



NEWS-SUN

Highlands County's Hometown Newspaper Since 1927 **75¢**



County teams battle for Dixie bragging rights **A9**



Roberts museum in downtown Avon Park back on the radar **A4**

Family disputes claims about Hodge

Say man who shot up neighborhood with AK-47 and was killed by a deputy March 9 was not 'demon possessed'

BY PHIL ATTINGER
Staff Writer

SEBRING — The family of Floyd Hodge Jr. disputes claims that he was "demon possessed" prior to a March 9 shooting incident, as well as reports he had to be shot to be subdued.

"It hurts me to (hear peo-

'They shot someone who needed help.'

Floyd Hodge Sr.

ple) say he was anything but normal," said his grandmother, Eva Johns, 71, of Avon Park.

She said he smoked, drove fast and loved guns, and

from what she knew, he had hoped to relocate to Kentucky, but "never did get to make that jump."

Her son, Floyd Hodge Sr., said his only son was a peaceful man who believed in God and was never "devil possessed."

SEE HODGE | **A7**



Phil Attinger/News-Sun

Sheriff Susan Benton (left) speaks with family members of Floyd Gene Hodge Jr., who was shot and killed by a deputy March 9. His wife, Lisa Hodge (second from right, holding a Bible), said her husband 'had demons.'

Election qualifying brings no surprises

Richie, Elwell unopposed for county commission

BY BARRY FOSTER
News-Sun Correspondent

SEBRING — Highlands County Supervisor of Elections Penny Ogg said last week's candidate qualifying went pretty much as planned.

"There were no surprise candidates. Everybody that pre-qualified has qualified," she said.

Some of the races already have been decided, as candidates drew no opposition.

In August, voters will have their chance to decide a pair of Highlands County School Board races

District One hopefuls include Charlene Edwards, Aljoe Hinson and incumbent Ronnie Jackson.

District Five candidates will include Clinton Culverhouse, Jill Compton, William "Pep" Hutchinson, Trevor Murphy and William "Tres" Stephenson. They are in the running

SEE BALLOT | **A6**



Katara Simmons/News-Sun

Kyle Arjona of Xclusive Detailing scrubs the front of an SUV Thursday morning in Sebring.

Searching for a spot

Avon Park, car washers discussing code that keeps them from setting up stationary shop

BY PHIL ATTINGER
Staff Writer

AVON PARK — Mobile car washes who make a name for themselves sometimes want to settle down to a specific location and have driv-

ers come to them.

It's happened at the Sebring Citgo Station at U.S. 27 and Golfview Road, under a metal pole and aluminum overhang at the corner of the property. Another business that is mobile most of

the week wants to set up in Avon Park.

Calvin Arjona of Xclusive Detailing said he and business partner Nicholas Caruso go to their customers

SEE WASH | **A8**

Driver in fatal crash suspected of trying to torch home

BY PHIL ATTINGER
Staff Writer

SEBRING — Another source of answers to what happened on Jan. 4 when two pedestrians and a motorist died in Sebring gives some clues.

It stated that the home of Gregory Tocci, 54, at 3905 Lexus St. in Sebring had apparently been set on fire in eight different locations — two of which tested positive for gasoline — according to an investigation by Jeffrey Batz, detective with the Division of the State Fire Marshal, Bureau of Fire & Arson Investigations.

Batz stated that Tocci was the most likely suspect, given that he was the only one living there, that he had left to purchase gasoline at a nearby store, and was on his way back when his truck hit four pedestrians, killing two,

SEE DRIVER | **A6**

Lockett Estate may get surplus

BY BARRY FOSTER
News-Sun Correspondent

SEBRING — Officials of the South Florida Water Management District say the Edna Pearce Lockett Estate is on a list of about

20,000 acres managed by the district that now are under review and may be put up for sale as surplus.

"It's being considered for surplus based on our assessment last year, but we're still in the process of

doing our due diligence on it," said Land Assessment Section Leader Ray Palmer from his office in West Palm Beach.

Palmer said it could be

SEE ESTATE | **A8**

VOL. 95
NO. 71



Regular summer pattern holds
High 92 Low 72
Details on B14



Business **A9**
Classified **B9**
Dear Abby **B2**

Horoscope **B2**
Obituaries **A6**
Lottery Numbers **A2**

Puzzles **B2**
Religion **B6**
Viewpoints **A5**

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SNAPSHOTS
LOCAL NEWS

Elks Day at Tampa Rays game

SEBRING — Tickets are now on sale for Elks Day with the Tampa Bay Rays vs. Baltimore Orioles on Sunday, Sept. 7. This seventh annual Florida Elks fundraiser is open to all members and guests.

Cost is \$50 and includes transportation and ticket. From each tickets, \$5 will go to support the Harry-Anna Fund. Everyone participating will receive a free Rays/Elks tote bag. Call Angie Warchak at (863) 472-2150.

Scribblers and Scribes get writing prompt

SEBRING — Florida Writer's Association Scribblers and Scribes will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 2 at Beef O' Brady's in Sebring. Writing and publishing is the main focus of the monthly meetings.

This month, group leader Barbara Beswick will discuss character flaws and introduce a writing prompt.

The public is invited and membership in Scribblers or FWA is not required although applications are available. Call Beswick at (863) 402-9181.

Lake Placid Grief Support Group meets

LAKE PLACID — Balmoral Assisted Living and Cornerstone Hospice Grief Support Group is facilitated by a trained counselor who understands the grieving process and will help on the journey of grief recovery and rebuilding your life. Do not grieve alone.

These group encounters are offered at no cost to Lake Placid residents. Individual grief support is also provided at no cost for those who prefer one-on-one counseling.

The group meets beginning in June 2014 and will be offered weekly from 2:30-3:30 p.m. at Balmoral Assisted Living, 93 Balmoral Drive. Call (863) 382-4563.

Healing Hearts Grief Support Group meets

SEBRING — The Palms of Sebring and Cornerstone Hospice will host a Healing Hearts Grief Support Group for adults. It will be facilitated by a trained counselor who understands the grieving process and will help on the journey of grief recovery and rebuilding your life.

These group encounters are offered at no cost to Sebring residents. Individual grief



Juneteenth celebration in Sebring

Katara Simmons/News-Sun

John Mitchell (above) barbecues ribs and chicke, while Taz Kennedy, 8, of Kissimmee plays catch (right) Saturday during the Juneteenth Festival in Sebring. The family fun festival is presented by the Florida Sportsman's Association and the new Washington Heights Concerned Citizens. The event is intended to bring together the county's diverse population in one location.



support is also provided at no cost for those who prefer one-on-one counseling.

The group meets weekly from 2:30-3:30 p.m. Thursday at Palms of Sebring, 725 S. Pine St. Call Julia Mercer at Palms of Sebring, (863) 385-0161, or Sam Gray, Cornerstone Hospice, (863) 382-4563.

Reynolds signs books at Cow Pie's

LAKE PLACID — Local author Anne Nichols Reynolds will be conducting a book signing of her recently released novel, "Winter Harvest", at Cow Pie's Country Store and Creamery at 1 p.m. Wednesday. The address is 212 County Road 621 East, Lake Placid.

Highlands Hammock seeks volunteers

SEBRING — Highlands Hammock State Park is seeking volunteers for the following:

- Custodian for the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Museum. Duties include cleaning restrooms, vacuuming carpet, and hosting visitors.
- Volunteer experienced with zero-turn mowers to assist with mowing.
- Sebring residents to open and close Seven Lakes.
- Lake Placid residents to open and close Lake June-in-Winter Scrub State Park. Opportunities to assist with trail and facility maintenance are also available.
- Handyman to maintain and repair rental bicycles;

■ Seven Lakes water quality monitor with lightweight kayak or portable boat.

■ Volunteers / bird-writers to assist with Jay Watch, Florida Scrub-jay monitoring, in the mornings during the week of July 7- July 12, 2014 at Highlands Hammock, Seven Lakes and Lake June-in-Winter Scrub State Park.
Call 471- 5324..

EHEAP funds available

SEBRING — Nu-Hope Elder Care Services Inc. announces availability of funds for assistance through the Emergency Home Energy Assistance for the Elderly Program (EHEAP). Through EHEAP, an applicant may receive assistance with paying past due

energy bills, obtaining adequate cooling or heating equipment or resolving other cooling-related energy crisis. To qualify for this program, the household must:

- Contain a person aged 60 years of age or older.
 - Be responsible for paying for their cooling/heating costs.
 - Have an income not exceeding 150 percent of the Federal Poverty guidelines.
 - Have a past due power bill or lack of access to an adequate means of heating or cooling.
 - Documented proof of Social Security numbers for all members of the family.
- For assistance, contact Nu-Hope Elder Care Services at (863) 382-2134 for an appointment. Applicnats

must bring a copy of their past due power bill, identification and proof of income for all household members to their appointment.

KLC urges early registration for students

SEBRING — If you reside within the Cracker Trail, Fred Wild, or Woodlawn Elementary school zones, your child will be attending kindergarten at the Kindergarten Learning Center.

Early registration is now open and encouraged to ensure you receive valuable information regarding the KLC, including the date and time of orientation. The school's office will remain open throughout the summer from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Please stop by at your earliest convenience to pick up a registration packet. The school strongly encourages completed student registrations to be returned by Aug. 1.

All students entering kindergarten for the 2014-15 school year must turn 5 on or before Sept. 1, 2014. No exceptions. Call 314-5281.

Caladium Co-op to close for renovations

LAKE PLACID — The Caladium Arts and Crafts Co operative will be closing for its annual renovation on June 28 at 5 p.m. and will open on July 15 with a fresh new face, new items and new artists.

The Caladium Arts & Crafts Cooperative is at 132 E. Interlake Blvd.

Bunco at Shrine Club Tuesday

AVON PARK — The public is invited to play Bunco at the Highlands Shrine Club, 2604 SR 17 South at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday. Cost is \$4 per person. Call (863) 991-1298 for information.

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CASH 3
Wednesday, June 18
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Thursday, June 19
Day: 0-4-3 Night: 3-2-9
Friday, June 20
Day: 7-3-5 Night: 7-8-2

PLAY 4
Wednesday, June 18
Day: 9-3-9-5 Night: 8-1-2-0
Thursday, June 19
Day: 4-3-3-7 Night: 2-7-0-9
Friday, June 20
Day: 1-2-7-8 Night: 7-2-4-4

FANTASY 5
Wednesday, June 18
1-18-19-21-30
Thursday, June 19
1-11-18-28-33
Friday, June 20
15-22-25-28-32

LOTTO
Wednesday, June 18
10-15-21-25-26-36 x4
Saturday's Jackpot:
\$10 million

POWERBALL
Wednesday, June 18
6-9-29-52-59 PB-7 X-3
Saturday's Jackpot:
\$60 million

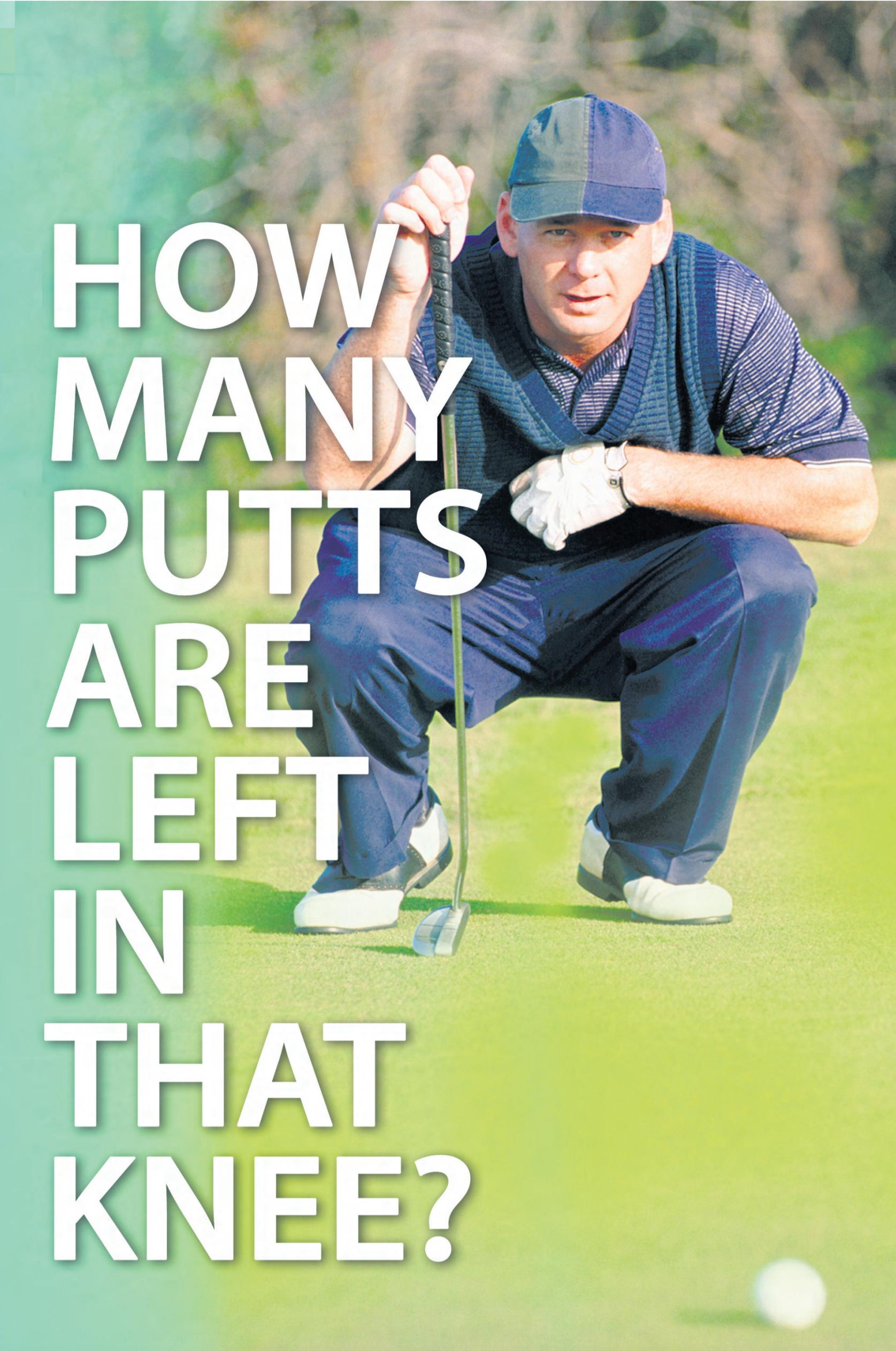
MEGA MONEY
Friday, June 20
6-10-12-43 PB-17
Today's Jackpot: \$2 million

MEGA MILLIONS
Friday, June 20
1-22-25-29-56 PB-3 X-5
Today's Jackpot: \$25 million

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**FLORIDA HOSPITAL
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Peter Powell Roberts Museum up for vote again

BY PHIL ATTINGER
Staff Writer

AVON PARK — The Community Redevelopment Agency on Monday will once again consider whether or not to have a museum in the Avon Park Community Center.

It was turned down by the Avon Park City Council in February. At the time, council members said they liked the concept, but in a 3-2 vote decided against having a museum in the top floor of the community center dedicated to the work of Peter Powell Roberts, recently-deceased Florida artist who had willed his entire collection to the Heartland Cultural Alliance.

It would have meant spending \$35,000 in Main Street CRA district funds toward renovations of the community center.

The museum is back on the agenda for the CRA Board — which is the city council — this Monday.

Administrative Services Director and acting City Clerk Maria Sutherland said Friday that the matter was presented to the Main Street CRA Advisory Board this month with a new concept, which advisory board members approved.

Instead of having a space dedicated specifically for the museum, Heartland Cultural Alliance President Fred Leavitt is proposing to operate the museum in alignment with downtown merchants, city events and



News-Sun file photos

Fred Leavitt (right), shown here talking with Peter Powell Roberts in December of 2013, has been trying to convince Avon Park officials to back a museum featuring Powell's work in the downtown Community Center. The issue will be discussed by the CRA board on Monday. Below is "Inside Out," a painting by Roberts.



the Avon Park Depot Museum.

Roberts' work, valued at

more than \$300,000, would occupy about 30 percent of the proposed gallery space,

with the remaining space dedicated to local artists, craftsmen and visiting artists. The museum would also feature a gift shop, selling artists' works on consignment.

The Highlands County Tourist Development Council has dedicated \$105,000 in the 2014-2015 fiscal year — and a similar amount the following year — to market Highlands County as a culture and arts destination, with the Roberts collection being one of the major draws, Leavitt said in a proposal to the CRA Board.

Leavitt is projecting that annual revenue from sales tax for the first three years would be \$22,365, jumping

to \$152,292 in the fourth year. The museum would also create 3.5 full-time jobs in the first year, with more jobs as more projects are added onto the museum, the proposal states.

He also said tour buses have already been arranged which could bring people to Avon Park to see the museum, when it's done. Leavitt has said that tourism would fill Avon Park Main Street storefronts with customers for new businesses.

He said he hasn't included sales tax revenue from increased local business in his projections.

A sticking point over his last proposal to elected officials was whether or not they could get contractors to bid comparable materials and work so they could make an informed decision on renovations.

There were also questions of what priority the community center should have for renovations when other city facilities need repairs.

The CRA Board meeting will be at 5 p.m. in council chambers at 123 E. Pine St., Avon Park, followed by the Avon Park City Council meeting at 6 p.m.

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ANOTHER VIEW

Texas takes a big step back on gay rights

Despite some recent progress made on gay rights, the Texas Republican Party took a giant leap backward earlier this month by endorsing so-called "reparative therapy."

At its annual state convention June 7, roughly 7,000 delegates supported psychological treatments that try to "turn" gay people straight, at the urging of a tea party group called the Texas Eagle Forum, according to The Associated Press.

It was just last year that New Jersey's Republican Gov. Chris Christie signed a bill into law banning the "therapy" for minors in the state; California also has a similar law.

At the time, the Journal Tribune Editorial Board heralded the signing of the law by a Republican governor as a major victory, but the Texas GOP's decision shows just how deeply rooted the stereotypes and prejudice are in some people, especially in certain areas of this country.

Texas Republicans are likely to be poorly received by this action, even by members of their own party, and may alienate young Republicans who believe one's personal life should not be dictated by the government.

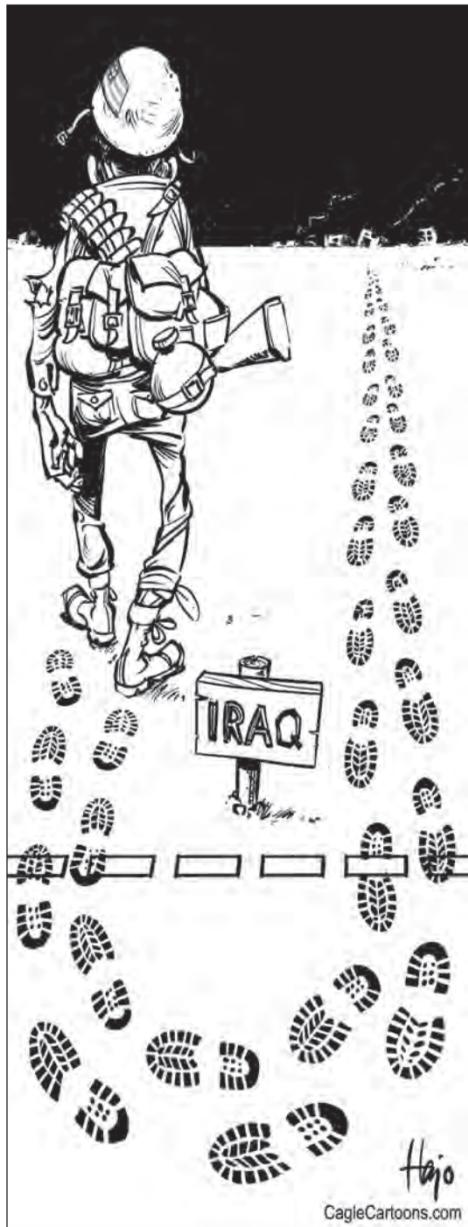
At the Texas convention, Rudy Oeftering, who is vice president of the gay conservative group Metroplex Republicans, said it's only a small group that wants to "keep the party in the past." But that's not clear from the vote, especially since the new anti-gay language the GOP adopted never even came up for debate at the event.

Although Oeftering and others had lined up to speak against the therapy language, they never got to address delegates, because a parliamentary motion to approve the full platform was called first, according to the AP.

Oeftering was right when he said "the only way the party can go into the future is to start listening to young people, to start listening to people who have gay family members."

But it doesn't seem like the party — at least in Texas — wants to move forward.

An editorial from the Biddeford, Maine, Journal Tribune.



Strange but true news update

As readers of this column know, I sometimes like to delve into the strange news out there and share it with you. I do this for a number of reasons. Not only does it amuse me to see the stuff that really goes on in the real world, it gives me comfort to know that however strange I might be, there are those out there who are even stranger. My hope is you have the same reaction to the stories below.

Our first tale comes to us off the www.11alive.com website, which apparently belongs to an Atlanta, Georgia NBC affiliate. The story tells of a 25-year-old New Zealand woman who was experiencing painful cramps. Doctors determined after a number of tests that she needed to have her ovaries removed, and her surgery was scheduled in November of last year.

Imagine the doctor's surprise when they discovered that despite all tests to the contrary that Rebecca Oldham was 32 weeks pregnant. Instead of taking the woman's ovaries, the performed an emergency caesarean section to deliver the 9-pound baby boy.

In everyone's defense, the baby apparently managed to evade three scans, two blood tests and six pregnancy tests. The cramping Oldham was experiencing was probably because the baby was "snugly lodged along her back."

LAURA'S LOOK

Laura Ware

This is not Oldham's first pregnancy. She reportedly had a 20-month old girl at the time her son was born. She claims she had no idea she was pregnant, and is looking forward to the results of the hospital's investigation into the matter.

The article concludes that statistics for women not knowing they were pregnant for so long range from 1 in 500 to 1 in 7,000.

Color me suspicious. I've been pregnant twice, with symptoms that made it kind of obvious. Did she not experience a twinge of morning sickness? Fatigue? Suddenly not being able to see her feet? Weird cravings? I am baffled at how any woman can be so clueless about her own body.

Maybe I shouldn't say that. Some would call me clueless about my own body, given that it's obvious that I need to lose weight. Rest assured that I am aware of the fact and trying to work on it, though apparently there is at least one advantage to being grossly overweight.

As evidence I cite a story on apnews.myway.com, which takes us to Deltona and a 450-pound man by the name of Christopher Mitchell. According to the article, Mitchell was a passenger in a car that was pulled over because he

wasn't wearing a seat belt.

Mitchell explained to the Volusia County deputy that he was too big to wear a seatbelt. Because Mitchell and the driver appeared nervous, the deputy requested a drug-detecting dog to be brought in. The dog detected drugs in the car.

The drugs were apparently found on Mitchell, hidden under his "stomach fat." I am not kidding. According to the story, he managed to stuff cocaine and 23 grams of marijuana in there.

So of course I ask myself, "Self, what else could you hide under stomach fat?" I also wondered, though I weigh a lot less than 450 pounds, what could I possibly smuggle under my stomach fat? A pencil? Tube of lipstick? It sends my little writer brain into all sorts of directions. There is a story in here somewhere.

However, let me hasten to say that the disadvantages of being so overweight far outweigh (pun intended) the advantages of being able to hide something on your person. So suck it up, lose that stubborn belly fat! Who knows what might be hidden in there?

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

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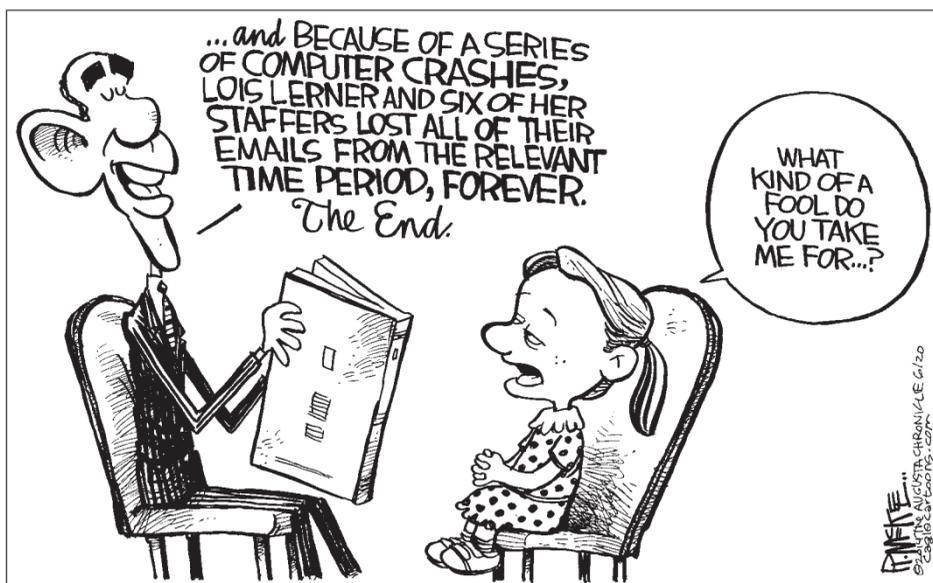
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Katara Simmons/News-Sun file photo

Holly Fadely, 62, and Allen Wilson, 60, residents of Fairmount Mobile Estates, died after a speeding truck hit them and two other pedestrians on Seattle Avenue. Driver Gregory Tocci, 54, of Sebring, died Jan. 7.

DRIVER

FROM PAGE A1

and then rammed a steel-reinforced concrete utility pole.

Tocci died the next day from injuries received in a wreck when he was removed from life support at Lakeland Regional Medical Center.

In his report, Batz said he did not know whether or not Tocci intentionally drove his truck into the pole to take his own life. A Florida Highway Patrol investigation said Tocci's Ford Ranger pickup did not slow down before hitting either the pedestrians or the pole.

The pedestrians killed were Holly S. Fadely, 62, of 3329 Illinois Ave. and Allen R. Wilson, 60, of 3338 Illinois Ave. Holly's husband, 62-year-old William Ross Fadely and neighbor James Amos, 73, of 3511 Delaware Ave. survived with critical injuries.

Tocci had just come from a nearby gas station where he bought two gallons of gasoline, which he was transporting in a red

gas container in the cab of his truck, FHP reported. He seemed to be headed home, according to FHP Traffic Fatality Investigator Cpl. Ronnie Highsmith.

When Highsmith went to Tocci's house to find family members to inform about the wreck, he smelled smoke and then notified the West Sebring Volunteer Fire Department after seeing burned areas on the outside of the single-story masonry house.

Batz said the fire department forced their way in through the front door and found several spots burning separate from each other. They put out the fires and called the Highlands County Sheriff's Office and the Fire Marshal's Office.

When he arrived, Batz found a burned round door mat sitting in the driveway, just outside the front door. Inside, Batz found burn marks immediately inside the front door, which matched the burned door mat.

The floors, he stated, was an unfinished concrete floor with throw rugs throughout

the house.

He also found burn markings near the rear door and kitchen table — which had left burn marks on the outside — on the concrete living room floor, on a throw rug in another part of the living room, on a throw rug in the hallway, on the foot of a twin-size bed in the only sleeping space, and on two separate cardboard boxes in a room used as a workshop.

All of the fire locations were separated with no burning between them and had no sources of accidental ignition in them, Batz reported. Based on that, he determined that the source of the fires was intentional heat or flame.

While investigating the fire, Batz also discovered a handwritten will, dated July 29, 2012, in which Tocci have left all his possessions to his sister upon his death. With the document was a letter giving instructions not to attempt to revive him, if found, and asking for him to be cremated and the ashes buried in Massachusetts.

Qualifying for state elections wraps up

Associated Press

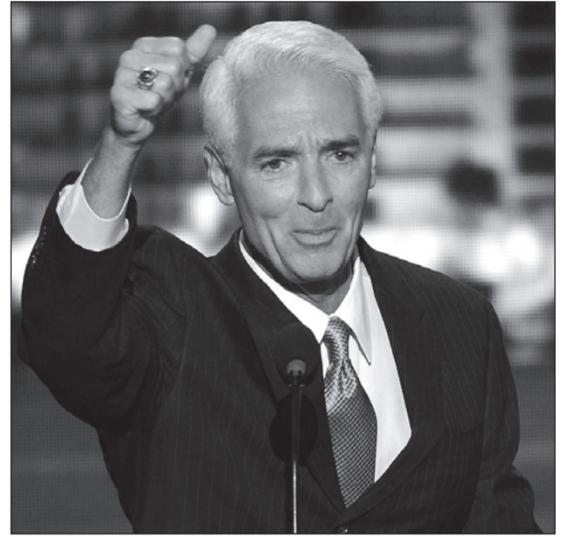
TALLAHASSEE — Dozens of state legislators earned new terms in office as Florida's qualifying period for the 2014 election ended Friday.

Top state officials, including Gov. Rick Scott, weren't as fortunate.

Scott has to confront two relative unknowns in the Republican primary, while former Gov. Charlie Crist will run against former state Sen. Nan Rich in the Democratic primary. The primary is Aug. 26. The general election is Nov. 4.

State Rep. Perry Thurston, D-Fort Lauderdale, qualified in the race for attorney general on Friday. Thurston will square off against George Sheldon, a former head of the state's child welfare agency, in the primary. The winner will face incumbent Pam Bondi.

Agriculture Commissioner Adam Putnam also drew a Democratic



MCT

Former Gov. Charlie Crist will run against former state Sen. Nan Rich in the Democratic primary Aug. 26.

opponent. Thad Hamilton challenged Putnam in 2010 but he ran that time as an independent.

Chief Financial Officer Jeff Atwater is being challenged by Democrat Will Rankin.

Eight state senators — or nearly one-quarter of the Florida Senate — were re-elected without opposition. Nearly one-third of the members in the Florida House also earned new

two-year terms since no one qualified to run against them.

One state House district did not have any candidates qualify. That's because incumbent Rep. Reggie Fullwood, D-Jacksonville, did not properly turn in his qualifying paperwork.

This will require the state to set a new qualifying period for the

BALLOT

FROM PAGE A1

for the seat vacated by Andy Tuck, who took a post on the State Board of Education.

District Four incumbent William Brantley reportedly is unopposed.

Also unopposed are Highlands County Commissioners Don Elwell and Jack Richie. They will be returned to their four-year terms without having to run campaigns. Both were to have been on the November general election ballot.

There are two seats open on the Highlands County Soil and Water Conservation District. Candidates

there include incumbent Pamela Fentress and candidate Scott Kirouac. He apparently has filed for the seat being vacated by former board member Ida Jackson.

Also on the primary ballot of interest to local voters will be an update of the Infrastructure Surtax, also known as the extra penny on the dollar sales tax.

County commissioners voted last week to include that referendum so voters could decide whether to extend the levy for another 15 years.

On the general election ballot, voters will have an opportunity to cast a ballot on whether or not to add a half-cent sales tax for schools.

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OBITUARIES

GEORGE STOLL

Mr. George Stoll, age 72, of Grand Rapids, Mich., and Avon Park, went to be with the Lord on June 11, 2014. He was preceded in death by his parents, Kenneth and Charlotte Stoll and his brother Dean Beaubien.

He will be deeply missed by his family and is survived by his wife, Cheryl, his children, Stacy (Troy) Reehl of Grand Rapids, Steve Stoll of Grand Rapids and his very special grandchildren: Jalyn, Riley, and Kendl Stoll, William, Bria, and Tana Reehl. He is also survived by his mother, Myrtle Stoll and his brother, Jerry Beaubien.

He retired after 29 years from the Department of Justice as a special agent. He enjoyed spending quality time with his family and friends whether it be on the golf course, at a Uni-

versity of Michigan Sporting event, or sharing a meal at one of his MANY favorite restaurants.

Visitation is being held on Tuesday, June 24 from 2-4 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. (Rosary at 8:30 p.m.) at Arsulowicz Brothers Remembrance Mortuary, 3525 Remembrance Rd. in

Grand Rapids. A Memorial Mass will be 11 a.m. on Wednesday, June 25 at St. Anthony's of Padua Catholic Church, 2510 Richmond NW in Grand Rapids, where the family will receive visitors one hour prior.

Because of his great love for his church, in lieu of flowers please consider donating to St. Anthony's of Padua Education Foundation.

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HODGE

FROM PAGE A1

“He was a nice son. I never had an ounce of trouble with him. He never disobeyed me,” said Hodge Sr. on the phone from Kentucky. “They shot someone who needed help.”

He was probably dealing with withdrawal symptoms or side-effects from his prescriptions, he said.

Hodge Jr., 31, shot at neighbors houses and then at Highlands County Sheriff’s deputies in the early morning hours of March 9, 2014. Sheriff’s Sgt. John Singha shot and killed him after arriving on the scene at 215 Plantation Drive in Sebring.

An administrative review, completed and released last week by the Sheriff’s Office Internal Affairs Division, determined Singha took appropriate action under Sheriff’s Office policy that foggy morning.

Deputies first arrived at 4:45 a.m. in response to several 911 calls. One call was from 34-year-old Lisa Elaine Hodge, who had secured herself in another house on the property, several dozen yards away from where her husband was standing.

She told dispatchers her husband, Hodge Jr., was “demon possessed” and asked them not to hurt him.

Hodge Sr. took exception to her statement and said he spoke to his son the night before the shooting.

“He was seeing things that weren’t there. He needed to be back on his medication,” Hodge Sr. said. “I told him ‘Don’t go outside.’”

He said his son had stopped taking a medication he needed to wean himself from gradually. He said the doctor and his son’s wife should have noticed the side effects.

Hodge Sr. said he spoke on the phone with Lisa Hodge that night, and asked her to keep his son inside, away from police, and to call his ex-wife. Lisa Hodge texted her husband’s mother that night, reports said.

Hodge Sr. asked why deputies couldn’t have sent in a K-9 to subdue his son, especially since his son hadn’t actually shot anyone. He said his son couldn’t see well at night, wore thick glasses and likely didn’t hear deputies’ orders to drop the weapon over the sounds of gunfire.

He lamented that he couldn’t have been there himself.

“I would have walked up and tried to take the gun from him,” Hodge Sr. said. “There are things that don’t add up.”

Sheriff Susan Benton, speaking on the phone from Texas, said that the State Attorney’s Office will rule on whether the shooting was jus-



Phil Attinger/News-Sun

Highlands County Sheriff’s detectives and crime scene investigators work the scene on March 9 at 215 Plantation Drive in Sebring after Floyd Gene Hodge Jr., 31, fired on neighbors homes from his yard and then on sheriff’s vehicles before being shot and killed by a deputy. The patrol car by the suspect’s house (background) arrived there when he reportedly seized it and drove it there during the incident.

‘We’re sorry this happened, but given what was going on and the circumstances, our deputies did the right thing to protect ourselves and the public’

*Susan Benton
sheriff*

tified, but according to agency policy and the situation, her deputies did the only thing they could.

“We’re sorry this happened, but given what was going on and the circumstances, our deputies did the right thing to protect ourselves and the public,” Benton said.

She said deputies don’t go to work every day looking for such incidents, but did what they had to do.

“I don’t know that they had any other choice,” she said.

Benton said she didn’t know if a K-9 officer was available at 4:30 a.m. March 9, but the agency doesn’t have enough K-9s to have one on duty at all hours. She said deputies had an active shooter — not someone in a house or the aftermath of an incident — and had to use what was available.

“They couldn’t wait to call a dog,” Benton said. Even if one had been on duty, “it was not likely to be close by,” she said.

Benton said the mother has brought up questions of whether or not deputies tried to give first aid after Hodge Jr. was shot. According to the administrative report, deputies did call in Emergency Medical Services once they had the scene secure. However, Hodge Jr. was already dead.

“I would take his place in the grave to let him talk (for himself),” Hodge Sr. said.

Hodge Sr. was unable to be there that night or attend his son’s funeral. Aside from the distance, he didn’t want to see the damage to his son’s body or risk being arrested on an outstanding warrant for beating a suspected gang member in Polk County.

Benton said deputies didn’t learn of the warrants until after the shooting.

Hodge Sr. also suggested deputies may

have confused his son with him, given their similar names. Singha had actually gone to the wrong location at first because of identical street names, he said.

When asked about possible misidentification, Benton said there was no possibility of that: “Absolutely not.”

Johns said she had gotten wind of Hodge Jr. being on drugs and called Lisa Hodge to talk about it. She hadn’t seen evidence of it herself.

“I didn’t see anything that told me Little Floyd was wiggling out,” Johns said. “He was always calm.”

She figured something was wrong because Hodge Jr. often would visit with his aunt from night until morning.

When she’s seen something not right, she’s called law enforcement, Johns said. If she had seen any



Phil Attinger/News-Sun

This wall was marked by approximately two dozen holes where bullets from an AK-47 riddled the house next door to 215 Plantation Drive in Sebring. The gunman — 31-year-old Floyd Gene Hodge Jr. — was shot and killed after he turned his gun on deputies sent to the scene on March 9. Sheriff Susan Benton said some bullets missed people in their beds by inches, including children in this house.

signs of drugs, Johns said she would have had him committed under the Marchman Act.

She knows that Lisa Hodge took him to a Pentecostal church one night before the shooting.

“He went downhill after that,” Johns said. “I hope he got right with the Lord.”

For now, she’s praying that healing will come to the family.

“I am taking it hard,” Hodge Sr. said. “My son was supposed to be here (in Kentucky). He died within feet of the ‘For Sale’ sign at the house.”

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Katara Simmons/News-Sun

Brothers Calvin and Kyle Arjona of Xclusive Detailing wash an SUV Thursday along Ridgewood Drive in Sebring. The brothers have approached the Avon Park Planning & Zoning Board to open a car wash location in the Sunoco gas station parking lot on U.S. 27 in Avon Park, but were told to come back July 8 to discuss it.

WASH FROM PAGE A1

from Monday through Wednesday, but they want to be stationary Thursday through Saturday.

They were operating at the former BP gas station at Memorial Drive and Cornell Street.

They got permission from the man who owns and runs the convenience store, but Avon Park Code Enforcement didn't agree.

Arjona and Caruso met June 10 with the Avon Park Planning & Zoning Board to see if there was a way that they could set up a professional car washing service in a new location: Sunoco gas station at U.S. 27 and Hal McRae Boulevard.

Caruso said they want to operate similar to the car washing businesses at the Citgo stations in Sebring and Lake Placid.

"Better than that," Arjona said.

They have another meeting on July 8 with the Zoning Board and other city officials to see how or if they could amend the code to accommodate such a business.

"We want to work it out," said Board Chairman Roger Gurganus. "Needless to say, there's a certain amount of bureaucracy we have to work out."

Concerns raised by the board included whether or not a fire truck would be able to get into the parking lot if there were a fire and whether or not customers would be able to maneuver through the parking lot.

Administrative Services Director and acting City Clerk Maria Sutherland said it depends on what city code will allow.

Jeff Schmucker, planner with the Central Florida Regional Planning Council, said city code prescribes an enclosed structure.

If the city wants to have aluminum shelter car washes, he said he would like to talk with the Southwest Florida Water Management District and the Avon Park Fire Department.

Sutherland said that Jennifer Codo-Salisbury, CFRPC planning and administration director, could itemize the inconsistencies in the code and bring those to the July 8 meeting.

Arjona said he has seen people getting away with washing cars in the middle of the street, and when he and Caruso operated their location at Memorial and Cornell, they had six Avon Park City Hall employees come to get their cars washed as well as Highlands County Sheriff's deputies, who provide law enforce-

ment for the city.

"The store owner (at BP) doesn't sell gas," Arjona said, but business increased with them there, he said. "When we were there, we washed an airboat."

Vice-Chair Jean Jordan still said that the problem is not how much business they brought in but whether they were supposed to set up a business there.

"Son, we understand your plight," Jordan said. "If (the BP station owner) came in today, even being grandfathered in, he'd get turned down."

Jordan suggested using a carport at a house, but Sutherland said that would defeat the purpose of high visibility at a store location.

Sutherland suggested using an old dealership in town, but Jordan asked if it has proper drainage.

For now, Xclusive Detailing is operating its on-site days from property adjacent the Family Dollar store in Sebring, off Ridgewood Drive/State Road 17. However, Arjona said his family is hoping to sell that property soon.

"I'm really hoping they (will) give me the opportunity to help Avon Park," Arjona said Thursday.

"Everybody needs their car washed, especially during love bug season."

3 charged with feeding black bears near Orlando

Woman was mauled in area in April

Associated Press

LAKE MARY — Three people in central Florida face charges for feeding bears and other wildlife in an area where a woman was mauled by a bear in April.

The charges are second-degree misdemeanors. According to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, one person in the woman's Lake Mary neighborhood pleaded not guilty Friday.

Two others in nearby Longwood pleaded no contest and were sentenced to 6 months' probation, 25 hours of community service and a \$200 payment to the commission's wildlife alert hotline.

After the attack on Terri Frana in her driveway, wildlife authorities killed more than a half-dozen bears that showed signs of being accustomed to human food, either from garbage or human feeding. According to the commission, DNA from one of those bears matched samples collected from Frana's clothing.

"People who feed bears don't realize the serious results of their actions," said Dave Telesco, the commission's bear management program coordinator. "Feeding bears may reduce their natural fear of people, which can lead to someone getting seriously injured and bears being killed."

Officials urge people to secure their garbage and avoid leaving pet food or bird seed to sit outside overnight, which

might entice bears to approach houses. People also are warned to never intentionally feed a bear.

Frana was bitten on her leg and skull. She was able to run into her house to escape. In the moments before the attack, Frana said there had been five bears in her yard, including two eating out of trash cans.

Mary Musselman of Sebring was arrested in January after she was reportedly found feeding bears in violation of a court order. She was arrested again in March after it was found that she had put food out again in violation of court orders. She was later ordered to a facility for psychiatric testing.

In November of 2012, a bear had to be euthanized after it was fed by Musselman, the FWC said.

ESTATE FROM PAGE A1

three to six months before a recommendation might be made to the SFWMD Governing Board on the matter.

"There are a lot of restrictions on that property as far as what can be done with it. Parts of it have to be kept open to public use," he said.

As surplus property, the Water Management District will try and find a buyer for the land.

"Of course, they will have to deal with the

deed restrictions," Palmer said.

Last year, officials at the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service declined to take over operation of the land, reportedly due to the cost of the upkeep.

They were the latest in a long list of suitors who have expressed initial interest in the property, then ultimately turned it down.

The 423-acre tract is along the Kissimmee River at the Highlands/Okeechobee county line. It once was the home of Edna Pearce Lockett, one of

the first female legislators in the state.

She died in 1991, with the property being sold to the water management district. In 2007, the Highlands County Commission was approached to take over the property but declined, as did the Office of Greenways and Trails — part of the Department of Environmental Protection. A plan by Florida Atlantic University's Center for Environmental Studies also fell through.

Meanwhile, the site remains overgrown and deteriorating.

Gov. Scott signs warning shot bill

TALLAHASSEE — Floridians who threaten to use a gun, or even fire a warning shot, could avoid criminal prosecution under a law signed by Gov. Rick Scott.

Scott on Friday signed the bill (HB 89) partially inspired by a Jacksonville woman

initially sentenced to 20 years in prison after firing a shot near her estranged husband during an altercation. The woman, Marissa Alexander, is awaiting a new trial. Alexander had tried to assert a "stand your ground" defense, but a judge rejected her claim.

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BUSINESS

Airport working on new tenant

BY BARRY FOSTER
News-Sun Correspondent

SEBRING — Following the successful location of the new GulfCoast Supply & Manufacturing location at the Sebring Regional Airport's industrial park, another new tenant reportedly in the works.

Code named "Project Nitrogen" by the Highlands County Economic Development Commission/Industrial Development Authority, the business reportedly is a frozen fruit novelty producer. Negotiations to land the firm have been in the works for several months.

"The company has a very unique technology in terms of processing fruit," said Sebring Regional Airport Executive Director Mike Willingham. He said that at this point "things look very good" and that an announcement could be made within the next several weeks.

Reportedly, the company would construct a 40,000-square-foot facility at the industrial park.

At the end of their Tuesday meeting, Highlands county commissioners discussed allocating as much as \$250,000 as



Katara Simmons/News-Sun

GulfCoast Supply has grown quickly since relocating to the Sebring Airport and will soon be joined by a frozen fruit novelty manufacturer.

an enticement to bring the business here. That money would come from the county's reserve for contingency fund, which now stands at \$600,000.

Highlands County Commission Chairman Greg Harris indicated that along with money, the county might be called upon to do some in-kind services, such as site preparation and the providing of some materials such as shell rock.

Willingham said such an action would not be unprecedented, and in fact, similar measures were done to help bring GulfCoast to the airport.

"The airport helped and made a significant

investment in the development in their facility," he said. "We financed the roof. Then through a rent credit, GulfCoast replaced the side of that building."

Calling it a "dynamic and growing, first-class company," Willingham said it appears that the initial investment is paying off.

When they opened, GulfCoast officials had indicated the operation would start up utilizing about two dozen employees with an eye toward as many as 40 employees when fully operational. Willingham said they have more than achieved that goal.

"They're employing a lot more people

in the first six to seven months than we thought they would have working in the first three to four years," he said.

Willingham noted that in addition to the airport's investment, GulfCoast also had made a sizable investment in the Sebring manufacturing facility.

"In my opinion, it certainly has been worth the effort — and the risk," he said.

He added another company, the Italian-based TECNAM Aircraft also have been doing well.

TECNAM located at the airport industrial park in April, making their first aircraft delivery in early May.

HRMC launches internet portal for patients

Special to the News-Sun

SEBRING — Patients at Highlands Regional Medical Center now have online access to their records from an inpatient (overnight) stay, courtesy of an Internet Patient Portal.

Test results, medications, procedure information, diagnoses and discharge instructions are all available for patients to view online using secure access. The service is free, and information is available to patients anytime, anywhere they have access to the Internet.

Called My Health Home, the new service is designed to help patients become more active partners in their healthcare, providing access to important health information via computer, tablet or mobile device.

"Keeping patients informed and in-

involved in their healthcare is one of the key benefits of this service," said Joe Bernard, CEO at Highlands Regional Medical Center. "Patients can easily go online and have ready access to personal health information, whether at home or while traveling."

It's easy to set up an account. Personnel at Highlands Regional Medical Center are available to assist new patients during inpatient registration, and a toll-free number is available for patients to call if they need any assistance once they are released from the hospital.

"We are very pleased to now offer this service to our patients," added Bernard. "It is just one more way that Highlands Regional Medical Center is putting our patients at the center of all that we do."

Unemployment jumps back above 7%

BY BARRY FOSTER
News-Sun Correspondent

SEBRING — Although the workforce in Highlands County increased slightly last month, the number of people employed locally dropped, sending May unemployment rates back up above 7 percent.

Numbers released Friday by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity show there were an estimated 40,083 people in the workforce here last month. That was up from April's projected total of 40,070. However, the number of employed workers is said to have dropped by 229, from 37,469 in April to 37,240.

That made for a 7.1 percent May unemployment figure. The announced number put Highlands 13th among Florida counties and the highest in the Heartland — more than Hardee which registered 6.6 percent, Polk at 6.7 percent or DeSoto at an even 6 percent.

In an effort to help the job picture in Highlands and surrounding counties, officials from CareerSource Heartland have announced they will have another job fair. That will be held Wednesday, July 16, from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. at the CareerSource Heartland headquarters, 5901 U.S. 27 South.

"We are looking for

employers as well as employees," said jobs specialist Laura Griffin.

She said there continue to be jobs available locally in the areas of medical, the retail field, as well as for maintenance, the food service industry and for qualified drivers.

More can be found at their website at www.careersourceheartland.com

Statewide, DEO of-

officials said the sector gaining the most jobs across Florida was trade, transportation and utilities. Other areas included professional and business services, leisure and hospitality, construction, education and health services.

The May unemployment for the state of Florida was set at a seasonally-adjusted 6.3 percent.

Arc's Plant Nursery adds Saturday hours

Special to the News-Sun

AVON PARK — Ridge Area Arc's Plant Nursery will be open this upcoming Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon to make it easier for customers to take advantage of our growing list of inventory.

The nursery serves as both a revenue source and a training tool for

some of the participants in Arc's Adult Day Training program. They learn about seeding, repotting, weeding, root cutting and general plant maintenance.

The nursery will be open one Saturday per month from 8–noon, in addition to the regular hours of Monday – Friday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.



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SPORTS

Li'l Dragons soar to District win

BY DAN HOEHNE

daniel.hoehne@newssun.com

SEBRING – With dark clouds looming on seemingly all sides, the Lake Placid Minors All-Stars took care of business in convincing fashion Friday night in the opening round of the District 8 Dixie tournament at the Max Long Recreational Complex with a 17-0 win over the junior Red Devils of Avon Park.

It was a consistent attack from the “veteran” group of 8- and 9-year olds as they scored four runs in each of the first three innings before nearby flashes of lightning halted the proceedings.

The first inning saw an RBI single from Joey

Warner just ahead of a two-run triple off the bat of Elijah Daley.

Chase Rykaceski then capped off the first by bringing Daley in with a bunt.

Chase Grigsby then set the Avon Park side down in order before the li'l Dragons added four more in the second.

Back-to-back singles by Tyler Baker and Alan Torres got it started, but Devil pitcher D.J. Conrad made a diving grab of a Johnny Phillips blooper and alertly threw to first for a double play that might have halted the threat.

But Damien Brown kept things going when his hot grounder down the third-base line

SEE LP | A13



Dan Hoehne/News-Sun

Elijah Daley leaps toward home plate to celebrate his home run in Lake Placid's win over Avon Park to open the Dixie District 8 Minors tournament Friday.



James Taylor/News-Sun

Lake Placid's Layten Harrison launches a two-run homer against Avon Park Friday night in Dixie Ozone District tournament action.

Dragons move on in Ozone

BY JAMES TAYLOR
News-Sun staff

SEBRING – The Lake Placid Green Dragon Ozone (11-12 Year Old) All-Star team battered the Avon Park Red Devil All-Stars 15-2 in a game that not only featured the sound of thunderous cracks of bats hitting balls, but also a 30-minute stoppage before the third inning due to lightning in the area.

“We hit the ball well tonight,” said Lake Placid head coach Tracy Carpenter. “And we did not commit any errors. If we can do that throughout the tournament, I will be happy.”

It did not take long for Lake Placid to start the hit parade as Jace Johnston led off with a single into right field.

Wyatt Moore reached on an error before Cody Carpenter just missed a home run.

He hit a ball into deep left center that hit about a foot below the

top of the fence for a double to bring home the first run of the game.

Later in the inning, with one out, Jackson Griffin doubled down the right-field line and scored on a single by Niquan Allen.

Allen did not stay on the bases long as Layten Harrison launched a home run over the left-field fence to give Lake Placid a 7-0 lead.

Avon Park showed some offensive muscle in the bottom of the first as Trey Pollit-Hill blasted two-run homer, not only over the center-field fence, but also over the blue cement wall behind the fence as Avon Park closed the gap to 7-2.

The Green Dragons went back on the attack in the top of the second as singles by Carpenter and Royston Daley brought in two of the three runs they scored to take a 10-2

SEE OZONE | A13

Summer Red Devils are rolling

BY JAMES TAYLOR
News-Sun staff

AVON PARK – The Red Devils summer baseball team won a pair of five-inning games on Thursday night against a pair of Bulldogs as teams from DeSoto and Frostproof arrived at Head Field in Avon Park.

The three teams played three five-inning games with Avon Park beating DeSoto 13-1 in Game 1.

Frostproof and DeSoto played Game 2 with Frostproof edging past DeSoto 1-0 and Avon Park pummeled Frostproof in the third game by a score of 12-2.



James Taylor/News-Sun

Avon Park's speedy right fielder, Jaques Gordon, makes a play on a shallow fly ball look easy.

“We are looking pretty good so far,” said Avon Park head coach Whit Cornell. “We played well earli-

er in the month at Sebring and continued that tonight.”

Cornell also stated that they opted not to

put a Major (19 and under) and Minors (17 and under) team to-

SEE AP | A13

Sebring Minors sweep ‘Chobee

BY LAUREN WELBORN
News-Sun correspondent

SEBRING— The Max Long complex was bustling with baseball games Friday night.

Among the matchups was one that pinned Sebring's Minors All-Star team against Okeechobee and in the end, the minor Streaks came out on top in a quick three-and-a-half innings with an 11-0 victory.

While Sebring was able to make a lot happen offensively, the defensive efforts shone as well, with starting pitcher Josh Regino and closer Fabian Ayala leading the way.

The momentum began when Regino turned away Okeechobee's first three batters with three consecutive

strikeouts before his team would bring in five runs in the bottom of the first.

Again, it was Regino sparking the fire as he reached on a walk before stealing home for the first run of the night.

Logan McGann followed with a blooper that Okeechobee would fumble, allowing him first base.

Reid Whitehouse then drew a walk before Ayala ripped a 2-RBI double to rack in Sebring's second and third runs.

Nathan Andrews and Johnathan Delgado both reached to load the bases and two outs later Ayala and Delgado both stole home, giving the Streaks an early 5-0 lead.

In the top of the second, a hard ground ball was knocked down by Sebring first



Lauren Welborn/News-Sun

Fabian Ayala slides home safely ahead of the Okeechobee catcher's tag in Sebring's 11-0 win.

baseman Owen Lowe, although it escaped his glove.

That's when second baseman Andrews dashed towards the ball that had just

trickled behind Lowe's view, bare-handing it for the unassisted tag of first base.

“Owen did his job

SEE STREAKS | A13

SPORTS ON TV

TODAY

AUTO RACING

■ NHRA – New England Nationals	1 p.m.	ESPN
■ NASCAR – Toyota-Save Mart 350	3 p.m.	TNT

FIFA WORLD CUP

■ Belgium vs. Russia	11:30 a.m.	ABC
■ Korea Republic vs. Algeria	2:30 p.m.	ABC
■ USA vs. Portugal	5:30 p.m.	ESPN

GOLF

■ PGA – Travelers Championship	1 p.m.	GOLF
■ U.S. Women’s Open	3 p.m.	NBC
■ PGA – Travelers Championship	3 p.m.	CBS
■ PGA – Encompass Championship	3 p.m.	GOLF

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

■ Houston at Tampa Bay	1:30 p.m.	SUN
■ Pittsburgh at Chicago Cubs	2 p.m.	WGN
■ Texas at L.A. Angels	8 p.m.	ESPN

WNBA

■ Tulsa at Chicago	1 p.m.	ESPN2
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MONDAY

COLLEGE BASEBALL

■ NCAA Championship, Game 1	8 p.m.	ESPN
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FIFA WORLD CUP

■ Netherlands vs. Chile	11:30 a.m.	ESPN
■ Australia vs. Spain	11:30 a.m.	ESPN2
■ Croatia vs. Mexico	3:30 p.m.	ESPN
■ Cameroon vs. Brazil	3:30 p.m.	ESPN2

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

■ Pittsburgh at Tampa Bay	7 p.m.	SUN
■ Washington at Milwaukee	8 p.m.	ESPN2

TENNIS

■ Wimbledon Championships, Day 1	2 p.m.	ESPN2
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TUESDAY

COLLEGE BASEBALL

■ NCAA Championship, Game 2	8 p.m.	ESPN
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FIFA WORLD CUP

■ Italy vs. Uruguay	11:30 a.m.	ESPN
■ Costa Rica vs. England	11:30 a.m.	ESPN2
■ Japan vs. Colombia	3:30 p.m.	ESPN
■ Greece vs. Ivory Coast	3:30 p.m.	ESPN2

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

■ Pittsburgh at Tampa Bay	7 p.m.	SUN
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TENNIS

■ Wimbledon Championships, Day 2	2 p.m.	ESPN2
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SCOREBOARD

Major League Baseball				
	American League			GB
East	W	L	Pct	
Toronto	42	33	.560	—
New York	39	33	.542	1½
Baltimore	37	35	.514	3½
Boston	34	40	.459	7½
Tampa Bay	29	46	.387	13
Central	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	38	32	.543	—
Kansas City	39	34	.534	½
Cleveland	37	37	.500	3
Chicago	35	39	.473	5
Minnesota	34	38	.472	5
West	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	46	28	.622	—
Los Angeles	39	33	.542	6
Seattle	38	36	.514	8
Texas	35	38	.479	10½
Houston	33	42	.440	13½

Friday's Games				
N.Y. Yankees 5, Baltimore 3				
Detroit 6, Cleveland 4				
Houston 3, Tampa Bay 1				
Toronto 14, Cincinnati 9				
Minnesota 5, Chicago White Sox 4				
Seattle 7, Kansas City 5				
Oakland 4, Boston 3				
L.A. Angels 7, Texas 3				

Saturday's Games				
Baltimore at N.Y. Yankees, late				
Chicago White Sox at Minnesota, late				
Seattle at Kansas City, late				
Boston at Oakland, late				
Houston at Tampa Bay, late				
Toronto at Cincinnati, late				
Detroit at Cleveland, late				
Texas at L.A. Angels, late				

Sunday's Games				
Detroit (Scherzer 8-3) at Cleveland (Tomlin 4-4), 1:05 p.m.				
Toronto (Dickey 6-5) at Cincinnati (Cueto 6-5), 1:10 p.m.				
Houston (Keuchel 8-4) at Tampa Bay (Bedard 3-5), 1:40 p.m.				
Baltimore (Tillman 5-4) at N.Y. Yankees (Tanaka 11-1), 2:05 p.m.				
Chicago White Sox (Joh.Danks 6-5) at Minnesota (PHughes 7-3), 2:10 p.m.				
Seattle (Elias 6-5) at Kansas City (Ventura 5-5), 2:10 p.m.				
Boston (Lester 8-7) at Oakland (Milone 5-3), 4:05 p.m.				
Texas (Darvish 7-3) at L.A. Angels (H.Santiago 0-7), 8:07 p.m.				

National League				
East	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	38	35	.521	—
Washington	37	35	.514	½
Miami	37	36	.507	1
Philadelphia	34	38	.472	3½
New York	33	41	.446	5½
Central	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	45	30	.600	—
St. Louis	39	35	.527	5½
Cincinnati	35	37	.486	8½
Pittsburgh	35	38	.479	9
Chicago	31	40	.437	12
West	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	43	30	.589	—
Los Angeles	40	35	.533	4
Colorado	34	39	.466	9
San Diego	32	42	.432	11½
Arizona	32	45	.416	13

Friday's Games				
Chicago Cubs 6, Pittsburgh 3				
Atlanta 6, Washington 4, 13 innings				
Miami 3, N.Y. Mets 2				
Toronto 14, Cincinnati 9				
Philadelphia 5, St. Louis 1				
Milwaukee 13, Colorado 10				
Arizona 4, San Francisco 1				
San Diego 6, L.A. Dodgers 5				

Saturday's Games				
Milwaukee at Colorado, late				
N.Y. Mets at Miami, late				
Philadelphia at St. Louis, late				
Toronto at Cincinnati, late				

Park it in the **CLASSIFIEDS** and watch it go fast!

Summer Sunrise 5K Series

SEBRING – The inaugural Summer Sunrise 5K Series continues its' next three races Saturday's June 28, July 12 and August 16 at Highlands Hammock State Park starting at 7 a.m.

The unique series will award trophies to winners in 5-year age divisions whose cumulative times in all four races are the fastest.

Individual races may be entered for \$12, but will not be eligible for series awards or shirt.

Entry forms at: *cbrojek@comcast.net* at 385-4736.

Come test your skills in this exciting new race series!

SHS Summer of Swim

Sebring High School will be offering swimming lessons with four sessions to choose from.

The first session begins Monday, June 9 and runs through Friday, June 20.

The second session runs from June 23-July 3, the third session July 7-July 18 and the fourth from July 21-August 1.

Registrations are being taken at the front office of Sebring High School during the day from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., where office secretaries will be able to sign you up.

For questions, call 471-5500, ext. 229, or 381-7092 and leave a message for Ms. Pat.

Emails can also be sent to *catonp@highlands.k12.fl.us*.

The Sebring High School pool is open Monday through Friday from 6-7:30 p.m.

and Saturdays and Sundays from 1-3 p.m.

Cost is \$2 per swimmer, and family passes are available at \$50 for first family member and \$15 for each additional.

Sebring Summer Swim Program

The Summer Swim Program will again offer four instructional sessions.

Each will last two weeks and the swim class meets each weekday, Monday through Friday.

The Program will offer eight types of instruction:

1. Adult Beginner: Adults Only. For the novice-no experience necessary.
2. Parent and Tot:

SNAPSHOTS

SPORTS

Water Orientation. Mother/Father must participate with child. (6 months to 2 years of age.)

3. Level I: Introduction to Water Skills. Students first water orientation without Mother/Father.

Part A – Preschool Aquatics (2-4 years of age)

Part B – School Age (4-5 years of age)

4. Level II: Fundamental Aquatic Skills. Students do not need Mother/Father in pool. (4-5 years of age.)

5. Level III: Stroke Development. Students must be comfortable in water.

6. Level IV: Stroke Improvement. Students must be able to swim 10 yards, do a front dive, and float on their backs.

7. Level V: Stroke Refinement. Students must be able to swim 50 yards, tread water 30 seconds, and elementary back stroke 25 yards.

8. Level VI: Part A – Personal Water Safety/Diving Fundamentals. Students must be able to swim 100 yards, tread water for 3 minutes, backstroke 100 yards. Will learn basics of diving.

Part B – Fitness Swimmer/Diving Fundamentals. Students will learn necessary skills to make swimming part of their exercise program. Will learn basics of diving.

There will be a \$50 fee for the two-week session and students will be enrolled on a “first come, first served” basis.

There will be no refunds after completion of registration and payment of fees, unless the swim class is cancelled.

There must be at least four swimmers per class for the lessons to be taught.

Panther/Blue Streak Baseball Camp

SEBRING – South Florida State College baseball is teaming up with the Sebring Blue Streaks for a Summer Youth Baseball Camp for youth players aged 5-13 at Firemen's Field.

The camp will run Monday through Thursday, June 23-

26, meeting each day from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., with a cost of \$80 for the week. For additional campers from the same family, \$5 discounts do apply. All campers will receive a camp T-shirt. Registration each day is from 8-8:30 a.m., with the camp then getting underway with all aspects of baseball fundamentals, drills, stations, games and awards on the final day.

SFSC head coach Rick Hitt and Sebring head coach Jasone DeWitt will serve as camp directors, with instruction given from the coaches of the Panther and Blue Streak baseball teams.

Campers should bring a glove, cap and any baseball attire desired, ensuring all gear is marked. Register by phone by calling the SFSC Baseball office at 784-7036, or coach DeWitt at 528-4933, or register the morning of the first camp session.

Walk-up registrations are accepted. Applications can be found at *www.southflorida.edu/athletics/baseball/camp*.

Checks should be made payable to Sebring Baseball.

Camp T-shirts will be given to all campers who pre-register before Monday, June 23.

Make checks payable to Wings of Faith Christian Worship Center, with check memo as Mary Toney Hope Foundation.

For more information, contact coach LaVaar Scott at 214-3880, *LaV39@yahoo.com*, or coach Mike Avirett at 381-4098 or coach Princeton Harris at 381-8898.

Walker Volleyball Camp

AVON PARK – All girls entering 6th to 12th grade next school year (up to 18 years old) that are interested in playing volleyball, plan to join in the fun at Volleyball Camp!

Learn basic skills, team concepts and competition rules. Camp fee is \$100 and includes a t-shirt, awards and prizes.

The camp is coached by Sharlene Naar and will begin on Monday, June 23 and continue through Friday, June 27 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Walker Memorial Academy Gym located at 1525 W. Avon Blvd. Avon Park.

For more information or to register, call 453-3131 extension 201.

Heartland Football Camp

SEBRING – The Mary Toney H.O.P.E. Foundation brings the 2014 Heartland Football Camp to the Highlands County Sports Complex on Saturday, June 28, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. for campers from grades 4 through 12, as of the fall of 2014.

The camp will include football fundamentals, speed and agility training, character development and guest speakers.

There will be former Miami Hurricanes, South Florida Bulls and many more college standouts that will be serving as camp coaches, with the added possibility of former and current NFL players as well.

Cost is \$20, which includes all camp instruction, insurance, lunch, camp T-shirt and awards. Pre-registration days will be held at the Firemen's Fieldhouse on Saturday, June 14, from 8 a.m.-Noon and Thursday, June 19, from 4-7 p.m.

There will be MVP awards and Most Improved Contest. Coached by Bill Farmer, Boyette Magpayo and former Walker Memorial Academy players, the camp will begin on Sunday, June 29 from 9 a.m.-Noon and 1-5 p.m. Monday, June 30 and continue through Friday, July 3 from 9 a.m.-Noon in the Walker Memorial Academy Gym located at 1525 W. Avon Blvd. in Avon Park.

For more information or to register, call 453-3131 ext. 201.

This Date In Baseball

June 22
1925 — The Pittsburgh Pirates beat the St. Louis Cardinals 24-6 with Kiki Cuyler and Pie Traynor each hitting a grand slam and Max Carey getting two hits in the first and eighth innings.
1930 — Lou Gehrig hit three home runs to lead the New York Yankees to a 20-13 victory over the Philadelphia Athletics in the second game of a doubleheader. Babe Ruth, who hit three homers in the nightcap the previous day, hit two homers in the opener and one in the nightcap for the Yankees. Ruth tied major league records for five homers in two games and six homers in three games.
1944 — Jim Tobin of the Boston Braves threw a five-inning 7-0 no-hitter in the second game of a doubleheader against the Philadelphia Phillies.
1947 — Cincinnati's Ewell Blackwell almost duplicated Johnny Vander Meer's

double no-hit record by following up his June 18 gem over Boston. Brooklyn's Eddie Stanky singled with one out in the ninth to end Blackwell's bid. Blackwell ended up with a 4-0 two-hitter.
1962 — Baltimore Orioles first baseman Boog Powell became the first batter to hit a home run over the center-field hedge at Memorial Stadium. The 469-foot clout came off Don Schwall of the Boston Red Sox.
1982 — Philadelphia's Pete Rose doubled off St. Louis pitcher John Stuper in the third inning to move into second place on the career hit list. Rose moved ahead of Hank Aaron with hit No. 3,772.
1993 — Carlton Fisk set the major league record for most games caught as the Chicago White Sox beat the Texas Rangers 3-2. Fisk, 45, passed Bob Boone with his 2,226th game.
1994 — Ken Griffey Jr. hit his 31st home run of the season in Seattle's

12-3 victory at California, breaking Babe Ruth's record for most homers before the end of June. Ruth needed 63 games to reach 30 homers in 1928 and 68 games in 1930. Griffey did it in the Mariners' 70th game.
1997 — The Atlanta Braves, behind a four-homer, nine-run third, beat the Philadelphia Phillies 12-5. Chipper Jones, Jeff McGriff, Michael Tucker and Fred Blausler homered in the inning.
2002 — The Detroit Tigers ended Luis Castillo's 35-game hitting streak. Castillo went 0-for-4 and was left on deck when the Florida Marlins finished off a four-run, ninth-inning rally to beat the Tigers 5-4.
2006 — Anthony Reyes pitched a one-hitter in just his fourth major league start, but St. Louis fell to the Chicago White Sox 1-0. Jim Thome homered in the seventh inning for Chicago's only hit.
2008 — Atlanta's Mark Teixeira hit three home runs and finished with four RBIs in an 8-3 win over Seattle. Teixeira hit solo drives batting left-handed in the second and fourth innings, and a two-run shot from the right side in the seventh.
2011 — Leadoff hitter Chris Heisey homered three times to lead the Cincinnati Reds to a doubleheader split with the Yankees. After suffering a 4-2 loss in the opener, Heisey started the second game, a 10-2 victory, with his first career leadoff homer. He also had two-run shots off Brian Gordon and Hector Noesi in his first multihomer game.
2013 — Francisco Rodriguez earned his 300th career save, finishing off Milwaukee's second straight 2-0 victory over slumping Atlanta.
Today's birthdays: Cesar Ramos 29; Ian Kinsler 32; Jason Motte 32.



Dan Hoehne/News-Sun

Lake Placid's James Swafford reaches first safely Friday night as Avon Park pitcher D.J. Conrad can't quite snare this hurried throw in the junior Dragons Dixie tournament win.

LP

FROM PAGE A11

caromed off of third base for an RBI single.

Chase Lane drew a walk before consecutive RBI singles by James Swafford and Holden Martin padded the lead, with Swafford soon coming around on an error to make it 8-0.

Conrad looked to put a dent in the lead with a leadoff single in the bottom of the inning, and swiping second to get into scoring position.

But Grigsby halted the damage, aided by a line-drive snare by first baseman Martin.

Daley then got the third started with a shot into the parking lot for a home run.

Grigsby followed with a bloop single and Rykaceski also reached before a Walker Holmes ground out put runners at second and third.

Both would come in on Baker's two-run double and Torres brought Baker in to up the ante to 12-0, when the aforementioned lightning delay stopped the action for 30 minutes.

STREAKS

FROM PAGE A11

and kept it in the field," said Sebring head coach Kriby Whitehouse. "We preach second chance and Nathan was there for that."

While impressive, Okeechobee continued their bounce-back efforts by loading the bases with only one out.

Regino relaxed to turn away the next two batters with strikeouts.

Sebring would add the lead thanks to Mc-

But the delay only seemed to fuel the Lake Placid cause as Grigsby then struck out the side in order to complete the third, and the offense added five more to the lead.

Singles from Grigsby and Rykaceski were followed by walks to Holmes and Baker to plate one run.

One out later, Swafford drew another walk to push Rykaceski across.

Martin then put the icing on the cake with a three-run double to provide for what would be the final margin of victory.

"This is just a wonderful group of kids that have been working hard all year for this," Lake Placid head coach Mike Warner said.

"This is the same group that I had last year so they have experience and it showed tonight. "They had good at bats all night, we didn't make mistakes on defense and we threw strikes."

With the win, the junior Dragons continued on to face the Sebring All-Stars Saturday in hopes of reaching Sunday's title round.

Gann's double that knocked in Trey Rowe and Regino.

McGann made it home himself before Lowe's 2-RBI double would bring the score to 10-0.

A passed ball would bring in one more run for Sebring before the end of the second, with the board now glowing 11-0 in Sebring's favor.

"We were coming off of a good weekend," Whitehouse said. "Last weekend we played Dundee and we were able to win that tournament and the kids were able to keep that momentum."

Okeechobee takes down Sebring

BY DAVID DEGENARO
News-Sun correspondent

It was the opening round for the Dixie Ozone District Tournament on Friday night as Sebring was to take on a very tough Okeechobee squad.

Okeechobee would show that toughness by beating Sebring 8-2.

Okeechobee started off strong as their leadoff hitter Lucas Osceola ripped the first pitch of the game down the left-field line for a double.

James Ward then hit a liner into the outfield that plated the speedy Osceola.

Jay Krall walked, and then Chase Storey singled, driving in Ward, and an errant throw from the outfield allowed Krall to score as well.

With Storey advancing to second on the outfield throw, it was easy for him to score as a Cole Younger ground ball was field-

ed yet thrown away, allowing the inning to continue.

Eventually Sebring would get that third out in the top of the first but not before Okeechobee tacked on four runs to their winning effort.

Sebring could not bounce back the way they wanted to in the bottom of the frame as the one, two and three batters went down in succession.

They were, however, able to force the same outcome to Okeechobee in the top of the second.

Luck would not turn around for the Sebring All-Stars as they would have another one, two, three inning at the plate.

In the top of the third, Okeechobee's Lucas Osceola would reach second base on yet another outfield

miscue.

Ozzy Osceola then reached second as a passed ball strike-out was followed by a throw that sailed into the outfield and brought in Lucas Osceola.

Krall hit a sacrifice grounder to the short-stop that plated Ozzy Osceola. Storey, Younger and Deck all had singles to then load the bases, but Sebring was able to induce a fly out to center to end the threat.

The struggling Sebring offense failed to get any runs until the fourth inning when a Gunner Leonard single was followed by a Blayne Huter fly ball to left that was miss handled by an Okeechobee fielder.

Sebring was still trailing 6-1.

Neither team could add to their score

in the fifth, but in the top of the sixth Okeechobee's red hot Lucas Osceola smacked a double off the right-field wall and was followed by a home run crush by James Ward.

Sebring was able to answer back just a bit as Keyshawn Hicks smacked a towering home run to close the gap a little to make the score 8-2.

Sadly for the home crowd, that would be all the Sebring offense could muster up as the final score of the game would be 8-2 Okeechobee.

"Once we fell behind I think we just pressed and tried to do too much," Sebring's head coach John Bender said. "Tomorrow we should be a little bit more relaxed than we were tonight."

Sebring was slated to play Avon Park late Saturday morning in hopes of staying alive and reaching the District 8 title round.

AP

FROM PAGE A11

gether this year and will not participate in the Dixie State Tournament.

"We decided to put together a summer ball team consisting of high school kids," said Cornell. "Instead of playing in the Dixie Tournament, we will be entering various tournaments in Florida during the summer that can be played over the weekend."

In lieu of the Dixie Tournament, Cornell stated that they may put together a tournament of their own.

In the first game on Thursday night, the Red Devils easily cruised past the Bulldogs of DeSoto as Daniel Simons dazzled the DeSoto batters.

Simons held DeSoto hitless over the first three innings and gave up just one hit and a run over the four innings he pitched.

JC Cobb, who will be a senior this year, highlighted a big third inning for the Red Devils with a bases-loaded single down the left field line to drive in two runs.

Joshua Jantz singled into right field in the fifth inning to drive in



James Taylor/News-Sun

Avon Park first baseman, Luis Cervera, shows Red Devil hustle as he dives to first base to get the DeSoto runner out. Cervera also pitched three scoreless innings against Frostproof later in the evening.

a run and also scored later in the inning as the Red Devils dispensed of the visiting DeSoto team 13-1 for the win.

Frostproof and DeSoto played in a pitching and defensive battle in which Frostproof prevailed 1-0 before playing the final game of the evening against Avon Park.

Though Avon Park only had five hits against Frostproof, they benefitted from twelve walks given up by Frostproof pitchers.

The Red Devils took a 2-0 lead in the first inning as Luis Martinez led off with a single and Cobb followed with a walk.

They would both score on a one-out

double by Alex Gomex into left.

Avon Park increased their lead in the second as Frostproof walked six batters and committed an error that allowed one run to score.

The only base hit for the Red Devils in the inning was a line shot by Simons that glanced off the Frostproof's third baseman as he dove to his left attempting to snag the ball.

Avon Park held an 8-0 lead after two innings.

Walks and passed balls plagued the Frostproof pitching staff in the third inning as four walks and several passed balls brought in two more

Red Devils runs.

Simons capped off the scoring by driving in two runs with a monstrous shot into right-center field for a triple.

During this time, Luis Cervera pitched three scoreless innings for Avon Park and Anthony Torres pitched the final two innings as Avon Park won the game 12-2.

The Red Devils will practice on Monday and Tuesday and will head to DeSoto Thursday to play a pair of five-inning games.

They will then travel to the Lake Myrtle Complex to play in the High School Showcase Tournament next weekend.

OZONE

FROM PAGE A11

lead.

The top of the third inning was stopped before it started as flashes of lightning that had been looming in the distance and skirting the ball fields came a little too close

for comfort for the umpires.

When played resumed over 30 minutes later, Lake Placid added two more runs in the third.

The first scoring on an error and the second on a single by Tiger Youngman to give Lake Placid a 12-2 lead.

Avon Park mounted

no offense in the second and third innings as Lake Placid pitchers struck out the side in order in both frames.

Lake Placid put the finishing touches on the game in the fourth.

Carpenter collected his third base hit of the game, stole second and third and scored on a ground ball by Daley for the first of

three runs that expanded the li'l Dragons lead to 15-2.

Avon Park manufactured a run in the bottom of the fourth, but fell short of getting the runs needed to continue play.

Lake Placid won the 15-3, with the game stopped after four innings due to the 10-run rule.

Avon Park head coach Fred Ferguson noted that this has been a strange season for Avon Park Dixie baseball and this is the first time they have played a team of this caliber.

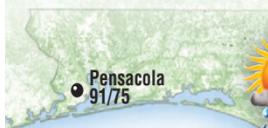
"Hopefully they will understand that caliber of teams they are facing and step up their game tomorrow,"

Ferguson said. "But overall, with this young team, I am proud of them and happy to be here."

Pending the results of the Sebring-Okeechobee game, Avon Park was scheduled to face the loser at 10 a.m. on Saturday and Lake Placid to face the winner at noon.

Five-Day forecast for Highlands County

TODAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Partly sunny, a t-storm in the p.m.	Thunder shower	Chance for an afternoon t-storm	Some sun with a t-storm possible	Some sun with a thunderstorm or two
92° / 72°	92° / 72°	93° / 74°	90° / 74°	90° / 74°
Winds: WSW at 6-12 mph	Winds: WSW at 4-8 mph	Winds: S at 4-8 mph	Winds: SE at 3-6 mph	Winds: SE at 4-8 mph



Almanac

Readings at Archbold Biological Station in Lake Placid

High Tuesday	89°
Low Tuesday	65°
High Wednesday	91°
Low Wednesday	67°
High Thursday	90°
Low Thursday	65°

Heat Index
For 3 p.m. today

Relative humidity	49%
Expected air temperature	92°
Makes it feel like	99°

Barometer

Tuesday	30.02
Wednesday	30.04
Thursday	30.02

Precipitation

Tuesday	0.08"
Wednesday	0.52"
Thursday	0.35"
Month to date	3.44"
Year to date	16.10"

Tides

Readings at St. Petersburg

High	10:52 a.m.
Low	4:09 a.m.
High	none
Low	6:27 p.m.

Readings at Palm Beach

High	5:16 a.m.
Low	11:24 a.m.
High	6:04 p.m.
Low	11:54 p.m.

Lake Levels

Readings as of 7 a.m. yesterday

Lake Jackson	78.36'
Lake Okeechobee	12.70'
Normal	14.51'

UV Index Today

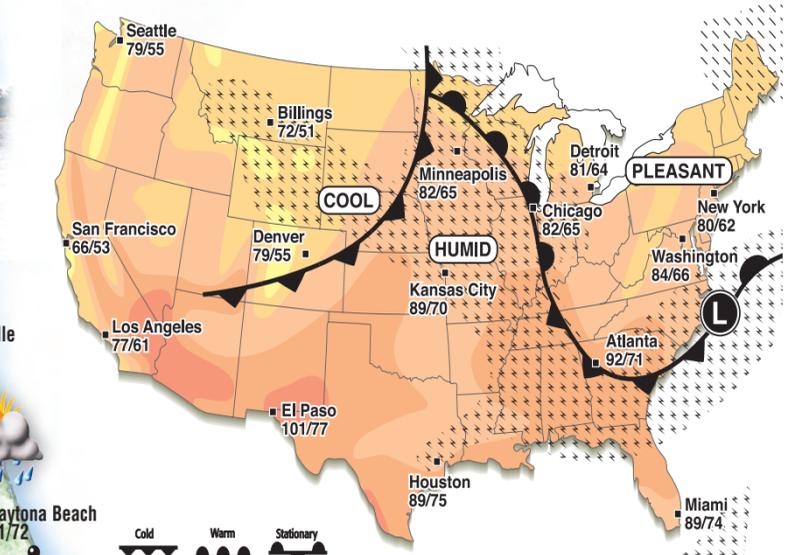
The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.



0-2 Low; 3-5 Moderate; 6-7 High; 8-10 Very High; 11+ Extreme
Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2014

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National Forecast for June 22



Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.

National Summary

Showers and thunderstorms will pass through portions of the Midwest to the central Plains and Front Range today. Heavy downpours will be the biggest threat, but late-afternoon storms across the Plains could be gusty. Steamy air will fuel instability storms across the Southeast in the afternoon. Isolated storms will be around southeastern Texas as well. High pressure will continue to bring pleasant weather to most of the Northeast. Scattered showers may dampen northern New England.

U.S. Cities

City	Today	Mon.	Tue.	City	Today	Mon.	Tue.
Albuquerque	94/66/s	91/64/s	92/63/pc	Los Angeles	77/61/pc	77/60/pc	79/61/s
Atlanta	92/71/pc	90/72/t	85/70/t	Louisville	91/72/t	94/72/pc	86/72/t
Baltimore	83/60/pc	85/64/pc	87/70/pc	Memphis	91/73/pc	91/73/t	89/71/t
Birmingham	91/71/pc	88/73/t	84/69/pc	Milwaukee	73/62/t	81/64/t	75/55/c
Boston	76/59/s	78/62/pc	80/66/s	Minneapolis	82/65/t	82/63/t	80/58/s
Charlotte	91/67/pc	88/69/t	87/70/pc	Nashville	93/69/pc	92/70/t	87/70/t
Cheney	72/50/t	72/50/pc	74/52/pc	New Orleans	91/75/t	89/74/t	89/74/pc
Chicago	82/65/t	84/68/t	82/61/c	New York City	80/62/s	82/66/pc	84/69/pc
Cleveland	80/60/s	85/68/pc	84/69/t	Norfolk	81/66/pc	83/68/pc	87/74/pc
Columbus	86/66/s	91/70/pc	88/70/t	Oklahoma City	88/71/pc	86/68/t	88/70/pc
Dallas	90/75/pc	91/75/pc	91/76/pc	Philadelphia	83/62/s	85/67/pc	86/71/pc
Denver	79/55/t	82/56/pc	84/56/t	Phoenix	107/81/s	106/80/s	105/80/s
Detroit	81/64/s	85/71/t	84/68/t	Pittsburgh	82/61/s	86/67/pc	89/68/t
Harrisburg	83/59/s	84/63/pc	86/70/pc	Portland, ME	74/50/s	75/56/pc	77/64/s
Honolulu	88/71/pc	88/73/s	89/74/s	Portland, OR	83/58/s	81/59/s	76/58/pc
Houston	89/75/pc	92/75/pc	93/75/t	Raleigh	85/65/pc	89/68/pc	90/73/pc
Indianapolis	86/69/t	88/70/pc	81/68/t	Rochester	79/54/s	84/68/pc	86/69/pc
Jackson, MS	89/71/t	89/71/t	91/73/t	St. Louis	90/72/t	89/71/t	88/69/c
Kansas City	89/70/t	83/67/t	86/64/pc	San Francisco	66/53/pc	68/54/pc	70/55/pc
Lexington	89/66/pc	92/69/pc	84/69/t	Seattle	79/55/s	78/56/s	71/57/pc
Little Rock	91/71/pc	89/71/t	88/69/pc	Wash., DC	84/66/pc	86/69/pc	86/73/pc

World Cities

City	Today	Mon.	Tue.	City	Today	Mon.	Tue.
Acapulco	91/77/t	90/77/t	90/78/t	London	74/56/pc	74/55/pc	71/53/pc
Athens	86/67/s	89/65/s	92/71/s	Montreal	76/57/s	80/64/pc	83/65/pc
Beirut	80/68/s	81/68/s	83/70/s	Moscow	67/47/c	63/47/sh	64/47/sh
Berlin	68/47/pc	68/52/pc	69/51/t	Nice	78/66/t	78/66/t	79/67/pc
Bermuda	82/75/s	78/69/c	81/73/s	Ottawa	78/54/s	81/63/pc	82/61/pc
Calgary	71/45/pc	71/49/pc	73/51/pc	Quebec	75/53/pc	78/58/pc	82/60/pc
Dublin	65/52/pc	68/51/pc	65/49/c	Rio de Janeiro	77/67/pc	79/67/pc	80/69/s
Edmonton	73/45/s	75/51/pc	78/51/s	Seoul	81/66/t	88/78/t	82/66/t
Freepport	86/78/pc	86/78/pc	86/79/pc	Singapore	89/78/sh	89/78/t	89/78/t
Geneva	83/57/pc	77/58/t	77/52/t	Sydney	67/43/s	67/44/c	61/44/s
Havana	90/70/t	92/74/t	88/74/t	Toronto	78/58/s	80/65/pc	83/64/pc
Hong Kong	92/80/t	91/81/r	92/83/t	Vancouver	69/54/s	74/57/pc	69/56/c
Jerusalem	78/61/s	80/62/s	82/64/s	Vienna	78/56/pc	81/62/pc	75/60/pc
Johannesburg	63/36/s	63/42/s	63/37/s	Warsaw	63/48/t	66/49/pc	67/51/t
Kiev	66/49/t	68/51/pc	72/54/pc	Winnipeg	76/57/pc	73/53/t	72/48/pc

Regional Summary

Clouds and sun today with an afternoon thunderstorm. Mainly clear tonight. Clouds and sun tomorrow with a shower or thunderstorm around, mainly later. Tuesday: chance for a thunderstorm in the afternoon.



Farm Report

A thunderstorm this afternoon. Winds west 6-12 mph. Expect 4-8 hours of sunshine with a 55% chance of precipitation and average relative humidity 65%. Drying conditions fair.

Weather History

The costliest flood in U.S. history struck New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia on June 22, 1972. It caused \$2.1 billion damage and killed 122 people.

Sun and Moon

	Today	Monday
Sunrise	6:35 a.m.	6:35 a.m.
Sunset	8:21 p.m.	8:21 p.m.
Moonrise	3:02 a.m.	3:45 a.m.
Moonset	4:18 p.m.	5:14 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	Mon.	Tue.	City	Today	Mon.	Tue.
Cape Coral	91/72/pc	91/74/sh	90/74/pc	Miami	89/74/pc	90/77/t	90/79/t
Clearwater	90/76/pc	90/75/pc	90/77/pc	Okeechobee	89/70/t	89/70/t	90/71/t
Coral Springs	90/73/pc	89/75/t	90/76/pc	Orlando	93/73/t	92/72/t	93/74/t
Daytona Beach	91/72/t	91/72/t	92/72/pc	Pembroke Pines	90/73/pc	90/75/t	90/78/t
Fl. Laud. Bch	89/74/pc	89/77/t	90/80/pc	St. Augustine	92/73/t	90/71/t	91/72/pc
Fort Myers	91/72/pc	91/74/sh	90/74/pc	St. Petersburg	91/76/pc	90/75/pc	91/76/pc
Gainesville	91/71/t	90/69/t	91/71/t	Sarasota	89/74/pc	89/74/pc	90/74/pc
Hollywood	89/73/pc	90/75/t	90/78/pc	Tallahassee	92/72/t	91/72/t	92/71/pc
Homestead AFB	87/71/pc	87/75/t	88/78/pc	Tampa	90/77/pc	89/76/pc	91/77/t
Jacksonville	93/72/t	91/70/t	91/71/pc	W. Palm Bch	90/73/pc	90/74/t	89/76/pc
Key West	88/79/pc	89/82/pc	88/81/pc	Winter Haven	92/73/t	92/73/t	93/74/t

Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

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New-Sun Reader's Choice Award 2013



Independence *play*

Celebrate the Fourth of July with fun crafts and activities

BY LYNN ZIMMERMAN, JOY HOWARD, CHRISTINA HIBBS, SARA WELLS AND KATE JONES
FamilyFun magazine

Mini marching *drum*

Join the big parade or stomp around the backyard to the beat of this recycled coffee can.

Drum: Trace a 10½-inch circle on a Tyvek sheet (we used a mailing envelope) and cut it out. Lay the circle over the open end of a 27.8-ounce coffee can. Secure it about 2 inches from the rim with rubber bands.

Pull the Tyvek taut and trim the excess. Use strips of clear tape to hold the Tyvek in place and remove the rubber bands.

Cover the edges of the Tyvek with colored duct

tape, using a single strip around the perimeter of the can. Use more duct tape to embellish the rest of the can. Measure and cut a length of ribbon for the neck strap and knot its ends. Tape the ribbon ends (just above the knots) to the side of the drum.

Mallet: Cut the neck from a 12-inch balloon.

Stuff the remaining piece with half a paper towel sheet. Squeeze a bit of white glue into the balloon and insert the tapered end of a chopstick. Secure it with a strip of duct tape and let it dry.

FamilyFun

United we stand *game*

A steady hand leads to success in this carnival-inspired challenge, in which players try to set a bottle upright using a ring on a string.

Use red and blue washi or decorative tape to embellish two 18-inch wooden dowels (we cut a 3-foot dowel in half), two cleaned and dried plastic bottles (we used 12-ounce soda bottles), and both rings of a 3-inch embroidery hoop (we bought ours at a craft store for \$2.50). Use one color for each 3-piece set.

Tie each hoop to its matching dowel with a 28-inch length of string. Place ½ cup rice in each of the

two ziplock bags. Add 12 drops red food coloring to one, blue to the other.

Seal each bag and shake until the rice is evenly tinted. Snip off a corner of each bag and funnel the rice into its matching bottle. Screw on the caps.

To play: Mark spaces on a flat playing surface with child-size hula hoops or use chalk to draw two 24-inch circles. Lay a bottle in the center of each. At "Go," players use their rods to right their bottles.

If a player's bottle rolls out of the circle, he must retrieve it and start over. The first to stand his bottle up wins.



PHOTOS BY LAURA DOSS COURTESY FAMILYFUN MAGAZINE



Straw-spangled *wreath*

Our downloadable template and simple technique make it easy to create a few of these fireworks-like decorations.

Print our template for the center (from familyfunmag.com/printables) on card stock. Cut out the circle, then trace it twice on corrugated cardboard. Cut out both circles. Make several rings of tacky glue on one cardboard circle and attach striped paper straws, alternating red and blue, and leaving 2 inches of space in the center. Thread a 1-inch straw piece onto a long length of fishing line or string and knot the ends. Attach the straw piece with tacky glue to the center of the cardboard circle.

Add rings of glue over the straws and gently press on the other cardboard circle. Let the glue dry. With a glue stick, attach the card stock center. Trim the straws to different lengths. Hang with the fishing line.



Red, white and cool *cubes*

Tricolored spritzers offer a refreshing way to celebrate the Fourth. Make several trays of ice cubes with beverages colored red, white and blue. (We used cranberry juice, water and Powerade Mountain Berry Blast.) To serve, place the cubes in separate buckets and let guests make their own drinks with plain seltzer.



Hats off to America

Set up a crafting station where you can turn plastic cups into custom flaps, and creative sparks are sure to fly. Along with 18-ounce disposable cups, we put out sparkly pipe cleaners, pom-poms, card stock, glue dots, tacky glue and tape. If you like, you can print our templates for brims at familyfunmag.com/printables. To keep hats on heads, cut 18-inch lengths of elastic beading cord and knot the ends. Use duct tape to secure the ends, just below the knots, to the inside of the cups.



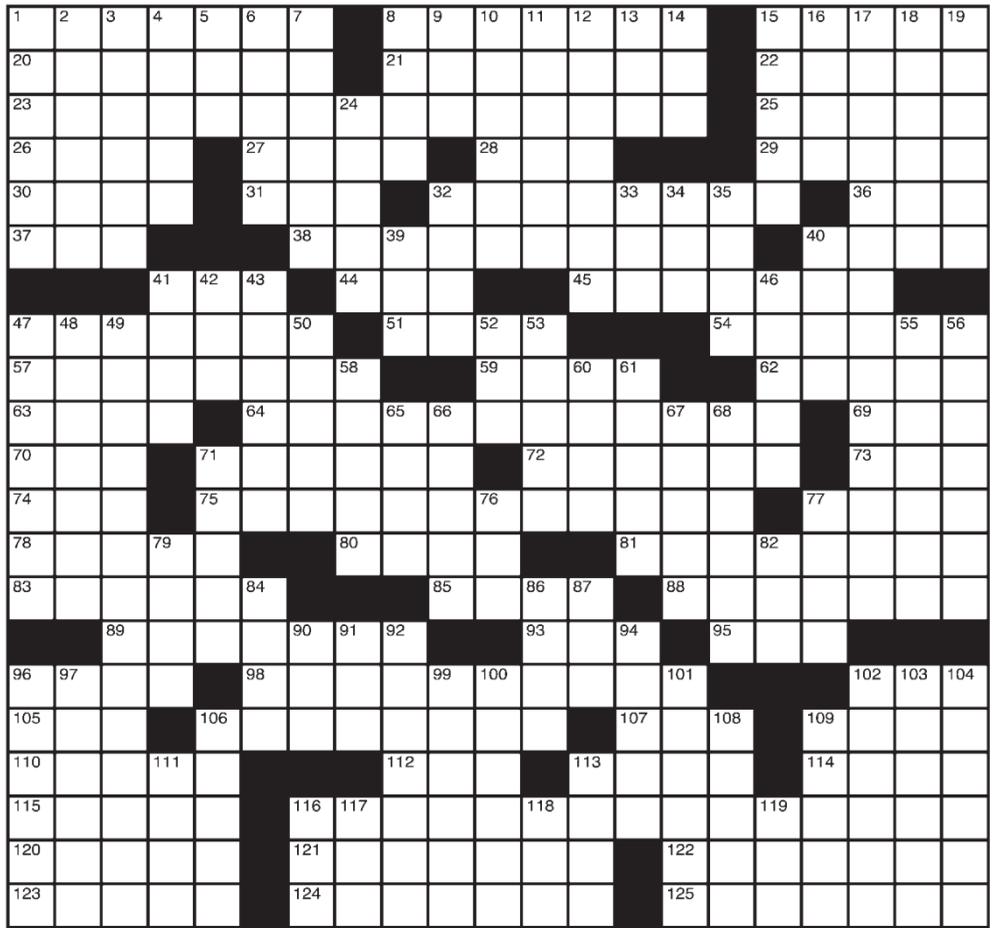
OB-LA-DI, OB-LA-DA

BY MIKE PELUSO

- ACROSS**
 1 Favoring Mideast unity
 8 Jungle chopper
 15 Creator of a cocky hare
 20 One who stole from thieves
 21 Like spring jackets
 22 ___ fast one
 23 Clancy explaining the spelling of his name?
 25 Walks heavily
 26 Costa ___
 27 It's nothing to Hollande
 28 B followers
 29 Blue gem, briefly
 30 Provo neighbor
 31 CXXII x V
 32 1978 film based on a Harold Robbins novel
 36 Square problem?
 37 Many OCS grads
 38 Victoria's Secret seasonal line?
 40 Soup with a bento
 41 Run on
 44 Sonora Mrs.
 45 Like adobe
 47 One leading a Spartan lifestyle
 51 Barely move
 54 Serenaded
 57 Distinguished types
 59 Bite-size appetizer
 62 Treasury secretary under Clinton
 63 Bear's cry
 64 Trading Clue, Monopoly, Life and Boggle?
 69 Photo lab process: Abbr.
 70 First album in a Green Day trilogy
 71 Pro Football Hall of Famer Nagurski
 72 Chances to golf with Mickelson or McIlroy
 73 Salty assent
 74 La Méditerranée, e.g.
 75 Monastery grounds?
 77 I'm-here link
 78 Susan's "All My Children" role
 80 Sailing, perhaps
 81 Attacker of Athens, per Plato
 83 Type A, often
 85 Reddish horse
 88 [Headslap]
 89 Spewed out
 93 Itinerary word

- 95 Nevada city on U.S. 50
 96 Melville title starter
 98 Bathrooms decorated in denim?
 102 Four in a gal.
 105 Rose of rock
 106 Cabbage side
 107 Word with order or reel
 109 Exec
 110 Rhone tributary
 112 Prez, to Gls
 113 Latin 101 verb
 114 Mozart's "___ kleine Nachtmusik"
 115 Choir voices
 116 Character in "Satanic Star Trek"?
 120 Legal decrees
 121 Tiny stinger
 122 How many a management group is trained
 123 One of Israel's 12 tribes
 124 Spoons
 125 "Don't beat around the bush!"

- DOWN**
 1 Keep the beat?
 2 "Sugar Lips" trumpeter
 3 Holiday visitors, perhaps
 4 Garfield's middle name
 5 Nunavut's ___ Strait, named for an explorer
 6 "___ in the hand ..."
 7 ABCs
 8 Subatomic particle
 9 Singer DiFranco
 10 "Hot enough for ya?," e.g.
 11 Block
 12 1976 airport raid site
 13 Formula One racer Fabi
 14 Oilers, on NHL scoreboards
 15 Be relevant
 16 Faulkner vixen Varner
 17 Gorgeous farm gal feeding the pigs?
 18 Many playlist entries
 19 Round the Broadway corner
 24 Connecting point
 32 Still destroyer
 33 Many a presidential term, historically
 34 Salt
 35 Bygone fliers
 39 It may be done on one foot



Solution on B5

- 40 File ___
 41 Natural sci.
 42 The pond, in the U.K.
 43 Former Nigerian secessionist state
 46 Strings with pedals
 47 Fictitious
 48 Attraction for shutterbugs
 49 Stain left by a pool disinfectant?
 50 Sing like Bing
 52 One for whom Apr. is the cruellest month?
 53 Disgruntled word
 55 Father of Tulip Victoria
 56 Like most fleet cars
 58 ___ Islands: Malay Archipelago group

- 60 Mari de la mère
 61 Lady Liberty's land, proudly
 65 Bygone theaters
 66 Menial helper
 67 ___ and all
 68 Charlotte ___
 71 Find fault with
 76 Eastern ideal
 77 No more than
 79 Sly
 82 Every one
 84 Scandinavian capital
 86 Declare frankly
 87 Biomedical research agcy.
 90 ___ Aviv
 91 Apple consumer
 92 Strife
 94 Teen phase, often

- 96 Israeli desert fortification
 97 Wood sorrel genus
 99 Cut through
 100 Canine predator
 101 Walk casually
 102 Shake
 103 Strategic WWII island in the Northern Marianas
 104 High seas patron
 106 Activist Chavez
 108 Monogamous waterfowl
 109 Take care of
 111 Take heed
 113 Young newts
 116 Army E-7: Abbr.
 117 More, on a score
 118 1300 hours
 119 German article

You'll be center of attention, Scorpio

Metro News Service

RIES — Aries, let your creative side take over this week. Your imagination is ready to run wild, and this burst of creative energy will have long-lasting positive effects.

TAURUS — Taurus, though you are known for being a tad stubborn, this week you are open to any and all suggestions. You may surprise a few people by being so open-minded.

GEMINI — Gemini, while you may have natural leadership abilities, most of the time you do not want to pull rank. This week you may need to step things up a bit.

CANCER — Cancer, now is a good time to travel, even if it means just a quick jaunt. But if a big vacation is on the horizon, know that you will likely have a smooth trip ahead.

LEO — Your powers are magnetic this week, Leo. Others find you simply irresistible, which can bode well if you are looking for a romantic partner or want to step things up.

VIRGO — Virgo, a busy week at work will require lots of cooperation among you and your coworkers. If ever there was a time to summon your leadership abilities, now is the time.

LIBRA — Libra, many things are in disarray and you may need some help getting back to efficient living. Download an app

to help you track expenses or keep tabs on your responsibilities.

SCORPIO — You are bound to be the center of attention, Scorpio. Get over any shyness early on because you will be spending time with coworkers for most of the week.

SAGITTARIUS — You will do some of your best work at home this week, Sagittarius. Spend ample time getting the house in order. A few days working from home could kick-start plans.

CAPRICORN — Capricorn, quickly curb any feelings of boredom by exploring a new hobby. Try taking a new fitness or art class. You'll have chances to mingle, too.

AQUARIUS — Put the brakes on impulse buys, Aquarius. This week you may be tempted to spend more money than you have, and that will only lead to long-term financial concerns.

PISCES — Pisces, it is time to rebrand yourself. This may start with a mini-makeover or more significant changes to your life and career.

FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

June 22: Cyndi Lauper, Singer/Songwriter (61); June 23: Frances McDormand, Actress (56); June 24: Mindy Kaling, Actress (35); June 25: Busy Philipps, Actress (35); June 26: Derek Jeter, Athlete (40); June 27: Sam Claflin, Actor (28); June 28: John Cusack, Actor (48)

Lone Star transplant longs to make return to Empire State



DEAR ABBY

DEAR ABBY: I'm a lifelong New York resident; my husband is not. So when he had an opportunity to move to Houston to be closer to his only brother, he desperately wanted to move.

I knew it was important to him. He never had children, and he wanted to be part of his niece's and nephew's lives. So we moved.

Now we're treated like we don't exist! We're not invited to family events, they never visit us and we're not included during holidays. These are the people who begged us for the last 13 years to move to Texas.

I want to return to New York. He doesn't want to go. I'm afraid if I insist, I'll need to move back alone. Should I risk my marriage over it?

— HOMESICK FOR NY

DEAR HOMESICK: There is a middle ground between moving back to New York and staying in Texas. One of them is making regular trips to visit your mother, children and friends. Another would be to understand that your husband's family cannot be your sole source of social activity.

You and your hus-

band should join clubs and volunteer your time to some worthy causes. That's the way people meet each other. Texans are known for their hospitality — so give them a fair chance. But only as a last resort should you sacrifice your marriage.

DEAR ABBY: I have been dating "Hank" for five years. He has always been a loner. He has never been married and has no kids. We lived together for four years and our relationship is wonderful other than his "just being him." He's kind of self-centered and not very communicative.

Hank just learned that his mother is terminally ill. He came home from work, told me to pack and move out, gave me five minutes of his time and then left! I packed some clothes and went.

I'm not sure if I should stay away or try to get him to talk this through with me.

This is tearing me apart. I know he loves me, but I'm afraid that with what's going on with his mom, he's shutting me out because he can't handle it. I'm the closest person to him, but he is pushing me away. Please give me some advice.

— FEELING VERY ALONE IN MAINE

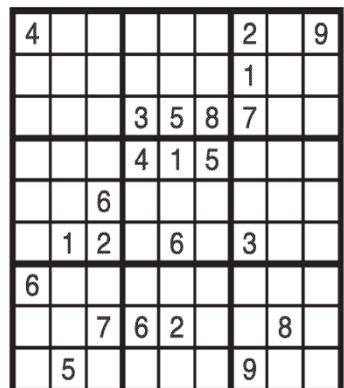
DEAR VERY ALONE: Whether you should remain involved with Hank depends upon how great your tolerance is for pain. He

isn't shutting you out; he gave you one giant kick in the fan-ny. He also isn't "kind of" self-centered; he's VERY self-centered.

If you're curious about his mother's health, call and ask from time to time. But do not expect to get back together anytime soon. To have ended the relationship with you the way he did was brutal.

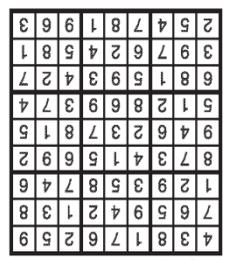
Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440,

SUDOKU



Level: Advanced

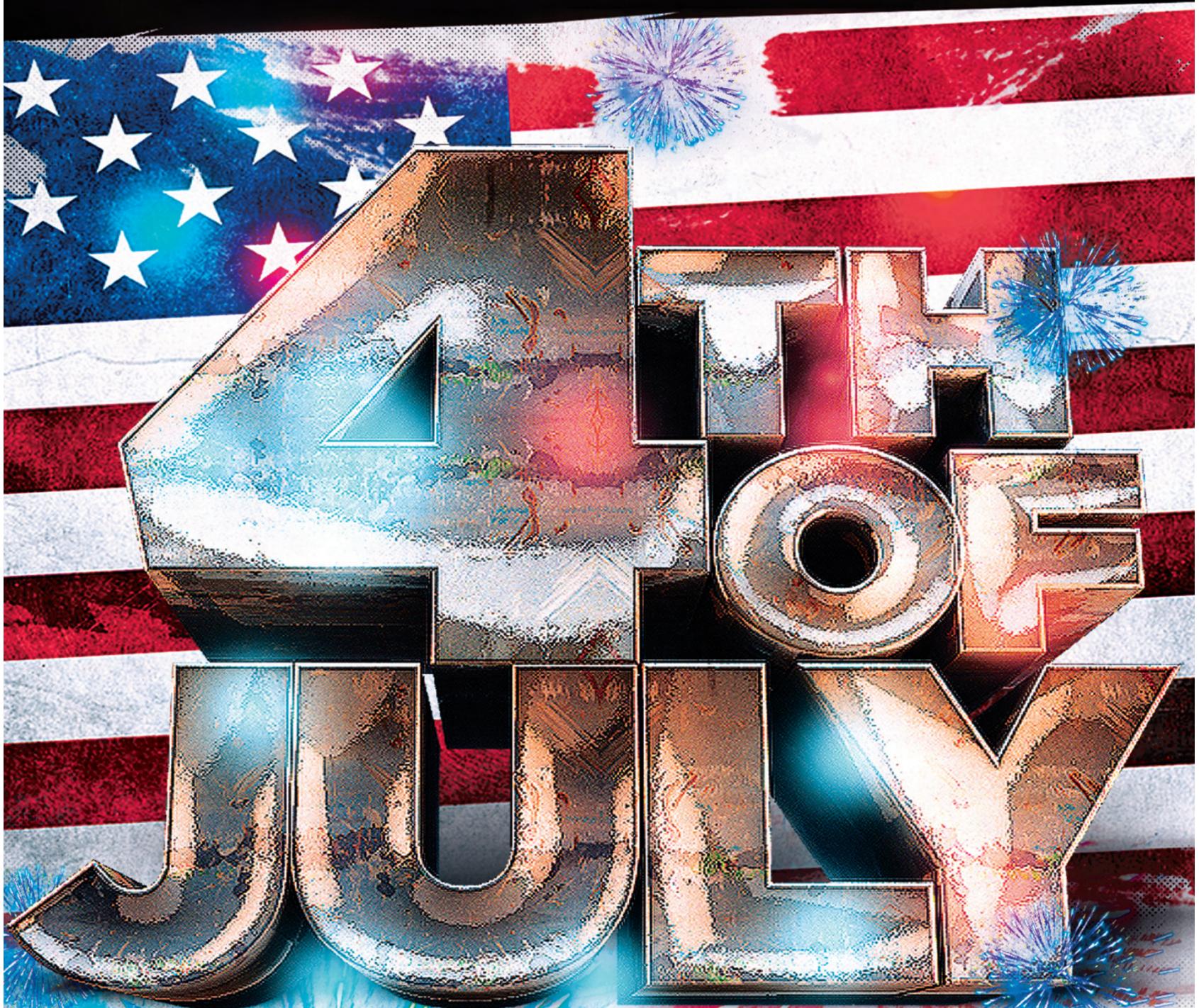
Here's How It Works: Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!



ANSWER:

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!

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STARTS AT 11AM - FIREWORKS

Bioenergy education program comes to SFSC this fall

Special to the News-Sun

SEBRING — Beginning this fall, South Florida State College (SFSC) will offer a bioenergy education program to provide students with a foundation of environmental sciences and renewable energy.

With a rising interest in green chemistry, sustainability, and escalating oil prices, bioenergy is on the forefront of the flourishing biofuels market. Biofuels are a sustainable energy source made from organic materials or recycled oils converted into liquid fuels.

SFSC's district of Hardee, Highlands, and DeSoto counties, has the ideal climate, soil composition, available agricultural land, local infrastructure, and potential workforce to quickly emerge as a thriving biofuel industry.

"This is a great opportunity for our community to become more involved in supplying an energy source for our state," said Kevin Brown, dean of applied sciences and technologies at SFSC.

"This program will allow students in our service district opportunities to enter the workforce in different avenues than ever have before."

While a number of universities provide advanced degrees in biofuels and biomass production, SFSC is focused on preparing individuals for technician positions.

SFSC's unique bioenergy education program is an establishment of a much-needed, industry-driven preparation program that addresses the bioenergy market's progressive educational needs. The program has enhanced this transition by creating viable curriculum, training protocols, and industry support to produce an educated workforce designed to meet industry demands.

SFSC's biofuels education program offers an associate in science degree in biofuels technology and biomass cultivation, industry certificates, and a dual-enrollment track for high school students. The biofuels technology track prepares individuals to work in a biorefinery facility, and the biomass cultivation track prepares students to work in agricultural production of feedstock.

The program will also provide ongoing continuing workforce education workshops and seminars for professionals in the biofuels industry to maintain and advance their knowledge base.

The bioenergy ed-



Vernon Bryant/MCT

Elias Maayeh checks for clarity before proceeding to the next step at Texas Biotech in Arlington, Texas, a biodiesel processing facility. The new SFSC program will train students to work in similar facilities.

ucation program through SFSC will impact the K-12 education system in several ways as well, particularly in advancing science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) content. SFSC will be the only college offering high school students such robust exposure to biofuels technologies.

In recent years, the U.S. has begun to focus on alternate sources of energy to curb its dependence on foreign providers. Central and south Florida, with its warm, moist subtropical environment, is ideal for the production of energy cane, sweet sorghum, and sugarcane—plants upon which advanced biofuel production relies.

Compared to corn-based methods, they produce a higher yield per cultivated acre, incur lower production costs, and have a smaller carbon footprint. The most common types of liquid biofuels are ethanol, an alcohol made from plant biomass, and biodiesel, a combination of hydrocarbon chains with some similarities to petro diesels, but without the pollutants.

"What makes SFSC's program so unique is that we are preparing the technicians to grow feedstocks, plants or algae that will be used for fuel production,

or produce biofuels, ethanol or biodiesel, from feedstocks," said Dr. Beth Burch, lead instructor of SFSC's Biofuels Education Program. "Other energy-related programs may include a course or two on biofuels, but our curriculum is designed around the production of biofuels from plant or algae feedstocks."

"This program will benefit our region by preparing the workers needed to staff the biomass growing operations and fuel production facilities," Dr. Burch said.

"The jobs pay well, help our local economy, and can have a positive impact on the environment, if developed and operated carefully. These are green-collar jobs that are future-focused, high-tech, and where one can contribute to improving society."

In 2013, Dr. Burch was hired by SFSC to develop the innovative biofuels education program.

As the program develops, she will continue to work with professionals from the biofuels and agriculture industries to determine the knowledge and skills their employees need. Dr. Burch's educational background includes a bachelor's degree in biology from Millersville University, and a master's degree and doctorate in botany from

the University of Florida.

Students in the bioenergy education program will be required to complete an industry internship with businesses such as biogas generation plants, feedstock growers, or biofuels production companies. Practicum placements and internships are a key component of the program's allowing SFSC's students to graduate with well-honed skills and a solid work experience in the field.

After completion of the two-year program, graduates can go on to earn a bachelor's degree in a biofuels-related field such as ag-

ricultural operations management, agricultural and biological engineering, environmental management in agriculture and natural resources, chemical engineering, natural resources, and sustainability studies.

Graduates of the program will have a broad understanding of biomass-generated energy and the tools, skills, and knowledge needed to begin their bioenergy careers. They will qualify for numerous positions within the industry such as plant technician, plant operations manager, lab technician, agriculture equipment specialists, sales manager, process coordinator, agri-

culture operations, or business owner.

"This program will help maintain the connection to agriculture in our region that has been so significant for many decades," Burch said. "Growing biomass for fuels production may provide a viable alternative for citrus growers, who are facing huge challenges due to greening."

The bioenergy education program was funded by a \$900,000 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) in 2012. SFSC is one of a small number of community and state colleges across the United States to have been awarded an NSF grant.

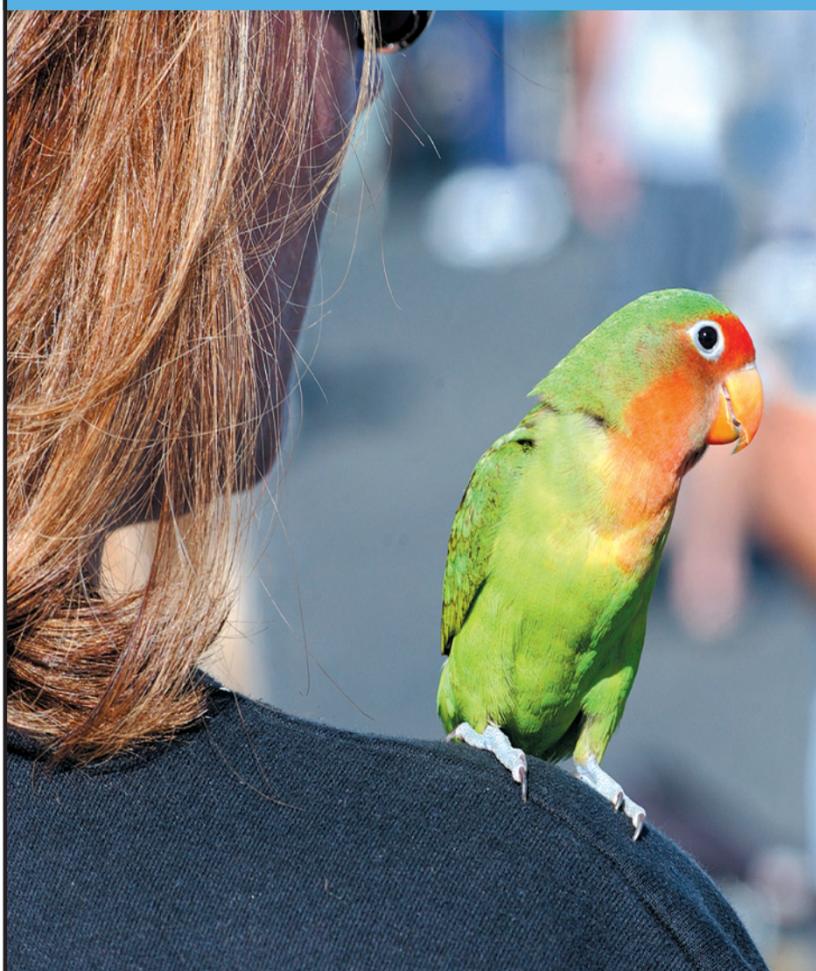
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5 first impressions of the new Harry Potter park

TAMARA LUSH
Associated Press

Universal's new Harry Potter park: Lots to buy, from capes to wands, but so entertaining

ORLANDO — Universal Orlando Resort opened its new, richly detailed Harry Potter-themed area to media and other travel industry insiders on Wednesday night.

The new park zone, called The Wizarding World of Harry Potter-Diagon Alley, will delight fans of the hit book and movie series with a marquee ride, Harry Potter and the Escape from Gringotts.

But Diagon Alley is also heavy on experiential retail, with stores so entertaining and visually stimulating that you almost forget you're shopping.

The attraction doubles the size of the Harry Potter footprint on Universal's property. Diagon Alley opens to the public July 8 at Universal Studios. A train called the Hogwarts Express connects the new area to the original Wizarding World of Harry Potter attraction, called Hogsmeade, which opened in 2010 on the other side of the theme park at Universal's Islands of Adventure.

If fans want to see both Harry Potter areas, a two-park ticket is required. For adults, a two-park ticket for one day costs \$136; for children, it's \$130.

Helena Bonham Carter, Matthew Lewis and Domhnall Gleeson were among the actors from Potter films walking a red carpet at Universal Wednesday night.

Here are five first impressions of Universal's new Diagon Alley, which was inspired by the fictional London location famous for wizarding supplies in the Harry Potter series:

Window shopping

The level of detail in Diagon Alley is amaz-



Marjie Lambert/Miami Herald/MCT

Workers put the finishing touches on Hogsmeade Station for the Hogwarts Express at the Wizarding World of Harry Potter at Universal Studios in Orlando.

ing, and nowhere are the features more fun and true to the novels and movies than in shop windows. There are lots of things for sale, but others are simply great decorations. Books play a central role in the decor; window-shoppers will see animatronic versions of "The Monster Book of Monsters," a tome with teeth, along with self-knitting needles and Harry Potter's snowy owl, Hedwig.

Unique gifts

With seven shops in Diagon Alley, there's plenty to buy. (There are five shops in Hogsmeade, Universal's original Harry Potter attraction.) Among the offerings: Weasleys' Wizard Wheezes (chattering teeth, expandable ears), Madam Malkin's Robes for All Occasions (\$250 for

a wizard's robe), Quality Quidditch Supplies (everything for playing the real-life sport based on the game in the series) and Scribbulus (implements for paper, pen and ink lovers). Magical Menagerie sells cute stuffed animals (pygmy puffs are popular), while Borgin and Burkes — located off Diagon Alley in the book, on Knockturn Alley — is a "dark arts" shop that sells skulls, black T-shirts and Death Eater masks. Wiseacre's Wizarding Equipment sells telescopes and binoculars.

Interactive wands

For \$35, guests can buy interactive wands at Ollivanders Wand Shop, located in both Diagon Alley and Hogsmeade. When wand-wielding guests see a medallion symbol in either area, they

can wave the wand and cast spells. The wands make trolls dance, light lamps and chandeliers, and silence some shrunken heads, among other things. Maps of the medallion areas are available, but Universal says there are also some hidden spell areas for guests to discover.

Wizard wardrobes

In addition to robes, fans can buy capes and preppy button-down cardigans inspired by the four houses where Harry and his fellow students live at Hogwarts school. Madam Malkin's Robes for All Occasions also has on display a wedding dress and two costumes that aren't for sale: an intimidating black-beaded cape ensemble worn in a promo for the new attraction, and a costume worn by Kenneth Branagh as Gilderoy

Lockhart in the "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets" movie. The wedding dress is white with white feathers at the hem and softly twinkling lights within the skirt.

Photo ops

As you enter Diagon Alley, look toward Gringotts Bank — which is the entrance to the centerpiece thrill ride, Harry Potter and the Escape from Gringotts. A dragon is perched atop the bank, and it breathes fire — an instant Facebook photo or Instagram shot. Once you enter the bank, while in queue for the ride, don't miss the three enormous glass chandeliers. Finally, find 12 Grimmauld Place where Kreacher the House Elf peers eerily from a window.

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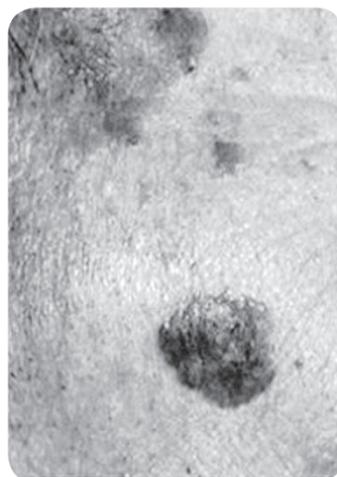
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ANGLICAN

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

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

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

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

BAPTIST

Avon Park Lakes Baptist Church, 22600 N. Highlands Blvd., Avon Park, FL 33825. George Hall, Pastor. Christ centered and biblically based. Sunday worship services, 8:30 a.m., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Nursery facilities are available. Bible studies at 9:45 a.m. Sunday and 7 p.m. Wednesday. Prayer Time 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday. Bible classes at 9:45 a.m. are centered for all ages. Choir practice at 5 p.m. Sunday. Church phone: 452-6556.

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

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

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

First Baptist Church of Avon Park, N. Lake Ave., Avon Park, FL - 453-6681. Rev. Jon Beck, pastor; Rev. Johnattan Soltero, Hispanic pastor; Joy Loomis, director of music. Sunday - Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 10:45 a.m.; Children's Church, 10:45 a.m.; Youth Choir, 4:30 p.m.; Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Nursery provided for both services. Wednesday - Wednesday Night Supper, 5:15 p.m.; Children's Choir, 5:45 p.m.; Youth Activities, 6 p.m.; Prayer Meeting/Bible Study, 6 p.m.; Worship Choir Practice, 6 p.m.; Mission Programs for Children, 6:45 p.m. Hispanic Services: Sunday school at 9:30 a.m., worship service at 11 a.m. Wednesday Bible study at 7 p.m. To watch services online, go to the website at www.fbcap.net. "In the heart of Avon Park, for the hearts of Avon Park."

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

First Baptist Church of Lake Placid, Knowing God's Heart and Sharing God's Hope, 119 E. Royal Palm St., Lake Placid, FL 33852 (863) 465-3721. Website: www.fbcpl.com. Email: information@fbcpl.com. Sunday services - Traditional Service 9 a.m., Contemporary Service 10:30 a.m. Link Groups at 9 and 10:30 a.m., Wednesday Activities: Family dinner at 5 p.m. (\$4 per person, reservations required - dinner is not held during the summer). Prayer meeting, Youth Intersections, and MaxKidz Extreme meet at 6:15 p.m. The church is at 119 E. Royal Palm St., Lake Placid. For information, call 465-3721 or go to www.fbcpl.com.

First Baptist Church of Lorida located right on U.S. 98 in Lorida. Sunday

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

First Baptist Church, Sebring, 200 E. Center Ave., Sebring, FL 33870. Telephone: 385-5154. Rev. Matthew D. Crawford, senior pastor; Rev. Nuno Norberto, associate pastor, minister of music and senior adults; and Dixie Kreulen, preschool director. Group Bible Studies, 9:15 a.m.; Blended Service, 10:30 a.m.; Mision Buatista Hispana, 2 p.m.; Sunday Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday night programs at the ROC begin 5:30 p.m., at church begin 6:30 p.m. Preschool and Mother's Day Out for children age 6 weeks to 5 years old. Call 385-4704. Website www.fbsebring.com

Florida Avenue Baptist Church, 401 S. Florida Ave., Avon Park. Mailing address is 710 W. Bell St., Avon Park, FL 33825. Telephone, 453-5339. Rev. John D. Girdley, pastor. Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.; Sunday Worship, 11 a.m.; 11 a.m. Children's Church; Sunday Evening Worship, 6 p.m. Wednesday night programs for children and youth at 6 p.m. and for adults at 6:30 p.m.

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

Leisure Lakes Baptist Church, 808 Gardenia St., Lake Placid (just off of Miller at the west end of Lake June) "Where the old fashion gospel is preached." Sunday School begins at 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Worship service at 10:45 a.m.; Sunday Evening Service is at 6 p.m. Wednesday Prayer Meeting and Bible Study at 6 p.m. Call the church at 699-0671 for more information.

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

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

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

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

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

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

CATHOLIC

Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, 595 E. Main St., Avon Park, 453-4757. Father Nicholas McLoughlin, pastor. Father Luis Pacheco parochial vicar. Saturday Vigil Mass is 4 p.m. in English and 7 p.m. in Spanish; Sunday mass 8 and 10:30 a.m. in English. Weekday mass at 8 a.m. English confession at 3:30 p.m. Saturday; Spanish confession at 6:30 p.m. Religious Education Classes (September to May) are 9-10:20 a.m. Sunday for grades K through 5th. Grades 6th through Youth Bible Study are from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday.

St. Catherine Catholic Church, 820 Hickory St., Sebring. Parrish office/ mailing address: 882 Bay St., Sebring, FL 33870, 385-0049, 385-6762 (Spanish); fax, 385-5169; email, office@st-cathe.com; website, www.stcathe.com. School Office/Mailing, Principal Dr. Anna V. Adam, 747 S. Franklin St., Sebring, FL 33870; 385-7300; fax, 385-7310; email school@stcathe.com. School office hours 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday-Friday. Clergy: Very Rev. José González, V.F., frjose@stcathe.com or 385-0049; Parochial Vicar, Rev. Victor Caviedes, 385-3993; Assisting Priest (retired), Rev. J. Peter Sheehan; Deacons, Rev. Mr. James R. McGarry and Rev. Mr. Max M. Severe. WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE: Saturday: - 4 p.m.; Sunday - 8 and 10 a.m., 12 p.m. (Spanish), 5 p.m. (Holy Family Youth Center), every third Sunday of the month at 2 p.m. (French Mass). Daily Mass: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. and 12 p.m. Saturday at 9 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation: 7:15-7:45 a.m. first Friday, 2:30-3:15 p.m. Saturday and 9-9:45 a.m. Sunday. Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.

St. James Catholic Church, 3380 Placidview Drive, Lake Placid, 465-3215. Father Michael J. Cannon. Mass schedule: Sunday 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. year round. Saturday Vigil 4 p.m. Weekdays 9 a.m. Holy days 9:30 a.m. (Vigil evening before at 7 p.m.) First Saturday of each month: Healing Mass, 9 a.m.

CHRISTIAN

Cornerstone Christian Church, (Saxon Hall) 1003 W. Pine St., Avon Park, FL 33825. Love Christ - Love People. Jon Carter, Music Minister. Sunday, 9 a.m. Bible Study; 10 a.m. Worship; Communion available each week. Wednesday, 7 p.m. Fellowship Group. For more information call 453-7679.

Sebring Christian Church, 4514 Hammock Road, Sebring, FL 33872. Tod Schwingel, Preacher. Kristy Marvin, Childrens Director. Youth Minister Blake Rushing. Sunday Worship, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 11 a.m.; Wednesday night meals, 5:30 p.m. followed by classes at 6:30 p.m. Alzheimers Caregivers Support Group meets at 1 p.m. Thursdays. Phone 382-6676.

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

CHRISTIAN & MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

The Alliance Church of Sebring, 451 Sparta Road, Sebring, FL 33875. Call 382-1343. Rev. Steve Hagen, pastor. Sunday services: Sunday School meets at 9:30 a.m.; Sunday Morning Worship Service meets at 10:30 a.m.; Sunday Evening Bible Study meets at 6 p.m. (off site); Wednesday Prayer Gathering meets at 6 p.m.

CHURCH OF BRETHREN

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

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Avon Park Church of Christ, 200 S. Forest Ave., Avon Park, FL 33825. Minister: Don Smith. Sunday Worship Services, 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Nursery facilities are available at every service. Bible Study: Sunday, 9:30 a.m. and Wednesday, 7 p.m. Bible centered classes for all ages. Church phone: 453-4692.

Heartland church of Christ, Lakeshore Mall - Suite 42 (outside entrance), 901 U.S. Highway 27 N, Sebring, FL 33870. Sunday worship, 9 a.m. to noon; Wednesday, Bible study, 7 p.m. Evangelist Carl Ford, (863) 402-2159.

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

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

CHURCH OF GOD

Church on the Ridge, Church of God, Anderson, Ind.; 1130 State Road 17 North, Sebring, FL 33870. Worship Service Sunday, 10 a.m.; Bible Study and Prayer, Wednesday, 7 p.m. Pastor Dr. Collet Varner, (863) 382-0773.

CHURCH OF NAZARENE

First Church of the Nazarene of Avon Park, P.O. Box 1118, Avon Park, FL 33825-1118. 707 W. Main St. Sunday: Sunday school begins at 9:45 a.m. for all ages; morning worship at 10:45 a.m.; and evening service at 6 p.m.

Wednesday evening service is at 7 p.m. with special services for children and adults. If you need any more information, call 453-4851.

Church of the Nazarene of Lake Placid, 512 W. Interlake Blvd., Lake Placid, FL 33852. Adult Sunday school, 9:30 a.m.; Morning worship, 10:45 a.m.; Wednesday evening: All church meal, 6 p.m.; Christian Life Study, 6:45 p.m. Winter Life groups pending. Call 446-1339. Pastor Tim Taylor.

CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN CHRISTIAN UNION

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

EPISCOPAL

Episcopal Church of the Redeemer Avon Park, 910 W. Martin St., Avon Park, FL 33825 (U.S. 27 across from Wells Motor Co.). Rev. Canon George Conger. Sunday services: Holy Communion at 9:30 a.m.; Bible study Wednesday at 10 a.m. Everyone is welcome. Come and worship with us; we would love to meet you. Church office, 453-5664; fax, 453-4853. Visit us at our website at redeemeravonpark.com. Email reddeemer1895@aol.com. Call the thrift store for hours open and donation pick up at 664-9668 or 453-5664.

St. Agnes Episcopal Church, 3840 Lakeview Drive, Sebring, FL 33870. Father Scott Walker. Sunday Services: Holy Eucharist Rite I - 7:30 a.m., Holy Eucharist Rite II - 10 a.m. Nursery available for the 10 a.m. service. Wednesday Bible study, 9:30 a.m. Visitors are always welcome. Church office 385-7649, for more information.

St. Francis of Assisi Anglican Episcopal Church, 43 Lake June Road, Lake Placid, FL 33852. Phone: 465-0051. Rev. Elizabeth L. Nelson, Rector. Worship: Summer Sunday schedule, June 1-Sept. 1, 2014: 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.. Sunday School at 10 a.m. Wednesday Worship 6 p.m. and Thursday 9 a.m. Holy Communion with Healing. Call the thrift store for hours open - 699-0221.

EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF AMERICA

The Church of the Way EFCA, 1005 N. Ridgewood Drive, Sebring. Sunda1005 N. Ridgewood Drive, Sebring. Sunday school and worship service at 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Youth activities, 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays. The Way is a church family who gathers for contemporary worship, teaching of God's Word, prayer and fellowship. Come early and stay after for fellowship time. Child care and children's church are provided. Reinhold Buxbaum is pastor. The Way - A place for you. Office Phone: 471-6140, Church Cell Phone: 273-3674. Email: thewaychurch@hotmail.com. Web site: www.TheWayChurch.org

GRACE BRETHREN

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

INDEPENDENT

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

INTERDENOMINATIONAL

World Harvest and Restoration Ministries, (non-denominational) 2200 N. Avon Blvd., (non-denominational) 2200 N. Avon Blvd., Avon Park, FL 33825. Phone: 452-9777 or 453-3771. Sunday service: Sunday School, 10 a.m. and worship, 11 a.m. Wednesday services: 7 p.m. prayer meeting/Bible study. Pastor: W.H. Rogers.

LUTHERAN

Atonement Lutheran Church

(ELCA), 1178 S.E. Lakeview Drive., Sebring. Rev. Sharon Dorr and Deacon David Thoresen will be the Spiritual Leaders, alternating Sundays. Jim Helwig, organist. Worship service with the Holy Eucharist is at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday. Birthday Sunday is the first Sunday of each month after the service. Council meeting is on the first Tuesday of each month. WELCA meets at noon second Tuesday of the month with a light lunch. Labyrinth Prayer Garden is open to the public 24 hours a day, seven days a week. When in need of prayers or to talk to God, come to the Garden. Come and grow with us; we would love to meet you and your family. Don't worry about how you look. Jesus went to the temple in a robe and sandals. Quilting classes every Monday at 6 p.m. Looking for quilters or people willing to learn. Call 840-3303.

Christ Lutheran Church Avon Park - LCMS, 1320 County Road 64, 1/2 mile east of Avon Park High School past the four-way stop sign. Sunday Divine Worship is at 10 a.m. Holy Communion is celebrated every week with traditional Lutheran Liturgy, hymns and songs of praise. Fellowship time with coffee and refreshments follows worship. Come worship and fellowship with us. For information call Pastor Scott McLean at (863) 471-2663 or see christlutheranavonpark.org.

Faith Lutheran Church - LCMS, 2740 Lakeview Dr, Sebring; Church phone: 385-7848; Faith Child Development Center: 385-3232. Sunday Worship Service: 9 a.m. Communion served 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday. Sunday School & Bible Classes: 10 a.m. Worship Svc. Broadcast at 10 a.m. on WITS 1340AM each Sunday. Educational opportunities include weekly adult Bible studies, Faith's Closet Thrift Store (385-2782) is open from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. All are warmly welcome in the Family of Faith.

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

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

Resurrection Lutheran Church - ELCA, 324 E. Main St., at Memorial Drive, Avon Park. Pastor Rev. John C. Grodzinski. Sunday worship 9:30 a.m. Wednesday Worship Service is at 7 p.m. Open Communion celebrated at all services. "God's Work, Our Hands."

Trinity Lutheran Church - LCMS, 25 Lakeview St., Lake Placid, FL 33852; 465-5253. The Rev. Richard A. Norris, pastor; Susan C. Norris, Trinity Tots Pre-School director Education Hour, 8:45 a.m.; Worship service, 10 a.m. Holy Communion each first and third Sunday. Children's Church scheduled during worship service, 4-year-olds through fifth grade. Nursery provided during worship service for infants to 3-year-olds. Seasonal Mid-Week Services each Wednesday evening during Advent and Lent. Call church office at 465-5253 or visit the website at www.Trinitylutheranlp.com. Other activities and groups include: Choir; Ladies Guild and LWML; Men's Fellowship Group, Small Group Bible Studies; Trinity Tots Pre-school, and Youth Group.

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

Bible Fellowship Church, 3750 Hammock Road, Sebring, 33872-4458. Sunday Summer schedule: 9:00 a.m. Worship service. Sermon & songs signed in American Sign Language. (Nursery & Sunday School for Kindergarten through 5th grade) 10:45 a.m. Sunday School for all adults in Sanctuary. (Nursery and Sunday School classes for Kindergarten through Youth). Evening Service, 6:00 p.m. Wednesday: Youth, 6:00-7:30 p.m.; Prayer time, 6:15 p.m. Todd Patterson, pastor; Andy McQuaid, associate pastor. Church office 863-385-1024. Website: bfcsebring.com

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

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

Continued on next page