lentil dish known as daal "and other very good Pakistani food." (Obama studied at Occidental College in Los Angeles from 1979-81.) Sam Kass, the chef Obama

brought with him from Chicago to cook meals for the first family, didn't sound too worried about his pots and pans in the president's hands. "If he wants to make dinner now and again, that's fine by me," Kass said in an interview.

He broke his nose playing basketball

An avid basketball fan, Obama got a busted lip, and 12 stitches, playing basketball the day after Thanksgiving in 2010. He revealed the past broken nose while arguing that his health care law has made the monthly cost of insurance so cheap that young adults who



Obama

often feel immune to illness or injury should buy a policy to protect themselves. "I kind of remember when I was in my 20s and early 30s I thought I was invincible, but it turns out I broke my nose playing basketball," he told the Fusion television network in an interview. "There were times where I had unexpected illnesses or accidents, and making sure that you've got coverage insures that you're not ending up paying out of pocket thousands of dollars that you may not have."

World traveler

Besides the years spent growing up in Hawaii and

Indonesia, Obama traveled the globe before landing his current job. Italy and Pakistan were on the pre-White House itinerary; he has been to Italy as president, but not Pakistan. Obama said he went to Pakistan in 1980 because of his college roommates. "It was a wonderful trip for me, and created a great appreciation and a great love for the Pakistani people," he said after an Oval Office meeting with that country's prime minister, Nawaz Sharif. As for Italy, he revealed after a separate Oval Office meeting with Prime Minister Enrico Letta that he and Michelle had been to Tuscany before he became president. Letta invited him to come back, but Obama didn't commit to

returning before his term ends in January 2017.

Daughter has peanut allergy

When Obama signed a bill encouraging schools to stockpile epinephrine, which is used to treat people with severe allergies, he revealed that his 15-year-old daughter, Malia, has a peanut allergy. It was known that she has other allergies, which is why the Obamas chose Portuguese water dogs as the family pets. The breed is said to be good for allergy sufferers. Obama said making sure epinephrine is readily available in schools in case of emergency is "something that every parent can understand."



Serious Illness affects patients and their caregivers.



*Cornerstone can help!
We provide comfort care through...*

- + Pain & Symptom Management
- + Certified CNA/HHA Services
- + Emotional & Spiritual Support
- + 24-hour Assistance Available
- + Professionally Trained Volunteers
- + And So Much More...



Information: 863-382-4563
Toll Free: 866-742-6655

FREE HEARING TEST

Chuck Oliver
BC-HIS
Board Certified-Hearing Instrument-Sciences
29 Years Experience

Experience you can trust...
We specialize in helping people who hear but don't always understand. Call us for courteous, professional service backed with years of experience.

digital
HEARING AID OUTLET **382-9210**

4206 Sebring Parkway • Sebring
www.DigitalHearingAidOutlet.com

Serious Illness affects patients and their caregivers.

Cornerstone can help!
We provide comfort care through...
+ Pain & Symptom Management
+ Certified CNA/HHA Services
+ Emotional & Spiritual Support
+ 24-hr Assistance Available
+ Professionally Trained Volunteers
+ And So Much More...

Information: 863-382-4563
Toll Free 866-742-6655
www.cornerstonehospice.org
www.SeriousIllness.org/cornerstone

Oriental Medical Clinic of Florida, P.A.
TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE

*We specialize in
Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine*

To help you in the treatment of:

- Pain Management
- Chronic Disease
- Weight Loss
- Wellness Enhancement

Jeanie O. Lee, D.A.O.M.
Acupuncture Physician

3101 Medical Way
Sebring, Florida **386-5050**

To advertise on this page call Vickie at 863-386-5631

Celebrations

Reagan Benson

Adrian M. Benson and Kelly J. Johnson, both of Sebring, announce the birth of a daughter, Reagan Kenna Malo Benson, at 11:02 a.m. on Nov. 14, 2013 at Florida Hospital Heartland Medical Center.

Reagan weighed 8 pounds and was 19.5 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Scott and Lois Johnson of Sebring. Paternal grandparents are Rick Benson of Frostproof and Mary Benson of Wesley Chapel.

Mieko Chavez

Julio Chavez and Angela Clayton, both of Frostproof, announce the birth of a son, Mieko Ronald, at 2:44 a.m. on Nov. 18, 2013 at Florida Hospital Heartland Medical Center.

Mieko weighed 5 pounds, 12 ounces and was 19 inches in length.

Maternal grandmother is Linda Richards of Walkerton, Ind. Paternal grandmother is Ana Castro of Frostproof.

Amelia Daugherty

Jeremy and Julia Chavez Daugherty of Sebring announce the birth of a daughter, Amelia Grace Chavez Daugherty, at 2:07 p.m. on Oct. 25, 2013 at Florida Hospital Heartland Medical Center.

Amelia weighed 5 pounds and was 18 inches in length.

Maternal grandmother is Angelica Mendoza of

Sebring. Paternal grandparents are Tom Daugherty, and Jon and Judy Spiegel of Sebring.

Kimber Godinez

Rosendo and Jessica Lynn Godinez of Lake Placid announce the birth of a daughter, Kimber Lee, at 4:07 a.m. on Dec. 1, 2013 at Highlands Regional Medical Center.

Kimber weighed 7 pounds, 10 ounces and was 19 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Lynn and Carlos Resendiz. Paternal grandparents are Rosendo Godinez and AnaMaria Herrera.

Calla Guillen

Abraham and Roxanne Guillen of Sebring announce the birth of a daughter, Calla Olivia, at 5:39 p.m. on Nov. 4, 2013 at Florida Hospital Heartland Medical Center.

Calla weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces and was 18.5 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Mike Haynes and Susan James, both of Sebring. Paternal grandmother is Narcissa Guillen of Sebring.

Camarion Hankerson

Frederick Alexander Sr. and Carmela Peralta Hankerson of Sebring



Births

announce the birth of a son, Camarion Alexander, at 9:02 p.m. on Oct. 12, 2013 at Florida Hospital Heartland Medical Center.

Camarion weighed 7 pounds and was 21 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Carmen and the late Francena Peralta. Paternal grandparents are Elijah and Sandra Hankerson of Sebring.

Ivan Mendoza

Azaiais and Maria E. Hernandez of Sebring announce the birth of a son, Ivan Hernandez Mendoza at 5:15 a.m. on Dec. 1, 2013 at Highlands Regional Medical Center.

Ivan weighed 8 pounds and was 20 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Margarito Mendoza and

Maria dela Paz. Paternal grandmother is Celia Ramirez.

Jocelyn Miller

Bill and Emily Miller of Sebring announce the birth of a daughter, Jocelyn Sue, at 5:54 p.m. on Oct. 31, 2013 at Florida Hospital Heartland Medical Center.

Jocelyn weighed 7 pounds, 3 ounces and was 19 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Dan and Mary Craig. Paternal grandparents are Scott Miller and Kim Burroughs.

Carter Ridenour

Anderson Ridenour and Erica White Scott, both of Sebring announce the birth of a son, Carter Cole, at 8:52 p.m. on Nov. 6, 2013 at Florida Hospital Heartland Medical Center.

Carter weighed 7 pounds, 1 ounce and was 19.5 inches in length.

Maternal grandmother is Erin Leone. Paternal grandparents are Kathy and George Ridenour of Sebring.

Ava Sanchez

Joshua Derek Sanchez and Lucia Silva, both of Wauchula, announce the birth of a daughter, Ava Brooke, at 5:33 p.m. on Oct. 25, 2013 at Florida Hospital

Heartland Medical Center.

Ava weighed 7 pounds, 7 ounces and was 20 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Hector and Maria Silva of Wauchula. Paternal grandparents are Henry and Flora Sanchez of Wauchula.

Elisiah Tucker

Matt Tucker and Brooke Bateman of Sebring announce the birth of a son, Elisiah Andrew Tucker, at 2:25 p.m. on Nov. 29, 2013 at Highlands Regional Medical Center.

Elisiah weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces and was 20 inches in length.

Jesse Velasco

Jesse Velasco of Avon Park and Janet Velasco of Frostproof announce the birth of a son, Jesse James, at 8:52 a.m. on Oct. 25, 2013 at Florida Hospital Heartland Medical Center.

Young Jesse weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces.

Maternal grandparents are Antonia and Guadalupe Resendiz of Frostproof. Paternal grandparents are Bertha and Jesus Velasco of Avon Park.

Logan Westrick

Phillip Westrick and Fawn Hodges, both of Avon Park, announces the birth of a son,

Logan Keith, at 12:07 a.m. on Nov. 5, 2013 at Florida Hospital Heartland Medical Center.

Logan weighed 8 pounds, 10 ounces and was 20 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Ferrando Flores of Barger, Texas and Kathy Smiley of Stafford, Kansas. Paternal grandparents are Logan and Nancy Westrick of Tipton, Ind.

Amyla Wilcox

Marvin Wilcox and Kristina Vasquez of Avon Park announce the birth of a daughter, Amyla Wilcox, at 1:34 a.m. on Nov. 29, 2013 at Highlands Regional Medical Center.

Amyla weighed 7 pounds and was 19 inches in length.

Maternal grandmother is Melinda Pough.

Miles Wohl

Marty and Merideth Wohl of Sebring announce the birth of a son, Miles Kevin, at 8:25 p.m. on Oct. 10, 2013 at Florida Hospital Heartland Medical Center.

Miles weighed 7 pounds, 6 ounces and was 19.5 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Perry and Deb Kilen of Olathe, Kansas. Paternal grandparents are James and Jeri Wohl of Avon Park.

Military News



Air Force Airman Randall A. Taylor

Taylor

Air Force Airman Randall A. Taylor graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio.

The airman completed an intensive, eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

Airmen who complete basic training earn four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Taylor is the son of Cherie Starr of Lake Placid and Joseph Starr of Sebring. He is a 2009 graduate of Lake Placid High School.

CELEBRATIONS GUIDE-LINES: The News-Sun publishes announcements about births, engagements, weddings and anniversaries on Wednesdays.

Anniversaries are accepted starting at the 50th and then in five-year increments.

Photos are accepted and are returned when accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope. Forms are available at the News-Sun. The submission deadline is noon Friday to be considered for publication in the following Wednesday's paper.

Submit items to the News-Sun from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays; fax to 385-2453; send e-mail to editor@newssun.com; or mail to Lifestyle Editor, News-Sun, 2227 U.S. 27 South, Sebring, FL 33870. For information, call 385-6155, ext. 516.

FRAMES and IMAGES Gifts for any occasion!

108 Circle Park Dr., Sebring P: 863-382-6464 F: 863-382-9824 http://vmbenterprisesinc.logonmail.com vicki@vmbenterprises.com or vicki@images.com

We offer customized gifts, awards, and more for birthdays, holidays, weddings & more! Come in to see what we can do for you!

Awards • Gifts • Promotional • More!

NEW! LASER ENGRAVED Personalized Metal Flash Drives

Great for: Promotional Items, Sport Clubs, Incentives, Awards, Personalized Gifts

ORDER TODAY!

CAPTAIN RUSTY'S SMOKED FISH DIP

A taste of Florida's Gulf Coast

Fresh Seafood Every Week! Please call for special orders.

863-224-2799

1958 US Hwy 98, Lorida, FL 33857

rustywestseafood@yahoo.com

Do you or someone you know suffer from constant "ringing in the ears"?

Maybe it's not ringing exactly...it's something called tinnitus, the medical term for the sensation of hearing sound in your ears or head with no external sound present. The Xino Tinnitus masks or covers up your tinnitus and takes your focus off your tinnitus.

XINO TINNITUS

LAMPE & KIEFER HEARING AID CENTER, INC. "Your ear care store"

385-3497

130 S. Commerce Ave. Sebring, Mon. - Fri. - 9am - 5pm

CAPTAIN RUSTY'S SMOKED FISH DIP

A taste of Florida's Gulf Coast

Fresh Seafood Every Week! Please call for special orders.

863-224-2799

1958 US Hwy 98, Lorida, FL 33857

rustywestseafood@yahoo.com

ALL SMOKED PRODUCTS BUY ONE GET ONE FREE WITH COUPON

Clubs & Organizations

Heart of Highland, Sweet Adelines

LAKE PLACID – The Heart of Highland, Sweet Adelines recently held its “Adelines’ Fashions on Parade” Fashion Show and Luncheon at the Lake Placid Elks Lodge 2661. The fashion show, attended by 200, was a huge success. The chorus thanks its models for Amber Louise, BonWorth, Dress Barn, and Sue’s Cubby Hole.

Many thanks to the chorus members who donated door prizes and items for the opportunity table. Some donations were a gift certificate from BonWorth and a beauty basket from Sylvia Hayes Salon of Avon Park. Sincere thanks are extended to members who created the lovely table decorations. Thanks to the member who created the poster for the February show, “Broadway Bound,” and for the Reserved Table Signs.

Thanks to the Quartets Crazy and Girls Night Out, and chorus members who performed under the direction of the fabulous director, Betty Meinholz, and to all the chorus members who helped in making this fashion show such a success. Special thanks to Don Sansoussi, president of the Elks Lodge 2661, and his staff, for creating an elegant setting and a truly delicious meal. The comments were so very favorable, such as “It’s the Sweet Adelines very best fashion show!”

We also thank Sandy Lopes and the young ladies from Potter House, who worked so swiftly and efficiently in serving the delicious meal. Most of all, thanks to all of the ladies and several gentlemen who bought tickets and helped to make this fashion show a great success.

The support of these scholarship fundraisers has enabled the Heart of Highland, Sweet Adelines Show Chorus to award 30 scholarship certificates to female high school students in Highlands County. The next scholarship fundraiser is the annual February show, “Broadway Bound,” on Saturday, Feb 15 at the Performing Arts Center of South Florida State College in Avon Park. For information call 452-1927, 414-4914, or 699-0743.

Lake Placid Garden Club

LAKE PLACID – Forty-one members and one guest enjoyed a delicious Thanksgiving Dinner, catered by Harzel Catering, and served by the hostess committee on Nov. 13 at the Lake Placid Woman’s Club. House plants in baskets, designed by Marcia Price, adorned the fall table settings.

The program “Introductions to Highlands County Extension Office Services” was given by David Austin, of Highlands County Extension Office. Questions on citrus greening was also explained.

President Alice Stahr reported on the District IX meeting that was attended by seven members on Oct. 18. Stahr accepted the Lake Placid Garden Club “Ruby” certificate for 60 years of membership, and thank you certificates for member Mary Meisenheimer and her husband Jerry for volunteering at Camp Wekiva. Stahr presented a surprised Meisenheimer with her certificates.

Prison Project chairman Patsy Stamm and her committee, Diane Brouhle and Sue Rood, will be working with the inmates identifying trees on the islands. Avon Park Correctional Institute will donate plants and mem-

Sebring Elks



Courtesy photo
On Dec. 1 Sebring Elks 1529 held a memorial service (above) for the 20 Elk members who have departed in the previous 12 months. The memorial was attended by more than 50 people. PDDGER Jim Mason gave an Eleven O’ Clock Toast and shared the origin of the Toast with the attendees, The Avon Park High School Show Choir and Director Joy Loomis shared their gift of music at the event. Pictured (from left) are Ron Schillfarth, PDDGER Jim Mason and ER Donna Mason in front of the 20 memorial candles.



Courtesy photo
Sebring Elks 1529 celebrated Thanksgiving at its Nov. 22 Friday dinner/dance. It was a delicious turkey and ham dinner with all the trimmings for more than 240 reserved members and guests. Also in attendance was Elk member Joe Buchko, 96 years young, and his lovely wife Madge, 92 years young, celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary along with 43 of their closest friends/relatives.

bers are being asked to start plants for the March 22 “Plant Sale”. All proceeds will go for the Prison Project.

Shirley Puzey introduced new member Lois Krebs. Members welcomed her and Marion Chambers, who also attended her first meeting since becoming a member.

Garden Therapy chairman Marcia Price thanked the garden club members for their generous contributions for the Christmas bags for the residents at the Lake Placid Health Care Center. Thirteen women and one man attended therapy on Nov. 12. Trudy Ricketts, Joan Herrold, Dianne Kurek and Nancy Horney helped with the project.

During Fuss and Brag, Stahr recognized Shirley Puzey and Carol Knopf with Thank You pins for bringing in new members and taking on new duties. Wynelle Conley showed a beautiful Christmas cactus and a vase filled with yesterday, today and tomorrow flowers from a plant in her yard. She also gave a little history about the plant.

Tickets are still available for the Dec. 6 “Home & Garden Tour”. For tickets or information, call 465-1269 or 465-0487.

The Lake Placid Garden Club meets every second wednesday of the month from September through May. Anyone interested in visiting or joining call Shirley Puzey at 465-3008.

Placid Lakes Garden Club

LAKE PLACID — Placid Lakes Garden Club will hold their monthly meeting Monday, Dec. 9, from 10 a.m. until noon at Placid Lakes Town Hall. There will be a short meeting and brunch. Everyone attending is asked to bring an item for the brunch. There will be lots to eat, games to play and socializing to celebrate the holiday season.

Please bring canned goods for a well deserving family for Christmas. Please RSVP to 465-4888 (Town Hall office).

Sebring Model Railroad Club

SEBRING – Visit the Lakeshore Mall on Dec. 6-8 and Dec. 13-15 to see trains run on the HO and N Gauge modular layouts. There will be about 40 different trains ranging from the 1930’s to the present day passenger trains running over the five scale miles of track during the six days.

Some of the trains you may see are the Florida East Coast, Amtrak, Thomas the Tank, a Publix train and many others. There will also be a Lego train and Lionel trains at times. There will be club members present to answer questions about trains you may have collecting dust. New modules and details have been added, along with a change in the layout.

Limited analysis will be offered on a test track free of charge as time permits.

The club has added an “N” scale layout and the “One-of-a-kind-Airtrain” will be running. It floats on forced air instead of metal rails. The train was designed and built by the Archer family.

The club usually meets at 7:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month (except July, August and December) at the church of Christ, 3800 Sebring Parkway. Membership is open to all train buffs. One does not have to build a module and all members are encouraged to run their trains on the layout.

The club maintains an N-Scale train at the Children’s Museum of the Highlands and assisted in setting up a layout at Nu-Hope retirement home in Avon Park.

The club will set up again in March at the mall. For more information, call Curt Petersen at 382-6967 or Gene Archer at 452-0334. Call to confirm meeting location. Applications for membership will be available for \$15 per year (\$20 for family).

Tops 632

LAKE PLACID – TOPS 632 meets every Monday at the Woman’s Club House in Lake Placid. Weigh in is between 3-3:45 p.m., and the meetings starts at 4 p.m.

Leader Judy O’Boyle asked the group about their special Thanksgiving plans. Members had some very touching plans such as having a son home after a year’s absence. At TOPS everyone has so much to be thankful for and the support and caring of each other is one of the important ones.

There were 31 people weigh in with another loss this week. Faye Nutt was the best loser. The program was given by the newest KOPS, Ethel Emanuel. She gave an interesting talk on the importance of water. After she finished, she asked for tips on how to change our diet habits. Members heard some great ideas.

A special honor was bestowed on Debbie Luddington as she had been nominated by the leader as an individual who has contributed the most to the chapter. As O’Boyle said, Luddington never says “No.”

Speaking of no, the no-no this week will be macaroni and cheese, and the yeses are green beans and turkey.

Contest winners this were: Team I, Ida Wyland; Team II, Patty Hynes; Team II, Arlene Jordan; and the KOPS Team, Joan Dunn. Next week the gifts must start with the letter L. Two of those winners are our new members. Jean Ottoway is on her third week of winning the travel gift. The club would like to invite the public to attend meetings on Mondays.

Food

Basic tools for every new cook

Cooking is a basic life skill, as far as I’m concerned. Knowing how to cook is as important as knowing how to brush your teeth or how to drive a car. Well, knowing how to cook is probably more important than knowing how to drive a car because you have to eat three times every day of your life.

Perhaps you’re just now learning to cook. Maybe you’re starting out as a newlywed, setting up a kitchen as a college student, or perhaps you’re simply adopting a healthier lifestyle that requires you to learn how to cook. Whatever the reason, as a new cook, you need to stock your kitchen with the proper tools. If you don’t have a fortune to spend on kitchen tools (who does?), you’re going to love me because I’ve put together a list of what I consider to be the essential basic items each kitchen must have.

Knives

You’ll need an eight-inch chef’s knife for chopping and a small paring knife for peeling. There’s no need to buy an expensive knife set when you’re just learning to cook. If you have these basics, you’ll be able to make just about anything.

Cutting boards

Get two cutting boards – one for meat and one for other items. I don’t care if they’re plastic, wood or bamboo, but you will need a couple of cutting boards.

Pots and pans

Get a good solid 10-inch stainless steel or cast iron skillet. Don’t buy non-stick cookware no matter how small your budget is. It is very unhealthy for you.

You should have two pots: a large one for soup or pasta and a smaller one for grains and veggies.



Dinner Diva
Leanne Ely

A jelly roll pan, a covered casserole and an 11-by-9-inch pan will help you cook a variety of items from roasting a chicken to broiling chicken breasts.

While they don’t necessarily fit in the pots and pans category, you will also need a set of mixing bowls.

Utensils

You’ll need a can opener, a vegetable peeler, a slotted spoon, a silicone spatula, a couple of wooden spoons, dry and liquid measuring cups, measuring spoons and a set of tongs.

These basic items might be plenty to keep you going indefinitely. If you find that you’re enjoying cooking more and more, you’ll likely start picking up odds and ends like a steaming basket, a salad spinner or a garlic press. All of these items help to cut down on a bit of prep work, but they really are simply convenience items. You can steam veggies without a basket, you can dry salad greens with a dish towel and you can mince garlic with a knife.

Leanne Ely is a New York Times bestselling author of 'Body Clutter' and the Saving Dinner series. The Dinner Diva syndicated newspaper column appears in 250 newspapers nationwide. Learn how to cook great and save significant money with the Dinner Diva's menus, recipes and shopping lists at www.savingdinner.com.

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

M	A	C	Y	S		F	A	L	S	E		A	K	O	N		D	A	B	
A	D	A	S	H		B	A	H	A	M	A		D	E	R	I	S	I	V	E
H	E	L	L	O	M	A	R	Y	L	O	U		D	Y	S	T	O	P	I	A
E	L	L	R	E	D	M	E	A	T		W	I	F	E	U	P	O	N		
R	E	T	I	T	L	E		S	W	E	E	T	C	A	R	O	L	I	N	E
						O	C	T	O			R	O	T	C	U	S	N		
C	O	M	E	O	N	E	I	L	E	E	N		T	I	T		G	P	A	
A	P	I	A	N		N	B	A	T	V		C	O	S		A	O	U	T	
M	A	N	X		O	N	E	E	Y	E		S	A	R	A	S	M	I	L	E
P	H	D		G	N	U		M	R	P	I	M		B	A	I	L	E	E	
						J	U	L	I	E	D	O	Y	A	L	O	V	E	M	E
A	Y	E	A	Y	E	R	U	N	T	S		O	L	E	P	S	I			
S	E	X	Y	S	A	D	I	E		I	T	A	L	I	A		B	L	O	T
H	A	T	S		V	O	N		M	E	T	A	L		C	O	A	L	S	
E	R	R		R	E	G		H	E	L	P	M	E	R	H	O	N	D	A	
						A	E	C		E	T	T	U			E	A	S	T	
W	A	L	K	A	W	A	Y	R	E	N	E	E		B	R	I	T	C	O	M
A	L	A	I		A	T	R	A		E	L	L	I	M	A	N		E	L	A
F	E	R	N	A	N	D	O		L	A	Y	D	O	W	N	S	A	L	L	Y
T	U	G	G	E	D	O	N		O	L	S	E	N	S		A	L	L	I	E
S	T	E		R	A	G	E		P	E	E	R	S		W	I	S	E	R	

EOK CONSTRUCTION
Dependable Quality since 1958

Amazing Homes, Affordable Prices

- Concrete block construction
- Granite countertops
- Vaulted ceilings
- Ceramic tile
- Low E Windows
- High Efficiency, HVAC

Email: kochcon@strato.net
(863) 385-8649
LICENSED • BONDED • INSURED
CGC1515338

\$99,500 \$490 per month

Mortgage Rate 4.25%
30 Year Loan
Principle and Interest Only

Friends & Neighbors

Placid Lakes Party Line

By Susie Lee

LAKE PLACID – The Placid Lakes litter campaign will have its first pick-up on Dec. 7 starting at 8 a.m. The county will pick up your old tires allowing six to a household a year. Even so, Seldon and Mathias have picked up a mountain of them already, and began the pick-up ahead. There will be gloves, bags, and safety vests available at the sign in. Let's clean it up and keep the "village green".

The Dalton Gang is partying on Dec. 5 at the Placid Lakes Country Club. Try to let us know how many are coming by calling Joyce at 699-6331 or Susie at 699-0886. Remember to bring a wrapped gift under \$10. The party starts at 4 p.m. with dinner, a very short meeting, and then fun and games. Bonnie Thompson and Barbara High will have lots of surprises for the group.

Do call Bonnie at 465-4888 if you spot a great decorated home, or if you have a decorated one. The Dalton Gang will judge the best one on Dec. 14, and the prize will be awarded at the PLHOA Christmas party/meeting on Monday, Dec. 16. The prize is a loaded basket with gift certificates, Christmas cheer, chocolates, nuts, fruit and more along with a framed certificate. This is a local challenge for the Placid Lakes subdivision; go for it!

The Lake Placid Ballroom Dancers will be having their Red & White Christmas Dinner/Dance on Dec. 21 at the Elks Hall. Tickets are \$10 for LPBD members; \$12 for non-members. Everyone is welcome.

The "Snowbirds" are arriving daily now, and it's not just human ones. We have goldfinches arriving at the feeders; the scouts, that is, the GPS for the flock. There will be hundreds before Christmas. The robins are due as the berries ripen. Their visit lasts about two weeks, and then they go further south. Our baby ducks are all full-grown now, and cavort up and down the waterway. So much for Mother Nature, so awesome and wonderful!

Tropical Harbor Estates

By Arlene Clouston

LAKE PLACID – What a wonderful Thanksgiving we were just treated to. We all said the pledge to the flag and then Arlene Dammer said grace. We have so much to be thankful for, more than we realize. A great Thanksgiving meal was served on pretty decorated tables. Everyone had all the food that they could eat. Marilyn Cromer and Marysue Willeke chaired the committee. A big thank you to all the many people that worked and made this festive meal possible.

Trash or Treasure on Nov. 23 was a real treasure for Nu-Hope. They took in \$887 for our local Nu-Hope Elder Care Services. Ingrid Taft sold 30 table spaces and took in \$110, which she gave to Nu-Hope. Brenda and Rick Knoche captained the cause. We thank everyone for working or buying and making this sale so successful.

Get the paper



delivered to you!

NEWS-SUN • 385-6155

Monday morning coffee, Nov. 25, was set up and hosted by Gloria and Louis Wackershauser. Peggy Sue Teague was the emcee and she introduced our manager Jodie Suso, who wished us all a Happy Thanksgiving. She will be spending the day with family in Iowa. Rick Knoche showed a three-minute film that was a Veteran's Day acknowledgment.

Next on the agenda was birthdays and the only person present was Phil Robenge so we sang happy birthday to him with the accompanist Marilyn Cromer on the piano.

Peggy Sue asked if there were any new people this week and Northerners and Canadians raised their hands: John and Heather from Canada; Tom Clements from Canada; Melanie and Murray Cornwell from Norwich, Ontario, Canada; Our Canadian Twins, Heurtha Thomson and Helen Weylie from Hamilton, Ontario, Canada; Doris True and Art Schoening from McHenry, Ill.; and Farmer Phil, Phil Bennett from New York. They were all glad to leave the snow and cold weather behind them.

Our Sunshine person, Carol Noel, was glad that there were no new people but that there still are friends of ours whom need our thoughts and prayers: Fran Turley, Mary Ann Layne, James Maynard, James Hogan and Evelyn Guiney. Carol Noel thanked Peggy Sue Teague for the lovely caring cards she makes for our people.

We have a volunteer nurse, Beverly Purdue, who will be taking our blood pressure on the first Monday of each month, which will be before our coffee hour. Beverly will also be the coordinator. Vickie Echelberry announced that the Red Cross Blood Mobile will be in the park the morning of Dec. 15. Blood donations are always needed, so please give.

Derek Willeke reminded everyone that this Sunday is Pancake Breakfast put on by the men. Don't forget to bring your place setting along with your appetite. It's a big breakfast for \$3. The second Tuesday of the month, Dec. 10, is the noon carry-in. Bring a dish to pass, your place setting, enjoy your lunch and neighborly conversation. Try it, you'll like it.

The Red Hats will be going out Dec. 12. They'll be going to the Red Lobster for their Christmas luncheon as they do each year. The luncheon starts at 11:30 a.m., but we'll meet here in the clubhouse at 10:30 for a meeting before we leave for Red Lobster.

The Ladies Coffee was made by Marilyn Cromer and she also held the meeting. The topic was "So Many Activities and So Much to Do" - the "Deck the Halls" party, decorating the clubhouse, decorating the float for the Lake Placid Christmas Parade on Dec. 14, the Christmas Follies on Dec. 21, Christmas dinner and caroling through the park. People are needed to

arrange all these festivities and people are needed to work.

The Ladies Lunch out will be a dressy affair as we will be going to the Chateau Elan on Dec. 17 at 11:30 a.m. There will be a collection of unwrapped toys for Manna Ministries to give to children.

The Mustangs will be going to the Hibachi Buffet in Sebring on Dec. 17 for their Christmas lunch. Jim Becker is making the arrangements.

"Happiness is not the absence of problems; it's the ability to deal with them."

Scoreboard

Sebring Bridge Club

Friday, Nov. 22
North/South
Bill George and Clayton Farrar - 1st in A
Pat Sickinger and Val Young - 2nd in A
Marilyn Miller and Bill Scroggins - 3rd in A
Dennis Larson and Doothy Macleod East/ West
Stephen Popham and Diane Kelsey - 1st in A
Ruth Harris and Barbara McNany - 2nd in A
Gladys Zitelli and Shirley Holt - 3rd in A
Mary Beth and Steve Cordray - 4th in A
Mary Ellen Anderson and Richard Russell - 3rd in C

Monday, Nov. 25
North/South
Beth and Jack Sayre - Tied for 1st and 2nd in A
Dennis Larson and Dorothy Macleod - Tied for 1st and 2nd in A
Philippine Benners and Shirley Holt - 3rd in A
Marilyn Redenbarger and Pat Reading - 2nd in C
East/West
Caroline Duncan and Ellen Anderson - 1st in A
Pat Sickinger and Diane Beidler - 2nd in A
Penny Ericson and Margaret Like - 3rd in A
Bruce Ridley and Denis Jutras - 1st in B
Marcy Vance and Jim Pollard - 2nd in B

Wednesday, Nov. 27
North/South
Diane Kelsey and Barb Shreiber - 1st in A
Pat Sickinger and Emily Myers - 2nd in A
Jerry and Paula Brennan - tied for 3rd and 4th in A
Marilyn Miller and Bill Scroggins - tied for 3rd and 4th in A
East West
Shirley Holt and Glenda May - 1st in A
Jeanne and Rob Colton - 2nd in A
Mary Ellen Anderson and Barbara McNany - 3rd in A

Friday, Nov. 29
Pat Sickinger and Janet Lipe - 1st in A
Mike Hughes and William George - 2nd in A
Arline Hunter and Peggy Curiel - 3rd in A
Claire Tracy and Jim Pollard - 4th in A
Denis Larson and Dorothy Macleod - 2nd in B
Shirley Holt and Ethel Cronshaw - 3rd in B
Marcella Vance and Val Young - 4th in B



Nuccio DiNuzzo/Chicago Tribune/MCT
Adriana, bottom, and her husband Robert Potter with their two 2-year-old twins Matteus, center left, and Anabella play in their Elmhurst, Ill., home. The children were conceived through in vitro fertilization.

Fertility doctors aim to lower rate of twin births

Associated Press

BOSTON — Doctors are reporting an epidemic — of twins. Nearly half of all babies born with advanced fertility help are multiple births, new federal numbers show.

In the five years since the "Octomom" case, big multiple births have gone way down but the twin rate has barely budged. Twins aren't always twice as nice; they have much higher risks of prematurity and serious health problems.

Now fertility experts are pushing a new goal: One. A growing number of couples are attempting pregnancy with just a single embryo, helped by new ways to pick the ones most likely to succeed. New guidelines urge doctors to stress this approach.

Abigail and Ken Ernst of Oldwick, N.J., did this to conceive Lucy, a daughter born in September. Using one embryo at a time "just seemed the most normal, the most natural way" to conceive and avoid a high-risk twin pregnancy, the new mom said.

Not all couples feel that way, though. Some can only afford one try with in vitro fertilization, or IVF, so they insist that at least two embryos be used to boost their odds, and view twins as two for the price of one.

Many patients "are telling their physicians 'I want twins,'" said Barbara Collura, president of Resolve, a support and advocacy group. "We as a society think twins are healthy and always come out great. There's very little reality" about the increased medical risks for babies and moms, she said.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's most recent numbers show that 46 percent of IVF babies are multiples — mostly twins — and 37 percent are born premature. By comparison, only 3 percent of babies born without fertility help are twins and about 12 percent are preterm.

It's mostly an American problem — some European countries that pay for fertil-



Jim Stevens/Bay Area News Group/MCT

The freezing platform for an embryo, top, also known as a straw, in the in vitro fertilization lab at the Reproductive Science Center in San Ramon, Calif.

ity treatments require using one embryo at a time.

The American Society for Reproductive Medicine is trying to make it the norm in the U.S., too. Its guidelines, updated earlier this year, say that for women with reasonable medical odds of success, those under 35 should be offered single embryo transfer and no more than two at a time. The number rises with age, to two or three embryos for women up to 40, since older women have more trouble conceiving.

To add heft to the advice, the guidelines say women should be counseled on the risks of multiple births and embryo transfers and that this discussion should be noted in their medical records.

"In 2014, our goal is really to minimize twins," said Dr. Alan Copperman, medical director of Reproductive Medicine Associates of New York, a Manhattan fertility clinic. "This year I'm talking about two versus one. Several years ago I was talking about three versus two" embryos.

The one-at-a-time idea is catching on. Only 4 percent of women under 35 used single embryos in 2007 but nearly 12 percent did in 2011. It's less common among older women, who account for fewer IVF pregnancies, but it is gaining

among them, too.

"Patients don't really want multiples. What they want is high delivery rates," said Dr. Richard T. Scott Jr., scientific director for Reproductive Medicine Associates of New Jersey, which has seven clinics in that state.

Better ways to screen embryos can make success rates for single embryos nearly as good as when two or more are used, he contends. The new techniques include maturing the embryos a few days longer. That improves viability and allows cells to be sampled for chromosome screening. Embryos can be frozen to allow test results to come back and more precisely time the transfer to the womb.

Taking these steps with single embryos results in fewer miscarriages and tubal pregnancies, healthier babies with fewer genetic defects and lower hospital bills from birth complications, many fertility specialists say.

Multiple studies back this up. In May, doctors from the New Jersey clinics did the kind of research considered a gold standard. They randomly assigned 175 women to have either a single embryo transferred after chromosome screening or two embryos with no screening, as is done in most IVF attempts now.

ROOFING SPECIALIST

- Shingles
- Flat Roofs
- Roof Repairs
- Mobile Home Roofovers

Cochran Brothers Roofing, Inc.

FULLY LICENSED & INSURED
State Lic # RC - 0066817

Quality Work at a Reasonable Price

FREE Estimates

863-385-4690

Eric Palosky D.O.

GERIATRIC, ADULT AND FAMILY MEDICINE
Comprehensive • Preventive & Therapeutic Care • Since 1988



Board Certified Family Medicine



WELCOME!
Sharon Hoover MSN, ARNP, FNP-BC



Sherry Smith MSN, ARNP, FNP-BC

Walk-Ins Welcome Same & Next Day Appointments

M-Th 7-5 • Fri 9-1

Accepting Most Ins. & Medicare

863-385-1777

4511 Sun 'n Lake Blvd., Suite 108 • Sebring

Entertainment

'Catching Fire,' 'Frozen' break box office records

By JESSICA HERNDON

AP Film Writer

"The Hunger Games: Catching Fire" and 3-D animated musical "Frozen" dished up box office records over the Thanksgiving holiday.

Lionsgate's sequel earned a prodigious \$75 million in its second weekend, while Disney's frosty fete opened with \$67 million, according to studio estimates Sunday.

Both films bested the previous Thanksgiving record holder, "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone," which earned \$57.5 million in 2001 over a three-day period.

Snowballing its way to the top, "Frozen" became the biggest Thanksgiving opening ever and the largest opening for Walt Disney Animation Studios.

"For a company whose foundation was built on animation, to have this as the biggest opening ever is a pretty extraordinary thing," said Dave Hollis, executive vice president of distribution at Walt Disney Studios, adding that the box office draw of "Frozen" exceeded studio expectations.

"We came into the weekend feeling like anything that would exceed the result from 'Tangled' from a couple years back would be great," Hollis added.

"Tangled" opened with \$68.7 million in 2010. "We thought something in the \$70-\$80 million range is what might be possible with 'Frozen.' We are hoping it lends itself to a big, long payoff after this great start."

The films topped records for the highest domestic box office grosses for the three-day and five-day holiday weekend. "Catching Fire" blazed the trail to No. 1 and "Frozen" slid in at No. 2. "Catching Fire" earned the biggest-ever gross for a film from Wednesday to Sunday over the Thanksgiving holiday. It brought in \$110.2 million, raising its domestic total to \$297 million. "Frozen" scored \$93 million over the five days, topping Disney's previous five-day champ, "Toy Story 2," which earned \$80.1 million in 1999.

"All of these records being broken, it's like a true snowball effect," said Paul Dergarabedian, senior media analyst for box-office tracker Rentrak.

"Overall, this is the biggest Thanksgiving weekend for the industry ever. Last year was the Thanksgiving record holder, but this one-two punch with 'Catching Fire' and 'Frozen' was just amazing."

Internationally, "Catching Fire" continued to bring the heat, earning a total of \$276 million through Sunday. Opening No. 1 in France, Italy and Belgium, the sequel exceeded the opening weekend of "The Hunger Games" in all three markets. Overall, the sequel has grossed \$573 million world-

wide.

After dominating the box office during its first two weeks in theaters, Disney's "Thor: The Dark World" dropped to No. 2 last weekend and was knocked down one more spot to No. 3 this weekend, earning \$11.1 million. Globally, it continues to keep Disney on the map with a total of \$591.1 million.

Maintaining a healthy position at the box office, Universal's romantic comedy "The Best Man Holiday" held the fourth slot with \$8.5 million, while thriller "Homefront," starring Jason Statham and James Franco, opened in the No. 5 slot with \$7 million.

Also debuting over the holiday, Fox Searchlight's "Black Nativity" landed in the top 10 with \$3.9 million, while the Weinstein Co.'s "Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom," starring Idris Elba, saw a solid launch, earning \$100,306 despite playing in just four theaters.

Opening with \$850,000, Spike Lee's "Oldboy" failed to make an impressive impact at the box office.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Rentrak. Where available, latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

1. "The Hunger Games: Catching Fire," \$75 million (\$92.5 million international).
2. "Frozen," \$67 million (\$16.7 million international).
3. "Thor: The Dark World," \$11.1 million (\$12.2 million international).
4. "The Best Man Holiday," \$8.5 million.
5. "Homefront," \$7 million (\$1.2 million international).
6. "Delivery Man," \$6.9 million.
7. "The Book Thief," \$4.9 million.
8. "Black Nativity," \$3.9 million.
9. "Philomena," \$3.8 million.
10. "Last Vegas," \$2.8 million (\$2.2 million international).

Estimated weekend ticket sales Friday through Sunday at international theaters (excluding the U.S. and Canada) for films distributed overseas by Hollywood studios, according to Rentrak:

1. "The Hunger Games: Catching Fire," \$92.5 million.
2. "Gravity," \$25.4 million.
3. "Frozen," \$16.7 million.
4. "Thor: The Dark World," \$12.2 million.
5. "The Cartel War," \$11.5 million.
6. "Captain Phillips," \$6.8 million.
7. "The Counselor," \$5.8 million.
8. "Fack Ju Gohte," \$5.75 million.
9. "Bullett Raja," \$5.5 million.
10. "Carrie," \$3.6 million.

Business



Supporters of Good Jobs Now, along with fast food employees, rally for better wages in front of Taco Bell on 8 Mile and Dean in Warren, Mich., on July 31. A similar protest is planned for Thursday.

Fast-food strikes aim at 100 cities

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Fast-food workers in about 100 cities will walk off the job this Thursday, organizers say, which would mark the largest effort yet in their push for higher pay.

The actions are intended to build on a campaign that began about a year ago to call attention to the difficulties of living on the federal minimum wage of \$7.25 an hour, or about \$15,000 a year.

The protests are part of a movement by labor unions, Democrats and other worker advocacy groups to raise pay in low-wage sectors. Last month, President Barack Obama said he would back a Senate measure to raise the federal minimum wage to \$10.10.

Protesters are calling for \$15 an hour, although many see the figure as a rallying point rather than a near-term possibility.

It's not clear how large the turnout will be at any given location, or whether the walkouts will be enough to disrupt operations. Similar actions this summer had varying results, with some restaurants unable to serve customers and others seemingly unaffected.

The National Restaurant Association, an industry lobbying

They understand they're not going to win from a one-day strike.

Kendall Fells organizer of Fast Food Forward

group, called the demonstrations a "campaign engineered by national labor groups," and said the vast majority of participants were union protesters rather than workers.

The group added that past demonstrations "have fallen well short of their purported numbers."

Kendall Fells, a New York City-based organizer for Fast Food Forward, said demonstrations are planned for 100 cities, in addition to the 100 cities where workers will strike. He said plans started coming together shortly after the one-day actions in about 60 cities this summer.

"They understand they're not going to win from a one-day strike," Fells said of workers.

Still, organizers face an uphill battle in reshaping an industry that competes aggressively on low prices, a practice that has intensified as companies

including McDonald's Corp., Burger King Worldwide Inc. and Yum Brands Inc. face growing competition and slow growth in the weak economy.

Fast-food workers are also seen as difficult to unionize, given the industry's high turnover rates. But the Service Employees International Union, which represents more than 2 million workers in health care, janitorial and other industries, has been providing organizational and financial support to the push for higher pay over the past year.

Berlin Rosen, a political consulting and public relations firm based in New York City, has also been coordinating communications efforts and helping organizers connect with media outlets.

In the meantime, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., has promised a vote on the wage hike by the end of the year. But the measure is not expected to gain traction in the House, where Republican leaders oppose it.

Supporters of wage hikes have been successful at the state and local level. Last month, voters in New Jersey approved a hike in the minimum to \$8.25 an hour, up from \$7.25 an hour. California, New York, Connecticut and Rhode Island also raised their minimum wages this year.



The Perfect Rug FOR EVERY ROOM

Here at Griffin's you can shop an extensive selection of flooring to compliment every room in your home.

- Carpet
- Hardwood
- Tile
- Laminate
- Area Rugs

Ft. Worth Textured Plush Carpet
\$2.99
 per sq. ft. (installed with padding)

In Stock No Wax Vinyl
 12ft and 13ft wide
.99¢
 per sq. ft. (plus installation)

In Stock Oak Vinyl Plank
\$1.79
 per sq. ft. (plus installation)

Outdoor Carpet
.69¢
 per sq. ft.

In Stock Boat Carpet - Many Colors
 6ft and 8ft wide
.99¢
 per sq. ft.

In Stock Berber Carpet
.99¢
 per sq. ft. (plus installation and pad)

Family owned & operated since 1978

• Financing Available

Established 1974 **Griffin's** CARPET MART, INC.

Chamber of Commerce Member

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



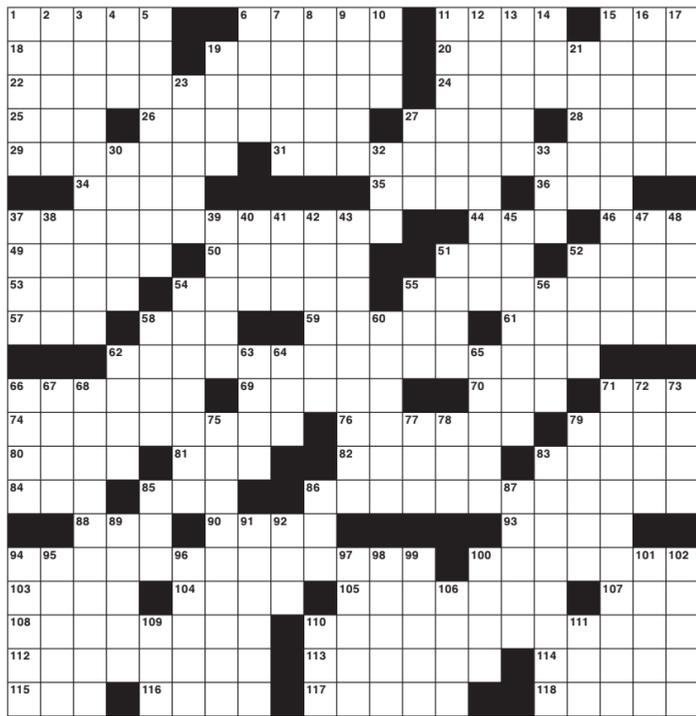
Courtesy Murray Close/MCT

Finnick Odair (Sam Claflin, left) and Katniss Everdeen (Jennifer Lawrence) in 'The Hunger Games: Catching Fire.'

Diversions/Puzzles

HITS & MS.ES

- ACROSS**
- 1 Parade organizer
 - 6 Fake
 - 11 One-named singer with the hit "Locked Up"
 - 15 Pat gently
 - 18 Recipe amount
 - 19 ___ mama (tropical drink)
 - 20 Belittling
 - 22 "Greetings, Ms. Retton!"
 - 24 Orwellian state
 - 25 Right angle
 - 26 Turkey isn't one
 - 27 One who's done the "I do's"
 - 28 "___ further review ..."
 - 29 Handle again?
 - 31 "Very nice, Ms. Kennedy!"
 - 34 Eight, for starters?
 - 35 March org.?
 - 36 Admiral's inits.
 - 37 "Hurry up, Ms. Brennan!"
 - 44 Little birdie
 - 46 3.0 or 4.0
 - 49 Like some queens
 - 50 Sports-league-backed cable network
 - 51 Market makeup: Abbr.
 - 52 Summer month in France
 - 53 Kind of cat
 - 54 Feature of Oz's Wicked Witch of the West
 - 55 "Cheer up, Ms. Teasdale!"
 - 57 Advanced deg.
 - 58 Bearded one
 - 59 Title character in an A. A. Milne play
 - 61 Person who holds property in trust
 - 62 "Am I the one, Ms. Andrews?"
 - 66 "Si!" at sea
 - 69 Shorties
 - 70 "Hurrah!"
 - 71 Scuba tank meas.
 - 74 "You look hot in a thong, Ms. Hawkins!"
- 76 Firenze's home
- 79 Bad mark
- 80 "___ off!"
- 81 German name part
- 82 Rock genre
- 83 Barbecue needs
- 84 Go off
- 85 Nothing special: Abbr.
- 86 "I need a hand, Ms. Fleming!"
- 88 N.R.C. forerunner
- 90 Classical "You too?"
- 93 Big ___ Conference
- 94 "Leave it alone, Ms. Zellweger!"
- 100 "Absolutely Fabulous" or "Father Ted"
- 103 Jai ___
- 104 First razor with a pivoting head
- 105 Yvonne with the 1978 #1 hit "If I Can't Have You"
- 107 Portuguese "she"
- 108 Pitcher Valenzuela
- 110 "Time to show your cards, Ms. Field!"
- 112 Pulled
- 113 TV's Ashley and Mary-Kate
- 114 Kate's TV partner
- 115 Maxime or Marie: Abbr.
- 116 Fury
- 117 Agemates
- 118 More Solomonic
- DOWN**
- 1 HBO host Bill
 - 2 Singer with the hit albums "19" and "21"
 - 3 Remember
 - 4 Designer inits.
 - 5 2,000 pounds
 - 6 Food source
 - 7 "Oh, now I see"
 - 8 1980s-'90s Corbin Bernsen TV drama
 - 9 Cuffed
 - 10 ___ de Nil (pale yellowish green)
 - 11 Hound
 - 12 Main cause
 - 13 Figure skating cham-



By GARY CEE

Solution on page B8

- pion Brian
- 14 Cavil
- 15 Bread flavorer
- 16 Par ___
- 17 "Moneyball" subject Billy
- 19 Urged
- 21 All ___ Day
- 23 Breakfast order
- 27 Global commerce grp. since 1995
- 30 Alpine climber's tool
- 32 Seaside eagle
- 33 No longer closeted
- 37 Not serious, in a way
- 38 Sushi fish
- 39 Cause of yawning
- 40 "Can ___ next?"
- 41 Port city from which Amelia Earhart last flew
- 42 Older form of a word
- 43 Always
- 45 La ___, Dominican Republic (first Spanish settlement in the Americas)
- 47 Whine
- 48 Suit to ___
- 51 Military wear, for short
- 52 Date for Denis
- 54 Away for a while
- 55 The "S" of R.S.V.P.
- 56 Matching
- 58 Blokes
- 60 Aqua, e.g.
- 62 Noisy birds
- 63 Fairies' land
- 64 Having a projected date of
- 65 Drapery material
- 66 Athlete who wrote "A Hard Road to Glory"
- 67 Juniors, e.g.
- 68 Egg choice
- 71 Botanists' microscopic study
- 72 Persuaded
- 73 "___ jungle out there"
- 75 Cutthroat
- 77 Sports org. supported by 66-Down
- 78 Beat it
- 79 Hype
- 83 Logging aid
- 85 Home theater brand
- 86 Aqua, e.g.
- 87 Broadcast as an encore
- 89 Barely managing, with "out"
- 91 Power in old Hollywood
- 92 Singsong syllable
- 94 Drifts
- 95 Northern native
- 96 Film fish
- 97 Football Hall-of-Fame coach Greasy
- 98 "Family Ties" mom
- 99 Black-berried tree
- 100 Gran Turismos and others
- 101 Dragon puppet
- 102 One-third of an old Hollywood trio
- 106 They carry charges
- 109 ___ Lingus
- 110 Cut
- 111 Rope-a-dope boxer

What to buy and not buy in December

It is hard to believe it is December and we only have 21 days until Christmas. The holiday season is 100 percent upon us. Every time you open the newspaper, sale ads tailored for the holidays pop out and if you brave the stores then you know everything is on sale, but a sale does not mean that it is the best time to buy. In December the items that will be at the deepest discount all year are toys, HDTVs and electronics, wedding dresses (really anything wedding related), home goods, tools and gift cards.



Savings Diva
Tanya Senseney

the dresses. Take advantage of this time and you will find your dress drastically reduced

- Tools: Men can be hard to shop for but in December you can feed your Do-It-Yourself addiction and save big on tools. You will

find the best deals on drills, screwdriver sets, Shop Vac's, saws and just about every tool.

- Home Goods (kitchen): Mom's wish list is always kitchen related (I love my kitchen and any tool that will help in the kitchen). In December, pots/pans, kitchen gadgets, mixers, Keurigs and just about anything kitchen related will save you big dollars in December.

- Gift Card Offers: Buy \$100 in gift cards, get a \$20 gift card free are examples of the hot gift card incentives you will find in December. Gift cards are versatile and make a great gift for anyone, and right now many retailers and restaurants are offering big discounts when you buy with them.

Contrary to popular beliefs, jewelry, linens, gym memberships and major appliances are not smart purchases in December. You will find better discounts on those later in the year.

- Toys: Actually the two weeks before Christmas are the best time to buy the hottest toys of the year. Black Friday and Cyber Monday are great for toy discounts, but now if you wait until Dec. 15 and beyond to get that hot toy, your checkbook will thank you.

- HDTVs and electronics: The newest models are out on display from the top brands, but your biggest discount if you did not buy on Black Friday will be on last year's models and lesser known brands for HDTVs and other electronics. You will save hundreds of dollars purchasing last year's models or looking at a lesser known model that is just as good as the big brands as reported by Consumer Reports.

What about tablets, laptops and digital cameras? In December you will see sales for all electronics, but this is not the month you will see the biggest discounts.

- Wedding dresses: If you are in the market for a wedding dress December is definitely the best time to buy your dress and bridesmaid dresses. Stores are anxious with anticipation for the after-Christmas/New Year's engagements and until then they need to move

to eat out, why not eat out and save \$10 too. They also make great gifts for co-workers, family and stocking stuffers.

Other items you will find deeply discounted this month are DVD's, CD's, Blu-ray movies, perfume and seasonal clothing.

Tanya Senseney has more than 16 years experience saving and teaching others how to reduce their monthly grocery budget and give back to the community. Her focus and passion is to teach others how to never go without. In addition to her workshops, Senseney is a syndicated columnist and radio show personality. Senseney travels the country to speak at numerous workshops and events to teach, enlighten and engage audiences large and small on how to shop for free. Contact her for more information at Tanya@DivineSavings.com or visit www.DivineSavings.com for more information.

Champion to exit ABC News for TWC

By FRAZIER MOORE
AP Television Writer
NEW YORK — "Good Morning America" weather anchor Sam Champion is leaving ABC News to join The Weather Channel.

Champion will anchor the network's new flagship morning show, which is set to debut in early 2014, The Weather Channel president David Clark said Monday.

Based at The Weather Channel headquarters in Atlanta, Champion will also assume managing editor responsibilities at the network.

"With his commitment to understanding, predicting and explaining the power of weather in our lives, Sam perfectly embodies The Weather Channel brand's philosophy, 'It's Amazing Out There,'" Clark said.

Champion called his new post "a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for me to do what I love most at a network that lives and breathes the weather."

His last day on "GMA" is Wednesday. He had been on that program since 2006, and joined ABC-owned local New York station WABC in 1988.

"For 25 years, Sam has been a vital member of the ABC News family," said ABC News president Ben Sherwood in announcing Champion's departure.

He said Champion's fellow meteorologist Ginger Zee will take over his weather responsibilities at "Good Morning America" and across the news division.

Woman in unhappy relationship should cut her losses and go

Dear Abby: I have been with my fiance since 2006. We expected to be married in 2008, but my grandmother died a month before my wedding, and then he was arrested because of charges stemming from a sexual relationship he'd had with a 17-year-old girl he had been counseling.

Since then, we have had a daughter, but through it all there has been cheating, drugs, jail, no job, and constant excuses about why our sex life no longer exists. We have also had physical altercations, which he was arrested for.

I am no longer happy with this relationship. The only reason I stay is because of our children. I'm only 33 and don't want to live my life in misery anymore, but I will sacrifice my happiness for my children. I am confused and don't know what to do. I'm just going through the motions in life. I work full time, coach my son's soccer team and am living with MS.

He does help somewhat, but it would be better if he would get a job. My mother watches my kids while I am working and after they get out of school. He claims because he doesn't have a driver's license he can't get a job. Really? How many people in this world don't drive and still have a job? Please give me some advice. I have reached my breaking point.

- *Doing The Best I Can*

Dear Doing The Best You Can: You say you are willing to sacrifice your happiness with this loser for your children. Why? You are not married to him,



Dear Abby

and he is emotionally neglectful, physically abusive and contributes nothing financially. Admit to yourself that the "romance" has been a mistake, and as soon as it's safe, get away from him. If he ever finds a job, the state will help you collect child support, but if he doesn't, you'll have one less mouth to feed.

Dear Abby: My mom insists on including my ex-husband and his wife at our family gatherings. I have told her repeatedly that it makes me very uncomfortable, but she even included them in the gift exchange last Christmas. What should I do? Not go?

My sister has already laid a guilt trip on me. Must I go and have Christmas with my ex like we're one big happy family? (If we had been happy, we would not have gotten divorced.) What are your thoughts on this?

- *Living in Dysfunction Junction*

Dear Living: If you and your ex were married for a long time, I can see why your mother might consider him still part of the family and want to include him.

However, out of consideration for your feelings, it should be on a limited basis - not every holiday. (Could she be trying to punish you because she blames you for

the divorce?)

Because it would make you uncomfortable and your mother knows it, make plans to do something you would enjoy - perhaps a trip out of town to be with friends or to a different climate. And please, don't feel guilty if you do - regardless of what your sister says.

Dear Abby: What do you say to your only son who can't even call to tell you he is getting married? He posted it on Facebook, and I was notified via a text from my sister.

Our relationship isn't the issue. He just doesn't seem to be able to use his phone for talking. Your thoughts?

- *Outside the Loop in Oregon*

Dear Outside the Loop: Because your son seems oblivious to the fact that news of this kind should be conveyed to the immediate family personally rather than in a "bulletin," explain to him how it made you feel to receive the news the way you did. He owes you an apology.

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. For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order 'How to Have a Lovely Wedding.' Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

SUDOKU

		9				8		
					2	3	4	
1			6					5
			2			7		
							3	4
				9	8			
	9	5		7	3			
6		3				9		
				4			6	

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

3	9	5	6	4	8	1	7	2
7	8	1	9	2	5	6	4	3
8	5	6	7	3	4	2	1	9
2	1	5	2	8	6	4	7	3
4	3	6	1	5	9	7	8	2
5	8	2	7	1	4	6	3	9
8	5	6	7	9	3	8	2	4
1	3	8	2	4	7	5	9	6
6	4	3	2	1	8	7	5	9
4	2	9	3	5	7	8	1	6

ANSWER:

What's Cooking



Chef's Corner

Tim Spain

Acorn squash is easy

Last week, Lauren and I went to Tennessee to visit my grandparents as well as my mother and step-father. While we were there we played some very cold golf and spent some time in the woods on my grandfather's land. It was the opening day of rifle season and it seemed like there was a lot of excitement in the area with everyone getting prepared for hunting season.

On Sunday, we had our family dinner, which served as our Thanksgiving because we had to come back home so I could come to work on Thanksgiving Day. Of course, I was doing the cooking and I was excited to prepare some venison that was harvested the day before.

I was given two venison tenderloins and I decided to encrust them with Parsilade, which is a mixture of parsley, garlic, and breadcrumbs, however the little country market that I was shopping at didn't carry fresh parsley. I wondered what I was going to substitute the parsley with. I noticed a bag of fresh turnip greens so I used them instead. It had great flavor and I believe I will use them from now on.

One of the sides I made was roasted acorn squash. They were nice and ripe and had an awesome bright orange color, both inside and out. Acorn squash are very easy to prepare. I just cut them in half, scoop out the seeds, put about 1/2 ounce of cold butter in them and drizzle them with fresh maple syrup, place them on a cookie sheet pan and roast them in the oven for about 45 minutes at 350 degrees.

When it came time to plate, I decided to stuff the squash with green beans and red onion for a nice presentation and I think all were pleased. I have included my simple recipe for acorn squash and hope you decide to make that one of your sides for your next holiday meal.

Cheers, Chef.

Roasted acorn squash

4 ripe acorn squash
1 stick of butter
2 ounces of maple syrup

1. Slice the squash in half and remove the seeds
2. Place them on a cookie sheet
3. Place 1/2 ounce of cold butter in them
4. Drizzle them with maple syrup
5. Season them with salt and pepper
6. Roast them in the oven at 350 for 45 minutes.

Tim Spain is System Executive Chef with Florida Hospital Heartland Medical Center and Morrison Healthcare Food Service. He can be reached by email at timmiSpain@iammorrison.com. Guest columns are the opinion of the writer, not necessarily those of the News-Sun staff.



HEALTHIER SWEETS FOR YOUR SWEETHEART

Family Features

It's easy to share in the fun of Valentine's Day by serving those you love sweet treats that are a healthier alternative to ordinary, heart-shaped confections.

Forget the expensive flowers, wines and chocolates. To really show you care, be a cupid and give your sweetie healthy, delicious treats that feature juicy watermelon. Naturally dressed in the holiday's hue of vibrant red, using this fabulous fruit in recipes adds color to the spread of any Valentine's Day party, whether large or intimate.

Mouthwatering watermelon treats

For an elegant, upscale treat, serve Watermelon Petit Fours, which feature sweet watermelon, candied almonds and is topped with your favorite decadent frosting. Get the kids in the kitchen with Watermelon Cupcakes for a new take on the beloved classic. Served with pineapple cream cheese frosting, kids will love helping you decorate these darling delights.

If you really want to make their hearts skip a beat, carve an adorable Lips and Love Basket. Fill it with all of your sweetie's favorite fruits for a fresh, flavorful display they'll devour in a heartbeat. Remember, nothing shows your love more than edible gifts crafted by hand. For more sweet ideas, visit www.watermelon.org.

Hearts love watermelon

Beyond adding color and variety to your family's diet, watermelon has other great benefits. Here are a couple of these heart-healthy reasons:

— Fresh watermelon is certified by the American Heart Association's Heart Checkmark program as being low in saturated fat and cholesterol.

— Watermelon is the primary source of an amino acid called citrulline found in fruits and vegetables. Citrulline can help maintain blood flow within the heart and cardiovascular function.

— Vitamin A: Known to enhance eye health and boost immunity by enhancing the infection-fighting actions of white blood cells.

— Vitamin B6: Helps the immune system produce antibodies which fight diseases.

— Vitamin C: Boosts the immune system's defenses against infections.



Watermelon Cupcakes

Yield: 8 servings
8 cupcake liners
8 cupcake shaped pieces of seedless watermelon
2 cups pineapple cream cheese frosting
Sprinkles for garnish

Place liners in 8-cup cupcake tin. Cut 3-inch-thick slices of seedless watermelon. Cut round cupcake-sized pieces from slices. Put watermelon cupcake in each liner. Place dollop of frosting on each cupcake. Decorate as desired with sprinkles.

Watermelon Petit Fours

Yield: 12 servings
12 (3-inch) cubes of seedless watermelon
3/4 cup frosting
12 candied almonds
Sugar in the Raw, for sprinkling

Arrange watermelon cubes on serving platter. Place frosting in zipper bag and trim off bit of one bottom corner. Decoratively pipe frosting onto each watermelon cube. Place almond at top of frosting on each petit four. Sprinkle with raw sugar and serve immediately.

Lips and Love Basket

1 to 2 long, oval-shaped seedless watermelons

Cutting board

Green dry erase marker

Kitchen and paring knives

Melon baller

Assorted cookie cutters (X, O and heart shapes), if desired

Wooden skewers

Toothpicks

Strawberries

Fruits to make fruit salad filling

Large bowl and spoon

Wash watermelon under cool running water and pat dry. On cutting board, place watermelon on its side and cut off 1/4 to 1/2 inch from stem end being careful not to cut too deep into white part of rind to provide sturdy base.

With marker, draw scalloped line around width of middle of watermelon. Use paring knife to cut along marker line, then separate the two halves. Use melon baller to scoop out watermelon for your base.

Cut top half of watermelon in half and use dry erase marker to draw large set of lips on one half. Use paring knife to cut out lips. Once you have general shape, carefully carve away rind. Use paring knife to shape lips into more finished look.

Cut remaining 1/4-inch-thick slices and cut hearts, X's, O's or other shapes, discarding rind.

Attach lips to top of base using wooden skewers and toothpicks.

Slice strawberries lengthwise into 1/4-inch slices, keeping strawberry tops on for decoration, if desired. Attach slice of strawberry with green top to center of each scallop using toothpick. Use rest of strawberry slices in fruit salad for fruit bowl.

Place fruit bowl on serving platter, fill with fruit salad and garnish with slices of fruit cut into hearts, X's and O's, if desired.