

MONDAY

TODAY & next morning

HIGH 86

LOW 69

Partly cloudy with passing showers.

PAGE A4

CITRUS COUNTY

CHRONICLE

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SO YOU KNOW

From the desk of the Chronicle publisher:

Today's version of the Citrus County Chronicle is a smaller version than normal due to server issues. We appreciate the understanding as we work to get back to full capacity.

— Trina Murphy, Citrus County Chronicle publisher

NEWS BRIEF

Get inspired at Fire Up Citrus!

Watch the excitement and spark your own imagination at Fire Up Citrus! as presenters ignite the evening with thoughts of the future of Citrus County from 6 to 9 p.m. Oct. 19 at the Valerie Theatre, 207 Courthouse Square in Inverness.

Tickets are \$10 for this limited seating event where attendees will get to watch neighbors and friends present their inspired ideas on how to push the community to the next level.

This high-energy, fast-paced event keeps presenters to a firm 5 minutes flat with their creativity and passion taking center stage

To purchase a ticket, visit tinyurl.com/4tjxy5vm.

— From staff reports

ONLINE POLL

What do you think?

Citrus County is planning to host a pair of planning sessions to create a "vision" for the future direction of the county. If you plan to participate, what should be the No. 1 goal for the county as it moves toward establishing a future direction??

A. The county needs to focus on roads and infrastructure improvements, such as water and sewer.

B. Job growth. The county needs to encourage companies that pay well to relocate here.

C. What's the point? Elected officials have never listened to the voters.

To vote, visit www.chronicleonline.com. Scroll down the home page and look for the poll box in the right-hand column.

Results will appear next Monday. Find last week's online poll results./Page A3

Help wanted!



MATTHEW BECK/Chronicle

Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park volunteer Jack Stearns radios to the park office he is departing the Visitor's Center along U.S. 19 to drive to the fish bowl, delivering passengers to the park's entrance. He has volunteered at the park for the past three years.

Many Citrus County nonprofits desperately seeking volunteers

NANCY KENNEDY
Staff writer

Volunteers are the backbone of any nonprofit organization. They help keep the doors open and the wheels running so organizations can deliver vital services and programs that serve as lifelines to a community.

According to a 2021 AmeriCorps report for the state of Florida:

- 3,876,534 volunteers contribute 340.7 million hours of service
- 22.8% of residents volunteer, ranking them 51st among states
- Volunteer service worth an estimated \$8.2 billion
- 95.4% of residents regularly talk or spend time with friends and family
- 50.9% of residents do favors for neighbors
- 23.6% of residents do something positive for the neighborhood
- 19.2% of residents participate in local groups or organizations
- 43.2% of residents donate \$25 or more to charity

However, 19 months into the coronavirus pandemic, volunteering is still a casualty of the disease.

Just as employers report difficulty finding employees, nonprofits are hurting for volunteers.

"This is happening all over the nation, not just Citrus County," said Laurie Diestler, Citrus County



Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park volunteer Jack Stearns drives park visitors to and from the visitor center and the park's fish bowl throughout the day. Visitors ride on a covered tram pulled by the truck Stearns drives.

Nature Coast Volunteer Center (NCVC) supervisor.

Outside the Visitor's Center at Ellie Schiller Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park, a message on a sign board facing traffic on U.S. 19 pleads for volunteer tram drivers.

"We have a full staff of state employees, but volunteers help take care of a lot of things we do at the park," said Kate Spratt, park services specialist. "And we definitely have less than we've had in the past.

"We have a tremendous amount of

seasonal volunteers to begin with, and a lot are snowbirds and are just starting to return, so we'll see what happens," she said.

Besides tram drivers, the park also needs certified SCUBA dive volunteers to clean the underwater windows of the Fish Bowl Underwater Observatory and check the spring for hazards that could be harmful to manatees, from umbrellas and cell phones to fishing line and lures.

See HELP/Page A3

Citrus schools hope to secure federal funding

HANNAH SACHEWICZ
Staff writer

The Citrus County School Board has a shared agenda for their upcoming meeting, including the pending approval of significant federal funding for secondary and post-secondary education.

Their regular meeting is slated for 4 p.m. Oct. 12 at the Citrus County School District administrative office, 1007 W. Main St. in Inverness.

School board members will vote to approve the "Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V Grant)" in the amount of \$183,687. Its purpose is to help students grades six to 12 acquire academic and technical skills to prepare for future careers.

The grant will fund a full-time program specialist for career and technical education and site licenses, software and technical development for career and technical education (CTE).

The funds will be used at Crystal River High School (CRHS) for their anatomy and physiology, health science foundations and electrocardiograph technician programs, along with a cardiovascular technology course at Santa Fe College.

An additional Perkins V Grant in the amount of \$75,000 is pending approval from the board for educational materials for the Department of Juvenile Justice. Items will enhance food

See SCHOOLS/Page A3

County, HOA to talk median mess

MICHAEL D. BATES
Staff writer

The median strip along a one-mile portion of U.S. 98 from the Suncoast Parkway to U.S. 19 was supposed to be filled with pretty flowers, shrubs and other landscaping to make it esthetically pleasing.

For a while, it looked pretty good, thanks to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) installing and footing the bill for all the greenery.

But now, the median is dotted with overgrown grass, weeds and is not exactly the beautification the county expected.

What went wrong?

That's what FDOT officials want to know. They sent a letter to the county saying it's received complaints and what to know why their investment is not being

maintained. The county also wants to know.

It all comes to a head Tuesday when commissioners will ask the Sugarmill Woods Oak Village Homeowners Association (HOA) why they are shirking their job of caring for the plants. A previous HOA board signed a stewardship agreement with FDOT to maintain the media.

But the HOA has a new slate of officers who don't want to spend the estimated \$37,000 a year to do that job.

Meanwhile the county is in the middle and, as Commissioner Jeff Kinnard told the Chronicle, the entire county could suffer because - if FDOT believes it got stuck holding the hefty bill - it might be reluctant to do any favors for residents going forward.

"They don't take kindly to wasting money," he said.

The Chronicle reached out to the Oak Village HOA for comments but calls were not returned.

How we got here

In 2019, the HOA asked the county if it could help them apply for a \$350,000 FDOT landscaping grant wherein the state would pay 100% of the cost. The county applied for and received the grant, a local contractor was hired and - last year, the median slowly was transformed into a colorful corridor.

To protect its investment, FDOT wanted an annual maintenance agreement in place. The contractor agreed to do it the first year and the HOA would take over after that.

In the interval, a new HOA board took over and thought twice about the \$37,000-a-year

maintenance cost to tack on to the 3,200-plus homeowners who were already paying \$135 annual dues.

"They've had a change in leadership in the HOA and the new leadership doesn't want to maintain it," Kinnard said.

At Tuesday's commission meeting, Kinnard said the board essentially has two options: either the county assumes the \$37,000-a-year price tag to maintain the median or establish a Municipal Services Benefit Unit (MSBU) where costs would be spread out among residents.

The board could also ask the contractor to remove all the landscaping and restore the median to its pre-improvement condition.

The county commission meeting starts at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 12, at the Citrus County Courthouse, 110 N. Apopka Ave., Inverness.





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Around the COUNTY

Republican Liberty Caucus to meet in Homosassa

The newly formed Republican Liberty Caucus of Citrus County will hold its monthly meeting at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 21 at Fish Tales Restaurant and Bar, 4522 S. Suncoast Blvd. in Homosassa.

Join them for lively conversation and perhaps a bite to eat. Their goal is to promote worthy candidates to represent Citrus County and their republican point of view.

Air Force Association to meet at Ocala Airport

OCALA — Red Tail Memorial Chapter 136 of the Air Force Association (AFA) will meet at 7 p.m. Oct. 21 in the conference room of the Ocala Airport terminal, 1770 SW 60th Ave.

The meeting is open to the public.

Guests and anyone interested in joining the AFA are welcome to attend. Contact the chapter membership chairman, Howard Burke at 352-861-0886 for more information or to join.

The chapter draws its 400-plus members from Citrus, Alachua, Dixie, Levy, Marion and Sumter counties and parts of Lake and Putnam.

The chapter name memorializes the Red Tail Squadron, Black airmen who forged a path into cockpits that were mainly for whites during World War II.

The AFA promotes a dominant United States Air Force, United States Space Force and strong national defense.

It honors airmen and guardians and fosters a strong military heritage.

— From staff reports

ONLINE POLL RESULTS

QUESTION: County Commissioners are preparing to discuss a 1-cent sales tax referendum for road improvements. What are your thoughts?

■ I won't vote for it. Quit raising taxes, find a different way to fund it. (722 votes)

■ I would vote for it if the county can show us a plan for where the funds will be spent. (477 votes)

■ I would support a sales tax referendum but not for road improvements. (17 votes)

■ "Roads? Where we're going we don't need roads." (50 votes)

Total votes: 1,266.

For this week's poll question, see **Page A1**.

EDITORIAL: PATRIOTIC TRIBUTE

Honoring heroes with music

It was late August, the deadliest day for American forces in Afghanistan since 2011 dominated the news: 13 American soldiers were killed Aug. 26 in a suicide bombing at Afghanistan's Kabul airport.

Like many Americans, Rick Lynn and Kendall Tucker were devastated. Heartbroken over the deaths of those who defend our the United States, the pair felt a calling to honor the lives of the service members — 11 Marines, one Navy sailor and

one Army soldier — was to do what they do best: sing about it.

Within 24 hours, the country musicians penned their patriotic tribute, recorded it and released it digitally worldwide Sept. 9 on Apple iTunes and Spotify. (A week later, the duo dropped their video on YouTube: www.youtube.com/watch?v=oAaYhRgXbCQ.)

But Lynn and Tucker wanted their single, "13 Reasons Why" to serve as more than a tribute

to the soldiers and their families. They agreed that any money earned from sales of digital downloads would go straight toward the families.

"We feel like their dedication to this country is worth more," they pair said, noting it was "the right thing to do."

They should be applauded for using their gift as a humble way to show their appreciation toward families whose loved ones will not return home.

Music is a powerful

THE ISSUE:

Musicians scribe patriotic tribute to fallen soldiers.

OUR OPINION:

Message will endure.

instrument, Tucker said. Added Lynn: "(The song) lives on beyond us."

More importantly, we hope the memories of the 13 fallen soldiers forever lives on.

First 'Taste' to come to Crystal River

HANNAH SACHEWICZ
Staff writer

Throughout the years, various groups such as the Chamber of Commerce, Discover Crystal River, the city of Crystal River and even Main Street have polled residents and tourists asking what type of events they would like to see in our downtown.

Time after time the answer is: a "Taste of" event.

Crystal River Main Street is excited to bring that dream to life.

On Saturday, Oct. 16, Crystal River Town Square will host the inaugural Taste of Crystal River. This event will feature 11 local restaurants that will provide one signature "taste" that represents



them.

Each guest will receive one tapas sized plate from all the participating restaurants. Guests will also get the option of a beverage from Copp Brewery or the Wine

Shop. Additional beverages can be purchased. A limited number of VIP tickets are available, which include open bar.

Participating restaurants include: Kelly's Irish Pub; St. Johns Tavern; KC Wine Bar; Amy's on the Avenue; Kane's Cattle Co.; BubbaQue's; Cattle Dog Coffee Roasters; Charlie's Fish House; Vintage on 5th; and Downtown Fusion, a new restaurant in the works from the owners of World Fusion.

While enjoying the array of delicious food offered, guests will be entertained by live music provided by Underground Retro, a soulful, bluesy jazz band, and headlining act Chase Shalleé.

The Taste of Crystal River is a

fundraiser for Crystal River Main Street, which is a downtown redevelopment and revitalization program. Proceeds will help Main Street continue its program of work downtown, which includes continuing the popular First Friday events monthly.

Tickets to the Taste of Crystal River are available online at www.crystalrivermainstreet.com. General admission tickets are \$50 and a limited number of VIP are available for \$75, which includes reserved seating as well as open bar. There will be a very small number of tickets available on the day of the event. The event will take place from 5 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 16, at Crystal River Town Square, 559 N. Citrus Ave.

SCHOOLS

Continued from **Page A1**

services and agriculture, horticulture and building/construction programs.

A third Perkins grant is pending board approval in the amount of \$80,736. The post-secondary grant will provide funding to support personnel and equipment at Withlacoochee Technical College.

After review, board members will also vote to approve the 2021-22

school improvement plans for all district schools. School improvement plans are to be used by every school with stakeholders to review data, set goals, create plans and monitor progress. Plans are typically updated throughout the year.

Other notable items on the agenda up for approval include but are not limited to:

■ Updated suicide prevention policy.

■ Final five-year work plan of the Citrus County

School Board.

■ Clinical affiliation between the board and Cypress Cove Care Center, regarding CRHS's Academy of Health Careers.

■ Agreement with Little Blue Bees Behavior Therapy Services, Inc. staff to provide services in Citrus Schools.

■ School calendar options for 2022-23.

■ Bid for iPad repair renewals in the amount of \$195,000.

■ Surplus list, cash and investment report, financial statements and bud-

get update.

For more information on the agenda, visit t1nyurl.com/t6phzraj. To

watch a live video stream of the meeting, visit youtube.com/user/CitrusSchools.

HELP

Continued from **Page A1**

"If I have enough people, we're in the water three days a week, Monday, Wednesday and Friday," Spratt said.

Diestler said of the 529 Citrus County volunteers registered with the AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP program that NCVC runs, currently about half are actually turning in hours.

"When COVID hit, a lot of our organizations that use volunteers scaled back or had their volunteers not come in at all," Diestler said. "When things started looking better (this past spring), people started going back to volunteering, but then when it started getting worse with the Delta variant, they got worried again."

"The average age of our volunteers is 74, and they're concerned with their health and well being," she said. "Some have cut back the number of days they volunteer; some are just waiting to see what's going to happen. But we've gotten emails from people who

say, 'Don't take me off your list; I'm still interested, but I'm not feeling secure just yet.'"

Diestler also said that some people are using this time to try something different, a different organization or a different job or skill.

"A lot of them are vaccinated now and they're tired of being at home, and they want to be busy," she said. "Our whole function is connecting volunteers with places that need them, and yes, we're getting calls from places saying we NEED volunteers."

The Nature Coast Volunteer Center works with 45 local agencies and organizations that depend on volunteers, including:

county libraries, state parks, Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge, Crystal River Preserve, historical society museums, Meals on Wheels, Citrus United Basket (CUB), DayStar Life Center, Habitat for Humanity, Citrus County Blessings, Sheriff's Youth Ranch thrift store, Salvation Army mobile canteen, Ziggy's Haven Bird Sanctuary, and many others.

For more information about how and where you can volunteer, call the Nature Coast Volunteer Center at 352-527-5959.

Or, if there's an organization that you're interested in, call them directly and see what volunteer opportunities they have available.

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Today's
HOROSCOPES

Birthdays: Make adjustments that will have a big impact. Expand your interests or master a skill that will help buy you freedom or peace of mind. Don't procrastinate — act now.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23): Know what you are up against, then forge ahead. Take charge of whatever situation you face and work diligently toward a goal.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 22): Think twice before you take on something you cannot afford. Look for alternative ways to satisfy your needs without giving in to demands or temptation.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 21): Slow down and think. Change may entice you, but going through the proper channels will be necessary. Don't trust someone offering shortcuts.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Think big, but budget wisely. Keep the peace, but do so without arguing. Take the road less traveled and implement changes that make you happy.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 19): Talk to an expert before you invest in something risky. Choose to look inward and to make your health and well-being priorities.

Pisces (Feb. 20-March 20): An emotional incident will confuse you. Go about your business, take care of your responsibilities.

Aries (March 21-April 19): You can advance if you are willing to make a move. Consider what you need to brush up on to ensure that you'll be up to the task.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): Confusion will set in regarding money, joint ventures and dealings with institutions, government agencies or medical issues.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): Take a chance and explore what interests you, and you will discover something remarkable. You have more options than you realize.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): Slow down, view what's happening around you, think outside the box and make decisions that suit your needs. Don't share information that might incriminate you.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Listen, and you'll find out something that can help you better understand someone you love. Reach out to those you share work with.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Be careful how you treat those close to you. A lack of empathy will turn into a battle. Focus on self-improvement instead of trying to change someone else.

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WHEN THE VISION
ISN'T CLEAR, NEITHER
IS THE RESULT



Citrus is growing rapidly, yet the County has never had a formal strategic and visioning plan for our future. What do we want to protect? What do we want to stay away from? Those who participate will foresee the future for us all. Please join us.



OCT 16th or OCT 23rd from 9 am - 1pm
Details & RSVP at citrusbocc.com/townhall

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In Heaven, Christy!*

October 11, 1974 • February 27, 2018

*Wishing you were here today
For even just a while,
So I could say happy birthday
and see your beautiful smile!*

*The only gifts today will be
Your sweet memories left behind,
Of laughter, joy & happiness
That echo on in my mind!*

*I'll gaze upon pictures
I'll think of you with love!
And hope you're doing fine
in Heaven up above!*

*May angels hold you closely
and sing you a happy song,
And I'll be sending wishes
Today and all year long!*

Happy 47th Birthday in Heaven Bestie!!
My heart literally hurts
from missing you so much!!
Love Always and Forever, Lori



Florida

LOTTERY

Here are the winning numbers selected Sunday in the Florida Lottery:

PICK 2 (early) 1 - 2	PICK 5 (early) 8 - 5 - 9 - 0 - 1
PICK 2 (late) 4 - 2	PICK 5 (late) 8 - 5 - 6 - 0 - 6
PICK 3 (early) 5 - 9 - 0	FANTASY 5 Unavailable
PICK 3 (late) 7 - 6 - 2	CASH 4 LIFE 22 - 23 - 40 - 46 - 55
PICK 4 (early) 4 - 1 - 3 - 3	CASH BALL 4
PICK 4 (late) 9 - 7 - 1 - 1	

Saturday's winning numbers and payouts:

Powerball: 12 - 17 - 30 - 45 - 62	5-of-6 5x No winner
Powerball: 5	5-of-6 10x 1 winner \$30,000
5-of-5 PB No winner	Fantasy 5: 2 - 3 - 9 - 14 - 21
No Florida winner	5-of-5 4 winners \$52,481.29
5-of-5 No winner	4-of-5 374 \$90.50
No Florida winner	3-of-5 10,858 \$8.50
Lotto: 19 - 20 - 30 - 36 - 44 - 51	Cash 4 Life: 9 - 12 - 28 - 48 - 57
6-of-6 No winner	Cash Ball: 1
5-of-6 2x 7 winners \$6,000	5-of-5 CB No winner
5-of-6 3x 1 winner \$9,000	5-of-5 No winner
5-of-6 4x 3 winners \$12,000	

On the

AIRWAVES

TODAY'S SPORTS

MLB PLAYOFFS

1 p.m. (TBS) Milwaukee Brewers at Atlanta Braves, NLDS Game 3

3:30 p.m. (FS1) Houston Astros at Chicago White Sox, ALDS Game 4

7 p.m. (FS1) Tampa Bay Rays at Boston Red Sox, ALDS Game 4

9:30 p.m. (TBS) San Francisco Giants at Los Angeles Dodgers, NLDS Game 3

NBA PRESEASON BASKETBALL

7:30 p.m. (SUN) Charlotte Hornets at Miami Heat

8 p.m. (ESPN2) Brooklyn Nets at Philadelphia 76ers

10:30 p.m. (NBA) Minnesota Timberwolves at Los Angeles Clippers

BICYCLING

12 p.m. (NBCSPT) The Gran Fondo II Lombardia 2021 (Taped)

BOXING

11 p.m. (ESPN2) Emanuel Navarrete vs. Christopher Diaz (Taped)

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

1 p.m. (ESPN2) Oklahoma at Texas (Taped)

4 p.m. (ESPN2) Boise State at BYU (Taped)

7 p.m. (ESPN2) Michigan at Nebraska (Taped)

3 a.m. (SEC) South Carolina at Tennessee (Taped)

NFL

8 p.m. (ESPN) Indianapolis Colts at Baltimore Ravens

3:15 a.m. (NFL) Indianapolis Colts at Baltimore Ravens (Same-day Tape)

WOMEN'S COLLEGE SOCCER

11 a.m. (ESPN2) Oklahoma State at TCU (Taped)

TENNIS

2 p.m. (BSFL) (TENNIS) BNP Paribas Open: ATP 3rd Round, WTA 3rd Round

TRACK AND FIELD

7:30 a.m. (NBCSPT) Boston Marathon

Prep

CALENDAR

TODAY'S PREP SPORTS

VOLLEYBALL

7 p.m. South Sumter at Crystal River

Georgia new No. 1

RALPH D. RUSSO

AP college football writer

Georgia was the new No. 1 in The Associated Press college football poll Sunday by a unanimous vote, taking the top spot during the regular season for the first time since November 1982.

The Bulldogs (62 first-place votes) moved up one spot in the AP Top 25 presented by Regions Bank, a day after preseason No. 1 Alabama lost at Texas A&M. The defending national champion Crimson Tide slipped four spots to No. 5 after their first loss of the season.

After falling out of the rankings last week for the first time this season, the Aggies are back in

at No. 21.

Alabama was one of two top-five teams to lose Saturday, opening the door for several teams to rise to rare heights.

Iowa is No 2, up one spot after winning a top-five matchup with Penn State. The Hawkeyes have their best ranking since they reached No. 1 in 1985.

No. 3 Cincinnati has its best ranking ever.

No. 4 Oklahoma moved up two spots after a come-from-behind victory against Texas in the Red River Rivalry.

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Larson wins at Charlotte

JENNA FRYER

AP auto racing writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Rick Hendrick first began to worry when Kyle Larson and Alex Bowman had electrical issues at nearly the same time.

By the time reigning Cup champion Chase Elliott was deliberately crashed by Kevin Harvick and nearly knocked out of the playoffs, Hendrick had seen enough destruction on The Roval at Charlotte Motor Speedway.

"I was upset. I was ready to go home. It was time to get the helicopter and get out of here," Hendrick said. "We wrecked everything we had down there."

Good thing the boss stuck around: Larson rallied from his early electrical issues Sunday to win for the seventh time this season and storm into the third round of NASCAR's playoffs. It ended a topsy-turvy day for Hendrick Motorsports in which Larson and Elliott advanced, Bowman and William Byron were eliminated, and Elliott was nearly sabotaged by a vengeful Harvick.

Harvick laid in wait to deliver payback on Elliott for Elliott costing him a win at Bristol three weeks ago and the retaliation came at about the halfway mark. Harvick sent Elliott into the wall and on the verge of playoff elimination.

Just as the crews for Larson and Bowman had done earlier to salvage their races, Elliott's No. 9 team went to work and got the driver back into contention. And even with his bumper flapping in the wind off the back of his Chevrolet, Elliott drove through the field and into position to ruin another day for Harvick.

The team said on their radio Elliott should wreck Harvick if given the chance and maybe that caused Harvick to worry. As Elliott closed on Harvick as they hurtled into the first turn with 10 laps remaining, Harvick botched the entry almost as if he was defensively driving in his rearview mirror.

Harvick drove directly into the wall, crumpled the front of his Ford and the crowd erupted as Elliott cruised through the crash scene. Just like that,



Associated Press

Kyle Larson celebrates in Victory Lane after winning a NASCAR Cup Series race at Charlotte Motor Speedway, Sunday in Concord, N.C.

Harvick's title run came to its earliest end since the elimination format began in 2014.

Harvick had advanced to the third round the past seven years and all the way to the title race five times. He didn't admit to wrecking Elliott as payback for Bristol, but he didn't deny it, either.

"You remember Bristol," Harvick said the first time

he was asked about his intentions. The second time he was asked he responded "sometimes real life teaches you good lessons."

On the day he made his 750th career start, he finished 33rd and was eliminated along with Christopher Bell, Byron and Bowman.

When asked if the two are now even, Harvick simply walked away.

Elliott subtly masked his pleasure.

"As far as Kevin goes, I just want to wish them a merry offseason and a happy Christmas," Elliott said.

Is it over as far as Elliott is concerned?

"For us, we're just eyes forward and happy to be moving on," Elliott said. "That's the big picture. We'll keep fighting."

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Bucs blast Dolphins

Brady's 5 TD passes pace win for Tampa Bay

FRED GOODALL
AP sports writer

TAMPA — Antonio Brown is 33 years old and no longer the top playmaker on his team. With Tom Brady's help on and off the field, though, the oft-troubled receiver is making the most of an opportunity to revive his career with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

Brady threw for 411 yards and five touchdowns, while Brown showed no signs of slowing down as a playmaker, becoming the fastest NFL player to 900 receptions as the defending Super Bowl champions rolled to a 45-17 rout of the Miami Dolphins on Sunday.

"I take so much inspiration from Tom. As a professional, as a leader, making sure that I'm doing my job, making sure that all the other 10 guys are doing their job," said Brown, who had seven catches for 124 yards and two TDs. "He just continues to up the standard and raise the bar."

Brady threw for more 400 yards with five TDs in the same game for the first time in his 22-year career.

Brown, who joined the Bucs at midseason a year ago after serving an eight-game suspension for violating the NFL personal conduct policy, scored on receptions of 62 and 4 yards in the first half.

Brown, who has stayed out of trouble since signing with the Bucs and helping them win the Super Bowl, joined Julio Jones, Jerry Rice, Torry Holt and Andre Johnson as the only players in league history with 12,000 career receiving yards in fewer than 150 games.

The 11th-year pro was Ben Roethlisberger's No. 1 option for much of his career. After a brief stay in training camp with the Raiders, Brown played one game with Brady in New England before being released by the Patriots two years ago.

"I've played with some great quarterbacks. Roethlisberger. Tom Brady. It's a blessing," said Brown, one of a slew of dynamic targets on a deep, talented Tampa Bay roster also featuring Mike Evans, Chris Godwin, Rob Gronkowski and Leonard Fournette.

"When you got Chris and Mike, and AB's the third guy, it's ain't a fair fight," Bucs coach Bruce Arians said.

Brown also extended the NFL's longest active streak with at least one catch to 141 consecutive games and also became the fastest to 900 career receptions on his first catch of the day. He reached the milestone in 143 career games. Hall of Famer Marvin Harrison was the previous fastest at 149.

"It's pretty amazing. Just give him a lot of credit. He's been through a lot and he's shown a lot of mental toughness, a lot of resilience. Everyone just wants him to succeed," Brady said.

"We've got a unique group of guys. Very talented, but very



Associated Press

Tampa Bay Buccaneers wide receiver Antonio Brown (81) heads for the end zone to score on a 62-yard touchdown reception during the first half of a game against the Miami Dolphins Sunday, in Tampa.

selfless too," Brady added. "All those guys are getting opportunities to make plays, and just fun to see when everyone's involved how fun it can be."

Since entering the league as a sixth-round draft pick of the Steelers in 2010, Brown has 45 100-yard games receiving — second in the league behind Julio Jones (59). His 19 games with multiple TD catches are tied with Gronkowski for the most over the span.

Evans had TD catches of 34 and 22 yards, and Giovani Bernard also scored on a 10-yard reception from Brady, who finished 30 of 41 with no interceptions — the third straight game the Bucs have gone without a turnover.

The Dolphins (1-4) have lost four straight following a season-opening victory over New England.

"We didn't execute our game plan defensively. Just collectively as a defense we just didn't do enough. I'm concerned. We're out of sync," Miami coach Brian Flores said. "We've adjusted some things, but we're not seeing the production on Sundays."

Jacoby Brissett completed 27 of 39 passes for 275 yards, two TDs and an interception in his third consecutive start filling in for the injured Tua Tagovailoa.

Running back Myles Gaskin scored on receptions of 1 and 37 yards for the Dolphins, who trailed 24-17 heading into the fourth quarter.

Fournette scored on a 5-yard run and Brady threw his TD passes to Evans to break the game open before being replaced by backup Blaine Gabbert with 7:06 remaining.

"It's a tough loss. We've got to find a way to bounce back and move forward," Brissett said.

"Obviously it's cliché, it's early in the season, but it really is," the Dolphins quarterback added. "We've got a lot of football ahead of us."

INJURIES

Dolphins: WR DeVante

Parker (shoulder/hamstring) was inactive after being limited in practice and listed as questionable. ... Brissett appeared to tweak his hamstring scrambling for no gain in the opening quarter, but remained in the game. ... TE Adam Shaheen (ankle) left the game late in the second quarter.

Buccaneers: LB Jason Pierre-Paul (shoulder/hand) returned to the lineup after missing two games. CB Jamel Dean (knee) started after sitting out the previous week. ... LB Lavonte David (ankle) limped off the field late in the first half and did not return.

UP NEXT

Dolphins: travel to London to face Jacksonville next Sunday.

Buccaneers: at Philadelphia on Thursday night.

Packers 25, Bengals 22

CINCINNATI — Mason Crosby hit a 49-yard field goal in overtime after missing three straight attempts, lifting the Green Bay Packers to a wild 25-22 win over the Cincinnati Bengals.

Chargers 47, Browns 42

INGLEWOOD, Calif. — Austin Ekeler scored three touchdowns, including a 3-yarder with 1:31 remaining, and Los Angeles beat Cleveland in a wild shootout.

Cardinals 17, 49ers 10

GLENDALE, Ariz. — Arizona improved to 5-0 for the first time since 1974, using a stellar defensive performance to beat San Francisco.

Saints 33, Washington 22

LANDOVER, Md. — Jameis Winston connected on a Hail Mary for one of his four touchdown passes to help New Orleans beat Washington, a bounce-back victory that came at a cost with two more injuries.

Bears 20, Raiders 9

LAS VEGAS — Justin Fields threw his first career touchdown pass, and Chicago's defense largely shut down Las Vegas'

high-powered offense.

Cowboys 44, Giants 20

ARLINGTON, Texas — Dak Prescott threw for three touchdowns the day before the one-year anniversary of his severe ankle injury in the same stadium against the same opponent, and Dallas beat New York.

Steelers 27, Broncos 19

PITTSBURGH — Ben Roethlisberger threw for 253 yards and two touchdowns, rookie Najee Harris ran for a career-best 122 yards and Pittsburgh beat Denver to snap a three-game losing streak.

Vikings 19, Lions 17

MINNEAPOLIS — Greg Joseph made a 54-yard field goal as time expired, and Minnesota topped winless Detroit after Lions coach Dan Campbell successfully called for the go-ahead 2-point conversion try with 37 seconds left.

Eagles 21, Panthers 18

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Jalen Hurts ran for two second-half touchdowns and Philadelphia rallied from a 12-point deficit to beat Carolina and snap a three-game losing streak.

Titans 37, Jaguars 19

JACKSONVILLE — Derrick Henry ran for 130 yards and three touchdowns, Kevin Byard returned a fumble for a score and Tennessee sent Jacksonville to its 20th consecutive loss.

Patriots 25, Texans 22

HOUSTON — Rookie Mac Jones threw a touchdown pass to tie the game in the fourth quarter, and Nick Folk's 21-yard field goal with 15 seconds left lifted New England over Houston.

Jets 27, Falcons 20

LONDON — Matt Ryan threw for 342 yards and two touchdowns, including the first score for rookie Kyle Pitts, and Atlanta closed out New York in the NFL's return to London.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Seven Rivers volleyball finishes as SSAC state runner-up

The Seven Rivers Christian volleyball team became a state runner-up over the weekend, reaching the Class 4A final of the Sunshine State Athletic Conference on Saturday.

Merritt Island Christian rolled to a 25-13, 25-23, 25-11 triumph over the Warriors (10-11) in the final.

Julia Shipes had 10 digs, nine kills, five assists and one ace for Seven Rivers. Victoria Everts totaled seven digs, four kills and two aces; Isabella Underwood managed three kills; Alex Johnson added 15 digs and Lila Johnson had six digs. Karli Welter provided five aces, one kill and two digs; Jennah Kay Phillips had seven digs, one ace, one kill and one assist; Mckala Peters finished with seven assists, seven digs and one kill; and Nora Leonard contributed six digs.

On Friday, the Warriors won a semifinal over St. Stephen's Episcopal, 26-24, 28-26, 18-25, 25-19.

Shipes posted 28 digs, 21 kills, 14 assists, five aces and two blocks, while Peters ended up with 22 assists, seven digs and one ace. Phillips had 12 digs and three kills; Welter added five kills, five digs and one assist; Lila Johnson had 19 digs and three aces; Alex Johnson notched 15 digs. Underwood collected five kills, two blocks and one dig; Everts ended up with five kills; Oakley Stack had two kills; and Leonard wound up with 11 digs, five kills and two assists.

Sungjae Im runs the tables in Las Vegas for PGA triumph

LAS VEGAS — Sungjae Im turned a shootout into a one-man show Sunday in Las Vegas, running the tables with seven birdies in eight holes around the turn for a 9-under 62 and a four-shot victory in the Shriners Children's Open.

No one else could keep up. His strongest challenger, Matthew Wolff, rolled in an 18-foot birdie on the ninth to keep pace. He had two misses off the tee that cost him.

Wolff recovered with two birdies for a 68 — his 12th round in the 60s in as many tries at the TPC Summerlin — and was runner-up.

Mickelson holds off Jimenez for 3rd PGA Tour Champions win

JACKSONVILLE — Phil Mickelson won for the third time in four career starts on the PGA Tour Champions, closing with a 4-under 68 on Sunday for a two-shot victory in the Constellation Furyk & Friends.

Ko gets wire-to-wire victory at Founders, ties Annika record

WEST CALDWELL, N.J. — Jin Young Ko finished off a wire-to-wire victory Sunday in the Cognizant Founders Cup with her 14th consecutive round in the 60s that matched a 16-year record held by Annika Sorenstam.

Rahm struggles, Cabrera Bello takes Spanish Open title

MADRID — With Jon Rahm out of contention, Rafa Cabrera Bello prevailed in a Spanish duel with Adri Arnaus on the first playoff hole to win the Spanish Open on Sunday.

Cabrera Bello shot a 2-under 69 in the final round to finish tied at 19 under par for the tournament with Arnaus, who closed with a 4-under 67.

Fury stops Wilder in 11th in another heavyweight thriller

LAS VEGAS — After three fights featuring nine combined knockdowns and a wealth of unforgettable moments, Tyson Fury finally ended his epic heavyweight rivalry with Deontay Wilder with one last valedictory punch.

Fury got up from the canvas twice in the fourth round and eventually stopped Wilder with a devastating right hand in the 11th round, retaining his WBC title Saturday night in the thrilling conclusion to a superlative boxing trilogy.

— From staff and wire reports

Red Sox bounce Rays in 13th

JIMMY GOLEN
AP sports writer

BOSTON — Saved by a bizarre bounce and an obscure ruling, the Boston Red Sox beat Tampa Bay 6-4 Sunday night on a walk-off, two-run homer by Christian Vázquez in the 13th inning to move one victory from eliminating the 100-win Rays from the AL Division Series.

The wild-card Red Sox took a 2-1 edge in the best-of-five matchup. Game 4 is Monday at Fenway Park — Marathon Day in Boston — with Game 5 in St. Petersburg, on Wednesday, if necessary.

Tampa Bay rallied from a 4-2 deficit to tie it in the eighth inning and it was still 4-all when Yandy Diaz singled with one out in the 13th. Kevin Kiermaier lined a two-out shot to right-center that bounced off the short wall in front of the Red Sox bullpen, caromed off right fielder Hunter Renfroe and flew back into the bullpen as Renfroe leaped to try to keep it in play.

It's a good thing he didn't: After the umpires conferred and went to the headsets, they correctly awarded Kiermaier a ground rule double and sent Diaz, who had come all the way home, back to third.

Diaz was halfway from second to third and easily would have scored if the ball remained in play. But baseball Rule 5.05(a)(8) states: "Any bounding fair ball is deflected



Associated Press

Boston Red Sox Christian Vazquez reacts after hitting a walk-off home run against the Tampa Bay Rays during the 13th inning in Game 3 of an American League Division Series, Sunday in Boston. The Red Sox won 6-4.

by the fielder into the stands, or over or under a fence on fair or foul territory, in which case the batter and all runners shall be entitled to advance two bases."

Nick Pivetta struck out Mike Zunino to end the inning, then came bounding off the mound in celebration.

Renfroe walked with one out in the bottom

half, then Vázquez hit the first pitch from Luis Patiño over the Green Monster to end it.

Kiké Hernández and Kyle Schwarber each had three hits, including a homer, for Boston.

"It doesn't make sense to me," Kiermaier said after it was over. "It's a heartbreaker, plain and simple."

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level **1** **2** **3** **4**

				4	9			
				8				5
8	4		1		3	9		
		8			2	3		7
	6						8	
7		3	9			2		
		6	8		1		4	5
	1			6				
			4	3				

Solution to Saturday's puzzle 10/11/21

4	7	9	2	8	1	6	5	3
8	5	6	7	4	3	9	1	2
2	1	3	9	5	6	7	8	4
1	4	7	3	2	9	8	6	5
6	8	2	4	7	5	1	3	9
3	9	5	1	6	8	2	4	7
7	6	4	8	3	2	5	9	1
5	3	1	6	9	7	4	2	8
9	2	8	5	1	4	3	7	6

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit sudoku.org.uk

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Monday, October 11, 2021

KATHLEEN SAXE

WORD GAME

TODAY'S WORD -- JUDICIARY

(JUDICIARY: joo-DISH-ee-er-ee: A system of courts of law for the administration of justice.)

Average mark 13 words
Time limit 30 minutes

Can you find 18 or more words in JUDICIARY?
The list will be published tomorrow.

SATURDAY'S WORD -- HUMORIST

hoist	moth	rush	sort	thou
host	mouth	rust	sour	thrum
hour	mush	shim	south	thus
humor	must	shirt	stir	tiro
hurt	omit	short	storm	tour
mirth	ours	shot	strum	tourism
miso	oust	shout	suit	trim
mist	riot	shut	suitor	trio
moist	roust	smith	sumo	truism
most	rout	smut	this	tumor

RULES OF THE GAME: 1. Words must be of four or more letters. 2. Words that acquire four letters by the addition of "s," such as "bats" or "dies," are not allowed. 3. Additional words made by adding a "d" or an "s" may not be used. 4. Proper nouns, slang words, or vulgar or sexually explicit words are not allowed. Contact Word Game creator Kathleen Saxe at kzsaxe@gmail.com.

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Bridge

PHILLIP ADLER
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

Bridge isn't a game for the weak-willed — you need strength of character to succeed. For example, in a matchpointed pair game, in the quest for a lucrative overtrick it can be right to risk your guaranteed contract. Or, if you make a light opening bid, see it through. Don't lie about

North		10-11-21	
♠ J 7 6 3			
♥ A J 9			
♦ A K 8 7 5			
♣ 7			
West		East	
♠ Q 5 2		♠ 4	
♥ K Q 10 2		♥ 8 5 4	
♦ J 9 4 3		♦ 10	
♣ 8 4		♣ K J 10 9 6 5 3 2	
South			
♠ A K 10 9 8			
♥ 7 6 3			
♦ Q 6 2			
♣ A Q			
Dealer: East			
Vulnerable: Neither			
South	West	North	East
4♠	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♦	Pass	5♥	Pass
5♣	Pass	6♠	All Pass
Opening lead: ♥ K			

ACROSS

1 A Baldwin brother

5 Snort of disgust

8 Disencumber

11 Alone

12 Dregs

14 Sooner than

15 Brickmaker's oven

16 Garr of "Tootsie"

17 Herd animal

18 Zenith

20 Like some bagels

22 Stop — — dime

23 Gaunt

24 Kind of house or hat

27 Bandleader — Kenton

29 Gold, in Peru

30 Intercepts (2 wds.)

34 Oahu port

37 Conducted

38 Low-down guy

39 Protozoan (Var.)

41 Somewhat (2 wds.)

43 Alcott girl

44 Bud

46 Cautions

49 O.T. judge

50 El —, Texas

52 Tad

54 Give a massage

55 Fine textile

56 Love, to Pablo

57 Vane dir.

58 Drain cleaner

59 Cabinet div.

DOWN

1 Inquire

2 Pork selection

3 She, in Seville

4 Andes vulture

5 Very

6 Opposite of haw

7 Hoagie

8 Spy mission

9 Socrates' forte

10 Moist

13 Storied sailor

19 — — daze

21 Physicists' particles

24 "Awesome!"

25 Expert

26 Time period

27 Auction off

28 Sweater letter

30 Shade of a color

31 Fiesta shout

32 Valentine mo.

33 Rx monitor

35 John Glenn's state

36 Pauses

39 Doctors' org.

40 Countless

41 High mark (hyph.)

42 Suborn

43 Came around

44 Dry and withered

45 Mermaid feature

47 Iditarod terminus

48 Grind to a halt

51 Sneaky

53 Wall hanging

Answer to Previous Puzzle

T	A	D	W	O	R	M	K	U	R	D			
H	B	O	A	L	O	E	A	L	A	I			
R	A	G	P	E	C	S	P	U	C	E			
O	S	I	R	I	S	A	M	U	L	E	T		
W	H	E	A	T	W	I	N	K	E	D	T	A	R
Z	E	A	L	E	E	K	W	E	L	D			
I	N	D	Y	R	Y	E	A	S	P	S			
P	E	A	T	O	S	S	E	D					
O	R	B	I	T	S	A	U	R	O	R	A		
P	O	E	M	T	E	N	D	R	E	S			
T	I	D	E	R	N	E	T	A	T				
S	L	E	D	M	E	A	D	A	M	Y			

WORDY GURDY®

BY TRICKY RICKY KANE

Every answer is a rhyming pair of words (like FAT CAT and DOUBLE TROUBLE), and they will fit in the letter squares. The number after the definition tells you how many syllables in each word.

1. "Why, this is hominy!" (1)

2. Lambs bound (1)

3. Convey singer/actress J. Blige (2)

4. Female spouses' motivations (1)

5. More uptight sword dueler (2)

6. (With 7) Forced step-down from office ...

7. ... official classification (4)

10-11-21

ANSWERS

1. ITS GRITS 2. SHEEP LEAP 3. CARRY MARY 4. WIVES DRIVES

5. TENSER FENCER 6. RESIGNATION 7. DESIGNATION

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★☆☆☆☆

9		7	8	1	3			4
		5						7
2		3	6	7	5	1	9	
5		4		2				
		9		6		7		
				4		3		5
	9	1	2	5	4	8		3
7						4		
4			9	3	7	2		6

10/11

HOW TO PLAY:

Each row, column and set of 3-by-3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 through 9 without repetition.

SOLUTION

■ Because we have no idea what tomorrow will bring:

9	1	2	4	6	8	5	7
6	5	7	9	8	1	2	3
3	2	8	7	5	2	1	6
5	8	6	7	4	9	2	1
2	7	1	1	9	5	6	8
1	9	6	8	2	3	7	4
8	6	1	5	2	9	4	7
4	3	9	2	6	7	5	1
7	2	5	3	1	8	2	9

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SUDOKU

Annie offers advice

Dear Annie: My son and his family have shut me out of their lives. It has gotten to the point where, when I see them in public, they turn away.

There were always never any big blowouts; they just stopped coming around or talking to me.

I have apologized to them for whatever I did. I tried calling them on the phone. I've written letters and sent them through the mail, and I messaged them on Facebook. I also emailed them, and no response.

This has been going on for five years. I have cried endless nights about this. My question is, where do I go from here? It has been the grief that "keeps on giving."

Dazed and Confused

Dear Dazed and Confused: Five years is too long for you to stay stuck in the dark about why your son and his family have shut you out.

Their decision to ignore you is really painful, and it is understandable that you have cried about it.

Not knowing why is probably part of the reason you are stuck in your grief — because at some level, you understandably hold out hope that he and his family will come around and let you into their lives.

Keep trying to reach out respectfully. If he continues to shut you out, know that you have exhausted all steps to try to get close to him.

At some point, you have to just accept the situation as it is and try to move toward making yourself and your life happy.

Pick up a new hobby; make new friends; or adopt a pet at your local shelter.

Dear Annie: My husband used to check out other women in an obvious way, but no more.

What happened was this: We were in our early 40s, both on our second marriages, and we met for a date one night after work. We sat at the bar due to the crowd on a Friday, and two women across the bar were flirting with him.

Just smiles and eye games, but he was soaking up the attention, essentially ignoring me.

I quietly got up, took my purse, walked out and drove home. It took him a minute to realize that I was gone, and those women were cracking up!

He came home just a few minutes behind me, all embarrassed because I had ditched him.

I let him know that I didn't care if he appreciated pretty women but gawking in my presence was flat-out disrespectful.

It never happened again. —

Expecting Respect

Dear Expecting Respect: Thank you for sharing your very creative way to get your husband to stop gawking at other women.

Most times, people treat us the way we expect to be treated.

Good for you.

"Ask Me Anything: A Year of Advice From Dear Annie" is out now! Annie Lane's debut book — featuring favorite columns on love, friendship, family and etiquette — is available as a paperback and e-book. Visit www.creatorspublishing.com for more information. Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com.

LOCAL SUPPORT

■ LifeStream Behavioral Center Crisis Hotline: 866-355-9394 (toll free)

■ The Centers/SMA Healthcare: 352-628-5020

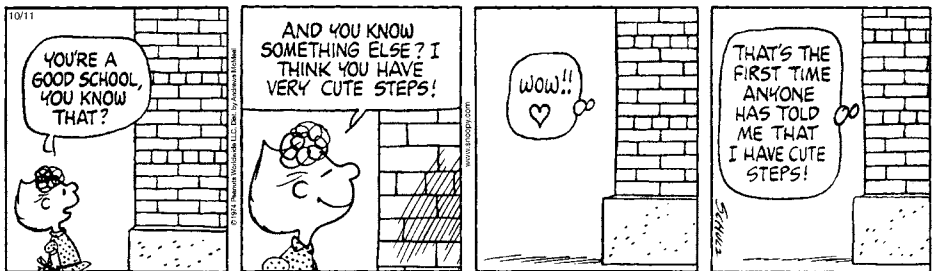
■ NAMI-Citrus hotline: 844-687-6264 (toll free)

SO YOU KNOW

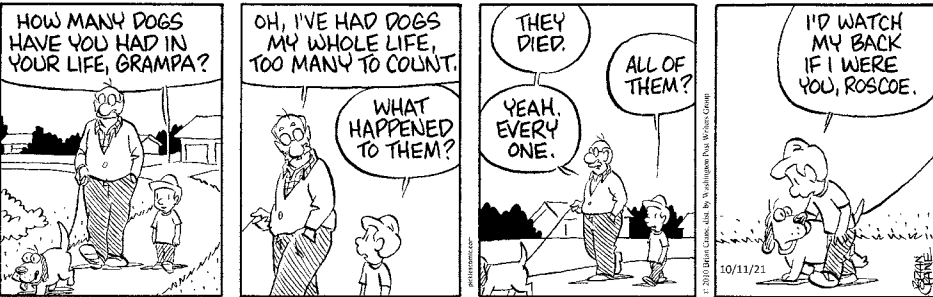
■ Due to the unforeseen difficulties with today's edition, the puzzles normally found in the Chronicle's classified pages are instead placed here.

■ The Chronicle regrets the inconvenience.

Peanuts



Pickles



Sally Forth



Dilbert

