

BERRY SPECIAL
WHAT TO DO, EAT AND SEE AT THE
UPCOMING STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL
INSIDE TODAY



SPORTS
COUNTY WRESTLERS COMPETE AT REGIONALS
WITH BERTHS TO STATE MEET ON THE LINE
PAGE B1

THE SUNDAY CHRONICLE

FEBRUARY 28, 2021

84 ☀️ 64

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CITRUS COUNTY VIRUS UPDATE

INSIDE

View the latest COVID-19 data about Citrus County today on **Page A7**.

DOH-Citrus vaccine registration system open

DOH-Citrus' preregistration system to schedule COVID-19 vaccine appointments for individuals 65 and older and frontline health care workers is now available.

Individuals can now be added to a waiting list for vaccine appointments and be notified when appointments are available in Citrus County by visiting myvaccine.fl.gov or by calling 866-201-0442; TTY is 833-476-1036.

As part of the statewide preregistration system, each county has a designated number that individuals can call and pre-register with if they do not have internet access. Citrus County's designated number is 833-540-2058.

Vaccine supply remains limited and appointments may not be available for several weeks.

— From staff reports

BRIEFLY

Sign up for Virtual LEAD Summit

The eighth annual LEAD Summit, presented by the Florida Commission on the Status of Women, runs from 3 p.m. Tuesday, March 23, to 5 p.m. Thursday, March 25.

The goal of the summit is educating, engaging and inspiring Florida's women leaders. This program is tailored to inform women about how to navigate the legislative process, help women develop personal relationships that span the state, and provide inspiration to work together to create a better Florida.

The summit is free; registration is required. Learn more and sign up at fcsw.net/lead.

— From staff reports



Due to earlier production deadlines for the Sunday Chronicle, final lottery numbers are not printed. Visit www.flalottery.com for final numbers.

34th annual Floral City Strawberry Festival set March 6, 7



Ripe strawberries are hand-picked and placed into pint-sized containers while still in the fields.

JEFF BRYAN
STAFF WRITER

Even a yearlong pandemic couldn't sour the annual Strawberry Festival.

The 34th annual Floral City Strawberry Festival, set for March 6 and 7 in Floral City, is the first event to make a return since the novel coronavirus outbreak forced the world into a "new normal."

"It was the last festival we hosted before the pandemic, and now it's the first festival as we slowly return," said Jade White, the Chamber's public relations/communications coordinator. "Everything shut down after that last year."

A lot of conversations and thought went into planning the annual event, touting the sweet richness of the strawberry.

"We've gotten a lot of really positive response," White said, adding there will be plenty of entertainment throughout the festival as well as plenty to eat and drink. "We didn't know what to expect. I think, and I hope, people realize we're taking precautions that keep people safe as possible."

Those discussions focused on the positivity rate case, which continues to slowly trickle down. Additionally, at the time planning began, rates were high and vaccines had yet to come out.

"Vaccines are getting in arms of people," she said.

But that doesn't mean people shouldn't plan themselves.

"If you feel ill, if you're vulnerable, considering skipping it this year," White said.

See SWEET/Page A9

SWEET RETURN



MATTHEW BECK/Chronicle

A berry picker runs through the rows of strawberries Thursday morning on the way to a worker who will record the number of flats of ripe berries he has picked and turned in. According to one supervisor on the farm, workers can harvest about 80 flats of berries during an eight-hour work day provided the weather and crops cooperate. Ferris Groves is also busy preparing for the 34th annual Floral City Strawberry Festival, set for March 6 and 7 in Floral City.

Retiring EOC chief reflects

FRED HIERS
STAFF WRITER

Chris Evan thinks himself lucky as he looks over his career in public safety and retires as the county's director of emergency operations.

There are so many people who have jobs they don't like, he told the Chronicle sitting in the EOC center a day before retiring. "I've loved my job."

He's seen the nature of the work change and predicts more of it.

He predicts technology will advance so much that within 20 years computers will be answering your 911 calls. He also fears that emergency systems and infrastructure will become ever more susceptible to terrorist attacks and many may not be prepared.

Evan's career in public service spans decades.

In Oakland, New Jersey, he was an emergency medical technician on an ambulance. He was also a volunteer firefighter.

He served with the Dunnellon Police Department from 1990 to 1997 and worked as a detective and advanced to the rank of corporal. In 1997, he started with the Citrus County Sheriff's Office working patrol shifts and rose through the ranks to lieutenant and head of professional standards until an injury in 2013 ended his career in law enforcement.

That's when he found a home with the sheriff's office emergency operations center.

Chris Evan, director of emergency operations for the Citrus County Sheriff's Office, retired from his two decade-plus career with the agency.

MATTHEW BECK/Chronicle



Sheriff retains emergency operations

MICHAEL D. BATES
STAFF WRITER

County commissioners and Sheriff Mike Prndergast this week agreed to a plan to replace Chris Evan, the county's director of emergency operations, when he retires Feb. 28.

The county is putting together a job description and applicants will be vetted through a hiring committee to include County Administrator Randy Oliver and representatives from the sheriff's office, Florida Department of Health in Citrus County, the school district, county fire department and the

See SHERIFF/Page A7



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WEEK

IN REVIEW

PHOTO OF THE WEEK

MEMORIAL PATH



MATTHEW BECK/Chronicle

Beverly Howard is the former teacher of Clayton Storey who was killed by a vehicle that struck him while riding a bicycle along U.S. 19 south of Homosassa in December 2014. Through an effort lead by Howard, a multi-use path is now being constructed along the busy highway to safeguard pedestrians and bicyclists.

GOOD NEWS OF THE WEEK

Recently, six local high school seniors signed to continue their athletic careers in college. They are: Zaire Wilcox and CJ Henry, from Lecanto High School, will both be playing football for Rocky Mountain College in Billings, Montana; Jarred Newell, from Crystal River High School, signed to play football for Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota; Evan Louden, from Crystal River High School, will be joining the football team at Peru State College in Peru, Nebraska; Alys Jenkins from Crystal River High School, will be playing basketball for Webber International University in Babson Park, Florida; and Genevieve Kennedy, from Crystal River High School, signed her letter of intent to swim for Florida Southern College in Lakeland, Florida. Congratulations to all.

HOT TOPIC OF THE WEEK

Road construction and traffic congestion is always a hot topic and the mess that's U.S. 19 in Homosassa has been a hot issue for a few years. Here's what some of our readers on Facebook had to say this week:

- Ken Shaw: "Construction should be completed by 2076, in time for our Tricentennial."
- Gary Gary St: "The Suncoast Extension is going to be completed well before this much smaller project."
- GiGi Galasso: "When driving south, I take a different route. Takes longer but I feel safer. Less vehicles are on the back roads."
- Jeff Siegendorf: "This two-year project is on year five."
- Repo Jay: "So when they finish this it will be just in time to start repaving it all."
- Brooke Clark: "I'm not saying it's easy work by any means. However, for a project that started five years ago and still isn't done it's beyond frustrating to have to leave an hour early to go 11 miles."
- Richard W Harmon Sr.: "You can't blame the contractor. There are a lot of holdups beyond the contractor's control, state hold ups, permit hold ups, utility holdup, weather hold ups, the list goes on and on. The contractor bids on the job and to do it in a specified time if he doesn't complete it in that time frame he is charged so much a day he goes over. The contractor gets credit for days he is held up beyond his control. So think about it: You can't put the blame all on the contractor."

THE MOST POPULAR STORIES FROM THE WEEK THAT WAS



Congestion still reigns along U.S. 19

For those who hoped congestion and traffic backups along U.S. 19 in Homosassa would be pretty much alleviated by now — keep hoping. Last month, the Florida department of Transportation (FDOT) said all six lanes going north and south on U.S. 19 through Homosassa — from West Green Acres Street to South Jump Court — would be open by late January. When asked about the delay, FDOT spokeswoman Kris Carson said six lanes are open throughout most of the project area, but there remain a few spots where work remains. "The contractor (D.A.B. Constructors Inc.) has periodically been using daytime and nighttime lane closures for various work — ensuring at least two lanes in each direction are open during daytime hours," Carson said. "Some night work requires double lane closures," she added. "(D.A.B.) is maintaining a minimum of one open lane in each direction during these overnight work activities."

Beverly Howard paves the way for new sidewalk

On Dec. 30, 2014, Beverly Howard heard the tragic news that one of her former students, a 15-year-old, was killed after the bicycle he was riding along the shoulder of U.S. 19 near West Cypress Boulevard, swerved into the path of an oncoming car. That started her crusade to get the state to install a sidewalk on the west side of U.S. 19 in Homosassa. A little more than six years later, work crews have started clearing land for a sidewalk to extend from U.S. 98 north to Green Acres Street. Howard not only won her battle but, thanks to her perseverance and learning firsthand what it takes to see road and sidewalk project become reality, she is now actively involved in setting transportation policy as a member of the Citizens Advisory Committee, one of three committees of the Hernando-Citrus Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). She's also involved in the Community Transportation Safety Team. "Clayton was my student in the fourth grade," Howard said. "His untimely death is the only reason for the push to get a safe passage on U.S. 19 for those who must walk or ride a bike to get to work or to buy groceries."

Court documents shed light on deadly shooting near park

On Feb. 20, 2020, Tyler Hopkins was in a parked vehicle when he heard a tap on his car window. As he tried to exit the vehicle, the 26-year-old was met with fatal gunfire. The alleged shooter, David Lemon Jr., fled from the scene, drove away in a rental car and eventually went to Fresno, California. Lemon wasn't arrested until Oct. 15 when authorities took the 26-year-old into custody during a traffic stop in Inverness. According to a court-filed affidavit, Lemon had returned to Citrus County from the Golden State after his daughter died in a vehicle crash. Lemon was released from the county jail Feb. 2 on a \$50,000 bond and a GPS device on his person. He was later arrested on Feb. 4 for shooting Hopkins, when detectives submitted their affidavit of investigations for a judge to OK Lemon's warrant alleging premeditated murder, firing a missile into a vehicle and possessing a firearm as a felon.

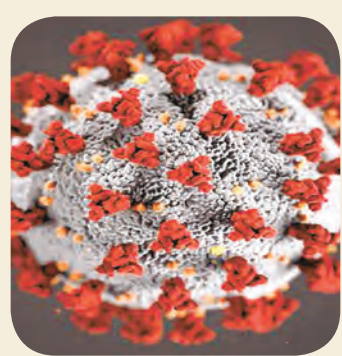


Dunnellon couple accused of insurrection at Capitol to remain behind bars

Kelly Meggs, 52, and Connie Meggs, 59, of Dunnellon, were arrested Feb. 17 for their part in the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. Kelly Meggs is a self-described leader of the Florida chapter of the paramilitary organization the Oath Keepers, one of the groups who stormed the Capitol. The couple is charged with: (aiding and abetting); conspiracy to defraud the United States (conspiracy); government or contracts (destruction of government property); harassment of a witness; and, restricted (building or grounds access). "The offenses that the defendants are charged with, as well as the facts underlying these offenses, are extremely serious," prosecutors said in court documents. The defendants face up to 36 years in federal prison if convicted as charged in the complaint. "One of the counts — Destruction of Government Property — meets the criteria for a federal crime of terrorism." A federal judge ruled the couple was a danger to society and a flight risk and ordered them kept behind bars awaiting trial.

New mutant coronavirus now in Citrus County

Citrus County now has at least one person who has been infected with the more contagious United Kingdom mutated COVID-19 strain. So far, the current vaccine is effective against this new U.K. variant of the virus. "While we suspect this variant to be more contagious, if you take the precautions of wearing your mask, washing your hands, keeping your distance, you should protect yourself," said Ernesto "Tito" Rubio, administrator of the Florida Department of Health in Citrus County. Current studies show that the vaccine being distributed is effective against the new strain, he added. Studies estimate that the new strain is between 30%-70% more infectious, but not more deadly than the original Wuhan strain.



"What began as a tragedy ended up as a triumph and a study in perseverance."

— MPO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR STEVE DIEZ, RECOGNIZING BEVERLY HOWARD FOR HER DEDICATION TO GETTING A SIDEWALK INSTALLED TO HELP PREVENT BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC-RELATED DEATHS. DIEZ ALSO AWARDED HOWARD THE VISION ZERO HERO AWARD.

— compiled by Nancy Kennedy

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STATE & LOCAL

CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE

Around the COUNTY

Homestead exemption deadline nears

The deadline for filing homestead exemptions and classifications with the Citrus County Property Appraiser is Monday, March 1. Applications may be done online, in person, or mailed and postmarked no later than Monday, March 1.

For eligibility, a complete application with all supporting documentation is required. Property owners with an existing exemption or classification should have received an annual renewal postcard in January 2021. If no changes have occurred to the property exemption status (i.e., changes of ownership, mailing address, marital status, etc.), renewal is automatic.

A new application is required if you purchased a new home and vacated your homesteaded property, or made any changes in the title to your home. You may contact the Property Appraiser's office if you are unsure of the status of your homestead. Late filings will be considered for the 2022 tax roll. For good cause and upon request, late filings may be eligible for consideration at the discretion of the Property Appraiser.

For information, visit www.citruspa.org to file for homestead exemption or for downloadable forms and information or call the Inverness office at 352-341-6600 or Crystal River at 352-564-7130.

Learn about Medicare at the library

Navigating Medicare can be difficult without help, but it can be hard to find a trustworthy guide. The Citrus County Library System has partnered with Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders (SHINE) to provide the public with an information presentation. SHINE, a program created by the Florida Department of Elder Affairs, is the official unbiased source of information on all parts of Medicare.

The upcoming presentation will be held at the Homosassa branch from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 2.

Registration is required for this program. Anyone interested in attending this

program can register with our online calendar at bit.ly/CCLSMedicare, in person, or by calling the Homosassa branch at 352-628-5626.

Attendance for this program will be limited.

Attendees must practice social distancing and wear a mask whenever possible.

Additional information about SHINE, their services and the programs they offer can be found at florida.shine.org.

Commissioner sets meeting for March 11

Citrus County Board of County Commissioners Chairman Schlabach will host a Town Hall Meeting for the general public to attend from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, March 11, at the Central Ridge Community Center, 77 Civic Circle, Beverly Hills.

For information, call 352-527-5484.

Volunteers needed for cemetery cleanup

The Fort Cooper Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and the trustees of the Magnolia Cemetery will rake and pick up debris beginning at 8 a.m. Saturday, March 13, at the Magnolia Cemetery, 3131 W. Gulf-to-Lake Highway, Lecanto.

The Magnolia Cemetery was started by the great-great-grandparents of Paul "Toady" Grannan.

The Daughters of the American Revolution is a nonprofit, nonpolitical volunteer women's service organization dedicated to promoting historic preservation, education and patriotism.

Any woman age 18 or older may join the DAR by documenting her lineage to an ancestor, either male or female, who aided the cause of American independence through military, civil or patriotic service.

The DAR has resources to help identify ancestors.

To learn more about DAR, visit dar.org or fortcooperdar.wixsite.com or email Faeth Houle, regent of Fort Cooper DAR, at darfaeth@gmail.com or Carol Weiser, registrar, at carolweiser32@gmail.com.

Call Paul Grannan at 352-422-7450 for information.

— From staff reports

Healthy dose of options



JEFF BRYAN/Chronicle

Citrus County Jazzercise instructor Mae Natteal leads a demonstration Saturday, Feb. 27, at the Healthy Living Show, sponsored by the Citrus County Chronicle, at The Depot District next to Liberty Park, in downtown Inverness. Several dozens of residents filtered through the Depot District to check out the Healthy Living Show. During the event, health screenings were available, as well as samples and door prizes. More than 40 vendors in the health and wellness field were on hand to answer in-person questions.

Attempted traffic stop leads to chase, crash

FRED HIERS Staff writer

A Beverly Hills man sits behind bars after a routine traffic stop led to a high-speed chase and crash.

The arrest of Drake Eugene Wolfe, 29, began about 2:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 20, when the arresting Citrus County Sheriff's Office deputy was doing traffic enforcement work parked at West Glen Street and South Gray Oak Terrace in Lecanto.

That's when the deputy reported seeing the driver in a green, four door vehicle not stopping at a stop sign and making a right turn onto West Glen Street, according to the arrest report.

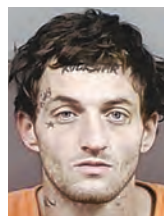
The deputy turned on his emergency lights to stop Wolfe. Instead, the

arresting deputy reported Wolfe drove faster, according to the report.

The deputy also reported that he saw that the vehicle did not have a license plate, but instead a handwritten note in its place. The deputy also reported that Wolfe reached a "high rate of speed," ignoring all traffic control signage.

The chase continued until Wolfe crashed into a large dirt mound near West Demsey Lane and South Canna Lily Avenue, according to the report.

The arresting deputy stayed with the crashed vehicle and two passengers. Two other deputies soon arrived, one of which was a K-9 unit, and they



Drake Eugene Wolfe faces multiple charges.

tracked Wolfe into some nearby woods, according to the arrest report.

Deputies eventually found Wolfe hiding in a boat covered by a tarp. The deputies who found him reported that they told him several times to get out of the boat but that Wolfe wouldn't comply so they removed him by force, according to the report.

When deputies ran Wolfe's identification through a law enforce-

ment database, it was reported his driver's license had been revoked almost three years ago and that he was a habitual offender.

He was arrested and taken to the Citrus County jail. Deputies charged him with driving with a revoked license (habitual offender), resisting arrest without violence, no vehicle registration, leaving the scene of an accident with property damage, eluding law enforcement while speeding, and burglary of an unoccupied conveyance. His bond was \$22,000.

Organizations are welcome to submit news briefs for publication: community@chronicleonline.com.

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Easter Services

On Sunday, March 21 and 28, the Chronicle will publish the annual Easter Worship Pages! This is a great place to advertise Community Outreach, Church Picnics and Special Easter Worship!

Deadline: Tuesday, March 16, 2021

For Pricing Information
 Contact Lori Driver
 352-564-2931
LDriver@chronicleonline.com

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 - The Ledgers -

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Today's HOROSCOPES

Birthday — Put greater emphasis on partnerships, personal matters and the changes you want to make. Consider how you earn your living and what you can do to improve your lifestyle. Live life your way.

Pisces (Feb. 20-March 20) — Spend more time preparing for the future and less time distracted by challenges and harmful interference.

Aries (March 21-April 19) — Get together with people who have as much to contribute as you do, and you'll come up with ideas that will help you advance.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — Don't waste your time fighting a losing battle when you have so much to gain if you put your time and effort into something positive.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) — Let your intelligence lead the way. If you follow your heart, you are likely to be disappointed by the outcome.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) — Home improvements are favored. Be creative, do the work yourself and include family members in the project.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Don't make a fuss or get involved in something you don't believe in. Team up with people who share your interests and concerns, and you will make a difference.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Gather information. Communicate with friends, relatives and people you look up to, and you'll get an education that will help you improve your life.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Home improvements are favored, as long as you stay within your budget. Moving things around will help ease stress.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Refuse to let someone interfere in your personal affairs. When it comes to dealing with a meaningful relationship, be true to yourself.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Discord will unfold if you or someone else isn't honest. If you are uncertain, be up-front and discuss your concerns.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Money matters look promising. Invest in something you want to pursue. Join forces with someone who can help you.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Put your energy into personal financial gains, fitness and commitment. Don't limit what you can accomplish.

ENTERTAINMENT

As 'Handmaid's Tale' returns, creator sees no end in sight

LOS ANGELES — As "The Handmaid's Tale" returns in April for season four, its creator is reluctant to predict when the dystopian drama will be ready for its final act.

"Every time I come upon a season, I don't have any idea what we're going to do," said **Bruce Miller**. "And every time I get to the end of the season, I'm thrilled with what we've done ... and I feel like I could go on and on forever."

That's if **Elisabeth Moss** sticks with the series based on **Margaret Atwood's** 1985 novel, said Miller. He lavished praise on Moss as a fellow executive producer and a newly minted director for the series, as well as its star.

"I think I can keep going as long as I can rope Lizzie into it," Miller said.

Asked at another point during a virtual Q&A with TV critics Thursday if he considered killing Moss' character, June, last season, his reply was a swift "no."

"The show is called 'The Handmaid's Tale,'" he said. "It's about her."

Miller said he's fascinated by what unfolds in Atwood's 2019 companion novel, "The Testaments," set 15 years later.

Whether it's going to be "part of our future, that's a bigger question," he said. Hulu acquired rights to the book with a sequel series in mind.

"The Handmaid's Tale" is already renewed for another season, but the 10-episode arc that begins April 28 doesn't hold back on playing out story lines, Miller said.

"We're delivering," he said.



Associated Press

In this Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2019, file photo, Elisabeth Moss attends the "The Handmaid's Tale" season three finale red carpet at the Regency Village Theatre, in Los Angeles. The drama series' fourth season begins April 28 and will include 10 episodes.

Globes Globes group says it will recruit Black members

LOS ANGELES — The organization hosting the Golden Globes says it is developing a plan to recruit Black members after falling under sharp criticism for lacking diverse members.

The Hollywood Foreign Press Association said in statement Friday that an "action plan" is under development to admit Black members. The group currently has 87 members who are journalists, but none are Black.

Former HFPA president **Meher Tatna** told Variety in an interview that the organization hasn't had a Black member in nearly two decades. The Mumbai-born board chair said she couldn't recall when there had been a Black member, but she says the organization will keep trying.

Some including Time's Up and presenter **Sterling K. Brown** are among those who have

criticized the HFPA's lack of inclusion and diversity. The criticism comes just days before the Globes air live on Sunday.

An HFPA spokesperson said it welcomes the opportunity to meet with groups such as Time's Up and prospective Black members who are interested in joining the organization.

"We are fully committed to ensuring our membership is reflective of the communities around the world who love film, TV and the artists inspiring and educating them," the HFPA statement read. "We understand that we need to bring in Black members, as well as members from other underrepresented backgrounds, and we will immediately work to implement an action plan to achieve these goals as soon as possible."

Time's Up took aim at the HFPA in a tweet saying "a cosmetic fix isn't enough." The activist organization also included the hashtag #TimesUpGlobes.

— From wire reports

Today in HISTORY

Today is Sunday, Feb. 28, the 59th day of 2021. There are 306 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight: On Feb. 28, 2013, Benedict XVI became the first pope in 600 years to resign, ending an eight-year pontificate. (Benedict was succeeded by Pope Francis.)

On this date: In 1849, the California gold rush began in earnest as regular steamship service started bringing gold-seekers to San Francisco.

In 1953, scientists James D. Watson and Francis H.C. Crick announced they had discovered the double-helix structure of DNA.

In 1993, a gun battle erupted at a religious compound near Waco, Texas, when Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms agents tried to arrest Branch Davidian leader David Koresh on weapons charges; four agents and six Davidians were killed as a 51-day standoff began.

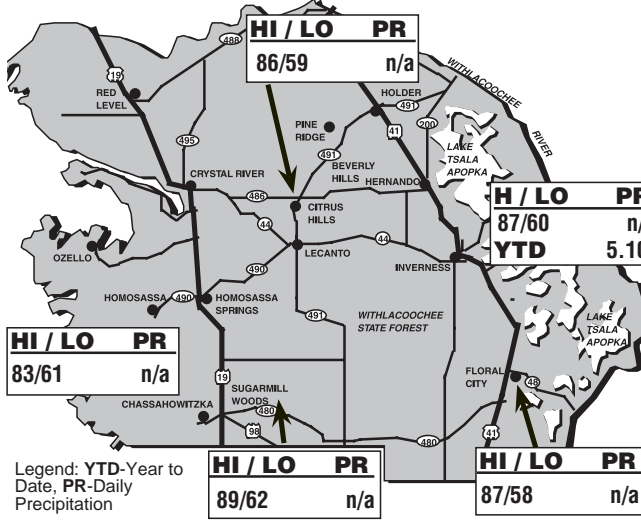
Ten years ago: The United States and European allies intensified efforts to isolate Libya's Moammar Gadhafi, redoubling demands for him to step down, questioning his mental state.

Five years ago: One of Pope Francis' top advisers, Australian Cardinal George Pell, testifying before an investigative commission in Sydney via videolink from Rome, acknowledged the Catholic Church had made "enormous mistakes" in allowing thousands of children to be raped and molested by priests over centuries.

One year ago: The number of countries touched by the coronavirus climbed to nearly 60.

Today's Birthdays: Architect Frank Gehry is 92. Actor Gavin MacLeod is 90. Singer Sam the Sham is 84. Actor-director-dancer Tommy Tune is 82. Hall of Fame auto racer Mario Andretti is 81. Actor Bernadette Peters is 73. Comedian Gilbert Gottfried is 66. Actor John Turturro is 64. Daniel Handler (aka "Lemony Snicket") is 51. Country singer Jason Aldean is 44.

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER



THREE DAY OUTLOOK

TODAY & TOMORROW MORNING
High: 84° Low: 64°
Mostly sunny, sea breeze

MONDAY & TUESDAY MORNING
High: 83° Low: 62°
Partly sunny, isolated showers

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY MORNING
High: 75° Low: 64°
Mostly cloudy, few showers

ALMANAC

TEMPERATURE	DEW POINT
Yesterday 86/63	Yesterday at 3 p.m. 60°
Record* 89/26	
Normal 75/47	
Mean temp. 61	Yesterday at 3 p.m. 43%
Departure from mean 14	
PRECIPITATION	POLLEN COUNT**
Yesterday 0.00"	Today's active pollen:
Total for the month 3.73"	juniper, oak, nettle
Total for the year 4.41"	Today's count: 9.7/12
Normal for the year 5.84"	Monday's count: 10.9
*Official record values from Tampa International	Tuesday's count: 7.5
UV INDEX: 8	
0-2 minimal, 3-4 low, 5-6 moderate, 7-9 high, 10+ very high	
BAROMETRIC PRESSURE	AIR QUALITY
30.16	Yesterday observed Good
	Pollutant Ozone

SOLAR TABLES

DATE	DAY	MINOR (MORNING)	MAJOR (MORNING)	MINOR (AFTERNOON)	MAJOR (AFTERNOON)
02/28	SUNDAY	6:55	1:35	6:28	2:01
03/01	MONDAY	6:54	2:26	6:29	2:51

CELESTIAL OUTLOOK

SUNSET TONIGHT	6:28 pm
SUNRISE TOMORROW	6:54 am
MOONRISE TODAY	8:07 pm
MOONSET TODAY	8:01 am

BURN CONDITIONS

Today's Fire Danger Index is: **LOW. 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., or 4:00 p.m. - 11:59 p.m., on the allowable watering days below:

Addresses with house numbers ending in:	Day
0 - 1	Monday
2 - 3	Tuesday
4 - 5	Wednesday
6 - 7	Thursday
8 - 9 or- 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; Incorporated Citrus County at 352-527-7669. For more information, visit: https://www.citrusbocc.com/departments/water_resources/watering_restrictions.php

TIDES

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

City	High	Low
Chassahowitzka**	7:01 a.m.	0.3 ft 12:22 a.m.
Crystal River**	5:05 a.m.	2.5 ft 5:38 p.m.
Withlacoochee**	2:12 a.m.	3.5 ft 3:02 p.m.
Homosassa***	5:57 a.m.	1.4 ft 6:27 p.m.

FLORIDA TEMPERATURES

City	H	L	F'cast	City	H	L	F'cast
Daytona Bch.	81	65	pc	Miami	80	74	pc
Fort Lauderdale	82	72	pc	Ocala	87	65	pc
Fort Myers	87	69	pc	Orlando	87	67	pc
Gainesville	86	64	pc	Pensacola	76	64	cl
Homestead	82	71	pc	Sarasota	85	68	pc
Jacksonville	84	64	mc	Tallahassee	79	64	mc
Key West	82	75	pc	Tampa	87	69	pc
Lakeland	88	67	pc	Vero Beach	83	67	pc
Melbourne	82	66	pc	W. Palm Bch.	81	74	pc

MARINE OUTLOOK

Today: South winds around 10 knots then becoming southwest late in the afternoon. Seas 2 feet. Bay and inland waters a light chop. Tonight: Southeast winds around 10 knots. Seas 2 feet. Bay and inland waters a light chop.

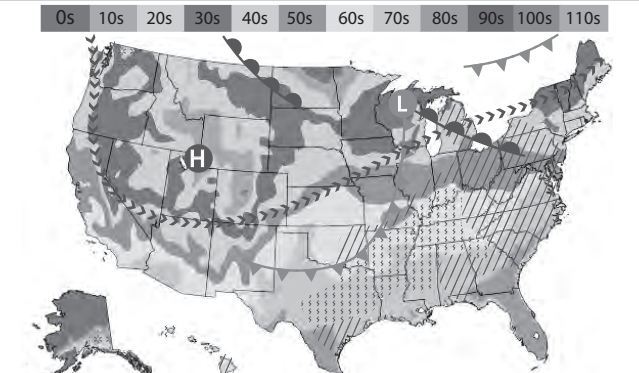
Gulf water temperature 73°
Taken at Crystal River

LAKE LEVELS

Location	SAT	FRI	Full
Withlacoochee at Holder	28.43	28.52	34.64
Tsala Apopka-Hernando	37.51	37.52	38.66
Tsala Apopka-Inverness	38.58	38.59	39.73
Tsala Apopka-Floral City	39.85	39.86	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



FORECAST FOR 3:00 P.M. Sunday

City	SAT H L Pcp.	SUN H L Fcst	City	SAT H L Pcp.	SUN H L Fcst
Albany	45 30 0.04	43 36 sh	New Orleans	81 70 0.00	81 66 mc
Albuquerque	59 28 0.00	51 24 pc	New York City	50 38 0.39	44 41 ra
Asheville	72 37 0.11	72 52 mc	Norfolk	60 47 0.44	70 61 sh
Atlanta	67 46 Trace	77 59 mc	Oklahoma City	54 37 0.02	56 34 mc
Atlantic City	55 38 0.66	47 43 ra	Omaha	54 27 0.00	42 26 pc
Austin	79 58 0.01	76 50 t	Palm Springs	77 45 0.00	68 47 s
Baltimore	54 36 0.37	45 41 ra	Philadelphia	52 34 0.39	47 43 ra
Billings	31 23 0.02	41 22 pc	Phoenix	72 44 0.00	66 42 s
Birmingham	77 66 0.00	78 56 sh	Pittsburgh	52 39 0.01	58 37 ra
Boise	41 28 0.03	43 25 pc	Portland, ME	41 20 0.64	45 37 mc
Boston	47 30 0.17	43 38 mc	Portland, OR	52 37 0.10	53 38 mc
Buffalo	43 34 0.24	49 31 sh	Providence, RI	52 30 0.66	46 38 sh
Burlington, VT	43 23 0.05	43 39 sh	Raleigh	58 39 0.49	76 60 sh
Charleston, SC	84 49 0.00	77 61 mc	Rapid City	36 19 0.00	38 21 s
Charleston, WV	59 43 0.21	69 44 t	Reno	45 22 0.00	48 25 s
Charlotte	58 39 0.24	73 60 mc	Rochester, NY	45 32 0.05	49 33 ra
Chicago	50 34 0.04	52 25 pc	Sacramento	64 43 0.00	67 40 s
Cincinnati	61 43 0.05	63 36 ra	Salt Lake City	35 26 0.04	37 21 s
Cleveland	46 39 0.12	60 32 sh	San Antonio	79 57 0.00	77 53 cl
Columbia, SC	81 48 Trace	82 62 mc	San Diego	65 51 0.00	70 46 s
Columbus, OH	52 41 0.08	60 34 ra	San Francisco	61 45 0.00	65 45 s
Concord, NH	36 19 0.33	44 34 sh	Savannah	81 56 0.00	82 62 mc
Dallas	72 50 0.02	68 46 t	Seattle	48 30 0.05	50 40 ra
Denver	35 25 0.00	38 15 s	Spokane	43 28 Trace	43 32 mc
Des Moines	53 28 0.00	38 24 mc	St. Louis	59 30 0.01	61 30 sh
Detroit	54 34 0.09	55 30 ra	St. Ste Marie	46 28 0.12	36 14 rs
El Paso	73 37 0.00	70 37 s	Syracuse	47 28 0.05	45 36 ra
Evansville, IN	55 43 0.10	67 35 ra	Topeka	67 27 0.00	51 27 pc
Harrisburg	52 34 0.23	44 41 ra	Washington	54 37 0.36	49 46 ra
Hartford	40 28 0.27	43 36 sh			
Houston	80 66 Trace	78 65 cl			
Indianapolis	56 39 0.14	60 31 ra			
Kansas City	64 34 0.00	51 28 pc			
Las Vegas	63 46 Trace	59 38 s			
Little Rock	54 45 0.18	70 43 sh			
Los Angeles	75 50 0.00	72 47 s			
Louisville	57 43 0.05	66 38 sh			
Memphis	59 49 1.67	72 45 sh			
Minneapolis	49 32 Trace	44 21 ra			
Milwaukee	47 27 0.00	29 17 sn			
Mobile	73 60 0.10	77 63 cl			
Montgomery	80 57 0.00	82 64 mc			
Nashville	61 55 0.83	70 43 sh			

YESTERDAY'S NATIONAL HIGH & LOW
HIGH 90, Palatka, Fla.
LOW -8, McKinnon, Wyo.

WORLD CITIES

CITY	H/L/SKY	Time
Acapulco	96/67/s	Madrid 54/44/pc
Amsterdam	49/37/s	Mexico City 82/62/s
Athens	57/52/s	Montreal 34/22/mc
Beijing	44/36/ra	Moscow 32/19/sn
Berlin	50/35/s	Paris 53/39/s
Bermuda	68/63/mc	Rio 87/76/mc
Cairo	71/53/s	Rome 63/47/s
Calgary	31/15/mc	Sydney 76/69/pc
Havana	84/73/ra	Tokyo 51/38/s
Hong Kong	69/65/mc	Toronto 39/32/ra
Jerusalem	57/47/s	Warsaw 44/32/pc

KEY TO CONDITIONS: c-cloudy; fg-fog; hz-haze; mc-mostly cloudy; pc-partly cloudy; ra-rain; rs-rain; sm-sunny; sh-showers; sn-snow; ss-snow; sh-showers; t-thunderstorms

ALERT CITRUS SIGNUP

- To register for the Citrus County Sheriff's Office's Alert Citrus weather program, visit www.sheriffcitrus.org and click on the links to register.
- Create a profile, list how you want to be contacted in case of a weather emergency (text, mobile phone, home phone, email), then include the address(es) you want alerts for. You can choose what types of emergencies you want to hear about, and set a quiet period for no contact.
- Those without computer access may call 352-249-2705.

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- Masonic Jewelry
- Old Paper Money
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- Pocket Watches
- Indian Jewelry
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- Railroad Watches
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Obituaries

Read more local obituaries on Page A8 in today's Chronicle.

Cynthia 'Cindy' Davis, 79

Cynthia "Cindy" Thomas Davis, age 79, passed away on Thursday, January 7, 2021 after an extended battle with Alzheimer's.

She was born in Tampa, and raised in Mobile, Alabama, graduated from Murphy High School and attended the University of Alabama, where she was a member of the Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority.

Cindy was known for her energetic happy demeanor and smiling attitude. She was a true friend to all who knew her, loved traveling and adored her time with nieces and nephews.

She began her banking career with Merchants Bank in Mobile and after over thirty years, retired from the Bank of America in Florida as their Compliance Officer.

She is preceded in death by her parents Alfred and Anne Thomas and her sister, Mary Anne Thomas Tapia.

She is survived by her loving husband of 55 years, Leslie "Les" Davis of Crystal River, Florida, one brother Alfred "Tommy" Thomas (Beth), cousin, Bill Hafner, seven nieces and nephews, nineteen great nieces and nephews and twenty great-great nieces and nephews.

Due to COVID-19, a memorial service will be held at a later date with interment at Pine Crest Cemetery in Mobile.

Sign the guest book at www.chronicleonline.com.

Joan Reinhart, 83

Joan E. (Trainor) Reinhart, 83, passed away on Saturday, February 20, 2021 in Jacksonville, Florida. Born in Astoria, Queens, NY, to James and Edna (Ruppert) Trainor she was a graduate of Hempstead High School and Empire College of NY.

She was an active member of Our Lady of Grace church in Beverly Hills and volunteered with the Citrus County Sheriff's Seniors Against Crime Program, and many other Church, Civic, Educational and Social groups in and around Citrus County. She was a lifelong union supporter, served on the Executive Board of the CSEA Retirees Local and was a member of the Citrus County Democratic Party.

She worked as a Medical Transcriptionist, Small Business Owner and Executive Assistant to the Chair of the Pathology Department of Nassau County (NY) Medical Center before retiring to Beverly Hills with her husband, Lawrence. Along with all of her volunteer activities, she continued to work part time at Citrus Memorial Hospital over the next 24 years.

She was an avid traveler, visiting 6 of the 7 Continents. After Lawrence pre-deceased her, she continued her love of travel taking all of her six grandchildren on trips to various points around the globe and her whole family on a Caribbean Cruise.

She is survived by her sister Jane Trainor (Beverly Hills), her two children Lori Richards and her husband Steven (Jacksonville) and John Reinhart and his wife Barbara (Nazareth, PA) and her six grandchildren William Richards (and wife Kat, Jacksonville) Kate Savage (and husband Shawn, Jacksonville), Alyssa Reinhart (Philadelphia, PA), Emily Richards (and fiancée Hani Sheeger, Chicago, IL), Bethany Reinhart (Pittsburgh, PA) and Joshua Reinhart (Nazareth, PA).

Services will be held at

Our Lady of Grace Church on March 4th at 11 am. In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations to the Citrus County League of Women Voters.

Sign the guest book at www.chronicleonline.com.

Colleen Bertrand, 90

HERNANDO

The Service of Remembrance for Mrs. Colleen W. Bertrand, age 90, of Hernando, Florida, will be held 11:00 am, Thursday, March 4, 2021 at the Beverly Hills Chapel of Hooper Funeral Homes with Chaplain Gordon Condit officiating.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.HooperFuneralHome.com.

Colleen was born January 29, 1931 in Addison, AL, daughter of Johnny Frederick and Ola Mae (Legg) Wright. She died February 16, 2021 in Hernando, FL. During her working years, Colleen worked as a Buyer for the Jewelry Department of Maas Brothers Store, Co-owned (along with her husband Glen) two retail stores, one in Palm Beach, FL and the other in Orlando, FL and was the Vice President of Dallas Meadows a real estate development company.

Colleen moved to Citrus County from Bel Air, Florida 24 years ago first living in Beverly Hills and ultimately ending up in Terra Vista. Colleen enjoyed playing golf, painting (especially oil painting) and gardening. She also enjoyed traveling the country and world with her husband.

Colleen's family describes her as a very kind and caring individual who was very supportive of her family. She was devoted to and cared for her husband and called her sister, Joann everyday for the last 13 years.

Mrs. Bertrand was preceded in death by her parents, 2 brothers: Bobby Frank Wright and James Arthur Melson.

Colleen is survived by her husband of 51 years Glen J Bertrand of Hernando, FL, 2 son: Stephen Ray (Gregg Ortiz) Bertrand of Orlando, FL and Mark Allen Bertrand of Lawrence, KS, 2 daughters: Judith Ann (David) Van Camp of Palm Bay, FL and Glenda (John) Mason of Summerfield, FL, sister, Joann (Red) Kelly of Homosassa, FL, 6 grandchildren, 4 great-grandchildren.

Arrangements are under the direction of the Hooper Funeral Homes & Crematory.



John Thompson

HERNANDO

The Rev. Dr. John Francis Thompson passed away on Saturday, February 20, 2021 at Seven Rivers Hospital in Crystal River, Florida.

He was born November 24, 1933 in Chaptico, Maryland, the fifth of nine children born to Alton and Margaret (Shifflett) Thompson. He graduated from La Plata High School in La Plata, Maryland in 1953.

He was preceded in

Immediately after graduation, John joined the US Army and served in the Army Security Agency in Germany as a crypto security specialist. There, the poor son of a tenant farmer got to see Europe.

After completing his service, John used the GI Bill and attended the University of Maryland and earned a degree in Agricultural Education. He pursued a Master's Degree from the University of Maryland while teaching Agriculture at Margaret Brent High School in Helen, Maryland. He decided to pursue a PhD. from Michigan State University, which he earned in 1966.

While at Michigan State University, he met the love of his life, Janet Morton. They married on August 19, 1967. They moved to McFarland, Wisconsin where John was now a professor of Agriculture Education at the University of Wisconsin.

John taught at the University of Wisconsin in the Department of Continuing and Vocational Education for 25 years. There, he taught teachers to be better teachers. He served as the advisor of several student organizations and served as the Chairman of the Department for several years. While in Madison, John also was a member of the St. Andrew's Society and is a past President of the Lincoln Fellowship of Wisconsin.

While living in McFarland, John served on the Village Board and was an advocate of allowing a bowling alley being built in the Village as there was a lot of opposition. He also was a weekly columnist for the McFarland Community Life Newspaper for several years.

John was an active member of the McFarland Lions Club for many years, including serving as the President. In 1974, the family moved to the Town of Dunn to a farm on which he grew corn and soybeans, rented garden plots, and had a pick-your-own strawberry business.

John was a very active member of Grace Episcopal Church in Madison, Wisconsin. He felt the call of the Lord and when he told Janet he was interested in becoming an ordained Deacon, she said "It's about time!"

John and Janet attended classes at the Institute for Christian Studies at Nashotah House Seminary in Nashotah, Wisconsin. John was ordained to the Sacred Order of Deacons on August 25, 1984. John served as a Deacon at Grace Episcopal Church and later at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Madison, Wisconsin for several years. John and Janet were active in the Cursillo movement.

John and Janet moved to Hernando, Florida in 1997. John served as a Deacon at St. Margaret's Episcopal Church. John was also actively involved in the Kairos prison ministry. He really enjoyed bringing the word of God to the prisoners. John was also very involved in the Citrus Hills Bowling League and the Citrus Hills Breakfast Club.

John is survived by his wife of 53 years, Janet, and his children, Brenda Thompson Le Shane of Hernando, Florida, and Kevin (Heather) Thompson of Rolling Meadows, Illinois. His six grandchildren are Willow, Aimee Rei, and David Le Shane, and Andrew, Joshua, and Isaac Thompson. He is also survived by his sister, Katherine (Thompson) Dennison of Lebanon, Missouri.

He was preceded in

death by his parents and seven of his eight siblings.

Funeral arrangements are pending and will be announced at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Memorial Fund at St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, Inverness, Florida.

Sign the guest book at www.chronicleonline.com.



Robert Perry, 95

HOMOSSASSA

Robert E. Perry, 95, of Homosassa, Florida, passed away on Saturday, February 20, 2021. A native of Maryland, he moved to Florida, with his daughters, Donna and Cindy, in July 2004. He is survived by Cindy.

He was a WWII veteran and spent his 4-year Navy Seabees service in the Pacific. After the war, he returned to Maryland where he met and married Eunice, his wife of 46 years. She passed away in 1992.

He worked at the Washington Gas Light Company for many years after his military service. In 1968 he was employed by the Government Printing Office until he retired in December 1988.

He was a Mason and went through the Scottish Rite and York Rite to become a Shriner at Kena Temple in Virginia. He and Eunice devoted many years to Kena Temple before her passing.

He loved fishing and woodworking and spent his years after retirement enjoying both pastimes. He also loved feasting on steamed Maryland blue crabs. His daughters, friends and neighbors were the lucky recipients of the many wishing wells, cabinets, quilt stands and decorative hanging shelves he made from original designs.

Growing up during the Great Depression and serving his country during WWII instilled him with a strong work ethic. He often worked two jobs to ensure his wife and daughters were secure.

He had a gentle soul and loved his family immensely. His passing has left a big void in his daughter's and friend's lives.

Burial of his remains will be at a later date in Maryland. Contributions may be made to: Kena Shriners, Transportation Fund, 9500 Technology Drive, Manassas, Virginia. 20110.

Sign the guest book at www.chronicleonline.com.

Gary Graham, 73

DUNNELLON

GRAHAM, Gary Gordon, 73, died January 28, 2021 in Dunnellon, FL, due to an accidental fall from a ladder in his garage. He was born in Frankfort, KY, to Virginia Gordon Graham Kennedy and Edmond C. Graham. As a son, our



Gary Graham

mother could not have dreamed of a more loyal and loving child. He was giving, not only of his love and devotion but also of his time.

For years, after working all day either as a lawyer or county judge, he manually worked at building her a home on the first floor of his office/home. Whether it was drywalling, carpentry, plumbing, or wiring, it was all a labor of love built from his belief that

children could never honor their parents enough. He paid for her utilities, took her to dinner weekly, checked on her first thing in the morning and the last thing at night. He loved her.

As a brother, his younger siblings will forever be indebted to him. When we needed protection from a bully, it was he who stood up against even the biggest of them. Saturday was our favorite day. He would make homemade pizza and Kool-Aid for all his friends that hung out at our beach house. Often, he invited us, his younger siblings, to eat with him and his friends. He taught us to skimboard, skateboard, and dance, and countless other things too numerous to list. He answered our endless array of why and how questions. "Why does the sunset?" "How does a television work?" "How does an airplane fly?" He loved us.

As an uncle, our son, Jason, worshiped the ground on which he walked. Some might think it is because he took two weeks out of his busy life to work together with him to build a computer from the ground up so our son would understand a computer's inner working. But it was so much more. It was the frequent trips he made to Clearwater to take him to Biff-Burger and a movie, after which he turned around and drove back to Inverness the same night for work the next day. Jason learned early on, as we all had, that just doing anything with his uncle was an adventure. The adventure was born out of his uncle's love of life. He had an innate ability to turn time into happy memories and had a wonderful sense of humor. He loved his nephew.

He was such a loving soul that he had to help whenever he saw an animal in need. Whether it was a dog running in and out of traffic on U.S. 19 (which he named Highway Houdini), a baby squirrel that fell out of its nest, or the many kittens and cats in need, he worked tirelessly to find them placement. He loved all living creatures, big and small.

As a person, he always strived for knowledge. Our mother told of how he read our set of encyclopedias and worked at trying to learn every word in the dictionary by the time he was in the fourth grade.

When she would take him to various doctor appointments, they marveled at his curiosity and would take her aside to ask if she was aware of how intelligent he was. He taught himself algebra and read Dante's Inferno at a young age, which he explained to me many years later when I was in college.

He took 21 credits one semester in college. He earned four college degrees: Electrical Engineer, Master Business Administration, Law, and a Masters in Tax Law. As an adult, one doctor even stated that what was remarkable about my brother was how remarkably intelligent he was.

While all of this is noteworthy, what I found to be more impressive was how modest he was about his intelligence. He interacted with all social and economic classes and viewed them as equals. He could give the most eloquent Veteran's Day speech or carry on a conversation about farming with a farmer. He loved people.

Even with the weight of being falsely accused of a horrific crime, of which he was innocent and never brought to trial, he woke up with a smile on his face every day. When I questioned how God could have

allowed such a dreadful thing to happen to him, he would remind me that God gave man free will and that it was man, not God, responsible for the false accusations. He loved God.

Of all the thousands of questions he answered for me, I wish I had asked him one last one: Which level of hell would Dante have assigned those who falsely accused you? I think I know. Do you?

Sign the guest book at www.chronicleonline.com.



Thomas Pomahac Sr., 86

INVERNESS

Thomas J. Pomahac Sr. of Inverness, Florida died at Vitas Hospice in Lecanto, Florida on Saturday, February 20th, 2021 at the age of 86.

Tom was born to Joseph and Eleanor Pomahac on January 11th, 1935 in Chicago, Illinois. He grew up in Cicero, Illinois and graduated from J Sterling Morton East HS before enlisting in the US Navy. Thomas was preceded in death by his wife, Patricia, and his first born daughter Christine.

Tom married Patricia Fierst on April 23, 1960. They



Thomas Pomahac

raised their family in Lombard, Illinois. Tom and Pat retired to Florida in 1997. They were married for 58 years. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus and was an active member of St. Scholastica where he was a eucharistic minister.

Tom is survived by his son Thomas J. (Carrie) Pomahac Jr., Geri (John) Cedarburg, son-in-law David Buzenius, grandfather of Heather (Ian) Stites, Jamie Pomahac, Sarah Buzenius, Joseph Pomahac, Anna Cedarburg, Kenny Buzenius, Axel Cedarburg, and Matt Cedarburg. Great grandfather to Nora Ingram, Evie Lynn and Noelle Stites.

Tom loved dancing, square-dancing for years with his wife. He loved to play the piano and play cards. He also loved his rose garden taking pride in being a self-proclaimed rosarian. He loved his family and will be missed by all who knew him.

A memorial will be held in honor of Tom on Friday, March 5th, 2021 at 11:00 am at the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, Florida. In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate memorial donations to Brookdale Citrus Memory Care Facility, attn: Linda Allen, at 2341 W. Norvell Bryant HWY, Lecanto, FL, 34461. Arrangements are under the direction of the Chas. E. Davis Funeral Home with Crematory, Inverness, Florida.

Sign the guest book at www.chronicleonline.com.

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SHERIFF

Continued from Page A1

cities of Crystal River and Inverness.

The committee will recommend the best candidates to Prendergast who will make his selection and bring it to county commissioners for final approval.

Commissioners this week also agreed to leave the emergency management department in the hands of the sheriff's office after



Mike Prendergast
Citrus County sheriff.

Prendergast told the board he would be able to run operations more cost effectively than the county.

Prendergast told commissioners at their Tuesday meeting he could operate the department at about \$300,000 annually. About \$182,000 will be offset by grants.

The county was probably looking at spending up to \$450,000, according to Oliver.

County Commissioner Jeff Kinnard said Prendergast is a logical choice to run the department because he has the personnel at-hand should emergencies occur.

"I'm glad to see this moving in the direction that it is," Kinnard said.

In July 2020, commissioners unanimously approved Evan as the new interim director of emergency operations, replacing the retiring sheriff's Capt. David DeCarlo.

That same month, commissioners voted to send a letter to Prendergast, putting him on notice they intended to terminate the emergency management contract when it expires on Oct. 1, 2021.

But any problems appear to have been ironed

out. County Commission Chairman Scott Carnahan cited a productive meeting with the sheriff about two weeks ago when they discussed a Chris Evan successor plan and the operations of the department going forward.

Carnahan said the cost-savings of keeping the department under the sheriff's purview makes economic sense for the county.

"The last thing we want to do is raise taxes," he said.

The director's duties include emergency management planning, response and recovery for all county disasters, public safety communications, the 911 center, agency digital radio systems, Community Emergency Response Team, and Amateur Radio Emergency Service.

Prendergast said his department has a good working relationship with the county when it comes to the emergency management department.

"I think the model we have is one of success," said Prendergast, citing the numerous storms that have been dealt with during his four-year tenure.

Prendergast said he wants a person whose sole title is that of director and is not wearing another hat in law enforcement, as past directors have.

The person will be an employee of the sheriff's office.

The sheriff said there is enough time to adequately vet candidates and choose a top-notch director. Hurricane season, he reminded the board, is 90 days away.

Until the new person comes on board, Prendergast said he would consider hiring someone on his staff as interim director.

Added Carnahan: "I want to see someone brought in that has emergency management credentials."

Golf tourney helps local cancer patients

The Black Diamond Ladies Golf Association 2021 annual golf tournament/fundraiser to aid cancer patients in Citrus County will be Tuesday, March 9.

Participants may make their own foursome, with women's, men's and mixed divisions. The event, including cart, prizes and lunch outside, is \$155 per person.

All monies go to Citrus County Charities to help those dealing with cancer.

Email nan.rinker@gmail.com. This is a Chronicle-sponsored event.

37th car, truck show slated March 7

The Citrus County Cruisers will stage its 37th Manatee Car & Truck Show from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday, March 7, at Crystal Chevrolet, 1035 S. Suncoast Blvd.

Rain or shine, the event will feature cars and trucks from 1996 and older. There will be vendors and doors prizes, plus drawings and 1950s music. Free to

visitors. Those who want to register and show a vehicle pay \$25. The judged show will feature over 64 awards, including a People's Choice. Each registered vehicle gets a free 4-by-6-inch photo. No "for sale" signs.

The first 200 registered vehicles get a dash plaque.

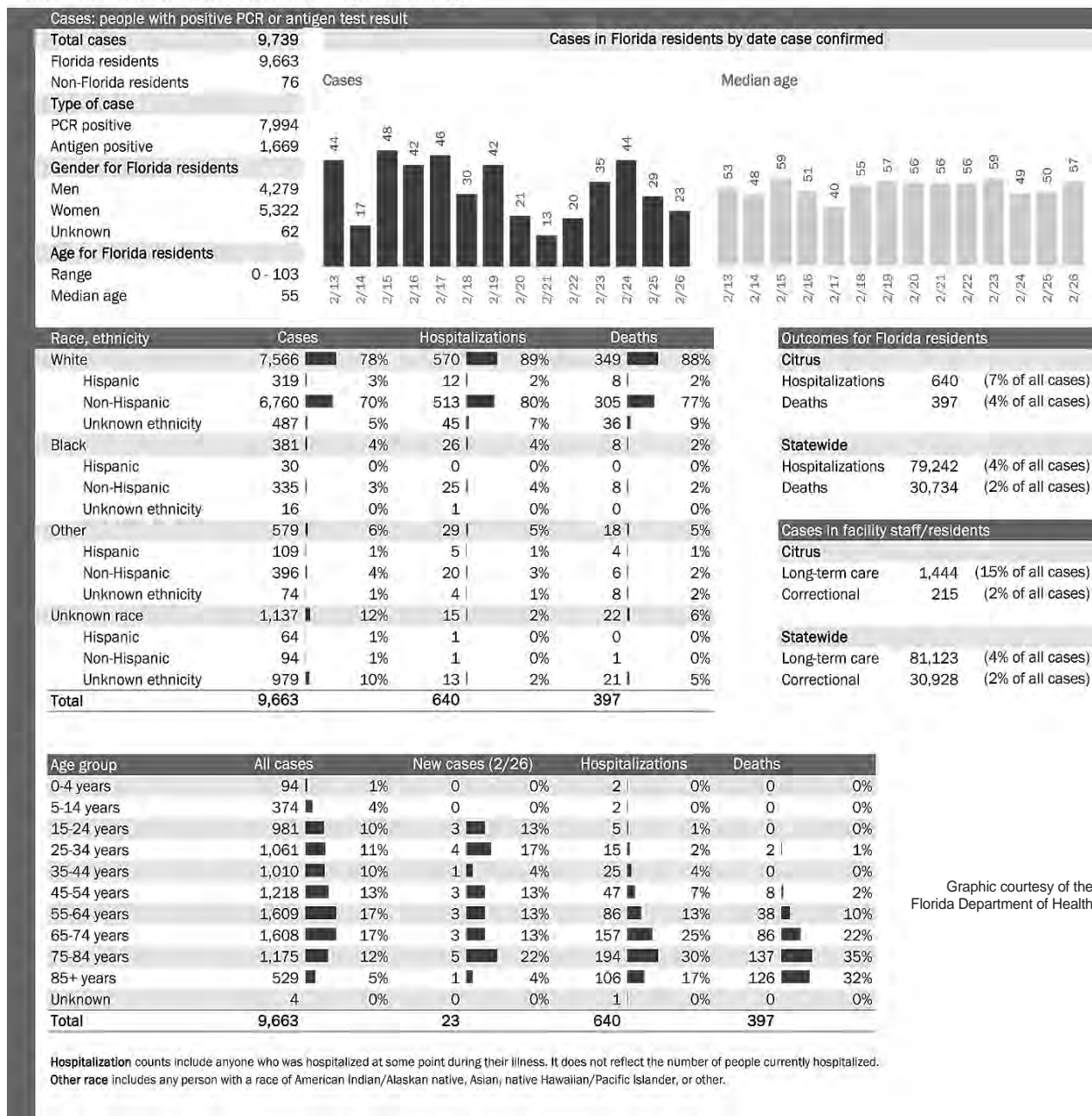
For information, call Cindy at 352-212-0246 or Sandie at 352-382-5501. For a registration form, visit www.citruscruisers.com.

— From staff reports

COVID-19: summary for Citrus County

Data through Feb 26, 2021 verified as of Feb 27, 2021 at 09:25 AM

Data in this report are provisional and subject to change.



Graphic courtesy of the Florida Department of Health

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Obituaries



Alfred Allard, 77
INVERNESS

Alfred James Allard, 77, of Inverness, FL passed away on February 23, 2021 at Citrus Memorial Hospital in Inverness, FL. He was born to the late Elmer and Lucy (Chase) Allard in Wareham, Massachusetts on June 2, 1943.

He was a Nutritional Specialist at Citrus Memorial Hospital for some time and also bravely served our country as a member of the United States Army. He served in Vietnam and was very proud of his military service and his dedication to his country. He married his beloved wife, Pamela, in 1969 and together, they made Citrus County their home in 2000 from Wakefield, Massachusetts.

Alfred enjoyed attending Seventh Day Adventist Church in Inverness, FL and was a very devoted Adventist. He was a Train Enthusiast and enjoyed riding on trains, watching them, and building model trains and tracks.

He will be remembered for being a very funny person and having a great sense of humor. He was a very generous and loving father and will be deeply missed by all who got the privilege of meeting and knowing him throughout his life.

Along with his parents, Alfred was preceded in death by his two sisters, Ruth and Dorothy. Those left to cherish his memory are his beloved wife, Pamela, his son, Scott Michael Allard (Jessica Bishop) of Melbourne,

FL, his daughter, Colleen Marie MacVeigh (Michael Hanney) of Norwood, Massachusetts, and his five adored grandchildren.

A Celebration of Life for Alfred will be on Thursday, March 4, at 4:00PM, at the Chas. E. Davis Funeral Home, Inverness, FL. A gathering of family and friends will begin at 3:00PM, until the hour of service.

Alfred will be laid to rest at Florida National Cemetery, in honor of his dedicated military service, at a later date.

Cremation with Care is under the direction of the Chas. E. Davis Funeral Home of Inverness, FL. Sign the guest book at www.chronicleonline.com.



Alfred Allard



George French Jr., 86
CRYSTAL RIVER

Retired Lt. Colonel George D. French Jr. 86, passed away February 18, 2021 at his home in Crystal River, Florida after a valiant fight with lung cancer.

He is survived by his wife Arden of 57 years, their daughter Cindy French and Ehsan Siddiqui, and their son George and Kristen French and his grandchildren George and Tessa.

He was preceded in death by his parents George Dewey French, Sr. and Dorothy Clement French of Lakeland, Florida.

Dewey, as he was known to family and friends, was born in Lakeland, Florida. He attended his early education through high school there, graduating in 1952.

He attended the University of Florida and graduated from Florida Southern college. He was a life long Gator fan. In college, he joined ROTC and followed with a 22 year career in the US Army Transportation Corps. He served our country with 2 tours in Vietnam as a helicopter pilot. Upon returning to the states, he was assigned to be a flight instructor, mentoring up-and-coming US Army pilots at Ft. Rucker.

Rising through the ranks from 2nd Lt. to Lt. Col., he completed various assignments both in the US and abroad. Retiring in 1983, he began his second career in real estate as a property manager. When Miami was hit by hurricane Andrew, George was employed by the Crossings to assist in rebuilding the community.

He then moved on to manage Pine Ridge in Beverly Hills, Florida for the next five years. Retiring a second time, he enjoyed his family, his yard, traveling and life in general. He will be greatly missed by all of us.

Visitation will be held, Tuesday, March 2nd from Noon until 1:00 PM at Fero Funeral Home, 5955 N. Lecanto Highway, Beverly Hills, FL. Burial, with military honors, will follow at Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell, FL.

Donations may be made to Wounded Warrior Project (woundedwarriorproject.org). www.fero.funeralhome.com. Sign the guest book at www.chronicleonline.com.



George French Jr.

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He was a life long Gator fan. In college, he joined ROTC and followed with a 22 year career in the US Army Transportation Corps. He served our country with 2 tours in Vietnam as a helicopter pilot. Upon returning to the states, he was assigned to be a flight instructor, mentoring up-and-coming US Army pilots at Ft. Rucker.

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Donations may be made to Wounded Warrior Project (woundedwarriorproject.org). www.fero.funeralhome.com. Sign the guest book at www.chronicleonline.com.

Surviving are his parents Samantha and Dustin McGregor, his brother Colt "K-Lee" McGregor, maternal grandparents Connie and Tony Crandle, paternal grandparents Tracey and Papa Dan Chaplan, aunt Miranda and uncle Shawn Haughn as well as many cousins and extended family and friends.

A funeral service for Gaige will be held at 3 PM on Tuesday March 2nd at Gulf to Lake Baptist Church in Crystal River, FL. The family will receive friends from 1:30 PM until service time at the church.

Arrangements are under the direction of Strickland Funeral Home and Crematory, Crystal River, FL. Sign the guest book at www.chronicleonline.com.

Gaige McGregor, 13
HOMOSASSA

Gaige McGregor, 13 of Homosassa, FL passed away February 23, 2021. He was born November 5, 2007 in Crystal River, FL and was a life-long resident.

Gaige was a student at Crystal River Middle School and excelled at school sports there. He will be missed by his school and team mates. His family will miss him much more but they will cherish his memory forever.



Gaige McGregor

Surviving are his parents Samantha and Dustin McGregor, his brother Colt "K-Lee" McGregor, maternal grandparents Connie and Tony Crandle, paternal grandparents Tracey and Papa Dan Chaplan, aunt Miranda and uncle Shawn Haughn as well as many cousins and extended family and friends.

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Arrangements are under the direction of Strickland Funeral Home and Crematory, Crystal River, FL. Sign the guest book at www.chronicleonline.com.

Jerry Luttrell, 66

Jerry Dale Luttrell, 66, unexpectedly passed away on February 23, 2021 in Inverness, FL.

He was born February 18, 1955 in Berrien Springs, MI, raised by loving parents and surrounded by siblings.

He was preceded in death by both parents, Bennie and Bea, his brothers: David, Joseph, Gary and only sister Kathy Tinkham.

He is survived by his daughter Melissa Luttrell,

granddaughter Emily Benson (MI), and brother James (Dot) Luttrell.

He loved spending time with his family and friends. An affectionate joker, he loved a good laugh and treasured the many friends he had here.

He will forever be missed deeply by many.

A memorial service will be held on Mon. March 1st at Crossroads Baptist Church, 5335 E. Jasmine Ln. Inverness FL 34452 at 1pm.

Sign the guest book at www.chronicleonline.com.

SO YOU KNOW

- For information about placing obituaries, email obits@chronicleonline.com or call 352-563-5660.
- Obituary deadlines for Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday editions is 3 p.m. the day before. Deadlines for Saturday, Sunday and Monday editions is 3 p.m. Friday.
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CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE



MATTHEW BECK/Chronicle

Dozens of pickers work to pluck strawberries from their vines Thursday morning at Ferris Farms in Floral City.

SWEET

Continued from Page A9

"We'll have events moving forward. We want everyone to be safe," she said.

Volunteers and staff will be temperature checked upon arriving, White said and will wear masks and gloves, especially if handling food. The Chamber will also have extra sanitation stations available for eventgoers.

"One thing, when we're talking about safety precautions, it is an open-air environment," White said. "Have a mask with you if you cannot social distance."

Those taking a shuttle will need a mask because of federal mandates requiring passengers on public transportation to wear one, White explained.

The feedback from moving forward with the festival, though, is a sign that folks are eager for a sense of normalcy, White said.

"We have to get back to something," she said, "and if we can do that safely ... people want to get out. The depression rates for people stuck in homes is high."

"The responses we're seeing from the public is they want to do this, and they feel comfortable with regulations we're putting into place."

The festival is also needed for the local economy, White said, noting this year's crop of strawberries "are really good."

"It's just important to reiterate to everyone, we're moving forward in a safe way," White stressed. "We're not doing this in a haphazard way. We want to ensure as much safety as possible. Our residents

need it, our businesses need it, especially the businesses that operate food trucks. They've not had a festival since this last year. It's a shot in the arms to the local vendors that depend on it."

Admission is \$5 for adults; children 12 and younger are free. The event runs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, March 6, and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, March 7.

For more information, see today's special section or visit Strawberryfest.com.



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EVAN

Continued from Page A1

operations overseeing 911 communications and crime prevention. Six months ago, he became the EOC director. He is enrolled in Florida's deferred retirement option program (DROP) and must retire. He is 50.

Evan said he was drawn to EOC work and enjoyed the logistics and its organization while still a deputy, he said.

"Even before I was assigned to emergency management, I would work with them on temporary duty. So I would work with them during special events," he said.

In 2013, Evan took over the EOC's 911 communications center as part of his job as deputy director.

"I loved it," he said of the job. "I always had an appreciation for the people that work in there."

They are often unsung heroes who are a deputy's lifeline as they work on



Chronicle file

Chris Evan addresses the county commission on Tuesday, July 28, 2020, just prior to the board unanimously approving his appointment as interim director of emergency management.

the road, he said.

"I truly think they are the first responders," said Evan, who is also a licensed HAM radio operator. "I always loved communications."

Emergency 911 communications has greatly

changed over the years. Much of it is now computerized, he said, telling 911 operators what questions need to be asked of callers in any situation, the location of emergency units such as fire rescue and ambulances that can

respond.

When it comes to EOCs, most people see only glimpses on television when emergency workers huddle during an impending storm, Evan said.

But EOC officials continually plan evacuations, sheltering strategies, coordinate with other county emergency officials, as well as officials from other counties.

During the past year, the county's EOC engaged in 300 missions with state and other county emergency works, most performed behind the scenes with the public unaware, he said.

Evan said he's had successes and failures in the EOC, but is confident the department's next leadership will take up where he left off.

He wanted more for the 911 call center but felt he took it as far as he could given dispatch's aging computer system.

Evans wanted to write a continuity of operations plan, but never had the time.

But he did create a fuel

strategy plan to ensure fuel would be available to those who need it during emergencies and also a plan to reunite family members after disasters, manmade or naturally occurring.

Over his decades of service, Evan said the greatest changes he's seen are rooted in technology.

For example, information about patients that was once transmitted to other units is now transmitted directly to hospitals for health care professionals to evaluate, he said.

In 20 years, Evan predicts that artificial intelligence will be answering your 911 calls while humans will be performing other tasks.

Emergency management will have far better prediction abilities when it comes to hazardous weather and storms in the near future, he said.

But as we become more technologically advanced, we will become more vulnerable to attack, he said.

"I am concerned about terrorist activity and attacks on infrastructure," he said.

He also worries about biological attacks and cites the current pandemic, regardless of its origins, as the kind of damage a biological attack could impose on society.

Capt. Troy Hess will be interim EOC director until the position is filled permanently.

Col. Elena Vitt, with the sheriff's office, has known Evan for decades.

"He's extremely dedicated and passionate," she said. "You don't hear him complain."

"He is so quick with things and he can handle a lot of workload," Vitt added. "He is dedicated to our mission (of excellence in public safety). He does not put his needs first. He puts others needs first."

"Talk about dedicated, he's dedicated. He will do what it takes to get the job done."

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World BRIEFS



Associated Press

A police van is set on fire as protesters throw molotov cocktails at police during clashes following a protest condemning the arrest of rap singer Pablo Hasé in Barcelona, Spain, Saturday, Feb. 27. After a few days of calm, protests have again turned violent in Barcelona as supporters for the jailed Spanish rapper went back to the streets.

Ukraine sees 2nd fatal oxygen blast this month

KYIV, Ukraine — An explosion in a Ukrainian hospital ward where COVID-19 patients are being treated has killed one person and injured another, authorities said Saturday.

The national emergencies service said in a statement that the explosion occurred in an oxygen pipe. It said 20 people were evacuated after the blast at the hospital in Chernivtsi, a city about 250 miles southwest of Kyiv.

Saturday's explosion was the second fatal oxygen explosion at a hospital in Ukraine this month. Three COVID-19 patients and a young doctor died when an explosion caused a fire at a hospital in Zaporizhzhia during the first week of February.

People abducted from Nigerian school freed

LAGOS, Nigeria — Students, teachers and relatives abducted two weeks ago from a school in northern Nigeria have been freed.

The students, teachers and family members were abducted Feb. 17 by gunmen from the Government Science College Kagara.

Niger State Gov. Abubakar Sani Bello said he received 24 students, six staff and eight relatives on Saturday after they were released early in the morning.

This number released differed from the 42 people that the governor had originally said were kidnapped by the attackers, indicating some may still be missing. The discrepancy was not explained.

One of the students has been hospitalized for excessive exhaustion, he said, adding that the released will be medically checked and monitored for a few days before being reunited with family.

Sani Bello said that joint efforts of security, traditional leaders and stakeholders helped secure the release.

Their release was announced a day after police said gunmen had abducted 317 girls from a boarding school elsewhere in northern Nigeria, in Zamfara state. One resident said the gunmen also attacked a nearby military camp and checkpoint, preventing soldiers from interfering with the mass abduction.

Several large groups of armed men operate in Zamfara state, described by the government as bandits, and are known to kidnap for money and to push for the release of their members from jail.

Masauda Umar, 20, managed to escape from the school when the men arrived Friday.

She told The Associated Press the bandits came to their sleeping quarters and after knocking on the main door, they hit the people who answered it and made ev-

eryone gather. "I was coming out from the door and I met somebody but ran back and hid under my bed," she said. "I'm scared of going back to school because of what happened really got me scared but I will go back if the government tackles insecurity."

Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari said Friday the government's primary objective is to get all the school hostages returned safe, alive and unharmed.

Myanmar police deploy early to crank up pressure

YANGON, Myanmar — Police in Myanmar escalated their crackdown on demonstrators against this month's military takeover, deploying early and in force on Saturday as protesters sought to assemble in the country's two biggest cities and elsewhere.

Security forces in some areas appeared to become more aggressive in using force and making arrests, utilizing more plainclothes officers than had previously revealed themselves. Photos posted on social media showed that residents of at least two cities, Yangon and Monywa, resisted by erecting makeshift street barricades to try to hinder the advance of the police.

Myanmar's crisis took a dramatic turn on the international stage at a special session of the United Nations General Assembly on Friday when the country's U.N. ambassador declared his loyalty to the ousted civilian government of Aung San Suu Kyi and called on the world to pressure the military to cede power.

There were arrests Saturday in Myanmar's two biggest cities, Yangon and Mandalay, where demonstrators have been hitting the streets daily to peacefully demand the restoration of the government of Suu Kyi, whose National League for Democracy party won a landslide election victory in November. Police have increasingly been enforcing an order by the junta banning gatherings of five or more people.

Many other cities and towns have also hosted large protests against the Feb. 1 coup.

Police in Dawei, in the southeast, and Monywa, 135 kilometers (85 miles) northwest of Mandalay, used force against protesters. Both cities, with populations of less than 200,000 each, have been seeing large demonstrations.

Social media carried unconfirmed reports of a protester shot dead in Monywa. The reports could not immediately be independently confirmed but appeared credible, with both photos and identification of the victim, though later accounts said the woman had not died. The reports from Monywa also said dozens were arrested.

— From wire reports

Another shot at it

US gets its 3rd COVID-19 vaccine from J&J

LAURAN NEERGAARD AND MATTHEW PERRON
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. is getting a third vaccine to prevent COVID-19, as the Food and Drug Administration on Saturday cleared a Johnson & Johnson shot that works with just one dose instead of two.

Health experts are anxiously awaiting a one-and-done option to help speed vaccinations, as they race against a virus that already has killed more than 510,000 people in the U.S. and is mutating in increasingly worrisome ways.

The FDA said J&J's vaccine offers strong protection against what matters most: serious illness, hospitalizations and death. One dose was 85% protective against the most severe COVID-19 illness, in a massive study that spanned three

continents — protection that remained strong even in countries such as South Africa, where the variants of most concern are spreading.

"The more vaccines that have high efficacy that we can get into play, the better," Dr. Anthony Fauci, the top U.S. infectious disease expert, said ahead of the FDA's ruling.

Shipments of a few million doses to be divided among states could begin as early as Monday. By the end of March, J&J has said it expects to deliver 20 million doses to the U.S., and 100 million by summer.

J&J also is seeking authorization for emergency use of its vaccine in Europe and from the World Health Organization. Worldwide, the company aims to produce about 1 billion doses globally by the end of the year. On Thursday, the island nation of Bahrain became the first to clear its use.

Nation BRIEFS



Associated Press

Workers install concertina wire between fenced barriers outside the Hennepin County Government Center, Wednesday, Feb. 23, in Minneapolis, as part of security in preparation for the trial of former Minneapolis police officer Derek Chauvin.

Growing tension in Minneapolis as trial looms in Floyd death

MINNEAPOLIS — Barbed wire and concrete barriers surround the courthouse where the former Minneapolis police officer charged with killing George Floyd will soon go on trial, a sign of the deep uneasiness hanging over a city literally set ablaze almost a year ago in the anger over his death.

Mayor Jacob Frey and Gov. Tim Walz, both Democrats, were sharply criticized for failing to move faster to stop last summer's looting and destruction, which included the torching of a police station. Anything less than a murder conviction for Derek Chauvin is likely to test them — and the city — once again.

Jury selection begins March 8 with opening statements March 29. Floyd, who was Black, died May 25 after Chauvin, who was white, pressed his knee on Floyd's neck while he was handcuffed and pleading that he couldn't breathe. Chauvin faces second-degree murder and manslaughter charges; three other fired officers go on trial in August.

As the city moves to make the courthouse virtually impenetrable, some people worry about what might happen elsewhere if Chauvin is acquitted.

Virginia lawmakers down to the wire on key marijuana bill

RICHMOND, Va. — Virginia lawmakers were expected to vote Saturday on a bill that would legalize marijuana for adult recreational use in 2024, but negotiations were running down to the wire.

The bill is a top priority for Democrats, who framed legalization as a necessary step to end the disparate treatment of people of color under current marijuana laws.

Talks between Democrats in the House and Senate have been tense in recent days as the two chambers tried to work out significant differences between their versions of the legislation.

Sen. Joe Morrissey, D-Richmond, said Saturday that a compromise has been agreed to in principle by both chambers. Under the agreement, possession of up to an ounce of marijuana will become legal in 2024, at the same time retail sales would begin and regulations would go into effect to control the market-place in Virginia.

If signed into law, Virginia would become the first Southern state and the 16th state in the nation to legalize small amounts of marijuana.

— From wire reports

Vote on relief



Associated Press

Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., meets with reporters before the House votes to pass a \$1.9 trillion pandemic relief package, during a news conference at the Capitol in Washington, Friday, Feb. 26.

Biden hails House passage of \$1.9T virus bill

ALAN FRAM
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The House approved a \$1.9 trillion pandemic relief bill that was championed by President Joe Biden, the first step in providing another dose of aid to a weary nation as the measure now moves to a tense Senate.

"We have no time to waste," Biden said at the White House after the House passage early Saturday. "We act now — decisively, quickly and boldly — we can finally get ahead of this virus. We can finally get our economy moving again. People in this country have suffered far too much for too long."

The new president's vision for infusing cash across a struggling economy to individuals, businesses, schools, states and cities battered by COVID-19 passed on a near party-line 219-212 vote. That ships the bill to the Senate, where Democrats seem bent on resuscitating their minimum wage push and fights could erupt over state aid and other issues.

Democrats said that mass unemployment and the half-million American lives lost are causes to act despite nearly \$4 trillion in aid already spent fighting the fallout from the disease. GOP lawmakers, they said, were out of step with a public that polling finds largely views the bill favorably.

"I am a happy camper tonight," Rep. Maxine Waters, D-Calif., said Friday. "This is what America needs. Republicans, you ought to be a part of this. But if you're not, we're going without you."

Republicans said the bill was too expensive and said too few education dollars would be spent quickly to immediately reopen schools. They said it was laden with gifts to Democratic constituencies like labor unions and funneled money to Democratic-run states they suggested didn't need it because their budgets had bounced back.

"To my colleagues who say this bill is bold, I say it's bloated," said House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif. "To those who say it's urgent, I say it's unfocused. To those who say it's popular, I say it is entirely partisan."

The overall relief bill would provide \$1,400 payments to individuals, extend emergency unemployment benefits through August and increase tax credits for children and federal subsidies for health insurance.

It also provides billions for schools and colleges, state and local governments, COVID-19 vaccines and testing,

renters, food producers and struggling industries like airlines, restaurants, bars and concert venues.

Moderate Democratic Reps. Jared Golden of Maine and Kurt Schrader of Oregon were the only two lawmakers to cross party lines. That sharp partisan divide is making the fight a showdown over whom voters will reward for heaping more federal spending to combat the coronavirus and revive the economy atop the \$4 trillion approved last year.

The battle is also emerging as an early test of Biden's ability to hold together his party's fragile congressional majorities — just 10 votes in the House and an evenly divided 50-50 Senate.

At the same time, Democrats were trying to figure out how to assuage liberals who lost their top priority in a jarring Senate setback Thursday.

That chamber's nonpartisan parliamentarian, Elizabeth MacDonough, said Senate rules require that a federal minimum wage increase would have to be dropped from the COVID-19 bill, leaving the proposal on life support. The measure would gradually lift that minimum to \$15 hourly by 2025, doubling the current \$7.25 floor in effect since 2009.

Hoping to revive the effort in some form, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., is considering adding a provision to the Senate version of the COVID-19 relief bill that would penalize large companies that don't pay workers at least \$15 an hour, said a senior Democratic aide who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss internal conversations.

That was in line with ideas floated Thursday night by Sens. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., a chief sponsor of the \$15 plan, and Senate Finance Committee Chair Ron Wyden, D-Ore., to boost taxes on corporations that don't hit certain minimum wage targets.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., offered encouragement, too, calling a minimum wage increase "a financial necessity for our families, a great stimulus for our economy and a moral imperative for our country." She said the House would "absolutely" approve a final version of the relief bill because of its widespread benefits, even if it lacked progressives' treasured goal.

While Democratic leaders were eager to signal to rank-and-file progressives and liberal voters that they would not yield on the minimum wage fight, their pathway was unclear because of GOP opposition and questions over whether they had enough Democratic support.

In SERVICE



Photo by Chief Mass Communication Specialist Joshua Wahl
Lt. (j.g.) Kyle Coven, a native of Dunnellon, and officer recruiter, enlist a new Sailor under the Health Services Collegiate Program (HSCP) using a phone video conference from the Navy Talent Acquisition Group New England headquarters in Boston, Feb. 11. HSCP is a scholarship program designed to provide financial incentives for students in designated health care professions to complete degree/certification requirements and get a commission in the Medical Corps (MC), Dental Corps (D.C.), or Medical Service Corps (MSC). This virtual oath of enlistment brings the Wethersfield, Connecticut health care student, Christopher Piccione, into the Navy as a Petty Officer 1st Class (E6) with pay and benefits while completing his physician assistant master's degree from the University of Bridgeport.

Moose lodge donates to honor guard

Funds to be used for vets funeral travel expenses

NANCY KENNEDY
Staff writer

As part of the Valued Veterans program of Moose International, Moose Lodge 2112 in Inverness recently donated \$1,000 to the Citrus County All Veteran Honor Guard (CCAVHG).

Last year, a golf tournament raised \$7,300 to go toward supporting local veterans, said Dennis Galinski, Moose Lodge 2112 governor.

See **MOOSE**/Page A15



NANCY KENNEDY/Chronicle

Moose Lodge 2112 in Inverness donates \$1,000 to the Citrus County All Veteran Honor Guard. In this photo, from the left: lodge governor Dennis Galinski, Moose member Larry Ortlieb, Mike Belkin and Mike Klyap from CCAVHG, Moose member Kelly Halsey, John Kaiserian from CCAVHG, Moose member Lynn Fisher, Mike Allfrey, John Garvey, Ed McNaughton and Dennis "Choke" Kocielko from CCAVHG.

VETERANS NOTES

Veterans Notes are only for special events that are open to the public. To find out about regularly scheduled post activities that welcome the public during the week, including entertainment and menus, call the post. For information about post members-only activities, call the individual posts for a schedule. Call the individual posts regarding meeting times and dates. Contributed notices must be submitted by Wednesday afternoon before publication the following Sunday.

NEW THIS WEEK

American Legion Post 166 to throw birthday bash

American Legion Post 166 is hard at work getting ready for the American Legion's 102nd birthday on Monday, March 15. Post members will celebrate with a big birthday bash.

All are invited to check out the many programs of the Legion. Find out about our Auxiliary Unit, the Sons of the Legion, and the Legion Riders.

The American Legion is veterans helping veterans.

For more information, call the post at 352-765-3949. American Legion Post 166 is located at 4520 S. Suncoast Blvd, Homosassa.

Planning underway for annual Veterans Appreciation Week

The Veterans Appreciation Week Ad Hoc Coordinating Committee will conduct its initial planning meeting for Citrus County's 29th annual Veterans Appreciation Week at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 17, in the Conference Room of the Citrus County Chronicle Building, 1624 N. Meadowcrest Blvd., Crystal River.

All veteran service organizations are encouraged to send representatives to participate in the planning process. Individual veterans are also welcome. Attendees are asked to respect the Chronicle's COVID-19 wishes of wearing a face mask and practicing social distancing.

Any organization or individual desiring additional information should contact Chris Gregoriou at 352-302-9777.

Citrus Springs VFW post sets festive dinner

VFW Post 4864 Citrus Springs will host a St. Patrick's Day dinner and beginning at 5 p.m. Wednesday, March 17, with dinner of corned beef and cabbage, followed by entertainment by Rocky and Michelle. Cost is \$20 per person; purchase tickets in the post canteen at 10199 N. Citrus Springs Blvd.

COMING UP

Veterans Services Advisory Board seeking applications

The Citrus County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) is seeking applications for three positions on the Veterans Services Advisory Board.

This Advisory Board is seeking qualified members for terms that will begin on April 1, and last two years. Eligible applicants must be a veteran of a war time era as defined by the Federal Department of Veteran's Affairs, have a recommendation by a local veteran organization, and be appointed by the BOCC.

The Veterans Services Advisory Board meets the second Thursday of every other month at the Citrus County Resource Center, located at 2804 W. Marc Knighton Court in Lecanto. The purpose of this board is to advise the Veterans Service Officer on the unmet needs, policies, services, and all other pertinent matters as it relates to veterans services.

Applications are due by Tuesday, March 2. Submit your application to Denise Gallagher, Citrus County administration, 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Suite 267, Lecanto, FL 34461.

See **NOTES**/Page A16

Highest honors



Special to the Chronicle

Carlton "Mac" McLeod, left, Earl McMillan and J.B. Haskins, three highly decorated Citrus County veterans, were recently awarded the President's Lifetime Achievement Award, honoring their commitment and service to our country and community.

Citrus residents earn President's Lifetime Achievement Award

HANNAH SACHEWICZ
For the Chronicle

Three highly decorated Citrus County veterans — Earl D. McMillan, J.B. Haskins, and Rear Adm. Carlton McLeod — were awarded the President's Lifetime Achievement Award, honoring their commitment and service to country and community.

The award recipients each received certificates signed by former President Donald Trump, along with letters from the White House. The awards were presented by former Marine Richard Hunt, a personal friend of the recipients and Commander of the Aaron A. Weaver

Chapter 776 Military Order of the Purple Heart.

The President's Lifetime Achievement Award is reserved for the rare individual who has completed more than 4,000 hours of service over the course of their life. However, as Hunt says, "for the kind of lives that these guys have lived, there's no way in the world to put a fixed number on the hours."

■ Earl D. McMillan, retired U.S. Army major and Green Beret, has been awarded a Silver Star, a Bronze Star, and a Purple Heart over the course of his military career. As a civilian, McMillan became a certified public accountant and has volunteered his time to the

Purple Heart Veterans of Florida Inc., the Military Order of the Purple Heart and many other nonprofit organizations. Both of these organizations provide assistance for active-duty military and veterans, specifically those wounded in combat. McMillan has also spent a tremendous amount of his time personally assisting veterans throughout the state.

■ J.B. Haskins is "one of the most highly decorated veterans in this county, if not the highest," according to presenter, Hunt. Haskins received three Purple Hearts after being wounded in three different wars, along with two Silver Stars.

See **HONOR**/Page A15

Female veterans group aids community

Donates afghans and bedding

Special to the Chronicle



Special to the Chronicle

The Female Veterans Network recently donated afghans and bedding to The Pregnancy and Family Life Center. From left are Jo Monty, vice president of FVN; Stephanie Bell, executive director of The Pregnancy and Family Life Center; and Jo Hirst, historian for FVN.

Female Veterans Network (FVN) believes in supporting the community. In the past, FVN has been generously supported by its members and the Citrus County community, and FVN passes that support on by aiding local food shelves and the homeless veterans through Mission in Citrus and the Veterans Coalition of Citrus County.

This past December, FVN received more than 150 afghans, which they divided and donated to Mission in Citrus and the Veterans Coalition of Citrus County.

FVN also received a gift of Bombas socks for

children that members distributed to Homosassa Elementary, Forest Ridge Elementary and Hernando Elementary School to be given to homeless and needy students.

In 2021, FVN continues to support our community. On Feb. 9, members donated afghans and bedding to The Pregnancy and Family Life Center in Inverness, which was established in 1983, and has provided valuable support to expectant mothers and their families targeting their basic needs as well as supporting their mental, emotional and spiritual needs.

To learn more, visit femaleveteransnetwork.org.

■ Submit information for the Veterans page at least two weeks before the event.
 ■ Early submission of timely material is appreciated,

but multiple publications cannot be guaranteed.
 ■ Notes tend to run one week prior to the date of an event. Publication on a specific day is not guaranteed.

■ Submit material at *Chronicle* offices in Inverness or Crystal River; by fax at 352-563-3280; or email to community@chronicleonline.com.

SUNDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 28, 2021. Table with columns for channel, time, and program details.

SUNDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 28, 2021. Table with columns for channel, time, and program details.

Annie gives advice

Dear Annie: You recently asked readers to write in to respond to the question "What do you love most about your partner and why?" I am a pretty lucky lady! Sometimes, I feel like pinching myself to make sure I'm not dreaming. I'll call us "Fred" and "Rose" to tell our story.



DEAR ANNIE

Fred and I met later in life, after many years of single-parenting and hard work. We were co-workers who became friends long before we dated. I was content to stay single for the rest of my life, but something all that changed after we started dating. Five years later, we had a big outdoor spring wedding. Family and friends alike commented that it was about time! We met in 2009, started dating in 2014 and were married in 2019.

What do I love most about Fred?

He is very genuine, sweet, kind and caring. He lets me be me and never tries to change me or control me. Our relationship is a partnership with shared responsibilities.

He is a great father of four boys. Two of his boys are adopted from the foster care system. And he loves them like they are his own. When I learned this about him, I fell even more in love with him.

He loves my two daughters as if they were his own. He's so very proud of them, and it really shows. My heart melts when he

introduces them as our daughters.

He loves to dance! He loves to wrap his arm around me, and I get so swept away. I've always wanted a man who loves to dance. We get so wrapped up in each other that sometimes we don't even notice the music has ended. We hold hands everywhere we go. I love how much he loves to do that.

I love doing so many things with him, such as road trips, camping, hiking, watching movies, holidays, shopping, even cooking, cleaning and farm chores — you name it. He is always ready, willing and anxious to join me in doing almost anything.

This paints a rosy picture that our days are perfect, and we get along great all the time. Just like any couple, we do have to work on communication and mutual respect in our relationship. But he's easy to talk to, and we always work things out. I love him dearly, and I'm looking forward to the next chapter of our lives!

"Ready, Freddy?" "I suppose, Rose!" — Rose Loves Fred

Dear Rose Loves Fred: Your romance sounds like something out of a movie. The gratitude you have for each other and the all-out celebration of life and your relationship is something to cherish. Thank you for sharing your beautiful story with us.

Today's MOVIES

LOCAL THEATER INFORMATION

Regal Cinema on State Road 44 in Inverness and Regal Cinema in Crystal River are closed until further notice.

VALERIE THEATRE CULTURAL CENTER

COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS ARE IN PLACE. "Air Force One" (R) Feb. 28, 3 p.m. "Mildred Pierce" (PG) March 1, 1 p.m. "The Secret Life of Pets" (PG) March 1, 1 p.m. "Spaceballs" (PG) March 5, 2 p.m. "9 To 5" (PG) March 6, 3 p.m.

Sunday PUZZLER

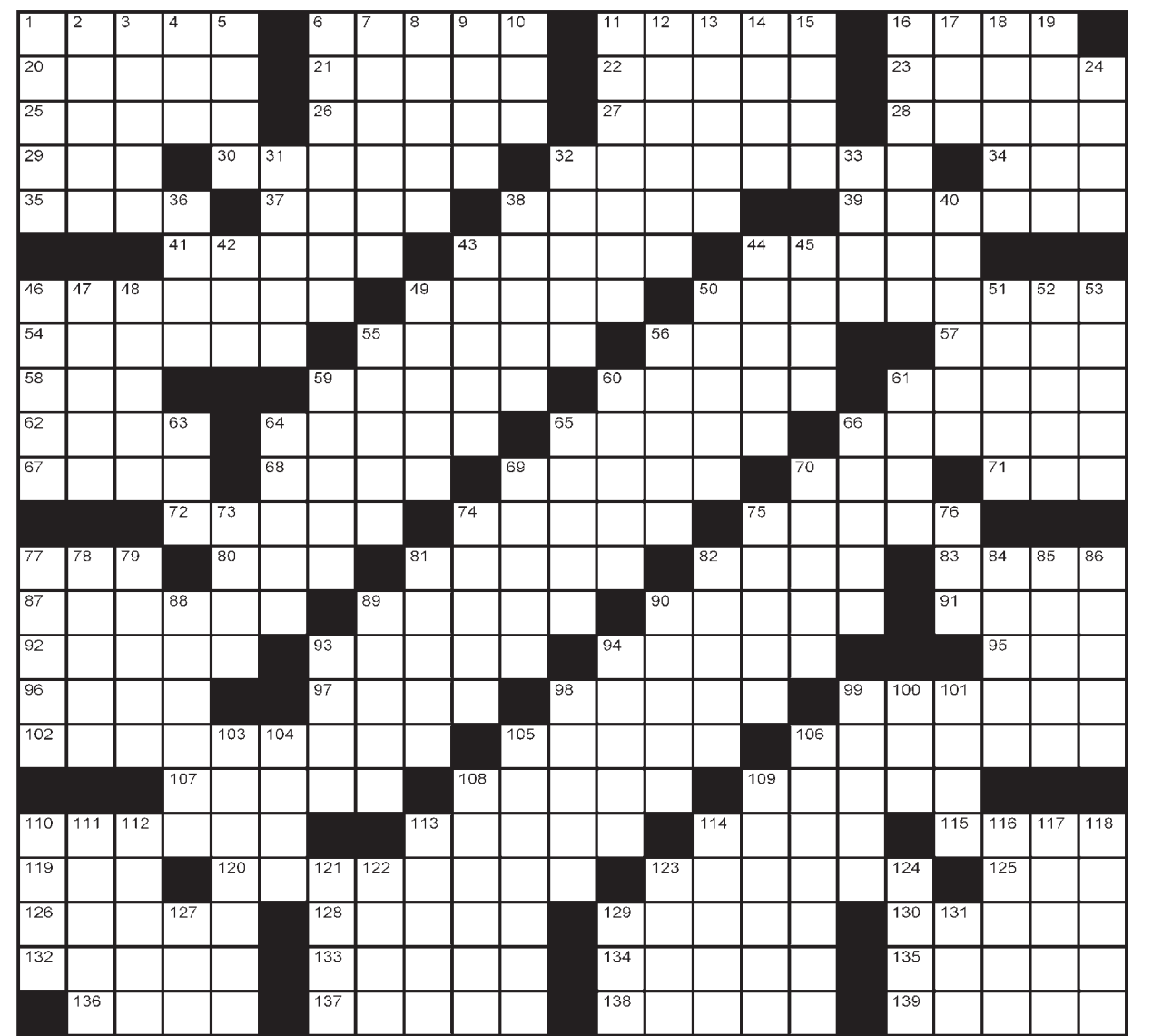
- ACROSS
1 Deep opening
6 Turner's machine
11 "—, I'm Adam"
16 Aide (Abbr.)
20 Tragic lover
21 Of birds
22 Standing wide open
23 More wan
25 Drive
26 Becker or Karloff
27 Bond or Gandolfini
28 Jet
29 Brooks or Gibson
30 Hand tool
32 Libation
34 Pt. on a compass
35 Kind of school, for short
37 War god
38 Exodus leader
39 Evan — Wood
41 Demolished
43 Legal wrongs
44 City on the Nile
46 Horseman in a bullfight
49 Salty
50 Rides a sailboard
54 Fascinate (with "of")
55 Laissez- —
56 Art movement
57 Chair
58 Say further
59 Data in rows
60 Entices
61 Because
62 Withered
64 "Tempest" sprite
65 Deceitful one
66 Edible seed
67 Old flames
68 Countrywide (Abbr.)
69 Hints
70 Joke
71 The bounding main
72 Party drink
74 Pulls
75 Go by car
77 Cooke or Elliott
80 Tofu source
81 Thin soup
82 Toboggan cousin
83 Campus in the west (Abbr.)
87 Posh
89 Twelve dozen
90 Private teacher
91 Postal matter
92 Freshwater mammal
93 Septs
94 Caravan animal
95 Crimson
96 Honor with a party

- 97 Region
98 Walked back and forth
99 Claim
102 Guitar part
105 Finch
106 Vehicle for kids
107 Rush
108 Very little
109 Sates
110 Do wrong
113 Said a few words
114 Louver
115 Word in a telegram
119 A state (Abbr.)
120 Just beautiful
123 World
125 "— Got a Secret"
126 Complete
128 Sign of things to come
129 Sparking stone
130 Avid
132 Extra
133 Stop for a moment
134 Weight unit
135 Wide-awake
136 Vehicle with runners
137 Brought to bay
138 Encouraged (with "on")
139 Merriment
DOWN
1 Pinch together
2 Mr. Simpson
3 Enough
4 Understand
5 Lose feathers
6 Worker
7 Publicly claimed
8 Makes weary
9 Word in a forecast
10 Print measures
11 Magnificence
12 Century plants
13 Ladies
14 Mimic
15 Flat-topped hill
16 Looks
17 — soda
18 Reduce drastically
19 Tight
24 Film spool
31 Tonsorial item
32 Carried
33 Pattern of crossing lines
36 Baby buggy
38 Ripple pattern
40 Family member
42 Fuss
43 Warble
44 Fruity beverage
45 Genus of ducks
46 "— porridge hot ..."

- 47 Alphabetical list
48 Body of personnel
49 Tower of —
50 Goods
51 Lets
52 Prima —
53 Upright slab
55 Confidence
56 Men of rank
59 Funny pages' Dick —
60 Chuckle
61 Kind of lily
63 Psychic ability (Abbr.)
64 Bothy
65 London apartments
66 Delayer's motto
69 Traverse
70 Russian writer
73 Former federation
74 Airborne device
75 Toned down
76 Liquor
77 Show contempt
78 Modify
79 Dull surface
81 Mark with an iron
82 Light unit
84 Insertion symbol
85 Medieval lord
86 Birch family member
88 Boil
89 Resplendence

- 90 Implied but unsaid
93 Ruler of old
94 Chili con —
98 Summits
99 Sharp
100 Destiny
101 Deprivation
103 Made a mess of
104 Church calendar
105 Scrubbed
106 Biased
108 Wife
109 Quick look
110 Feed for horses
111 Failures
112 Deadly
113 Smooth transition
114 Throw carelessly
116 Big cat
117 Not hidden
118 City in Australia
121 Wholly absorbed
122 Kind of gum for thickening
123 Stopper
124 Players, collectively
127 Exist
129 Enemy
131 — Baba

Sunday Puzzle answers are on Page A16.



MOOSE

Continued from Page A13

He said they wanted to help the honor guard with funds for gas and maintenance for their bus, which they use to travel to the National Cemetery in Bushnell as many as three or four times a week for veterans' funerals.

CCAVHG is not from one specific organization, such as the VFW or American Legion, although

many of its members belong to one or more of these groups, said Dennis "Choke" Kocielko.

"We have about 10 active members, and we're always looking for more," he said.

The honor guard is open to military veterans or a family member of a veteran who wants to serve the community by honoring fallen veterans.

Those interested can call Mike Klyap at 352-302-6096 or email ccavhg@gmail.com.

HONOR

Continued from Page A13

After military service, he served as an adjutant for the Military Order of the Purple Heart for over 15 years. He has also spent many years assisting young veterans as they come out of military service.

■ Rear Adm. Carlton McLeod is a retired Navy officer. He has also used his own time and

resources to aid fellow veterans and their family members in and around Citrus County. He has dedicated many years to the Citrus County Veteran's Foundation, whose primary goal is to financially assist honorably discharged veterans and their spouses during financial crises. Rear Adm. McLeod is described as "always the first to step forward to volunteer as a leader or supporter" and has received numerous military honors such as a

Vietnam Service Medal with two Bronze Stars, according to fvhofsociety.org.

All three recipients are residents of Grand Living at Citrus Hills, a cause for them to be in the same place at the same time to receive the surprise. The award ceremony was held outdoors in a minimal risk environment to ensure the safety of everyone involved. Hunt said Grand Living has been "extraordinarily careful" during

the COVID-19 pandemic, and that residents have already received their first round of the vaccine.

NEED A REPORTER?

- Approval must be granted by the Chronicle's editors before a reporter is assigned.
- Call Jeff Bryan at 563-5660. Be prepared to leave a message.

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Grand Living at Citrus Hills 850 W. Norvell Bryant Highway, Hernando, FL 352-301-8500 GrandLiving.com	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓		
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Sunflower Springs Assisted Living Community 8733 W. Yulee Dr., Homosassa Springs, FL 352-794-1984	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓		✓
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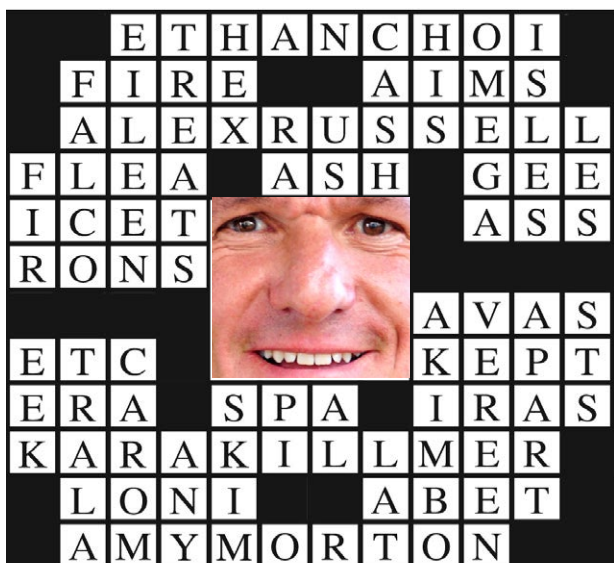
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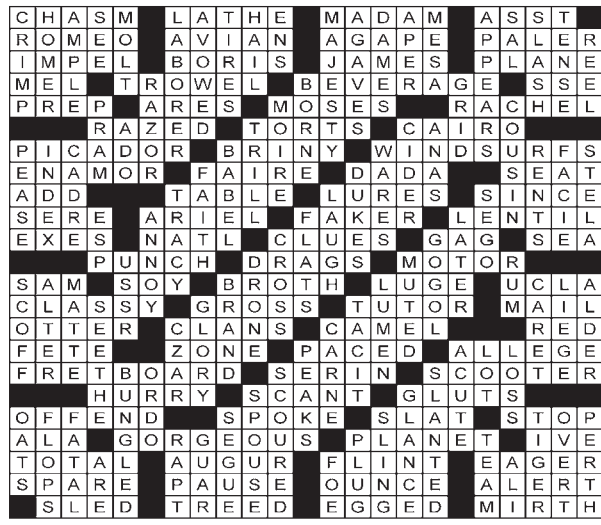
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Sunday PUZZLER ANSWERS

Sunday Puzzler is on Page A14



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61st ANNIVERSARY



The Napolitanos

Thomas and Assunta "Pat" Napolitano of Citrus Springs celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary on Feb. 27, 2021.

The couple married on Feb. 27, 1960, in Jersey City, New Jersey.

They have lived in Citrus County for 33 years. Thomas is retired from the NYCPD and Pat is retired from the post office.

Together they have three children: Julie, Camille and Patricia. They have six great-grandchildren.

NOTES

Continued from Page A13

For more information on Citrus County Veterans Office, visit www.bocc.citrus.fl.us/commserv/vets or call 352-527-5915.

MOAA to host Supervisor of Elections

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) Citrus County Chapter welcomes veterans and the public to attend a March 11 speaker event starting at 10 a.m. at the American Legion Post 155, 6585 W. Gulf-to-Lake Highway, Crystal River.

The featured speaker is Maureen "Mo" Baird, the Citrus County Supervisor of Elections. She will be speaking about the 2020 election results for Citrus County.

To provide a safe environment for in person attendance, masks will be required and seating will be arranged to meet social distancing requirements.

You may also attend the meeting through ZOOM. Registration is required to gain seating and ZOOM links. Register at the chapter's website in the "Upcoming Events"

section at: <https://moaaf1.org/Chapters/CitrusCounty>.

VFW Post 4252 flea market assists veterans

Members of VFW Post 4252 will host a flea market to benefit veterans in need and their families from 7:30 to 1:30 p.m. Sunday, March 21, at the post at 3190 N. Carl G. Rose Highway (U.S. 200), Hernando.

Breakfast food will be available for purchase.

Table rental is \$10 inside; \$5 outside. Set up will begin after 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 20. Call the VFW to reserve a space at 352-726-3339.

VFW Post 10087 plans Bunco Night March 25

VFW Post 10087 Harry F. Nesbitt of Beverly Hills will host a Bunco Night starting at 4 p.m. Thursday, March 25. Call the post at 352-746-0440 for more information.

VFW Auxiliary 4337 sets auction fundraiser

VFW Auxiliary 4337 will host a Chinese Auction open to the public Saturday, March 27, starting at noon, with drawings beginning at 2 p.m. featuring a variety of items including

donations from local businesses. The Eugene Quinn VFW Post 4337 is at 906 State Road 44 E., Inverness. For information, call Gloria Lane at 786-283-1795.

Young artists wanted for patriotic contest

The VFW Post 4252 Auxiliary seeks entries for their sponsored Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest.

Young artists in ninth through 12th grade wanting to enter the contest should call 352-419-8981 and ask for Judy Prive. If no answer, leave your name, telephone number and a brief message to request an application to enter this contest. Deadline to enter is March 31.

GOOD TO KNOW

CCVC expands services to those affected by COVID

In addition to existing clients at the Citrus County Veterans Coalition (CCVC), the coalition is now accepting any veteran who now be unemployed, due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Also, any veteran, whose financial situation has changed, is also invited to attend the CCVC food pantry

for assistance.

A DD-214 certificate or other proof of honorable discharge must be shown to qualify for assistance.

The CCVC pantry is located at 1081 N. Paul Drive, Inverness, and is open from 9 a.m. to noon every Tuesday, and the first and third Thursdays of the month.

For further information, call 352-400-8952.

1365-0228 SUCRN



Subject: Virtual Public Hearing (VPH) for Proposed Median Modifications SR 44 from US 19 to East of NE 10th Avenue Citrus County, Florida
Financial Project Number (FPN): 441665-1-52-01

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), District Seven, invites you to attend and participate in a Virtual Public Hearing (VPH) for the proposed median modification along SR 44 from US 19 to East of NE 10th Avenue in Citrus County, FPN: 441665-1.

To allow for maximum participation, the public hearing will be held in three formats including virtually over the internet, by phone, or at an in-person drive-thru location. Information presented will be identical at all options.

The Virtual Public Hearing (VPH), phone and in-person drive-thru public hearing will be held on Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 10 a.m. The drive thru location will be open from 10 a.m. until 11 a.m., or until the last attendee has viewed the presentation. Regardless of the format, the hearing will start at 10 a.m. and include a presentation. After the presentation has concluded, there will be an opportunity to provide comments that will be included in the official VPH record.

Virtual/Online:

Please follow this link to join the hearing from your computer, tablet or smartphone: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/126668053>

Phone:

To participate by phone please call: +1 (571) 317-3112 and provide the Access Code: 126-668-053 to join.

In-person drive-thru location:

If you do not have access to a computer or the internet, and/or would like to participate in-person, you may attend the VPH at the following drive-thru location: First Baptist Church of Crystal River, 700 N. Citrus Avenue, Crystal River, FL 34428

The drive-thru will open for attendees at 10 a.m. Attendees will be directed into a clearly identified parking lot, receive project literature, and view the project presentation. Attendees will be asked to remain in their vehicle while attending the hearing. You will have the opportunity to provide written or verbal comments. The drive-thru hearing will be held in full compliance with local, state, and federal health and safety guidelines.

This public hearing is conducted to afford affected property and business owners, interested persons and organizations the opportunity to provide comments to FDOT regarding median modifications. The new concrete median is proposed at NE 6th Avenue. (See enclosed exhibit.)

This VPH is held pursuant to Chapters 120, 335.18 and 335.199, Florida Statutes. FDOT will receive verbal/written comments at the public hearing location and online from hearing participants. Written or emailed comments not received during the hearing must be postmarked or emailed by March 20, 2021, to become part of the official virtual public hearing summary.

Written comments may be emailed to Kara.VanEtten@dot.state.fl.us or mailed to Kara Van Etten, P.E., Project Manager, Florida Department of Transportation, 11201 N. McKinley Dr., MS 7-1300, Tampa, Florida 33612.

Public participation is solicited without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, or family status. Persons requiring special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act to participate in this VPH, or persons who require translation services (free of charge) are asked to advise the agency at least seven (7) days prior to the VPH by contacting: Alex Henry, District Public Involvement Coordinator, at (813) 975-6405 or (800) 226-7220, or Alex.Henry@dot.state.fl.us. If you are hearing or speech impaired, please contact the agency using the Florida Relay Service, 1 (800) 955-8771 (TDD) or 1(800) 955-8770 (Voice).

Comuníquese Con Nosotros: Nos importa mucho la opinión del público sobre el proyecto. Si usted tiene preguntas o comentarios, o si simplemente desea más información, por favor comuníquese con nuestro representante, Manuel Flores, (813) 975-4248, Manuel.Flores@dot.state.fl.us, Departamento de Transporte de Florida, 11201 North McKinley Dr., Tampa, FL 33612.

For more information about this project, please visit the project webpage at <https://www.fdotampabay.com/project/515/441665-1-52-01>

Or scan the QR code below.



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THE NUMBER: 10

Triple-doubles for Russell Westbrook, making him the third player ever to reach double figures in his first year with a new team.

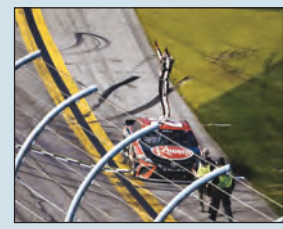


Russell Westbrook

SPORTS

CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE

Section B - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2021



NASCAR's 'unique' winners already altering playoff landscape./B2

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Bolts blank Stars

Vasilevskiy stout in Cup rematch

Associated Press

TAMPA — Andrei Vasilevskiy made 20 saves for his second straight shutout and 23rd overall, and the defending champion Tampa Bay Lightning beat the Dallas Stars 5-0 on Saturday night in the first Stanley Cup rematch of the season.

The teams will meet again on Tuesday night in Dallas. They had four previously scheduled meetings this season postponed because of COVID protocols and weather issues in Dallas.

Steven Stamkos and Anthony

Cirelli each had a goal and an assist for Tampa Bay, and Ondrej Palat, Brayden Point and Pat Maroon also scored for Tampa Bay. The Lightning scored two power-play goals and one short-handed to extend their winning streak to four games.

Dallas' Anton Khudobin made 12 saves before being replaced in the third period by Jake Oettinger, who stopped all five shots he faced.

Palat struck three seconds into Tampa Bay's first power-play chance, stealing the puck from Jason Dickinson down low and roofing a shot over Khudobin for his seventh of the season and fifth on the power play — which ties his single-season high.

Tampa Bay scored three goals in the second period.

Cirelli, back after missing two weeks, took a pass from Stamkos inside the Dallas blue line and raced in for a breakaway and pulled the puck to his backhand before lifting it over Khudobin for his seventh career short-handed goal at 4:06.

Point made it 3-0 when he raced up the ice and cut to his right as he entered the Dallas zone and put the puck on the toe of his stick and wristed a shot back across his body to the far post at 8:17.

Maroon tapped in a pass from Tyler Johnson on a backdoor play at 15:12 for Tampa Bay's second power-play goal of

See NHL/Page B3



Associated Press

Tampa Bay Lightning goaltender Andrei Vasilevskiy makes a save against Dallas Stars left wing Jamie Benn during the second period of a game on Saturday, in Tampa.

Panthers painfully close



MATT PFIFFNER/Chronicle

Lecanto's Zach Williams, right, scrambles with Joe Burgess of Winter Springs in the semifinals at 170 pounds Saturday at the Region 2A-II Meet at Lake Gibson High School in Lakeland. Williams lost both his matches on the day and fell one win shy of qualifying for the state tournament.

State wrestling tournament drought continues for Lecanto; Citrus qualifies three

MATT PFIFFNER
Sports editor

LAKELAND — Three Lecanto wrestlers made it to the "blood round" Saturday at the Region 2A-II Meet at Lake Gibson High School in Lakeland, with hopes of winning that match to snap a long drought for the Panthers at the state tournament.

Unfortunately, all three Panthers fell in their consolation semifinal matches, falling one win shy of wrestling in Kissimmee next week.

"We got three in this year. Last year we only got one in the blood round, so improvement from last year," Lecanto coach Jose Mendez said. "As long as we can keep improving every year, that's the game plan. We'll break that state curse we got hopefully next year."

As it is, the Panthers still haven't had a state qualifier since Jonah Nightengale finished 6th in Class 2A at 195 pounds in 2013.

Meanwhile, at the Region 1A-II Meet at Palm Bay High School in Melbourne, Citrus had a trio of wrestlers finish in the top four of their weight classes to advance to state. Crystal River, like

Lecanto, had a tough day and did not advance anyone.

Panthers fall short

Four Lecanto wrestlers started the morning at Lake Gibson still alive for a state tournament berth. Senior 195-pounder Nickholas Moskes was eliminated in his first match of the day, so that left juniors Diego Mendez at 126 and Zach Williams at 170 and senior Adrian Ramallo at 182.

Williams was the lone Panther who won both his matches on Friday, so he was in the semifinals against Joe Burgess of Winter Springs.

Burgess started quickly, as he built up an 8-0 lead in the first period and eventually pinned the Panther in the second period.

That knocked Williams to the consolation bracket, where he met Gabriel Gilles of Robinson for a trip to state.

After a scoreless first period, Gilles earned an escape and takedown in the second for a 3-0 lead. Gilles earned another takedown in the third period and eventually pinned Williams to end his day.

"He's hot and cold and today was a cold day for

him. He really gets on streaks. That kind of showed today, where he didn't have that aggression he usually has," coach Mendez said. "Zach just needs to be more aggressive. He's got the tools. He needs to wrestle faster and chain wrestle. He sits on moves too long. I think he can learn to wrestle at a faster pace."

Diego Mendez was still smarting from a last-second loss in the quarterfinals the day before, but rebounded with an outstanding win in his first consolation match on Saturday.

Mendez scored a takedown midway through overtime to knock off 10th-ranked Blaine Jones of Brandon, 3-1.

In the blood round, Mendez ran into a buzz saw in Hayden Whidden of Lake Gibson. The Panther stuck with Whidden through the first half of the match, but eventually fell behind 8-0 before getting pinned.

"That one match Diego lost (Friday) really hurt, when he got cross-bracketed to the other side. And

See WRESTLING/Page B5

Florida edges Kentucky 71-67 for series split

Gators extend current winning streak to three

Associated Press

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Tre Mann scored 14 of his 21 points in the second half and Florida pulled out a 71-67 victory over

Kentucky on Saturday, winning its third straight game and avenging a blowout loss to the Wildcats.

Tyree Appleby's wide-open 3-pointer with 3 1/2 minutes remaining put the Gators (13-6, 9-5 Southeastern Conference) ahead for good at 65-63 in a game that had 14 lead changes and nine ties, the vast majority coming in the second half when neither team led by more than four. Neither team scored again

until Mann's baseline jumper with 1:49 to go. The Gators cut the lead to two twice after that but two free throws by Mann with 10.5 seconds remaining sealed the win.

Florida, which lost to Kentucky 76-58 on Jan. 9, picked up just the fifth season split in the series' history, the last coming in 1998. The win was just the 11th for Florida at Lexington versus 52 losses.

Colin Castleton scored 14 points,

Appleby added 11 and Anthony Duruji 10 for Florida, which shot 53% and made 7 of 15 from the arc, helping them to overcome a big disparity at the free-throw line where they made 14 of 16 to 25 of 29 for Kentucky.

Kentucky (8-14, 7-8) had a 10-point lead midway through the first half after an 8-0 run, gave up the lead, then reclaimed a 39-38 edge at halftime following baskets by Keion Brooks and Davion Mintz.

Mintz tied a career high with 21 points, Brandon Boston Jr. 13 and Isaiah Jackson and Jacob Toppin 11 apiece for Kentucky, which had a three-game win streak snapped. Jackson won three of Kentucky's six blocks.

Florida is home against Missouri on Wednesday before concluding its regular season at Tennessee on March 7. Kentucky is at Mississippi on Tuesday and home against South Carolina next Saturday.

'Unique' winners alter playoff landscape

NASCAR pays a visit to Homestead

MARK LONG
AP sports writer

HOMESTEAD — NASCAR's postseason landscape has been altered after just two Cup Series races.

With Michael McDowell and Christopher Bell winning at Daytona International Speedway, the first in the Daytona 500 and the second on the road course, two playoff spots were locked up by guys who weren't generally considered locks.

The fallout? Other teams are feeling the pinch in late February — six months before the 16-driver playoff field is set — and with 24 races remaining.

"Probably not for the teams that we all expect to win, but for some of those fringe cars it will," said Bell's crew chief, Adam Stevens. "The number of unique winners is really going to change how many cars get in on points, right? It's pretty obvious."

The simplest way to look at it: If the series heavyweights perform as expected the rest of the way, there won't be many playoff spots left for anyone else. It's a somewhat bleak outlook for several teams already and could force them to adjust their approach beginning Sunday at Homestead-Miami Speedway.

"Some of that next batch of cars is really needing to be thinking about if they're swinging for the fence or if they're racing for points," Stevens said. "Maybe one more winner that somebody didn't expect pretty early in the season could really change the complexion."

Every year since NASCAR's current playoff system began in 2014, at least three postseason berths have been awarded to drivers based on points. The past three years, as Kevin Harvick, Martin Truex Jr., Joey Logano, Kyle Busch, Denny Hamlin and Chase Elliott have won a bigger share of races, more drivers have made the playoffs on points.

But Bell and McDowell

already grabbed two of the spots, something many would have considered an unlikely possibility entering the year.

"The dynamic has changed dramatically right now," 2012 Cup champion Brad Keselowski said. "We're very early in the season, and it's now turned into a points race for those last few spots. Hopefully it doesn't matter for us."

"But if you don't win, you're in a lot of trouble right now because it's not looking like you're going to be able to get in the playoffs right now without a win."

The Daytona 500 has a tendency to be a crapshoot, often delivering an odd top-10 and occasionally ending up with a long-shot winner like McDowell. He had been winless in 357 Cup starts before his breakthrough.

Although Bell drives for powerhouse Joe Gibbs Racing, he was a rookie for that top team and in his second full season in the Cup series.

"Two of the tracks we've went to are definitely tracks that create opportunities for guys that you wouldn't necessarily just give them a spot or think that they're going to point themselves in," said Richard Childress Racing driver Austin Dillon, who has made the playoffs four times in the last five years. "But I think as the season goes on, there will be some opportunities for points."

"It always comes down to one or two positions, I feel like, when it comes to points."

HAMLIN'S HOME

No one in the field has been better at Homestead than Hamlin. The Joe Gibbs Racing star has three wins (2009, '13, '20) at the track and 11 top-10 finishes in 16 starts. He led 137 of 267 laps last June en route to his latest victory.

He's tied with Tony Stewart and Greg Biffle for the most Cup wins at the 1 1/2-mile venue. Those intermediate tracks are the ones Hamlin and Harvick mostly dominated last year.

"We are about to get into a chunk of the season where you are going to start to see some of your normal winners in the



Associated Press
Christopher Bell celebrates at the finish line after winning the NASCAR Cup Series road course race at Daytona International Speedway, on Sunday in Daytona Beach.

bracket," Hamlin said.

THREE WEEKS, THREE TRACKS

NASCAR's much-hyped season, one that included significant schedule changes, is being showcased in its first three weeks. The Cup Series opened on a superspeedway, then raced on a road course, and now heads to an intermediate track.

"It's about time," Harvick said. "As I've said for many years, I think mixing up the schedule is something that's very important to capture people's attention and to really try something different. Whether that's different markets, different racetracks, it has to be different from year to year."

"As we go to these new markets and new styles of racetracks

and try new things, we have to constantly evolve and mix it up. You're going to have your staple markets and events, but you have those five or six events a year, like we're having this year, that are new, exciting and different than you had last year."

LETARTE RETURNS

Former NASCAR crew chief and current NBC Sports analyst Steve Letarte will return to his previous role for the first time since 2014. Letarte will be atop the pit box for the No. 7 Chevrolet owned by Spire Motorsports and driven by Corey LaJoie.

LaJoie's crew chief, Ryan Sparks, is sidelined because of COVID-19 protocols and unable to travel for the race. Letarte serves as a consultant for Spire Motorsports and was available to step in.

ODDS AND ENDS

Hamlin is the 5-1 favorite to win the Dixie Vodka 400, no surprise given his history at the track. Elliott (11-2) is the second choice, followed by Harvick (7-1), Truex (15-2), Kyle Larson (8-1), Logano (10-1) and Kyle Busch (10-1). ... Current Miami Dolphins quarterback Tua Tagovailoa and former Miami Hurricanes/NFL linebacker Jonathan Vilma will serve as honorary race officials. Tagovailoa will give the command for drivers to start their engines, and Vilma will wave the green flag to start the race. ... Actress/singer Sarah Stiles will perform the national anthem virtually. Stiles is starring in a NASCAR-themed Netflix show called "The Crew" alongside Kevin James.

Tar Heels rally from 16 down to upset No. 11 FSU

Wagner helps No. 3 Michigan defeat Indiana

Associated Press

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — It took Walker Kessler one afternoon to go from promising reserve to having North Carolina fans — the first allowed to attend games all year — chanting his name.

He earned it, too, after sparking a turnaround that helped the Tar Heels upset the Atlantic Coast Conference's top team, boost their NCAA Tournament resume and give their Hall of Fame coach a milestone victory.

The 7-foot-1 freshman scored a season-high 20 points to help North Carolina beat No. 11 Florida State 78-70 on Saturday, a game that saw the Tar Heels rally from 16 down on the way to giving Roy Williams his 900th career win.

Kessler had scored 10 points in each of his last three games, then surpassed that by going 9 for 10 from the field with 14 points after halftime. He also had season highs of eight rebounds and four blocks for the Tar Heels (15-8, 9-5).

"A lot of my points were just: I was in the right place at the right time," Kessler said. "Had guards and everyone, bigs, just throwing the ball when I was two feet away from the basket, so props to them too."

Trailing 41-29 at halftime, the Tar Heels shot 50% after the break. But more importantly, they rode Kessler's production to better production in the paint while cutting down on the turnovers that undercut any offensive flow in the opening half.

"I do think we showed some immaturity in the



Associated Press
Florida State forward RaiQuan Gray (1) and North Carolina forward Walker Kessler (13) struggle for the ball during the first half of a game on Saturday in Chapel Hill, N.C.

first half and showed some maturity in the second half," Williams said.

By the end, the Tar Heels were knocking down clinching free throws and denying comeback bids from the ACC-leading Seminoles (14-4, 10-3) just days after a clunker of a performance in a home loss to Marquette.

Kerwin Walton added 13 points for North Carolina, which made all 10 of its free throws in the final 2:15 to stay in control.

RaiQuan Gray scored 17 points for Florida State, which went from being in firm control to watching it slip away amid a mistake-filled second half. As North Carolina built confidence, Florida State shot just 32% after the break and committed more turnovers (12) than field goals (11).

"They did to us what normally what we've been doing to other people," Seminoles coach Leonard Hamilton said. "They had an excellent gameplan defensively, they were extremely aggressive. They were so aggressive that I

thought it creates indecision on some of our parts.

"And sometimes you just got to give teams credit — it's not as much about what you didn't do, it's what they did."

No. 3 Michigan 73, Indiana 57

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — Franz Wagner scored 21 points and Isaiah Livers had 16 points and 10 rebounds, helping No. 3 Michigan pull away from Indiana for a 73-57 victory.

The Wolverines (18-1, 13-1) took another major step toward the Big Ten title by winning their seventh straight. They also improved to 5-0 since resuming play following a COVID-19 pause.

Aljami Durham led Indiana (12-12, 7-10) with 15 points, and Race Thompson finished with 11 points and six rebounds. The Hoosiers have lost three in a row and four of their last five as they fight for an NCAA Tournament spot.

No. 5 Illinois 74, No. 23 Wisconsin 69

MADISON, Wis. — Kofi Cockburn scored 19 points,

and Illinois completed its first regular-season sweep of Wisconsin since 2005.

Trice had 29 points for Wisconsin (16-9, 10-8).

No. 6 Alabama 64, Mississippi St. 59

STARKVILLE, Miss. — Jaden Shackleford scored 10 of his 15 points in the second half, and Alabama clinched its first Southeastern Conference regular-season championship since 2002.

The Crimson Tide (19-6, 14-2) led by double digits for much of the game, but the Bulldogs (13-12, 7-9) closed to 56-53 on Iverson Molinar's layup with 4:17 left. Mississippi State had a chance to draw even closer over the next three minutes, but Alabama came up with a couple big stops and James Rojas drained a 3 from the right corner to make it 59-53 with 43 seconds remaining.

Oklahoma St. 94, No. 7 Oklahoma 90

NORMAN, Okla. — Freshman Cade Cunningham scored 10 of his season-high 40 points in overtime, leading

Oklahoma State to the victory.

Oklahoma State (16-6, 9-6 Big 12) posted its fourth straight victory.

De'Vion Harmon matched a career high with 23 points for Oklahoma (15-7, 8-7).

No. 10 West Virginia 65, Kansas St. 43

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. — Sean McNeil scored 16 points and West Virginia used two big second-half runs to beat Kansas State.

Derek Culver added 11 points for West Virginia (17-6, 10-4 Big 12).

Davion Bradford scored 11 points for Kansas State (7-19, 3-14). The Wildcats were held to their second-lowest points total of the season.

Xavier 77, No. 13 Creighton 69

CINCINNATI — Paul Scruggs scored 23 points and Zach Freemantle added 17, helping Xavier bolster its NCAA Tournament hopes.

Freemantle also had 10 rebounds for Xavier (13-5, 6-5 Big East) for his fifth straight double-double. The Musketeers led by as many as 13 points and staved off a late comeback by Creighton.

Damien Jefferson led Creighton (17-6, 13-5) with 19 points, and Marcus Zegarowski had 15. The Bluejays had won four in a row.

No. 18 Texas Tech 68, No. 14 Texas 59

LUBBOCK, Texas — Mac McClung had 16 points to lead five Texas Tech players in double figures, and the Red Raiders snapped a three-game losing streak.

The game was tied at halftime, but Texas Tech (15-8, 7-7 Big 12) went ahead to stay when six different players scored in a 19-6 run to open the second half.

No. 16 Virginia Tech 84, Wake Forest 46

BLACKSBURG, Va. —

Keve Aluma scored 23 points and Tyrece Radford had 15, leading Virginia Tech to the runaway victory.

Virginia Tech (15-5, 9-4) recorded its largest margin of victory for an Atlantic Coast Conference game. The previous record for the Hokies was a 94-65 win over Wake Forest in 2011.

Jonah Antonio led the Demon Deacons (6-13, 3-13) with 12 points. Wake Forest has lost five straight games.

No. 20 Arkansas 83, LSU 75

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. — Justin Smith had 19 points and 10 rebounds, helping Arkansas to its sixth straight win.

The Razorbacks (19-5, 11-4 Southeastern Conference) had four players score in double figures. Moses Moody had 18 points on 3-for-14 shooting, and reserve J.D. Notae also scored 18.

No. 21 Loyola Chicago 65, S. Illinois 58, OT

CHICAGO — Cameron Krutwig had 20 points and Loyola Chicago scored the last eight points in overtime to clinch at least a share of the Missouri Valley Conference title.

The Ramblers (21-4, 16-2) closed the regular season by winning 14 of 15 games. Loyola has won at least a share of the conference title in three of the last four years.

No. 22 San Diego St. 62, Boise St. 58

SAN DIEGO — Matt Mitchell hit two free throws with 3.3 seconds left and fellow senior Jordan Schakel made four free throws in the final 8.7 seconds, leading San Diego State to its 10th straight victory.

Auburn 77, No. 25 Tennessee 72

AUBURN, Ala. — Allen Flanigan scored a season-high 23 points and had seven rebounds, leading Auburn to the victory.

NASCAR

Xfinity-Contender
Boats 250

Saturday

At Homestead-Miami Speedway
Homestead, United States.

Lap length: 1.50 miles

(Start position in parentheses)

- (10) Myatt Snider, Chevrolet, 179 laps, 49 points.
- (38) Tyler Reddick, Chevrolet, 179, 0.
- (4) Brandon Jones, Toyota, 179, 44.
- (2) Daniel Hemric, Toyota, 179, 41.
- (5) Jeb Burton, Chevrolet, 179, 40.
- (1) Austin Cindric, Ford, 179, 41.
- (8) Justin Haley, Chevrolet, 179, 39.
- (6) Brett Moffitt, Chevrolet, 179, 0.
- (22) Ryan Sieg, Ford, 179, 32.
- (9) Jeremy Clements, Chevrolet, 179, 32.
- (20) Josh Berry, Chevrolet, 179, 29.
- (29) Riley Herbst, Ford, 179, 32.
- (39) JJ Yeley, Chevrolet, 179, 24.
- (18) Michael Annett, Chevrolet, 179, 25.
- (24) AJ Allmendinger, Chevrolet, 179, 35.
- (25) Alex Labbe, Chevrolet, 179, 21.
- (33) Timmy Hill, Ford, 179, 20.
- (32) Dexter Bean, Chevrolet, 179, 0.
- (27) Tommy Joe Martins, Chevrolet, 179, 18.
- (11) Landon Cassill, Chevrolet, 179, 18.
- (31) Jade Buford, Chevrolet, 179, 16.
- (40) David Starr, Ford, 179, 15.
- (23) Jeffrey Earnhardt, Chevrolet, 179, 14.
- (37) Chad Finchum, Toyota, 179, 13.
- (35) Ryan Vargas, Chevrolet, 179, 12.
- (12) Kyle Weatherman, Chevrolet, 179, 11.
- (15) Josh Williams, Chevrolet, 178, 10.
- (16) Joe Graf Jr., Chevrolet, 178, 9.
- (26) Gray Gaulding, Chevrolet, 178, 8.
- (17) Matt Mills, Chevrolet, 178, 7.
- (21) Santino Ferruci, Toyota, 177, 6.
- (30) Stefan Parsons, Chevrolet, 177, 5.
- (14) Jesse Little, Chevrolet, 177, 4.
- (23) Noah Gragson, Chevrolet, accident, 165, 12.
- (7) Brandon Brown, Chevrolet, overheating, 152, 2.
- (34) Bayley Currey, Chevrolet, garage, 148, 1.
- (28) Colby Howard, Chevrolet, reargear, 109, 1.
- (13) Ty Dillon, Toyota, garage, 102, 1.
- (19) Justin Allgaier, Chevrolet, accident, 98, 6.
- (3) Harrison Burton, Toyota, engine, 70, 8.

Race Statistics were not immediately available.

NASCAR Driver Rating Formula

A maximum of 150 points can be attained in a race.

The formula combines the following categories: Wins, Finishes, Top-15 Finishes, Average Running Position While on Lead Lap, Average Speed Under Green, Fastest Lap, Led Most Laps, Lead-Lap Finish.

HOCKEY

NHL standings

	East Division				
	GP	W	L	OTpts	GF GA
Washington	20	11	5	4	26 70 67
Boston	18	11	5	2	24 55 49
N.Y. Islanders	20	10	6	4	24 54 49
Philadelphia	17	10	4	3	23 58 54
Pittsburgh	19	11	7	1	23 60 63
N.Y. Rangers	18	7	8	3	17 49 48
New Jersey	16	7	7	2	16 43 49
Buffalo	18	6	9	3	15 44 54
Central Division					
	GP	W	L	OTpts	GF GA
Tampa Bay	19	14	4	1	29 69 39
Florida	20	13	4	3	29 65 57
Carolina	20	13	6	1	27 69 56
Chicago	22	11	7	4	26 66 66
Columbus	22	8	9	5	21 61 74
Nashville	20	9	11	0	18 46 63
Detroit	23	7	13	3	17 49 71
Dallas	16	6	6	4	16 46 45
West Division					
	GP	W	L	OTpts	GF GA
Minnesota	18	12	6	0	24 57 44
Vegas	16	11	4	1	23 48 34
Los Angeles	20	9	7	4	22 60 56
St. Louis	20	10	8	2	22 60 61
Colorado	17	10	6	1	21 49 40
Arizona	20	9	8	3	21 54 58
San Jose	17	7	8	2	16 47 64
Anaheim	20	6	10	4	16 40 58
North Division					
	GP	W	L	OTpts	GF GA
Toronto	22	16	4	2	34 78 55
Edmonton	23	14	9	0	28 79 69
Winnipeg	19	12	6	1	25 67 52
Montreal	19	9	6	4	22 64 58
Calgary	22	10	10	2	22 58 65
Vancouver	24	8	14	2	18 68 85
Ottawa	23	7	15	1	15 61 91

Friday's Games

N.Y. Rangers 6, Boston 2
Minnesota 3, Los Angeles 1
Colorado 3, Arizona 2
Vegas at Anaheim, ppd
St. Louis at San Jose, ppd

Saturday's Games

Philadelphia 3, Buffalo 0
Calgary 6, Ottawa 3
Washington 5, New Jersey 2
Nashville 2, Columbus 1
Tampa Bay 5, Dallas 0
Toronto 4, Edmonton 0
Pittsburgh 4, N.Y. Islanders 3, OT
Carolina 4, Florida 3, SO
Detroit 5, Chicago 3
Minnesota 4, Los Angeles 3, OT
Colorado at Arizona, late
Montreal at Winnipeg, late
Vegas at Anaheim, late
St. Louis at San Jose, late

Today's Games

Boston at N.Y. Rangers, 12 p.m.
Columbus at Nashville, 3 p.m.
Philadelphia at Buffalo, 3 p.m.
Washington at New Jersey, 3 p.m.
Pittsburgh at N.Y. Islanders, 5 p.m.
Detroit at Chicago, 7 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

BOSTON BRUINS — Claimed D Jarrod Tinordi from waivers.
BUFFALO SABRES — Recalled G Jonas Johansson and D Jacob Bryson from the minor league taxi squad. Assigned F Rasmus Asplund to the taxi squad.
CALGARY FLAMES — Recalled C Glenn Gawdin from the minor league taxi squad.
DETROIT RED WINGS — Recalled C Frans Nielsen and RW Evgeny Svechnikov from the minor league taxi squad. Designated G Kaden Fulcher for assignment to the taxi squad.
MONTREAL CANADIENS — Recalled LW Brandon Baddock and Joel Teasdale from Laval (AHL) loan.
NASHVILLE PREDATORS — Recalled RW Eeli Tolvanen from the minor league taxi squad.
NEW JERSEY DEVILS — Loaned D Connor Carrick to Binghamton (AHL) from the taxi squad. Recalled D Matt Tennyson from Binghamton (AHL) to the taxi squad.
OTTAWA SENATORS — Recalled D Erik Brannstrom from the minor league taxi squad.
PHILADELPHIA FLYERS — Recalled LW Carsen Twarynski and C Connor Gunnaman from the minor league taxi squad.
TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS — Designated D Timothy Liljegren and LW Kenny Agostino for assignment to the taxi squad. Assigned D Martin Marinic and LW Alex Galchenyuk to Toronto (AHL).
WASHINGTON CAPITALS — Assigned G Phoenix Copley to Hershey (AHL). Designated G Ilya Samsonov for assignment to the taxi squad.
WINNIPEG JETS — Recalled D Logan Stanley from the minor league taxi squad.

Florida LOTTERY

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

PICK 2 (early) 1 - 8	PICK 5 (late) 1 - 1 - 8 - 2 - 3
PICK 2 (late) 1 - 7	FANTASY 5 Unavailable
PICK 3 (early) 2 - 0 - 9	LOTTO Unavailable
PICK 3 (late) 4 - 7 - 2	POWERBALL Unavailable
PICK 4 (early) 2 - 3 - 4 - 3	POWER BALL Unavailable
PICK 4 (late) 8 - 5 - 3 - 0	CASH 4 LIFE 8 - 18 - 33 - 38 - 53
PICK 5 (early) 1 - 1 - 3 - 8 - 0	CASH BALL 1

Friday's winning numbers and payouts:

Jackpot Triple Play: 6 - 7 - 13 - 19 - 35 - 45	4-of-5 MB 1 winner \$10,000
6-of-6 No winner	4-of-5 15 winners \$500
5-of-6 21 winners \$486.50	3-of-5 MB 43 \$200
4-of-6 1,099 \$22.50	3-of-5 818 \$10
3-of-6 18,470 \$1	2-of-5 MB 879 \$10
Combo 10+ 1 \$10,000	Fantasy 5: 11 - 15 - 17 - 22 - 25
Combo9 6 \$500	5-of-5 2 winners \$106,197.16
Combo8 86 \$50	4-of-5 382 \$89.50
Combo7 540 \$20	3-of-5 10,417 \$9
Combo6 2,794 \$10	Cash 4 Life: 12 - 16 - 32 - 36 - 51
Combo5 10,354 \$5	Cash Ball: 4
Mega Millions: 11 - 15 - 37 - 62 - 64	5-of-5 CB No winner
Mega Ball: 5	5-of-5 No winner
5-of-5 MB No winner	Players should verify winning numbers by calling 850-487-7777 or at www.flalottery.com.
5-of-5 No winner	

On the AIRWAVES

TODAY'S SPORTS

AUTO RACING

3:30 p.m. (13 FOX) NASCAR Cup Series Dixie Vodka 400
11 p.m. (FS1) NASCAR Cup Series Dixie Vodka 400 (Same-day Tape)

SPRING TRAINING BASEBALL

1 p.m. (MLB) Toronto Blue Jays at New York Yankees
4 p.m. (MLB) Los Angeles Dodgers at Oakland Athletics
8 p.m. (MLB) Washington Nationals at St. Louis Cardinals (Same-day Tape)
11 p.m. (MLB) Los Angeles Angels at San Francisco Giants (Same-day Tape)
2 a.m. (MLB) Milwaukee Brewers at Chicago White Sox (Same-day Tape)

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

5 a.m. (ESPNU) Illinois at Wisconsin (Taped)
7 a.m. (ESPNU) UC Santa Barbara at UC Riverside (Taped)
12 p.m. (10 CBS) Villanova at Butler
1 p.m. (ESPN) Memphis at Cincinnati
2 p.m. (10 CBS) Michigan State at Maryland
4 p.m. (10 CBS) Iowa at Ohio State
4 p.m. (ACCN) Pittsburgh at NC State
4 p.m. (ESPNU) South Florida at Houston
7 p.m. (FS1) Nevada at Utah State
12 a.m. (ESPNU) USC at Utah (Taped)

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

12 p.m. (ACCN) NC State at Syracuse
12 p.m. (ESPN2) Georgia at Florida
12 p.m. (FS1) Georgetown at Xavier
12 p.m. (SEC) Ole Miss at Kentucky
12 p.m. (SUN) Wake Forest at Florida State
12:30 p.m. (BIG10) Rutgers at Penn State
2 p.m. (ACCN) Pittsburgh at Georgia Tech
2 p.m. (ESPN2) South Carolina at Texas A&M
2 p.m. (SEC) Auburn at Tennessee
2 p.m. (SUN) Miami at Clemson
2:30 p.m. (BIG10) Michigan at Minnesota
3 p.m. (ESPN) Louisville at Notre Dame
3 p.m. (FS1) Iowa at Wisconsin
4 p.m. (ESPN2) Maryland at Northwestern
4 p.m. (SEC) Missouri at Mississippi State
6 p.m. (SEC) Alabama at Arkansas

NBA

3:30 p.m. (28 ABC) Los Angeles Clippers at Milwaukee Bucks
8 p.m. (ESPN) Golden State Warriors at Los Angeles Lakers
8 p.m. (SUN) Atlanta Hawks at Miami Heat
2 a.m. (ESPN2) Los Angeles Clippers at Milwaukee Bucks (Same-day Tape)

BOWLING

1 p.m. (13 FOX) PBA Tournament of Champions
2 a.m. (FS1) PBA Tournament of Champions (Same-day Tape)

EQUESTRIAN

4 p.m. (FSNFL) America's Day at the Races
5 p.m. (FS1) America's Day at the Races

GOLF

12 p.m. (GOLF) PGA Tour WGC — Workday Championship at The Concession, Final Round
2:30 p.m. (8 NBC) PGA Tour WGC — Workday Championship at The Concession, Final Round
2:30 p.m. (GOLF) PGA Tour Puerto Rico Open, Final Round
4:30 p.m. (GOLF) PGA Tour Champions Cologuard Classic, Final Round
8 p.m. (GOLF) LPGA Tour Gainbridge LPGA, Final Round (Same-day Tape)

NHL

12 p.m. (8 NBC) Boston Bruins at New York Rangers
3 p.m. (NHL) Columbus Blue Jackets at Nashville Predators
7 p.m. (NBCSPT) Detroit Red Wings at Chicago Blackhawks
12:30 a.m. (NHL) Boston Bruins at New York Rangers (Same-day Tape)

OUTDOORS

8 a.m. (FS1) Bassmaster Fishing Elite Series
SOCCER
6:25 a.m. (ESPN2) Italian Serie A Sampdoria vs Atalanta
7 a.m. (NBCSPT) Premier League Leicester City vs Arsenal
8:55 a.m. (NBCSPT) Premier League Tottenham Hotspur vs Burnley
11:25 a.m. (NBCSPT) Premier League Chelsea vs Manchester United
12:30 a.m. (NBCSPT) Mexico Primera Division Guadalajara vs Pumas UNAM (Same-day Tape)

COLLEGE SOFTBALL

5 a.m. (SEC) Louisiana at LSU (Same-day Tape)

COLLEGE TRACK AND FIELD

8 p.m. (SEC) SEC Indoor Championship (Taped)

WOMEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL

4 a.m. (SEC) Ole Miss at LSU (Same-day Tape)

4:30 p.m. (BIG10) Indiana at Purdue

WINTER SPORTS

2 p.m. (NBCSPT) FIS Alpine Skiing World Cup: Women's Super-G (Same-day Tape)

COLLEGE WRESTLING

7 p.m. (ACCN) ACC Championship

SPORTS BRIEFS

Snider wins after Gragson slams into lapped car

HOMESTEAD — Myatt Snider won the Xfinity Series race at Homestead-Miami Speedway on Saturday, taking the checkered flag in overtime after Noah Gragson slammed into a lapped car with two laps remaining.

The 26-year-old Snider celebrated his first victory in 36 starts with a reverse lap around the 1 1/2-mile track.

Snider spun his tires on the first of two restarts in overtime, but got a second chance thanks to another late caution. He didn't make the same mistake twice, driving by Tyler Reddick and turning the final two laps without much of a test.

The biggest challenge for the first-time winner was finding victory lane. Snider missed the turn before having to back up and try again.

Reddick was second, followed by Brandon Jones, Daniel Hemric, Jeb Burton and pole-sitter Austin Cindric.

Gragson was as much the story as Snider. He was cruising toward his first win since the 2020 season opener at Daytona when he slammed into another car. Gragson was just about to pass David Starr with two laps to go when Starr blew a right-front tire and turned into the outside wall — and right in front of Gragson.

Gragson had nowhere to go and no time to stop. He climbed out of his crumpled car, shook his head and fists in disgust. He took off his helmet and gloves and waved to the crowd before stepping into a waiting ambulance for a mandatory ride to the infield care center.

"What are you going to do?" Gragson said. "You've got (idiots) in the way every single week."

NBA-leading Jazz rebound from loss to beat Magic

ORLANDO — Donovan Mitchell scored 31 points and Joe Ingles filled in well again at point guard in place of Mike Conley to help the Utah Jazz beat the Orlando Magic 124-109 on Saturday night.

Utah bounced back from a loss a night earlier in Miami, improving to 6-1 following a defeat. The NBA-leading Jazz have lost consecutive games just once all season and not since Jan. 6 when they

were 4-4.

Magic All-Star center Nikola Vucevic scored 34 points, but missed out on his 24th double-double by two rebounds. Evan Fournier (16 points) and Terrence Ross (10 points) combined to shoot just 11 of 36 from the floor and made only 1 of 13 from 3-point range.

Wizards send Wolves to 7th straight loss, 128-112

WASHINGTON — Bradley Beal scored 34 points, Russell Westbrook added 19 as part of his NBA-leading 10th triple-double, and the Washington Wizards used a 44-point third quarter to pull away for a 128-112 victory over the Minnesota Timberwolves on Saturday night.

Westbrook added 14 rebounds and 12 assists for the Wizards, who have won seven of eight to move back into playoff contention following a 6-17 start.

Karl-Anthony Towns had 23 points and 11 rebounds for the Timberwolves, who dropped their seventh straight, matching their longest slide of the season.

Murray, Jokic help Nuggets rout Thunder 126-96

Jamal Murray continued his hot scoring with 26 points and Nikola Jokic had his eighth triple-double of the season to help the Denver Nuggets rout the Oklahoma City Thunder 126-96 on Saturday.

Jokic had 19 points, 11 rebounds and 13 assists. Michael Porter Jr. added 20 points and 10 rebounds, and Will Barton scored 15 points.

Darius Bazley had 22 points for the Thunder.

DeRozan has 32 points, 11 assists in Spurs' win

SAN ANTONIO — DeMar DeRozan had 32 points and 11 assists and the short-handed San Antonio Spurs held on to beat the New Orleans Pelicans 117-114 on Saturday night.

Sexton, Garland help Cavaliers upset 76ers

PHILADELPHIA — Collin Sexton scored 28 points, Darius Garland had 25 and the feisty Cleveland Cavaliers beat the East-best Philadelphia 76ers 112-109 in overtime on Saturday night.

— From wire reports

NHL

Continued from Page B1

the game.

Stamkos scored his 10th of the season at 1:07 of the third, one-timing a backhand pass from Cirelli that made it 5-0 and ended the night for Khudobin.

Flyers 3, Sabres 0

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Brian Elliott stopped 23 shots to shut out the Sabres for a second time this season.

The Flyers were spurred by a replenished lineup in which four players returned after spending two weeks in the NHL's COVID-19 protocol. They included Scott Laughton, who scored a breakaway goal to make it 3-0 late in the second period.

Sean Couturier had a goal and assist to extend his points streak to five games, in which he has four goals and five assists, and Shayne Gostisbehere also scored. Philadelphia improved to 3-2-2 in its past seven, and won consecutive games for the first time since a five-game winning streak to close January.

The Sabres dropped to 2-6-1 in their past nine and played their second game without captain Jack Eichel, listed as day to day with a lower body injury.

Maples Leafs 4, Oilers 0

EDMONTON, Alberta — Jack Campbell made 30 saves for his third NHL shutout, Mitch Marner had a goal and an assist and the NHL-leading Toronto Maple Leafs opened a three-game set in Edmonton with a victory.

William Nylander, Jason Spezza and Zach Hyman also scored for Toronto (16-4-2), which was without NHL goals leader Auston Matthews because of a wrist injury. John Tavares added two assists to help the Maple Leafs improve to 16-4-2 and open a six-point lead over the Oilers in the all-Canadian North Division.

Mike Smith stopped 25 shots for Edmonton, which had won five straight.

Predators 2, Blue Jackets 1

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Mattias Ekholm scored a pair of second-period goals, and Juuse Saros made 29 saves for Nashville, a winner of three of the last four games.

Saros earned his first victory since Jan. 27. Saros' fellow Finn Pekka Rinne has taken a larger share of the goaltending duties for Nashville in the month of February.

Cam Atkinson scored the lone goal and Juonas Kopisalo made 31 saves for Columbus, loser of four straight.

Back in the lineup after recovering from an injury, Ekholm tied the game early in the second period with a slap shot from the left point through traffic for his first goal of the season and Ekholm's 200th career point. He struck again late in the second for the first multi-goal game of his 551-game NHL career.

Capitals 5, Devils 2

NEWARK, N.J. — Garnet Hathaway and Daniel Sprong scored in the opening

5:06 for the streaking Capitals. Lars Eller added the third goal in a big first period and Jabub Vrana gave the Capitals breathing room with a third-period breakaway tally. Rookie Vitek Vanecek had 22 saves in his ninth win.

Nic Dowd added an empty-net goal with less than a minute to play for Washington, 5-1-1 in its last seven after losing four straight.

Nico Hischier and Pavel Zacha each scored for the second consecutive game for New Jersey, which has lost four of five. Mackenzie Blackwood had 19 saves as the Devils opened a five-game homestand.

Flames 6, Senators 3

OTTAWA, Ontario — Juuso Valimaki, Mikael Backlund, Elias Lindholm, Sean Monahan, Andrew Mangiapane and Matthew Tkachuk scored for the Flames, who ended Ottawa's three-game win streak.

Drake Batherson, Colin White and Brady Tkachuk replied for the last-place Senators.

The Flames opened the scoring four minutes into the game and didn't look back. The speedy Johnny Gaudreau zipped around a couple of Ottawa players before sending a backhand saucer pass to Valimaki for a one-timer past Matt Murray. Calgary scored again 37 seconds later as Backlund flipped a rolling puck past a handcuffed Murray.

Morikawa's late stumble gives contenders a chance

Associated Press

BRADENTON — PGA champion Collin Morikawa went from feeling he could do no wrong to wondering if he could do anything right, and that was just over the final hour Saturday in the Workday Championship.

What mattered at the end of the third round was he had a two-shot lead as he goes for his first World Golf Championship title, even knowing it could have been a lot bigger.

Morikawa walked off the 12th hole with his seventh birdie in eight holes, stretching his lead to five shots with two par 5s still to play. He made bogey on both, shot a 5-under 67 and suddenly had four-time major champion Brooks Koepka and Billy Horschel on his tail.

"I didn't play great the last six, but a lot to learn from heading into tomorrow," Morikawa said. "Just to kind of clear my head to get ready for the 18-hole grind tomorrow."

Koepka, who said his neck has been stiff for the last month, got his mistakes out of the way early by opening with a pair of bogeys and rallied late for a 70. Horschel also had a late rally with an eagle on the par-5 17th hole and shot 69.

Another shot back was Webb Simpson (69).

Rory McIlroy, who made a double bogey for the second straight day, was hopeful of getting to 10 under to at least give himself a chance. He did one better with a 66, including an eagle on the par-5 13th that gave so many players fits, and wound up just four shots behind.

"It seems like it's one of these courses where it can give up a lot of birdies and some eagles and stuff, but it can bite you very quickly without really doing much wrong," McIlroy said. "Yeah, it's one of these places where you just have to stay patient and know that you're going to have chances."

Morikawa was at 15-under 201.

His troubles began on the 13th, and it looked harmless enough when he put his approach from the rough into the bunker and blasted out to just under 25 feet for a look at yet another birdie. Except that he left his putt 6 feet short, and missed the next one to take bogey.

"I never got it going again," Morikawa said.

He also made bogey on the par-5 17th, the easiest hole at Concession on Saturday, by finding a bunker off the tee, having to lay up short of the water, and then hitting into another bunker.

Morikawa found plenty of positives. He still had a two-shot lead. His putting stroke feels better than ever, and a chipping tip from Concession member Paul Azinger has left him confident on the short-game shots off the Bermuda grass.

Koepka is thankful he still has a chance.

Staked to a one-shot lead at the start of the third round, he opened with two straight bogeys, answered with a two-putt birdie on the third but then followed with eight straight pars and found himself seven shots behind. He had three birdies over the last seven holes.

Webb Simpson had a 69 and was three shots behind, followed by McIlroy and Patrick Reed (69).



Associated Press

Collin Morikawa lines up a putt on the first green during the third round of the Workday Championship golf tournament, on Saturday in Bradenton.

"It's definitely a course that no lead is big enough to kind of be safe because anything can happen," Reed said.

Also in the mix was Viktor Hovland, who represents what this course can do. He was 7 under for his round on Friday when he bladed a bunker shot at the wrong time and finished with a quadruple-bogey 8 on the ninth hole.

Hovland put that behind him and had a better day. He holed out a wedge from thick rough 45 yards short of the green for eagle on No. 7, and he chipped in for birdie from 80 feet on the par-3 14th.

Hovland had a 66 and joined the group five shots behind at 206 that included Hideki Matsuyama (68).

Morikawa will be going for his fourth PGA Tour victory with a chance to join the list of 23 players who have won majors and World Golf Championships.

His stretch of birdies began with a 15-footer on No. 5, included a 30-foot birdie on the next hole that rammed into the back of the cup, and the rest of them were putts from 10 feet or close.

"I just kept rolling in birdie after birdie. I didn't really think about it," he said. "Golf was simple."

And as he looked back over three days, and the amount of calamity that can happen at the Concession, he realized that no lead is safe on this course.

"You hit one bad shot and it could cost you big time," Horschel said.

Campos tied for lead at home in Puerto Rico

RIO GRANDE, Puerto Rico — Local favorite Rafael Campos took a share of the lead in the PGA Tour's Puerto Rico Open, waiting out a series of rain delays to shoot a 5-under 67 at windy Grand Reserve.

The 32-year-old from San Juan followed a birdie on the par-4 17th with a bogey on the par-5 18th to drop into a tie for the lead with Grayson Murray at 14-under 202.

"I know there's a lot of things that can basically change my life

tomorrow," Campos said. "But truth is, I'm just really happy. I have been playing good golf the last two weeks, and I really want to keep that mindset of the work I have been putting in the last four months, I'm starting to see good results.

"I think I will just focus on that, focus on playing the golf course the way I know how to play it, be aggressive when I have to be aggressive, and be conservative when I obviously don't feel comfortable. So, yeah, I really don't want to think about tomorrow. I just want to go out and hopefully play some good golf."

Murray bogeyed 17 and birdied 18 in a 65. Cameron Percy (67) and Branden Grace (68) were a stroke back.

Play was delayed three times for about an hour total in the afternoon because of the short, heavy downpours. With expected heavy rain

overnight and into the morning, the final round will feature threesomes off split tees.

Weir in front by 2 at Cologuard Classic

TUCSON, Ariz. — Mike Weir went on a back-nine birdie binge to take control of the Cologuard Classic.

Phil Mickelson waded into the mud for the second straight day and will have to dig out of a deep hole if he's going to make history.

Weir shot a 5-under 67 to build a two-shot lead in the Cologuard Classic, leaving Mickelson with a lot of ground to make up to win his third straight PGA Tour Champions start.

"I can't recall a time where I've hit so many shots close to the hole," Weir said. "I've hit really a lot of shots that have been almost tap-in to just outside of tap-in. My wedges have been very good, even mid-iron

game's been very good, and I'm driving it good."

Weir shot 66 in the opening round and had eight birdies in breezy conditions at tricky Tucson National. The Canadian left-hander was at 13 under, with Kevin Sutherland second heading into the final round.

Tim Petrovic became the second player in PGA Tour Champions history to have a hole-in-one in consecutive rounds with an ace on No. 14. He was 8 under after a 67.

Mickelson is bidding to become the first player to win his first three career starts on a PGA Tour-sanctioned tour. The five-time major champion was nine shots back after a 72 that included a second straight day of hitting out of the mud on No. 15.

Mickelson was the last amateur to win a PGA Tour event as a 20-year-old in Tucson 30 years ago, but has burned the edges of holes through two days in his return.

"I really don't know what to say other than it just was fractionally off the whole time," he said. "I thought I hit a lot of good shots that just weren't ending up close and I just wasn't able to score. I scored terribly today, obviously, and relative to how I play."

Korda at the top as Sorenstam falls back

ORLANDO — Nelly Korda surged into the lead in the Gainbridge LPGA with a 4-under 68 that left her in position to make it consecutive wins for the Korda family to start the season.

Annika Sorenstam sank to the bottom.

Korda, whose older sister Jessica won the Diamond Resorts Tournament of Champions last month to start the new LPGA Tour season, dropped only one shot on a breezy day at Lake Nona to lead by one over Patty Tavatanakit.

Sorenstam, playing for the first time in more than 12 years after retiring, had no expectations and no excuses. She kept leaving herself in bad spots around the green and finished with a 79. That put her in last place by four shots, 22 shots behind Korda.

WGC Workday Championship

Saturday At The Concession Golf Club Bradenton, Fla. Purse: \$10.5 million Yardage: 7,470; Par: 72 Third Round		
Collin Morikawa	70-64-67—201	-15
Billy Horschel	67-67-69—203	-13
Brooks Koepka	67-66-70—203	-13
Webb Simpson	66-69-69—204	-12
Rory McIlroy	69-70-66—205	-11
Patrick Reed	68-68-69—205	-11
Viktor Hovland	71-69-66—206	-10
Scottie Scheffler	69-70-67—206	-10
Hideki Matsuyama	72-66-68—206	-10
Matthew Fitzpatrick	66-69-71—206	-10
Abraham Ancer	71-66-70—207	-9
Louis Oosthuizen	69-68-70—207	-9
Tony Finau	68-67-72—207	-9
Sergio Garcia	67-74-67—208	-8
Jason Kokrak	70-69-69—208	-8
Will Zalatoris	72-69-68—209	-7
Jason Day	71-69-69—209	-7
Justin Thomas	73-66-70—209	-7
Max Homa	73-70-67—210	-6
Min Woo Lee	74-71-66—211	-5
Sungjae Im	68-74-69—211	-5
Kevin Na	73-69-69—211	-5
Aaron Rai	72-70-69—211	-5
Sebastian Munoz	69-72-70—211	-5
Gary Woodland	71-69-71—211	-5
Cameron Smith	68-66-77—211	-5

Branden Grace	67-68-68—203	-13
Andrew Putnam	67-70-67—204	-12
Nelson Ledesma	67-67-68—204	-12
Brandon Wu	66-67-71—204	-12
Ted Potter, Jr.	69-69-67—205	-11
Jhonattan Vegas	68-68-69—205	-11
Seamus Power	69-70-67—206	-10

Cologuard Classic

Saturday At Omni Tuscon National Tucson, Ariz. Purse: \$1.7 million Yardage: 7,218; Par: 73 Second Round		
Mike Weir	66-67—133	-13
Kevin Sutherland	68-67—135	-11
Scott Parel	69-67—136	-10
Scott Verplank	67-70—137	-9
Jeff Maggert	72-66—138	-8
Tim Petrovic	71-67—138	-8
David Toms	69-69—138	-8
Mark O'Meara	71-68—139	-7
K.J. Choi	71-68—139	-7
Steve Stricker	69-70—139	-7

LPGA Gainbridge

Saturday At Lake Nona Golf and Country Club Orlando, Fla. Purse: \$2 million Yardage: 6,701; Par: 72 a-amateur Third Round		
Nelly Korda	67-68-68—203	-13
Patty Tavatanakit	69-69-66—204	-12
Angel Yin	72-69-65—206	-10
Lin Young Ko	68-72-66—206	-10
Lydia Ko	65-69-72—206	-10
Lexi Thompson	71-68-68—207	-9
Chella Choi	69-69-69—207	-9
Brooke M. Henderson	71-69-68—208	-8
Marissa Steen	69-71-68—208	-8
In Gee Chun	69-68-71—208	-8

Puerto Rico Open

Saturday At The Grand Reserve Country Club Rio Grande, Puerto Rico Purse: \$3 million Yardage: 7,506; Par: 72 Third Round		
Grayson Murray	71-66-65—202	-14
Rafael Campos	66-69-67—202	-14
Cameron Percy	67-69-67—203	-13

Bowling SCORES

Parkview Lanes

12-WEEK LEAGUE: The next session of the Thursday night Holder Hotshots begins with the league meeting at 7 p.m. on March 4. The teams are 3-persons, any mix or all one gender, and the cost is \$14 per week. Call the center at 352-489-6933 to register, either as a team or as an individual.
LEAGUE SCORES FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEB. 21:

PARKVIEW SENIORS

Handicap: Bill Johnston 280,738; Wayne DeWolf 273; Mike Krombach 775; Jeff Wright 738; Kathy Fuller 263,692; Terri Moorbeck 245; Patty Krombach 688. Scratch: Bill Johnston 232,594; Jeff Wright 211,597; Kathy Fuller 172; Terri Moorbeck 169,454; Rosemarie Marcucci 435.

MONDAY NIGHT SPECIAL

Handicap: Mark Smith 285,766; Sonny Arashiro 280; John Saltmarsh 763; Marla Carr 272; Pat Tutewohl 262,701; Judy Timmons 217. Scratch: Mark Smith 259,688; Sonny Arashiro 255,669; Debbie Aguilar 197,559; Marla Carr 197; Judy Timmons 192,522.

PARKVIEW 7-9-8 NOTAP

Handicap: Mike Krombach 372,953; Jim Schlegel 364,953; Norm Patch 891; Nance Dijiullo 386; Carol McHale 366; Carol Desm 932; Patty Krombach 930. Scratch: Tony Hyatt 300, 852; Jerry Ness 300,839; (men six 300's); Susan Fabre 300,742; Marilyn Seymour 300,686; (women four 300's).

SANDY OAKS WINTER

Handicap: Richard Barnhill 260,683; Homer Raush 245; Don Powers 668; Penny Nardin 240,656; Patti Carmen 234; Kathy Crippen 634. Scratch: Richard Barnhill 226,581; Homer Raush 221,545; Mariene Hyde 171; Pat Young 161,439; Ruth Frazier 451.

MARCH MADNESS

Handicap: Curt Kollert 274; Tyler Beatty 269; Larry Fritz 720; Bill Levert 715; Lauren

Dolphin 268,734; Peggy Colantuono 266,740. Scratch: Tyler Beatty 258,650; Tony Hyatt 246; Larry Fritz 597; Lauren Dolphin 191,503; Pam Levert 181,484.

LATE STARTERS

Handicap: Allan Gobbi 299,706; Ted Rafanan 271; Marvin Johns 673; Mary Ann Soloway 253,691; Nancy Vaughan 253; Kathy Hession 712. Scratch: Ted Rafanan 236,548; Allan Gobbi 223; Tony Hyatt 592; Nancy Vaughan 192,536; Laura Bonadonna 169,426.

WEDNESDAY SCRATCH TRIO

Brian Carney 290,713; John Charette 268,704; Ryan Aguilar 723; Stephanie Flory 235,606; Lisa Posey 208,564.

WOMEN'S TRIO

Handicap: Noemi Flores 235,684; Sally Miller 648. Scratch: Bonnie Bishop 173,471; Marilyn Seymour 172,449; Nancy Vaughan 172.

GOOD TIMES

Handicap: Bill Montross 237,608; Leo Hoiniski 229; Ken Maria 608; Jerry Ness 596; Jeannie Honour 238,625; Laura Bonadonna 217; Laurie Anderson 600. Scratch: Jerry Ness 192,536; Bill Montross 179,434; Janet Murray 192,539; Laura Bonadonna 169,426.

HOLDER HOTSHOTS

Handicap: Darrell Mitchell 266,712; Richard Hickey 256; Shaun Cater 256; Scott Borntrager 712; Rich Balke 696; Diana Steinbrook 259,709; Dawn Rivera 254; Vicki Jeffers 735. Scratch: Shaun Cater 220,579; Darrell Mitchell 213,553; Vicki Jeffers 183,537; Debby Balke 163,461.

PARKVIEW TGIF

Handicap: Jack Williams 277,769; Ray Botts 274; Jim Sanders 743; Susan Dantoni 268,731; Pat Tutewohl 263; Donna Frank 708. Scratch: Ken Golubski 237; Ray Botts 201; Tony Hyatt 603; Jim Sanders 599; Susan Dantoni 226,605; Pam Levert 212; Lisa Stewart 501.

PARKVIEW YOUTH

Handicap: Evan Posey 285,761; John

Manatee Lanes

TUESDAY ODD BALLS
MEN'S HIGH GAME HDCP, 285, Mark Alifilf
MEN'S HIGH SERIES HDCP, 816, Caleb Herndon
MEN'S HIGH GAME SCRATCH, 245, Rich Koller
MEN'S HIGH SERIES SCRATCH, 658, Bob Wood
WOMEN'S HIGH GAME HDCP, 262, Taylor Lynch
WOMEN'S HIGH SERIES HDCP, 718, Mary Sutton
WOMEN'S HIGH GAME SCRATCH, 244, Bam Sholes
WOMEN'S HIGH SERIES SCRATCH, 572, Danyele Lee

TUESDAY YOUTH
BOY'S HIGH GAME HDCP, 243, Colton Davis
BOY'S HIGH SERIES HDCP, 678, Trent Baumes
BOY'S HIGH GAME SCRATCH, 201, Skyler Beville
BOY'S HIGH SERIES SCRATCH, 529, Robert Pierson
GIRL'S HIGH SERIES HDCP, 671, Alyssa Kline
GIRL'S HIGH GAME SCRATCH, 147, Suzanne Rohn
GIRL'S HIGH SERIES SCRATCH, 440, Alayna Lee

WEDNESDAY MEN'S
HIGH HDCP GAME, 289, Bill Spreen
HIGH HDCP SERIES, 754, Richard Koller
THURSDAY LADIES POWDER PUFFS
HIGH GAME HDCP, 278, Rita Carlson
HIGH SERIES HDCP, 789, Dar Brandl
HIGH GAME SCRATCH, 246, Susan Dantoni
HIGH SERIES SCRATCH, 621, Barb Moore

THURSDAY FLORIDA POWER
MEN'S HIGH GAME HDCP, 291, Tommy Morgan
MEN'S HIGH SERIES HDCP, 740, Bill Roberts Jr
MEN'S HIGH GAME SCRATCH, 243, Brady Berry
MEN'S HIGH SERIES HDCP, 644, Ian Lee
WOMEN'S HIGH GAME HDCP, 253, Melissa Wideman
WOMEN'S HIGH SERIES HDCP, 700, Renee Smith
WOMEN'S HIGH GAME SCRATCH, 211, Kim Mullis
WOMEN'S HIGH SERIES SCRATCH, 541, Krissy Koller

FRIDAY FUN BUNCH
MEN'S HIGH GAME HDCP, 267, Steven Mallory
MEN'S HIGH SERIES HDCP, 695, John Kierman
MEN'S HIGH GAME SCRATCH, 258, Douglas Williams
MEN'S HIGH SERIES SCRATCH, 746, Brian Tiesmeyer
WOMEN'S HIGH GAME HDCP, 268, Kathy Gillis
WOMEN'S HIGH SERIES HDCP, 690, Tori Lane
WOMEN'S HIGH GAME SCRATCH, 195, Lisa Pozzi
WOMEN'S HIGH SERIES SCRATCH, 667, Joyce Johnson

Women Scratch: Annia Vargoshe 180-516, Sue Hooper 176-503, Jennifer Brooks 176, Apryl Harkin 464
Women Handicap: Apryl Harkin 256-737, Jennifer Brooks 254-684, Jodi Ward 246, Sue Hooper 710

Hits & Misses, Mixed
Men Scratch: Mark Ash 246-599, Al Sutherland 236-599, PJ Ireland 224-585
Men Handicap: Al Sutherland 281-734, Mark Ash 266-659, John Saltmarsh 249, Mike Dudziak 249
Women scratch: Edith Regan 200-554, Kathy Pollari 191-484, Suzanne Hooper 179, Liz Riechel 477
Women Handicap: Edith Regan 247-695, Suzanne Hooper 241, Theresa Sardonio 660, Kathy Shampine 243-657

Pinbusters, Women
Scratch: Janice Kictarek 209, Ashley Worrell 193-519, Mary Lindsey 189-489, Brandy 189-480
Handicap: Janice Kictarek 270, Brandy 264-705, Twila Sponholz 245-671, Mary Lindsey 645
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Senior Fun Bowl, Saturdays at 1 p.m. Prizes for high game and series for both men and women, colored pins, mystery frames, mystery game, Bingo, side pots, 50/50. Also money is put aside each week for the Split-Pot which is held three times each year. To win the Split-Pot a bowler must first convert a split in any of the three games bowled. After completion of the three games each bowler who has converted a split must roll three balls. The winner is the one who scores exactly 21 pins. If there are ties the money is split between winners. Refreshments and fun for all each week. Entry Fee \$10.

WRESTLING

Continued from Page B1

that was hurtful," coach Mendez said. "He has to get better on bottom. And I think he has to wrestle with more aggression. He needs to take control of the match. When he wrestles against elite wrestlers, I think he lets them dictate the match.

"He did good winning that first match. That's a tough kid ranked 10th in the state and he had a nice match. Wrestled pretty good against the other kid, who I think took second in the state last year. Just came up short."

The final chance for a state qualifier was Ramallo at 182.

The senior started his day with a workmanlike 5-0 decision over Elijah Newman of Land O' Lakes, to set up a match against Aidan Benjamin of River Ridge with a ticket to state on the line.

Ramallo nearly took Benjamin to his back early in the first period, but instead ended up on his back twice in the match in a 12-5 loss.

"Adrian really stepped it up today. Blood round. He came close," coach Mendez said. "That could have been a different outcome there. He definitely had a chance at it.

"Super proud of them seniors. Super happy for them. They came a long way and had a good tournament."

And while it was the last tournament for Ramallo and Moskes, Diego Mendez and Williams will be



MATT PFIFFNER/Chronicle

Adrian Ramallo of Lecanto, top, controls Elijah Newman of Land O' Lakes during their consolation quarterfinal match Saturday at the Region 2A-II Meet at Lake Gibson High in Lakeland. Ramallo won the match, 5-0.

back next season to take one last shot at state.

"The goal won't even be to qualify for states. It will be top-four finish," coach Mendez said. "I think both of them have it in them to be state place finishers, not just qualifiers. I'm very confident both will qualify for state and place next year."

Citrus takes a trio

Citrus will be the lone county representative at states for the second year in a row, after three survived the two-day Region 1A-II Meet in Melbourne, to help the team finish fifth out of 29 schools.

Senior Blake Coleman at 182 will be making his

second appearance, while junior Logan Simpson at 152 and freshman Charles Smith at 120 will be making their first trips to the big show.

"It just shows that a lot of the guys are determined to persevere and trust us as coaches," Citrus head coach Joe Estep said. "We just focused on moving on to the next match and focusing on the one right ahead of us."

Simpson punched his ticket to state Saturday with a 2-0 semifinal victory over Irael Reyes of Zephyrhills.

In the title match, Simpson faced returning state place finisher Jack Dinberg of Palm Bay. The

senior with one loss on the season edged the Hurricane for the gold medal, 3-1.

"Logan's first words to me after his match were, 'If I see him at state next weekend, I'm going to beat him,'" Estep said. "The first time they wrestled at regionals duals, he beat Logan by four or five points. This time, Logan was deep in on a shot. Give him another three seconds and he scores and it goes into overtime."

Coleman had to go a difficult route to make it to state after suffering his first loss of the season in the semifinals by fall against Alexander Owens of Palm Bay.

The Hurricane needed to regroup quickly and face David Arcieri of Atlantic (Port Orange) to claim a second trip to state. Coleman cruised to an 11-0 major decision to lock up his bid. In the third-place match, Coleman decked Troy Sawyer of Cocoa in 3:35 for the bronze medal.

"The first thing I said to Blake after the loss was 'we've never been here before,'" Estep said. "Last year he lost to Palm Bay in the semifinals, came back and got third at regionals and went on his ride to second place at the state tournament. Next week is what matters."

Smith entered the day on the back side of the bracket and had to win twice to make it to state. He started out with a pin over county rival Angel Merchant of Crystal River and then slipped past Elijah Dy of Bishop Moore — who he lost to 8-7 in the district finals a week before — by a 5-4 score, to clinch the state berth. In the third-place match, Smith was pinned by TJ Rodier of Hernando.

"Charlie, even though he's a freshman, has shown a lot of improvement throughout the year and continued to listen and continued to shock his opponents," Estep said. "We knew if he had to wrestle Elijah Dy, after his loss to him at districts in the last seconds, we knew he would beat him."

Also wrestling for the Hurricanes on Saturday but not advancing to state were sophomore Gage Persons at 113, senior Jacob Reynolds at 126,

senior Maxal Simpson at 132 and junior Jesse Pounders at 145.

Reynolds and Maxal Simpson have been key leaders for the Hurricanes.

"Both Jake and Max are prime examples of how hard work and perseverance over four years can lead to accomplishment of goals," Estep said.

Reynolds, who is blind, never let that be an excuse on the mat.

"Jake has been a consistent hard worker the past four years and has molded a lot of kids around his weight class," Estep said. "His loss was very emotional for both the coaching staff and the team."

Maxal Simpson has had an amazing transformation the past four years.

"Max went from an over-weight 182-pound wrestler with virtually no skills to a senior wrestler who developed in the last year of his career at a strong 132-pound weight class," Estep said.

Crystal River had three wrestlers still competing on Saturday in the consolation brackets.

At 106, Blaine Reed began the day with a 12-3 major decision over Eric Hurley of Central, but fell just short of state with a tough 5-4 loss to Dustin Kohn of The Masters Academy in the consolation semifinals.

Angel Merchant at 120 was pinned by Citrus' Smith in the consolation quarterfinals and Pirate 220-pounder Tim Gray lost his first match of the day and was eliminated, 6-2 against John Tilton of Palatka.

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LeMahieu, Yankees looking forward to fans

Spring games begin today

Associated Press

TAMPA — DJ LeMahieu and the New York Yankees are happy there will be a little bit of baseball normalcy when spring training games begin on Sunday.

As in, fans in the stands when the Yankees host the Toronto Blue Jays at Steinbrenner Field.

Due to restrictions brought about by the coronavirus pandemic, it will be the first time fans will see the Yankees play in-person since a spring training game last March 12.

“To me it’s just Major League Baseball with fans,” LeMahieu said on Saturday. “Last year I’m glad we played. Glad we were able to get in as many games as we could and I thought the playoffs was cool but just missed that adrenaline and excitement.”

The limited crowd due to safety protocols for Sunday’s game is expected to be around 2,800 in the ballpark that has a

capacity of over 10,000. “You can definitely tell how excited people are to go to baseball games, especially to watch the Yankees and that’s what I’m excited about,” LeMahieu said. “I enjoy the game but I know how much it means to a lot of fans to watch the Yankees and baseball.”

Social distancing and mask wearing rules are in place and there will be no close interaction between players and fans like signing autographs.

“I definitely miss that,” said LeMahieu, who led the majors in batting last year. “It’s not always my favorite thing to do but I know how much it means. It’s something I look forward to. Hopefully that kind of interaction returns.”

The Blue Jays will also be playing before fans for the first time in almost a year.

“In just watching other events, whether it was college football, NFL games, different games where fans were there in limited capacities, it does change the look and the feel even watching it on TV I felt like,” Yankees manager Aaron Boone said. “I’m sure it will be nice for the



Associated Press

The New York Yankees take batting practice at George M. Steinbrenner Field during a spring training workout on Tuesday, in Tampa.

guys to have that environment and atmosphere that only the fans can create.”

Boone said the first time the lack of fans last year really hit him hard was the

initial series with the Boston Red Sox.

“Where there’s just that normal extra buzz, angst and intensity in a regular-season setting,” Boone said.

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That's how we do it in America



Gerry Mulligan
OUT THE WINDOW

There was a meeting the other night in Crystal River that was all about our form of government.

We call it Democracy. No one cursed and screamed. No windows were broken. No one was injured or killed.

In a sense, it was a somewhat boring subject to most people. The city of Crystal River is finally getting ready to start construction on the waterfront section of the Riverwalk.

This project, a boardwalk along the commercial portion of King's Bay, has been talked about and planned for 30 years. Now it's finally going to happen.

But about 75 people showed up Thursday to express their opinions about a ticklish issue. A city-owned boat ramp next to the ice cream shop on U.S. 19 will be closed as part of the Riverwalk construction project.

A new boat ramp will be constructed somewhere in Crystal

River and city leaders were leaning toward an area called the Mullet Hole.

It is critical that a new boat ramp be constructed to make up for the one being closed because state regulations are very strict about creating new access points for boats.

It's about the manatee — the state does all it can to protect them.

The only way a new boat ramp can be constructed is if it replaces one being closed. So the city is closing the one, but must quickly get

the one sited and built before the right of replacement is sacrificed.

The Mullet Hole is a state park area located down State Park Road near the Ford dealership north on U.S. 19.

Here's where the Democracy thing came in. As all of the citizens gathered to consider this very local issue, it became evident that many did not want any construction at the Mullet Hole. It is pristine and peaceful area enjoyed by nature
 See **WINDOW/Page C3**



MATTHEW BECK/Chronicle

Cars line up Thursday May 28, 2020, to pass one-by-one in front of the stage to photograph their graduate at Citrus High School. The drive-thru graduation for parents was just one of the changes the school district had to make during the past year of the pandemic.

A year of virtual learning

A heroic effort by teachers and administrators enabled children to come back to school

We're getting really close to the one year anniversary of when the world stood still. We all remember the moment when the kids across America came home from school saying that for two weeks they would be learning using their computers and iPads — all from the comfort of their pajamas and couches.



Cortney Stewart
SEEING BEYOND

That two weeks never ended for the 2019-2020 school year. For

the first time in history, pretty much every school district in the country finished the school year using Zoom — a platform we'd barely heard of before March 2020.

For some states, that nightmare hasn't ended. Across the country, in hundreds of school districts, students will have completed an entire year of school on virtual platforms. Educators, researchers, and experts are all casting predictions of what the loss of face-to-face schooling will mean for the future and how this will impact kids long term.

Many experts say that, academically, students could be up to a year behind in terms of skill and concept mastery. This has forced many school districts to ask questions of how to catch kids up in a way that holds them accountable to important academic standards while also carefully recognizing and trying to mitigate the



CHS graduate Cade Anthony receives an elbow bump Thursday May 28, 2020, from CHS media specialist Joe Melito as the graduate exits the school grounds.

psychological, emotional and social costs that come with that kind of pressure.

Longer school days and mandatory summer school have been suggested as appropriate means to help kids make up for the time lost. Less popular is the notion of having students repeat a year of school. All of these ideas are paired up with things like tutoring and well-being support, which, of course, all cost additional money to implement.

It's not an easy place to be.

Citrus County's testing seems to indicate that many of the academic dips seen in the fall had been rectified by winter testing — and elementary school diagnostics show that kids are actually in better places in math and ELA than in the fall of 2019 — before the pandemic. Those numbers seem a little harder to track in middle and

high school because the district administered different tests, making comparisons difficult.

However, Citrus County's choice to commence face-to-face learning while offering a separate virtual experience for those wanting to avoid large public spaces seems to have given our kids a major advantage when compared to many students across the country, who have not seen the inside of a school building for almost a year.

That doesn't mean we won't have our challenges. Instead, it means our school district and our teachers gave us a head start as we pull ourselves from the COVID-19 academic hole.

The loss of a quarter of a year in the 2019-2020 school year will cost us — and not just academically. The structure of school is a primary method of socialization in our society and we've only just begun to look at the effects of

missing just a quarter of the school year may have on our kids' social growth — particularly those of elementary age — for whom face-to-face schooling is a major source of social skill learning.

Teachers who trained to teach in a brick-and-mortar school and engage with students face-to-face were forced to learn on the job as they tried to piece together a version of virtual school that mirrored their classrooms. What we've learned over the past year is that virtual school is more than just trying to replicate what takes place in a traditional classroom. It's a completely different method of teaching — with value in its own right. But it takes the right kind of training and the right kind of resources to make it successful.

Tech companies rolled out tons of platforms and learning opportunities for educators, but even those were all trial and error as teachers had never used them before. And understandably, with the abrupt nature in which traditional schooling stopped and virtual learning began, tech companies hadn't worked out all the details and fixed all the bugs before they offered products to educators. This added to the disjointed feeling that students, parents and teachers felt during virtual learning.

A heroic effort by teachers and administrators enabled our kids to make it through the final quarter of school last year and an even greater sacrifice gave them the opportunity to come back face-to-face this academic year. It should make us question how in the world teachers have not been given a top-level priority for vaccine
 See **VIRTUAL/Page C3**

Girls now join the ranks of Eagle Scouts



John Murphy
GUEST COLUMN

The rank of Eagle Scout has long been revered by young men looking to attain the highest honor in the Scouts BSA program. The first Eagle Scout, Arthur Rose Eldred, was a member of Troop 1 in Oceanside, New York, and earned his Eagle in April 1912.

On Sunday, Feb. 21, the Scout BSA program had the honor of recognizing the inaugural class of female Eagle Scouts. This group of young ladies has been fulfilling the same requirements as their male

counterparts since gaining access to the Scouts BSA program in February 2019.

Citrus County has an active established girl unit, Troop 344. The troop was chartered in 2020 by the Rotary Club of Inverness because the need was great. Since its establishment, the number of girls in the unit has grown and several are working toward the rank of Eagle Scout.

Astronaut Neil Armstrong did it. So did former President Gerald R.

Ford. Michael Bloomberg, past mayor of New York City, and Mike Rowe, host of TV's "Dirty Jobs," also did it. And for these young ladies, they now join the ranks of those that have achieved this great accomplishment.

What exactly is an Eagle Scout ranking and how is achieved? When Scouting began in 1908, there were only three classes of scouts: Tenderfoot, Second Class, and First Class. One scout per year would be honored with the Wolf Badge, a

reward given for a special distinction.

After Boy Scouts of America was founded in 1910, it was decided that America's national bird should represent the highest possible award — and thus the Eagle Scout was born. In the beginning, it was not a rank but required a scout to earn several specific merit badges — 21. Over the years, the number and types of badges changed along with

► "I have learned to seek my happiness by limiting my desires, rather than in attempting to satisfy them."

John Stuart Mill

CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE

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"You may differ with my choice, but not my right to choose."
— David S. Arthurs publisher emeritus

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

HIGHWAY ROUTE

Simpson has compromise to complete Suncoast

The need for a "north-south" limited-access highway along the west coast of Florida has been discussed for more than 40 years. Those discussions have resulted in the construction of the Suncoast Parkway from Tampa on the south all the way to State Road 44 in the middle of Citrus County.

The goal has always been to move traffic all the way up to I-10 in North Florida. We all know that I-75 and I-95, the two existing limited-access highways in the state, are overcrowded to the extreme. When hurricanes hit south Florida, as they have done in recent years, the traffic fleeing the southern counties has come to a stand-still on I-75, U.S. 19 and all roads going north.

An alternative is desperately needed.

As Citrus County residents know, the Suncoast Parkway extension is now under construction from U.S. 98 at Sugarmill Woods to S.R. 44 in Lecanto. The next phase of the project, from S.R. 44 to County Road 486 near the entrance of Pine Ridge is in the planning stages.

The guiding philosophy just last year was that the Suncoast would be constructed through the rural counties of West Central Florida all the way to I-10. Like everything else in our world, the COVID pandemic has turned the plans upside down.

Revenue sources for the state have been slammed by COVID. Most of the state and federal dollars available are being used to fight off the economic and health crisis caused by the pandemic.

At the same time, there has been opposition to build the new parkway from environmental organizations. Some local governments in the northern counties are fighting to protect the rural way of life enjoyed by their residents.

Fortunately, Sen. Wilton Simpson is president of the

Florida Senate right now and he knows a good compromise when he sees one. Sen. Simpson has offered his vision for a Suncoast Connector route that completes the Suncoast Parkway through Citrus County where it would connect with existing portions of U.S. 19.

Sen. Simpson's plan would greatly reduce the cost of the project going north and would make use of existing state right-of-way along U.S. 19. For those who currently travel north to Levy County along U.S. 19, those improved four-lane highways are underutilized at this time.

Bypass plans would be developed to move traffic around the small towns such as Chiefland and Cross City.

In our view, the compromise strategy makes good sense. While lots of details need to be worked out, the proposal would provide an efficient way to move traffic with a lower cost and a minimum impact on the environment.

Coincidentally, the idea of making use of U.S. 19 was the key proposal made 40 years ago before the federal government got involved in the process.

There are some legislators opposed to spending any dollars on the Suncoast Parkway because they would prefer that all resources be used to solve problems in the booming metro areas. Stopping the Suncoast where it now ends, in the middle of Citrus County, would be an absurd abandonment of proper planning.

For the record, if transportation dollars are not spent to solve the problems in this part of Florida, our traffic problems will end up like Miami's in the decades to come.

Florida can't give up on the Suncoast Parkway. We urge Sen. Simpson to continue to move his compromise proposal forward.

THE ISSUE:

The Suncoast Parkway.

OUR OPINION:

Compromise proposal makes sense.

Florida GOP measure really targets Black voters

One of many historic footnotes to the tense November election was that Florida didn't screw everything up for the rest of the country.

For once, the ballot-counting here was mostly uneventful, uncontroversial and fairly speedy. It was a weird new feeling to turn on the TV and hear other states be the punch line of all those snarky late-night jokes.

The election process went so smoothly and handled such a huge turnout that Florida Republicans are moving fast to make sure it doesn't happen again. The first of several bills designed to shrink the vote sailed through a Senate committee recently.

Filed by Sen. Dennis Baxley of Ocala, the measure would restrict vote-by-mail applications to one election cycle, and specifically require everybody who received mail ballots last year to re-apply in 2022.

As state law now stands, voters requesting a mail-in ballot receive them for two cycles of general elections, which is sensible and convenient.

Baxley claims revision is needed "to create less opportunities for mishap or mischief," though he was unable to cite a single instance of mail-vote fraud in the last election.

Here's the best he could do: "It's not that big of a change. Some people are nervous about change. Why not try this? It may invigorate participation."

Sure. The same way spike strips would invigorate the Daytona 500.

Baxley is an undertaker, not a comedian, so he probably wasn't trying to crack a joke. But seriously, folks, the last thing Republicans in Florida want is more voter participation, especially in the cities.

An all-time high of 4.8 million Floridians cast mail ballots in November. The breakdown was

2.1 million registered Democrats, 1.5 million registered Republicans and roughly 1 million voters with no party affiliation.

Obviously the pandemic contributed to the record surge in mail voting, but the trend of those numbers only reinforced the GOP's congenital lack of enthusiasm for large, diverse turnouts on Election Day.

Voting by mail is more prevalent in metropolitan areas, where minority neighborhoods

often favor Democratic candidates. Those communities have been the target of racist voter-suppression efforts going back to the '60s, and not just in the Deep South.

It continues today, as Republican leaders in 28 states have introduced poorly disguised "reform" legislation aimed at discouraging voters of color. There's a heightened sense of urgency because of what happened in Georgia, where heavy mail balloting by Black residents in Atlanta gave both U.S. Senate seats to the Democrats.

Republicans like Baxley always hurry to deny that their move to narrow the election laws are racially tinged, yet low-income minority communities are the ones always most hindered by new restrictions.

Reacting to Baxley's proposed erasure of all standing requests for mail-in ballots, Rev. Joseph Parramore, a minister from Quincy, said to senators:

"Why break a system that everyone has applauded? This provision would be a step in the wrong direction, and is seen as nothing more than an attempt once again at voter intimidation and voter suppression."

Opposition to Baxley's bill also comes from those who actually monitor the voting rolls nonpartisan election supervisors who say that the changes are unnecessary and the cost of

re-educating voters would fall on local taxpayers.

Don't think that Baxley's plan to complicate mail balloting just popped into his head. Boxing out potentially non-Republican voters is a nationwide priority of the Republican Party, and the strategy is to do it incrementally in state legislatures, one new obstructive law at a time.

You want to participate in this magnificent democracy? Fine, here's another form to fill out. Oh, and we'll need to see one more photo ID. Also, your signature looks more squiggly than it did five years ago, so could you please take off from work and drive down to the courthouse and give us a new one?

The politicians pushing such measures know that if you pile up enough annoying inconveniences, some people will get so frustrated that they give up on voting. That can be the critical difference in a tight election.

Florida went red in 2016 and 2020, but there's still more registered Democrats than Republicans. Both Gov. Ron DeSantis and Sen. Rick Scott won office by floss-thin margins, and they don't want a replay of the Georgia scenario the next time they run.

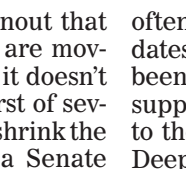
The surest way to prevent that is the oldest and ugliest way: Minimize the Black vote.

Baxley and the other designated vote suppressors in Tallahassee aren't fooling anyone by insisting they're only trying to make our elections more secure. They're only trying to make them more white.

Florida just experienced the most secure, scandal-free election in years, and the GOP's response is: "If it's not broken, then we must be doing something wrong."

Carl Hiaasen is a columnist for the Miami Herald. Readers may write to him at: The Miami Herald, 3511 NW 91st Ave., Miami, FL 33172.

OTHER VOICES



Carl Hiaasen

LETTERS to the Editor

Donation will help veterans

Recently, We Care Food Pantry donated close to 2,000 pounds of chicken in support of Soldiers Freedom Outdoors, a 503(c)(3) veterans charitable organization dedicated to "Healing the Hidden Wounds of War." This donation will go a long way in helping those veterans seeking solace from the effects of PTSD and other mental health issues attributed to combat related stress.

Soldiers Freedom Outdoors conducts four-day retreats on its working farm, Camp Freedom. These retreats are free of charge to any active duty service member or veteran who has been honorably discharged from service. All meals are provided and home cooked by our team of volunteers during their stay. A substantial food donation like this will go a long way in diverting sustenance funds to other areas within the foundation, like the upcoming fishing retreat in Citrus County.

In today's climate of isolation and quarantine, our veterans are suffering and need organizations such as We Care Food Pantry and Soldiers Freedom Outdoors. We are losing our veterans and active duty service members at an alarming rate. Some statistics say as much as 22 a day die at their own hand. As a veteran, I understand that

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every battle is worth waging especially when it is for the life of another veteran. We have an obligation to our veterans that have fought for the very freedoms we so often take for granted. We should not stand by and let a temporary solution become a permanent tragedy.

On behalf of Soldiers Freedom Outdoors, Dan DiMarco CEO, we would like to personally thank Laura Bryne, Patrick Crippen and the board of We Care Food Pantry. We look forward to a long and productive partnership between the two organizations.

For more information or if you would like to donate visit www.soldiersfreedomoutdoors.org, or email info@soldiersfreedomoutdoors.org or call 1-800-875-0309.

For more information or if you would like to donate visit www.wecarefoodpantry.org or call at 352-503-2079.

Jason Bucy
Soldiers Freedom Outdoors board member

DOH lacking in guidance

My wife and I both received emails from the DOH late on the afternoon of Feb 24. We did not see the email until the morning of Feb 25. The email indicated we should click on the blue button that would in turn take us to the Citrus County site. We did and it said no slots available in February, go to next month. We did and it also showed no slots available for March. As we did not immediately jump on the email when it posted, what do we do now? Because we missed the opportunity to select a day and time, are we sent to the bottom of the list or do we need to reregister to get back on the list? Again, no guidance from the DOH or the "weekly update" as indicated when we signed up.

Mark A. Walters
Dunnellon



Where's the beef?

Does anybody know what happened to Jimmy's hotdog truck that was on (State Road) 44 and (County Road) 486 for a long time? Then he moved and I can't find him. If anybody knows where he is, please put it in Sound Off.

Use funds for ramps

Dream on. Citrus County is trying to emulate Sanibel and Jekyll Island with the proposed Fort Island Bike Trail. It was reported that there is \$550,000 sitting in the bank to proceed with this project, plus some other unspent money, at this time. Wouldn't it make

more sense to use these unspent funds to get a start on the neglected boat ramps of the county and start on those new boat ramps at the "ditch of dreams"?

Lack of refrigeration?

To the folks complaining because your doctor isn't able to get the

COVID vaccine: Possibly they do not have the super-cold-refrigeration requirements to store the vaccine.

Thanks for the column

Thank you very much for including Carl Hiaasen's columns in your Sunday paper. His work is very enjoyable.

Who cares about public notices? You should

One of the great things about living in the U.S. is that our city and county governments are required to keep their citizens informed about their actions. One of the ways they do this is through public notices — the informational notices that have been deemed to be of importance to local constituents. They are required by law to be disseminated by an independent third party to a broad audience within the community.



Dean Ridings
GUEST COLUMN

An example of a public notice is a request to rezone a piece of property from residential to commercial. The ramifications of such government action are obvious, and it's in the public's interest to be able to monitor and provide input into such activities. Public notices are currently required to be published in the newspaper.

There have been recent attempts in several states to change the law so that public notices are no longer required to be published in newspapers. The motivation for eliminating the newspaper publication requirement is typically from one of two sources:

Sometimes it comes from a legislator who doesn't agree with the editorial position of the newspaper and may seek to remove public notices as a way to get back at them.

And sometimes, it is a sincere approach to save the city or county money.

While saving money seems to make sense at first blush, when you weigh the impact on the community — losing

transparency and the ability to keep citizens informed — the costs are minimal and worth the investment.

Public notices have been around since the first Congress, and newspapers have been the designated recipient of public notices since the beginning, when radio, TV and the internet didn't exist. We now have dozens, if not hundreds of media choices; there are more forms of communication than ever before. With such a multitude of choices it begs the question of what's the most effective medium, and are newspapers still a viable option? Broadcast TV, cable and radio often have a representative audience. However, it just isn't cost effective to produce ads and buy airtime for public notices, and those ads don't explain the complex issues as well. Plus, it isn't feasible to go back and watch a public notice ad that ran in an earlier time period.

What about a city or county just posting the notices to their own website? This is the most significant challenge that newspapers often face in the public notice debate, but this carries two significant problems:

Government websites don't provide the same proactive notice as newspapers. Most newspapers have at least ten times the audience that city and county websites have, making newspapers and their websites far more effective.

Newspapers provide independent verification that the notice was provided. It is not too far of a reach to imagine a



city official "burying a notice" on the city's website or limiting the length of time it is seen if the notice was thought to be problematic. When a notice is in the newspaper, the publisher is required by law to verify that the notice is printed according to the statutes. This provides the community with the information it needs. With a newspaper, it is easy to document when the notice was published in print and online, and exactly what it said.

While there are many websites that have large audiences, most are specifically targeted at a specific interest, and not for a local (geographic) community. Public notices, by their very nature, are local and only have value to the audience who live

in the impacted area. The laws in most states require that the public notices printed in newspapers must also be posted to the newspaper's website, so the right audience is reached in print and online. Plus, the most interested observers of a community and its government typically read the local newspaper; there are typically few or no other entities that provide news about the city and county. It is rare to find a local website with an audience more interested in the actions of their government than that of the local newspaper.

Newspapers charge a reasonable fee for publishing public notices — usually significantly less than the commercial rates charged to other advertisers.

This covers the newspaper's expense and may even provide a small profit. Considering the important role that newspapers play in their community, this is a worthwhile investment in an institution that provides news and information that is rarely available elsewhere.

Let your state legislators know that you value being able to access notices in your newspaper and that they are worth the investment. There is a cost to keeping citizens informed, but the costs of not doing so are much higher!

Dean Ridings is the CEO of America's Newspapers, one of the industry's largest advocates for newspapers.

Hot Corner: IMPACT FEES

■ I'm responding to Sound Off to the (Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2021, front-page story) "Board tables talk of impact fees," "Commissioners unhappy with presentation, want more input from public": Now you want input from the public after you wasted the taxpayers' money of \$98,000 for some consultant firm that you hired that did absolutely nothing for the \$98,000? It was a waste of taxpayers' money. You should have just asked the public because the residents of Citrus County should be the ones to decide what should be done in Citrus County, not you and not a consultant firm. It should be the people of Citrus County. We're the ones that live here. We should have the say-so of yea or nay, not some firm that's gives you some ideas and wastes our taxpayers' money.

■ OK, so impact fees can be set anywhere from zero to 100%. And if I'm correct, here in Citrus County they're currently set at 50%. So the commissioners spent \$98,000 of our tax money to get somebody to come in here and crunch numbers to tell them what impact fees should be? I mean, maybe I'm simplifying it too much, but it seems like they could have hired somebody to do the math a little bit cheaper than that. Have a good day.

■ In reference to raising the impact fees: I think it should be totally 100% all throughout. They're building all these new homes when there's plenty of homes for sale. Let them pay for it. Our roads are already filled with tourists and people living here. You can't even keep up with the upkeep now, so charge them a full 100%.

■ I cannot believe that the Citrus County Commission would even consider upping the impact fees, considering the economy. This is ridiculous. And \$98,000 for a study? Can't they do any work on their own

■ (Re the Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2021, front-page story, "Board tables talk of impact fees," "Commissioners unhappy with presentation, want more input from public"): I guess, in reading the paper today, that we've spent \$98,000 to have an outside consultant telling us, or should tell us, whether we should raise impact fees or not. One of the commissioners said that even though the report is going to tell us yes or no, his feeling is we should not raise them. That means that we are going to absorb the cost of more people coming into the county for roads, schools and whatever else. Why do we spend \$98,000 to have somebody else tell us what we should

do? Don't we have any smart people in this county? We certainly don't seem to have any smart people on the commission board

■ So, in regards to the impact fees: What I have read or what has been reported in the Chronicle, they paid someone \$98,000 to do fifth-grade math for them. I cannot, for the life of me, understand why these people — or I should say commissioners — couldn't have done this themselves. The amazing thing is that the voters in the county keep electing these people as commissioners. Well, as a native once told me, "Welcome to Citrus County."

■ I would like to understand why we paid \$98,000 to have an outside consultant firm study whether we should raise our impact fees to help pay for additional expense for new homes and at the same time, that person who did the study doesn't even have the ability to show up to the meeting. And at the meeting, one of the commissioners has already said no matter what the report is, he's not going to vote to raise the impact fees. Don't we have any intelligence in Citrus County to do those things without paying \$98,000 to somebody else who doesn't really care about Citrus County?

Letters to THE EDITOR

Not too late to stop partisanship

On Jan. 7, 1914, the incoming Massachusetts Senate president delivered his speech with the following quote: "Men do not make laws. They do but discover them. Laws must be justified by something more than the will of the majority. They must rest on the eternal foundation of righteousness."

As the fallout from the Senate vote to acquit President Trump intensifies, President Coolidge's words are especially pertinent. This acquittal vote, of course, is not a law. But it will set a precedent that can be, and most likely will be, abused. The same theme flows throughout the past five decades of political history.

Unfortunately, many of our senators and representatives have long relieved themselves of this quote. The era of bipartisan legislation is a far cry from what we have now. The issues that many of us deem straightforward, such as condemning left and right-wing political violence, cannot even pass both chambers. We increasingly see that these political power games only serve to further divide and distract from

the more pressing issues. While the Democrats and Republicans try to one-up each other, the other side will just take those tactics and utilize them in an even more unprecedented power grab. Too often, what one side had eagerly denounced as unconstitutional or unnecessary is used in even stronger force in later years. The other side, which had previously argued in favor, would then squabble over what they now viewed as unconstitutional or unnecessary. It happened with Merrick Garland and Amy Conan Barrett. It happened with the nuclear option in 2013 and 2017. It happened with the impeachments of Presidents Bill Clinton and Donald Trump. And now Congress is breaking precedents left and right, from both sides. And there is no doubt these actions will serve as justification for future political abuse by our politicians.

In the current polarized acrimony, most of our senators and representatives are practically refusing to work with each other. Therefore, it falls to the people to be the bipartisans, the deal-makers, especially my younger generation. We can benefit from

hindsight and learn from the mistakes of our current politicians. As for our current politicians, it isn't too late to change your partisanship. Does loyalty to your party trump your duty to your obligation, to the nation and to the Constitution?

Jason Lu
Homosassa

Putting the cart before the horse

There was some very interesting news in the paper on Feb. 16. The Associated Press announced that House Speaker Nancy Pelosi will establish an independent commission to investigate how and why the Jan. 6 riot took place at the Capitol. The announcement comes one month or so after she and the House of Representatives impeached President Trump for causing that riot. This, if I recall, is the same Speaker Pelosi who in the past has insisted that certain legislation needed to be passed in order to find out what was in it. It seems to me that Speaker Pelosi has a habit of hooking up her carts directly in front of her horses.

Thomas Fallon
Lecanto

WINDOW

Continued from Page C1

lovers. They didn't want to see a parking lot built to hold a bunch of boat trailers or a lot of boating activity on the quiet waters.

Instead, most of the residents participated in a straw ballot and early indications were that they would prefer for the city to relocate its launch activities at the old Yacht Club located further down State

Park Road.

Both properties are owned by the state. If state government agrees, that's what will probably happen — the boat ramp will be relocated down by the Yacht Club.

It was not the first choice of city officials, but here's the rub: City leaders respect the opinions of its citizens.

In the big-picture view of things, this is not a huge deal. People in Floral City, Homosassa or Citrus Springs probably don't

give a hoot about where Crystal River puts a boat ramp.

But what is important is how decisions are reached in our country. Civilized people come together and express their opinions. Sometimes people get excited and emotional, but true citizens know where to draw the line.

The majority supports a decision and that's where it ends. If voters don't like the way politicians react to their decisions, we collectively throw them out at

the next election.

In Russia, when citizens don't agree with their government, they sometimes get poisoned. In China, those who voice an opposing opinion end up in a concentration camp. In Saudi Arabia, if you write something the royal family doesn't like, you have your head cut off and your body chopped into little pieces. I am particularly offended at that option.

Extreme elements recently tried to take over our government and

stormed the Capitol. People died and our tradition of rational government was challenged by a radical minority.

We see what happens in other Super Powers where the violent people have taken over. Good citizens end up dead or in concentration camps.

That's not going to happen in America because good people won't let it happen.

In America, we have a civilized discussion about where the boat ramp

should go and then we find a compromise the majority can support.

We do the same thing in national elections, only with a little more emotion and consequence.

When that's done, we all go to St. Johns Tavern and have a beer.

That's just how America does it.

Gerry Mulligan is the publisher of the Chronicle. Email him at gmulligan@chronicleonline.com.

BEYOND

Continued from Page C1

administration.

Citrus County, like the rest of the country, has an uphill battle to climb as we begin to get a fuller picture of what the pandemic has cost our kids academically, socially and psychologically. But just as Sam

Himmel's vast team of administrators, teachers and support personnel got us through virtual learning in 2020 and overcame academic deficits this school year, we can trust them to lead well through the challenges to come.

Cortney Stewart is a 2003 graduate of Lecanto High School. She has

bachelor's degrees in political science and international affairs, a master's degree in intercultural studies and is currently working on her Ph.D. in international conflict management. She most recently spent two years teaching and training students, teachers and government officials in Baghdad, Iraq. Email her at seeingbeyondccc@gmail.com.

EAGLE

Continued from Page C1

expected activities for each level. Not only are aspiring Eagle Scouts required to earn the 21 merit badges, but specific areas of merit are also required. These include first aid, citizenship in the community,

communications, personal fitness, and others.

In addition to earning merit badges, scouts must perform a significant amount of community service and leadership activities within the troop, culminating with a project that forces them to grow, learn and stretch to achieve success. To earn the rank of Eagle Scout it takes several years of

hard work, leadership, grit, and determination.

From one Eagle Scout to this inaugural group of female Eagle Scouts, congratulations.

John Murphy is the charter organizational representative of Troop 344G, Scoutmaster of Troop 457B and district roundtable commissioner.

Communications officers behind the scenes support for sheriff's office

When you call 911 telecommunications operators, also known as communications officers, works behind the scenes answering citizens' phone calls and dispatching those calls to fire, EMS and law enforcement officers. This hard-working group of individuals serving in Citrus County's 911 call center



Mike Prendergast
GUEST COLUMN

The Citrus County Sheriff's Office team of 911 County's

plays a vital role in our community's safety. The career journey of a communications officer begins in the classroom, where experienced communications officer supervisors provide recruits with the technical skills and certifications they need to tackle this daunting but highly rewarding profession. From there, new communication officers work alongside a dedicated training officer who provides state of the art

hands-on learning opportunities that meet the standards of excellence for our nationally accredited communications center. The trainees interact with citizens during real calls while receiving guidance and assistance from their training officer. Only once the trainee has experienced a variety of calls and met the standard, will they be released to handle calls on their own with helpful supervisors and coworkers in the center ready to assist if

necessary. Any experienced communications officer will say their career is truly like no other. While the position may seem challenging, communications officers have the opportunity to assist members of their community during some of the most intense moments of their life, contributing immeasurably to the safety and wellbeing of those they serve. So, if you are ready to serve your community, then the Citrus County

Sheriff's Office has an opportunity for you. Individuals interested in applying for the position are encouraged to contact CCSO's recruitment deputy, Jason Boyer, at 352-341-7452 for more information. More information can also be found by visiting our website, www.SheriffCitrus.org, under the "Join Our Team" tab.

Mike Prendergast is the sheriff of Citrus County.

Letters to THE EDITOR

Have inmates pick up trash

Thank you Mr. Mulligan. I appreciate your editorials and the Chronicle's coverage of the dilapidated buildings and strip malls in Citrus County. Also, please keep reporting on the litter issues we have in the County. We live on the Nature Coast not on the "Litter Coast."

A few ideas: Our county correctional facility, managed by CoreCivic, should have road crews staff by nonviolent offenders picking up litter on the state and county highways. Sooner or later, the contract regarding Citrus County correctional services will be up for bid or renewal. It is imperative our county commission

makes sure that the new contract has litter pick-up as a requirement. In addition, our criminal court judges and probation staff should be using community service as a sentencing alternative for nonviolent offenders.

Tim Gehrke
Hernando

We need a shelter, but not at park

A letter writer suggested bulldozing woods at Whispering Pines Park to build a new animal shelter. We need an animal shelter, but we need quiet, safe places to walk, run, watch birds, enjoy nature and just quietly sit in the woods, too. We need to get over

the idea that woods are worthless or just vacant land waiting to be developed. Woods, parks and green spaces are invaluable just as they are.

There are so many better places to build a new shelter than in this awesome park. Any of the blighted shopping centers on U.S. 19 could be razed to make room for

it. The northeast corner of U.S. 41 and South Citrus Springs Boulevard was primed for development decades ago and then abandoned. There is land available all over Citrus County in places that an animal shelter which contains barking dogs, day and night, would not bother people. Thinking that people

who enjoy Whispering Pines would stop in and adopt an animal because it is in the park is ridiculous. I believe that most would actually avoid that part of the park because of it. If someone wants to adopt a pet, they will make the effort to go to the shelter no matter where it is located, and if they aren't willing to

put forth that much effort for an animal, they won't be decent pet owners anyway. Whispering Pines is a fantastic city park that already accommodates many forms of recreation. It does not need an animal shelter.

Heather Nagy
Hernando

ALS ASSOCIATION PLAYERS POKER TOUR AND CITRUS COUNTY POKER LEAGUE

Texas Holdem
Saturday, March 6, 2021
Registration 11 AM • Program 12 PM • \$30

CRYSTAL RIVER EAGLES AERIE 4272
5340 W. Grover Cleveland Blvd. Homosassa
All proceeds benefit ALS

Contact Rich Hutchins
352-419-6017

Citrus Cinderellas Fashion Show Dress Giveaway!

March 20, 2021 - 2 - 5 p.m.

"I have chosen you and not rejected you" Isaiah 41:9

Over 600 Semi-formal dresses and 40 Wedding gowns. Dresses for most ages, shapes and sizes

Limit 2 dresses per person. No cost for attending or getting dresses. Safety precautions in place. Space is limited.

Conerstone Baptist Church - 1100 W. Highland Blvd. Inv., FL
Information call 352-201-7851 or email citruscinderellas@gmail.com

BEVERLY HILLS CIVIC ASSOCIATION'S 58TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER & AUCTION

A semi formal event at the Black Diamond Clubhouse
Thursday, March 4, 2021 from 5:00PM - 8:00PM
3125 West Black Diamond Circle, Lecanto, FL 34461

FEATURING

- ◆ Master of Ceremonies ~ Josh Wooten, Beverly Hills Area Council
- ◆ Invocation ~ Bishop Doug Alexander, New Church Without Walls
- ◆ Choice of turkey or pork dinner
- ◆ Dozens of items up for auction
- ◆ Table, event booklet and banner sponsorships available
- ◆ \$58 per person ~ \$100 per couple

Beverly Hills Civic Association (BHCA) is a non-profit foundation, founded in 1963. CH95264
All proceeds raised from this fundraising event will go to the BHCA for its ongoing operations and community outreach.

VALUE DENTAL CARE

CELEBRATING PRESIDENT'S DAY ALL MONTH!

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Ivelyn Santini DMD, Arturo Perez DMD, Andrew Vallo DMD, Asha Patel DMD, Dominick Catania DMD, Albert Boholst DMD

Uninsured NEW PATIENTS

\$59

1st time Cleaning, X-ray & Exam
01110, 00210, 00150

For non-insured patients. Coupon cannot be used with any other offer. All coupons must be presented at the time of service. No exceptions. Expires 3/31/21.

What is your HMO insurance plan doing for you?

enjoy **15% Off** Treatment

when out of network benefits are verified

Excludes 01110, 04910, 05510, 05511, 0550, 05761 Cleaning repairs and relines For non-insured patients only. Must present coupon at time of service. Prices subject to change. Coupon cannot be used with any other offer. All coupons must be presented at the time of service. No exceptions. Expires 3/31/21.

\$100 Off ANY Root Canal Therapy

D3310, D3320, D3330

For first-time uninsured patients only. Coupon cannot be used with any other offer. All coupons must be presented at the time of service. No exceptions. Expires 3/31/21.

FREE X-ray and exam or second opinion

Includes: D0150 and D0210

For first-time uninsured patients only. Coupon cannot be used with any other offer. All coupons must be presented at the time of service. No exceptions. Expires 11/31/21.

FREE Pontic with bridge (3 units or more)

D6740

Coupon cannot be used with any other offer. All coupons must be presented at the time of service. No exceptions. Expires 3/31/21

Metal-Free Crowns "The Aesthetic Crown"

\$659

02740

Excludes D2950 (ore build-up). For non-insured patients. Coupon cannot be used with any other offer. All coupons must be presented at the time of service. No exceptions. Expires 3/31/21.

Replacement Denture starting at

\$500

D5110 or D5120

For non-insured patients. Coupon cannot be used with any other offer. All coupons must be presented at the time of service. No exceptions. Expires 3/31/21.

\$1,200 Implant

for non-insured patients 06010

Excludes: Crown (D6058), custom abutment (D6057), Socket preservation, sinus lift, and extractions (D4265, D4263, D7951, D7952, D7210) For non-insured patients only. Must present coupon at time of service. Price subject to change. Coupon cannot be used with any other offer. All coupons must be presented at the time of service. No exceptions. Expires 3/15/21.

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Keeping it clean in Citrus

CLAIRE PHILLIPS LAXTON
For the Chronicle

Chris Martone has owned C&C Carpet & Ceiling Cleaning for the past 28 years after working in the business for 31 years. The original owners began the company in 1970.

Martone worked there and when the first owners decided to retire the business, Martone bought it in 1993 and kept the company in the business, acquiring numerous new techniques over the years.

Originally, Martone was going to college to become a teacher, but after getting his Associate of Arts degree, teacher hiring was declining back then. So, he went to work at a supermarket.

Later, looking for a career change, he joined C&C and learned much about the cleaning business.

"I love being in this business because it changes every day,"



Chris Martone, right, has owned C&C Carpet & Ceiling Cleaning for 28 years after working for the original owners who started the company in 1970. At left is longtime employee Rick Densmore.

he said. "It is not like doing the same thing every day. "Every job is different," he

added. The company also provides services to clean tile grout, up-

holstery and more. People trust the company and many are longtime

residents. In fact, many customers leave him their security codes so C&C can clean while the residents are not at home.

C&C services many government offices including Clerk of the Courts, the Citrus County Courthouse, the Sheriff's Offices, numerous county residents, Black Diamond, Terra Vista, realty offices, day cares, churches and property management residential.

"I am a phone person and use the Next Door app, which gives comments and recommendations," he said.

They use a mild soapy solution for stains, then disinfect before cleaning an area. Ceiling fans and air movement increase drying time.

"Rick Densmore is my longtime employee who has been with me for the past 21 years," Martone said.

Martone is a people person. He enjoys what he does and like meeting people of all nationalities and races.

Call C&C at 352-726-4052.

Special to the Chronicle

MILLENNIAL MONEY

5 tips to negotiate pay now

Employees' job duties often expanded during the pandemic

MELISSA LAMBARENA
NerdWallet

The pandemic-related recession has altered many job descriptions. For Haley Jones, a 24-year-old resident of Michigan, the coronavirus changed the needs of her company, and as she adapted to meet them, her responsibilities were no longer confined to her marketing specialist role.

"I graduated with a marketing degree, no medical experience at all, and I ended up having to scrub in at our surgery center and help patients get prepped for anesthesia," Jones says.

After adding those kinds of new hats, Jones felt that her responsibilities had outgrown her entry-level salary and position, so she requested more compensation.

Your role may also merit a salary discussion, even in uncertain times. Here are some strategies to help you achieve the ideal salary.

RESEARCH THE MARKET

Understanding the market for your job is critical, according to Lindsey Pollak, author of the upcoming book "Recalculating: Navigate Your Career Through the Changing World of Work."

"You can look at websites like Glassdoor, Salary.com and PayScale and see what's standard," she says.

These websites offer a minimum and maximum salary range that you can reference to give your boss a realistic request. Pollak also suggests networking with professional associations in your industry and asking about the appropriate salary range for the job in your particular city.

TALLY UP YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

If you're working remotely, Pollak suggests being more self-promotional about big wins. With many distractions in the pandemic, your boss may not know the extent of your contributions.

Jones created a slideshow presentation with links to her work, a list of tasks completed and her overall impact on the company. Her boss shared the presentation with others weighing in on her salary request.

"If you want someone to do something for you, make it as easy as you can for them to say yes," Jones says.

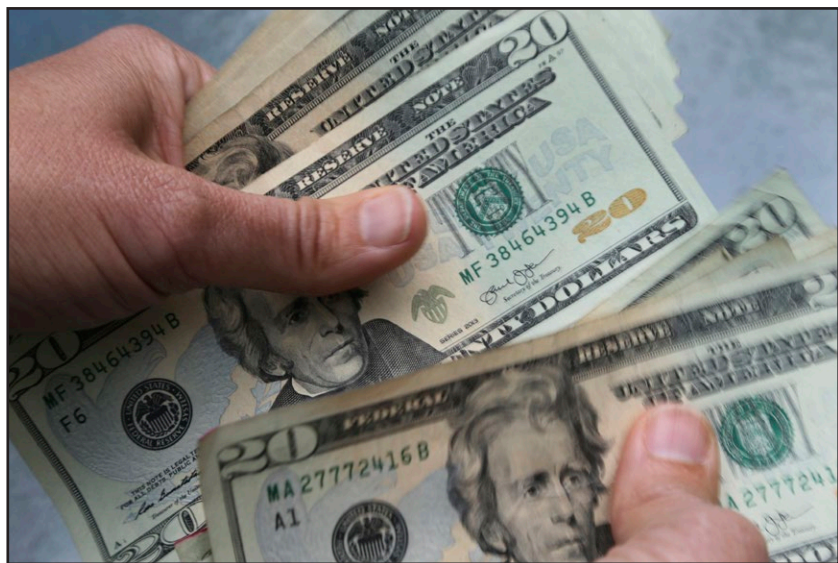
Dive as far back into your contributions as is necessary or gather evidence up to the last annual or midyear review. And be as specific as possible.

LAY THE GROUNDWORK FOR THE CONVERSATION

Be strategic as you plan the conversation. Gauge your level of confidence at every step.

Put it on your supervisor's radar. Give your boss a general but serious reason for the meeting.

Nerd WALLET



Amid the pandemic-fueled recession, your job description and responsibilities may have changed. Whether you've taken on more tasks after employees were laid off or your household income has taken a hit, there are plenty of reasons to negotiate your salary even in tough times.

Pollak suggests saying that you want to have a "career conversation" about your role and future at the company.

Time it right. Don't plan such a conversation after the company announces a terrible quarter or when your boss is in a bad mood, says Joel Garfinkle, executive coach and author of the book "Get Paid What You're Worth."

Practice until you're confident. Jones built confidence by rehearsing in front of her mirror and loved ones.

Be intentional with your environment. If it's a video call, use sticky notes to remember key points. In an office environment, Jones leaned on slides and hard copies to move the conversation along.

If you need further guidance, Pollak suggests connecting with a college's career center for advice, whether that's your alma mater or a community college. Even if you never attended college, your local community college may offer resources.

MAINTAIN CONTROL OF THE CONVERSATION

Don't let emotions or nerves steer the conversation away from your goal. Remember three key points for your discussion:

Lead with gratitude. Jones began by thanking her employer for many learning opportunities, then pivoted to her excitement about the company's future and her role in it.

Know when to stop talking. Get comfortable with silence. "Say the amount you want and then stop talking," Pollak says. Don't negotiate against yourself by saying that you'd like a \$15,000 increase, but you're willing to settle for \$8,000.

Focus on the value for your employer. Don't phrase your

request around reasons why you need a raise or promotion. Be aware of economic impacts to your company and its priorities, and keep the focus on how you're saving the company money or contributing to its bottom line.

BE PREPARED FOR THE RESPONSE

If your employer can't meet your request this time, all isn't lost. You have promoted your work and carved out the path for the next conversation, according to Garfinkle. You can also consider negotiating for non-monetary benefits.

"Maybe it's a title change, or they'll pay for an executive coach, or they'll provide some training, or additional benefits or retirement contributions," Garfinkle says. "There are other things you can get that might be beneficial for you."

If your employer is willing to offer a pay increase or an alternative, get it in writing. Send a thankful email to your boss summarizing the conversation and alert them that you'll be following up on the next steps.

In the case of a firm "no" or "not right now," let your boss know that you would greatly appreciate the chance to revisit the conversation in the future.

Following up is key with any response. Jones followed up twice in a month, once via email and another time in person. Eventually, she was promoted to marketing director and received \$5,000 more than the maximum amount she requested.

This article was provided to The Associated Press by the personal finance website NerdWallet. Melissa Lambarena is a writer at NerdWallet. Email: mlambarena@nerdwallet.com.

BUSINESS DIGEST

Business series talks service dogs

The College of Central Florida Corporate College is continuing to extend workshop training opportunities to Citrus County in partnership with the Citrus County Chamber of Commerce.

Workshops are offered at \$29 each. Most sessions are scheduled twice each month. We are observing health guidelines to protect you and our instructors. Friday workshops will be held via Zoom; format for Tuesday workshops will be announced in the future. For those classes being delivered via Zoom, after you register you'll be sent a Zoom invite a few days prior to each workshop.

Service Dogs: The Law and How It Affects Businesses: Friday, March 5, or Tuesday, March 16. Do you know where a service animal can go and under what conditions? Do you know what animals can be considered service animals? Whether you are front line staff, a volunteer, a manager or owner, or even an elected official, you need to know the law.

The goal of this workshop is for businesses and community organizations to understand and operationalize their rights and responsibilities when a service animal is on the premises.

Attend this valuable workshop and learn who can have a service animal, the responsibilities of the animal handler, when a service animal can be excluded, and what to do when the needs of customers with and without service animals conflict.

Individual workshop fee is \$29.

Register and pay online at <http://quickadmit.cf.edu/modules/shop/index.html?action=section&OfferingID=1958747> or call 352-873-5855. No refunds will be granted five business days prior to each workshop.

Small businesses may get grants

The Citrus County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) has extended its Citrus County Small Business Grant Programs.

The programs were originally approved with \$200,000 in funding at the regular BOCC meeting Tuesday, Jan. 5. Since then, \$170,000 of that funding has been expended. In order to distribute the full amount, the grant program will be extended on a first-come, first-served basis until the remaining \$30,000 is spent.

There are two programs available to small businesses with fewer than 35

employees:

- The Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Micro Grant will have a minimum award of \$250 up to a maximum award of \$2,500.

- The Retrofit/Adaptation Grant will have a maximum award of \$10,000 per business.

A small business may be eligible for both grants.

Grant funds must be used to cover any of the eligible business-related expenses (for business employees and customers when such cost was not otherwise sold or charged to customer) paid by the business from March 1, 2020 thru Dec. 31, 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

These grants are offered on a reimbursement basis; reimbursable expenditures cannot have been paid for under another city, county, state, or federal program and must exceed \$250.

Businesses must submit an application online through SurveyMonkey Apply on the Citrus County website: <https://www.citrusboocc.com/smallbusinessgrant>.

Applications will be accepted until funds are exhausted. Grants are strictly limited to businesses located physically within Citrus County, with a Business Tax Receipt (BTR). The business is expected to be fully operational after local and state emergency guidelines are rolled back.

For more information, call 352-527-5207.

Hire Day on tap at New Horizons

The Mentor Network will host a Hire Day from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, March 4, at New Horizons Village, 1275 N. Rainbow Loop, Lecanto.

Featured jobs will include comprehensive benefits, flexible and consistent hours, on-the-spot interviews, paid training and career advancement opportunities.

Applicants must have a high school diploma/GED and pass a background check. Visit and apply at jobs.thementornetwork.com.

BUSINESS DIGEST

- Email community@chronicleonline.com, attn: Business Digest.

- Submissions about specific prices of products or sales events will be directed to the advertising office.



Chamber Connection

915 N. Suncoast Blvd., Crystal River, FL 34429 · 352-795-3149 · 106 W. Main St., Inverness, FL 34450 · 352-726-2801

Berry Boastin' Entertainment!

We are officially 1 week away from the 34th Annual Floral City Strawberry Festival and the fun is limitless! What will you experience at this year's festival on March 6th & 7th? For more information on the 34th Annual Floral City Strawberry Festival, visit www.GoStrawberryFest.com.

A Full Music Lineup!

34TH ANNUAL FLORAL CITY STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL MUSIC LINEUP

SATURDAY MARCH 6TH
SOUTHERN EXPRESS BLUEGRASS BAND X HALE

SUNDAY MARCH 7TH
JOHN JOHNSON SOUTHBOUND



Meet Tiny the Tanker!

With 27 years in family entertainment, Tiny the Tanker is a tiny electric fire truck with a personality all his own. His sweet childlike voice melts the hearts of both young and old as he roves slowly throughout events greeting and engaging guests along the way. Whether he is singing happy birthday, giving directions, playing fun music or reminding guests to wash their hands, Tiny always gets a big smile or kind wave in return!

Oscar Mayer Wienermobile is BACK!



What offers more small-town American vibes than a good old-fashioned hot dog? The Floral City Strawberry Festival is excited to welcome the Oscar Mayer Wienermobile and the Hotdoggers to our 34th annual celebration on Saturday, March 6th & Sunday, March 7th! The Hotdoggers are the official spokespeople of the Oscar Mayer Wienermobile who travel on a coast-to-coast wiener roast on a year-long tour spreading miles of smiles. Since 1988, Hotdoggers have relished seeing the country through the windshield of an American icon, representing the brand in all forms of media and at thousands of events.

Pickin' & Grinnin'

Another crowd favorite, Pickin' & Grinnin', will be back this year! These two farmers are outstanding in their field. Pickin' & Grinnin' presents a mix of toe-tappin' barn-dance music, knee-slappin' farm jokes, and safe, socially distanced, audience participation. It's family-friendly farm fun for everyone!



FLORAL CITY STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL SAFETY

We are excited to move forward, safely and responsibly, as we enjoy the beauty of our community and celebrate a true taste of Citrus County!

We encourage festival-goers to stay home if they are vulnerable or feeling ill. We encourage all attendees to practice social distancing, wash hands regularly, utilize the on-site sanitation stations and wear a mask if social distancing is not possible.



The Floral City Strawberry Festival, and the Citrus County Chamber of Commerce, will be implementing and practicing safety precautions to ensure the health of our attendees, volunteers, vendors, and staff.

Also, in accordance with the state-mandated requirement of masks on public transportation, all attendees, volunteers, staff, and vendors will be required to wear a mask if they choose to utilize the free shuttles to and from the festival at the Citrus County Auditorium. 3610 S. Florida Ave, Inverness.

Stay Tuned: Furloughed Employee Rehire Grant to Debut next week

Earlier this month, the Board of County Commissioners voted to move \$300,000 in leftover CARES Act funds from the County's general fund to the Chamber of Commerce to be used to support local businesses that rehire furloughed employees.

To qualify, an employee must have been furloughed because of the COVID-19 pandemic for a minimum of two months between March 15, 2020 and January 31, 2021. The grant will award up to \$2,000 for each full-time equivalent

employee that is brought back and retained for at least 90 days.

Applications will be available through the Chamber website and are expected to go live sometime next week. The deadline to apply will be December 31, 2021, or until funds are exhausted.

In the meantime, if you would like to get on a list to be notified as soon as the applications are live, please email CitrusFurloughRehire@gmail.com and include your name, your business name, phone number and email.

February New Image Award Winner:



Congratulations Nature Coast Health Care on winning the February Chamber New Image Award!



'Chamber Report' on WYKE

Watch the weekly Chamber Report show on WYKE-TV to stay informed on Chamber events, issues, and member spotlights. Chamber Report is broadcast on Tuesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays at 5:00 p.m. on Spectrum Channel 16 or through LiveStream (www.livestream.com/watch and search for "WYKE TV 47").

This week, host Jade White, Chamber Public Relations & Communication Coordinator, talks with Jake Vaughan, owner of JV Southern Real Estate and Conservation Plus, about his decision to open another business and how the two work together. Also, Eileen Posadny, owner/CEO of Brighberry Marketing, discusses her work in digital media management, how she honed in and fine tuned her niche, and her business experience with the social media platform, TikTok.

Finally, joining Jade, is Dennis Bailey and Karen Ginda, owners of Bailey's Electric and Signs, highlighting the work their company does and their community involvement, including their Presenting Sponsorship of the Florida Manatee Festival!



Jake Vaughan Eileen Posadny



Karen Ginda and Dennis Bailey

Chamber Legacy Partners

The Chamber recognizes our Legacy Partners that have made a special investment in the Chamber to support the programs and mission of the Chamber. For information on becoming a Legacy Partner, please contact the Chamber at 352-795-3149.

REALTOR® Connection

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Message from the RACC President:

Foundation of building a strong community

Homeownership, education, and community involvement are the foundation for building a strong community. Realtors are your neighbors. We love living in Citrus County too! We see the value in our amazing neighborhoods, from the natural treasures in Crystal River to the history in Inverness, and all the areas in Citrus County we call home. At the heart of what Realtors do is homeownership for all. A number of research studies have shown that homeownership provides social and societal benefits.

Not only is homeownership one of the best ways to build long-term wealth, providing resources for a more comfortable

retirement, but it also fosters an immeasurable sense of community and stability vital to growing families.

To serve our local community we support great local charities, including the Citrus County Education Foundation. Education is a powerful tool; it helps children develop the knowledge and strength necessary to one day reach the goal of owning their own home. Florida Realtors has put together a scholarship foundation for college students to increase their



Kelly Tedrick

education level and success. We hope that our local Citrus County students will benefit from this opportunity.

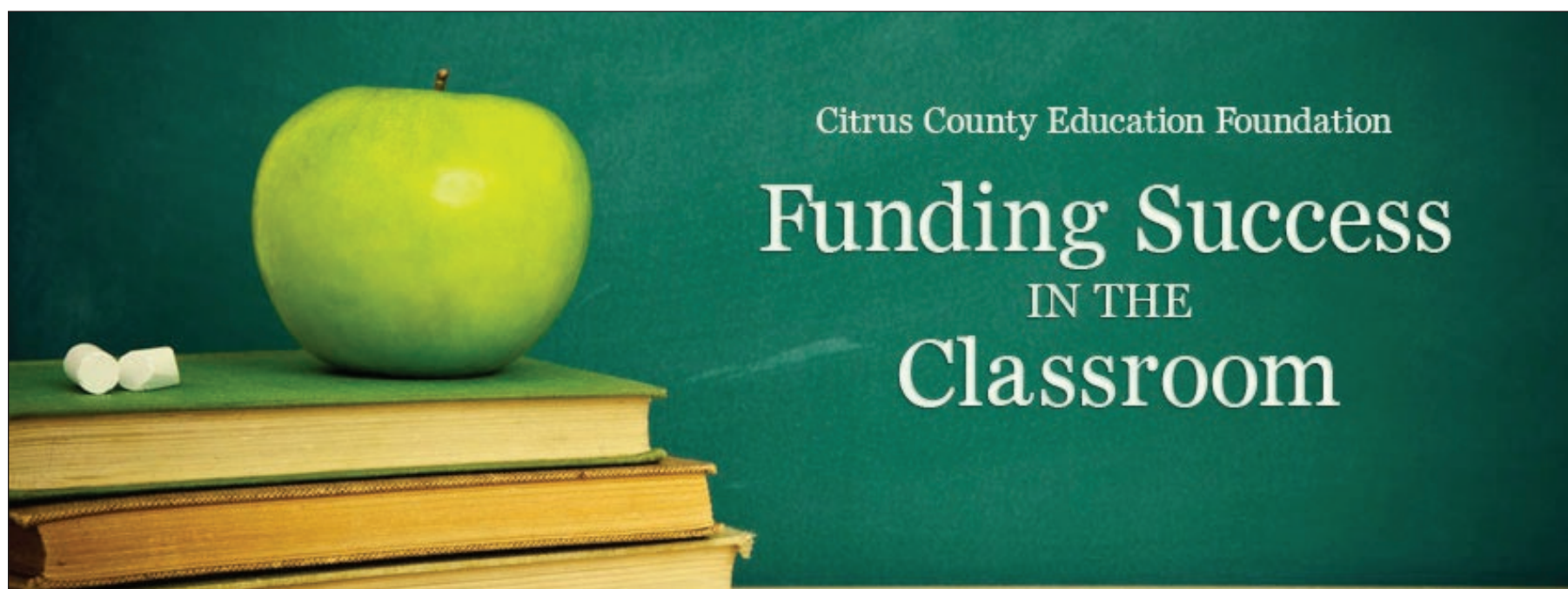
I would also like to thank all our members who serve on our committees, Board of Managers, and Board of Directors. Now more than ever, it is critical for REALTORS® across America to come together and speak with one voice about the stability a sound and dynamic real estate market brings to our communities. We would love for you to

help this community grow.

Reach out to the association today for more information on how you can get involved as a member or a business partner. Our community of volunteers makes the RACC a dynamic and engaging organization because they invest their time and share their professional skills with our association. It is truly amazing to see what awesome successes have been achieved by our volunteers. We can accomplish more together than we ever could alone.

— Kelly Tedrick, 2021 RACC President
Broker Associate, FL Real Estate
Instructor, C2EX

RACC Charity Spotlight



The Citrus County Education Foundation was founded three decades ago. CCEF maintains the mission of "Funding Success in the Classroom". Programs and extras that our community leaders desired for our public-school students and teachers in 1988, are evolving each year to meet the needs of all students. As we begin to recover from the COVID 19 pandemic, our goal to impact as many teachers and students as possible through our ongoing efforts is more vital than ever.

The CCEF is the only non-profit organization in Citrus County solely dedicated to supporting our public-school district, with over \$2 million awarded over the past three school years. More than 16,000 students were reached, and ALL county teachers were impacted in some way through our programs during the 2019-2020 school year. But there is more work to do as we continue to advocate for, and fund,

programs that support and enrich our classrooms.

- Wondering how you can help?
- READ for the "First Library" program.
 - VOLUNTEER at one of our events.
 - PARTICIPATE in an upcoming fundraiser.
 - JOIN our board.
 - FUND OUR FUTURE at whatever level you're able to today, or with a legacy gift.

Did you know that CCEF partially or fully funds all of these programs? This is a small snapshot of the many programs we support each year. With every school year, we assess the impact and viability of our programs, and align ourselves with the strategic plan of the Citrus County School District. We continue to be as innovative as possible, adding support to pilot new endeavors.

- "Suncoast Credit Union-Supplies 4 Success-Free Teacher Store"

— monthly shopping for school supplies that teachers can get for free

- "First Library" — early literacy @ home libraries for all PreK/K students
- "WBW/MBM Women Building Women/Men Building MenMentoring Programs" — professional mentors for at risk high school students
- "School Resource Rooms" — basic necessities for children in need
- "NCIP — Nature Coast Investment Practicum" — students manage investments learning about principles and techniques
- "Technology Enhancements" — web-based curriculum; supplemental technology
- "Foundation 4 Success" — STEM and Literacy Mini-Grants for classroom needs Health and Wellness "Schools Rule" Mini-Grants
- "A Galaxy of Stars" — event recognizing our top teachers and school-related employees

● "Golden Citrus Scholars" — event recognizing our top graduating students in Citrus County

- Additional programming:
- Academic Challenge State Competition (grades 9-12)
 - All-County Chorus (grades 5-12)
 - AVID College Field Trips (grades 9-12)
 - Success Camp (grades 9-12)
 - Environmental Jeopardy Competition (grades 9-12)
 - Inverness Festival of the Arts — Student Zone (grades 5-12)
 - Math Field Day (grades 6-12)
 - Regional Science & Engineering Fair (grades 5-12)
 - Aspiring Teacher Scholarships
 - College-bound Senior Scholarships (grade 12)

For questions, please contact Executive Director, Shaunda Burdette 352-726-1931 ext. 2240. To learn more about our programs, or to make a donation, visit www.citruseducation.org.

College Scholarships Offered by FREF

The Florida Realtors Education Foundation Student Scholarship Program (FREF) was founded to help deserving students offset costs for college and/or post-graduate school.

Here's who qualifies:
 ■ Florida high school seniors who will be attending an undergraduate college or

university
 ■ Students currently enrolled in an undergraduate college or university

■ Students pursuing graduate studies
 The application period will be open until noon March 11, 2021.

Apply online at <https://ti-nyurl.com/6tbcn6sv>.

UPCOMING REALTORS® ASSOCIATION 2021 EVENTS/CLASSES

- 3/4 — Code of Ethics course
- 3/12 — Million Dollar Producer brunch — RACC Drive-thru
- 3/12 — General Membership Meeting
- 3/24 — Contracts Class with Dennis Pilon
- 4/2 — Good Friday — RACC Closed
- 4/2 — Success Series: Time Management course
- 4/7 — Zoning course with Michael Sherman & Ric Fritz
- 4/21 — USDA 1-2-3 course
- 5/6 — Florida Housing Trusts — SHIP or SAIL course
- 5/31 — Memorial Day — RACC Closed
- 6/4 — The Value-Added Realtor course
- 6/10 — YPN REBAR camp & General Membership Meeting
- 6/17 — YPN Music & Margarita's
- 10/4 — RACC Annual Charity Golf Tournament

All events are currently being held virtually unless noted otherwise. All events/classes are limited to Licensed Agents and/or Business Partners unless marked Public. Visit www.raccfl.com for a complete list of upcoming events.

2021 RACC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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 KATIE SPIRES, DIRECTOR

Citrus County Market Statistics — January 2021			
	Single Family Homes	Townhouses/Condos	Manufactured Homes
Closed Sales	278	8	44
Median Sale Price	\$189,900	\$153,000	\$95,250
Median Time to Contract	18 Days	51 Days	34 Days
Months' Supply of Inventory	1.4	2.5	1.3

Pandemic propels older shoppers online

ANNE D'INNOCENZIO
AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK — In November, Paula Mont did something new: The 86-year-old, who hasn't left her New Jersey senior living community in nearly a year, went shopping — online.

Mont used an iPad, equipped with a stylus to help her shaky hands, to buy a toy grand piano for her great-granddaughter. She picked it out from more than a dozen versions of the instrument on Amazon.

"It is like a wow feeling. I found it!" Mont said.

The internet has become a crucial link to the outside world during the pandemic, one that millions of people still don't have access to. Among older adults, the lack of internet has even impeded their ability to get vaccinated.

But the pandemic has also motivated many who have been isolated at home or unable to leave their senior communities to learn something they may have resisted until now: how to buy groceries and more online.

Americans 65 and older rang up an average of nearly \$187 per month online last year, up 60% from a year earlier, according to market research firm NPD Group's Checkout Tracking. They still spend less than the average \$238 per month by the total population, but they are the fastest-growing group of online shoppers by age group.

Shopping is one of a slew of activities that older Americans now have to do over the internet, like doctor's appointments and socializing via digital video like FaceTime. Such behavior was forced by necessity — older people face the biggest risk of infection, so it's more dangerous for them to go out.

The transition online hasn't always been easy, and children and senior living staff often have to help, an experience that can be both gratifying and difficult.

Barbara Moran, director of social programs for Atria Senior Living where Mont lives,



Associated Press

Lynnette White uses her tablet while interviewed in San Francisco, Tuesday, Feb. 16. The pandemic has sparked a surge of online shopping across all ages as people stay away from physical stores. But the biggest growth has come from consumers 65 and older.

says one of the biggest challenges residents face with their devices is that they are used to pushing, not tapping, as if they're using a touch-tone telephone. She has to repeat tips often.

"I would lie if I didn't say I was frustrated sometimes," said Moran, who sits with Mont — masked and gloved — in the facility's dining room for weekly shopping sessions.

Internet retailers and delivery services hope people over 65 keep up the online shopping habit. Freshly, which delivers prepared meals, is looking at adding smaller portions and low-sodium options aimed at seniors; grocery delivery

service Instacart set up a phone support line; Target's delivery service, Shipt, is scrapping its \$99-a-year fee for some low-income seniors.

Diane Shein, 73, from Bonita Springs, Florida, turned to Instacart and Amazon-owned Whole Foods for groceries because of the pandemic.

"I'm not sure how much it costs, but I don't care," Shein said. "It's very easy and safe."

Instacart president Nilam Ganenthiran predicted that online groceries will be a "new normal" for older people even when the pandemic ends.

Still, there are many barriers, from struggling to use new

technology to high prices to access.

People 65 and older are less likely than younger people to have home internet or a smartphone. Nearly 22 million, or 42% of Americans 65 and older, lack broadband at home, according to a 2021 study from nonprofit Older Adults Technology Services. Low-income and Black and Latino older adults are more likely to be left out, the study says.

"We are asking them to stay at home, and yet a lot of seniors are not connected," said Lauren Cotter of the Community Tech Network, a San Francisco nonprofit that trains low-income residents on

technology and provides free tablets and hotspots.

Those with devices and internet may wrestle with how to use an app or fear giving out personal information because they worry about fraudsters. Online shopping scams cost Americans \$245.9 million last year, according to the Federal Trade Commission. And online grocery shopping, which includes tips and delivery charges, costs more than going to stores.

The pandemic has also exposed the shortcomings of the internet, which often fails to accommodate people with disabilities or an aging population with visual and hearing issues.

www.chronicleonline.com

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Tell that special person Happy Birthday with a classified ad under Happy Notes. Only \$23.50 includes a photo. Call our Classified Dept. for details 352-563-5966

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MANAGER
City of Dunnellon is accepting applications for Community Development/CRA Manager. Bachelor's Degree in Urban Planning, Business, Public Administration, Management or related field, minimum 5 years land use planning, building, engineering and community development and code enforcement experience. Comparable amount of training, education or experience may be substituted for minimum qualifications. Obtain job description and submit Employment Application package to the City Clerk at 20750 River Drive, Dunnellon, FL 34431 (352) 465-8500. Apps can be downloaded at www.dunnellon.org. Electronic apps/resumes not accepted. Salaried \$49,604 - \$74,405. App deadline 03/15/2021. EOE, DFWP.

Today's New Ads

FUNDRAISER
NATURE COAST MINISTRIES THRIFT SHOPPE
DOLLAR CLOTHING
Mon- Fri 10a- 5p
Saturday 10a- 2p
4546 S Suncoast Blvd (Homosassa Plaza)
Supports Veterans & No Cost Dental Clinic
Volunteers & Donations Needed
Non-Profit 501C3 Reg# CH27626

Today's New Ads

LOOKING for a New Career?
Register today!
submit your resume
New opportunities at your fingertips!
Employment in Citrus County and surrounding areas
http://jobs.chronicleonline.com/

Today's New Ads

ASSISTANT CITY CLERK
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Today's New Ads

"MOVE IN READY"
1Bd / 1Ba / Carport Plank Tile throughout
42 S. Harrison St
\$87,500 (352) 422-8832
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CHEVROLET S-10
2003, manual, cold a/c, new tires, very clean, \$1850 OBO (727) 599-4809
HERNANDO 3/3/2 + Den & Pool Maint. Free! Gated 55+ Fully Furnished- NO Pets/Smoking \$1850 Tom 352-422-0199 or Wanda/706-217-9507
NISSAN 2018 VERSA - 4dr- 42K mi - 5sp Standard- 40+ mpg- Great Condition- Like New! \$9,800 obo (352) 571-0886

Today's New Ads

SEASONAL LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE DUNNELLON PUBLIC WORKS
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Today's New Ads

RECEPTIONIST
Construction related company looking to hire a receptionist.
Must have good people skills and phone taking skills.
Insurance exp. is helpful, but not necessary.
Email Resume to tknight@chronicleonline.com or Fax: 352-564-2952
TOYOTA 2018 RAV4 LE FWD SUV- Silver- 19,336 mi- Exc. Condi- \$18,900 (352) 465-4023

Dudley's Auction

—TUES. 3/2 8AM OPEN AIR MARKET—SUN. 3/7 1PM ANTIQUE & COLLECT. AUCTION LIVE & ONLINE Tiffany, jewelry, stained glass, chandeliers, furn.++ dudleysauction.com 352-637-9588 4000 S. FL Ave., Inv. Ab1667 Au2246 15% bp

Today's New Ads

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
DENTISTS & Dental Professionals needed for No Cost Dental Clinic
Please Call: 352-422-4327 352-603-4436
Non-Profit 501C3 Reg# CH27626

Free Services

● FREE ● I WILL REMOVE ANTENNA TOWERS For Free 352-322-6277

Free Offers

"FREE"
54" X 42" MIRROR- A FEW HAND TOOLS FREE IF YOU TAKE ALL- (352) 513-5600
BLUE LIFT CHAIR non-working lift chair Free Free 352-464-0316
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COUNTER STOOLS 2 metal w/ green washable cloth/pad coverings, no longer using (352) 419-7476
FREE BLACK ELECTRIC STOVE Everything works but the oven!!!!!! 352-464-0316
Free Horse Manure Fill a bucket or load your trailer. Not mixed with shavings (352) 513-3355
FREE... FREE... FREE... Removal of scrap metal a/c, auto's, appliances & dump runs. 352-476-6600
Looking For a Hobby? Free supplies for making unique Christmas stockings. 352-382-5577
Rothwieler 2 yr. old female named Peyton Manning, up to date on shots, needs lg back yard & a/c. (352) 572-7151

Lost

*****LOST CAT*****
SUPPORT ANIMAL Female Black Cat w/ white patch on chest & another on belly. She was wearing a Pink Sparkle Collar and a Seresto Flea Collar - last seen in area of Westwood Acres in Crystal River - Lost in December 2020- Please Call: 540-550-6309
LOST CAT Black/White Tuxedo Cat, skittish w/ a cropped ear -lost from Pine Ridge- Missing 4 MONTHS - may be in old Beverly Hills or Crystal River (352) 464-1567

Announcements

CALLING ALL ACTORS The sketch comedy group FNPC Players is looking for performers and will hold an open casting call on Friday 3/5 (7:30) and Sunday 3/7 (2:00) at A Step Ahead Performing Arts Academy, 3451 E Louise Lane in Hernando. Please prepare a 1-minute monologue to showcase your talent and be prepared for a cold reading and some improv work. Ages 21+ only at this time. Contact us on Facebook (FNPC PLAYERS-Live Theatre) for additional information.

Volunteers Needed

DENTISTS & Dental Professionals needed for No Cost Dental Clinic
Please Call: 352-422-4327 352-603-4436
Non-Profit 501C3 Reg# CH27626

Situations Wanted

Busy lady w/ job seeking room for rent in Citrus County / private bath & no pets preferred 352-364-3165

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Sell your treasures today! Call 352-563-5966

Clerical/Secretarial

RECEPTIONIST
Construction related company looking to hire a receptionist.
Must have good people skills and phone taking skills.
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Email Resume to tknight@chronicleonline.com or Fax: 352-564-2952

DICK'S MOVING

Unique Driving Opportunity
Class A CDL Drivers
HOME EVERY 7 to 10 days
Apply Today at Dick's Moving 6331 South TEX PT. Homosassa, FL 34448

Domestic

OUTSIDE WORKER
Seeking individual who enjoys outside work. Exterior plants care, minor cleaning of small exterior garden building & shed, painting several new exterior replacement window trims. NO LAWN MOWING. Individual can work whatever days/hours that suit his time. Interested person should be somewhat familiar with common plants. Location is in Inverness. Could be a month's job. Please Call after 6pm: 352-860-0763

Domestic

HOME CARE NEEDED
Man just out of hospital looking for lady to help w/ home care- Please call 352-436-2953

Medical

FRONT DESK/ INSURANCE
FULL-TIME
EXPERIENCE w/ Dental Office Scheduling & Insurance NECESSARY
Please email Resume to info@LedgerDentistry.com

Signature Dental Care, PA is NOW HIRING!

DENTAL HYGIENIST 3 days a week Benefits Available
Work with the BEST! Join our Team!
Experience Preferred. Must Have current State License to practice Dental Hygiene.
Email resume to las@signaturedental-care.com

Classified Ads work!

Sell your vehicle today! Call 352-563-5966

Medical

FRONT DESK-MEDICAL ASSISTANT

A busy Internal Medicine Practice is NOW HIRING!

For Doctors Office, Please FAX RESUME TO: 352-628-1120

Or email: gmd2@tampabay.rr.com

Professional

Admin Ass't/ Customer Svc for busy real estate office in Crystal River.

Full-time

Real estate background & strong computer skills a must. Quickbooks & Excel a plus.

Email Resume to realestatemax@hotmail.com

Professional

COLLEGE of CENTRAL FLORIDA

Staff Assistant III - Student Services

Part-Time position

How to Apply Go to <http://www.cf.edu/community/cf/hr/> Select one of the following online portals

Administrative/Faculty /Adjunct Career Opportunities or Professional/Career/Part-time Career Opportunities. Submit an electronic application, a copy of unofficial transcripts and resume online.

A copy of transcripts from an accredited institution must be submitted with the application.

3001 SW College Road, Ocala, FL 34474

CF is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Trades/Skills

TOWER TECHNICIANS

NOW HIRING!

Travel the SE w/ co. vehicle & hotel provided. Exc. pay, per diem, bonus & benefits.

Learn the art of Tower climbing & maint. from the BEST!

Electrical exp. pref. Bkgrnd Check & Clean FL. Dr. Lic req'd Must be 21+

Apply within: highlightsinc.com

1515 White Lake Dr. Inverness 352-564-8830 or Email Resume to: highlightsr@highlightsinc.com

General Help

DICK'S MOVING

is NOW HIRING

LABORERS

NO CDL Required

Apply TODAY at Dick's Moving 6331 South TEX PT. Homosassa, FL 34448

General Help

Experienced Lawn Man Must Have Truck (352) 453-7278

OFFICE CLERK

Nature's Resort is looking for an office clerk and someone to work in Country Store. Full and PT positions available. Weekends a must.

Apply at front office 10359 W Halls River Rd, Homosassa 352-628-9544

Part-time Help

"Beverly Hills Area" Needed Part-time CAREGIVER for a special needs young person. Every other weekend - Through Waiver Program 352-422-7116

Employment Info

CHRONICLE

Let us be your one stop shop for Employment needs.

Your job will be featured on Top National Websites such as **INDEED.COM** and many MORE & IN PRINT

Call your Classified Representative for details at 352-563-5966

CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE Serving Our County Since 1894 The Oldest business Supporting our Community

Appliances

SMITTY'S APPLIANCE REPAIR 352-564-8179

Washer/Dryer Set LG Front Loaders on pedestals - Excellent Cond! Heavy Duty-\$800 352-344-8971 Lv Msg

Auctions

Dudley's Auction

—TUES. 3/2 8AM OPEN AIR MARKET —SUN. 3/7 1 PM ANTIQUE & COLLECT. AUCTION LIVE & ONLINE Tiffany, jewelry, stained glass, chandeliers, furn.++ dudleysauction.com 352-637-9588 4000 S. FL Ave., Inv. Ab1667 Au2246 15% bp

Furniture

White Bridge Table w/ 4 white metal chairs-Very Good Condition - \$45 352-513-5777

White Wicker/ Wrought Iron King Bed - includes gently used mattress & box springs! LIKE NEW! \$450 352-249-7179 - Lv Msg

Garden/Lawn Supplies

Bob's DISCARDED Lawn Mower Service ★ FREE PICK-UP ★ 352-637-1225

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LAWN TRACTOR CRAFTSMAN 21 HP 46" DECK Engine runs good - needs deck and park brake repair. \$325.00 352-212-9306

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COLLEGE of CENTRAL FLORIDA

Accounting Specialist III

Full-Time position

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Professional

NICK NICHOLAS Ford

Service Dept. is NOW HIRING!

Porter/Clean Up

Daily req'd duties:

- Be able to lift 75lbs.
- Sweep floors & empty trash cans.
- Operate industrial cleaning equip/shop fir
- Occasionally, drive service customers.
- Perform other tasks as assigned.

Salary DOE- EOE - Excellent Benefits (after 90 days)

Apply in Person: 2901 Hwy 44, Inverness, FL 34453 See Greg Riggs 352-726-1231

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Classified Ads work! Sell your vehicle today! Call 352-563-5966

Restaurant/Lounge

BARTENDER

BEVERLY HILLS VFW 2 days a wk (hourly wage plus tips)

Apply Today!

Send resume to vwfpost10087@gmail.com or apply within 2170 W Vet Lane (352) 746-0440

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SCREEN AMERICA CORPORATION is NOW HIRING

SCREEN TECHNICIANS

FULL-TIME \$10 per Hour **WILL TRAIN** Knowledge of reading a tape measure and use of hand tools is preferred

MUST: Be a team player, Be able to stay focused & pay attention to detail, Be on your feet 8 hrs a day, Be able to lift 50 lbs., Complete jobs assigned, Pass a drug screen & background check. Be at least 18 years or older

Apply within: 7269 W Homosassa Trail, Homosassa, FL 34448 (800)764-1110

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Full Sized Toolbox for pick-up truck Diamond Plate \$60 (352) 436-2953

GARAGE TOOLS *Kwik lift vehicle lift \$600.00 *Whirley-Jig vehicle rotisserie \$600.00 OR \$1000.00 for both Beverly Hills 1-561-310-1247

PRESSURE WASHER Troy Built Briggs & Stratton, 2700 PSI, like new asking \$175 (352) 228-4837

SAWS Craftsman, 10" Radial saw and 1" band saw. \$350 for both, OBO (352) 563-0913

Speedaire - Air Compressor older \$95 Call if interested (352) 527-3276

Garage/Yard Sales

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DOLLAR CLOTHING

Mon- Fri 10a- 5p Saturday 10a- 2p 4546 S Suncoast Blvd (Homosassa Plaza)

Supports Veterans & No Cost Dental Clinic

Volunteers & Donations Needed

Nature Coast Ministries Non-Profit 501C3 Reg# CH27626

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Financial

ALL CLASSIFIED ADS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE

Antiques

ANTIQUE BUFFET Very Good Condition! \$200 Firm (352) 513-5600

Table LAMP - TIFFANY style - lovely, stained glass table lamp, 24" h x 17" w. Great buy at \$49. (352) 513-5777

Collectibles

DALE JARRETT 50TH ANNIVERSARY BANK CAR New 1998 NASCAR Taurus, Exc. \$25 813-505-0953

DALE JARRETT 50TH ANNIVERSARY BANK CAR New 1998 NASCAR Taurus, Exc. \$25 813-505-0953

DALE JARRETT 50TH ANNIVERSARY BANK CAR New 1998 NASCAR Taurus, Exc. \$25 813-505-0953

REVELL DALE JARRETT BATMAN CAR 1:24 scale diecast bank set, exc., box, COA \$20 813-505-0953

REVELL KENNY IRWIN JOKER CAR 1:24 scale diecast 1998 Joker Bank Set, with box. \$20 813-505-0953

REVELL KENNY IRWIN JOKER CAR 1:24 scale diecast 1998 Joker Bank Set, with box. \$20 813-505-0953

TVs/Stereos

TV 25" VIZIO flat screen has HDMI port & remote good condition delivery available \$60. 352-613-0529

Outdoor Furniture

PATIO FURNITURE Chaise with cushion, 2 plastic chairs, 1 single wicker seat glider. \$50 352-428-0721

PATIO FURNITURE CUSHIONED CHAISE, 2 PLASTIC CHAIRS 1 SINGLE SEAT GLIDER. \$50 352-428-0721

Garage/Yard Sales

FUNDRAISER

NATURE COAST MINISTRIES THRIFT SHOPPE

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Supports Veterans & No Cost Dental Clinic

Volunteers & Donations Needed

Nature Coast Ministries Non-Profit 501C3 Reg# CH27626

CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE

www.chronicleonline.com

Mailroom Collator and Driver

29 hours per week

Set schedule each week

Will Train!

Collator

- Feed inserts into the stitcher / trimmer.
- Properly jog products from the stitcher / trimmer stacker.
- Correctly inspect procedure on stitcher / trimmer final product.
- Operate pallet jack, safely moving pallets to their proper location.
- Load products on the table for insertion and remove inserted products.
- Feed preprints into the rotary inserter.
- Properly sort labeled products.
- Handle basic housekeeping.

Driver

- Delivers papers to weekly publications
- Distributes papers using the truck manifest.
- Performs basic maintenance and does pre-trip inspection of vehicles.
- Sets up mail bags and properly tags them.
- Unloads preprints and processes paperwork.
- Responsible for all truck paperwork.
- Reads and understands bundle tops and truck manifests.

Reports to the Mailroom Supervisor

Final candidate must undergo a drug screen, background check and motor vehicle check.

Fill out an application at the Chronicle 1624 N Meadowcrest Blvd, Crystal River 34429

Or send resume to dkamlot-wright@chronicleonline.com

General Help

ASSISTANT CITY CLERK

City of Dunnellon is accepting applications for Assistant City Clerk. HS diploma or GED. Minimum two years experience in municipal administration, human resources, benefits administration. Experience with municipal elections preferred. Creative writing and grammar skills, proficient Microsoft Office applications. Night meetings required. Obtain job description and submit Employment Application package to City Clerk at 20750 River Drive, Dunnellon, FL 34431 (352) 465-8500. Application can be downloaded at www.dunnellon.org. Electronic apps/resumes not accepted. Hourly \$19.62 - \$29.43. App deadline 03/15/2021. EOE, DFWP.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

City of Dunnellon is accepting applications for Community Development/CRA Manager. Bachelor's Degree in Urban Planning, Business, Public Administration, Management or related field, minimum 5 years land use planning, building, engineering and community development and code enforcement experience. Comparable amount of training, education or experience may be substituted for minimum qualifications. Obtain job description and submit Employment Application package to the City Clerk at 20750 River Drive, Dunnellon, FL 34431 (352) 465-8500. Apps can be downloaded at www.dunnellon.org. Electronic apps not accepted. Salaried \$49,604 - \$74,405. App deadline 03/15/2021. EOE, DFWP.

Best Western

is NOW HIRING

Housekeepers & Linen Runners

Apply in person: **BEST WESTERN** 614 NW Hwy 19 Crystal River. No calls please!

Chassehowitzka River Campground

is Now Hiring!

KAYAK ATTENDANT

Must work outdoors & on weekends. Must be able to lift 60 lbs.

Apply Within: Chas Camp Store 8am - 5pm 8600 Miss Maggie Dr, Homosassa, FL

CHRONICLE

is NOW HIRING

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- Load products on the table for insertion .
- Feed preprints

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HELP WANTED

SEEKING CARRIERS

EARN BETWEEN \$200 - \$300 per week.

\$150 sign on bonus. Paid Training!

The Citrus County Chronicle has immediate openings for newspaper delivery drivers in INVERNESS, HERNANDO, HOMOSASSA, CRYSTAL RIVER

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SEASONAL LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE

DUNNELLON PUBLIC WORKS

City of Dunnellon is accepting applications for the position of PT/Seasonal Landscape Maintenance Worker. Duties include lawn/landscape maintenance, tree trimming/removal, road/sidewalk repairs. Basic carpentry, heavy equipment operation a plus. Eligible candidates must possess valid FL Driver's License. Obtain job description and submit City of Dunnellon Employment Application to City Clerk, 20750 River Drive, Dunnellon, FL 34431 (352)465-8500. Download App at www.dunnellon.org. Electronic apps/resumes not accepted. Hourly (\$10.93 - \$16.39) App deadline 03/18/2021. EOE, DFWP.

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Antiques

ANTIQUE BUFFET Very Good Condition! \$200 Firm (352) 513-5600

Table LAMP - TIFFANY style - lovely, stained glass table lamp, 24" h x 17" w. Great buy at \$49. (352) 513-5777

Collectibles

DALE JARRETT 50TH ANNIVERSARY BANK CAR New 1998 NASCAR Taurus, Exc. \$25 813-505-0953

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DALE JARRETT 50TH ANNIVERSARY BANK CAR New 1998 NASCAR Taurus, Exc. \$25 813-505-0953

REVELL DALE JARRETT BATMAN CAR 1:24 scale diecast bank set, exc., box, COA \$20 813-505-0953

REVELL KENNY IRWIN JOKER CAR 1:24 scale diecast 1998 Joker Bank Set, with box. \$20 813-505-0953

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TVs/Stereos

TV 25" VIZIO flat screen has HDMI port & remote good condition delivery available \$60. 352-613-0529

Outdoor Furniture

PATIO FURNITURE Chaise with cushion, 2 plastic chairs, 1 single wicker seat glider. \$50 352-428-0721

PATIO FURNITURE CUSHIONED CHAISE, 2 PLASTIC CHAIRS 1 SINGLE SEAT GLIDER. \$50 352-428-0721

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Garage/Yard Sales

FUNDRAISER

NATURE COAST MINISTRIES THRIFT SHOPPE

DOLLAR CLOTHING

Mon- Fri 10a- 5p Saturday 10a- 2p 4546 S Suncoast Blvd (Homosassa Plaza)

Supports Veterans & No Cost Dental Clinic

Volunteers & Donations Needed

Nature Coast Ministries Non-Profit 501C3 Reg# CH27626

General

3 TALL ARTIFICIAL PLANTS \$15 each or \$30 for all, a steal!! 352-212- 6823

AP CRASH COURSE BOOKS 6 books total, call for more details. Asking for \$20 for all. (352) 547-6479

AQUASANA Pwrd. Water Filtration System - portable - countertop - incl. filters \$70 (352) 746-0488

HELP WANTED

SEEKING CARRIERS

EARN BETWEEN \$200 - \$300 per week.

\$150

General

DIABETIC BRACELET
Brand new and very nice good quality only \$10
352-212-6823 sp-eicher59@gmail.com

DOG KENNEL LARGE
Peef Mate Vario Ultra 28"X15"WX21.5"H taupe/black \$50
352-613-0529

Electronic Cash Register
CASIO SMT274 / \$50
(352) 419-5079 Lv msg

GOLF CART TIRE with RIM off road brand new Carlisle Stryker AT22X11-10 \$30
352-613-0529

Golf Clubs w/ carrier
\$25
(352) 560-3019

SOLD!

GRANDFATHER CLOCK
Howard Miller - Model #611-003 / \$300
Lv msg

GROW LIGHTS With Ballast and 1000 Watt sodium bulb, with light reflector. Only \$100.
352-464-0316

INDOOR OUTDOOR COFFEE TABLE
very nice \$30 firm
352-212-6823

KEURIG COFFEE MAKER in good condition \$40
352-613-0529

MOTORCYCLE OR LAWNMOWER JACK
Lifts items to be worked on \$100
352-464-0316

PLATES & BOWLS SET 23 plates, 8 bowls, 8 big plates, 7 small plates. Can send pictures. \$5
(352) 547-6479

SEWING MACHINE CABINET \$15
(352) 249-6189

Western Saddle
\$95
(352) 436-2953

Wicker Turntable one shelf \$25
(352) 560-3019

Medical Equipment

4 WHEELED WALKER
With seat, brakes and basket!!!! Used very little only \$65.00
352-464-0316

ELECTRIC SCOOTER W/ LIFT
Only 3 years old- \$1600 for Both
352-603-0831

Har-mar LIFT & CARRIER for Mobility Scooter- \$300 obo - Inverness area- (231) 266-8458 - if no answer, LV msg

Manual Wheelchair with footrests. Used little only \$100
352-464-0316

MOBILITY CHAIR
Pride, Jazzy Select Elite, New batteries. Will deliver in Citrus Co., asking \$500 obo
(352) 382-3280

SHOWER CHAIR
Fiberglass and Aluminum. Adjustable legs & seat back. Only \$30
352-464-0316

TOILET SEAT RISER
With handles VERY NICE!
\$35 352-464-0316

TRANSPORT CHAIR (small wheels), with Footrests. NEARLY NEW! ONLY \$75
352-464-0316

Household

COFFEE MAKER
Works fine, Mr. Coffee brand, \$2
(352) 547-6479

DELTA BATHROOM SINK FAUCETS - 3 sets Gold, very good condition. \$25 each set or \$60 for all three.
352-527-2729

STAINLESS FLATWARE in lined box - JCPenny- service for 12- Gold Trim / \$30
(352) 419-5079 Lv msg

Fitness Equipment

Chin Up - Dip Station
\$100 obo
(352) 560-0170

ELLIPTICAL
Proform XP Razor 420 Good Condition, \$100
352-419-4066

ELLIPTICAL
Proform XP Razor 420 Good Condition, \$100
352-419-4066

Exercise Bike
Nautilus Recumbent Bike, used very little \$400
352-382-5577

SOLD!

TREADMILL
ProForm - Excellent Condition! \$250

Sporting Goods

3 WHEEL BICYCLE EZ-3
made by Sun, Cost new \$1450, sell for \$750
518-231-2583

FUJI BIKE
18 SPEED new tires, nice bike \$100
352-212-6823
speicher59@gmail.com

GOLF CLUBS Women's right handed clubs. Complete Set. Including bag and extras. \$100
802-598-4222

GOLF SHOES Women's Size 9, black, like new, only worn a few times \$25
802-598-4222

SCUBA WEIGHT BELT
with 5-3lb slip weights. \$40 calls only
352-422-2029

Utility Trailers

UTILITY TRAILER
5 x 10 Utility Trailer w/ treated plywood sides and chrome wheels. \$900 obo
(352) 584-7311

Baby Items

UMBRELLA STROLLER
blue & red in good condition, \$10
352-613-0529

Wanted to Buy

CASH Offers for Dazzy Vance lures, boxes, photos, or any Vintage Tackle - 407-455-2273

I buy, jewelry, silver, gold, paintings, instruments, records, antiques, coins, watches & MORE!
352-454-0068

WANTED JUNK & ESTATE CARS
Up to \$1,000, & MORE
(352) 342-7037

Wanted Model Trains \$ INSTANT CASH \$
For old Lionel & other model trains, any quantity - one piece or a house full!
330-554-7089

WE BUY COMICS & ACTION FIGURE COLLECTIONS
(352) 228-0658

Pets

*****FREE*****
**** TO GOOD HOME****
PRETTY Gray Spayed Cat - NO fleas or worms - 2 years old - she is SWEET & WELL BEHAVED
(352) 464-1567

GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPPIES
AKC, White-2 fem, 7 male, 95% potty-trained. Avail. Feb. 24th; \$600 per pup. 352-419-4400
LV message or text

SOLD!

GOLDDOODLE F1B PUPPIES 8 wks old. M & F, Sables, Goldens, Brown & Blacks. Health Certs & shots. Beautiful & lovable, raised in our home.
\$700 each

Boat Accessories

2019 Outboard Motor 2.5HP YAMAHA - less than 50hrs. Like New!
Only \$750 Call Today!
352-247-4491

2020 Mercury 4- stroke 200 HP O/B 4 yr wty \$9,800
Call or text 352-422-4141

Boats

1983 Hydra Sports 20.5' ctr cockpit 1992 225 Evinrude, Bimini, bait well, Garmin GPS/ depth/ 2way radio, NEW ign sys, batt, auto bilge pump, anchor, cover & tilt trim! Dual axle trailer, 35 gal fuel cap. \$4250 obo or trade for Pontoon. call/text 352-566-0755

16' Alum Flat Bottom Boat 15HP 4 stroke MERC, elec start, w/ trailer, Asking \$4900 - Call 765-720-0024 or 812-797-2845

RANGER
1991 Cuddy Cabin 21', 2005, 225 Yamaha 4 sk, alum i-beam ttr \$8500 864-247-6395

Recreation Vehicles

2005 JAYCO
32' 6" pull behind Excellent shape- NEW tires + rims \$6000 obo
Call: 352-400-8353 if no ans, LV MSG

FOREST RIVER
2004 25ft. Rockwood Sleeps 6, Cold a/c, Everything works. NO leaks- Great Shape- Must See! Only \$6k
352-247-0788

Recreation Vehicles

KEYSTONE
'17 Raptor King Suite 5th w/ toy hauler. 42' 1 1/2 Ba, triple slide, VGC, new tires \$55k obo. Tow vehicle avail
(727) 639-5229

THOR MOTOR COACH
2018 Freedom Elite Class C 29ft. 8,800 miles, two slides, queen upgraded mattress. Satellite dish, 3 tvs, new tow bar, misc. items incl.
\$64,500.00
727-729-9944

Campers/Travel Trailers

Check Out SPECIALS
~\$69.95~

Run 'til it sells

Applies to all vehicles, boats, RV's, campers & motorcycles.

Call your Classified Representative for details.
352-563-5966



Lincoln Towncar

2006 fully loaded must see to appreciate. 121 K mi good tires, \$6,000
352-341-5124



SELL YOUR VEHICLE IN THE CHRONICLE Classifieds

ONLY

\$19.95 for 7 days

\$29.95 for 14 days

\$49.95 for 30 days

\$69.95 Run 'til it sells!!

*** Call your Classified Representative for details.**
352-563-5966

Vehicles Wanted

CHECK THIS OUT!
~\$69.95~

Run 'til it sells

Applies to all vehicles, boats, RV's, campers & motorcycles.

Call your Classified Representative for details.
352-563-5966

Cars

2017 HEARTLAND PIONEER- 5th WHEEL
PI 276 -32ft/ 2 slides, Auto Leveling, Rear Bunks, \$24,500
352-634-2247

5th WHEEL
2013 Forest River, 39' Cedar Creek 36CKTS - NEW couch/ mattress \$29,995 352-795-7820

5th WHEEL
2017 Forest River Cardinal 3875FB \$59,995 Bath & 1/2 - W/D 352-795-7820

ALL
Buying all junk cars And scrap best prices -8134659482 -Joey

CASH FOR CARS & TRUCKS Running or Not TOP \$\$\$\$\$ PAID * 352-771-6191 *

WANTED JUNK & ESTATE CARS
Up to \$1,000 & MORE
(352) 342-7037

2011 Nissan Versa
6 sp - 36,500 miles tow car w/ heavy duty equalizer tow bar, *motorhome ready* \$4500

Cars

AUDI
2018 A4 PREMIUM Gray, 21K LOW Mi. \$24,907
Nick Nicholas Ford 352-726-1231

CHEVY 2014 Sonic LT Hatchback, 63K mi, Silver, Very Clean, auto trans, Full Pwr- \$6500 obo (724) 454-5016

CHRYSLER
2010 PT Cruiser, 80k mi., gd cond. must see to appreciate - JUST REDUCED \$4700
352-564-2756

FORD
2017 FUSION SE White, 23K LOW Mi. \$17,262
Nick Nicholas Ford 352-726-1231

FORD
2018 FIESTA SE Blue, 0K Mi. \$11,968
Nick Nicholas Ford 352-726-1231

Classic Vehicles

CHEVROLET
1955 2 DR HT SPORT COUPE 283(ci in) w/ vintage air/ 700R4 trans \$32k 352-212-2856

FORD
1930 Model A 5 Window Coupe, 76 K mi./ EXCELLENT COND. \$16,000 352-795-3510

FORD
1977 Ranchero GT auto, 351 M V-8 104,000 mi., \$7,500 352-346-1053

MERCURY
COMET 1974 302 V8 Auto Trans. Great Collector Car! \$8,700 352-212-5747
Call for Appt.

TRIUMPH
1973 TR6, 4 spd, 6 cyl, 2 Tops, Red w/ Black Interior \$15,000 Firm
352-503-6859

Trucks

CHEVROLET S-10
2003, manual, cold a/c, new tires, very clean, \$1850 OBO
(727) 599-4809

DODGE
1987 RAM 2500 Only 67k org. mi., A/C, Manual Trans., Single cab, Long bed \$8500 719-568-4882

DODGE
2002 Ram Diesel - 2500 Cums/BLK / 181K mi / 1 owner/ Tow pkg/ Ext. cab / Great Cond. - a/c \$11,500 352-601-0383

SOLD!

MERCEDES
2002 SLK320, 2dr, Red, New Tires, HT Convertible, V6, AT, 29k mi., \$12,500



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\$29.95 for 14 days

\$49.95 for 30 days

\$69.95 Run 'til it sells!!

*** Call your Classified Representative for details.**
352-563-5966

SOLD!

TOYOTA
2000 Camry Grandma's Car- Well maintained- No rust 190K mi- \$2200
814-442-1919

TOYOTA
2005 AVALON-160K mi Sunroof, Leather, Digital display, SPACIOUS. \$5,000 352-212-3131

Classic Vehicles

89 MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE 5.0
5sp - Older Restore Many Extras! Top Much to List- Discs, SS Exhaust, etc. \$12,000
(352) 436-9718

1977 MGB Complete frame-on restoration - both tops 650 mi since resto. Call for details to much to list \$14,800 Bill: 352-586-4315

AMC 1968 JAVELIN
290 V8, Auto, A/C, PS **Multiple Award Winner... Must See! \$24K (352) 400-1430

CADILLAC
1989 COUPE DEVILLE 91K mi., 1 owner, Gold Edition! \$4,000 352-346-1053

SOLD!

HONDA
2008 CRV- 103K mi- White- Excellent Condition! \$5500
Lv Msg

KIA
2019 SPORTAGE EX Silver, 16K LOW Mi. \$21,968
Nick Nicholas Ford 352-726-1231

SOLD!

CHEVROLET
1969 CAMARO - 454 Engine / 700R4 trans., MANY upgrades! Call for details! \$40,000
810-841-2692

Dissolution Of Marriage Notice

1374-0321 SUCRN
David Scott Lambert II 2021-DR-000216 Dissolution of Marriage
PUBLIC NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CITRUS COUNTY FLORIDA
CASE NO: 2021-DR-000216

DAVID SCOTT LAMBERT II
Petitioner,
and
KATELYN MARIE ALLEN
Respondent,

NOTICE OF ACTION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE (NO CHILD OR FINANCIAL SUPPORT)

TO: Katelyn Marie Allen
1011 S. Palm Avenue
Homosassa, FL 34448

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for dissolution of marriage has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to David Scott Lambert II whose address is 1011 S. Palm Avenue, Homosassa, FL 34448 on or before March 22, 2021, and file the original with the clerk of this Court at 110 North Apopka Avenue, Inverness, FL 34450 before service on Petitioner or immediately thereafter. If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in petition.

Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office. You may review these documents upon request.

You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. (You may file Designation of Current Mailing and E-mailing Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915.) Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed or e-mailed to the address(es) on record at the clerk's office.

WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and infor-

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1955 2 DR HT SPORT COUPE 283(ci in) w/ vintage air/ 700R4 trans \$32k 352-212-2856

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1930 Model A 5 Window Coupe, 76 K mi./ EXCELLENT COND. \$16,000 352-795-3510

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COMET 1974 302 V8 Auto Trans. Great Collector Car! \$8,700 352-212-5747
Call for Appt.

TRIUMPH
1973 TR6, 4 spd, 6 cyl, 2 Tops, Red w/ Black Interior \$15,000 Firm
352-503-6859

Trucks

CHEVROLET S-10
2003, manual, cold a/c, new tires, very clean, \$1850 OBO
(727) 599-4809

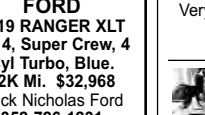
DODGE
1987 RAM 2500 Only 67k org. mi., A/C, Manual Trans., Single cab, Long bed \$8500 719-568-4882

DODGE
2002 Ram Diesel - 2500 Cums/BLK / 181K mi / 1 owner/ Tow pkg/ Ext. cab / Great Cond. - a/c \$11,500 352-601-0383

SOLD!

FORD
1994 Ranger Runs Good- White \$2000
(352) 257-6466

FORD
2005 F150 Lariat One owner. Leather. Excellent condition. 154k miles. \$7,800.00
Beverly Hills 1-561-310-1247



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ONLY

\$19.95 for 7 days

\$29.95 for 14 days

\$49.95 for 30 days

\$69.95 Run 'til it sells!!

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352-563-5966

SOLD!

TOYOTA
Tacoma 2010 4X4 Black, V-6 200K mi. Excel. Cond., \$12,500

Sport/Utility Vehicles

FORD
2018 EDGE Titanium Pkg., Gray, 56K Mi, \$21,968
Nick Nicholas Ford 352-726-1231

FORD
2018 Expedition XLT White, 40K LOW Mi. \$39,971
Nick Nicholas Ford 352-726-1231

FORD
2019 ESCAPE SE White, 10K LOW Mi. Safe & Smart Pkg. \$20,968
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2008 CRV- 103K mi- White- Excellent Condition! \$5500
Lv Msg

KIA
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2017 MKC Red, 34K LOW Mi. \$23,968
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Dissolution Of Marriage Notice

1374-0321 SUCRN
David Scott Lambert II 2021-DR-000216 Dissolution of Marriage
PUBLIC NOTICE
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR CITRUS COUNTY FLORIDA
CASE NO: 2021-DR-000216

DAVID SCOTT LAMBERT II
Petitioner,
and
KATELYN MARIE ALLEN
Respondent,

NOTICE OF ACTION FOR DISSOLUTION OF MARRIAGE (NO CHILD OR FINANCIAL SUPPORT)

TO: Katelyn Marie Allen
1011 S. Palm Avenue
Homosassa, FL 34448

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that an action for dissolution of marriage has been filed against you and that you are required to serve a copy of your written defenses, if any, to David Scott Lambert II whose address is 1011 S. Palm Avenue, Homosassa, FL 34448 on or before March 22, 2021, and file the original with the clerk of this Court at 110 North Apopka Avenue, Inverness, FL 34450 before service on Petitioner or immediately thereafter. If you fail to do so, a default may be entered against you for the relief demanded in petition.

Copies of all court documents in this case, including orders, are available at the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office. You may review these documents upon request.

You must keep the Clerk of the Circuit Court's office notified of your current address. (You may file Designation of Current Mailing and E-mailing Address, Florida Supreme Court Approved Family Law Form 12.915.) Future papers in this lawsuit will be mailed or e-mailed to the address(es) on record at the clerk's office.

WARNING: Rule 12.285, Florida Family Law Rules of Procedure, requires certain automatic disclosure of documents and infor-

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2006 Navigator/ Silver, 185K mi, Runs- Needs Work \$1800 obo
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LINCOLN
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Nick Nicholas Ford 352-726-1231

LINCOLN
2019 NAUTILUS Silver, 12K LOW Mi. \$43,968
Nick Nicholas Ford 352-726-1231

Vans

2012 VW Minivan
103K mi, Good Condition - Good Transportation \$5000
352-228-4664

Motorcycles

Can-Am Spyder
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Nakto, 2020 electric bike, folding, 16" aluminum electric bike for adults. Up to 15 mph. \$300. Like new. 352-503-2403

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HARLEY 2016
Switchback, 2,935 mi., HD extended warranty 2023, \$11,500
352-765-4679

Harley-Davidson
'08 FLHX Street Glide, Very Clean, Low Miles, \$8900 OBO
352-277-9175

Meeting Notices

1373-0228 SUCRN
03/10/21 Regular Meeting CC Tourist Development Council
PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the CITRUS COUNTY TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL will hold a Regular meeting on **Wednesday, March 10th at 9:00 a.m.** at the Lecanto Government Building, Room 166, Lecanto, FL 34461.

Any person desiring further information regarding this meeting may contact the Executive Offices of the Board of County Commissioners, 110 N. Apopka Avenue, Inverness, Florida, 34450 - (352) 341-6560.

Any person requiring reasonable accommodation at this meeting because of a disability or physical impairment should contact the Lecanto Government Building, 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Lecanto, FL 34461- (352) 527-5207, at least one day before the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, use the TDD telephone (352) 341-6580.

SCOTT E. CARNAHAN
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF CITRUS COUNTY, FLORIDA

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC: Any person who decides to appeal any decision of the Governing Body with respect to any matter considered at this meeting will need a record of the proceedings and for such purpose may need to provide that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which record includes testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based (Section 286.0101, Florida Statute).

Bid Notices

1375-0228 SUCRN
PUBLIC NOTICE

HomeFront

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2021

After business hours, just before sunset, Jane got a tour of Green Earth wholesale nursery from her former neighbor Ray Pateraki. Green Earth grows several varieties of *Loropetalum chinense* in No. 3, 10-inch pots and by the thousand. A top-quality grower, Green Earth sells wholesale to commercial landscapers both locally and out of state as far north as the Carolinas and Texas. After the recent prolonged cold weather and snow devastated nursery crops throughout the Southeastern Coastal Plain, Florida-grown plants are in high demand.

JANE WEBER/Special to the Chronicle



Inside this week:

Jane's Garden

Jane looks at Loropetalum, an attractive spring flowering shrub./Page E8

US home prices rise 10.1% in December

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. home prices surged at the fastest pace in nearly seven years in December, fueled by low mortgage rates and Americans moving from crowded urban areas to houses in the suburbs.

The S&P CoreLogic Case-Shiller 20-city home price index,

released Tuesday, climbed 10.1% in December from a year earlier. The year-end jump was the biggest since April 2014 and follows a strong 9.2% year-over-year gain in November.

Home prices climbed 14.4% in Phoenix, 13.6% in Seattle and 13% in Seattle in December. But prices rose all over. Chicago, which recorded the slowest

price gain, saw a 7.7% uptick. Detroit was not included in the year-over-year figures because of record-keeping delays caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

"These data are consistent with the view that COVID has encouraged potential buyers to move from urban apartments to suburban homes," said Craig Lazzara, global head of index

investment strategy at S&P DJI. XX. But he said it was unclear whether the trend would last.

Prices have also been pushed up by the limited supply of homes on the market. "With mortgage rates remaining relatively low and the wave of eager buyers continuing to swell, it's unlikely that this competition for housing, and subsequent strong price

appreciation, will meaningfully abate in the near future," said Matthew Speakman, economist at the real estate firm Zillow.

Homebound consumers are also sprucing up their living quarters. Neil Saunders of GlobalData calculated that Americans each spent the equivalent of \$402 last year at the home-improvement giant.

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DEEP WATER ONLY! MUST BE A
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PLEASE CALL MARY!

MARY ELLIS
352-207-4349
mary.elliserealty@gmail.com

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LAKEFRONT PROPERTY
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YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SELLING, CALL
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OR TEXT
LYNN HARRIS
TO 35620.
LYNN HARRIS
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**SELLERS SEEKING...**

DOUBLE WIDE MOBILE HOME,
2 BEDROOM, 2 BATH



TEXT 128857 TO 35620 FOR ELECTRONIC BROCHURE
Gently used, 1987 DW MH 2/2, open great room w/shelves &
cabinets. Inside laundry used for storage, washer & dryer in
detached shop w/sink. Roof 2015. A/C just serviced. Screen
room w/vinyl windows. Wheelchair ramp. 1/2 an acre, close to
town. Concrete drive & attached

18 x 33 Carport, 2 sheds,
9 x 15 w/laundry & 8 x 10
for storage. No Restrictions!
\$129,900 MLS# 795966

JANICE AYERS / BILL MOORE
352-422-0488 / 352-697-1613



CRYSTAL RIVER WATERFRONT 2/2
HOME ON DEEP, CLEAR CANAL



TEXT 167360 TO 35620 FOR ELECTRONIC BROCHURE
Has access to the Crystal River & Gulf of Mexico. Huge great
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Inside laundry, roof 2016, great opportunities! Floating dock &
seawall. Watch the Manatee

play in your backyard.
Close to The Springs & Kings Bay.
DID NOT FLOOD IN HERMINE!
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COMPLETELY REMODELED CRACKER
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TEXT 163296 TO 35620 FOR ELECTRONIC BROCHURE
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In Crystal River Redevelopment zone
& has commercial potential.

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NEW CONSTRUCTION IN
CRYSTAL MANOR!



TEXT 172361 TO 35620 FOR ELECTRONIC BROCHURE

Estimated completion is April 1st. Custom build 3/3/2 w/2 masters,
10 ft ceilings throughout, oversized
garage, on 1.15 acres. Open floor plan,
huge master walk-in closet. Wired for
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Close to Riding Trails and just minutes from Lake Rousseau!

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Carport, 2 Sheds, 3 Bedroom/2 Updated Full Bath-
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Room for a Pool!

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352-436-9762



CITRUS HILLS GOLF COURSE HOME



TEXT 130405 TO 35620 FOR ELECTRONIC BROCHURE

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- 3/2/2 POOL home
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This beautifully renovated Pritchard Island Villa is located directly
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BRING YOUR BOAT AND ENJOY! Only a short
distance to Downtown Inverness with it's newly
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Restaurants and so Much More. ONLY \$180,000

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acres, trees scattered throughout the property for
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of farm land. There is an oversized block detached garage
that has one big bay and two other rooms to work on
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How to organize and declutter your home

Living SPACE

BHG.com

Wondering how to begin decluttering your home? Here's how to tackle the toughest areas of your house. Take a mental inventory of what you see and write down how the room makes you feel. Then, close your eyes and imagine what you want your new space to look like. Write down how the new vision makes you feel, and place this in a prominent spot as a reminder of what's to come. If you stick to the process, you will reach your goals. Here's how to tackle the toughest areas of your house.

Create a do-it-all entryway.

The entry is a sneak peek into the rest of your home, so you want it to be a functional space that also makes a statement. This area tends to become cluttered with miscellaneous items that don't make it too far past the door. Organize the entry space to handle daily in-and-out items. Cover one wall with blackboard paint so you can leave reminder messages, or add fun hooks and shelves to keep keys, mail and other items sorted.

Make over your home office.

A cluttered office is more likely to serve as a dumping ground than a functional work space. Give this area a

“space-lift” and you'll feel the difference immediately. Get rid of furniture and miscellaneous items that are broken or non-functional. Then, brighten up the room using paint and a colorful rug. Finally, find useful objects such as desk accessories and file folders that speak to your personality — to make even the most mundane tasks a little more fun.

Donate unused food items.

The kitchen can be one of the easiest places to organize. Start by going through the food in your pantry. Box up unwanted items that haven't been opened and aren't expired and take them to your local food shelf. Next, go through your tableware, pots and pans and decorative kitchen accessories. Donate anything you aren't using regularly or don't love. Giving makes the letting go a lot easier.

Edit furniture.

Your home should reflect your personal style. If you are using furniture that was passed down to you, make it your own by painting it a new color or swapping out hardware such as drawer pulls. Don't let sentimentality bully you into keeping items that are just not you. If a hand-me-down isn't working for you, let it go and make room for a piece that you really love.

Inventory your closet.



E+
Create a home that's clutter-free and inviting by letting go of items you no longer need or use.

Organizing closets is a great opportunity to take stock of how much stuff you own versus what you really use. Pull all the items out of your bedroom closet and sort them into like categories. Then, get out similar items stashed under beds, in a spare-bedroom closet or in off-season storage. Once you have items in a single place, it's hard to ignore excess and duplication.

Clean out your medicine cabinet and linen closet.

Just like food, medicines and cosmetics have a shelf life. Check expiration dates and toss anything that's past its prime. Sort through your towels while you're at it, discarding rough, torn or

stained ones, or repurposing them as rags.

Celebrate your accomplishments.

Stay motivated to continue organizing by finding ways to reward yourself for victories big and small. Every time you accomplish a decluttering goal, find a way to recognize it: take a walk, enjoy a treat or put money in a jar for a night out. Celebrating is a great way to keep yourself moving forward.

Better Homes and Gardens is a magazine and website devoted to ideas and improvement projects for your home and garden, plus recipes and entertaining ideas. Visit them online at www.bhg.com.

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<p>NEW LISTING!</p> <p>LEISURE ACRES! Almost 5AC of gorgeous acreage on paved road. Plenty of space for your dream home, pool, horses & more! No HOA fees or flood zone! This is country living while being close to everything! You can be at the Crystal River, the Gulf or the beautiful Rainbow River area in 20 min or less. The new Suncoast Pkwy ext. will provide easier access to Tampa. #798897-\$94,500</p>	<p>NEW LISTING!</p> <p>ARE YOU READY FOR THE COUNTRY? Appx 1.25 AC wooded property on nicely paved road in Forest Lakes North, Hernando. Mobile or site built homes. No deed restrictions-bring your boat, trailer, RV, etc. Well & septic, so you don't have to worry about monthly water/sewer bills. High and dry- no flood ins! Only 10 mi to Inverness, 9 mi to Dunnellon & 20 mi to SW Ocala. MLS#798857-\$21,500</p>
<p>THIS IS YOUR CHANCE! You can own an entire gorgeous point on a Crystal River canal just off of King's Bay! Almost 2/3 AC on a cul-de-sac off of Ft. Island Trail in homes only area. Easy shot to the Gulf! Outside of city limits but w/city water & sewer. Mostly cleared with nice trees remaining, esp. along the water's edge. Don't miss it! MLS#789852-\$266,000</p>	<p>BLACK DIAMOND LOT! Great opportunity to buy in the highly desirable Black Diamond Ranches community. This cleared lot is ready for you to build your dream home in a beautiful gated community. Black Diamond offers optional social and golf memberships to keep you busy throughout the year. Conveniently located close to all that Citrus County has to offer. MLS#797969-\$39,900</p>
<p>WATERFRONT LOT! This +/- 0.61 AC waterfront lot is located in the homes only neighborhood of Bay Meadows at Seven Lakes. Build your dream home or lake house on this beautiful lake in Inverness. Zoned for Inverness Primary, Inverness Middle and Citrus High Schools. Close to shopping, restaurants and parks. MLS#797139-\$35,000</p>	<p>CRYSTAL RIVER COMMERCIAL LOT: High and Dry, 1.14 acres; commercial lot (mostly GNC) directly on busy Hwy 44, next to Bay Area A/C, just outside Crystal River city limits. Appx 100ft @ rear is zoned MDR. Central water & sewer avail. @ front of property. Sewer pd for by others- Buyer to proportionately reimburse appx \$7K. MLS#783025-\$290,000</p>
<p>COMMERCIAL LAND</p> <p>BUILD YOUR DREAM BUSINESS! Two adjoining lots (+/- 1.68 AC total) zoned GNC on East side of busy Lecanto Hwy/491, just south of the intersection w/ Norvell Bryant Hwy/486. Located betw. 2 active comm. operations. Near Super Wal-Mart, McDonalds, Wawa & Wendy's. County water & sewer lines have been run & are available (need meters). MLS#794550-\$175,000</p>	<p>COMMERCIAL LAND</p> <p>MOVE IN READY!!! This home comes furnished & recently updated. 2BR/1.5BA with detached garage. New flooring & fresh paint. Spacious Florida Room and lots of windows throughout home for natural light. KIT features a new oven, eat in kitchen & pantry space. Built-ins & closets throughout home help optimize storage space. Owner financing available. MLS#798708-\$87,500</p>

Call me today and let's get your

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Amy Meek

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CC-0025YV

GET THE WORD OUT

- Nonprofit organizations are invited to submit news releases about upcoming community events.
- Write the name of the event, who sponsors it, when and where it will take place and other details.
- News releases are subject to editing. Call 352-563-5660 for details.

Moth to a flame

Customers have a natural talent for finding items without a price tag. As diligent as we and the dealers are at tagging items, I can only conclude there must be a tag fairy who removes tags at night. It is possible a tag falls off when the item is handled or brought to the counter; in that case we can back-track. In a display case, an item's tag may not be replaced correctly or perhaps a tag was removed in hopes of a better price. I hope no one would do that. Besides, I prefer fairy tales.

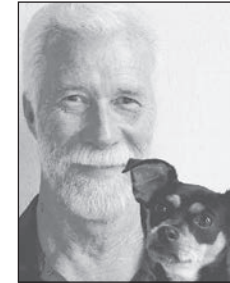
At times, the years of experience help with description and price on a tag. Keeping up with what's popular and selling in an ever-changing market is a challenge. Creating accurate descriptions and current competi-

tive pricing is a must.

We don't tag items outside, as the weather deteriorates the writing, so we keep a clipboard inside with prices. We also have dealers with tags and writing so small they just disappear.

If there are 5,000 items in the shop and 20 are not tagged for whatever reason, it seems those come to the counter before the other 4,980. It happens so often even the fairies must be impressed. Tags are important, as that's how our dealers (and us) get paid. Credit card fees, commissions and inventory control (stop laughing) are all tracked and settled monthly based on tags.

Steve Barnes owns and, along with his shop dog Gypsy, operates Olde Inverness Antiques.



Steve Barnes
TIME WILL TELL



Gypsy's Two Cents: "At least they know I'm priceless."

Special to the Chronicle



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KAREN E. MORTON

Hall of Fame Centurion Member
E-mail: kemorton@tampabay.rr.com
Website: KarenMortonCentury21.com

(352) 212-7595



The real estate market is "hot". If you have considered selling your home, now might be your best time to start the process. For a FREE, NO OBLIGATION market analysis, call me at 352-212-7595.

Oak Lee Groves Condo -
Just listed * Easy distance to Inverness new Liberty Park, the Withlacoochee Bike Trail, and public boat launch.
3 bedrooms * 2 full baths * 2 car garage * You will love the custom amenities, including wood burning fireplace, wet bar, private courtyard, or relax under the stars in your Private Hot tub. This is a rare find in a highly coveted community.
Priced right at \$235,000



NEW LISTING

LECANTO * 5 ACRES -
Original owner is downsizing from this 3 bedroom, 2 bath custom family homestead. The condition of this home shows the love and care the owner has had in it. 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths * Huge country kitchen * Pantry * Appliances included * Wood deck/patio off the dining. Double carport. Multiple out buildings for ample storage.
Priced right at \$249,900



NEW LISTING

HOMEFRONT

HomeFront is a weekly real estate section published Sundays in the Citrus County Chronicle.

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REAL ESTATE DIGEST PHOTOS

- Headshots of real estate agents and associates submitted for the Real Estate Digest are kept on file in the Chronicle Editorial Department. It is the responsibility of the individuals submitting news notes to ensure headshots have been sent to the newsroom, and to advise staff of any name changes.
- Photos need to be in sharp focus.
- Photos submitted electronically should be in maximum-resolution JPEG (.jpg) format.

Texas winter storm autopsy



This is my main water shutoff valve. Do you know where yours is? Do you know if it works? Do you know how to de-pressurize your water lines? You probably don't.

TIM CARTER/Tribune Content Agency

— Ask the **BUILDER** —
Lesson is that disasters can happen to anybody

TIM CARTER
Tribune Content Agency

Were you one of the millions of homeowners, renters or business owners who suffered from the recent miserable polar weather in the core of the USA? The storm and low temperatures left millions without power, drinking water, food and other necessities. Frozen and burst water pipes in houses and businesses are now as plentiful as flies at a summer cookout.

The past few days I've been trying to make sense of all the misery out there. A week ago I was a guest on the live midday WGN-TV news show to try to help the folks in Chicagoland who were suffering from extreme cold, ice dams and whatnot.

My takeaway from that brief appearance, as well as an avalanche of incoming help requests on my AsktheBuilder.com website, is

See **BUILDER/Page E7**

Reader has questions about cameo pin from grandmother

Dear John: Thank you for continuing your column all these many years. They are very informative and helpful to us all.

I would like to ask your assistance in locating more information about a large cameo pin that was my grandmother's. I am now 83, so the pin is an antique. The cameo itself is 1



John Sikorski
SIKORSKI'S ATTIC

3/4 inches long by 1 5/16 wide in a silver setting or frame and not marked as sterling. The overall size with frame is 2 inches long by 1 9/16 wide.

I would like to know more about it, because I have a second cousin and a third cousin-once-removed who each have a cameo the same size, in the same frame style, one is in a gold setting, and with only a slightly different carving. They each received theirs, also, from their grandmothers.

We like to conjure up a story of how a common grandmother may have given these to her daughters in about 1900 when our grandmothers would have been 20 to 25 years of age.

However, there may have been a local Indiana jeweler around the Kokomo area and family members just purchased them because that was the style at the time. I have searched through old photographs and have not found any ancestors wearing the pins.

Of course, we each treasure our cameo pins immensely, so anything you could tell us about them, where they were made, or their value would be deeply appreciated. — M.L.B., *Floral City*

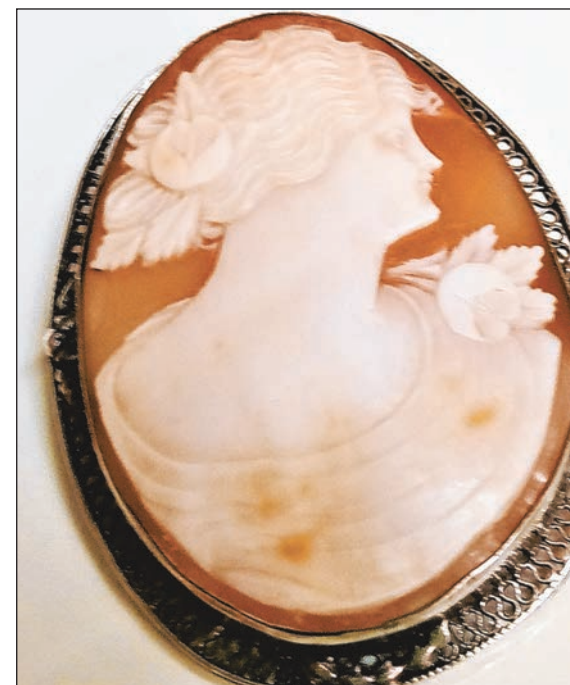
Dear M.L.B.: Thank you for the kind words. Cameos have been made from seashells, hardstone, gemstones and other material for several thousand years. Most of the cameos that are

collected, bought and sold in the antiques marketplace were made in the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. The cameo you have is carved from seashell. The woman's head displays a style typical of the late Victorian era. The heavy neck, upturned nose, and full cheeks is characteristic of the 1880s to 1890s period, likely the time period your cameo was made. It was the style for well-dressed ladies in the turn of the century to wear a cameo, explaining your cousins' similar cameos.

See **ATTIC/Page E7**

This cameo pin was made from a seashell. It likely dates from the late 19th century.

Special to the Chronicle



BUILDER

Continued from Page E6

that people have ignored the simple and easy things they could have done to protect their homes when these severe weather events happen.

I don't know where the blame lies for this lack of transfer of basic home maintenance know-how, and to be honest, I don't care. All I care about now is getting you up to speed so you know what to do to prevent burst water lines in your home.

Water expands in volume by 9% when it freezes. This usually isn't a big deal if it freezes in an open bucket where the extra volume can go up into the air. Your water lines are different. They're a closed system much like a can of fruit juice. Put one of those in your freezer and the next day it's going to be split wide open just like your burst copper or galvanized iron water lines.

There are water lines that can handle this expansion. I have them in my own home and I installed it in my daughter's new home. PEX plastic water lines can freeze and not burst. If you're going to build a new home or remodel, consider PEX.

Here's what to do if you don't have PEX water lines. Step one is to clean your bathtub(s) and fill it to the brim with clean water. Do the same with as many buckets, bowls and pots as you own. You'll use this for drinking, cooking, flushing toilets and so forth during the crisis.

Step two is to locate your main water shutoff valve and turn it off. It's almost always where the water line enters your home. It could be in your basement, crawlspace or a closet.

You need to make sure the valve works and actually shuts off the water. This can be a touchy test because if you haven't exercised the valve before, it may not work, you may break the handle, or it might not re-open. Don't do this test hours before you're expecting 20 guests for Thanksgiving dinner. Don't do this test on a weekend when plumbers might be hard to come by.

Let's assume the valve works. Your water is now off so if the water lines were to burst, you wouldn't have to worry about thousands of gallons of water flowing across your floors like the great Mississippi River flowing across the flatlands.

But you've now created a

hidden time bomb. Shutting off the water is not enough. We need to get as much water out of the water lines as possible. Find the lowest sink in your house and turn on both the hot and cold valve as if you needed warm water.

Now go through the entire house and flush every toilet, open up every valve, including tubs, showers, outside hose faucets, etc. You'll see lots of water start flowing out of the first sink where you opened up the first valve. Gravity is pulling the water out of your water lines and replacing it with wonderful air. Do NOT close the valves on any faucet. Leave them open until such time as you can once again turn on the water.

If you feel it's going to get bitter cold in your home, you'll need to drain your water heater as well. That's easy as it has a drain valve on the bottom of it.

Let's say the power doesn't come on and the temperature in the house is getting close to 32 F. Now it's time to protect your toilet tanks and bowls and all the sink, tub, and shower traps. You can pour some RV antifreeze in all these. Most septic tanks and sewer systems won't suffer with RV antifreeze. Don't use regular car antifreeze, as it's quite toxic.

If the water in the toilet bowl

or traps freezes, you'll have even more misery and expense. It's so easy to prevent this damage. But, then again, it requires you to have three or four gallons of this antifreeze stored in your home, so you're not looking for it when it's sold out the day after the power goes out. Be prepared like a scout.

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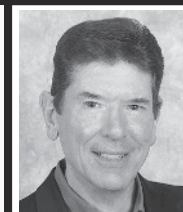
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ATTIC

Continued from Page E6

You mentioned that the frame is not marked sterling. It could be made of white gold. In the photograph, the frame does not show any tarnish and has a nice sheen that one would expect if made of white gold, which does not tarnish. If it is white gold, there will be a tiny 10k, 14k, or 18k stamped in the metal. Use a magnifier and look closely at the pin catch for the mark. White gold frames were as popular as yellow gold, perhaps more so. If your pin is made of white gold, potential dollar value is in the \$200 plus range. If not, in the range of \$100.

John Sikorski has been a professional in the antiques business for 30 years. Send questions to Sikorski's Attic, P.O. Box 2513, Ocala, FL 34478 or asksikorski@aol.com.

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Spring flowering shrubs

Loropetalum is a genus of flowering shrubs to small trees containing just four species. Commonly called fringe flowers, loropetalums evolved in Asia — China, Japan and the Southeast Asian Himalaya region. *Loropetalum chinense* cultivars are cold hardy in USDA cold hardiness zones 7–10, tolerating winter temperatures as low as 0°F.

Plant evergreen, perennial *Loropetalum chinense* in full sun further north, but perhaps in part afternoon shade in hot sunny Florida.

In dense shade, Loropetalums will not flower as much. They prefer well-drained, moist, acidic soil with plenty of organic humus mixed into sandy planting beds. Chlorotic yellow leaves indicate the soil may be too alkaline. If planted in soggy, poorly drained soil, root rot can occur. A couple of inches of organic top mulch, such as pine needles, should not touch the stems or trunks. Top mulch helps prevent weeds seeding; adds acidity, carbon and nutrients; retains soil moisture; and protects the soil and roots from temperature extremes. After establishment, loropetalums are drought-tolerant.

Plant breeders spend time and money developing named varieties they advertised and sell in retail outlets. Newly developed unique plants may be patented and receive a plant patent number beginning with “PP.” Trademarked and registered names are used by gardeners to search and buy particular plants with specific traits. The official cultivar name for a trademarked plant may be a few letters and/or numbers or a name in single quotes like ‘Shang red.’ While these odd numbers, letters and cultivar names are unimportant to landscapers, the well-known registered or trademark name is useful and easily



Jane Weber
**JANE'S
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Southern Living

These potted Plum Delight semi-dwarf loropetalum are an older variety can grow 6 to 8 feet tall with similar diameter, so should be planted at least 6 feet apart to grow to maturity. If planted close together they will soon grow into each other and need pruning as a sheared formal hedge. Prune as soon as the flowering season ends in spring. Pruning too early cuts off the terminal flowers. Pruning too late in the fall may decrease next spring's flowering.

See JANE/Page E14



Southern Living

Southern Living's trademarked dwarf weeping Purple Pixie ('Peack' PP#18441) has small deep purple leaves all year round. The fringe-like flower petals are hot pink. Height is 1 to 2 feet with a spread of 4 to 5 feet. New growth first appears to be vertical but soon cascades downward. Use Purple Pixie as a groundcover on a slope, as a container plant, or to drape over a wall. Named varieties of Loropetalum are available online and at retail box stores.

JANE WEBER/Special to the Chronicle
 Local wholesale grower Ray Pateraki grows thousands of Loropetalum plants at Green Earth nursery in Hernando. These older variety of Loropetalum 'Plum Delight' were at their peak spring bloom in late February in Citrus County. Green Earth supplies top quality plants to landscapers and regularly delivers truckloads as far north as the Carolinas.

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Art for the home booms during pandemic

COLLEEN NEWVINE
Associated Press

NEW YORK — If you've been watching experts and commentators appearing on television from their homes, their increased attention to decor might look familiar: In the early days of lockdown, they, like many of us, sat in front of blank white walls, while now their homes frequently display prominent artwork.

"Cinderella has nothing on these people," said Claude Taylor, who created the Room Rater Twitter account with his fiancée, Jessie Bahrey. "I don't think art is even something people thought of in April."

Room Rater scores speakers' setups on a 10-point scale for details like lighting and camera level. Good artwork can boost a score. For example, Washington Post columnist Eugene Robinson scored a 10/10 for appearing on Morning Joe in front of artwork by his wife, Avis Robison.

It seems many Americans who are stuck staring at their walls have decided the pandemic gives them a good reason to pretty them up.

My first hint at an uptick in art spending came last summer. When businesses shuttered and laid off employees in March, we braced for my artist husband's sales to plummet. For a while they did. But then, his numbers didn't just return to normal. They spiked.

I thought it might be an anomaly. My husband, John Tebeau, illustrates beloved bars; maybe people were buying his bar art because they missed their favorite watering holes?

But then friends who work at a framing shop said they were as busy last fall as at Christmas. Artists we

know said they, too, were selling more than usual.

Online arts marketplace Etsy confirmed the trend. Comparing March-December 2020 to the same nine months in 2019, Etsy reported:

- a 95% increase in searches for wall art.

- an 80% increase in searches for stained glass window or wall hangings.

- a 46% increase in searches for sculptures.

Etsy doesn't release data on actual sales. It's fair to assume at least some of those searches were daydreams that never led to purchases, if my own time scrolling through listings for upstate houses I have no intention of buying is any indication.

Adobe Analytics does track purchases online, and those numbers are even more dramatic: Average daily sales of "art goods," which includes sculptures, artworks and frames, increased 134% between the pre-COVID-19 months of 2020 and last fall. Comparing September and October 2019 to the same two months in 2020, average online daily sales increased 109%. Adobe's analysis of e-commerce sales includes 80 of the 100 largest online retailers in the U.S.

Atiba T. Edwards has just the combination of experience to explain what's happening. He worked in banking for several years and is also the cofounder of the arts nonprofit FOKUS, which offers arts education, hosts art events and publishes an online magazine.

Edwards noted that many people who kept working during the lockdown suddenly weren't spending money on travel, going out to restaurants or movies, or getting babysitters. They



Associated Press

Eden Stein appears with her son Luca, 2, at her gallery Secession Art & Design SF in San Francisco on Jan. 29. Stein said making art sales during the pandemic has felt a little like a wedding reception: She has reconnected with friends and clients from throughout the gallery's 13-year history.

were probably home more than ever before, so they might have redirected some of that discretionary income to art.

Edwards is an example himself. He loves and appreciates art, but in the before times, he left his Brooklyn apartment early in the morning, went to

work as chief operating officer of the Brooklyn Children's Museum, then got home late after coaching basketball or going to an art event. Now he works more at home, and misses seeing art at work and elsewhere.

"I have hung six pieces in the last three months," he said. "People are seeing the

benefit of surrounding themselves with beauty."

Edwards has worked with hundreds of artists as executive director of FOKUS, trying to create accessible art experiences in nontraditional spaces. He believes the traditional art show or gallery experience feels intimidating to someone who doesn't feel knowledgeable about art, while social media algorithms can serve up artists to peruse with no pressure to buy.

"The newcomer can look at art at home and not have the feeling of it being unwelcoming," he said.

Higher unemployment rates caused by the pandemic mean many people, of course, don't have the money to buy art now.

But for some of those still working, buying art can also be an attempt to help support others.

"I had people reaching out to buy a piece of art to save my gallery," said Eden Stein, owner of Secession Art and Design in San Francisco, which sells the works of about 70 creators. "That money not only supported my family, it supported the artists

See ART/Page E14




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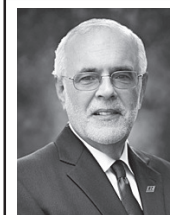


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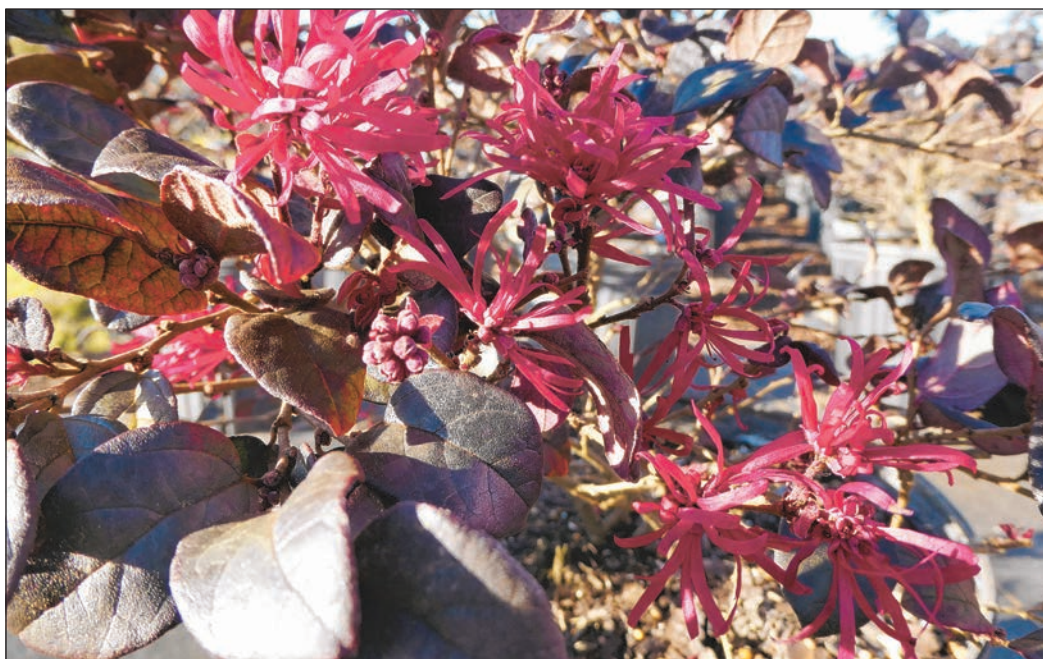
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JANE WEBER/Special to the Chronicle

Loropetalum Red Chocolate is an older variety with deep red fringe flowers and dark purple foliage. Clemson University's factsheet HGIC 1085 states Loropetalum (*Loropetalum chinense*), Chinese fringe-flower, is in the Witchhazel family (Hamamelidaceae). The genus name, Loropetalum — derived from the Greek words for strap and petal — refers to the long, thin fringe-like flower petals. Green Earth wholesale nursery in Hernando grows this older popular variety by the hundreds.

JANE

Continued from Page E8

researched online, so homeowners can ensure they are buying a particular plant with specific characteristics.

The word "loropetalum" is derived from the Greek words for "strap" and "petal." The small flowers have many inch-long, narrow petals that dangle like a fringe. Pink-flowered, purple-leaved Loropetalums were introduced in the U.S. less than 35 years ago in the late 1980s and 1990s. Their popularity took off in warm southern gardens. The white-flowered types introduced a century earlier in 1880 have green leaves with bright green newly emerged leaves. As white flowers were not as noticeable among the foliage, they did not become popular.

Average height is to 15 feet tall, but old trees, especially 'Blush,' may reach 35 feet with a loose, somewhat open habit and a rounded to vase-shaped form. Old trees can be limbed up as small trees or left as a dense privacy screen

or specimen. Fine-textured leaves are alternate, simple, finely toothed, or entire (with smooth edges) and about 1 to 1.5 inches long. Branches tend to arch gracefully. Clusters of flowers occur at the stem tips and in the leaf axils. In Central Florida, loropetalum flowers from mid to late February through to April with scattered reblooming.

Named cultivars transplant easily and are generally maintenance and pest free. Pruning is unnecessary if loropetalums are planted in the right location, with room to grow to maturity. Pruning can be done immediately after the flowering season ends. Look online for cultivar traits and mature size. Read Clemson University's fact sheet HGIC 1085.

The Southern Living loropetalum collection includes dwarf and semi-dwarf shrubs with year-round purple leaf color that does not fade. Purple Pixie is a dwarf weeping loropetalum, useful as a ground cover plant and can add vibrant color trailing from a container or raised bed. In spring, it has showy pink flowers and rich purple foliage all season. Dwarf

foundation plants that won't need constant pruning include Southern Living's patented Emerald Snow 'Shang-white.' This semi-dwarf loropetalum has a layered growth habit, needs little pruning and matures 4 to 6 feet tall and 3 to 4 feet in diameter. Pure white blooms cover this cultivar in spring, and sporadically through summer and fall. New lime-green leaf growth contrasts with the dense, glossy-green older foliage.

Compact Red Diamond is Southern Living's midsize *L. chinense* 'Shang-Red.' It has the reddest blooms and a mature size of 6 feet high by 6 feet in diameter. Use as a specimen, in mass plantings, or as a tall mixed border plant.

Many new and older cultivars are available. There is one to suit most garden situations. Research color, form and size online before ordering or shopping at a retail nursery.

Jane Weber is a professional gardener and consultant. Semi-retired, she grows thousands of native plants. Contact her at jweber12385@gmail.com or phone 352-249-6899.

ART

Continued from Page E10

and their communities."

Stein said making art sales during the pandemic has felt a little like a wedding reception: She has reconnected with friends and clients from throughout the gallery's 13-year history.

Typically, Stein would host two or three events a month, while foot traffic to nearby restaurants and a music venue next door would also bring in new visitors. Instead, for the last year, she's talked to many buyers by phone or arranged visits by appointment.

"This year has been really personal," Stein said. "If you can't hug people, selling a piece of artwork feels a little like that."

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Kim Hall can be reached at the company's Inverness office located at 117 S. Hwy 41, Inverness, by phone at 352-303-0957 or by email at hallkim55@yahoo.com.

ERA property managers recognized

Property managers **Robin Hite** and **Kim Hall** were recently honored by **ERA American Suncoast Realty**. Both were recognized for their continuing superior service to landlords and tenants in the Citrus County rental market in 2020.

Robin Hite has been a property manager for ERA American Suncoast Realty for 20 years and is based in the company's Beverly Hills office. She has earned the prestigious national PRM (Professional Residential Property Manager) designation to better serve her clients.

Kim Hall has been a property manager in the ERA American Suncoast Realty in the Inverness office for the past 11 years. A third-generation native Floridian, Kim has been a licensed Realtor in Florida for 45 years and a broker for 34 years.

Both Robin and Kim noted that the current rental market is thriving with a shortage of properties to rent, and both are actively seeking owners and investors to represent in the busy market.

Robin Hite can be reached at the ERA American Suncoast Realty Beverly Hills office located at 4511 N. Lecanto Hwy., by phone at



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Jan Tuel can be reached at 352-212-5579 or by email at jantuel@gmail.com.

Michele Allan can be reached at 352-364-6092 or by email at micheleallan866@gmail.com.

Ashton Page can be reached at 352-601-6821 or by email at ashtonsellsreal estate@gmail.com.

Cole Gordon can be reached at 352-270-2857 or by email at gordoncole87@gmail.com.

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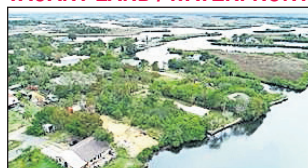


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Level

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3 4

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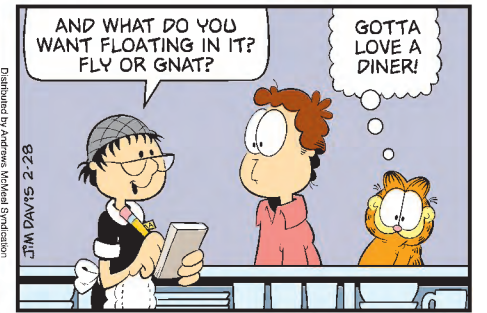
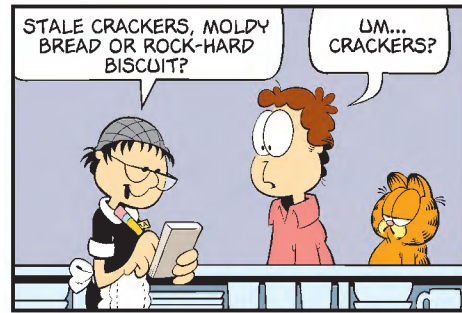
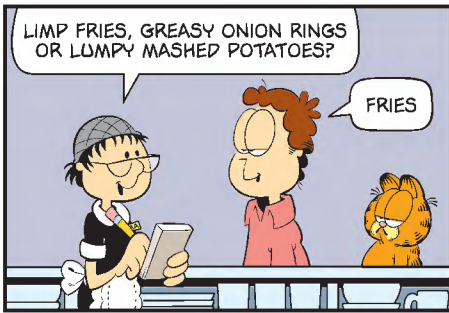
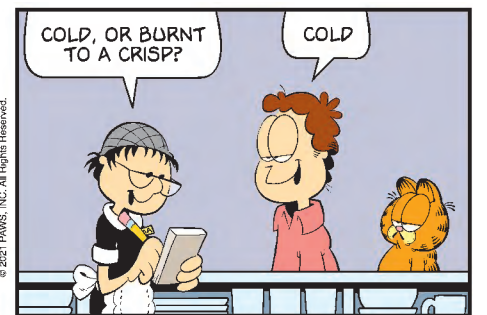
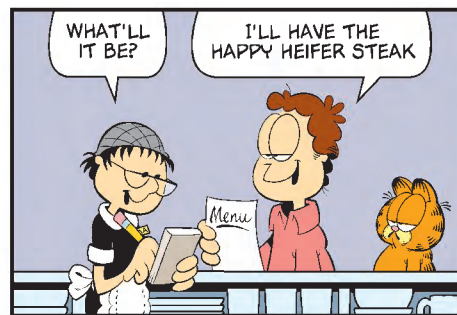
Solution to Last Weeks puzzle

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

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

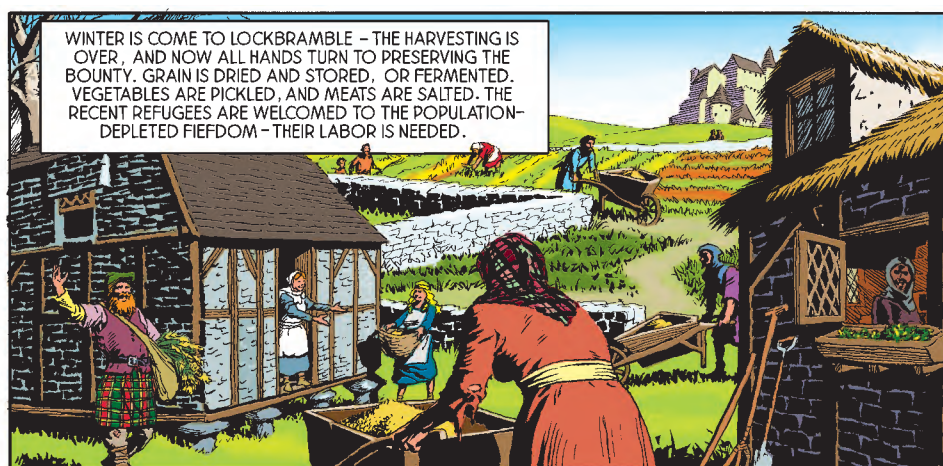
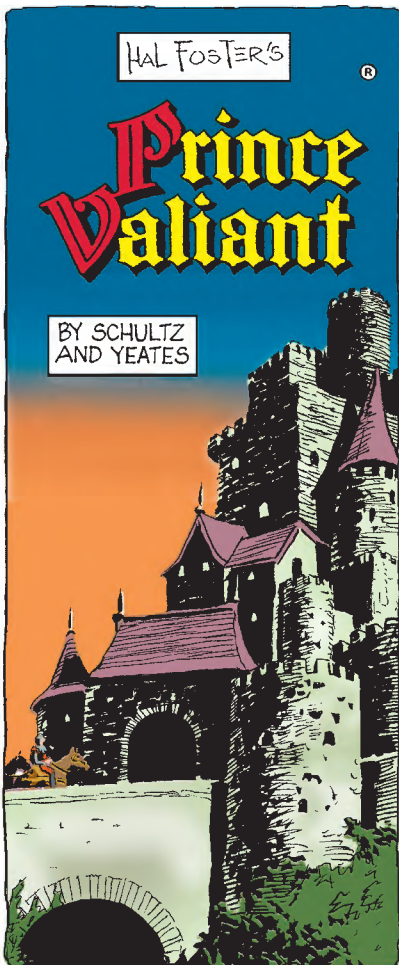
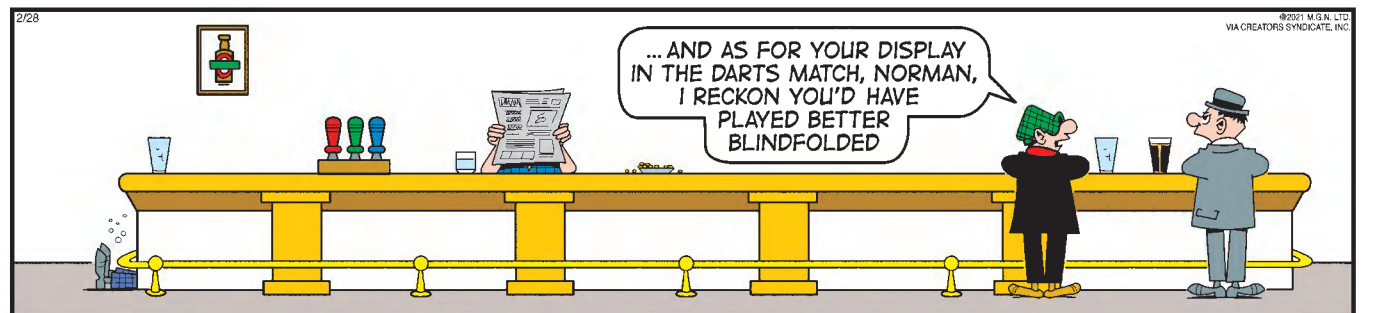
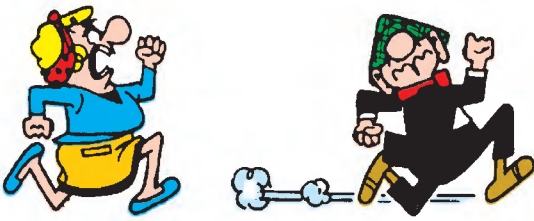
2/28/21

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ANDY CAPP

by Smythe



NEXT The challenge

JUMBLE

Answer:
 FORGE SWOOSH UPROAR
 NEGATE KARATE MINGLE

"MANOR" OF
 SPEAKING

on your ---
 Whether you call it an estate,
 mansion, chateau, etc., depends

BARNEY GOOGLE and SNEAKY SAM BY JOHN ROSE

Comic strip panels for Barney Google and Sneaky Sam. Panels include: 'I GOTTA TRICK THAT BANK ROBBER INTO TELLIN' ME WHAR HE HID TH' MONEY !!', 'CUZ I COULD REALLY USE THAT REE-WARD !!', 'I HEAR YA NABBED SNEAKY SAM FER BANK ROBB'RY, SHERIFF !!', 'I SHORE DID...', 'BUT HE AIN'T TELLIN' ME WHAR HE HID TH' MONEY !!', 'LET ME HAVE A GO AT HIM. I'LL GIT HIM A'TALKIN' !!', 'WHY TH' SUDDEN INTRIST IN HALPIN' LAW ENFORCEMENT, SMIF?', 'I JEST WANNA CONTRIBUTE TO TH' BETTERMENT OF OUR COMMUNITY, SHERIFF !!', 'WELL, THAT AN' I PLAYED CARDS WIF THAT DEADBEAT VARMINT A WHILE AGO !!'.

Mort Walker's beetle bailey

Comic strip panels for Beetle Bailey. Panels include: 'HEY, BEETLE, WANNA SHOOT SOME HOOPS?', 'UM, NO...', 'EVERY TIME WE COMPETE, YOU LOSE YOUR TEMPER AND ASSAULT ME WITH SOMETHING', 'LIKE WHAT?', 'A GOLF CLUB...', '...A TENNIS RACKET...', '... A PING-PONG PADDLE...', 'THERE MUST BE SOME SPORT WE CAN PLAY', 'WHAT ON EARTH HAPPENED TO YOU?!', 'SARGE DROPPED HIS BOWLING BALL ON MY FOOT'.

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane

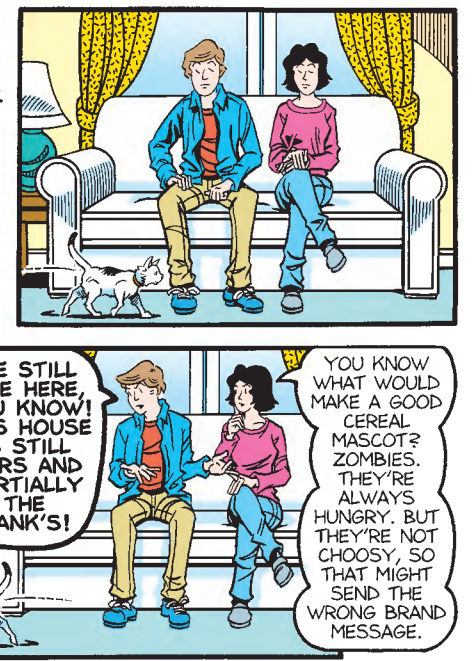
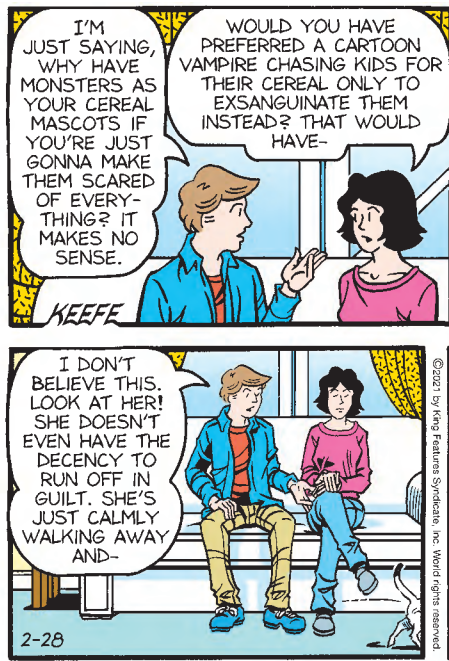
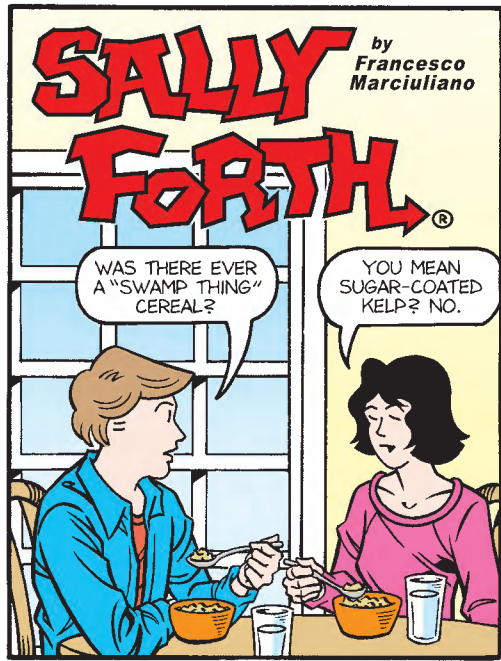
Comic strip for The Family Circus showing a boy's night terrors. Panels include: '2-28', '©2021 BIL KEANE, INC. DIST. BY KING FEATURES SYND.', 'WWW.FAMILYCIRCUS.COM', and 'JEFF and Bil Keane'.

Comic strip for N. A. T. E. by Lincoln Peirce. Panels include: 'N', 'A', 'T', 'E', 'by Lincoln Peirce', and a drawing of a boy's head on a pen nib.

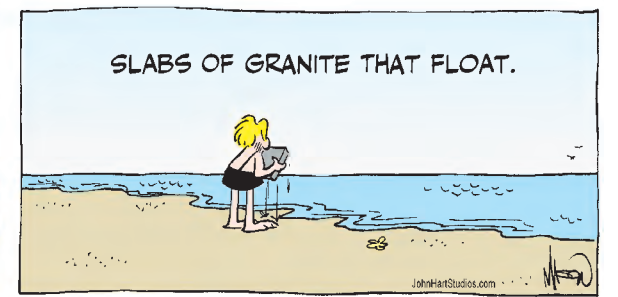
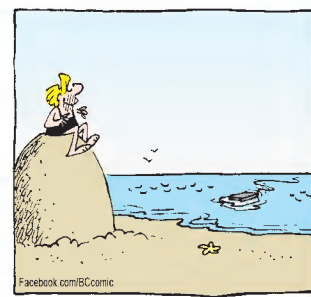
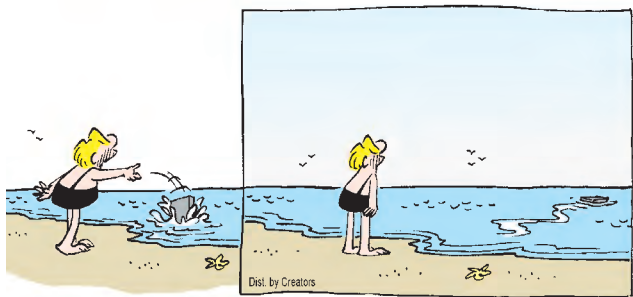
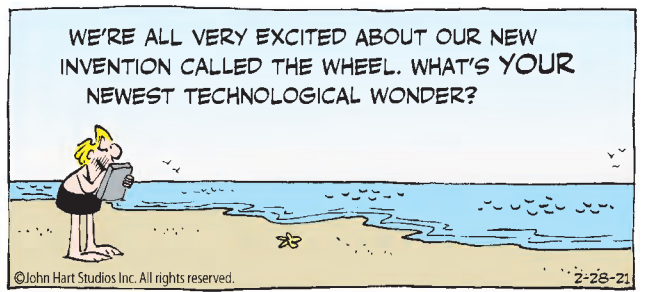
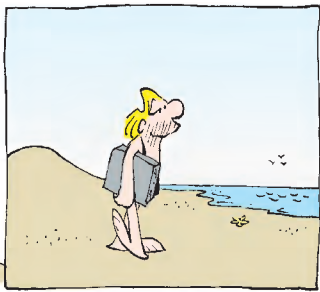
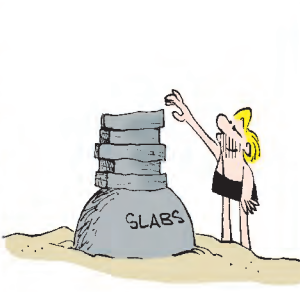
Comic strip for N. A. T. E. by Lincoln Peirce. Panels include: 'ARRGH!', 'WHAT'S WRONG?', 'I SPENT MY WHOLE ALLOWANCE ON THIS FANCY DRAWING PEN...', '... AND LOOK! THE TIP IS ALREADY TRASHED!', 'AREN'T ALL PENS LIKE THAT?', 'YEAH, EVENTUALLY! AFTER YOU'VE USED 'EM FOR A WHILE!', 'BUT THIS THING IS BRAND-NEW! I'VE ONLY MADE ONE DRAWING!', 'ONE DRAWING? MAY I SEE?', 'I MAY HAVE SPOTTED THE PROBLEM.', 'ULTRA-FINE POINT.' WHAT A RIP-OFF!', '2-28', '© 2021 Lincoln Peirce. Distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication for UFS'.

PICKLES

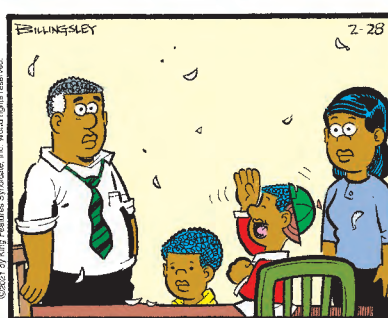
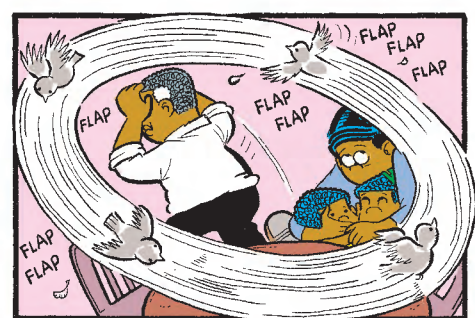
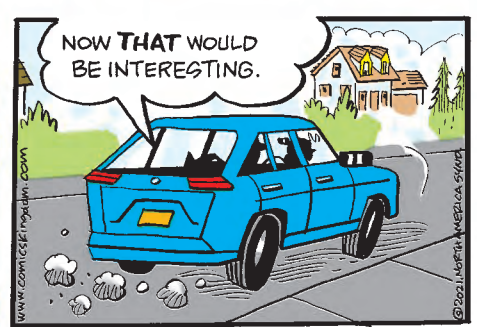
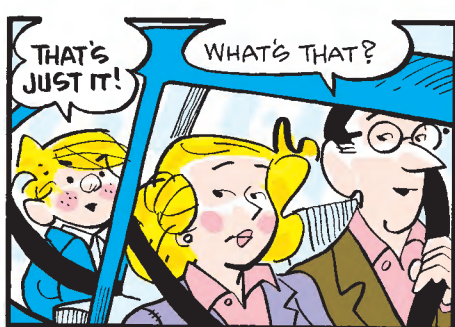
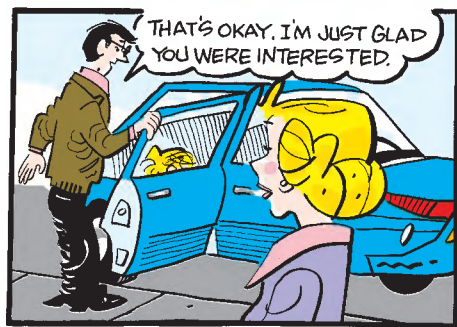
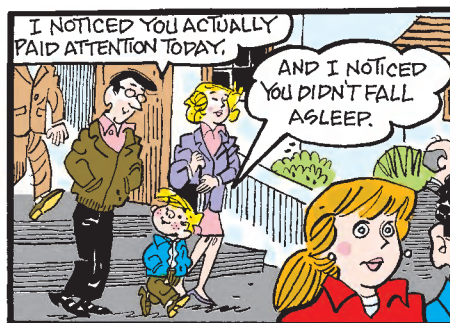
by BRAN CRANE



BY MASTROIANNI AND HART



Hank Ketchum's Dennis the Menace THE HOUSE OF MAGIC



Luann
BY GREG EVANS!

HEY! HOW MANY MONTHS HAVE 28 DAYS? ALL OF 'EM! WHAT DO YOU CALL THE END OF FEBRUARY? Y!

HEH HEH HEH chuckle

WHY DON'T DAD'S "DAD JOKES" TICKLE MY FUNNY BONE?

BECAUSE THEY'RE NOT HUMERUS?

HA HA HA HAW HAW HA HA H

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REG 2-28

HAGGAR
the horrible
by DIK BROWNE

KNOCK KNOCK

WHO'S THERE?

FREE MONEY!

FREE MONEY?

FOR ME!

ENOUGH REST, MEN! LET'S PICK UP THE KING'S LOOT AND GET BACK TO MARCHING HOME!

HMMM-- I LAID A SACK OF COINS DOWN AND NOW IT'S MISSING!

WHERE IS IT?! IT WOULD MAKE ME FURIOUS IF A STRANGER FOUND THAT ROYAL TREASURE!

GOOD NEWS! IT WASN'T A STRANGER!

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BROWNE

Wizard of Id
by Hart, Mastroianni and Parker

YAWN

MUNCH

WOOOOOO!!

SUNDAYS ARE A LITTLE DEPRESSING. BACK TO WORK TOMORROW

I LOVE SUNDAYS!

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Wizartofid.com 2-28-21

BLONDIE
BY SEAN YOUNG & JOHN MARSHALL

OH, RIGHT!

BUMSTEAD, HAVE YOU FINISHED THAT CONTRACT I GAVE YOU YESTERDAY?

WHICH ONE, BOSS?

WHICH ONE? DON'T TELL ME YOU ALREADY FORGOT WHICH ONE

OF COURSE NOT, BOSS!

FINE! SO TELL ME THE NAME OF THE CLIENT

THE NAME OF THE CLIENT?

AHA! SO YOU WEREN'T PAYING ATTENTION, WERE YOU?

I ALWAYS PAY ATTENTION WHEN YOU'RE TALKING TO ME, BOSS!

ALL RIGHT, THEN LET'S BOTH WRITE THE CLIENT'S NAME ON A PIECE OF PAPER AND SHOW IT

YOU GO FIRST!

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2-28

Hi and Lois
by BRIAN and GREG WALKER

WE'RE HOME!

DID YOU HAVE FUN AT GRANDMA'S HOUSE?

YES!

SHE LET US WATCH ANYTHING WE WANTED ON TV.

SHE LET US STAY UP LATE.

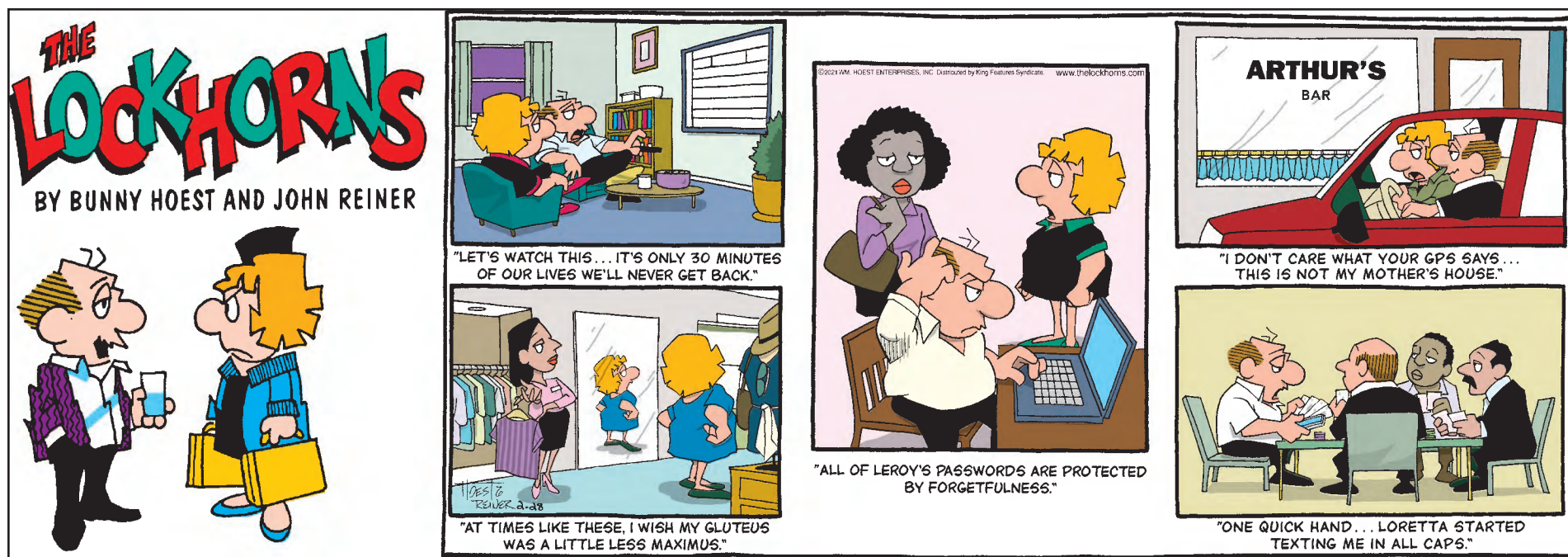
SHE MADE US WAFFLES WITH STRAWBERRIES AND ICE CREAM FOR BREAKFAST.

MOM!

YOU MAKE THE RULES. I BREAK THEM.

DIDN'T I SAY THAT?

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2-28



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