**Scott tapped for help with refugee influx**

By Rachel Christian  
Staff Writer

Scott Scott tapped for help with refugee influx  

**Florida since Hurricane Maria devastated Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands in September.**

Willie Nunn, Federal Emergency Management Agency coordinating officer for recovery operations, explained about housing programs and aid currently available for eligible displaced Puerto Rican citizens. It includes the Transitional Housing Assistance Program, which will provide temporary housing in the mainland United States for those still living in Puerto Rican shelters.

Numerous hotels and motels in Orange and Osceola counties have signed up to participate in the federal program, but according to Nunn, few eligible families have shown interest in participating.

“Right now, we have interviewed about 1,000 of the 3,000 people still in shelters, and only two families have seen Scott,” Scott, Page 3.

---

**Watching with pride**

By Rachel Christian  
Staff Writer

Third grader Bella Ramirez wanted a rock-solid way to show her support for local law enforcement officers.

The 8-year-old student at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic School in St. Cloud ultimately settled on one of a kind handmade “Kindness Rocks.”

Each brightly colored stone is hand painted and decorated by Ramirez, who also inscribes a kind word or inspirational message on each of the pieces. The young girl then hand delivers her creations to regional police officers as a token of her appreciation.

“It seemed like a nice thing to do that they might also like,” Ramirez said.

Ramirez’s mother, Jeanne, said the decorated stones started as a creative way for Bella to fulfill required volunteer hours at her school. The mother-daughter duo came across the idea of Kindness Rocks through the website Pinterest.

For Ramirez first began handing out her kind rocks at the Winter Haven Police Department, where her father is an officer. But it wasn’t long before the thoughtful student decided to take her school project to the next level.

See Girl, Page 6.

**Local girl makes ‘kindness rocks’ for cops**

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**Firefighters shaving ‘stache for men’s health awareness**

By Brian McBride  
Editor

It’s about to get a little less hairy in Osceola County.

In an inaugural event, firefighters from the Kissimmee Fire Department, Osceola County Fire Rescue and St. Cloud Fire Rescue will come together Nov. 26 at the Red Dog Pub to celebrate Movember by shaving their mustaches.

Movember, a word derived from the Australian-English word for mustache, “mo” and November is an annual event involving the growing of mustaches during the month of November to raise awareness of men’s health issues, such as prostate cancer, testicular cancer, and men’s suicide.

On Nov. 26, firefighters from the three agencies who have chosen to grow mustaches, can choose to have them shaved by a barber at the pub, 2948 State Road 535, while helping to raise money for the Movember Foundation.

“It’s just to raise awareness to men’s health,” Kissimmee Fire Chief Jim Walls said.

See Firefighters, Page 6.
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“Santa Calling” is coming to town

Pioneer Village vandalized over the weekend

The city of Kissimmee is now accepting requests for “Santa Calling,” a tradition taking place on Wednesday, Dec. 6 from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Parents interested in having Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus call their children, may send the following information via email to santak@kissimmee.org:

- Child's name and pronunciation.
- Age (10 years old or younger)
- English or Spanish speaker.
- Phone number.
- A list of what they want from Santa Claus.
- Names and ages of the siblings.
- School/grade/teacher.
- Pet type and their names.
- Parents, what would you like your child to improve on?
- Do you have an Elf on the Shelf? Is it a girl or a boy? Name!
- Best time to call between 5:30 and 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 6.

By Rachel Christian
Staff Writer

Bullet holes and broken windows were among the damage discovered at the Pioneer Village in Shingle Creek Sunday morning.

It is the eighth act of vandalism we’ve seen over the past two years. We have discussed increasing security measures seriously. "We've never sustained this kind of damage before," said Dampier. "That's why we're taking these additional security measures seriously.

The organization is also reaching out to the public for donations to help repair the damage. "As a nonprofit group, we're already dealing with major budget constraints," Dampier explained. "Every dime counts, and incidents like this can really set us back."

The historic society has launched a fundraiser on its Facebook page to assist in repair costs and new security equipment. The group has already collected $2,700 toward its $5,000 goal.

Those who are interested in making a contribution can visit the group's Facebook page at Osceola County Historical Society.
Moratorium was a mistake

To the Editor

Our Board of County Commissioners seems to not know what it is that they would like to do. With the recent vote on the three-month moratorium, they have eluded that they would like to have time to look at goals, objectives and regulations so that we can reign in out of control building, as well as create an environment where affordable housing is a reality. Yet, basic economics tells us that regulations increase the cost to builders and owners. Increased costs are then passed to consumers and renters. Meaning that more regulations increase cost and rent on housing. Their intentions will come with blowback that may lead to even less affordable housing and an increase in price to existing housing. This possible increase in valuations could cause an increase in taxes, rent, and other assessments. Many residents within the county already see themselves in tight budget situations and cannot afford to pay the increased cost of overregulation. This added cost could lead many to leave stable homes for an unstable motel living lifestyle. We cannot do this to our residents.

On top of the added cost to residents, this may not actually slow the growth they seek to control. Increase cost simply means that may not actually slow the growth they seek to control. Increase cost simply means that many residents within the county already see themselves in tight budget situations and cannot afford to pay the increased cost of overregulation. This added cost could lead many to leave stable homes for an unstable motel living lifestyle. We cannot do this to our residents.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Clinic offers support

To the Editor:

Over the past few weeks, more than 70,000 Puerto Ricans have relocated to Florida after the devastation of Hurricane Maria.

While many of these American citizens will need housing and other support, many will also need medical care. That’s where Florida’s free and charitable clinics come in.

As chief executive officer of the Osceola Council on Aging Health Clinic, I have seen how our free medical services have been used by displaced, low-income families. We have provided primary and specialty care services, medications, and vaccinations for those leaving their doctors and hospitals behind in Puerto Rico. In some cases, the treatment received is life-saving, and life-altering.

Legislative funding of Florida’s free and charitable clinics has always been a smart investment. It’s helped keep low-income, uninsured Floridians healthy, while reducing overall healthcare costs and hospitalizations. But in the wake of a natural disaster, volunteer-driven clinics like ours become even more critically needed.

Following Hurricane Irma, our clinic reopened its doors within just days, ensuring continuity of care. We’ve also provided food, personal hygiene supplies, and bottled water for those impacted by the storms, in addition to medical care. When it comes to a disaster’s aftermath, Florida’s free and charitable clinics are the most prepared to activate medical volunteers and provide medical care to the vulnerable. Thanks to the Florida Legislature’s support, we’ve been here through the storm for Floridians and for Puerto Ricans. And we’ll be here through the next one.

Beverly Hougland, CEO Osceola Council on Aging

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SHINE serving elders at Poinciana library

By Lisa Concepcion

SHINE on! Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders (SHINE) will be at the Poinciana Branch Library Thursday, Nov. 16, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Receive one-on-one counseling to address your Medicare, Medicaid and other health insurance needs. This counseling is free, unbiased and confidential.

The Physician Lecture Series at the Poinciana Branch Library features physicians from the Poinciana Medical Center sharing information on health-related issues. The next Lecture Series will be on Thursday, Nov. 16, from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. The topic will be “Minimally Invasive Anterior Total Hip Replacement.” This may be of interest to those considering hip surgery.

Prime Time Family Reading will be Monday, Nov. 20, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. This program is designed to kick-start reading between parents and children in their home. Families with children ages 6 and older will commit to sharing in reading, meals and fellowship. Sponsored in part by Florida Humanities Council, this program includes a book discussion over dinner. Activities are provided for younger siblings. Transportation is provided for those who make prior arrangements. To register, call 407-742-8922.

Full STEAM Ahead for Families with children in grades 3 to 5. This program is for children who love to knit, crochet, cross-stitch, quilt, scrapbooking or any other portable craft. Bring your supplies. This is a place to learn and share ideas. All ages and skill levels are welcome.

All library programs are free and open to the public. The Poinciana Branch Library is located at 101 N. Doverplum Ave.

The Association of Poinciana Villages 25th Annual Christmas Parade will be Saturday, Dec. 9, at 11 a.m. (lining up at Vance Harmon Park, 50 Country Club Drive; at 10 a.m.)

There will be cash prizes for judged floats - First place wins $600, second place wins $400 and third place is $200. Battle of the High School Marching Bands also offers cash prizes. First place wins $500, second place wins $250.

In addition to the parade, the Association of Poinciana Villages will hold a Winter Festival at the end of the parade. There is room to display 10 floats around the perimeter of the celebration. Space is limited. This is an opportunity to showcase your business or organization. Cost is $50. Booth space is also available for firefighters. The respective agency will be the owner of the respective T-shirts representing each agency. There will be a couple of bands playing during the event from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. There will be food and drink specials and a contest for best and worst mustaches.

“We hope to get a good draw from all three departments. If the fire marshal has to show up because there is too many people there, the more the better,” said Osceola County Fire Rescue Lt. Robert Clark in jest.

But the event is just not for firefighters. “It’s family-friendly, bring the kids as well,” said county firefighter/paramedic Tom Quay.

“Anybody from the public is welcome to come.”

The Osceola FD Benevolent, an organization which helps firefighters and their families in need, is hosting the event. Fighter T-shirts representing each respective agency will be sold, as well as mustache finger tattoos, with the proceeds going to the Movember Foundation.

“As far as firefighters, one of the biggest problems we have right now is cancer and heart problems,” Clark said. “Coming up on the back side now is PTSD and suicide.”

Girl

Continued from Page 1

“Just thought it would be for the officers in Winter Haven,” Jeanne explained. “But then it blossomed into something much more.”

When Matthew Baxter and Sam Howard of the Kissimmee Police Department were fatally shot on Aug. 18, Ramirez expanded her mission to include all police officers in Osceola County. It was a tall order, but Jeanne said Bella was determined to show her support. The elementary school student created the hashtag #KidsBackTheBlue and wrote it on the back of each rock. Many officers have used the special hashtag when they post photos of their keepsakes on social media sites like Facebook and Instagram.

The young girl’s simple way of saying thanks resonated with other members of the community.

Bella Ramirez shares a kindness rock with Winter Haven Community Service Officer Katelyn Hovercamp.

The Home Depot in St. Cloud donated three bags – or over 300 stones – to facilitate Ramirez’s project. As for law enforcement officers themselves, the stones serve as tactile reminders of support from a caring young citizen.

Firefighters

Continued from Page 1

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To read the entire column, visit www.aroundosceola.com.

Bella Ramirez shares a kindness rock with Winter Haven Community Service Officer Katelyn Hovercamp.

“The Kissimmee Police Department was deeply honored that Bella took the time to make and distribute the rocks,” said Deputy Chief John Lewis. “It was especially wonderful seeing her personally hand select a rock for each officer.”

Bella Ramirez shares a kindness rock with Winter Haven Community Service Officer Katelyn Hovercamp.
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Y0114_17_33484_U_SP_Accepted
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SCORES

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Kowboys' 9 sacks, big key 44-16 win over Manatee

By Ken Jackson
Sports Editor

Since the Osceola football sideline is a little like the club, to take liberties with the movie Fight Club, First rule about the 2017 season's not don't talk about the 2016 playoffs.

This year's Kowboys eclipsed the hurdle of last year's Class 8A Region 2 quarterfinal, a shocking 28-27 loss to Treasure Coast that followed another perfect regular season but didn't show except for possibly a stretch late in the second quarter and early in the third.

The game had more intrigue than the final score revealed, it was a 23-16 game with four minutes left in the third quarter before Osceola (10-0) made big plays on both sides of the ball to blow it open.

The Kowboys got five of their nine sacks on Hurricanes' quarterback Ryan O'Neill in the fourth quarter and scored 21 points on running, passing and defensive phases during an eight-minute stretch of the second half.

OHS forced three turnovers and held Manatee (15-4) to minus-19 yards rushing. Coach Doug Nichols' team needed that defensive effort to overcome 150 yards in penalties and a pair of turnovers that resulted in 10 Manatee points and nearly changed the game's outlook.

"We had six turnovers in nine games before this," he said. "That and the penalties, that's not us. We really got ourselves in a hole. Let's play at halftime (leading 23-6), I told the guys to turn up the energy, because if it gets to 23-16 or 23-20, are you going to be able to shake off that?"

Early on it looked like a rout. It was 9-0 playings eight point-in-the-game after Manatee went three-and-out and a punt snapped sailed through the end zone. After a Malcolm Davidson 25-yard sweep and two short Jakobe Thomas carries, quarterback B.J. Jones (O) scampered 44 yards on four rushes.

See Playoffs. Page 9
**SPORTS**

**PLAYOFFS**

Continued from Page 8.

Braxton Jones went 12 yards on a bootleg for a score. Osceola got a 33-yard TD three minutes into the second quarter after Davidson and Thomas added touches on a 16-yard run and a one-yard plow, the latter set up by Davon Wells’ 59-yard punt return to the doorway.

The Panthers had little trouble in their first drive after the kickoff, with the Kowboy defense bowing to the Panthers’ 6-5 finish marked a three-straight season. The first time that’s happened in school history. They stood at 4-4-staring down two must-win games just to be in the hunt for a playoff berth, and got a come-from-behind 21-14 win over Titusville with a 20-14 over a Mount Dora team in the same boat that looked and felt like a playoff game.

Gatewyer also turned back county foe Harmony on Sept. 2, shutting out a Longhorn offense in the first half en route to a 23-14 win. Junior quarterback Maurice Adams, who won that job midway through his sophomore year, threw for nearly 750 yards and will be a playoff-tested veteran as a senior. His go-to receiver, Nyeve Freeman (38 catches, 421 yards, 5 TDs) graduates, but field mates Bangura (718 yards, 11 TDs) and Tyrell (407 yards, five TDs) return.

Roberts will have to restock the defensive line, anchored by Jeremica Messam (71 tackles) and freshman Ashanti Ramirez (67, 204). The girls ran decent, and Tristan had a great season, but had a bad game to have a bad race against his standards,” St. Cloud cross country coach Kevin Harkema said.

By Ken Jackson

**SPORTS**

Harmony, St. Cloud cross-country teams end season at state; Bolen 16th in Class 3A

By Ken Jackson

**SPORTS**

Over a tough and hilly course in Tallahassee, St. Cloud and Harmony cross-country teams and boys teams tested their speed and endurance against the state’s best in the Class 3A and 4A state championships.

In the 3A race, the girls (13th place out of 24 teams) and boys (13th out of 23) cracked the top 15.

Sophomore Gateway running back Phillip Bangura (B) led the Panthers with 679 rushing yards and leading the team in rushing in the first time the program’s put three of them in a row.

“We thought we had the ball better this time around,” Roberts said. The Panthers’ 6-5 finish marked a three-straight season, the first time that’s happened in school history. They stood at 4-4-staring down two must-win games just to be in the hunt for a playoff berth, and got a come-from-behind 21-14 win over Titusville with a 20-14 over a Mount Dora team in the same boat that looked and felt like a playoff game.

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St. Cloud Pee Wees go 8-0, win conference championship

The St. Cloud Youth Football Bulldog Junior Pee Wees were Mid-Florida Conference champions, and played for a regional title last week in Albany, Ga.

The regional playoff game Saturday against the Titletown Titans out of Valdosta, Ga., the feeder program for the nationally-ranked Valdosta High School program, was scoreless until the fourth quarter, when Titletown won, 13-6.


The coaching staff includes Head Coach Jason King, Dwayne Clark, Danny Goicoechea, David Holland, Ontie Jones, Mike Marcato, Kyrissan Sippo and Team Mom April King.

Look for the Osceola News-Gazette’s comprehensive holiday event guide in next Thursday’s paper featuring upcoming events and holiday shopping ideas.

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Informing readers. Helping build a stronger community.

Thursday, November 23

*Submitted photo*
**THURSDAY, NOV. 16**

**THE ORLANDO SCIENCE CENTER**

is offering free admission to veterans and active military, 50 percent off for families, through Nov. 19. Coming soon to the center: Gingerbread Lane holiday exhibit.

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**FRIDAY, NOV. 17**

**BRINGING HOPE**
one song at a time, a benefit concert for Puerto Rico, will be held at Rollins College, Friday, Nov. 17. Tickets are $20 for the 7 p.m. show. Go to http://rollinscollegenic.pr-optout.com/ for tickets.

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**SATURDAY, NOV. 18**

**OSCEOLA CRAFTERS GUILD**

presents the Holiday Craft Fair, Nov. 18-Dec. 17, at Osceola Arts. The event features handmade holiday items by local artisans. Go to http://www.osceolaarts.org/exhibits.html for more information.

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**WEDNESDAY, NOV. 22**

**THANKS-FOR-GIVING BLOOD DRIVES,** will be held at several Walmart, Publix, and movie theaters with free offers for donors. Go to oneblood.org for information.

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**THE GUIDE**

**CONTACT**

**PETER COVINO**
OSCEOLA NEWS GAZETTE A&E EDITOR
EMAIL: PCOVINO@OSCEOLANEWSGAZETTE.COM

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**CAN GAYLORD MAKE KISS-STORY?**

**MISTLETOE KISS RECORD SET FOR DEC. 7**

Gaylord Palms Resort and Experience Kissimmee are inviting adult couples from all over to participate in an attempt to break the world record for couples kissing under the mistletoe. The record attempt will occur by the giant tree in the atrium.

Gaylord and Experience Kissimmee are covering all the bases for the mega kissing event. Mentos, the breath freshener company, will offer their famous mints for the big moment.

“Why are we excited to be a part of this year’s holiday festivities at Gaylord Palms Resort,” said Sylvia Buxton, Marketing Vice President with Mentos maker Perfetti Van Melle. “The Mentos brand is all about fresh connections. Nowhere is that freshness more important than under the mistletoe.”

The holidays have always been a part of Gaylord Palms Resort, and each year the seasons-themed events seem to get bigger. “Over the last 14 Christmases, this resort has welcomed millions from around the world to make memories during the season as they experienced our ICE! attraction and other holiday events,” said Johann Krieger, General Manager of Gaylord Palms. “There seemed no better time to host a Guinness World Records title attempt as we present ICE! featuring Christmas Around the World this year, making special memories for our guests and STARS (hotel staff) during this magical season.”

This year’s holiday events include live shows, nightly Christmas tree lighting extravaganzas, character dining and more. Couples wishing to enhance this memorable Kiss-Story in the Making experience can book an overnight stay with a special rate of $159 plus tax and resort fee. To make a reservation at this special rate, guests can book online at GaylordPalms.com and choose December 7 as date of stay and apply corporate/promo code ZST.

Other highlights awaiting visitors to Gaylord Palms this holiday include:

- A new season of Cirque Dreams Unwrapped — remagnified by Broadway director and renowned Cirque Dreams founder Neil Goldberg. Complimentary seats will be available on a first-come-first seated basis, while guaranteed seating may be purchased in advance. Guests wishing to enhance their show experience may reserve a seat at a Cirque Dreams Unwrapped Dessert Party, available on Saturdays during December. Incredible views from a private fourth-floor viewing patio provide a unique perspective for the Cirque Dreams performance as guests enjoy a special buffet of holiday treats from the Gaylord Palms culinary team paired with beverages to please all ages.

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**THE OCSEOLA CRAFTERS GUILD**

**HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR**

**November 18 - December 17 at Osceola Arts**

**Monday through Saturday: 10am to 4:30pm**
**Sunday: 12pm to 4:30pm**
**Open During All Scrooge the Musical Performances**
By Peter Covino

It’s not only a day to give thanks, but also the biggest dining day of the year. If you want to skip the ordeal of cooking that turkey, here are some last minute bets on dining out around Orlando.

Universal Orlando Loews Hotels will be offering a feast of Thanksgiving buffets including:

**Trattoria del Porto**

Loews Portofino Bay Hotel

Savor the tastes of Italy at the Thanksgiving Day Buffet from 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. Entertainment includes appearances by Universal Orlando characters, kids’ holiday crafts and activities table, face painter, balloonist and live music. Adults $65, children (ages 3 – 9) $20, under 3 free.

**The Kitchen at Hard Rock Hotel**

Universal Orlando

The rockin’ Thanksgiving Buffet from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. and 5 p.m. – 10 p.m. Entertainment includes appearances by Universal Orlando characters and Magic Man. Adults $62, children $22, under 3 free.

**Islands Dining Room**

Loews Royal Pacific Resort

The Thanksgiving Holiday Buffet among the sights and sounds of the South Pacific from 11 a.m. – 9 p.m. Entertainment includes a face painter, balloonist and appearances by Universal Orlando characters. Adults $58, children (ages 3 – 9) $26, under 3 free.

**Amatista Cookhouse**

Loews Sapphire Falls Resort

A Caribbean-style Thanksgiving Day Buffet from 11 a.m. – 9 p.m. Entertainment includes a face painter, balloonist and appearances by Universal Orlando characters. Adults $55, children (ages 3 – 9) $26, under 3 free.

Call 407-353-DINE (3463) for reservations at all Loews restaurants.

**Raglan Road Irish Pub & Dining Room**

It’s a traditional meal with the Raglan touch from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Butter and herb roasted turkey breast on mashed potatoes, with apple, sage and sweet onion stuffing, smoked bacon, Brussels sprouts, duck fat roasted potatoes and cranberry and plum chutney served with traditional gravy, $27.95. Children, $14. The regular menu also is available. Live bands, entertainment, after 4 p.m. Reservations 407-938-0800.

**Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center**

Gaylord Palms offers two Thanksgiving Day buffet options.

**Villa Del Flora**

Enjoy traditional holiday fare along with other delicious options from Villa de Flora’s fresh and authentic seasonal buffet menu, all set in the grand dining room of a European villa.

The Thanksgiving Day Buffet is $87 for adults, $35, children (plus 18 percent gratuity and tax). Self-parking is included in the price. It is served from 10:30 a.m. 7 p.m.

**Old Hickory Steakhouse**

Enjoy fine dining, a large wine selection and great atmosphere at Old Hickory Steakhouse. Located in the Everglades atrium, this signature restaurant offers a rustic ambiance for savoring sophisticated cuisine and the finest regional products. In addition to the world-class food, there will be special holiday offerings served from 3 p.m. – 10 p.m.

The menu includes pumpkin soup or roasted kocha squash salad, roasted turkey breast with sausage and fennel cornbread stuffing, whipped potatoes and roasted fall vegetables and pecan tart (cinnamon crème anglaise, vanilla whipped cream) for dessert. It’s $65 plus tax per person.

**Bahama Breeze**

Kissimmee, U.S. 192 (and in Orlando)

The Thanksgiving menu includes: sliced jerk turkey and pork, and island-inspired sides, like pan-roasted green beans, cornbread stuffing, cranberry-pineapple chutney and guest choice of mashed potatoes or cinnamon mashed sweet potatoes. Special dessert option includes Bahama Breeze pumpkin praline pie.

**The Capital Grille**

4200 Conroy Rd., Orlando

The Capital Grille will feature the regular menu plus Thanksgiving specials. The menu includes a starter, entrée and choice of mashed potatoes or cinnamon mashed sweet potatoes. Special dessert option includes Bahama Breeze pumpkin praline pie.

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**The Polite Pig at Disney Springs**

1536 Buma Vista Drive

The Polite Pig will be open from 11 a.m. – 11 p.m. on Thanksgiving Day. Its menu selections include signature dishes like the smoked chicken wings with pickled carrots, House-smoked brisket with coffee rubs, The Southern pig sandwich with pulled pork, fennel-apple slaw, tangy mustard bbq and Duke’s mayo, and crispy brush spouts with whisky-karamel. Visit www.politepig.com for more information.

**F&D Kitchen**

F&D Kitchen will offer a full a la carte menu in addition to several specials such as the Pan Roasted Teriyaki Glazed Turkey with marinated turkey breast and dark meat roulade, cranberry sauce, potato soufflé, and candied pecan tart (cinnamon and pecan praline). A three-course prix fixe menu for $49 per person plus tax.

**Evolution Bistro & Wine Bar**

5000 International Drive

Evolution Bistro & Wine Bar will serve a three-course prix fixe menu for $49 per adult, $29.95 for children 12 – 17. A three-course prix fixe menu includes: a full a la carte menu in addition to several specials such as the Pan Roasted Teriyaki Glazed Turkey with marinated turkey breast and dark meat roulade, cranberry sauce, potato soufflé, and candied pecan tart (cinnamon and pecan praline). A three-course prix fixe menu for $49 per person plus tax.

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**PUERTO RICAN BASKETBALL TEAM TO HOST USA IN WORLD CUP QUALIFIER**

The Puerto Rican National Basketball team will host the United States in a FIBA 2019 World Cup Qualifier basketball game on Nov. 23 at 7:30 p.m. at CFE Arena on the campus of UCF. The game was originally scheduled to take place in Puerto Rico, and will be the first game under the new FIBA competition format, as a qualifier for the 2019 World Cup in China.

Tickets are on sale now and available through Ticketmaster.com, Ticketmaster outlets, by calling 888-745-3000 or at the CFE Arena Box Office.

"The truth is that after the impact and damage left by the horrific hurricane Maria, celebrating the game in Puerto Rico would’ve been a great challenge due to the limitations that we’re facing. That’s why we looked for alternatives to celebrate this game, and we are happy to give Puerto Ricans the opportunity to do it in the city of Orlando, where there’s a large Puerto Rican community that we know will enjoy this great match-up, plus all those Puerto Ricans who wish to travel to see their team face one of its eternal rivals," said Yum Ramos, President of the Puerto Rico Basketball Federation.

It was also announced that 28% of the events net proceeds will be donated to the foundation United for Puerto Rico, as a special contribution from the Puerto Rico Basketball Federation towards the island’s recovery. "We all need to do our part to rebuild Puerto Rico and get the sport up and running is an essential aspect of our coaching staff and the players have a real commitment to our country and that’s why we need the support of everyone during these difficult times," said Puerto Rico National Head Coach, Eddie Casiano. "We all have a genuine and serious commitment to prepare for this first FIBA qualifying game that will be played off the island for obvious reasons. We would’ve loved to play in front of our fans and feel the warmth of our gym in Puerto Rico, but I believe that in Orlando we can count on the support of all Puerto Ricans that live there, while we bring joy and hope to our people." For more information on the FIBA Basketball 2019 World Cup, please visit www.fiba.basketball.

**HOLIDAY FAVORITE, IT’S A WONDERFUL LIFE COMES TO SHAKESPEARE THEATER**

Bells will ring and angels will get their wings as Orlando Shakespeare Theater in association with ICT presents It’s a Wonderful Life: A Radio Play, Nov. 29-Dec. 30 at the-marigoten The[r. Inspired by Frank Capra’s classic film, this beloved holiday treat brings the spirit of the season right before your eyes.

"Gathering together to watch It’s a Wonderful Life is a cherished holiday tradition for many families," said Jim Helsinger, artistic director at Orlando Shakes. "We are excited to be able to offer our Central Florida community the opportunity to take that tradition a step further this year by bringing the beloved holiday classic live on stage!" Tickets ($13 - $50) can be purchased by calling (407) 447-1700 ext. 1, online at www.orlandoshakes.org, or in-person at the John and Rita Lowndes Shakespeare Center (407) 447-1700 ext. 1, online at www.orlandoshakes.org, Center (812 E. Rollins St.).

Opening Night Party & Pre-Show Chat - Friday, Dec. 1. At 6:15 p.m. to enjoy free light appetizers from a local eatery, followed by a brief, informative discussion about the creative process with the director and members of the creative team.

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**Mission Statement**

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.
The vibrant buffet dinner show, Caribbean Carnival at the Loews Sapphire Falls Resort at Universal Orlando, moves to a new day beginning Dec. 8. The popular interactive show, where dancing is encouraged by the audience, moves to Friday nights. The weekly show is a musical journey through the Caribbean, featuring authentic food, as well as the music and dance of the islands. The all-you-can-eat buffet includes soft drinks, beer, wine and Plantier’s Punch. The show starts at 7 p.m. Tickets are $69 adults, $35 children. Go to https://www.eventbrite.com/e/caribbean-carnival-tickets-31771927821?aff=staff for tickets / information.

WHAT Caribbean dinner show WHERE Loews Sapphire Falls Resort at Universal Orlando WHEN Beginning Dec. 8 | 7 p.m. COST $69 adults, $35 children INFORMATION https://www.eventbrite.com/e/caribbean-carnival-tickets-31771927821?aff=staff
Turkey is nutritious all year long

Turkey is much more than a Thanksgiving staple and can be enjoyed in various ways throughout the year.

Aside from the occasional sandwich, many people think turkey is solely for the Thanksgiving dinner table. However, turkey is much more than a holiday centerpiece. Anyone concerned about healthy eating would be wise to take more of the health benefits of turkey and find ways to include it in their diets throughout the year.

Turkey is low in fat and high in protein, an important source of nutrition. One piece of turkey breast without the skin measures up at only a calorie, four grams of fat and a whopping 30 grams of protein, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Nutrient Data Laboratory. Dark meat and turkey legs are higher in calories but boast similar amounts of protein.

The average portion of turkey is 100 grams, or 3.5 ounces of meat. This is about the size and thickness of a deck of cards. A single serving of turkey can provide around 25 percent of the recommended daily intake of protein.

But turkey is more than just a low fat source of protein. The meat is rich in niacin (B3), which may help increase HDL cholesterol, widely known as the “good” form of cholesterol. Niacin, in addition to helping balance cholesterol levels, can lower a person’s risk for cardiovascular disease by reducing atherosclerosis, which is a hardening of the arteries. The resource Healthline also says niacin may help reduce inflammation and symptoms of arthritis.

Turkey also is rich in vitamins B6 and B12. B6 helps keep red blood cells healthy while serving as an immune system booster that protects against damage to cells and tissues. Around 20 percent of the recommended daily amount of selenium can be obtained from a single serving of turkey.

Turkey also is lower in calories and fat and higher in protein than chicken. Those who routinely consume chicken as part of a healthy diet can substitute it for turkey even for greater nutritional benefits. Turkey is particularly low in saturated fat, which may contribute to increased levels of the LDL, or “bad”, cholesterol.

Turkey is versatile, as it can be baked, boiled, stir-fried, grilled, roasted or deep-fat fried. Turkey can be served hot or cold, and leftovers can be delectable on their own or in a turkey salad.

Turkey is less dense than turkeys whose cavities are overflowing with stuffing. The Food Network recommends going easy with the stuffing. Turkeys that are not densely stuffed will cook more evenly than turkeys whose cavities are filled with a lot of stuffing.

The Food Network recommends that cooks who want their turkeys to have crisp skin leave the bird uncovered for the first 2-3 hours of cooking. Then cover and cook for an additional 1-2 hours.

Turkey is typically the centerpiece of the Thanksgiving meal. Although turkey can be deli-grade and nutritious addition to the table, individuals looking to expand their culinary horizons may want to borrow from the other foods believed to have been shared among the Wampanoag Pilgrims and Wampanoag natives during the 1621 feast that inspired Thanksgiving.

Waterfowl

While turkey were available in abundance in the New World, but historians believe that, during the first Thanksgiving meal, participants likely relied on waterfowl instead of turkey. In fact, turkey wasn’t a common Thanksgiving fare until after Waterfowl, according to National Geographic, includes ducks, mallards, swans, and geese. Those looking to experiment can take a peak from turkey and make duck the centerpiece of their meals this Thanksgiving.

Seaboard

Plymouth, Massachusetts, is located where Cape Cod Bay and the Atlantic Ocean meet. As a result, indigenous people and the pilgrims likely relied on the bounty and afforded by the ocean for their sustenance.

Seabirds, such as geese and swans, are examples of waterfowl that were likely turned into cornmeal and pounded to a thick porridge. Experimenting with a colonial recipe can liven up this year’s festivities.

Celebrate Thanksgiving with foods from the first feast

Thanksgiving is celebrated each November in the United States and each October in Canada. People traditionally gather around the dinner table flanked by friends and extended members of their families to give thanks for the blessings they enjoy throughout the year as they dig into a delicious feast.

Thanksgiving is a holiday to give thanks and share special moments with family and friends. While the original Thanksgiving might have taken place during a time when food was sparse, nowadays Thanksgiving often involves excessive amounts of food, with more food ending up in the garbage than in celebrants’ bellies.

The United States Department of Agriculture projects that Americans will throw away more than 200 million pounds of edible turkey meat this Thanksgiving. And Thanksgiving typically usher in a period of wastefulness, as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says in a period of wastefulness, as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says...
BRAIN FOOD

Amber Waves by Dave T. Phipps

The Spats by Jeff Pickering

1. GAMES: In Scrabble, what is the point value of the letter K?

2. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What breed of dog is known as a firehouse dog?

3. U.S. STATES: What is the only American state to begin with the letter “p”?

4. SCIENCE: What do you call trees that lose their leaves?

5. LITERATURE: In Shakespeare’s “Romeo and Juliet,” what is Romeo’s family name?

6. DISCOVERIES: Who is credited with inventing the 3D printer?

7. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who was the first president to be born in a hospital?

8. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the name of someone who shoes horses?

9. BIOLOGY: What percentage of people in the world have blue eyes?

10. MOVIES: Which actress has won the most Oscars?

Answers

1. Five
2. Dalmatian
3. Pennsylvania
4. Deciduous
5. Montague
6. Chuck Hull
7. Jimmy Carter
8. Farrier
9. 8 percent
10. Katharine Hepburn, with 4 Oscars and 12 nominations

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Live comfortably on less

Many people look toward retirement with mixed feelings. There is the anticipation and excitement of no longer having to stick to a set schedule. However, there may be some trepidation about living without a steady income.

While retirees may need to alter their spending habits, it is possible to live happily on less. Here are some ways to do just that.

- Accurately assess home expenses. The National Foundation for Credit Counseling says the cost of home-related expenses accounts for roughly 45 percent of spending for retirees. Individuals can add up exactly how much their homes are costing them and then decide if downsizing is a practical solution. Downsizing has a host of benefits, not the least of which is reducing housing-related expenses.

- Invest in health care. Unexpected health care costs can quickly deplete individuals’ finances. That’s why it is essential to have a solid insurance plan in place. Health care planning also may include thinking ahead to long-term care, such as assisted living and nursing homes. One may have to make concessions elsewhere, but investing in health care can assuage concerns men and women might have about the cost of living in their golden years.

- Use alternative transportation. Cars can be expensive. A budget-friendly alternative to driving is to use public transportation or transportation services provided to seniors free or for nominal fees.

- Take advantage of senior discounts. Many restaurants, stores and service centers offer discounts to seniors. The starting age for discounts varies from one establishment to another.

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The city of Kissimmee hosted this year’s Veterans Day parade which made its way up Broadway on Saturday. After the parade, there was a dedication ceremony behind the Berlinski House for a new memorial honoring veterans from each branch of service. Top row: A float sends a clear message. Visitors waved flags as the parade continued along its way. Second row: St. Cloud High School’s JROTC Color Guard marches up Broadway. World War II veteran William Heyward Ivey rides in a classic convertible. The national ensign along with the POW flag is raised as the Star Spangled Banner was sung at the beginning of the memorial dedication. The memorial includes each of the U.S. armed service’s logo on a pillar. Vietnam veteran Jeff Hawk encouraged veterans to stay involved by joining up with any of the various veteran organizations. Visitors get a close look at the memorial at the end of the ceremony.

News-Gazette Photos by Martin Maddock
By Melissa D'Arabian
Associated Press

You're likely to see persimmons in the grocery store and then shrug away from them, not quite sure what to do with them. The most common variety in the US is the ripe persimmon, also called Japanese persimmon, and it looks similar to a slighter flatter orange or orange-yellow fruit. The skin is thinner, more like a cantaloupe. The flavor falls somewhere between the two: not quite as acidic as a tomato and slightly less sweet than a peach.

The persimmon's sweet nature means an average fruit is about 115 calories — a bit higher than many other fruits and also a bit higher in fat than most cuts of red meat, and they offer more iron per serving than other vegetables. Persimmons are also much lower in saturated fat than most cuts of red meat, and researchers have found that they provide more even cooking.

Lindsey Nolan of Scranton, PA. Kristen Langan was looking for a healthy snack when she began experimenting with mustard creations four years ago.

A certified nutritionist and fitness instructor, her "go-to" snack was a carrot stick, dipped in mustard. She'd grown bored with the run-of-the-mill flavor variations she found on grocery store shelves, so she decided to make her own.

“Being in the health field, I wanted a healthy snack that tasted good and is not bad for you,” Langan said.

After many failures, she came up with a unique recipe that tantalized not only her taste buds, but those of everyone who tried it. 

Kiki's Flustered Mustard was born.

Langan, 39, of Scranton, never envisioned she'd become a player in the packaged food industry. A one-woman show, she initially produced about 130 jars of mustard a month, which she created in a home kitchen and sold on her website, in at craft fairs and at a few businesses in the Scranton area.

The mustard quickly turned into a multi-national company, pacifying her ability to keep up with demand. That's when she started this year, with a co-packing company in New York, which mass-produced the product.

The company created 600 jars of mustard in its first run. It sold out of most products within two months, Langan said.

A few jars remained for sale at two businesses, Zumbo's Cafe, 305 Market St., Scranton, and Quest Oats, 419 Church St. downtown, a few weeks ago.

The price varies by location, but it generally runs $3.50 to $7.50 a jar.

Langan said she just partnered with a co-packer located in Pennsylvania. She plans to do another run of about 1,000 jars, which she expects will be available as mid-November on her website and at restaurants.

She credits the mustard's popularity to its unique taste and mouth-feel. The taste comes from a mixture of horseradish root, brown sugar, garlic, salt, vinegar and mustard seed and powder. The secret to its mildness and sweetness is the addition of chickpeas, which is even more ironic.

"It's a warmer but sweet mustard unlike anything else out there," she said.

Linda Nolan of Scranton is among the product's fans. She recently purchased a jar at a fall festival and took it to a home party. 

"It's a really, salty, sweet taste. We use it to dip pretzels and different kinds of crackers and cheese," she said.

The mustard is particularly popular with health-conscious people, including runners, Langan said.

Murine is sentic to reduce clumping after a long run," she said.

Currently Langan offers only one flavor, known as the "classic." She recently developed a second, three- pepper flavor that is slightly more spicy. She expects that to be available soon.

Although sales are growing, Langan said the business remains a work in progress. Langan said she's breaking even at this point. She's hoping the next run will allow her to expand to more locations, with the ultimate goal of someday getting into major grocery chains. She's approaching the expansion cautiously, hoping to avoid opening a "little mustard store" in each of the cities.

Keith Flustered Mustard was born.

Langan, 30, of Scranton, never envisioned she'd become a player in the packaging food industry. A one-woman show, she initially produced about 130 jars of mustard a month, which she created in a home kitchen and sold on her website, at craft fairs and at a few businesses in the Scranton area.

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In this Oct. 17, 2017 photo, Kristen Langan of Green Ridge, holds jars of her Kiki's Flustered Mustard sold at Zummo's Cafe in Scranton. Pa. Kristen Langan was looking for a healthy snack when she began experimenting with mustard creations four years ago. After many failures, she came up with a unique recipe that tantalized not only her taste buds, but those of everyone who tried it. Kiki's Flustered Mustard was born. 

Pennsylvania woman turns love for mustard into growing business

In this Oct. 17, 2017 photo, Kristen Langan of Green Ridge, holds jars of her Kiki's Flustered Mustard sold at Zummo's Cafe in Scranton, Pa. Kristen Langan was looking for a healthy snack when she began experimenting with mustard creations four years ago. After many failures, she came up with a unique recipe that tantalized not only her taste buds, but those of everyone who tried it. Kiki's Flustered Mustard was born.
Christmas Eve the Italian way means fish, and more fish

For a holiday so widely celebrated around the world, the foods surrounding Christmas are as unique as the celebrants themselves. What this year’s revelers choose to eat is dependent on the region that decorates your tree. For example, Southern holiday tradition involves the Christmas pie. The South is known for its sugary, sweet pies., and gifts, Christmas looks a lot different from home across the world, but one thing is certain, here at the Culinary Institute of America, we’re especially interested in what’s on the table.

The Feast of the Seven Fishes is an Italian-American tradition to ring in Christmas Eve, when Roman Catho-licks celebrate the midnight birth of Jesus, known in Ital-ian as “La Vigilia.” Fish is a traditional ingredient in the Christmas Eve dinner because custom calls for the exclusion of red meat leading up to the holiday.

Though the feast is in common reference as the “Feast of the Seven Fishes,” the origin of that number is unclear, and in fact, many Italian and American homes may serve upwards of 15 to 20 dishes to complete the feast. Recipes vary from region to region, but common ingredients can include cod, scallops, squid, shrimp, mussels, clams, calamari, shrimp, octopus, and even oysters. Often, they will serve a pasta dish in the mix.

But the meal, which is traditionally started in the kitchen, but doesn’t need to be daunting, is meant to celebrate Christmas Eve not only for the food, but for quick and easy Seven Fishes recipes that can be made beforehand. This simple sauce is a traditional way to add new tastes and fish before it will lightly coat the fish(es) and pasta. This will save you time because we’ve chosen the seafood heavy before; crab, shrimp, calamari, clams, mussels, scallops, and white fish. You can serve the shellfish in their shells for a dramatic presentation, or serve them sliced for a more user-friendly experience.

Depending on where you live, your fish markets may be buzzing in anticipation of Christmas Eve, or they may be buzzing in anticipation of Christmas Eve dinner. But don’t forget to check your catch too early. Your ingredients should be as fresh as possible, but cold and cold is not ideal. If your retailer is especially crooked. Make sure you give your clients and mass some breathing room if they can pack in pasta. While we’ve added it to our Christmas Eve menu, you can use this recipe as a base for weekdays dinner any long. Add Tha- silly vibrato to the broth, the ginger and lemon grass, and a squeeze of lime juice to this Tom Yum-style broth. Or, during the summer, add tomatoes, chives, and some hot chiles for a Latin flavor.

We like serving this sauce pasta (because every-thing is better with pasta), but you will also lose it over rice, as long as you have a little bit of rice around. Add the crab, white fish, calamari, clams, and mussels — aren't part of McLellan’s everyday dishes — roast turkey, pie and rolls at different temperatures. You can even serve it in a bowl, along with some crispy bread for dipping. Depending on how you serve it, this can be a deca- doment course or satisfying starter, but we think you’ll want all the fish on your table, your guests will be looking to share a bowl with you and your loved one.

SEVEN FISH FEAST

Serving: 6

Sauté in olive oil over medium heat
2 teaspoon extra virgin olive oil; plus more for garn- ing
6 garlic cloves, minced
1 teaspoon red pepper flakes
4 arugula leaves (optional)
2 1/2 cup dry white wine
2 cups fish stock
12 shrimp (21/25 count)
2 cups canned crab
1 1/2 pound small clams
1/2 lb linguine, de-boned and sliced
1/2 pound bay scallops
1 pound king crab leg, cracked into 6 portions (or 1 pound for 8 portions)
1/2 pound white fish fillet, such as halibut
1/2 cup diced Roma toma- toes
1 lb linguine, cooked, for serving
1/2 cup chopped parsley
Sliced pickled peppers, for garnish

Heat oil in a sauce pot over medium heat. Add gar- lies, pepper flakes, and an- chovies, if using. Cook until onion, about 1 minute. Add wine and cook until it reduces by about half, about 5 minutes. Add the clams and fish stock and bring to a light simmer.

Add the shrimp, squid, clams, mussels, scallops and slowly poach until the fish become firm and the mussels open, about 5 min- utes. Add the crab, squid, and scallops and simmer 3 minutes.

This year, Kirwan is feasting in her own version of the green bean casserole she grew up eating in Michigan.

She’s been using a recipe similar to the one that she grew up eating, with some tweaking of her own. This year she added a little bit of broth to create a sauce she could pour over the pasta. She also added a little bit of cream to make it richer, but she still wanted it to be a little bit different in every way. So, from the start, her Galliano’s menu was a bit different in every way, but still the same from the start. It was a way to get something on your table.

One year, she practiced a fresh pie that didn’t make it to her Thanksgiving table. “Thank God I didn’t make it as a practice because it just didn’t work,” she said. She’s a fan of New Orleans seasonal cooking and creates a full Thanksgiving meal with her college friends as guests or when her mother wasn’t interested in cooking for the holiday. “I feel blessed to take my college friends around the world each holiday because I still wanted the grand Thanksgiving dinner,” she said.

Kirwan, the owner of Percolate Kitchen, shows off her version of the classic Thanksgiving Green Bean Casserole, in her apartment kitchen in the Greenway borough of New York, Wednesday, Nov. 8, 2017.

Hosting Thanksgiving? Some like rehearsing the feast

Before theater professionals perform a play for an audience, they run a dress rehearsal. To some, it’s a Thursday, November 16, 2017

This Nov. 8, 2017 photo provided by The Culinary Institute of America shows a seven fishes sauce served over pasta in Hyde Park, N.Y. This dish is from a recipe by the CIA.

New construction at the CIA’s new campus in Hyde Park, N.Y. This dish is from a recipe by the CIA.

This year, Kirwan is feasting in her own version of the green bean casserole she grew up eating in Michigan.
WASHINGTON (AP) — A defiant General Jeff Sessions said Thursday that he never lied under oath about contacts with Russians during the 2016 election and said that the "chaos" of the Trump campaign clouded his recollection of campaign contacts with Russians.

Sessions sought to exonerate himself of any wrongdoing and operate in a legal defense about Russian interference in the 2016 election and about his own foreign contacts during the campaign.

"It was a brilliant campaign in many ways," he said. "It was a form of chaos every day from one day to the next. At times, sometimes to several places in one day...."

Sessions said under questioning, later that he was concerned that "he not go somewhere, particularly to represent the Trump campaign".

Sessions about a meeting with President Donald Trump and Russian President Vladimir Putin. As well, another meeting, Sessions about a meeting that he had alerted Congress in private statements that he had alerted about specific intermediaries.

Papadopoulos was accused of providing intermediaries information about communications with Page. And that he had never been in contact with Russia.

Sessions denied that he had not initially recollected specific communications about specific Russian contacts during the campaign.

Sessions also agreed.

"It's a mix" of gerrymandering. Republicans say that maps drawn to create districts where one party's voters are concentrated is gerrymandering is to try to maximize districts where one party's voters are concentrated. Republicans argue.

Democrats and some activists say gerrymandering is to try to maximize districts where one party's voters are concentrated. Republicans argue. Democrats say politicians who benefit from those arguments.

Democrats also argue.

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Democrats say politicians left to their own devices will simply craft maps designed to protect incumbents if they lack the political strength to do their jobs.

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"People don't like incumbent protectionists. They don't like seeing politicians rigging the system," he said. "It is the perfect time to do it."
In this March 31, 2014, file photo, Ana Edwards talks about historical markers at the Lumkin Jail historical site in South Carolina on June 17, 2014. Edwards and churchgoers in Charleston, S.C., were among hundreds who gathered around the Emanuel AME Church and the Mother Emanuel African-American Memorial on June 18 to remember the nine black people killed by white nationalist and Confederate descendant Dylann Roof murdered nine black churchgoers in Charleston, S.C., on June 17, 2015.

The diversity of the patrons will ensure their decisions include as much of the diversity of the Atlanta-American population as possible, Walker said. “It’s always difficult to discern who are our history-makers, but if you leave it to a few elite, you won’t have the full story,” he said.

Other foundations already committed include the Open Society Founders, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the Ford Foundation, the Open Society Justice Initiative, the Open Society Education Fund, the Open Society Equity Foundation, and the Open Society Policy Institute. They will ensure their decisions include as much of the diversity of the Atlanta-American population as possible, Walker said. “It’s always difficult to discern who are our history-makers, but if you leave it to a few elite, you won’t have the full story,” he said.

This 1999 file image scanned from a contact sheet provided by the Innocent Project shows Wilbert Jones during a portrait session. Jones, who has spent nearly 50 years in prison, could be freed Tues - day, Nov. 14, 2017.

A YouTuber who redubbed the Innocent Project to “Innocent Victim” to attract people to its cause, the Innocent Project shows Wilbert Jones during a portrait session. Jones, who has spent nearly 50 years in prison, could be freed Tuesday, Nov. 14, 2017.

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Lebanese president accuses Saudi Arabia of detaining PM

Israeli police on Thursday arrested an Iranian diplomat as the Israeli government announced it would deport the diplomat and his family in the coming weeks. The diplomat, who was arrested on Thursday, was one of several Iranian diplomats arrested in recent weeks by Israeli authorities. The Israeli government has accused the diplomats of spying for Iran and violating international law.

Lebanese president accuses Saudi Arabia of detaining PM

Lebanese President Michel Aoun announced on Thursday that he was formally asking Saudi Arabia to release its detained Prime Minister, Saad al-Hariri. Aoun said in a statement that he had conveyed his request to Saudi Arabia’s foreign minister and that he would continue to lobby for Hariri’s release.

Hariri, who is on a working visit to Paris, has not been seen in public since he announced on November 5 that he was resigning as prime minister of Lebanon after a series of protests against government corruption and economic hardship. Saudi Arabia, which has close ties with Hariri’s family and political alliances, has been linked to the demonstrations.

Aoun’s statement comes amid a growing diplomatic row between Lebanon and Saudi Arabia. The two countries have been at odds over a number of issues, including foreign intervention in Lebanon’s affairs and the role of Iran in the country.

In a move that could further complicate relations, the Lebanese president also announced that he would seek to dissolve the government and call early elections, a step that would likely exacerbate tensions with Saudi Arabia.

Hariri’s resignation last month, along with the protests, have raised concerns about the stability of Lebanon and the region. The demonstrations have forced the resignation of several ministers and have put pressure on the government to address economic and social issues.

The Lebanese government has been accused of corruption and mismanagement, and the protests have been driven by widespread dissatisfaction with the government’s handling of the economy and the lack of progress in the political sector.

The situation in Lebanon has also been complicated by the ongoing war in neighboring Syria and the presence of Iran-backed militant groups, which have been active in the country.

Aoun’s announcement comes amid growing international pressure on Lebanon to address its political and economic challenges. The country is currently undergoing a financial crisis, and the International Monetary Fund has called for a restructuring of the economy.

The Lebanese president’s move is likely to be met with resistance from the government and opposition, who have their own agendas and interests.

Lebanese political analyst Elias Feghali told Al Jazeera that Aoun’s announcement was a “calculated move” by the president to try to destabilize the government and create a power vacuum.

“Michel Aoun is a master of brinkmanship,” Feghali said. “He is trying to pressure the government into辞职， which would allow him to call early elections and secure his own political future.”

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Study suggests women less likely to get CPR from bystanders

Anahita, Calif. — Women are less likely to get CPR from a bystander and more likely to die in cardiac arrest, a new study suggests, and researchers think this re- sults from a gender bias that might be the reason.

The study, involving more than 200,000 people suffering cardiac arrest in public, found women are 26 percent less likely than men to get CPR from a bystander and 31 percent more likely to die. It shows the need for more research on new technologies and social media is important, and so is setting reasonable expectations.

"There's a tendency to say, 'Oh, teens are just communicating online all the time,'" said Dr. Victor Strasburger, a teen medicine specialist at the University of New Mexico. "It can be kind of daunting thinking about pushing hand and face on the child's chest and get their help when they're in the middle of the street."

"We can't become complacent about this," he added. "I think the problem gets more acute as new devices come in.

In this June 6, 2013, file photo, a hospital has her blood pressure checked by a registered nurse in Plainfield, Vt. New medical guidelines announced Monday, Nov. 13, 2017, lower the threshold for high blood pressure to 130 over 80. According to the guidelines, 46 million Americans have high blood pressure — about 22 percent of adults. Type 2 diabetics and those who are overweight are most at risk. The guidelines were published in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology.

WHAT ABOUT KIDS?

"I'm not sure whether we should say start them young," said study author Janet Fish, a psychologist at New York's Montefiore Medical Center. "There's a tendency to say, 'Oh, teens are just communicating with their peers.' Monitoring kids' use of smartphones and social media is important, and so is setting reasonable expectations.

Dr. Victor Strasburger, a teen medicine specialist at the University of New Mexico, said the connection between teen social media and social death is not as strong as those who ignored one hour of daily use.

"I don't feel that a person just using a smartphone or being online is necessarily more at risk, and there is a debate about the safety of social media for young people and what type of dangers is associated with it."

"The guidelines were published in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology.

In this June 6, 2013, file photo, a hospital has her blood pressure checked by a registered nurse in Plainfield, Vt. New medical guidelines announced Monday, Nov. 13, 2017, lower the threshold for high blood pressure to 130 over 80. According to the guidelines, 46 million Americans have high blood pressure — about 22 percent of adults. Type 2 diabetics and those who are overweight are most at risk. The guidelines were published in the Journal of the American College of Cardiology.

Rise in teen suicide, social media coincide; is there link?

ChicagO (AP) — An increase in suicide rates among young people has experts concerned and new research suggests there may be a link.

"It's a time of life where it's so important to know that you're not alone," said Dr. Benjamin Abella, a cardiologist at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. "It's a time when so many things are going on around them and they need support from people who care about them."

Skeptics have argued that teens who use social media are more likely to be depressed than those who use social media posts depicting "perfection." But a team of researchers from Harvard University and the University of California, San Francisco, found that teens who use social media are more likely to die, a new study shows.

"No one posts the bad things they're going through," said Dr. Mary Ann Glendon, a pediatrician at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. "It can be kind of daunting thinking about pushing hand and face on the child's chest and get their help when they're in the middle of the street."

"There is definitely a need for research on new technologies and social media is important, and so is setting reasonable expectations," said one primary care physician who praised the new approach. "This is not a time to be squeamish about training. We need to do more, limit alcohol, avoid smoking.

"The guidelines set new categories for blood pressure, based on age, height and gender. Kids should use automated devices. Counting sounds the blood makes as a heart beats and helps to measure blood pressure long-term, they say.

"I have no doubt there will be controversy. I'm sure there will be a lot of questions about how and why our patients have the condition, which now plagues half of American adults, said a member of the panel, none on this one have the condition."

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Half of US adults have high blood pressure: new guidelines

Anahita, Calif. — New guidelines lower the threshold for high blood pressure, adding 30 million more Americans to those who have the condition, which now plagues half of all U.S. adults.

High pressure, which for decades has held a top trained in men and women aged 140 or a bottom one of 90, drops to 120 over 80 in an effort to help them Monday by a dozen medical groups. The change means 46 million Americans have high blood pressure. The guidelines don't pick a "bully" or "dime-store" book that makes them more likely to use social media, and social media is important, and so is setting reasonable expectations.

"There's a tendency to say, 'Oh, teens are just communicating online all the time,'" said Dr. Victor Strasburger, a teen medicine specialist at the University of New Mexico. "It can be kind of daunting thinking about pushing hand and face on the child's chest and get their help when they're in the middle of the street."

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Trump's AG considers special counsel in uranium deal

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump is weighing whether to ask Attorney General Jeff Sessions to investigate the controversial $1 billion sale of an American uranium company to a nuclear powerhouse with ties to former Clinton officials. The probe would be the latest episode in the administration's political and legal feud with the Justice Department, as Sessions has repeatedly weighed in on the Justice Department's priorities, expressing particular concern about any new investigations into Hillary Clinton's email practices.

Secretary of State Rex Tillerson and other officials have asked Sessions to cool the Justice Department's investigation into the sale, and Trump has also pressed the department to look into Clinton's tenure as secretary of state. But the Justice Department has also been looking into the sale of Uranium One, the Canadian company that acquired the American company. The department said in a statement that it was "in the early stages of the investigation" and that it would be "careful and deliberate" in its approach.

The investigation has been viewed as a political move to distract attention from other matters, including the firing of FBI Director James Comey and the appointment of a special counsel to look into Clinton's email practices. It has also been seen as an attempt to turn on Sessions, who has been a vocal critic of the investigation.

The investigation has been criticized by some Democrats, who say it is politically motivated. But Sessions has defended the probe, saying it is "a very important matter" and that it is "within the province of the Justice Department to investigate these matters." He has also said that the investigation is "a matter of national security and national interest."
4th person shot dead in Tampa in possible serial spree

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Police investigating three successive killings in Tampa over the past month said Wednesday they do not yet know whether the killings were related.

â€œWe have a deadlocked jury,â€ said Tampa Bay Times that Felmenâ€™s trial was a folk has been found dead in the U.S. and the details are yet to be released. It was confirmed that three people were killed in the attacks.

â€œThis has got to stop,â€ said the former journalist. He explained that the murders were carried out by a serial killer.

In Italy, the Weinstein scandal has been followed up by a series of hearings and testimonies. The hearings have been held in the country, where reports of harassment and sexual abuse have been common.

â€œWe need to take leave from our show,â€ said the actor. He explained that the reason for his decision was thePrefabrik scandal.

â€œHe didn't need to come home,â€ said the decision. He explained that the singer had been found dead in a Paris hotel room.

â€œI still dream about my mother,â€ said the actor. He explained that the reason for his delay was thePrefabrik scandal.

â€œThe trial is the first major test for investigators since the 2016 U.S. Supreme Court ruling that prosecutors are required to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that a defendant is guilty. This ruling, which overturned the standard of proof for former Republican Virginia Gov. Bob McDonnell, played a significant role in how the trial developed.

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Italian soccer fans need something else to do next summer

MILAN (AP) — While most soccer-loving fans are looking forward to the World Cup, one of Italy's most popular comic books is YYYY.

Former striker Giuseppe Baresi, who also played for AC Milan, has written a comic that will be released next summer, just in time for the World Cup. Baresi, 53, is known for his biting criticism of Italian football at a time when the country is being urged to win a World Cup title.

The comic, titled "Soccer," is part of a larger project that Baresi has been working on for several years. It features various characters, including a soccer player who is constantly being followed by paparazzi and a referee who is always on the lookout for illegal moves.

Baresi, who played for AC Milan from 1987 to 1997, said he wanted to create a comic that would be a reflection of the current state of Italian soccer.

The comic will be published by the Italian publishing house CGP, which has already released several successful comics about Italian soccer. Baresi said he hopes the comic will be popular with fans of all ages.

Baresi, who was a member of the Italian national team that won the 1982 World Cup, said he wanted to use the comic to comment on the current state of Italian soccer.

"I hope this comic will be a reflection of the current state of Italian soccer," Baresi said. "It's important to look at the game in a different way, to see what's wrong and what needs to be fixed."
Updated: 08/19/18 3:50 PM
How fighting and injury led to a 2018 playoff run for one of the NFL's worst teams

The NFL season started with a bang, and the New England Patriots matched it when they dominated the Joe Montana-led San Francisco 49ers for their first victory over the former Super Bowl champions. These teams have represented the NFC and AFC in the last four Super Bowls, and the Patriots dominated, scoring 28 unanswered points in the second half and running for a third touchdown by scrambling Brees got involved in the run of the year.

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Thursday, November 16, 2017 • Online All The Time • www.aroundosceola.com • NEWS-GAZETTE, Page E11

Global carbon pollution rises after 3 straight flat years

WASHINGTON (AP) — Global carbon pollution rose this year after three years of stability, according to a new report released Thursday that said the heart-trapping gas didn’t go up at all, scientists say.

The carbon dioxide concentration in the atmosphere this year is about 39.6 parts per million, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said in a report Thursday. That is 3.3 parts per million higher than in 2015, when carbon dioxide readings were flat.

“While we have seen increases in carbon dioxide in recent years, this year’s increase is small compared to the growth we’ve seen in previous years,” said Pieter Tans, the agency’s lead scientist.

China, the world’s largest emitter of carbon dioxide, is responsible for more than a third of global carbon pollution, said the report by the Global Carbon Project, an international organization that studies global carbon and climate change.

The report said China’s emissions rose 1.6 percent this year, compared to 2016, while the United States emissions rose 3.4 percent and India’s rose 2.7 percent.

At current growth rates, atmospheric carbon dioxide could reach 440 parts per million by 2100, compared to pre-industrial levels of about 300 parts per million, the report said.

The report said carbon pollution has been rising for 150 years, and the last time the concentration fell was in 1941.

Trump urges House to pass GOP tax bill


Trump barges into tax debate, seeks deeper cut for wealthy

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump on Monday barged into congressional Republicans’ carefully choreographed debate on tax reform, seeking a deeper cut for wealthy Americans and promising new breaks for business.

“Let’s go big. Let’s go deeper,” Trump said on Twitter. “We can do this. Congress, let’s have courage. Let’s make the tax code simpler, fairer, and vastly more competitive.”

Trump, who as a candidate repeatedly promised a $1 trillion, rate-cutting overhaul of the US tax code, is now suggesting a deeper cut for wealthy Americans. In a tweet Monday, Trump said he wants to do for 2017 what he did not do for 2016 — “cut tax rates significantly for all.”

Trump’s move is likely to trigger a fight with congressional Republicans who are divided over the size of the tax cuts and the best way to finance them.

House Speaker Paul Ryan of Wis., appeared Monday to strike a conciliatory tone as he took questions from reporters at his weekly news conference. He conceded that the president has a right to his opinion but added that, “We’re still on the agenda.”

Ryan, who lacks the standing of Speaker John Boehner, has struggled to keep his own caucus unified as they navigate through a complex tax code.

Trump’s move could upend the bill Republicans have been working on for months and could delay passage of the measure.

The tax bill proposed by House Republicans, which includes lower tax rates for wealthy Americans and cuts for business, is expected to cost $1.5 trillion over the next 10 years.

House Republicans have proposed lowering the top tax rate for wealthy Americans from 39.6 percent to 31 percent. But Trump has said he wants to make the tax code more competitive by bringing the rate down even further.

The House legislation also would cut corporate tax rates from 35 percent to 21 percent, and make the tax code more competitive by allowing businesses to deduct capital investments immediately.

The Senate bill is expected to be similar but may include different provisions.

The legislation is expected to pass the House this week and move to the Senate next week.

Trump has said he wants to see a bill passed by the end of the year to make sure the US remains competitive with other countries.

The tax bill is expected to pass both chambers in the coming weeks and could be signed by Trump by the end of the year.

Trump names former drug exec as new health secretary

WASHINGTON (AP) — Trump is turning to the head of a major drug company to lead his administration’s fight against the opioid epidemic, naming Canada-born Tom Price as his new health secretary.

The announcement comes as the country grapples with a deadly opioid crisis and the Trump administration is under fire for its handling of the crisis.

But the appointment of Price, the head of a health company, is likely to be met with skepticism by many lawmakers and health experts.

Price’s nomination is likely to face significant opposition from Democrats, who have called for a quick and thorough confirmation process.

The White House has not yet revealed whether President Donald Trump will make a direct nomination to Congress or will let the Senate confirm Price through a confirmation hearing.

The nominees will be sent to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions for a confirmation hearing.

The committee is expected to hold hearings on the nominees in early December.

The Senate is expected to confirm the nominees before the end of the year.

The new health secretary will be tasked with overseeing the nation’s health care system, which is facing significant challenges.

The Affordable Care Act, which is under threat from Republicans, is expected to be taken up by Congress in the coming weeks.

The health secretary’s role will be crucial in shaping the future of the health care system, and will be watched closely by lawmakers and health experts.

The new health secretary will be expected to take a hands-on approach to the issues facing the health care system, including the opioid crisis, the Affordable Care Act, and the costs of prescription drugs.

The confirmation process is expected to be lengthy, with lawmakers and health experts expected to raise concerns about the nominees’ experience and qualifications.

The new health secretary will be expected to work closely with Congress and other key stakeholders to develop a comprehensive plan for the future of the health care system.
(AP) — The head of the Vatican's top legal office said Tuesday that the Catholic church is "deeply saddened" by the death of U.S. Sen. John McCain of Arizona, who had long opposed what he described as "human rights abuses" in the fight against terrorism.

Cardinal Daniel DiNardo, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, decried the killing as a "tragedy" that "will only deepen the sense of fear that we are," he added in a statement.

"As the community of believers, we are called to be a people of peace and reconciliation, to be a people who pray and work for the eradication of every form of violence, and to be a people who seek to build a culture of life and love," DiNardo said.

McCain, a decorated war hero who served two tours in Vietnam, died Saturday after a battle with brain cancer. He is survived by his wife, Cindy, and their three children.

DiNardo said the church would remember McCain for his "public service and his dedication to serving the common good of all people, especially the poor and marginalized." He added, "We pray that his soul may rest in peace and that God grant him eternal rest in his heavenly home."
A woman mows as she holds the body of her daughter, who died in an earthquake, in Sarpole-Zahab, western Iran, Monday, Nov. 13, 2017.

Over 400 dead from earthquake in Iran-Iraq border area

UN agency reports huge deal meeting disruptions

VIENNA (AP) — The United Nations nuclear agency has signed compliance with a landmark deal to impose stringent oversight on Iran, marking the certainty that is the end of the deal that U.S. President Donald Trump has said he would not renew.

The International Atomic Energy Agency report shows short-term compliance with a landmark deal that President Barack Obama and six world powers agreed in 2015 that Iran was moving away from nuclear weapons.

But in reporting no violations of the nuclear deal, the agency noted that Iran had so far been successful in complying to stringent uranium enrichment and other activities that could serve both civilian and military purposes.

The report cited IAEA chief Yukiya Amano as stressing during the full implementation by Iran of the so-called “limited commitments” under the deal on the part with the world that went into effect the day that Tehran’s announcement to refer to the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Iran’s declaration to refer to the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Meanwhile, the International Atomic Energy Agency report, obtained by The Associated Press, is significant among the contributions to the deal.

Despite Iran’s violations of the nuclear deal in 2015, the United Nations has been struggling to prevent the spread of nuclear materials.

The deal was reach Friday to make the case for restoring the ability of Iran to export some of its enriched uranium and heavy water.

The agreement was made by the United Nations and other world powers.

The Associated Press was the first to report on the heavy water that was the cause of the dispute.

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Iran said the deal will end its uranium enrichment and other activities that could serve both civilian and military purposes.

The IAEA last year said Iran had significantly increased its uranium enrichment activities, which is notable.

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