

Sports: Vann finalist for Florida's Mr. Football / B1

THURSDAY

TODAY & next morning

HIGH

73

LOW

50



Partly sunny and mild.

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CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE

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JANUARY 6, 2022

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VOL. 128 ISSUE 6

Former nurse found guilty of sex crimes

Sentencing to come at a later date

By FRED HIERS
Chronicle Reporter

It took a jury only 45 minutes to return a guilty verdict Tuesday for a former



BONILLA

Circuit Judge Richard How-

Citrus Memorial Hospital nurse accused of sexually assaulting a patient in early 2021 at the local hospital.

ard will sentence the 58-year-old Hiram Bonilla later.

The jury found Bonilla guilty of lewd battery on an elderly or disabled person and two charges of lewd or lascivious molestation of an elderly person or disabled person. The charges are felonies.

A Citrus Memorial Hospi-

tal staff member in January 2021 contacted the sheriff's office in reference to a sexual assault of a patient.

The victim told law enforcement investigators that on Jan. 5 and Jan. 6 of 2021, a registered nurse entered her hospital room on several separate occasions and

engaged in sexual activity with her.

CMH fired Bonilla after the accusation.

Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office deputies arrested Bonilla in Tampa where he lived in January 2021 after the State Attorney's Office issued a war-

rant for his arrest.

Assistant State Attorney Tara Hartman told Howard earlier this year that after interviewing the victim, there would be no plea offers.

Fred Hiers is a reporter at the Citrus Chronicle. E-mail him at fred.hiers@chronicleonline.com



Matthew Beck / Chronicle photo editor

Shawn Ward uses a grinder with a specialized attachment Wednesday to trim the hooves on a steer.

Future farmers begin fair week prep

By HANNAH SACHEWICZ
Chronicle Reporter

On Wednesday, many "moos" echoed through the cool morning air at the Lecanto Educational Complex.

For the last day of winter break, local Future Farmers of America (FFA) students gathered with their livestock at the Lecanto agriculture fields for the annual Fuzzy Memorial Health Day. The event, hosted by Lecanto FFA, is an opportunity for students to prepare their animals for upcoming livestock shows.

Lecanto High School teacher Steve Richardson kickstarted the event about seven years ago as a way for students to have easy and affordable access to required animal health inspections. "This is for every kid around the county," he said.

Three stations were up and running from 8 a.m. to noon for students to take their animals through. The health certificate, required for fair week, was \$5 per animal. Hoof-trimming was \$25 and ultrasounds were \$15.

In its first year, Richardson said the health day began with about 60 people, but has grown through the years to a couple hundred.

From exhibitor to teacher, the upcoming Citrus County Fair in



Fourteen-year-old Parker Fortier, an eighth grader at Lecanto Middle School, calms Shadow, the school's FFA steer as the animal's hooves are trimmed. The animal is securely placed into an implement to keep movement to a minimum as the job is performed.

March will be Richardson's 30th "Fletch" Fletcher. Examinations were completed while the animals are still in the trailer, before arrival at the FFA barn.

Per Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services policy, all animals going to county or state fairs must receive travel certifications from licensed veterinarians. This allows them to com-

ingle without the risk of spreading contagious diseases at events.

Richardson said this enables FDACS to track livestock – and potential diseases – from birth to butcher. "It's safety first," he said.

After their health screenings, pigs, sheep and other livestock

See FARMERS, page A2

Trial begins for man accused of causing baby's death

By FRED HIERS
Chronicle Reporter

The trial of an Inverness man accused of killing a 2-month-old baby by smoking methamphetamine in a shared home and neglecting two other infants began Wednesday with opening statements and prosecutors' witnesses.

Assistant State Attorney Nicholas Caporicci told the eight jurors in his opening statement that baby Aliyah Courtney died March 13, 2020, in the Inverness home on Live Oak Lane because 53-year-old Steven Troy Gibson operated the residence "essentially (as) a drug house" where

he lived with his girlfriend, both who smoked methamphetamine in the house, and rented rooms out to other meth users.

Caporicci said he and other prosecutors will prove that Gibson and the other residents "smoked almost every day" including the night before the baby's death and Aliyah died from being exposed to methamphetamine toxicity.

Also charged are Tammy Marie Allison, who was Gibson's girlfriend, Kevin

Christopher Courtney, the baby's father, and Stephanie Pearl Carroll, the mother of the child. They will be tried separately.

Two other adults also lived in the home but were not charged. Two infants, ages three and five years, also lived in the home. Carroll was also their mother.

Caporicci said the baby's methamphetamine levels in her body were minor compared to an adult but was lethal for her tiny body and "caused or attributed to Aliyah's death."

But Gregg Brennan, attorney for Gibson, told the jury that the prosecutor's "evidence is going to be lacking in this case."

Instead, when the people in the house realized the baby was not breathing, Brennan told the jury it was Gibson who called 911 and stayed on the phone to convey the 911 operator's life-saving instructions to the others to try and save Aliyah.

Brennan told the jury that during the sheriff's office arrival Gibson voluntarily spoke with investigators and allowed them in the house.

Brennan said that Gibson "did what he could" for the children and often told Carroll that she should take her children and move out and back into her parents' home. The two witnesses who rented bedrooms in the house when Aliyah died,

but who were not charged, said during the first day of trial that all the residents in the house smoked methamphetamine, and often daily.

They also told the jury that Gibson helped to take care of the children and often told Carroll the home was no place for children because of the drug use and that she should leave.

Johan Bravo, a sheriff's office crime scene specialist who was assigned the case, told the jury, and lead prosecutor Blake Shore, that the mother showed how she found her baby in bed using a doll. Bravo said that Carroll placed the doll face

See TRIAL, page A2



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FARMERS

From page A1

could go home, but cattle moved on to the second two stations.

Cattle get horizontal pedicures

At the second station, Shawn Ward of Shawn Ward Hoof Trimming gave pedicures to the cattle near the FFA barn.

One by one, they were placed in Ward's contraption, which he called a hoof-trimming table. The table secured and lifted the animals sideways as he trimmed their hooves with a specialized grinder.

Ward said the purpose of hoof-trimming is both "cosmetic and function-



Matthew Beck / Chronicle photo editor
Shawn Ward uses a grinder with a specialized attachment to trim the hooves on a steer Wednesday, Jan. 5, at the Lecanto Educational Complex.

ary." Afterward, the animals are able to walk more comfortably.

Eighteen-year-old Citrus steer, Striker's, hooves were getting his beef chele Rose, said the steer

got his name because Justin is a bowler.

Justin said he started showing cattle in sixth-grade – this will be his seventh year showing.

"This is a great clinic," Michele said. Typically, she said, home veterinarian visits can cost more than \$100.

Got beef?

Finally, the beef cattle were inspected by certified carcass ultrasound field technician Amy Perryman. She used a veterinarian's ultrasound with a specialized probe designed for carcass evaluation.

This allows Perryman to determine how much fat and muscle is currently on the animal. Parker Fortier, 14-year-old Lecanto Middle School eighth-grader, was

one of the first students to receive an ultrasound on his steer.

Perryman said many of the young cattle will be ready for processing in approximately 90 days, just in time for auctioning at the Citrus County Fair. "The fair wants to ensure they are selling a quality product," she said.

"The kids wanna know how they stand right now," Perryman added. After the ultrasound, some may need to adjust their feeding regimens.

However, Fortier's steer yielded a great ultrasound result. "I think he's sitting pretty," Perryman told him.

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TRIAL

From page A1

down on the mother's bed with a pillow partially over the baby's head.

In a taped interview with Citrus County Sheriff's Office investigators, played for the jury, Gibson said he had gone to Carroll's room about 7 a.m. and asked her to care for the crying baby and again about 7:20 a.m. He said he heard Carroll get up and the baby stop crying. In the interview, Gibson said that about an hour later Carroll came into the home's hallway and screamed that the baby was not breathing and that her skin was white.

But much of the focus Wednesday was on Dr. Heather Gage, the associate medical examiner for the area and a forensic pathologist who investigated the baby's death.

Gage told the jury that samples of the baby's heart blood, liver, and eye fluid all had traces of methamphetamine. She said that methamphetamine toxicity was the primary cause of death and that a contributing factor was asphyxiation because of the way the baby was lying. She said the methamphetamine "likely sped up the process of asphyxia" because it causes the heart to beat faster and irregular, so no blood passes through it properly. It also

increases blood pressure, she said.

Gage said she reached her primary cause of death conclusion because there was methamphetamine in the baby's system and because she consulted the medical literature on the subject.

During cross examination, Brennan cited the literature Gage used and noted it was only one study on the issue of child death in which methamphetamine was found.

Of the seven babies involved in the study, only two had died because of methamphetamine, he noted.

Gage agreed that's what the study showed.

One of the babies was unborn and still inside their mother and the other had methamphetamine levels significantly greater than detected in Aliyah, Brennan noted.

Gage agreed that's what the study showed.

Upon cross examination Gage also said it was difficult to say how the methamphetamine affected the baby's organ systems and to what extent.

She said the medical literature was limited when it involved children dying with methamphetamine in their bodies, so known overdose levels of the drug was also limited.

Brennan asked Gage whether it was correct to conclude Aliyah would have died if she could not breath lying face down next to her mother for an hour regardless of methamphetamine.

Gage replied yes.

Brennan also asked whether it was correct that nothing else showed how the methamphetamine affected the baby.

Gage replied that was correct. The trial is scheduled to continue Thursday and Friday.

Fred Hiers is a reporter at the Citrus Chronicle. E-mail him at fred.hiers@chronicleonline.com

COUNTY

From page A1

announcement could be forthcoming.

Register and Pieklik reported directly to County Administrator Randy Oliver and there was limited contact between the directors and county commission.

That needs to change, according to a consensus from the board Wednesday.

At the suggestion of Commission Chairman Ron Kitchen Jr., board members liked the idea of patterning economic development after the Citrus County Tourist Development Council (TDC).

Kitchen chaired the TDC for seven years and he said it has since become the most successful county government board in terms of generating revenue and marketing Citrus County.

Kitchen's idea is more of a committee approach, rather than one person steering the ship.

Kitchen said the county would create an economic development council, chaired by a county commissioner and run by a newly hired director and members of the public, especially business folks. The new department would draft bylaws, the budget would be formulated and members would meet monthly.

This way, the commission can better monitor the director's prog-

ress, have monthly reports from the commission's liaison at the board's regular meeting.

The department's budget will grow each year based on its success in bringing in new business and industry, Kitchen said.

Kinnard said Citrus County needs "career-class jobs" and the groundwork must be laid for private industry to come to Citrus County and invest here. If that means paying more for a qualified director, so be it, he said.

That groundwork includes improving roads and other infrastructure to make it attractive for start-up or relocating industry, Kinnard said. But that will cost millions the county doesn't have.

To that end, and realizing he will likely catch heat from the public, Kinnard proposed the board revisit impact fees and consider calculating the transportation/roads at 100 percent.

Last March, commissioners voted to raise impact fees for a single-family home from \$4,809 to \$6,017.

They kept the impact fee calculations for transportation/roads at the 50 percent formula rate, with the other categories at 100 percent.

Kinnard said such a move would allow the county to pay off debt and help fund road resurfacing.

"We're simply making the new growth pay for itself," he said.

Nothing was decided Wednesday. The public will have a chance to speak at a future workshop.

Michael D. Bates is a staff writer with the Citrus County Chronicle and can be reached at mbates@chronicleonline.com

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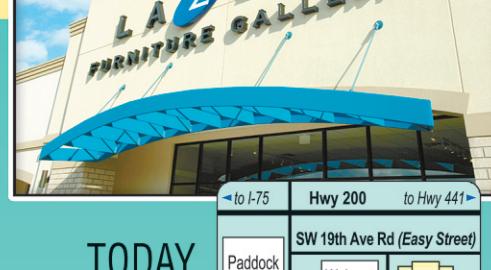
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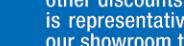
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NEWS BRIEFS

Cyclist, 12, injured after riding into path of motorist

A 12-year-old girl traveling in the evening hours of Saturday, Jan. 1, along West Oak Park Boulevard (County Road 490), was struck by a motorist, according to information the Chronicle received Wednesday, Jan. 5, from the Florida Highway Patrol.

The report stated the girl was riding her bicycle at 6:15 p.m. along C.R. 490 when she entered the path of a 2013 Toyota Corolla driven by a 79-year-old Homosassa woman.

The girl suffered serious, but not life-threatening, injuries, according to the FHP.

Reception to memorialize Florida painter

The Art Center of Citrus County will host a retrospective exhibit and reception in memory of watercolorist Dick Krall at 5 p.m. Jan. 6 at 2644 N. Annapolis Ave. in Hernando.

Krall had a most varied art career. While growing up in New York, he was a scholarship student at the Albany Art Museum. After a hitch in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War, Krall earned a bachelor's in fine arts from Pratt Institute.

He then studied in graduate programs at Syracuse University and the University of South Florida. He was an art editor for magazines, a studio illustrator and an advertising art director.

When Krall moved to Florida, he lived and pursued a full-time career in watercolor painting and design. Assignments have taken him all over America. His paintings have appeared in national exhibitions, winning awards in several. His work has also been featured on calendars and publications.

For more information, visit tinyurl.com/5h9wemhr.

Scholarships available for graduating seniors

The Homosassa Civic Club is offering college and technical school scholarships to graduating high school seniors and adults living in the Homosassa area. To apply, visit homosassacivicclubinc.org. The deadline is March 31.

6-year-old killed by truck while walking to school

AUBURNDALE, Fla. (AP) — A central Florida kindergarten student was fatally struck by a pickup truck while walking to school on Wednesday morning, police said.

The 6-year-old child was crossing U.S. 92 while heading to Auburndale Central Elementary School when the incident happened.

An Auburndale police news release said the driver didn't realize he hit the child and continued driving. Another driver let him know what had happened, the police report said.

The truck driver immediately returned to the scene and cooperated with police.

Fuchs to step down as UF president

By JIM SAUNDERS

The News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE — University of Florida President Kent Fuchs announced Wednesday that he plans to step down at the end of 2022, saying he has fulfilled commitments he made when he took the helm of the state's flagship university.

"When I was appointed in 2014, I was asked to make three commitments to the Board of Trustees and the (state university system's) Board of Governors," Fuchs said in a video announcement. "First, that I would

work to raise the stature of UF to be among the nation's top 10 public universities.

Second, that UF would launch and complete a \$3 billion fundraising campaign. Third, that UF would not increase its tuition while I served as president. Those promises were made and those promises were kept."

Fuchs, 67, will work as a professor in the school's department of electrical and computer engineering after

leaving the presidency. He came to Florida after serving as provost of Cornell University.

The announcement said Fuchs told UF Board of Trustees Chairman Mori Hosseini in August that he would like to shift from being president to a professor. It said they agreed he would continue as president through the completion of a capital campaign in fall 2022 and until a successor is appointed, which is expected by early 2023.

"Kent Fuchs has been precisely the right person at the right time to take UF to the heights it has achieved,"

Hosseini said in a prepared statement. "His sense of purpose, commitment to UF and warmth and love for the university have been a tremendous source of encouragement for me and for everyone at UF — while helping to lift the university even higher on the national stage."

The announcement, however, came after Fuchs and UF have faced controversy during the past two months about a decision to prevent three political-science professors from serving as expert witnesses against the state in a lawsuit over a high-profile new elections law.

While the university ultimately walked back the decision, the controversy has drawn national media attention and a federal lawsuit in which six professors allege a UF policy violates First Amendment rights.

The announcement Wednesday did not mention the controversy and focused on achievements during Fuchs' tenure, including UF becoming ranked as a top 10 public university in the closely watched U.S. News & World Report rankings. UF was tied for fifth in the 2021 rankings.

The UF Board of Trustees will conduct a national search for Fuchs' replacement.

Youth football league launches shoe drive fundraiser

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

The Citrus Cowboys, a youth football league, is conducting a shoe drive through Jan. 19 to raise funds for the organization. The group will earn funds based on the total weight of the pairs of gently worn, used and new shoes collected, as Fund2Orgs will issue a check for the collected shoes. Those dollars will benefit new safety equipment and certification of all existing equipment, as well as help the organization recover from the last two years.

Anyone can help by donating gently worn, used and new shoes by contacting Kym Williams at 352-419-2604 for pick-up or drop off.

All donated shoes will then be redistributed throughout the Fund2Orgs network of micro-enterprise (small business) partners. Fund2Orgs works with micro-entrepreneurs in helping them create, maintain and grow small businesses in developing countries where economic opportunity and jobs are limited.

Proceeds from the sales of the shoes collected in shoe drive fundraisers are used to feed, clothe and house their families. One budding entrepreneur in Haiti even earned enough to send to her son to law school.

"We are excited about our shoe drive," said Kym Williams, secretary. "We know that most people have extra shoes in their closets they would like to donate to us. By doing so, we raise money for new safety equipment, certification of equipment that we already have and organizational costs and we have the chance to help families in developing nations who need economic opportunities. It's a win-win for everyone."

By donating gently worn, used and new shoes to the Citrus Cowboys, the shoes will be given a second chance and make a difference in people's lives around the world.



A Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation law enforcement boat patrols in the ocean in front of search and rescue efforts at the Champlain Towers South condo building on June 30, 2021 in Surfside.

March 2023 trial set for condo lawsuits

By CURT ANDERSON

AP Legal Affairs Writer

A major lawsuit in the collapse of a Florida beachfront condominium building that killed 98 people will go to trial in March 2023, a judge said Wednesday.

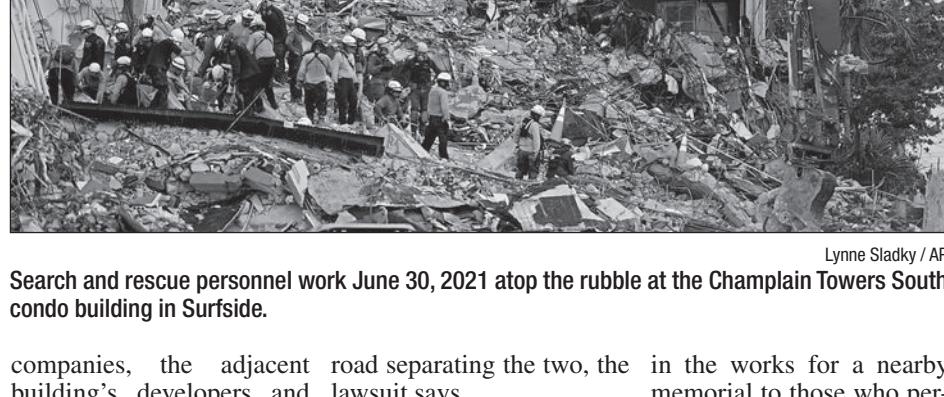
That's about six months later than Miami-Dade Circuit Judge Michael Hanzman had originally planned, but lawyers in the complex and unusual case said experts need more time to evaluate what caused the 12-story Champlain Towers South building to fall in June 2021.

"That is a firm deadline, ladies and gentlemen," Hanzman said during a hearing held virtually. "This case will be going to trial in March 2023."

The collapse of Champlain Towers, located in Surfside, Florida, was one of the worst building disasters in U.S. history. Federal and state agencies are investigating what happened, but likely won't reach a conclusion for many months.

The main lawsuit filed in November contends that work on an adjacent luxury condo building, known as Eighty Seven Park, damaged and destabilized an aging Champlain Towers building already in dire need of major structural repair.

Lawyers for insurance



Search and rescue personnel work June 30, 2021 atop the rubble at the Champlain Towers South condo building in Surfside.

companies, the adjacent building's developers and other entities said the initial plan for a September trial date wouldn't allow engineers and other experts to fully evaluate what happened.

"It will be impossible to try this case in the fall," said Michael Goldberg, a court-appointed receiver for the Champlain Towers condo association.

The lawsuit contends that excavation, pile-driving and other work at Eighty Seven Park, just across the city line in Miami Beach, between 2016 and 2019 caused vibrations that weakened the shaky structure next door. In addition, groundwater was funneled from the new building to the Champlain Towers basement after developers bought a small

road separating the two, the lawsuit says.

The defendants have denied that construction of the 18-story Eighty Seven Park building was responsible for the collapse. They contended in a prior statement that Champlain Towers was "improperly designed, poorly constructed, significantly underfunded and inadequately maintained."

The property where the now-demolished Champlain Towers South once stood is up for sale with bidding for the prime oceanfront land currently at about \$120 million. Plans are also

in the works for a nearby memorial to those who perished.

The lawsuit does not demand a specific dollar amount in damages but lawyers say it could run into hundreds of millions of dollars. All of this would go to wrongful death claims and to compensate people who lost their condos and belongings in the collapse.

Hanzman told lawyers not to expect any further delays beyond March of next year.

"This court is not working under some leisurely schedule," the judge said. "This case will not be continued."

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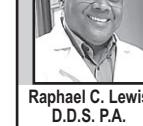
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ENTERTAINMENT

Collection of Mailer's writing finds new publisher

By HILLEL ITALIE
AP National Writer

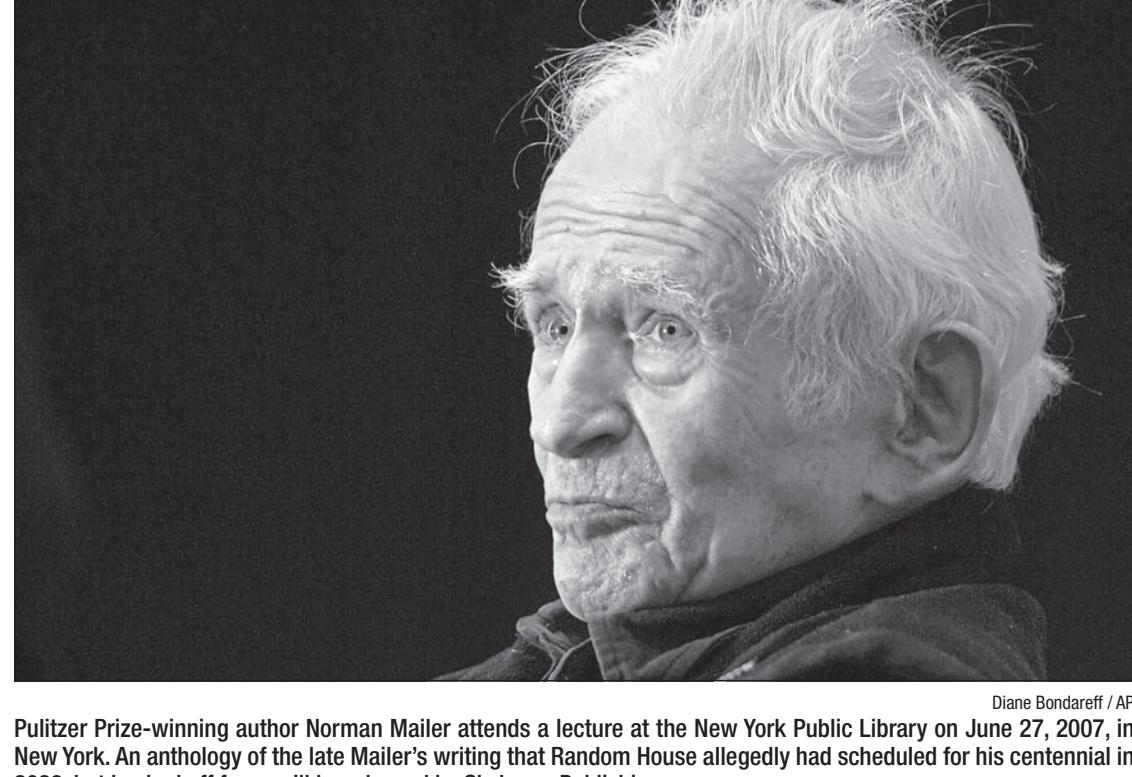
NEW YORK — An anthology of the late Norman Mailer's writing that Random House allegedly scheduled for his centennial in 2023 but backed off from, will be released by Skyhorse Publishing. The publisher has taken on such discarded works as Woody Allen's memoir "Apropos of Nothing" and a Philip Roth biography written by Blake Bailey.

Andrew Wylie, whose literary agency represents the Mailer estate, told The Associated Press on Tuesday that Skyhorse Publishing will release the book and that Random House has waived any reprint fees. He said that such details as the book's contents, title and date of publication were still to be determined.

"Random House is proud to publish Norman Mailer, and intends to promote his work significantly for the centennial, in tandem with the publication by Skyhorse of the anthology," Wylie wrote in an email. "The Mailer family and Random House are united in support of Norman's work."

A Skyhorse spokesperson was not immediately able to confirm there was a deal for the Mailer book. Skyhorse is an independent publisher that has made a name for itself in recent years by signing up such authors as Allen, Bailey, Garrison Keillor and others the mainstream industry has distanced itself from, for reasons ranging from allegations of sexual harassment to sexual assault.

Wylie disputed a report by the online publication The Ankler, which alleged Random House dropped the project because of misgivings about some of Mailer's work, notably "The White



Diane Bondareff / AP

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Norman Mailer attends a lecture at the New York Public Library on June 27, 2007, in New York. An anthology of the late Mailer's writing that Random House allegedly had scheduled for his centennial in 2023, but backed off from, will be released by Skyhorse Publishing.

Negro." In Mailer's 1957 essay, he wrote of Blacks as being models of non-conformity for hipster whites, living in "the enormous present," letting go "the pleasures of the mind for the more obligatory pleasures of the body."

James Baldwin chastised Mailer for perpetuating the "myth of the sexuality of Negroes."

Asked if he would confirm the Ankler report, Wylie said "That's not the issue at all." Asked why Random House was not publishing the book, Wylie called it an "editorial decision" and added "There is really no issue here."

Mailer, who died in 2007, was among the most famous and controversial authors in his lifetime and has long been a signature part of Random House's legacy, which

includes such Mailer peers as Truman Capote and William Styron. He was the recipient of Pulitzer Prizes for "The Armies of the Night" and "The Executioner's Song," but was also widely condemned for his writing on race, for his admittedly misogynist opinions and for the stabbing of his second wife, Adele Morales, in 1960.

While news of Random House not publishing the new collection led to allegations on social media that Mailer was being "cancelled," his books remain widely available through Random House and the Library of America, which has been releasing permanent bound editions of his work. "The White

Negro" can easily be found online, including Dissent magazine,

where the essay first appeared. But interest in his work has sharply faded. According to NPD BookScan, which tracks around 85 percent of the print market, combined sales for four of Mailer's best known books — "The Armies of the Night," "The Naked and the Dead," "The Executioner's Song" and "The Fight" — were under 4,000 copies in 2021.

One of Mailer's sons, Michael Mailer, told the AP that Random House suggested a centennial project. The family, along with Mailer biographer J. Michael Lennon, "put together a proposal for a collection of political essays on democracy which they liked and then decided later not to proceed due to objections, putatively, from certain junior executives."

TODAY IN HISTORY

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Thursday, Jan. 6, the sixth day of 2022. There are 359 days left in the year.

Highlight in history:

On Jan. 6, 2021, supporters of President Donald Trump, fueled by his false claims of a stolen election, assaulted police and smashed their way into the Capitol to interrupt the certification of Democrat Joe Biden's victory, forcing lawmakers into hiding; most of the rioters had come from a nearby rally where Trump urged them to "fight like hell." A Trump supporter, Ashli Babbitt, was shot and killed by a police officer as she tried to breach a barricaded doorway inside the Capitol. Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick, injured while confronting the rioters, suffered a stroke the next day and died from natural causes, the Washington, D.C., medical examiner's office said. (In the weeks that followed, four of the officers who responded to the riot took their own lives.) Congress reconvened hours later to finish certifying the election result.

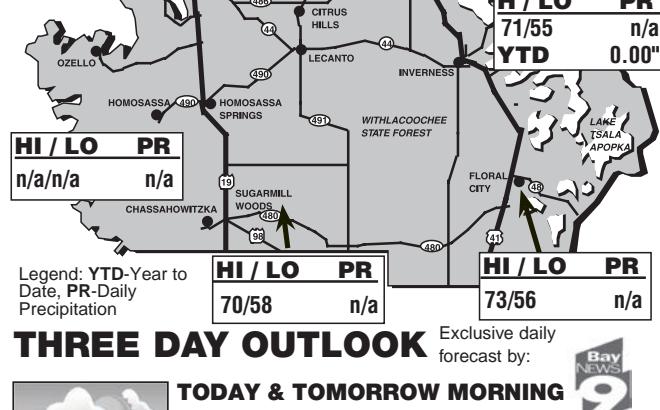
On this date:

In 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, in his State of the Union address, outlined a goal of "Four Freedoms": Freedom of speech and expression; the freedom of people to worship God in their own way; freedom from want; freedom from fear.

In 2001, with Vice President Al Gore presiding in his capacity as president of the Senate, Congress formally certified George W. Bush the winner of the bitterly contested 2000 presidential election.

Today's Birthdays: Rock singer-musician Kim Wilson (The Fabulous Thunderbirds) is 71. Singer Jett Williams is 69. Actor-comedian Rowan Atkinson is 67. World Golf Hall of Famer Nancy Lopez is 65. Actor Scott Bryce is 64. Actor Norman Reedus is 53. Actor Eddie Redmayne is 40. Retired NBA All-Star Gilbert Arenas is 40. Actor-comedian Kate McKinnon is 38. Rock singer Alex Turner (Arctic Monkeys) is 36.

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER



THREE DAY OUTLOOK

TODAY & TOMORROW MORNING
High: 73° Low: 50°
Partly sunny and mild.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY MORNING
High: 75° Low: 50°
Dry and mild.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY MORNING
High: 76° Low: 59°
Partly sunny and a little warmer.

ALMANAC Data from Crystal River Airport

TEMPERATURE

Yesterday 74/54

Record* 86/19

Normal 70/42

Mean temp. 56

Departure from mean 8

PRECIPITATION

Yesterday 0.00"

Total for the month 0.11"

Total for the year 0.10"

Normal for the year 0.44"

As reported from <https://citrusmosquito.org>

UV INDEX: 4

0-2 minimal, 3-4 low, 5-6 moderate,

7-9 high, 10+ very high

BAROMETRIC PRESSURE

30.03

SOLAR TABLES

Provided by ezfshn.com

DATE DAY

MINOR (MORNING)

MINOR (AFTERNOON)

MAJOR

MAJOR

01/06 THURSDAY 7:23 4:01 5:47 4:25

01/07 FRIDAY 7:23 4:49 5:47 5:12

CELESTIAL OUTLOOK

SUNSET TONIGHT 5:47 pm

SUNRISE TOMORROW 7:23 am

MOONRISE TODAY 10:44 am

MOONSET TODAY 10:13 pm

BURN CONDITIONS

Today's Fire Danger Index is: MODERATE. There is no burn ban.

For more information call Florida Division of Forestry at (352) 797-4140. For more information on wildfire conditions, please visit the Division of Forestry's Web site: www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-OFFices/Florida-Forest-Service/Wildland-Fire

WATERING RULES

For established lawns and landscapes, irrigation may occur during only one (1) of the specified time periods, 12:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. - 11:59 p.m., on the allowable watering days below:

Addresses with house numbers ending in:

0 - 1	Monday	6 - 7	Thursday
2 - 3	Tuesday	8 - 9 - or-	
4 - 5	Wednesday	Common Areas	Friday

Questions, concerns or reporting violations, please call: City of Inverness at 352-726-2321; City of Crystal River at 352-795-4216, Ext. 313; unincorporated Citrus County at 352-527-7669. For more information, visit: www.citrusbccc.com/departments/water_resources/watering_restrictions.php

TIDES

*From mouths of rivers **At King's Bay ***At Mason's Creek

THURSDAY

Low

Chassahowitzka* 8:38 a.m. 0.7 ft 8:48 p.m. 0.2 ft 12:49 a.m. 0.1 ft 4:44 p.m. 0.1 ft

Crystal River** 6:28 a.m. 2.4 ft 7:30 p.m. 1.6 ft 12:40 a.m. 0.6 ft 1:47 p.m. 0.0 ft

Withlacoochee* 3:36 a.m. 3.3 ft 5:12 p.m. 2.5 ft 11:32 a.m. -0.6 ft 11:32 p.m. 0.7 ft

Homosassa*** 7:11 a.m. 1.4 ft 8:52 p.m. 0.7 ft 1:26 a.m. 0.2 ft 4:05 p.m. 0.0 ft

FLORIDA TEMPERATURES

City	H	L	Fcast	City	H	L	Fcast
Daytona Bch.	72	55	pc	Miami	79	67	pc
Fort Lauderdale	80	64	pc	Ocala	73	54	pc
Fort Myers	75	63	pc	Orlando	74	56	s
Gainesville	71	51	pc	Pensacola	72	36	sh
Homestead	80	63	pc	Sarasota	75	63	pc
Jacksonville	70	49	s	Tallahassee	69	40	pc
Key West	78	69	pc	Tampa	76	62	s
Lakeland	75	59	s	Vero Beach	77	57	pc
Melbourne	77	60	pc	W. Palm Bch.	76	67	pc

MARINE OUTLOOK

Today: Northeast winds around 5 knots then becoming east late in the morning, then becoming south around 10 knots in the afternoon. Seas 2 feet or less. Bay and inland waters a light chop.

Gulf water temperature

66°

Taken at Crystal River

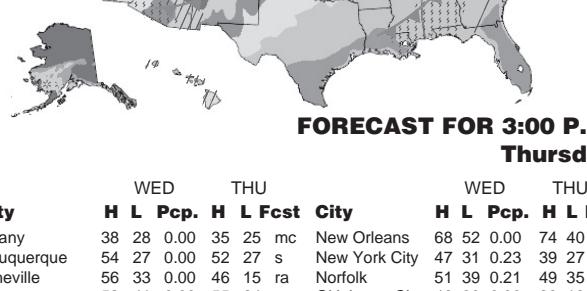
LAKE LEVELS

Location	WED	TUE	FULL
Withlacoochee at Holder	29.18	29.22	34.64
Tsala Apopka-Hernando	37.73	37.75	38.66
Tsala Apopka-Inverness	39.06	39.07	39.73
Tsala Apopka-Floral City	40.19	40.21	41.37

Levels reported in feet above sea level. Flood stage for lakes are based on 2.33-year flood, the mean-annual flood which has a 43-percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any one year. This data is obtained from the Southwest Florida Water Management District and is subject to revision. In no event will the District or the United States Geological Survey be liable for any damages arising out of the use of this data. If you have any questions you should contact the Hydrological Data Section at (352) 796-7211.

THE NATION

0s 10s 20s 30s 40s 50s 60s 70s 80s 90s 100s 110s



FORECAST FOR 3:00 P.M. Thursday

WED THU WED THU

CITY H L Pcp. H L Fcast CITY H L Pcp. H L Fcast

Albany 38 28 0.00 35 25 mc New Orleans 68 52 0.00 74 40 pc

Albuquerque 54 27 0.00 52 27 rs Norfolk 47 31 0.21 49 35 pc

Asheville 56 33 0



A crowd waits to enter the main show floor Wednesday at the CES tech show in Las Vegas.

Scaled-back CES returns to Las Vegas

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Thousands of people have gathered in Las Vegas for a tech conference that's been scaled back because of COVID-19 pandemic precautions.

The floors of the CES gadget show opened Wednesday with conference attendees required to wear masks and show proof of vaccination.

"We know that this CES is going to be different," said Gary Shapiro, president of the Consumer Technology Association, the event's organizer. He spoke during a ribbon-cutting ceremony to launch the show.

The trade group hasn't disclosed attendance numbers but said it expects tens of thousands of people for the multi-day event, though not nearly as many as the 170,000 who showed up for the last physical CES two years ago. This year's expo features 2,300 exhibitors from 19 countries, CTA said.

A number of big tech companies pulled out ahead of the show amid concerns



The Sony Vision-S 02 electric SUV is shown Tuesday during the Sony news conference at the CES tech show in Las Vegas.

about the rapid spread of the omicron coronavirus variant. Some of those companies are still participating digitally.

General Motors CEO Mary Barra spoke virtually from Detroit for a keynote talk Wednesday. A last-minute cancellation took celebrity Paris Hilton off the schedule for an in-person panel discussion Wednesday about the digital assets known as non-fungible to-

kens, or NFTs.

"Some people were surprised" that Hilton wasn't there, said Amy Stroud, an NFT enthusiast who was in the standing-room-only crowd. CTA didn't respond to a question about her absence.

Over the last two weeks, Nevada has reported an average of 1,896 new coronavirus cases per day — the highest 14-day moving average in more than a year.

The number of people hospitalized with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 cases rose 52.1 percent over the preceding two weeks to 1,065 on Monday, when the state last updated its hospital data. About one in six hospital beds in the state are taken up by COVID-19 patients.

Kyra Morgan, Nevada's state biostatistician, noted last week in an update about the pandemic in Nevada that while most indoor mask requirements remain in place, businesses are subject to fewer restrictions than at this time last year.

CES organizers encouraged but did not require attendees to get tested for COVID-19 before arriving. But attendees got an extra when picking up their conference badges — a complimentary test kit made by Abbott Laboratories, whose CEO Robert Ford is scheduled to give a keynote talk Thursday. The conference is also providing on-site testing for people with symptoms.

Man whose arrest led to 'separate but equal' is pardoned

By JANET MC CONNAUGHEY
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Louisiana's governor on Wednesday posthumously pardoned Homer Plessy, the Black man whose arrest for refusing to leave a whites-only railroad car in 1892 led to the Supreme Court ruling that cemented "separate but equal" into U.S. law for half a century.

The ceremony began with cellist Kate Dillingham — a descendant of the dissenting justice — playing "Lift Every Voice and Sing" while the audience sang along.

The Plessy v. Ferguson ruling allowing racial segregation across American life stood as the law of the land until the Supreme Court unanimously overruled it in 1954, in *Brown v. the Board of Education*. Both cases argued that segregation laws violated the 14th Amendment's right to equal protection.

The *Brown* decision led to widespread public school desegregation and the eventual stripping away of Jim Crow laws that discriminated against Black Americans.

Plessy was a member of the Citizens Committee, a New Orleans group trying to overcome laws that rolled back post-Civil War advances in equality.

The 30-year-old shoemaker lacked the business, political and educational accomplishments of most of the other members, Keith Weldon Medley wrote in the book "We As Freemen: Plessy v. Ferguson." But his light skin — court papers described him as someone whose "one eighth African blood" was "not discernable" — positioned him for the train car protest.

Eight months after the ruling in his case, Plessy pleaded guilty and was fined \$25 at a time when 25 cents would buy a pound of round steak and 10 pounds of potatoes.

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DIGITAL HOUND MEDIA

Sound

Discover CRYSTAL RIVER FLORIDA

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OBITUARIES



Arthur August Fischer

Arthur August Fischer born May 8, 1936, in New Haven, Connecticut, died at 85 years old.

He lived with his wife Viola Fischer in Lecanto since 1991. He is survived by his bride, Viola, five children, Valerie, Arthur Jr., Robert and wife Laurie, Pamela, Audrey and by eleven grandchildren; also great-grandchildren Heather, Shaun, Adam, Aaron, Caitlin, Tanner, Brendan, Janine, Alexander, Sarah, and Robert; great-grandchildren



Zachary, Taylor and Jack, Wilder, Elowen, Charlotte and Harper. Arthur is also survived by a sister, Florence Wilson and her husband, Frank.

Arthur served in the Navy eight years on board carriers Bennington and Ranger, and diesel submarines. He was later employed at Electric Boat in Groton, Connecticut, and then on to Naval Underwater Systems Center in Newport, R.I. He worked out of Newport, R.I., for twenty-five years



Roger F. Dietch

April 29, 1946 - Dec. 26, 2021

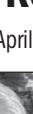


Mr. Roger F. Dietch, age 75 years, of Homosassa, passed away Sunday, December 26, 2021 in Brooksville.

He was born April 29, 1946 in Paterson, New Jersey to Francis and Ruth Danskine Dietch and came to Homosassa 6 months ago from Clearwater where he moved to five years ago from Manhattan, New York. Mr. Dietch was a hedge fund investment broker and enjoyed study-

conducting operational and acceptance trials on combat weapon systems on all new construction and overhaul USN submarines.

Homosassa Chapel of Hooper Funeral Homes is handling his cremation. Arrangements for a memorial service are to be determined at a later time. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that friends remember him as The Man on the Homosassa River in the Pontoon Boat, Good E Nuff, and his faithful companion, his yellow Lab Sam.



Bob Jones



Bob Jones was born June 18, 1941 to Wilbur and Juanita (Wade) Jones at Otego, New York. Married to Nancy (Fusco) Jones lived in Crystal River, Florida. Survived by his wife Nancy Jones; 2 Sons, Stephen Jones (Michelle) of Newburgh, NY, and Jeffrey Jones (Sherilyn) of Homosassa, Fl. Grandchildren Carly Jones & Jeffrey Jones Jr.; 2 stepsons Joe (Adrienne) Faitak of Williston, Vt., Grandchildren, Ceara Kirwan and Autumn Faitak. Ken(MacKenzie) Faitak of Cornwall, NY. Grandson Anthony Faitak; Sisters Sylvia Van Dusen of Kingston, NY. Eva Jones of Arizona.

Bob moved to Florida from New York and a career at IBM. An NFAA Life Member with 51 years of membership and also a Florida Life Member; Bob was our North Florida Vice President for six years followed by seventeen years as our State President. He has built archery ranges and guided clubs and has been an active leader in our State. In 1998 he was presented with the Dillard Buckley Award for special achievement. In 2015 Bob was inducted into the Florida Archery Hall of Fame for his Administrative Achievements, and in 2021 he was presented with the NFAA Medal of Merit. Bob has been the leader in our State Championships

and has been Director of Shooting at our indoor and outdoor events. In 2019 he was Director of Shooting at the National Senior Games. Bob has been a popular, skilled leader and will be greatly missed... I really do already miss my good friend and traveling companion! Bob loved playing pickleball at Meadowcrest.

Visitation will be held on Friday January 7, 2022 from 1 p.m. until service time at 3 p.m. at the Brown Funeral Home in Lecanto, FL. Burial will be at the Calvary Cemetery in Newburgh, NY.

In lieu of flowers please donate to your favorite charity. Brown Funeral Home and Crematory in charge of local arrangements.

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Oldest US veteran of WWII, Lawrence N. Brooks, dies at 112

By LEAH WILLINGHAM
and REBECCA SANTANA
Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Lawrence N. Brooks, the oldest World War II veteran in the U.S. — and believed to be the oldest man in the country — died on Wednesday at the age of 112.

His death was announced by the National WWII Museum and confirmed by his daughter.

Most African Americans serving in the segregated U.S. armed forces at the beginning of World War II were assigned to noncombat units and relegated to service duties, such as supply, maintenance and transportation, said Col. Pete Crean, vice president of education and access at the museum in New Orleans.

"The reason for that was outright racism — there's no other way to characterize it," Crean said.

But Brooks, born on Sept. 12, 1909, was known for his good-natured sense of humor, positivity and kindness. When asked for his secret to a long life, he often said, "serving God and being nice to people."

"I don't have no hard feelings toward nobody," he said during a 2014 oral history interview with the museum. "I just want everything to be lovely, to come out right. I want people to have fun and enjoy themselves — be happy and not sad."

On sunny days, Brooks was known for sitting on the front porch of the double shotgun house he



World War II veteran Lawrence Brooks holds a photo of him taken in 1943, as he celebrates his 110th birthday at the National World War II Museum on Sept. 12, 2019. Brooks, the oldest World War II veteran in the U.S. — and believed to be the oldest man in the country — died on Wednesday at the age of 112.

Gerald Herbert / AP

shared with daughter Vanessa Brooks in the Central City neighborhood of New Orleans. Neighbors would call out to the local celebrity, wave and bring him soda and snacks.

Brooks

was

passionate

about

the

New

Orleans

Saints

football

team

and

never

missed

a

game

his

daughter

said

His

church

St.

Luke's

Episcopal

was

also

close

to

his

heart

and

he

never

missed

a

Sunday

service

until

the

coronavirus

pandemic

hit.

Originally

from

Nor-

wood

Louisiana

near

Baton

Rouge

Brooks'

family

moved

to

the

Mississippi

Delta

when

he

was

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children

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could

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home

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signed

to

the

mostly

Black

91st

Engineer

General

Service

Regiment

stationed

in

Australia

on Pearl Harbor, he was assigned to the mostly Black 91st Engineer General Service Regiment stationed in Australia.

Later in the war, troop losses virtually forced the military to begin placing more African American troops into combat positions. In 1941, fewer than 4,000 African Americans were serving in the military. By 1945, that number increased to more than 1.2 million.

The 91st, where Brooks served, was an Army unit that built bridges, roads and airstrips for planes. Brooks was assigned as a caretaker to three white officers. His job was to cook, drive and take care of their clothes.

Despite not being in combat, Brooks did experience enemy fire during the war. He said the Japanese would sometimes bomb Owen Island, where he worked.

Chas. E. Davis

Funeral Home With Crematory

LUCY MANNION Gathering: Sat. 1:00 P.M.
JAMES FULTON - Private Arrangements
MARY LINHART - Arrangements Pending
JUANITA DAVIS - Private Arrangements
STANLEY HAYBRON III Arrangements Pending
SHIRLEY HURLSTONE Private Arrangements
STEPHANIE GORDON Service: Sat. Jan. 15, 2:00 P.M.
DONALD CLARK - Private Arrangements
HAROLD CRAIG - Arrangements Pending
KATHLEEN PRUITT - Arrangements Pending
VINCENT MORISSET - Arrangements Pending
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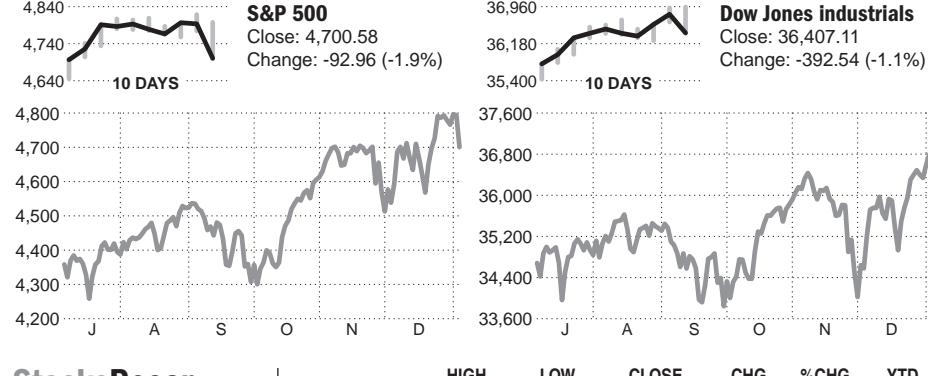
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Money & Markets



Stocks Recap

NYSE	NASD	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	CHG	%CHG	YTD
DOW		36,952.65	36,400.39	36,407.11	-392.54	-1.07%	+0.19%
DOW Trans.		16,618.25	16,324.81	16,344.15	-235.44	-1.42%	-0.81%
DOW Util.		979.69	968.02	969.20	-0.53	-0.05%	-1.18%
NYSE Comp.		17,415.01	17,112.60	17,112.61	-224.16	-1.29%	-0.30%
NASDAQ		15,585.17	15,097.83	15,100.17	-522.54	-3.34%	-3.48%
S&P 500		4,797.70	4,699.44	4,700.58	-92.96	-1.94%	-1.38%
S&P 400		2,875.96	2,800.63	2,801.07	-64.47	-2.25%	-1.44%
Wilshire 5000		48,660.75	47,534.42	47,534.62	-112.13	-2.31%	-1.91%
Russell 2000		2,275.32	2,193.72	2,194.00	-74.87	-3.30%	-2.29%

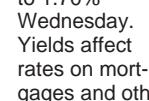
Stocks of Local Interest

NAME	TICKER	52-WK RANGE		CLOSE		YTD %CHG	1YR %RTN	P/E	DIV
		LO	HI	CHG	%CHG				
AT&T Inc	T	22.02	33.88	26.21	+5.7	+2.2	+6.5	4.4	cc 2.08
Ametek Inc	AME	106.96	148.07	143.43	-2.66	-1.8	-2.5	+19.5	36 0.80
Anheuser-Busch InBev	BUD	54.08	79.67	62.64	-5.52	-0.8	+3.5	-8.5	22 1.10e
Bank of America	BAC	29.57	48.69	47.18	-8.1	-1.7	+6.0	+54.9	14 0.84
Capital City Bank	CCBG	21.42	29.00	27.33	+0.03	+0.1	+3.5	+12.6	13 0.64f
Citigroup	C	57.40	80.29	62.85	-7.4	-1.2	+4.1	+5.6	6 2.04
Disney	DIS	142.04	203.02	155.19	-5.54	-0.3	+0.2	-13.5	...
Duke Energy	DUK	85.56	108.38	103.64	+23	+0.2	-1.2	+17.3	59 3.94f
EPR Properties	EPR	30.85	56.07	47.57	-1.24	-2.5	+0.2	+53.6	3.00
Equity Commonwealth	EQC	25.03	29.29	26.04	-15	-0.6	+0.5	-4.0	2.50e
Exxon Mobil Corp	XOM	41.00	66.38	66.75	+82	+1.2	+9.1	+62.6	3.52f
Ford Motor	F	8.43	24.56	23.66	-65	-2.7	+13.9	+148.8	28 0.40
Gen Electric	GE	83.20	116.17	99.37	+5.2	+11.8	0.32
HCA Holdings Inc	HCA	156.43	263.92	258.97	-1.30	-0.5	+0.8	+55.7	24 1.92
Home Depot	HD	246.59	420.61	407.24	-5.60	-1.4	-1.9	+56.3	29 6.60
Intel Corp	INTC	47.87	68.49	53.87	+73	+1.4	+4.6	+9.6	10 1.39
IBM	IBM	114.56	152.84	138.22	+20	+0.1	+3.4	+18.6	23 6.56
LKQ Corporation	LKQ	34.11	60.43	58.72	-77	-1.3	-2.2	+67.0	19 ...a
Lowes Cos	LOW	150.84	263.31	254.75	-5.06	-1.9	-1.4	+60.9	27 3.20
Lumen Technologies	LUMN	9.67	16.60	12.80	-0.05	-0.4	+2.0	+40.5	1.00
McDonalds Corp	MCD	202.73	271.15	267.19	-1.32	-0.5	-0.3	+27.6	29 5.16
Microsoft Corp	MSFT	211.94	349.67	316.38	-12.63	-3.8	-5.9	+51.5	35 2.48f
Motorola Solutions	MSI	165.60	273.65	259.11	-5.69	-2.1	-4.6	+59.0	45 2.84
NextEra Energy	NEE	68.33	93.73	89.73	-95	-1.0	-3.9	+20.8	56 1.54
Piedmont Office RT	PDM	15.10	20.35	19.15	-29	-1.5	+4.2	+21.0	47 0.84
Regions Fncl	RF	15.72	24.89	23.45	-23	-1.0	+7.6	+44.7	9 0.68
Smucker, JM	SJM	110.53	140.65	141.01	+2.44	+1.8	+3.8	+21.6	18 3.96f
Texas Instru	TXN	160.76	202.26	186.82	-3.98	-2.1	-0.9	+18.7	24 4.60f
UniFirst Corp	UNF	189.84	258.86	196.02	-15.45	-7.3	-6.8	+0.4	25 1.00
Verizon Comm	VZ	49.69	59.85	54.02	+55	+1.0	+4.0	-6.5	10 2.56f
Vodafone Group	VOD	14.53	20.36	15.47	-26	-1.7	+3.6	+0.0	cc 1.06e
WalMart Strs	WMT	126.28	152.57	143.92	+1.92	+1.4	-0.5	+1.9	41 2.20
Walgreen Boots Alli	WBA	39.94	57.05	54.00	+52	+3.5	+3.78	20 1.91	

Dividend Footnotes: a - Extra dividends were paid, but not included. b - Annual rate plus stock. c - Liquidating dividend. d - Amount declared or paid in last 12 months. f - Current annual rate, which was increased by most recent dividend announcement. i - Sum of dividends paid after stock split, no regular rate. j - Sum of dividends paid this year. Most recent dividend was omitted or deferred. k - Declared or paid this year, a cumulative issue with dividends in arrears. m - Current annual rate, which was decreased by most recent dividend announcement. p - Initial dividend, annual rate not known, yield not shown. r - Declared or paid in preceding 12 months plus stock dividend. t - Paid in stock, approximate cash value on distribution date.

PE Footnotes: q - Stock is a closed-end fund - no P/E ratio shown. cc - P/E exceeds 99. dd - Loss in last 12 months.

Interest rates



The yield on the 10-year Treasury note rose to 1.70% Wednesday. Yields affect rates on mortgages and other consumer loans.

TREASURIES	LAST	PVS	NET CHG	1YR AGO
3-month T-bill	.09	.08	+0.01	.09
6-month T-bill	.23	.2309
52-wk T-bill	.41	.38	+0.03	.10
2-year T-note	.83	.77	+0.06	.13
5-year T-note	1.43	1.37	+0.06	.38
7-year T-note	1.62	1.57	+0.05	.66
10-year T-note	1.70	1.66	+0.04	.94
30-year T-bond	2.09	2.08	+0.01	1.70

Story Stocks
Stocks slumped Wednesday as Wall Street interpreted the minutes from the Federal Reserve's recent meeting of policymakers as a sign the central bank is poised to move faster to raise interest rates. The S&P 500 had its biggest drop since September.

AT&T
Close: \$26.21 ▲ 0.57 or 2.2%
The telecommunications company gave investors an encouraging update on fourth-quarter subscriber results.

Consumer Rates
48 month new car loan 3.41 - 3.41 3.56 4.12
Money market account 0.07 - 0.07 0.07 0.08
1 year CD 0.28 - 0.28 0.28 0.29
\$30K Home equity loan 6.46 - 6.46 6.46 4.68
30 year fixed mortgage 3.35 ▲ 3.24 3.25 3.07
15 year fixed mortgage 2.62 ▲ 2.53 2.53 2.38

Fuels
Crude Oil (bbl) 77.85 76.99 +1.12 +3.5
Ethanol (gal) 2.16 2.14 ... +1.1
Heating Oil (gal) 2.45 2.41 +1.52 +5.1
Natural Gas (mm btu) 3.88 3.72 +4.44 +4.1
Unleaded Gas (gal) 2.29 2.28 +0.69 +2.9

Metals
Gold (oz) 1824.60 1814.00 +0.58 -0.2
Silver (oz) 23.15 23.04 +0.49 -0.8
Platinum (oz) 1001.90 970.40 +3.25 +3.9
Copper (lb) 4.40 4.47 -1.38 -1.1
Palladium (oz) 1898.60 1855.70 +2.31 -0.5

Agriculture
Cattle (lb) 1.37 1.38 -0.41 -1.2
Coffee (lb) 2.32 2.32 ... +2.5
Corn (bu) 6.02 6.10 -1.19 +1.5
Cotton (lb) 1.16 1.16 -0.09 -0.3
Lumber (1,000 bd ft) 1159.50 1133.00 +2.34 +1.0
Orange Juice (lb) 1.45 1.46 -0.89 -0.9
Soybeans (bu) 13.84 13.79 +0.40 +4.2
Wheat (bu) 7.61 7.70 -1.20 -1.3

Beyond Meat
Close: \$58.49 ▼ 13.30 or -5.1%
The meat substitute maker is partnering with Kentucky Fried Chicken for a meatless fried chicken product.

Nikola
Close: \$9.88 ▼ 0.44 or -4.3%
USA Truck is ordering 10 of the electric truck maker's vehicles.

Fuels
Crude Oil (bbl) 77.85 76.99 +1.12 +3.5
Ethanol (gal) 2.16 2.14 ... +1.1
Heating Oil (gal) 2.45 2.41 +1.52 +5.1
Natural Gas (mm btu) 3.88 3.72 +4.44 +4.1
Unleaded Gas (gal) 2.29 2.28 +0.69 +2.9

Metals
Gold (oz) 1824.60 1814.00 +0.58 -0.2
Silver (oz) 23.1

OPINION

CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE

CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE



Founded by Albert M. Williamson

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"You may differ with my choice, but not my right to choose."

— David S. Arthurs publisher emeritus

Gerard "Gerry" Mulligan publisher emeritus

The opinions expressed in Chronicle editorials are the opinions of the newspaper's editorial board.

EDITORIAL

DeSantis budget for preservation projects is encouraging

Gov. Ron DeSantis' proposed state budget for 2022-2023 allocates more than \$4 billion to a variety of water conservation and environmental projects. It's a good starting point.

Everyone can agree on the importance of natural resources to our quality of life and to both local and state economies. Citrus County particularly pays a lot of attention to water issues; they're high on the county's wish list to the legislative delegation.

The governor's proposed budget includes a significant amount for Everglades restoration, plus it builds on last year's actions to increase the resiliency of coastal and inland communities. The resiliency funding would augment last year's, allocated when the law was enacted. It addresses flooding, which has been an issue in Citrus County.

There's also \$100 million for the Florida Forever program — not as much as environmentalists want, but it's a start — plus about half that for infrastructure and resource management projects in state parks. Citrus County is home to a number of state parks: Ellie Schiller Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park, Crystal River Preserve State Park, Crystal River Archeological State Park, Yulee Sugar Mill Ruins Historic State Park, Fort Cooper State Park, and don't forget the Withlacoochee State Trail, a multi-county linear park in the state system.

Of particular interest is the governor's proposed

THE ISSUE:

Governor's proposed budget includes preservation projects.

OUR OPINION:

Correctly prioritizes the environment.

\$3.8 million allocation to protect the state's manatee population. Manatees play an outsized role in Citrus County's self-image and economy. We're proud of the successful, ongoing efforts in King's Bay to eliminate muck and plant the healthy eel grass on which manatees feed.

The King's Bay template has been adopted in Homosassa waters, and we urge other areas to study and emulate it. The Indian River Lagoon, on Florida's east coast, was the site of a record manatee die-off in 2021 from starvation, due to decades of seagrass loss. Now, a Fort Pierce nonprofit seems to be heading in the right direction: It is currently fundraising to restore a 1-acre plot with healthy seagrass, and it's working with the same contractor that has been instrumental in the King's Bay project.

We hope that the governor's proposal for manatee protection is retained or increased by legislators, who will convene for their 60-day session on January 11. And we hope that the monies identified for manatee protection are directed toward habitat restoration. Undoubtedly, we'll hear more about this as it works its way through the legislature, but you should let lawmakers know right now that this is a priority for you.

about the credit for the apartment complexes, that there's someone out there who will help you if your credit is zero. Well, my credit is zero and every apartment complex I went to, every one has been denied — every one of them. I even offered to pay two years' rent upfront and guess what? Denied — no! They based it on (my) credit report, not payment history. So sad.

Kudos to volunteers at animal shelter

I just want to give a big high-five to the people, the volunteers, that delivered the toys to the dogs at the animal shelter on Christmas morning in the little elf hats. I mean, come on, people can't be any sweeter than this. I just love that we have volunteers like this. What a sweet thing to do.

SOUND OFF

CALL

563-0579

Don't forget, they voted against bill

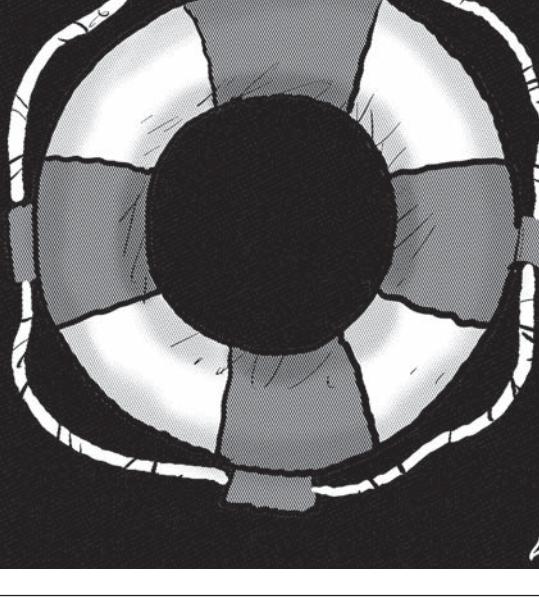
(Re Monday, Dec. 27's front-page story, "Legislator supports bridge replacement"): While it's nice the Sen. Dennis Baxley and Sen. Wilton Simpson are in favor of replacing the bridge on (State Road) 200 at the river, let's not forget that they and the rest of the Republican senators voted against the infrastructure bill that will pay for it.

Editor's Note: Sen. Baxley and Sen. Simpson are state lawmakers; they had no say in the infrastructure bill.

Base it on payments, not credit

I'm responding to "There's always someone who'll help" (Tuesday, Dec. 28's Page A9, Sound Off). The person said

THE ONLY RING ANTONIO BROWN NEEDS NOW.



andrewsmacmillan
ANDREW MACMILLAN SYNDICATE

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Project doesn't pass the smell test

Well, we are moving ahead with the \$8 million to \$9 million animal shelter with no cost for the land, as I understand it.

Meanwhile, two other major projects are underway that require the developers to pay for the land and likely higher fees but cost less.

One is an ALF-type village facility with a large commercial kitchen, individual rooms, numerous bathrooms, air conditioning of several configurations, etc.

The other a three-story, extended stay, 72 unit, motel/hotel with elevators, bathrooms, kitchenettes, air conditioners, etc.

Your choice, about \$7 million.

You could also build 70 or more, nice, three-bedroom homes for the money.

Coming from a family that was involved with building individual homes, apartments to large commercial projects, things don't make sense, nor pass the smell test.

Frederick Clark
Inverness

New fonts easier to read

I don't see what some of your paper's readers are complaining about. The type fonts are small,

but I noticed the print is now darker making it a bit easier to read. I like it. Good job getting rid of comics Moderately Confused and Rubes — they were awful. Like many other readers I would like to see the Peanuts comic strip brought back.

Richard Jevack
Homosassa

We should teach information literacy

As a retired college librarian, I remember (not so long ago) the days when the focus of our teaching was the concept "information literacy." This concept was to teach — hopefully — individuals ways to evaluate ideas, facts, and opinions that are available to them as they work to develop themes for college papers.

I would advocate for the teaching of this concept to be made universal. The need for people to be able to locate, assess, and put into personal use the information discovered for the issue needing to be solved. I have not been retired that long, but it seems that the national level of stupidity has exploded. Please, everyone, be careful out there!

Sue Kelder Norman
Homosassa

Leave politics out of medical advice

I write to comment on the piece that appeared in the Dec. 24 Chronicle, titled "Do not forgo family gatherings amid pandemic," by Dr. William Dixon.

There are several problems with this article but let me point

OPINIONS INVITED

■ Viewpoints depicted in political cartoons, columns or letters do not necessarily represent the opinion of the editorial board.

■ Groups or individuals are invited to express their opinions in a letter to the editor.

■ Persons wishing to address the editorial board, which meets weekly, should call Jeff Bryan at 352-563-5660.

■ All letters must be signed and include a phone number and hometown, including letters sent via email. Names and hometowns will be printed; phone numbers will not be published or given out.

■ We reserve the right to edit letters for length, libel, fairness and good taste.

■ Letters must be no longer than 400 words, and writers will be limited to four letters per month.

■ SEND LETTERS TO: The Editor, 1624 N. Meadowcrest Blvd., Crystal River, FL 34429; or email to letters@chronicleonline.com.

in the field of medicine, politics should be left at the door.

Laura Rydell
Inverness

Commissioners did the right thing, thank you

Universal Trash Collection (UTC) would have very little, if any, impact on reducing the amount of litter people throw alongside our roadways. Most of the general roadside litter is stuff that someone doesn't want people at home to know that they have had.

On more than one occasion I have seen up close the litter alongside West Dunklin Street between North Citrus Avenue and Citrus Springs Boulevard and N. Citrus Avenue between West Dunnellon Road and Turkey Hill Road.

There were no bags of household garbage disposed of along the roads, it was all smaller trash from fast food places, donut shops, gas station food containers and soda and beer cans. Many of the food containers, at least before the animals got to them, were discarded with some of the food uneaten as if whoops getting close to home, let me throw this half-eaten donut out the window, don't want to get caught eating a donut, or a burger or gas station hot dog, or nachos or pretzels etc. (Yes dear, I don't know why I'm not losing weight, I'm sticking to the diet.)

I am not sure how much normal everyday household garbage is dumped around the county. While I have had to personally deal with several instances of stuff being dumped on my properties, none was everyday household trash. I've had vehicles, tires, appliances, newspaper boxes, furniture, kitchen cabinets and countertops, yard materials among other things dumped on my property. Unless UTC is going to pick those type items up in a timely manner, without an additional charge, dumping will continue.

The only thing that will abate that type of dumping is enforcement, which is severely lacking in Citrus County. We had an individual from Marion County being paid to clean up a yard in Citrus, dumping all over the neighborhood. After he dumped over 15 loads, he was caught and photographed in the act. The deputy wrote a report, nothing else was done!

Mandatory UTC would hurt seniors who generate one or two bags of trash a week and are currently "trash sharing" with a friend or neighbor.

Enforcement, enforcement is the answer. Does not have to be severe to be effective. First littering offense could be \$50, second \$250, third \$500 and mandatory community service picking up trash alongside roadways.

Please make sure the solution addresses the problem.

Daniel J. McKee
Citrus County

YOUR COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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NATION & WORLD

CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE



Matt Rourke / AP

Philadelphia firefighters work after a deadly row house fire Wednesday in the Fairmount neighborhood of Philadelphia.

At least 12 dead in Philly blaze

Eight children among victims

By RON TODT and CLAUDIA LAUER
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Fire tore through a duplex home early Wednesday in Philadelphia, killing 12 people, including eight children, fire officials said. At least two people were sent to hospitals, and officials warned the toll could grow as firefighters searched the brick rowhome, where 26 people had been staying.

The four smoke alarms in the building, which was public housing, do not ap-

pear to have been working, fire officials said. The blaze's cause was not determined, but officials shaken by the death toll — apparently the highest in a single fire in the city in at least a century — vowed to get to the bottom of it.

"I knew some of those kids — I used to see them playing on the corner," said Dannie McGuire, 34, fighting back tears as she and Martin Burgert, 35, stood in the doorway of a home around the corner.

"I can't picture how more people couldn't get out — jumping out a window," she said.

Officials did not release

the names or ages of those killed in the blaze, which started before 6:30 a.m. As many as eight residents appear to have been able to escape the fire.

Family members on Facebook have identified two of the victims as sisters Rosalee McDonald, 33, and Virginia Thomas, 30. The siblings each had multiple children but it's unclear if all of them were home at the time of the fire or how many of them died. Messages were left with several people who said they knew or were related to the victims.

Fire officials had initially said 13 people died in the fire, seven of them children, but

totals were updated Wednesday evening. Eight children and four adults were found dead, officials said.

The fire burned in a residential area of the Fairmount neighborhood, northwest of downtown and home to the Philadelphia Museum of Art and its famous steps from the film "Rocky."

Streets around the scene of the fire remained blocked off Wednesday evening. Moments after the last firetruck pulled away from the front of the house, several neighbors quietly approached the foot of the block and left candles and flowers.

Chicago cancels classes for 2nd day

By SOPHIA TAREEN
Associated Press

CHICAGO — Chicago school leaders canceled classes Thursday for a second consecutive day after failing to reach agreement with the teachers union over COVID-19 safety protocols in the nation's third-largest school district.

The Chicago Teachers Union sought to revert to remote instruction during the latest surge of infections and while both sides hammer out a deal. But Chicago Public Schools leaders have said remote learning didn't work and schools can safely remain open with protocols

in place.

The move to cancel classes and activities Thursday affects roughly 350,000 students and came after closed-door negotiations Wednesday failed to produce a deal. The issues include metrics for closing schools.

"We have no choice but to cancel classes tomorrow," Schools CEO Pedro Martinez said at a Wednesday evening news conference.

Students returned to class Monday after a two-week winter break with COVID-19 infections and hospitalizations fueled by the omicron variant at record levels.

School districts nation-

wide have grappled with the same issue, with most opting to stay open while ramping up virus testing, tweaking protocols and other adjustments in response to the shifting pandemic. White House press secretary Jen Psaki, echoing President Joe Biden a day earlier, said Wednesday that the country is better equipped now to make sure schools can safely open "including in Chicago," while former President Donald Trump called the closures "devastating."

Chicago Teachers Union President Jesse Sharkey said teachers don't want to return to in-person instruc-

tion until the current surge has subsided.

"We'd rather be in our classes teaching, we'd rather have the schools open. What we are saying though is that right now we're in the middle of a major surge, it is breaking all the records and hospitals are full," he said during a Wednesday morning news conference with other union officials, teachers and parents.

The union's action, approved by 73 percent of members, called for remote instruction until "cases substantially subside" or union leaders approve an agreement for safety protocols with the district.

A year after Capitol attack, police chief marks improvements in site's security

By FARNOUSH AMIRI and KEVIN FREKING
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A year after the Jan. 6 Capitol attack, the new chief of the U.S. Capitol Police said Wednesday he is making progress in resolving "critical deficiencies" despite major staffing shortages and thousands of new threats to members of Congress.

"We're going to get tested again" and will be prepared, declared Chief J. Thomas Manger.

Changes include improving the agency's ability to gather, analyze and share intelligence with other federal and state law enforcement forces, Manger said. That failing contributed to a lack of defensive forces at the violent Capitol insurrection as rioters fought past outmanned police, leaving more than 100 of them injured.

Manger is dealing with recommendations from an internal watchdog to move the agency from a traditional police department to a protective force.

"January 6 exposed critical



Tom Williams / AP

U.S. Capitol Police Chief Tom Manger testifies Wednesday during a Senate Rules and Administration Committee oversight hearing on the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the Capitol, in Washington.

deficiencies with operational planning, intelligence, staffing and equipment," Manger said in testimony. "I recognize those issues have to be addressed, and that is what we are doing."

Manger, who was installed as the new leader shortly after the attack, said the force today is stronger and better equipped to handle an attack against the Capitol or lawmakers than it was a year ago.

The force is also working toward more state-of-the-art

training for its 1,800 sworn police officers and nearly 400 civilian employees after a report from U.S. Capitol Police Inspector General documented that more than 75 percent of officers on Jan. 6, 2021, were forced to protect the Capitol in their regular uniforms, often facing off with rioters who were better equipped for a fight.

But even with new equipment and intelligence-sharing capabilities, the biggest challenge the force faces is staffing. It is now 450 officers short of the agency's

needs, Manger said. More than 150 officers have either retired or resigned over the past year.

In the short term, the chief is looking to add more transfers from other law enforcement agencies and to contract with private security officers for locations that don't need armed officers. Over the longer term, he wants to hire 280 police officers per year over the next three years.

"That will get us ahead of attrition, and my hope is that will get us to where we need to be in terms of staffing," Manger said.

Lawmakers are also concerned about the rise in threats in their home districts and states.

"Many people in this very room, committee members have experienced them. Over 9,000 threats in 2021 alone," Sen. Amy Klobuchar, chairwoman of the Senate committee, said Wednesday.

Manger said the Capitol Police are looking to improve coordination with local law enforcement to better secure lawmakers' offices and homes.

NATION & WORLD BRIEFS

Grammys postpone ceremony, citing omicron variant

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The upcoming Grammy Awards were postponed Wednesday due to what organizers called "too many risks" due to the omicron variant. No new date has been announced.

The ceremony had been scheduled for Jan. 31st in Los Angeles with a live audience and performances. The Recording Academy said it made the decision to postpone the ceremony "after careful consideration and analysis with city and state officials, health and safety experts, the artist community and our many partners."

"Given the uncertainty surrounding the omicron variant, holding the show on January 31st simply contains too many risks," the academy said in a statement.

Last year, like most major awards shows in early 2021, the Grammys were postponed due to coronavirus concerns. The show was moved from late January to mid-March and held with a spare audience made up of mostly nominees and their guests in and around the Los Angeles Convention Center.

Many performances were pre-taped, and none were in front of significant crowds.

The Grammys had been scheduled this year to return to its traditional home next door, the Crypto.com Arena, formerly the Staples Center.

"We look forward to celebrating Music's Biggest Night on a future date, which will be announced soon," the academy statement said.

US urges COVID boosters starting at age 12

The U.S. is urging that everyone 12 and older get a COVID-19 booster as soon as they're eligible, to help fight back the hugely contagious omicron mutant that's ripping through the country.

Boosters already were encouraged for all Americans 16 and older, but Wednesday the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention endorsed an extra Pfizer shot for younger teens — those 12 to 15 — and strengthened its recommendation that 16- and 17-year-olds get it, too.

"It is critical that we protect our children and teens from COVID-19 infection and the complications of severe disease," Dr. Rochelle Walensky, the CDC's director, said in a statement Wednesday night.

"This booster dose will provide optimized protection against COVID-19 and the Omicron variant. I encourage all parents to keep their children up to date with CDC's COVID-19 vaccine recommendations," she said.

Vaccines still offer strong protection against serious illness from any type of COVID-19, including omicron — what experts say is their most important benefit. But the newest mutant has set a widely-expected record for new infections in the country, which will once again crack open on Sunday — but only to travelers from certain nations.

The back-and-forth has created whiplash for many Israelis. Even in the relatively small, wealthy Mideast nation — an early global leader against the coronavirus pandemic — the omicron variant is outpacing the government's ability to make and execute clear pandemic public policy.

What once was a straightforward regimen of vaccines, testing, contact tracing and distancing for the nation of 9.4 million has splintered into a zigzag of rules that seem to change every few days.

The confusion here, on everything from tourism to testing, quarantines, masks and school policy, offers a glimpse of the pandemic puzzle facing governments worldwide as the omicron variant burns through the population. Someday, the World Health Organization will declare the pandemic over. But in the meantime, leaders are weighing how much illness, isolation and death people are willing to risk.

Giving teens a booster for a temporary jump in protection against infections is like playing whack-a-mole, cautioned CDC adviser Dr. Sarah

...

Long of Drexel University. But she said the extra shot was worth it to help push back the omicron mutant and shield kids from the missed school and other problems that come with even a very mild case of COVID-19.

US, Germany say Russia poses 'urgent' challenge

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States and Germany said Wednesday that Russia's military buildup near Ukraine's border poses an "immediate and urgent challenge" to European security and that any intervention will draw severe consequences.

But the country's top diplomats left open what those consequences would be and how differences on arming Ukraine and a controversial Russian gas pipeline will be resolved.

Secretary of State Antony Blinken and German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock sought to present a unified front on Russia after a meeting in Washington.

"Both Germany and the United States see Russia's actions toward Ukraine as an immediate and urgent challenge to peace and stability in Europe," Blinken said.

"We condemn Russia's military buildup on Ukraine's borders, as well as Russia's increasingly harsh rhetoric as it continues to push the false narrative that Ukraine seeks to provoke (Russia)," he said.

"That's a little bit like the fox saying it had no choice but to attack the henhouse because somehow the hens presented a threat."

Baerbock agreed. "We jointly reiterated that Russian actions and activities come with a clear price tag, and a renewed violation of Ukrainian sovereignty by Russia would have severe consequences," she said.

The Blinken-Baerbock meeting followed a telephone call last week between President Joe Biden and Russian President Vladimir Putin, a conversation Sunday between Biden and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, and a group discussion Tuesday among Biden's national security adviser Jake Sullivan and his counterparts from the five Nordic nations.

In Israel, omicron drives records, leads to 4th shots

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) — Israel opened to tourists for the first time in nearly two years. After just a month, it slammed shut.

Now the omicron variant

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Get a little crabby on game night

By METROCREATIVE

Families and friends will soon be gathering to cheer on their favorite teams in the season's pinnacle match-ups leading to Super Bowl LVI. To ensure guests have enough energy to ride out the drama, hosts should provide plenty of food.

Finger foods are preferential on game days because they are easy to grab and eat by hand, especially when clamoring for space in a crowd. Sliders or cheese sticks are go-to options, but for a more gourmet offering, think about crab cakes. These Best Crab Cakes Ever, as they are billed in "BBQ Revolution" (Harvard Common Press) by Mitch Benjamin, are a tasty change of pace.

Best Crab Cakes Ever

Makes 6

1/2 cup unsalted butter, plus 1 tablespoon
2 celery ribs, minced
1/2 yellow onion, minced
1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper, preferably toasted, plus more as needed
1 teaspoon plus 1 tablespoon Old Bay Seasoning
1 tablespoon hot sauce
2 pounds smoked jumbo lump crabmeat
6 tablespoons heavy whipping cream
3 large eggs
26 Ritz crackers, crushed
Vegetable oil, for pan-frying
2 tablespoons chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley
2 lemons, cut into wedges for garnish

Heat a stick of butter in a small pot over low heat until the solids separate. Skim off the white foam that rises to the top with a little ladle and pour the clear butter aside to cool.

In another small pot, melt the remaining 1 tablespoon of butter and add the minced celery and onion as well as the 1/2 teaspoon of black pepper and the 1 teaspoon of Old Bay Seasoning. Cover and sweat this over medium-low heat for about 10 minutes or until the vegetables are nice and soft. It's going to smell amazing, but don't start eating now!

Remove the veggies from the heat and let them cool down. Transfer the veggies plus the clarified butter and the hot sauce into a large mixing bowl. Add the crab and heavy whipping cream and mix gently. The worst thing you could do here is overmix the crab and break up the fat lumps you just paid a premium for.

Cover and place this mixture in the freezer for 30 minutes or so. Remove and form the mix into 5-ounce balls (the size of a snowball) in your hands. Again, be gentle; you aren't packing these snowballs for war. You should be able to get six good ones out of the mix.

Cover in plastic wrap and then return to the freezer for at least 4 hours or up to overnight. You need to get these nice and cold since you aren't using any filler/binder in these crab cakes.

While the mix is chilling, whip your eggs in a small mixing bowl

with a crack of freshly ground black pepper. Add the crushed Ritz crackers to another bowl with the remaining 1 tablespoon of Old Bay Seasoning. Go ahead and preheat the oven to 350 degrees for later.

Remove the frozen crab cakes from the freezer and dunk them in the egg and then into the seasoned Ritz crumble mix. Cover completely. Repeat with all the crab cakes and set aside.

Get about 1/8 inch of your vegetable oil rippling hot in a cast iron pan over coals on the grill. I like to cook these crab cakes outside in order to keep the oil smell from taking over the kitchen. There's nothing better than a cast iron skillet over hot coals.

If you must, place over your gas stove at home. Get it hot. I like to drip water droplets in to see when the oil is hot enough. The droplets will sizzle and pop, and that's how you know it's ready.

Carefully drop the crab cakes in the pan and press down on them lightly just to slightly flatten them so they appear a little more cakelike and lay nicely on your plate. Fry for 4 to 5 minutes on each side until you have made a perfect golden crust (don't burn the outside).

Then, put the entire cast iron skillet in the oven for 20 minutes. If desired, you can use a fish spatula or slotted spoon to transfer the cakes to a baking sheet – and leave the oil smell outside.

After 20 minutes, remove from the oven and plate up!



Photo courtesy of MetroCreative

Sliders and cheese sticks are typical go-to options for appetizers, but for a more gourmet offering, think about crab cakes.

FLAIR FOR FOOD

Helping Create beautiful delicious meals

Duck à l'orange

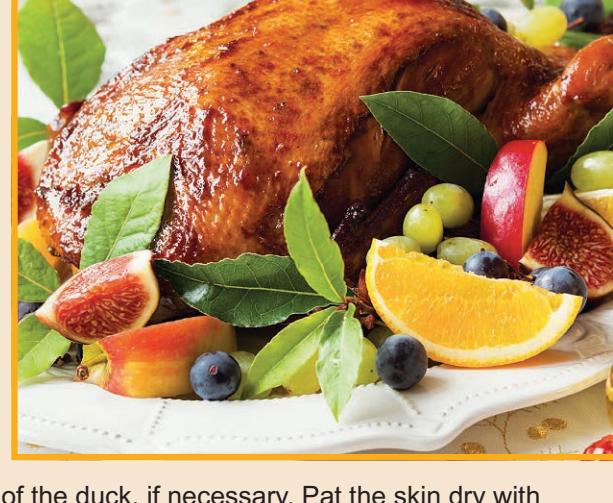
INGREDIENTS:

- 1 whole duck, about 2.5 kilograms
- 2 cloves garlic
- 2 French shallots, peeled
- 1 lemon, quartered
- 1 apple, quartered
- A few sprigs fresh thyme
- 1 cup honey
- 2 tablespoons molasses
- 3 tablespoons orange juice
- 1 tablespoon soy sauce
- 2 teaspoons garlic powder
- 2 teaspoons onion powder
- Salt and pepper, to taste

METHOD

- Remove the giblets from the cavity of the duck, if necessary. Pat the skin dry with paper towels and leave uncovered overnight in the fridge.
- Preheat the oven to 150 C (300 F). Using a knife, score the fat on the breasts, taking care not to cut the flesh. Salt the outside and inside of the duck evenly. Stuff the cavity with the garlic, shallots, lemon, apple and thyme. Close the cavity with butcher's twine or toothpicks.
- Place the duck in a baking dish, breast side up, and bake for 1 hour. Turn the duck, breast side down, and bake for another hour. Turn it over one last time and bake for one last hour.
- Meanwhile, in a small saucepan, bring the remaining ingredients to a boil. Reduce the heat and simmer for about 10 minutes, until the glaze thickens.
- After it's cooked for 3 hours, remove the duck from the oven and increase the temperature to 205 C (400 F). Brush the duck with the glaze and place it in the oven for 10 minutes. Baste the duck with the glaze again, and bake for another 10 minutes.
- Let the duck stand for at least 15 minutes, then present it on a large platter garnished with holly leaves, oranges and fresh fruit.

THIS WEEK'S RECIPE



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Thyme-scented roasted carrots

INGREDIENTS:

- 16 thin carrots, with stalks
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon onion powder
- 4 sprigs fresh thyme
- Salt and pepper, to taste

METHOD

- Preheat the oven to 220 C (425 F). Wash the carrots well, and peel them if the peel seems too thick.
- Cut the stalks off the carrots, leaving about 2 centimetres on the end of each carrot. Place them in a baking dish, then add the olive oil, spices and leaves from 3 of the thyme sprigs. Season with salt and pepper, then mix well with your hands or tongs to coat each carrot.
- Place in the oven for about 20 minutes, turning the carrots halfway. Place the carrots on a serving plate, and garnish with a sprig of thyme.

Brought to you by:



To see weekly recipes prepared by local chefs. Visit www.chronicleonline.com/Lifestyle/food

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FLAIR FOR FOOD

CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE

Revisiting Daniel's Waffles

Editor's note: Gloria took the week between Christmas and New Year's off to enjoy with her family. We are re-running one of the Yoders' favorite recipes this week: Daniel's Waffles. Gloria will return next week. — Kevin Williams

Daniel's Waffles

2 eggs, beaten
1 1/2 cups milk
1/2 cup butter, melted

Gloria Yoder
The Amish Cook

Whisk wet ingredients together, then mix in dry and stir until combined.

Don't overmix after adding dry ingredients.

Also, Daniel has discovered that it works best to brown the waffles for one minute and 30 seconds, with an additional one minute and 45 seconds on medium heat on the second side. It toasts them to a nice, golden brown.

Gloria Yoder is a young Amish mother, writer and homemaker in rural Illinois. The Yoders travel primarily by horse-drawn buggy and live next to the settlement's one-room schoolhouse. Readers with culinary or culture questions or stories to share may write Gloria directly at: Gloria Yoder, 10510 E. 350th Ave., Flat Rock, IL 62427.

Try these super foods for a nutritious diet

By FAMILY FEATURES

The health community has long praised the benefits of vitamins and nutrients derived from natural sources.

For those looking to improve their health or take preventative measures, these 10 natural super foods can be incorporated into your daily diet to help support your health:

Green tea

Armed with a special type of antioxidants called polyphenols, green tea can decrease plaque formed in the arteries and can fight prostate cancer.

Rosemary

Studies have shown this powerful spice can reduce the risk of stroke, as well as protect against Alzheimer's disease.

Almonds

Full of plant sterols and amino acids, almonds can help lower high cholesterol and promote muscle growth. These handheld treats are also rich in vitamin E, which can protect skin from sun damage.

Fatty fish

Rich in omega-3 fatty acids, fatty fish such as salmon, flounder and sardines can lower the risk of heart disease.

Bananas

This easy, portable snack is loaded with essential potassium, which regulates the nervous system. Bananas also offer loads of vitamin B-6, which aids immunity and metabolism.

Whole grains

These powerful body defenders have been known to boost immunity, protect against various cancers and reduce cholesterol.

Eggs

These energy-packed breakfast favorites contain a special type of protein that helps build muscle strength more than other proteins. When compared to other breakfast foods, eggs can also keep you feeling fuller longer with fewer calories and fat.

Spinach

Chock-full of magnesium, potassium and various vitamins and nutrients, spinach can prevent clogged arteries and protect against prostate and colon cancers.

Soy

This protein-packed food contains isoflavones, which can aid in treatment and prevention of prostate cancer. Also, research from the Food and Drug Administration shows that 25 grams per day can help lessen the risk of heart disease.

Dark chocolate

Satisfy your sweet tooth and improve blood flow to the brain at the same time.

Dark chocolate can also lower blood pressure and increase skin's resistance to UV rays.

Find more health-conscious tips at eLivingToday.com.



Associated Press

Variety of condiments are key

By KATIE WORKMAN

Associated Press

If you have dipped into Pinterest even briefly over the past few years, you know that graze or grazing boards are A Thing. Beautiful boards or platters are filled with all kinds of food ready to be sampled, snacked up, nibbled and, OK, grazed.

It's a nice way to entertain, or to offer up a room-temperature meal for your family during game nights, movie nights or what have you.

Graze boards generally include a variety of cheeses, cured meats, nuts, vegetables and fruits, fresh or dried. On the side or tucked into the board itself: sliced bread, crackers, chips.

And here's where things get really interesting: condiments.

Mustards, spreads, pestos ... but don't just think savory; sweet is really nice, especially when paired with cheeses. Jams, jellies and honeys make perfect pairings for much of what's on offer. Also, olives, pickles and marinated vegetables of all kinds offer a tangy crunch and briny flavor in between bites of cheeses and charcuterie.

Spreadable condiments play nicely against cured meats like prosciutto and salami, or cheeses ranging from sharp cheddar to a creamy triple crème cheese.

Spread some on a cracker or a slice of bread, stack on some meats and/or cheeses, and away you go.

The mixing and matching is what makes graze boards so much fun. Every bite is customized. It's a great way to try new flavors and experiment with different taste combinations.

As a side note, when you are traveling, this is a great way to bring home a taste of your trip. I always buy jams, pestos, chutneys, etc. to play with back in my home kitchen, or to keep on hand for gifts. Even

erywhere you travel you'll find products that are locally made and make use of the ingredients and spices of the region.

Jams and jellies

Janie Q is a small-batch jam company run by the folks at Back in the Day Bakery in Savannah, and their handmade flavors include Cherry Plum and Peach Lavender. Coo Moo out of California makes jams such as Apricot Habanero (sweet plus heat) and Peachy Mango Madness.

Trade Street Jam Co. makes flavors like Smoked Yellow Peach, Strawberry Chipotle and Fig, and Sour Cherry Ginger.

Fior di Frutta from Italy makes organic fruit spreads, like fig, blackberry and cranberry (fun and seasonal).

Beyond sweet jams and jellies, look for caramelized onion jams, pepper jellies and the like. Terrapin Ridge makes a Hot Pepper Bacon Jam, a Jalapeno Hatch Chili Jam, and other unique sweet and savory combos.

There are a number of caramelized onion jams out there that buddy up nicely to everything on a graze board: Try the ones from Divina, Williams-Sonoma and Jammy Yummy.

Olives

The world of olives is worth highlighting, though technically it might not fall directly under "condiments." Divina has a ton to choose from: Greek olives stuffed with spicy blue cheese, feta or garlic, or pitted kalamata or green olives. They also have tapenades, like their Olive Bruschetta with Capers and Roasted Red Peppers, or their Muffuletta Olive Salad with cauliflower and pepperoncini. Their chopped Calabrian Peppers and Roasted Tomatoes are also worth noting.

Spreads

There are so many interesting spreads out there, great to swish onto a cracker or

Let's Eat ...

The Chronicle distributes a FREE weekly food newsletter via email. Let's Eat has links to stories about food, drink, restaurants and recipes. To sign up, visit <https://tinyurl.com/ya9pk6bq>

For celebrations, English fizz on the rise

By LOUISE DIXON

Associated Press

LONDON — English sparkling wine has been gaining prestige in recent years, with some experts comparing it to Champagne in taste and quality.

Globally, the sector is still relatively small: IWSR Drinks Market Analysis reports that sparkling wine produced in the U.K. represents about 0.2 percent of total global sparkling wine volume. But sales are growing: U.K.-produced sparkling wine volume rose by almost 11 percent from 2015-2020, the report said.

"Maybe 10 years ago, there were only two or three wines which might have been known outside of the U.K. or certainly recognized by wine critics as well," says Jonathan White, spokesman for British wine producer Gusbourne. Today, "there's a collective of maybe 10 to 20 producers that are making really excellent wines."

Gusbourne planted their first vines in Appledore, Kent, in 2004. They released their debut Brut and Blanc de Blanc sparkling wines in 2010, and say demand has been growing ever since.

"There's been a spurge of interest from overseas in recent years as wine media and critics have started to talk more fondly and more positively about the wines from England," White says.

Known as the "Garden of England," Kent has long been home to fruit-growing in the U.K., so it's natural the area has become one of the country's most successful wine-growing regions.

The pandemic gave local producers a boost in 2020 because travelers who couldn't visit wineries abroad "started to realize that they could actually visit a winery at home," says Anne McHale, a certified master of wine in London.

Talking from The Bloomsbury Hotel, where she has curated one of the largest English sparkling wine menus in the U.K., McHale says English sparkling made its name in 1998 when Nyetimber won best sparkling wine in the world at the International Wine and Spirits Competition.

"It was judged blind against a whole load of Champagnes and other sparkling wines by top industry judges, so people began to become aware that in this country we can actually make good quality wine," she says.

Part of English sparkling wine's attraction, she says, is its close resemblance to Champagne. It uses the same three grapes — Pinot Noir, Chardonnay and Meunier — and the same production method, the "traditional method."

"This means the wine undergoes a second fermentation in bottle. The bubbles get trapped, and then the wine has the opportunity to spend some time aging on the yeast, which gives it that lovely, biscuity brioche character," McHale says.

She adds that the soils where English vines are planted around the South Downs in South-eastern England contain a lot of chalk that is nearly identical to France's Champagne region.

For all their similarities, there are also factors that give English sparkling wine a unique flavor.

"We're quite a bit further north than Champagne. It's cooler. And as a result, you get a higher level of acidity in the grapes, which then translates into more of a sort of mouth-watering bite of crispness and freshness in the wine," says McHale.

White agrees. "Champagnes tend to have that sort of lovely, toasty richness that comes from maybe a slightly warmer climate, and wines which are maybe slightly more generous in that fruit kind of offering. English wines have a much more sort of steely, citrus backbone to them."

Jon Pollard, chief vineyard manager at Gusbourne, says Britain's longer growing season also affects the flavor.

"We've got this ability to have a slow ripening season, partly because of the slightly lower temperatures in this country and the lower sunlight levels. But that really allows the flavor profiles within the fruit to build up," he says.

Pollard adds that Kent is perfectly located high off the coastline, providing a free-flowing breeze to keep the crop clean and fresh.

At the same time, England's temperamental climate can prove a challenge.

Pollard says it's taken years of trial and error to create the perfect growing conditions.

"You do start to know where the problems will occur," he says. "So we know where we might start to see a little bit of disease creep in and we know where we will have issues with frost and things like that. So every year that goes on, we just get to learn more and more about the science and what we can expect from it."

SPORTS

CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE

Vann finalist for Florida's Mr. Football

Named top player in Independent class

By MATT PFIFFNER
Sports editor

Seven Rivers Christian junior Nehemiah Vann is a finalist for the prestigious 2021 Florida Dairy Farmers Mr. Football award following balloting by a statewide panel of high school football coaches and prep media representatives.

Vann was named the Independent Classification Player of the Year following an outstanding junior campaign. He received 58 points in the voting, well ahead of runner-up Cortland Mitchell of Osceola's total of 46 points.

"He's worked super hard for it. Totally unexpected, just because there are so many independent programs out there," Seven Rivers Christian head coach and Nehemiah's father, Monty Vann, said. "It was a great late Christmas

present for him. He was super pumped up about it. He's definitely worked hard for it, but wants to stay humble and work hard for next year.

"As a coach I'm proud of him. As a dad, I'm even more proud of his reaction when he saw it. Super humble attitude. He didn't get on Twitter and start talking about himself. There's not many young men who would treat things like that. He's just super humble about it and seems to be pretty focused in on his teammates more than anything else."

The Warrior quarterback/defensive back completed 121 of 214 passes (56.5 percent) for 2,100 yards with 29 touchdowns and just 3 interceptions. Vann also rushed for 312 yards and seven touchdowns. On defense, Vann recorded 35 tackles, including 21 solo stops, and intercepted a pair of passes.

Nehemiah Vann's individual recognition is also recognition for the entire pro-

gram, coach Vann said.

"I think it does a lot for our program. It shows we're not just putting quality young football players out there, but quality young men," coach Vann said. "Nehemiah would be the first to tell you no way this would happen without his linemen, running backs and receivers. That's what this program does, they build off each other."

Vann is one of nine finalists for the statewide Mr. Football award. He is joined on the final ballot by players of the year from Classes 1A-8A.

Every finalist was the leading vote-getter in his classification, making each one the Player of the Year in his class. The overall winner will be announced following a final round of balloting by coaches and media.

"Us being an independent program and he being a junior, it seems a little far-fetched to get it, but that's not our main goal," coach Vann said.



MATT PFIFFNER / Chronicle

Seven Rivers Christian junior football player Nehemiah Vann was recently named the Independent Classification Player of the Year and is now up for the 2021 Florida Dairy Farmers Mr. Football award.

Panthers pin down regional berth

Lecanto wrestlers edge Land O' Lakes to advance

By MATT PFIFFNER
Sports editor

NEW PORT RICHEY — The Lecanto wrestling team got a second chance to advance to regionals out of the District 2A-5 Dual Tournament held Wednesday at River Ridge High School.

The Panthers weren't going to let that second chance go to waste.

Third-seeded Lecanto topped No. 1 seed Land O' Lakes 42-34 in the second-place match to earn the runner-up berth to regionals behind district champion River Ridge.

The Panthers and Royal Knights advance to the Region 2A-2 Dual Tournament next week at a location to be named.

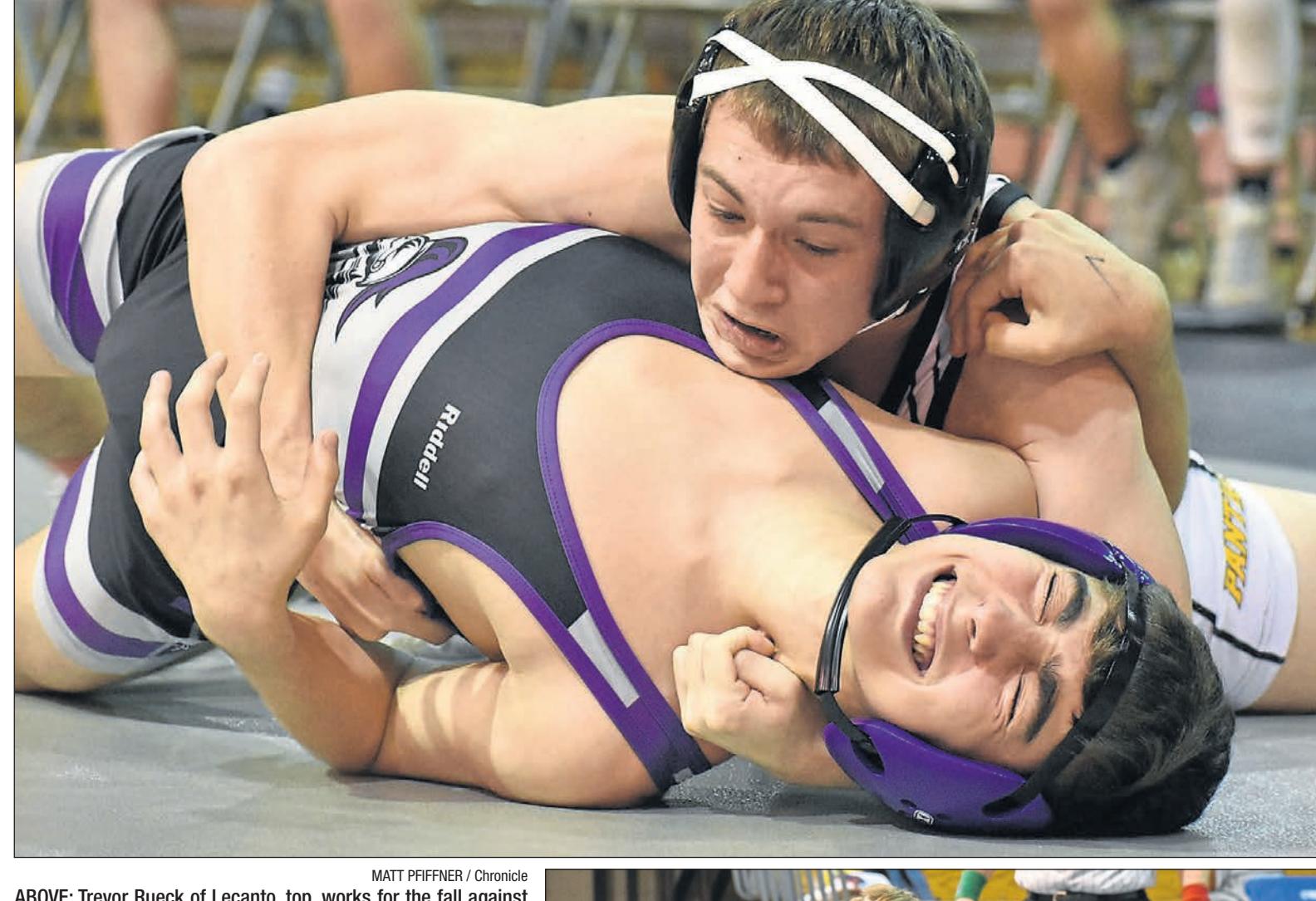
After losing 42-37 in the semifinals against second-seeded River Ridge, the Panthers didn't know if they would have another dual or not. When the host Royal Knights took down Land O' Lakes in the finals, that gave Lecanto a chance to wrestle the Gators for a true second place, since the two teams didn't meet earlier in the evening.

Leading by just two points heading into the final match, the Panthers got a pin from James Greene at 120 to close the door on the Gators.

"It was a team effort," Lecanto head coach Jose Mendez said.

He pointed to a close loss by Joseph Darnell to a ranked wrestler and a big 10-9 win at 220 by Kaleb Feuston as key moments in the meet.

Trevor Rueck won by fall in 39 seconds at 126, Diego Mendez at 138 had a 46-second pin, Travis La-



MATT PFIFFNER / Chronicle

ABOVE: Trevor Rueck of Lecanto, top, works for the fall against his River Ridge opponent at 126 pounds during the semifinals of the District 2A-5 Dual Tournament on Wednesday in New Port Richey. Rueck earned the fall in just 20 seconds.

RIGHT: Kayden Groves of Citrus, right, drives in on a takedown attempt against his Springstead opponent on Wednesday night at the District 2A-5 Dual Tournament at River Ridge High School in New Port Richey. Groves dropped a 10-8 decision in overtime in the 113-pound match.

Belle decked his foe at 182 in 17 seconds, Jacob Cameron had a pin at 195, Nick Cowart received a forfeit at heavyweight and Lorenzo Macatol bumped up from 106 to 113 and won 15-11, to give Lecanto a 36-34 lead entering Greene's bout.

In the semifinal loss, the



See PANTHERS, page B3

No. 15 Alabama uses big 2nd-half run to beat Florida

By MARK LONG
Associated Press

GAINESVILLE — Alabama coach Nate Oats challenged his guys at halftime to be better "with the blue-collar stuff." He didn't need to be more specific. They knew he meant rebounds, blocks, steals, deflections and loose balls.

The Crimson Tide responded by getting just about all of them coming out of the locker room.

Jahvon Quinerly and Juwan Gary scored 19 points apiece and No. 15 Alabama opened the final 20 minutes with a 22-4 run that was instrumental in an 83-70 win over Florida on Wednesday night.

"We came into the game saying we had to win that war and we were losing it by a large margin at the half," Oats said. "We just weren't playing hard enough."

"If we're going to win tough road games, we've

got to play harder. We didn't make any huge adjustments on defense. We just had to play harder, be tougher, get some rebounds. I thought we picked it up quite a bit in the second half, just the whole energy level changed."

The Crimson Tide (11-3, 2-0 Southeastern Conference) used the huge spurt to win consecutive games for the first time in a month and notch its first road victory of the season.

Florida (9-4, 0-1) whittled a 15-point deficit to 66-61 with 6 minutes to play, but Quinerly answered with a layup and Keon Ellis followed with a steal and a dunk to push the lead to back to nine. It was enough to get the Tide thinking about its last trip to Gainesville two years ago, when it squandered a 21-point lead and lost in double overtime.

"That started to go through



Matt Stamey / AP

Alabama guard Jaden Shackelford (5) brings the ball up past Florida guard Tyree Appleby (22) during the first half of Wednesday's game in Gainesville.

See GATORS, page B3



Philadelphia 76ers guard Seth Curry (31) goes up for a shot in front of Orlando Magic forward Chuma Okeke (3) and center Wendell Carter Jr. (34) during the first half of Wednesday's game.

Embiid, Harris lift 76ers by Magic

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ORLANDO — Joel Embiid scored 31 points, Tobias Harris added 22 and the Philadelphia 76ers beat the Orlando Magic 116-106 on Wednesday night.

The 76ers, who notched their NBA-best 14th road victory of the season, tied a season high with a fifth straight win overall. They also defeated Orlando for a second time this season and a 10th straight time since 2016.

Seth Curry added 20 points, a season-high 12 assists and seven rebounds, while Furkan Korkmaz scored 15 of his 20 points in the second half. Embiid, who scored at least 30 points for a fifth straight game, cupped his hands to his ears late in the game as fans inside the Amway Center repeatedly chanted, "MVP! MVP!"

Philadelphia wasted no time grabbing control in the fourth quarter. The 76ers forced the Magic into five turnovers and used a 14-5 run to open the fourth quarter. The 76ers improved to 5-4 when trailing after three quarters.

Down 109-104 with 2:09 to play, Embiid was called for a flagrant foul on a hard hit to Wendell Carter Jr. However, the Magic center missed two free throws, Embiid blocked Cole Anthony's layup and the Sixers iced the game on two jumpers by Curry.

Orlando lost its seventh straight, its third such losing streak of the season. The Magic dropped to 2-14 at home after committing

19 turnovers, leading to 28 Philadelphia points.

Anthony, who played for the first time since Dec. 23 because of a sprained right ankle, hit a 3-pointer early in the third quarter to put Orlando up five. However, he landed on Mo Bamba's heel and sprained his left ankle. He initially screamed out in pain and needed help getting off the floor.

Anthony scored 14 of his 26 points in the first half. Bamba finished with 19 points and eight rebounds.

Orlando led 89-88 at the end of three periods — just the seventh time all season it had been in such a position.

Hornets 140, Pistons 111

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Kelly Oubre Jr. hit a career-high nine of Charlotte's franchise-record 24 3-pointers and the Hornets routed the Detroit Pistons.

Oubre had eight 3-pointers in the fourth quarter, tying an NBA record set by Milwaukee's Michael Redd in 2002. Oubre was 8 of 9 on 3s in the fourth quarter before being subbed out with 4:08 left and the Hornets leading by 35.

Golden State's Klay Thompson holds the league record for 3-pointers in a quarter with nine, that coming in the third quarter of a game in 2015.

"I give all the credit to my teammates," Oubre said. "We had 39 assists tonight. ... I am blessed to be able to play with a bunch of unselfish guys out there who allow me to continue with a hot stretch."

Gordon Hayward and Miles Bridges each had 19 points to help the Hornets beat the Pistons for the 14th straight time. Charlotte hasn't lost to Detroit since Oct. 18, 2017.

Terry Rozier added 16 points, and LaMelo Ball had 12 points, 12 assists and eight rebounds in three quarters.

Trey Lyles had 17 points for

Detroit. Cade Cunningham added 16.

Oubre finished 9 of 14 for the game, and the Hornets shot 57.1% overall from deep.

A seven-year NBA veteran, Oubre is averaging a career-high 16.2 points per game in his first season with the Hornets and is shooting a 36.7% from beyond the arc, also a personal best.

"When Kelly gets hot, he's tough to stop," Hornets coach James Borrego said. "It's great to see him play with that joy, that happiness and that confidence. He had a big time fourth quarter and our guys kept feeding him."

Spurs 99, Celtics 97

BOSTON — Gregg Popovich became the first to coach 2,000 NBA games with the same team, and Dejounte Murray scored 22 points to lead San Antonio past Boston.

Devin Vassell and Derrick White each had 17 points for the Spurs, who snapped a four-game losing streak.

Jaylen Brown led Boston with 30 points after scoring a career-high 50 in a victory over Orlando in the Celtics' last game but had a driving layup roll off the rim just before the buzzer sounded.

Murray, the team's scoring leader, returned from COVID-19 protocols after being sidelined the last five games and played 33 minutes.

Boston's Jayson Tatum also returned after missing four games while he was in the league's health and safety protocols and scored 19 points on 6-of-20 shooting. Marcus Smart chipped in with 14 points and six assists.

The Spurs led 95-89 with just over three minutes left before Boston sliced it to two points.

The Celtics then had a 24-second violation and Brown was called for an offensive foul on the next possession with 1:53 to go.

The Spurs held a 99-97 edge when Smart missed a one-handed floater in the lane with about 20 seconds to play.

Brown stole an inbound pass and drove while being contested,

but his shot rolled off the rim.

Popovich downplayed the achievement before the game when asked if the milestone meant anything to him.

"No, it means I'm old, been at the same place for a long time, worked with a lot of great players, blah, blah, blah," the 72-year-old said.

Rockets 114, Wizards 111

WASHINGTON — Kevin Porter Jr. hit a 3-pointer from the right wing with 0.4 seconds left to lift Houston past Washington.

Porter and Christian Wood returned from one-game suspensions for conduct detrimental to the team. Wood added 22 points and 11 rebounds to help the Rockets snap an eight-game losing streak.

Jalen Green also scored 22 points and Eric Gordon had 19 for Houston.

Bradley Beal led Washington with 27 points. He fouled out with 9:10 to play on his second offensive foul. It was the three-time All Star's first disqualification since Nov. 29, 2017, and the first of his career before the final two minutes of regulation.

Kentavious Caldwell-Pope added 26 points, and Kyle Kuzma had 24 for the Wizards. They failed in their bid for their second pair of consecutive wins since the start of December.

The Rockets started the fourth on a 7-0 spurt to push their lead to 10, and were still up seven when Beal fouled out. The rest of the Wizards responded, first tying it at 102 on Raul Neto's contested layup.

They then battled from five down inside the final minute, when Caldwell-Pope's 3-pointer closed it to two before Neto's drive resulted in a tying goaltending call.

Porter had the decisive say on the next possession when he sank a 24-footer over Neto's outstretched arm.

A video review restored 0.4 seconds to the clock, and Kuzma's catch-and-shoot attempt was off target after Washington's timeout.

Smart, Georgia trying to stop skid against Saban, Alabama

By JOHN ZENOR

Associated Press

The Georgia Bulldogs aren't the only team having a tough time beating fellow Southeastern Conference powerhouse Alabama.

They're just the only one that gets another shot in the season's biggest game.

The No. 3 Bulldogs have the kind of talent-rich roster that appears built to give the top-ranked Crimson Tide a run for their money. They'll head into the national championship game Monday night in Indianapolis trying to finally get over that elephant-sized hump while Alabama is seeking its seventh national title since the 2009 season.

Beating 'Bama for some five-star recruits has proven easier than besting coach Nick Saban & Co. on the field. Alabama has won the last seven meetings, including one in a previous national title matchup and three with SEC championshions on the line.

Georgia coach Kirby Smart, a former Nick Saban disciple at Alabama, is 0-4 against his old boss.

Smart points out they share those struggles "with a lot of teams."

He's right, but the Bulldogs are the ones who have a chance to change that recent history a little over a month after Alabama toppled them from the No. 1 ranking with a 41-24 win in the SEC championship game.

It matched the regular-season score from 2020 in Tuscaloosa.

"We have a tremendous amount of respect for them," Saban said. "And I think it's important for our players to know what they need to do to be able to continue to have success in the next game, regardless of what happened in the last game."

Or the last seven games.

The Bulldogs also have pushed Alabama to the limit, most notably in their last for-all-the-national-marbles meeting on Jan. 8, 2015.

The Tide also survived a 32-28 SEC championship game in 2012 when the clock expired with Georgia stopped at the 5-yard line.

Alabama split the first two meetings under Saban, falling in overtime 26-23 in 2007 and winning 41-30 the following season.

Smart was an Alabama assistant for that first meeting and defensive coordinator for the next few so his personal record in the rivalry is a more respectable 3-5.

Smart doesn't need to emphasize the recent one-sided nature of the Alabama-Georgia series, describing his team's mood simply as "they're excited."

"They earned another opportunity to go play a really good football team," he said. "Now we've got a really good football team. Our guys are physical, excited and looking forward to this opportunity on the biggest stage there is."

Some 11 months later, he got a piece of glory himself.

Before Smart's arrival, then-No. 13 Alabama routed Mark Richt's eighth-ranked Bulldogs 38-10 on Oct. 3, 2015.

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NBA						
EASTERN CONFERENCE						
Atlantic Division						
Brooklyn	24	12	.667	116	103	—
Phila.	21	16	.568	116	103	3½
Toronto	18	17	.514	116	103	5½
Boston	18	20	.474	116	103	7
New York	18	20	.474	116	103	7
Southeast Division						
Miami	23	15	.605	116	103	—
Charlotte	20	19	.513	116	103	3½
Washington	19	19	.500	116	103	4
Atlanta	16	20	.444	116	103	6
Orlando	7	32	.179	116	103	16½
Central Division						
Chicago	25	10	.714	116	103	—
Milwaukee	25	15	.625	116	103	2½
Cleveland	21	17	.553	116	103	5½
Indiana	14	25	.359	116	103	13
Detroit	7	29	.194	116	103	18½
WESTERN CONFERENCE						
Southwest Division						
Memphis	25	14	.641	116	103	—
Dallas	20	18	.526	116	103	4½
San Antonio	15	22	.405	116	103	9
New Orleans	13	25	.342	116	103	11½
Houston	11	28	.282	116	103	14
Northwest Division						
Utah	27	10	.730	116	103	—
Denver	18	17	.514	116	103	8
Minnesota	18	20	.474	116	103	9½
Portland	14	22	.389	116	103	12½
Oklahoma City	13	24	.351	116	103	14
Pacific Division						
Golden State	29	8	.784	116	103	—
Phoenix	29	8	.784	116	103	—
L.A. Lakers	20	19	.513	116	103	10
L.A. Clippers	19	19	.500	116	103	10½
Sacramento	16	23	.410	116	103	14

Tuesday's Games

Toronto 129, San Antonio 104
Memphis 110, Cleveland 106
New York 104, Indiana 94
Phoenix 123, New Orleans 110

L.A. Lakers 122, Sacramento 114

Wednesday's Games

Charlotte 140, Detroit 111

Phila. 116, Orlando 106

Houston 114, Washington 111

San Antonio 99, Boston 97

Dallas 99, Golden State 82

Brooklyn 129, Indiana 121

Minnesota 98, Oklahoma City 90

Toronto 117, Milwaukee 111

Atlanta at Sacramento

Miami at Portland

Utah at Denver

Thursday's Games

Boston at New York, 7:30 p.m.

Detroit at Memphis, 8 p.m.

Golden State at New Orleans, 8 p.m.

L.A. Clippers at Phoenix, 10 p.m.

Friday's Games

San Antonio at Phila., 7 p.m.

Milwaukee at Brooklyn, 7:30 p.m.

Utah at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.

Dallas at Houston, 8 p.m.

Minnesota at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.

Washington at Chicago, 8 p.m.

Sacramento at Denver, 9 p.m.

Atlanta at L.A. Lakers, 10 p.m.

Cleveland at Portland, 10 p.m.

NHL**EASTERN CONFERENCE****Atlantic Division**

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	35	22	8	5	49	116	103
Florida	33	22	7	4	48	128	97
Toronto	32	22	8	2	46	108	78
Boston	29	17	10	3	36	85	76
Detroit	34	16	15	3	35	96	114
Buffalo	33	10	17	6	26	89	116
Ottawa	29	9	18	2	20	79	107
Montreal	34	7	23	4	18	73	123

Metropolitan Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
N.Y. Rangers	34	22	8	4	48	101	85
Washington	34	20	6	8	48	119	89
Carolina	31	23	7	1	47	106	66
Pittsburgh	32	19	8	5	43	104	84
Philadelphia	33	13	14	6	32	86	110
Columbus	31	15	15	1	31	101	112
New Jersey	34	13	16	5	31	99	121
N.Y. Islanders	28	10	12	6	26	64	80

WESTERN CONFERENCE**Central Division**

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Nashville	34	21	11	2	44	104	91
St. Louis	34	19	10	5	43	119	96
Colorado	29	18	9	2	40	100	96
Minnesota	31	19	10	2	40	116	98
Winnipeg	32	16	11	5	37	98	92
Dallas	29	15	12	2	32	82	85
Chicago	33	11	17	5	27	77	112
Arizona	31	6	22	3	15	64	120

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Vegas	36	22	13	1	45	129	110
Anaheim	36	18	11	7	43	111	99
Calgary	31	17	8	6	40	100	73
Edmonton	34	18	14	2	38	113	111
Los Angeles	33	16	12	5	37	91	89
San Jose	34	17	16	1	35	96	108
Vancouver	34	16	15	3	35	89	95
Seattle	33	10	19	4	24	92	122

NOTE: Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

Tuesday's Games

Tampa Bay 7, Columbus 2

Florida 6, Calgary 2

Boston 5, New Jersey 3

Detroit 6, San Jose 2

Colorado 4, Chicago 3, OT

Winnipeg at Colorado, 9 p.m.

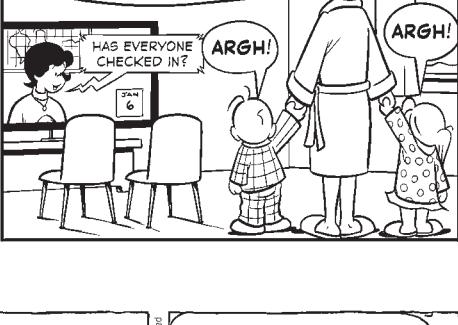
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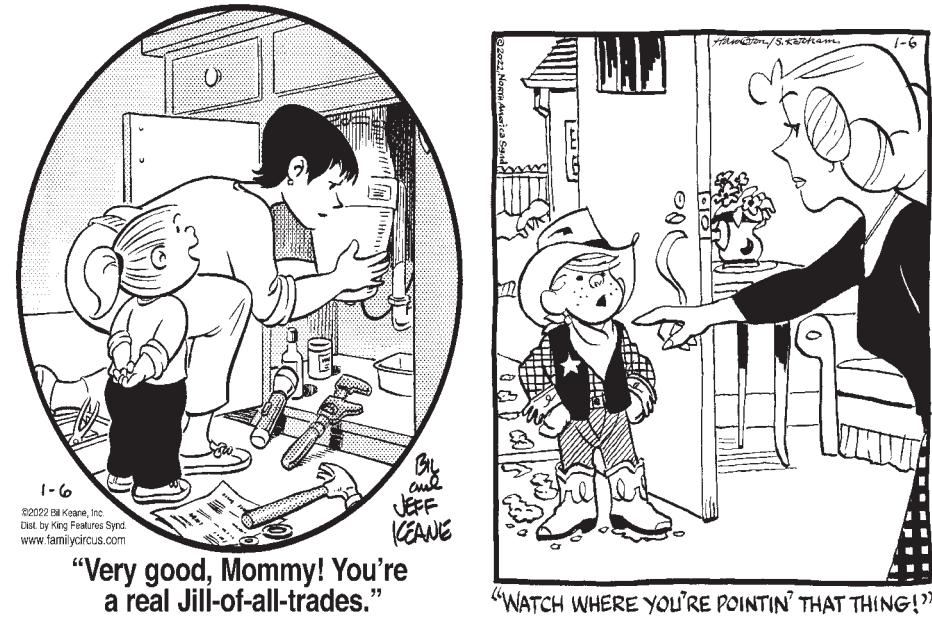


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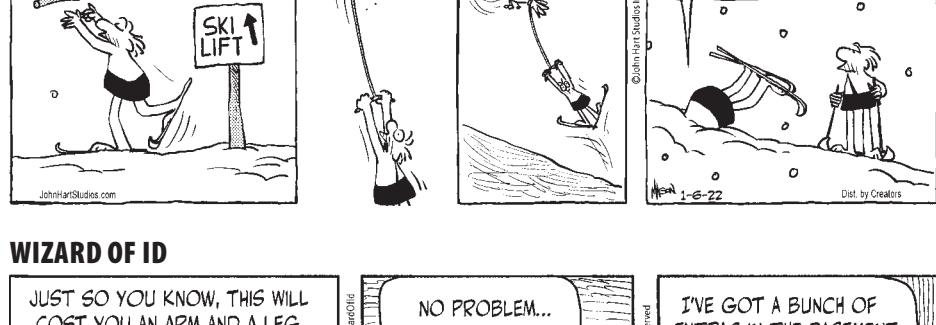
DENNIS THE MENACE



BABY BLUES



BC



CURTIS



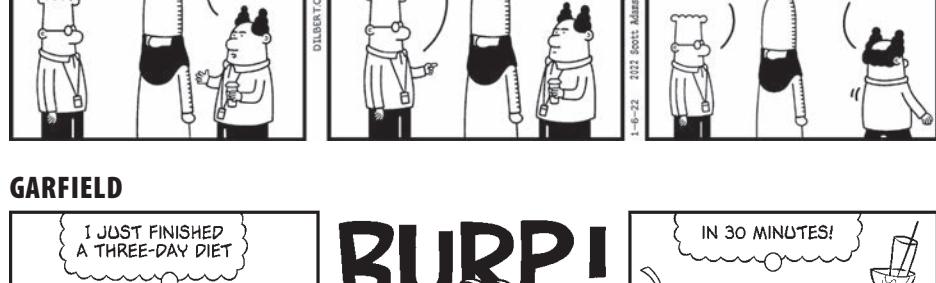
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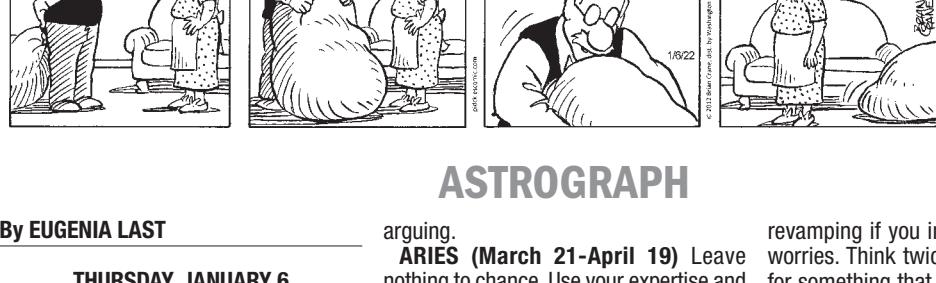
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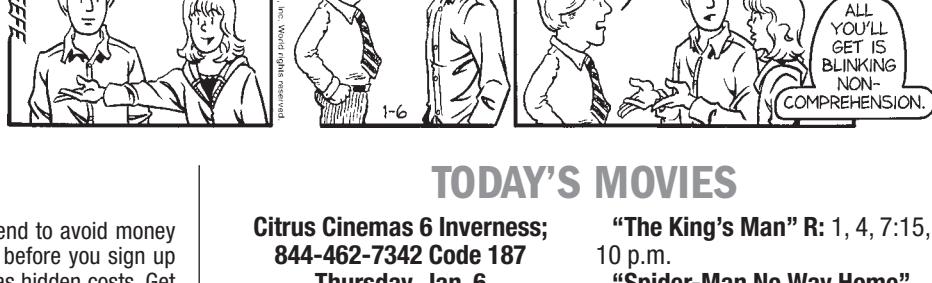
MUTTS



PICKLES



SALLY FORTH



ASTROGRAPH

By EUGENIA LAST

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6

Get back to basics, and you'll turn your dream into a reality. Less fretting and more hands-on work will bring you closer to your destination. Let the past guide you to solid ground and encourage you to avoid making the same mistakes. Trust your instincts and set worthy yet practical goals.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Stand behind your beliefs and refuse to let anyone intervene in your private affairs. Consider how you can take advantage of a change. Put personal improvements first and make romance a priority.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Don't let a change of plans disrupt your day. Carry on, regardless of the decisions others make. Don't buy something you don't need. Be smart when it comes to money and whom you trust.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Emotions will be close to the surface. Plan to do something energetic or time-consuming. The less idle time you have, the easier it will be to avoid getting into trouble or

arguing.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Leave nothing to chance. Use your expertise and know-how to outsmart and outmaneuver anyone who gets in your way. Having focus will make it difficult for others to interfere in your business.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Do what's necessary and keep moving. If you take time to explain your every move, you'll lose momentum, and someone will make your life difficult and what you are trying to achieve impossible.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Stick to your plans. Follow a direct path and refuse to let emotions stand between you and doing what's best. Someone will take advantage of you if you let them. Stay focused and proceed with discipline.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You'll have some great ideas that come from the heart, but before you pass them along or get started, make sure your plan is foolproof. A wrong move can be costly and stressful.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) The way you handle your financial affairs will need

revamping if you intend to avoid money worries. Think twice before you sign up for something that has hidden costs. Get the lowdown.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Network and be a good listener, and you'll gain perspective on the possibilities that exist. A dream can turn into a reality if you are inventive and prepared to act.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Discipline and research will come in handy. A targeted, minimal response will have a favorable impact on the outcome of a domestic situation and save you money at the same time.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Concentrate on what you are trying to achieve and keep your words sparse. Giving the wrong impression will cause a rift with someone you want on your side. A steady pace will pay off. Romance is favored.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Move forward cautiously. Haste makes waste, and letting your emotions take charge will lead to mistakes. Calculate each scenario, and precisely map out your course of action.

TODAY'S MOVIES

Citrus Cinemas 6 Inverness;
844-462-7342 Code 187

Thursday, Jan. 6

"The 355" PG13: 7 p.m.

"American Underdog" PG:

11:45 a.m., 3:15, 7:30 p.m.

"Sing 2" PG: 12:15, 3:30,

7:45 p.m.

"The King's Man" R: noon, 3:45,

7:15 p.m.

"The Matrix Resurrections" R:

11:15 a.m., 2:45, 6:45 p.m.

"Spider-Man No Way Home"

PG13: 11, 11:30 a.m., 2:30, 3,

6:30 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 7

"The 355" PG13: 12:15, 3, 6:45,

9:30 p.m.

"American Underdog" PG:

12:45, 3:30, 7:45, 10:45 p.m.

"Sing 2" PG: 1:15, 4:15, 7:30,

10:30 p.m.

"The King's Man" R: 1, 4, 7:15,

10 p.m.

"Spider-Man No Way Home"

PG13: noon, 12:30, 3:15, 3:45,

6:30, 7, 9:45, 10:15 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 8

"The 355" PG13: 12:15, 3, 6:45,

9:30 p.m.

"American Underdog" PG:

12:45, 3:30, 7:45, 10:45 p.m.

"Sing 2" PG: 1:15, 4:15, 7:30,

10:30 p.m.

"The King's Man" R: 1, 4, 7:15,

10 p.m.

"Spider-Man No Way Home"

PG13: noon, 12:30, 3:15, 3:45,

6:30, 7, 9:45, 10:15 p.m.

Valerie Theatre, Inverness;

352-341-7850

No movies announced at this time. Call for information about special events and live shows.

Times provided by Regal Cinemas and are subject to change; call ahead.



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808-203-9621 call or text

CLASSICS

MG
1976 MGB, Red, NEW
top & upholstery, wire
wheel, \$6900 Make Offer
(352)346-1053

PLYMOUTH
1969 Sport Satellite
Numbers Matching Car
383 V8 (Prof. Rebuilt
Power Brakes)
SHOW WINNER
\$34,500 352-746-3749

MOTORCYCLES

HARLEY 2016
Switchback, 2,935 mi.,
\$10,500 or BEST OFFER
352-765-4679

HARLEY DAVIDSON
2007 Fat Boy, Vance & Hines
Pipes, 13k Original Miles, Well
Maintained! \$7950 OBO
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ATTENTION!

HARLEY-DAVIDSON
2001 FAT BOY
1-owner, lots of extras,
low miles, Excellent Shape!
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MUST SEE! Factory Made,
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TRUCKS



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1994 INTERNATIONAL 4900
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RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

2007 Trail Cruiser Lite
19ft., Loaded, Cold A/C &
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2018 STRYKER
TOY HAULER, FIFTH WHEEL,
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RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

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NORTH POINT, FIFTH WHEEL,
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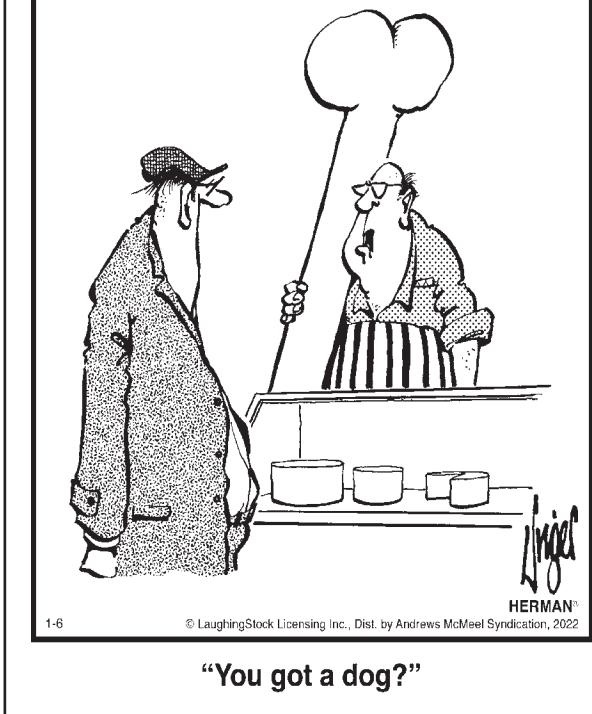
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Sat: by Appointment
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352-257-7874 | 1113 S. 14th St., Leesburg, FL
352-409-5688

MEETINGS
5033-0106 THCRN
PUBLIC NOTICE

The Citrus County Mosquito Control District would like to announce to the Citizens of Citrus County that the Regular Board Meeting will be held on **Thursday, January 13, 2022**. The meeting will be held at **8:00 a.m.** at the District's Headquarter's Office, located at 968 N. Lecanto Hwy. Lecanto, FL 34461.

Joe Adams
Chairman of the Board

Any person requiring reasonable accommodation at this meeting because of a disability or physical impairment should contact the Citrus County Mosquito Control District, 968 N. Lecanto Hwy, Lecanto, FL 34461, (352) 527-7478 at least two days before the meeting.

Any person who wishes to appeal any decision made by the Board, Agency or Commission with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, will need a record of the proceedings, and that for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based.

Published January 6, 2022

LIENS

5055-0106 THCRN (01/17/22)

Public Notice

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned intends to sell the vehicle(s) below under Florida Statutes 713.78. The undersigned will sell at public sale by competitive bidding on the premises where said vehicle(s) have been stored and which is located at Ed's Auto & Towing Inc, 4610 S Florida Ave, Inverness, FL 34450 the following:

DOS: 01/17/2022 @ 8:30AM
KL1TD56E79B405086 2009 CHEV
1FAFP34N55W311463 2005 FORD
1GNCS18X53K182714 2003 CHEV
1FTYR14U82PA54099 2002 FORD
1G1PE55B5E7419335 2014 CHEV
KL4CJASB7FB234044 2015 BUIC

Purchase must be paid for at the time of sale in cash only. Vehicle(s) sold as is and must be removed at the time of sale. Sale is subject to cancellation in the event of settlement, between owner & obligated party.

Published January 6, 2022

LIENS

5054-0106 THCRN (01/18, 01/21, 01/24)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: GS AUTO TOWING gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicles at **61 NE US HWY 19**, Crystal River, FL 34429, pursuant to subsection 713.78 of the Florida Statutes. **GS Auto Towing** reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.

Date & Time of Sale - January 18, 2022 at 9:00 AM

VIN # Year / Model Vehicle

1FTEX1CM4BKE12757 2011 FORD

2A8HR44H08R820279 2008 CHRY

5J6RM3H78CL007693 2012 HOND

KMHFC46F17A237519 2007 HYUN

Date & Time of Sale - January 21, 2022 at 9:00 AM

VIN # Year / Model Vehicle

1J4GK58K42W205603 2002 JEEP

Date & Time of Sale - January 24, 2022 at 9:00 AM

VIN # Year / Model Vehicle

JN1BZ36AX8M851486 2008 NISS

Published January 6, 2021

Published January 6, 2022

TAX DEEDS

7461-0127 THCRN TXD 0747

PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION: 2021-0747TD

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: SAVVY FL LLC

The holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERTIFICATE NO: 18-1487 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2018

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

CITRUS SPGS UNIT 2 PB 5 PG 108 LOT 2 BLK 128

NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: CITRUS PROPERTY HOLDINGS LLC, OLEG GENSHAFT REGISTERED AGENT

Said property being in the County of Citrus, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder on line, on February 9, 2022 at 10:00 AM at www.citrus.realtaxdeed.com.

Dated December 10, 2021

ANGELA VICK, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Citrus County, Florida

By: Tifani L. White, Deputy Clerk

Published January 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2022.

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Mike 352-989-7702

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25 yrs, Ref,

LIENS

1735-0102 SUCRN
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

MILLS AUTO SALES INC gives notice that on 02/01/2022 at 09:00 AM the following vehicles(s) may be sold by public sale at 1756 S SUNCOAST BLVD, HOMOSASSA, FL 34448 to satisfy the lien for the amount owed on each vehicle for any recovery, towing, or storage services charges and administrative fees allowed pursuant to Florida statute 713.78.

1C4GP45R35B439391 2005 CHRY
1FDEE3FL6CDB15947 2012 FORD
1FDEE3FL8CDB15948 2012 STCO
2D4GP44L67R218582 2007 DODG
5TDZK23C48S136854 2008 TOYT

Published January 6, 2022

TAX DEEDS

7460-0127 THCRN TXD 0746
PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION: 2021-0746TD
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: SAVVY FL LLC

The holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERTIFICATE NO: 18-1486 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2018

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

CITRUS SPGS UNIT 2 PB 5 PG 108 LOT 1 BLK 128
NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: CITRUS PROPERTY HOLDINGS LLC, OLEG GENSHAFT REGISTERED AGENT

Said property being in the County of Citrus, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder on line, on February 9, 2022 at 10:00 AM at www.citrus.realtaxdeed.com.

Dated December 10, 2021

ANGELA VICK, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Citrus County, Florida
By: Tifani L. White, Deputy Clerk

Published January 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2022.

7456-0127 THCRN TXD 0742
PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION: 2021-0742TD
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: SAVVY FL LLC

The holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERTIFICATE NO: 18-1473 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2018

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

CITRUS SPGS UNIT 2 PB 5 PG 108 LOT 9 BLK 125
NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: CITRUS PROPERTY HOLDINGS LLC, OLEG GENSHAFT REGISTERED AGENT

Said property being in the County of Citrus, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder on line, on February 9, 2022 at 10:00 AM at www.citrus.realtaxdeed.com.

Dated December 10, 2021

ANGELA VICK, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Citrus County, Florida
By: Tifani L. White, Deputy Clerk

Published January 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2022.

TAX DEEDS

7458-0127 THCRN TXD 0744
PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION: 2021-0744TD
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: SAVVY FL LLC

The holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERTIFICATE NO: 18-7045 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2018

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

UNIT 6 OF HOMOSASSA PB 1 PG 48 LOTS 13, 14, 20 & 21
BLK 246

NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: LEVENTURES LLC

Said property being in the County of Citrus, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder on line, on February 9, 2022 at 10:00 AM at www.citrus.realtaxdeed.com.

Dated December 10, 2021

ANGELA VICK, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Citrus County, Florida
By: Tifani L. White, Deputy Clerk

Published January 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2022.

7462-0127 THCRN TXD 0748
PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION: 2021-0748TD
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: SAVVY FL LLC

The holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERTIFICATE NO: 19-8971 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2019

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

SUNKIST ESTS LOT 13 DESC IN OR BK 679 PG 352
NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: DAVID D WELLS, VIRGINIA M WELLS

Said property being in the County of Citrus, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder on line, on February 9, 2022 at 10:00 AM at www.citrus.realtaxdeed.com.

Dated December 10, 2021

ANGELA VICK, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Citrus County, Florida
By: Tifani L. White, Deputy Clerk

Published January 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2022.

7457-0127 THCRN TXD 0743
PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION: 2021-0743TD
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: SAVVY FL LLC

The holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERTIFICATE NO: 18-1474 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2018

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

CITRUS SPGS UNIT 2 PB 5 PG 108 LOT 10 BLK 125
NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: CITRUS PROPERTY HOLDINGS LLC, OLEG GENSHAFT REGISTERED AGENT

Said property being in the County of Citrus, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder on line, on February 9, 2022 at 10:00 AM at www.citrus.realtaxdeed.com.

Dated December 10, 2021

ANGELA VICK, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Citrus County, Florida
By: Tifani L. White, Deputy Clerk

Published January 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2022.

TAX DEEDS

7464-0127 THCRN TXD 0750
PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION: 2021-0750TD
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: SAVVY FL LLC

The holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERTIFICATE NO: 18-1488 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2018

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

CITRUS SPGS UNIT 2 PB 5 PG 108 LOT 3 BLK 128

NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: CITRUS PROPERTY HOLDINGS LLC, OLEG GENSHAFT REGISTERED AGENT

Said property being in the County of Citrus, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder on line, on February 9, 2022 at 10:00 AM at www.citrus.realtaxdeed.com.

Dated December 10, 2021

ANGELA VICK, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Citrus County, Florida

By: Tifani L. White, Deputy Clerk

Published January 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2022.

7469-0127 THCRN TXD 0771
PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION: 2021-0771TD
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: SAVVY FL LLC

The holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERTIFICATE NO: 16-5576 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2016

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

CITRUS SPRINGS UNIT 23 PB 7 PG 115 LOT 28 BLK 1746

NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: ALTAGRACIA DIAZ

Said property being in the County of Citrus, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder on line, on February 9, 2022 at 10:00 AM at www.citrus.realtaxdeed.com.

Dated December 10, 2021

ANGELA VICK, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Citrus County, Florida

By: Tifani L. White, Deputy Clerk

Published January 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2022.

7467-0127 THCRN TXD 0761
PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION: 2021-0761TD
NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: SAVVY FL LLC

The holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERTIFICATE NO: 19-8623 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2019

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

PINE RIDGE UNIT 1 PB 8 PG 25 LOT 21 BLK 130

NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: HANS U RUDOLPH

Said property being in the County of Citrus, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder on line, on February 9, 2022 at 10:00 AM at www.citrus.realtaxdeed.com.

Dated December 10, 2021

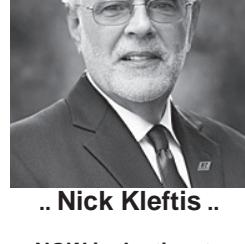
ANGELA VICK, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Citrus County, Florida

By: Tifani L. White, Deputy Clerk

Published January 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2022.

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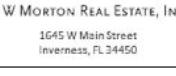


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LIENS

5053-0106 THCRN
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given that on 1/18/2022 at 10:30 am, the following vehicle will be sold for towing & storage charges pursuant to F.S. 713.78:

1969 CADILLAC #J9315564

Sale will be held at TROPICAL WINDOW TINTING, 1612 SUN-CAST BLVD. HOMOSASSA, FL 34448. 352-621-7328. Lienor re-serves the right to bid.

Published January 6, 2022

TAX DEEDS

7470-0127 THCRN TXD 0772

PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION: 2021-0772TD

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: SAVVY FL LLC

The holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERTIFICATE NO: 16-5688 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2016

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

CITRUS SPRINGS UNIT 23 PB 7 PG 115 LOT 9 BLK 1756

NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: ANTONIO PALUMBO, RHONDA L. PALUMBO

Said property being in the County of Citrus, State of Florida. Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder on line, on February 9, 2022 at 10:00 AM at www.citrus.realtaxdeed.com.

Dated December 10, 2021

ANGELA VICK, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Citrus County, Florida

By: Tifani L. White, Deputy Clerk

Published January 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2022.

FORECLOSURE

5046-0120 THCRN 2020 CP 000188

Notice of Action Nancy Jo Alessi

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA PROBATE DIVISION File # 2020 CP 000188.

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF

Alessi, Joseph Deceased.

Patty Alessi, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Joseph Alessi, Deceased

Petitioner

Vs.

Nancy Jo Alessi, AKA Nancy J. Alessi

AKA Nancy Alessi

And any unknown or unascertained

Descendants, heirs and Devisees of Nancy Jo Alessi

Respondents

NOTICE OF ACTION - Constructive Service

TO: Nancy Jo Alessi and any unknown or unascertained Descendants, heirs and Devisees of Nancy Jo Alessi

YOUR ARE NOTIFIED that a Petition to determine beneficiaries in the estate of Joseph Alessi, Deceased, has been in the Circuit Court of the Fifth Judicial Circuit, in and for Citrus County, Florida and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses to it, if any, to:

Ronald A. Jones
Attorney for Plaintiff
15600 A US Hwy 441, Summerfield FL 34491

on or before January 29, 2022 and file the original with the Clerk of this Court, 110 N Apopka Ave, Inverness, FL 34450

Attn: Probate either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; or a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint or Petition.

WITNESS my hand and Seal of this Court on Dec. 16, 2021
Angela Vick
CLERK OF THE COURT

{County Court Seal}

By: /s/ M. Mothershed
As Deputy Clerk

Published December 30, 2021 and January 6, 13 & 20, 2022

5051-0113 THCRN Mykal Davis

2020-CA-000151 Notice of Foreclosure Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO.: 2020-CA-000151

PENNYMAC LOAN SERVICES, LLC,
Plaintiff,

v.

MYKAL DAVIS; et al.,
Defendants.

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE

NOTICE is hereby given that Angela Vick, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Citrus County, Florida, will on the **3rd day of February, 2022**, at 10:00 a.m. EST, via the online auction site at www.citrus.realeforeclose.com in accordance with Chapter 45, F.S., offer for sale and sell to the highest and best bidder for cash, the following described property situated in Citrus County, Florida, to wit:

Lot 16: Commence at the SE corner of Lot 94, Green Acres, Addition, No. 2, as recorded in Plat Book 5, pages 34 and 35, public records of Citrus County, Florida, thence S 88 Deg. 22' 22" W, along the South line of said Lot 94, and along the south line of Lot 93, as shown on said Plat, a distance of 674.32 feet to the SW corner of said Lot 93, thence N 0 Deg. 19' 27" E, along the West line of said Lot 93, a distance of 386.44 feet to the Point of Beginning, thence continue N 0 Deg. 19' 27" E, along said West line a distance of 128.82 feet, thence N 88 Deg. 22' 17" E, 170 feet, thence S 0 Deg. 19' 27" W, parallel to said West line a distance of 128.81 feet, thence S 88 Deg. 22' 18" W, 170 feet to the Point of Beginning. Subject to a 12.50 foot wide easement along the east boundary thereof for Road Right of Way.

Together with the right of Ingress and Egress over and across that certain easement in common with others as recorded in OR book 586, Page 1145, Public Records of Citrus County, Florida.

TOGETHER WITH: A 1987 PINE Doublewide Mobile Home ID# LHMLP28091351655A & LHMLP28091351655B AND title Numbers 0043750567 & 0043750576.

Property Address: 5040 South Pastel Point, Homosassa, FL 34446

pursuant to the Final Judgment of Foreclosure entered in a case pending in said Court, the style and case number of which is set forth above.

Any person claiming an interest in the surplus from the sale, if any, other than the property owner as of the date of the Lis Pendens must file a claim before the clerk reports the surplus as unclaimed.

If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the purchase shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney.

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator at the Office of the Trial Court Administrator, Citrus County Courthouse, 110 North Apopka Avenue, Inverness, Florida 34450, Telephone (352) 341-6700, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

SUBMITTED on this 29th day of December, 2021.

TIFFANY & BOSCO, P.A.

/s/ Kathryn I. Kasper, Esq.

Anthony R. Smith, Esq.

FL Bar #157147

Kathryn I. Kasper, Esq.

FL Bar #621188

Attorneys for Plaintiff

OF COUNSEL:

Tiffany & Bosco, P.A.

1201 S. Orlando Ave, Suite 430

Winter Park, FL 32789

Telephone: (205) 930-5200

Facsimile: (407) 712-9201

Published January 6 & 13, 2022

TAX DEEDS

7468-0127 THCRN TXD 0762

PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION: 2021-0762TD

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: KEYS FUNDING LLC - 1019

The holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERTIFICATE NO: 19-5055 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2019

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

ADVERSE POSSESSION FORM DR-542 FILED ON THIS PROPERTY BEVERLY HILLS UNIT 5 LOT 6 & NE'LY 1/2 OF LOT 8 BLK 80 MORE FULLY DESCR AS FOLLOWS: BEGIN AT THE MOST EASTERLY CORNER OF LOT 8, BLK 80, BEVERLY HILLS UNIT 5, THENCE N 51 DEG W ALONG THE NORTHEASTERLY LINE OF SAID LOT8, A DISTANCE OF 120 FEET TO THE MOST NORTHERLY CORNER OF SAID LOT 8, THENCE S 39 DEG W ALONG THE NORTHWESTERLY LINE OF SAID LOT 8, A DISTANCE OF 37.5 FEET, THENCE S 51 DEG E 120 FEET TO A POINT ON THE SOUTHEASTERLY LINE OF SAID LOT 8, THENCE N 39 DEG E ALONG THE SOUTHEASTERLY 37.5 FEET TO THE POB.

NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: ERNEST P BAUER DECEASED, ESTATE OF JOAN A BAUER AKA JOAN WATERS DECEASED, JOAN A BAUER EST

Said property being in the County of Citrus, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder on line, on February 9, 2022 at 10:00 AM at www.citrus.realtaxdeed.com.

Dated December 10, 2021

ANGELA VICK, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Citrus County, Florida

By: Tifani L. White, Deputy Clerk

Published January 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2022.

FORECLOSURE

5042-0106 THCRN Rafferty McDougall 1000007278

2021 CA 000781 A Notice of Action

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTH

JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR CITRUS

COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NO. 2021 CA 000781 A

MIDFIRST BANK

Plaintiff,

v.

THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, GRANTEES, DEVISEES, LIENORS, TRUSTEES, AND CREDITORS OF RAFFERTY MCDougall A/K/A RAFFERTY BRUCE MULOCK MCDougall, DECEASED, ET AL.

Defendants.

NOTICE OF ACTION

TO: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS, GRANTEES, DEVISEES, LIENORS, TRUSTEES, AND CREDITORS OF RAFFERTY MCDougall A/K/A RAFFERTY BRUCE MULOCK MCDougall, DECEASED

Current Residence Unknown, but whose last known address was:

3409 W FAIRBANK DR, CITRUS SPRINGS, FL 34433-6161

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action to foreclose a mortgage on the following property in Citrus County, Florida, to-wit:

LOT 22, BLOCK 611 OF CITRUS SPRINGS UNIT 9, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT THEREOF AS RECORDED IN PLAT BOOK 6, PAGE(S) 61 THROUGH 66, OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS OF CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA.

has been filed against you and you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to it on eXL Legal, PLLC, Plaintiff's attorney, whose address is 12425 28th Street North, Suite 200, St. Petersburg, FL 33716, on or before January 29, 2022 and file the original with the Clerk of this Court at 110 N Apopka Ave, Inverness, FL 34450, either before service on Plaintiff's attorney or immediately thereafter; otherwise, a default will be entered against you for the relief demanded in the complaint petition.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the Court on this 22nd day of December, 2021.

Angela Vick
Clerk of the Circuit Court

(SEAL)

By: /s/Kyle Klauder
Deputy Clerk

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator at the Office of the Trial Court Administrator, Citrus County Courthouse, 110 North Apopka Avenue, Inverness, Florida 34450, Telephone (352) 341-6700, at least 7 days before your scheduled court appearance, or immediately upon receiving this notification if the time before the scheduled appearance is less than 7 days; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call 711.

Published December 30, 2021 & January 6, 2022

5047-0113 THCRN Kenneth Brian Slanker

2019 CA 001107 A Re-Notice of Foreclosure Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

IN AND FOR CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA

CIRCUIT CIVIL DIVISION

CASE NO.: 2019 CA 001107 A

MORTGAGE SOLUTIONS OF COLORADO LLC

Plaintiff(s),

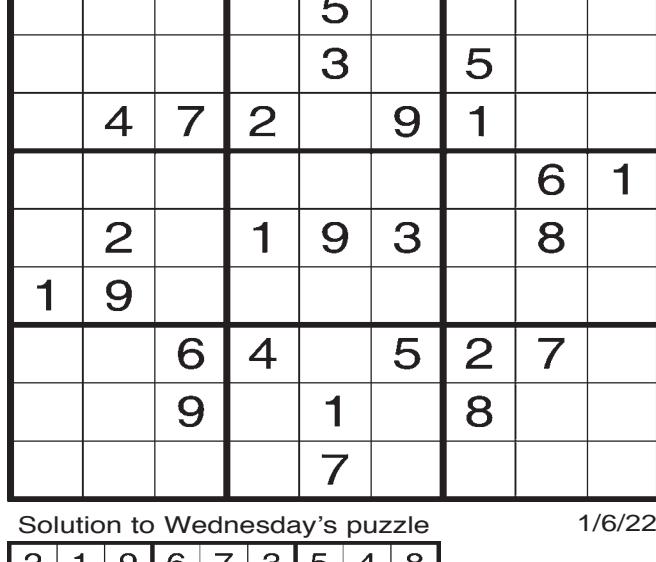
vs.

KENNETH BRIAN SLANKER; et al.,

SUDOKU

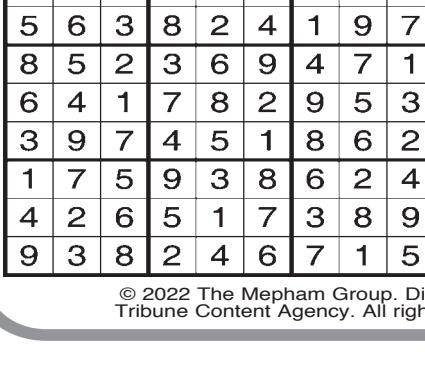
THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level **1 2 3 4**



Solution to Wednesday's puzzle

1/6/22



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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

Thursday, January 6, 2022

KATHLEEN SAXE

WORD GAME

TODAY'S WORD -- LIBELOUS

(LIBELOUS: LYE-bih-lus: Defamatory.)

Average mark 22 words
Time limit 35 minutes

Can you find 29 or more words in LIBELOUS?
The list will be published tomorrow.

YESTERDAY'S WORD -- RESPECTS

recess	sect	step	press
resect	seep	strep	creep
reset	seer	peer	crepe
rest	sept	perse	crept
erect	sere	pert	crest
ester	specter	pest	crest
scepter	spree	pester	terse
scree	steep	peter	tree
secret	steer	present	tress

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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TAX DEEDS

7455-0127 THCRN TXD 0741

PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION: 2021-0741TD

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: ALAN BLAKE

The holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERTIFICATE NO: 16-3021 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2016

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

CITRUS SPRINGS UNIT 9 LOT 13 BLK 623 DESC IN OR BK 844 PG 936

NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: CARMEN M ROSARIO, CRUZ ROSARIO

Said property being in the County of Citrus, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder on line, on February 9, 2022 at 10:00 AM at www.citrus.realtaxdeed.com.

Dated December 10, 2021

ANGELA VICK, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Citrus County, Florida

By: Tifani L. White, Deputy Clerk

Published January 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2022.

7459-0127 THCRN TXD 0745

PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION: 2021-0745TD

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: SAVVY FL LLC

The holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERTIFICATE NO: 18-7060 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2018

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

VILLA TER UNIT 9 OF HOMOSASSA LOTS 3 & 4 BLK 294 DESC IN OR BK 768 PG 1623

NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: ESTATE OF GEORGE W DYESS, GEORGE W DYESS, LINDA LEE ROBERTS

Said property being in the County of Citrus, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder on line, on February 9, 2022 at 10:00 AM at www.citrus.realtaxdeed.com.

Dated December 10, 2021

ANGELA VICK, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Citrus County, Florida

By: Tifani L. White, Deputy Clerk

Published January 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2022.

7463-0127 THCRN TXD 0749

PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION: 2021-0749TD

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: BEAMIF A LLC

The holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERTIFICATE NO: 19-0200 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2019

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

INVERNESS HGLDS UNIT 2 LOTS 65, 66, 67 & 68 BLK 63 DESC IN OR BK 126 PG 331

NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: AMERICAN ESTATE & TRUST, AMERICAN ESTATE & TRUST FBO MAUREEN GREEN IRA, MAUREEN GREEN IRA

Said property being in the County of Citrus, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder on line, on February 9, 2022 at 10:00 AM at www.citrus.realtaxdeed.com.

Dated December 10, 2021

ANGELA VICK, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Citrus County, Florida

By: Tifani L. White, Deputy Clerk

Published January 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2022.

7466-0127 THCRN TXD 0752

PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION: 2021-0752TD

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: SAVVY FL LLC

The holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERTIFICATE NO: 19-1316 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2019

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

CITRUS SPRINGS UNIT 1 PLAT BK 5 PG 89 LOT 6 BLK 38 DESC IN OR BK 706 PG 1326

NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: DAVID NANTAIS, LAURA IN GRASIA, LINDA D RAVENHORST

Said property being in the County of Citrus, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder on line, on February 9, 2022 at 10:00 AM at www.citrus.realtaxdeed.com.

Dated December 10, 2021

ANGELA VICK, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Citrus County, Florida

By: Tifani L. White, Deputy Clerk

Published January 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2022.

7463-0127 THCRN TXD 0754

PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION: 2021-0754TD

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: SAVVY FL LLC

The holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERTIFICATE NO: 19-1316 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2019

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

CITRUS SPRINGS UNIT 1 PLAT BK 5 PG 89 LOT 6 BLK 38 DESC IN OR BK 706 PG 1326

NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: DAVID NANTAIS, LAURA IN GRASIA, LINDA D RAVENHORST

Said property being in the County of Citrus, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder on line, on February 9, 2022 at 10:00 AM at www.citrus.realtaxdeed.com.

Dated December 10, 2021

ANGELA VICK, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Citrus County, Florida

By: Tifani L. White, Deputy Clerk

Published January 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2022.

7466-0127 THCRN TXD 0756

PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION: 2021-0756TD

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: SAVVY FL LLC

The holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERTIFICATE NO: 19-1316 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2019

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

CITRUS SPRINGS UNIT 1 PLAT BK 5 PG 89 LOT 6 BLK 38 DESC IN OR BK 706 PG 1326

NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: DAVID NANTAIS, LAURA IN GRASIA, LINDA D RAVENHORST

Said property being in the County of Citrus, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder on line, on February 9, 2022 at 10:00 AM at www.citrus.realtaxdeed.com.

Dated December 10, 2021

ANGELA VICK, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Citrus County, Florida

By: Tifani L. White, Deputy Clerk

Published January 6, 13, 20 & 27, 2022.

7466-0127 THCRN TXD 0758

PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION: 2021-0758TD

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR TAX DEED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: SAVVY FL LLC

The holder of the following certificate has filed said certificate for a tax deed to be issued thereon. The certificate number and year of issuance, the description of the property, and the names in which it was assessed are as follows:

CERTIFICATE NO: 19-1316 YEAR OF ISSUANCE: 2019

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY:

CITRUS SPRINGS UNIT 1 PLAT BK 5 PG 89 LOT 6 BLK 38 DESC IN OR BK 706 PG 1326

NAME IN WHICH ASSESSED: DAVID NANTAIS, LAURA IN GRASIA, LINDA D RAVENHORST

Said property being in the County of Citrus, State of Florida.

Unless such certificate shall be redeemed according to law, the property described in such certificate shall be sold to the highest bidder on line, on February