Bucs: Tampa Bay closing in on elusive playoff berth /B1

TUESDAY
TODAY & next morning
HIGH 68
LOW 41
Seasonally cool with partly sunny skies.
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CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE

www.chronicleonline.com

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Opioid deaths up sharply

Rapid increase appears linked to pandemic

FRED HIERS
Staff writer

At least 220 people in Citrus County have died from the coronavirus, but there is a death toll linked to the pandemic that goes mostly unreported.

The COVID-19 quarantine and economic fallout also hit hard those with drug addictions in Citrus County, and across Florida, and the rising number of deaths due to opioids and other drugs is a testament.

Overdoses and deaths have increased significantly as the pandemic has dragged on, according to a study recently released by Orlando-based Project Opioid.

In 2019, between March and June, Citrus County had nine overdose deaths. During the same period in 2020, the county's overdose deaths climbed to 32, an increase of 256%.

Neighboring counties to Citrus saw similar overdose trends.

Marion County saw a 106% increase from 31 cases to 64 cases during the March-June time frame; Hernando County's overdose deaths increased from nine to 28, a 211% increase. Data for other neighboring counties was not available in the report.

For the 2020 year to date, Citrus County reported 56 overdoses, up 107% from 27 in 2019, according to the report. That gave Citrus County an overdose rate of 37.42 per 100,000 residents, leaving Citrus with the sixth-highest overdose rate in Florida.

Citrus County's use of Naloxone, often better known by its brand name Narcan, has skyrocketed, and is a reflection of opioid overdoses.

In 2019, Citrus County Sheriff's Office deputies used Naloxone 58 times to try and counteract opioid overdoses. As of the early part of December 2020, deputies have utilized it 126 times. That doesn't include the number of times it was used by other emergency workers, friends or family of those who overdosed.

See OPIOID/Page A2

Breakfast time



JEFF BRYAN/Chronicle

This American bald eagle prepares to take flight with its early morning breakfast recently in the Meadowcrest subdivision. Primary prey of eagles in Florida includes various fish and waterfowl species. According to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, prey from one study in north-central Florida was composed of 78% fish (mostly catfish, especially brown bullhead), 17% birds (mainly American coot), 3% mammals, and 1% amphibians and reptiles combined.

Poll: Virus has most feeling less festive

TAMMY WEBBER AND HANNAH FINGERHUT
Associated Press

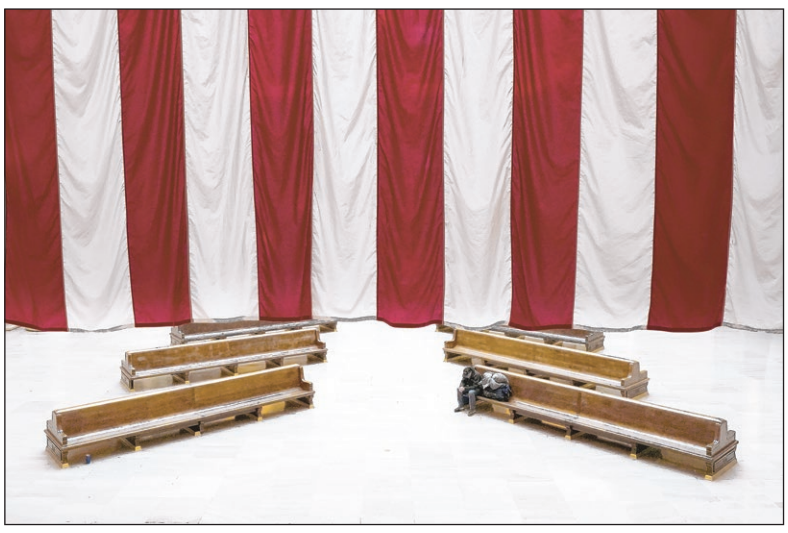
WASHINGTON — Maureen Brennan will spend Christmas with her daughter at their Nashua, New Hampshire, home after declining invitations from other relatives to celebrate with them. Michael Smith will mark the holidays alone in Elko, Nevada, unwilling to risk being infected with the coronavirus before he can be vaccinated.

Neither feels overly festive this holiday season, reflecting the mood of many Americans as a year marred by a national health crisis and teetering economy ends with the coronavirus pandemic still raging out of control. That's according to a survey from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research that also finds some Americans are feeling a bit sadder, lonelier and less grateful than last year.

Smith, 69, said he usually spends Christmas alone, but the pandemic has been especially difficult because he likes to frequent local coffee shops and chat with friends and neighbors. The Caribbean cruise he looks forward to every year, which would have set sail on Jan. 3, was canceled.

So he's mostly been staying home, fearful of what could happen if he contracted the virus, because of a monthlong hospitalization for pneumonia five years ago.

"I'm stressed that I can't just get in my car and go someplace," said Smith, who fills his time by puttering on his tractor and doing chores around his property.



Associated Press

In this Nov. 25 file photo, a lone rail traveler waits in the Grand Hall of Chicago's Union Station the day before Thanksgiving. According to a survey from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research that also finds some Americans are feeling a bit sadder, lonelier and less grateful than last year.

Just 22% of Americans say they feel very or extremely festive this year, down from 49% one year ago. Those who do feel festive tend to be those least worried about the virus.

Holidays are always a stressful time, "but now people are feeling really, really worn down because this has been going on for so long," said Dr. Karestan Koenen, a professor of psychiatric epidemiology at the Harvard School of Public Health. "Some people are suffering financially, and stimulus checks are running out."

The pandemic — which has driven health care systems to the brink, thrown millions out of work and killed more than 310,000 in the U.S. — is casting a long shadow, with research showing that it has taken a toll on Americans' mental health.

About 4 in 10 Americans are still intensely worried that they or a family member will be infected, with roughly three-quarters at least somewhat concerned. The coronavirus vaccine has capped the year with a glimmer of hope, but the poll found only about half of Americans are ready to get vaccinated immediately, with the rest unsure or uninterested. The poll was conducted shortly before the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine was authorized for emergency use.

Overall, half of Americans say they're at least somewhat lonely this holiday season, up from 41% last year. Fifty-two percent say they're at least somewhat sad, compared to 44% last year.

See POLL/Page A9

Virus cases pass 6,000 in Citrus

First vaccinations given in county

BUSTER THOMPSON
Staff writer

As COVID-19 cases surpassed 6,000 in Citrus County this past week, the first local inoculations against the contagious respiratory disease were also given out.

According to a Florida Department of Health (FDOH) report from Monday, Dec. 21, 15 people in the county were given the first of two vaccination doses for the novel coronavirus since the state first began its distribution plan Monday, Dec. 14, injecting 43,716 doses so far.

FDOH officials also reported 480 more COVID-19 infections within the county since Dec. 14, at an average 69 cases a day, increasing the case count to 6,050.

Hospitalizations for the virus went up 25 to a total 483, and five more people died, totaling 224 deaths.

See VIRUS/Page A7

NEWS BRIEFS

Citrus COVID-19 update

According to the Florida Department of Health, 65 positive cases were reported in Citrus County since the latest update. One new hospitalization was reported; four new deaths were reported.

To date in the county, 6,050 people have tested positive (including 37 non-residents), 483 have been hospitalized and 224 have died.

Health Dept., testing site to close for holiday

In observance of the holiday, the Florida Department of Health in Citrus County (DOH-Citrus) will be closed Thursday, Dec. 24, and Friday, Dec. 25. The COVID-19 testing site at the Citrus Springs Community Center will be closed Friday, Dec. 25. DOH-Citrus and the testing site will reopen at its regularly scheduled times on Monday, Dec. 28.

DOH-Citrus reminds the public that while the clinic and testing site will be closed, case investigations and contact tracing will continue through the holidays and on weekends.

Residents are urged to work with the health department to slow the spread of COVID-19 this holiday season by:

- Celebrating at home with people who live with you.
- Wearing a mask that covers both the mouth and nose when you are around other people.
- Staying at least 6 feet (about 2 arm lengths) away from other people.
- Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Answering the call from 352-527-0068 and following self-isolation and quarantine guidance.

As a reminder, COVID-19 testing is offered to the first 150 individuals from 7:30 to 10 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the Citrus Springs Community Center, 1570 W. Citrus Springs Blvd. Testing is provided at no cost to adults and children 12 and older, with or without symptoms. No appointment needed. Please bring a photo ID and plan to stay in your vehicle the entire time.

Chronicle spreads holiday cheer

Join the Citrus County Chronicle as it brings you virtual presentations of beloved Christmas stories. Readings will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 23.

This is a free event and is open to everyone. Each night we will read a different book and stream it on the Chronicle Facebook page.

As a special treat, you can pick up a free copy of each book and follow along with the reading. The books are available at: Grand Living at Citrus Hills, Suncoast Dermatology & Skin Surgery Center and Suncoast Credit Union in Crystal River and Inverness.

— From staff reports

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OPIOID

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Drugs like Narcan block the effects of opioids such as heroin, morphine and oxycodone.

What's happening in Citrus County during the pandemic is not unique. A similar trend was seen across Florida.

In 2019, the state saw an overall increase of 15% in opioid-related deaths, according to Project Opioid.

Project Opioid authors, as well as local Citrus County emergency officials, say that the pandemic is playing a big role in contributing to the increase in overdoses and opioid deaths. Although the pandemic on its own has been frightening, the stay-at-home orders made the situation worse for many drug users or recovering addicts, the report found.

On April 1, Gov. DeSantis issued an executive order restricting activities within the state to those deemed as essential services and imposed a stay-at-home order. That followed the governor's March 17 order to close all bars and clubs. About this time, many other businesses also closed, and people lost their jobs, or they just stayed home.

In the month of May 2020, during the middle of statewide stay-at-home orders, "there was a significant spike in the number of drug overdose deaths," according to Project Opioid.

In Florida, there were 742 deaths during May 2020 compared with 391 overdose deaths in May 2019, according to Project Opioid.

Citrus County Sheriff Mike Prendergast thinks the pandemic, as well as national trends, is contributing to the rise in opioid deaths.

"This is a very trying time for our citizens," Prendergast told the Chronicle.

During the March-June stay-at-home order, there were 2,536 drug overdose deaths in Florida, compared with 1,648 during the same three-month period in 2019, Prendergast said.



NANCY KENNEDY/Chronicle

One 4 mg dose of Narcan nasal spray given to someone within eight minutes of the person collapsing from an opiate overdose can bring them back from the brink of death — immediately.

Prendergast said some of the issues that link coronavirus and drug overdoses likely include:

People sitting at home with too much idle time; the first stimulus checks that brought in influx of cash; federal and state agents clamping down on borders which reduced methamphetamine smuggling and raised prices — meanwhile, heroin prices remained mostly inexpensive and drug dealers used deadlier fentanyl to increase their heroin's volume.

Prendergast thinks people who self-medicate and suffer from mental health problems turned to drugs for relief from the pandemic and isolation.

As a result, Prendergast created a behavioral health unit to try and stem the tide focusing on narcotics use, domestic violence and homelessness.

Project Opioid surveyed 1,700 Floridians during the mandated quarantines, and 70% of those who were having mental health and substance abuse issues felt like they couldn't or shouldn't get help, said Andrae Bailey, founder of Project Opioid.

Tod Hockert is the human program specialist for the Department of Health in Citrus County.

"There are people who use drugs recreationally and others trying to get away from something," Hockert told the Chronicle.

Just as with law enforcement, Narcan use by paramedics rose during the quarantine when people felt most isolated and vulnerable.

In January 2020, EMS workers in Citrus County used Narcan for opioid overdoses 24 times. By May, that increased to 45 times, he said. The need for Narcan gradually declined again after the end of the stay-at-home order was lifted, but not down to January 2020 levels, he said.

Hockert said he is now assembling a task force of counselors, recovering drug addicts and other health experts to try and address the opioid use problem. But he warned there's no easy, single solution.

"It's not just one thing," he said. "It's many things. People take drugs to try and get away from something. The virus was just an additional stress."

Help.org, an internet site that follows drug use and addiction trends, reported that after surveying 1,000 adult Americans, the organization found that 32% of participants have, or know someone who has, developed a drug or alcohol addiction problem as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

Of those who developed an addiction problem during the pandemic, 64% of impacted respondents reported their drug use was a relapse. Of those who developed an addiction during the pandemic, 42% reported not seeking rehab help. Of those not getting help, 41% cited fears of venturing out in public and contracting the virus.

Project Opioid surveyed 785 people who admitted to using drugs during the past 30 days.

Of those, 62% reported using drugs to help cope with stress. In addition, 36% said they used drugs to combat mental health issues such as anxiety and depression.

When asked, "Do you think your mental health has been impacted by COVID-19?" a total of 601 respondents, 76.6% of the participants in the survey, reported that their mental health had been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, according to Project Opioid's report. More than half of these respondents said the impact was significant.

Almost half of the respondents believed that the pandemic made it more difficult for them to seek professional mental health services, according to the report.

When asked, "What symptoms have you noticed?" 75.1% of the participants reported anxiety/nervousness and 69.5% of participants reported experiencing depression and/or loneliness.

For now, the best immediate thing emergency workers can do is carry Narcan and be ready to use it when someone overdoses, Hockert said.

Would the incidences of overdoses have occurred regardless of the virus? Most experts think the pandemic certainly contributed. Regardless, the future of opioid overdoses is uncertain, but will not likely go away anytime soon, Hockert said, adding, "I just hope it's not going to keep increasing."

Around the COUNTY

Food giveaway at New Church Without Walls

Beginning at 9 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 23, the public can receive boxes of assorted food items at the New Church Without Walls at 300 S. Kensington Ave., Lecanto, next to the Holiday Inn Express.

Monetary donations are needed to continue feeding Citrus County residents. Please consider donating through the New Church Without Walls (www.newchurchwithoutwalls.com).

The Spot offers Christmas assistance

The Spot Family Center is hosting its 17th annual Christmas Jam, bringing hope to families in emergency Christmas need. This year more than ever, this program will bring hope and essentials to families in crisis. Even though 2020 has presented many devastating times, the giving spirit of Citrus County is abundant to offer hope.

The two-day event is free, and will feature music, bounce houses, games, prizes, and a message of hope. Hot dinners and beverages will be served each night, along with a free community clothing giveaway. Groceries will be distributed on the first night while supplies last.

The Spot Christmas Jam will take place from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 23, and Thursday, Dec. 24, at Jim LeGrone Park, 405 SE Seventh Ave. in Crystal River (behind The Spot building). Everyone must register to receive services and registration closes promptly at 7 p.m. Registration is from 5:30 to 7 p.m.; there is no preregistration.

On Christmas Eve, a hot dinner will be served. After a special Christmas message, all children will receive presents. Children must attend to receive gifts.

For more information on donating, volunteering, or attending the event, email evthespot@yahoo.com or call 352-212-4851.

If you prefer, you can make a financial contribution by sending a check payable to The Spot Family Center at P.O. Box 2046 Lecanto, FL 34460.

— From staff reports

SUBMIT YOUR EVENT

- Local groups are welcome to add their upcoming events to the Chronicle's online calendar.:
- Visit www.chronicleonline.com/calendar. Click on "Submit an event" on the right-hand side of the page. Sign into your account (users or groups must have at least a digital subscription to submit).
- Once signed, fill in all fields on the form. Those marked with an asterisk (*) are required.
- Click "Create event" to submit your event for approval.

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000ZJKV

Can't go out for church this Christmas Eve due to Covid?
Join us online for a
COMMUNITY
CHRISTMAS EVE
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
ONLINE ONLY SERVICES
3:00, 5:00, 7:00 PM
SevenRivers.org
(Christmas Eve Service available at above link any time after 4:00 pm on December 24)
SEVEN RIVERS CHURCH
000ZJXQ

STATE & LOCAL
CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE

Memorial honors homeless persons

NANCY KENNEDY
Staff writer

Each Dec. 21, a day that's often filled with holiday preparation, shopping and early celebrations, a handful of people gather to honor those who have died during the year while experiencing homelessness.

This year, the Salvation Army of Citrus County in Lecanto and Mid Florida Homeless Coalition hosted the memorial service for those who died in Citrus, Lake, Hernando and Sumter counties; the service was also on Facebook Live.

"Today we honor and remember the people who, for the most part, are unseen and who we generally forget and pass by on the street," said Salvation Army Col. Dennis Strissel of Hernando County. "But for us at the Salvation Army, we know they're part of our family ... and each person we are memorializing today had a story."

"Since 2017, we have been documenting those who have passed away either during homelessness or while in housing for the formerly homeless," said Kristy Jocelyn, from Mid Florida Homeless Coalition. "But we know there are many more who are unaccounted for."

Jocelyn read the names of people who died in 2020 from the four counties covered by Mid Florida, which includes Citrus County:

Veteran Joseph Ancell, Veteran John Bianchi, Ronald Copeland (Citrus), Veteran Thomas Dougherty (Citrus), Michael Gilkerson (Citrus), Patricia Huskey, Lastarza "Star" Johnnies (Citrus), Josephine Johnson, Freda Love, Steve McBride (Citrus), Maurice McCook, Veteran Ricky Minzer (Citrus), Veteran Anthony Nazzario, Gay Parsons, Joseph Smith and Lee Vangelder-Murtagh (Citrus).

"Just naming them is significant," Strissel said. "Even these people who are generally overlooked ... have value and worth, just like you and I do."

Salvation Army Maj. Ken Fagan ended the brief, but poignant, service with a prayer.

Gas prices at highest since start of pandemic

MICHAEL D. BATES
Staff writer

Gas prices are now the highest they've been since the COVID-19 pandemic began in March.

The state average price for unleaded fuel as of Friday was $2.20.

The good news: Drivers in Citrus County can still find fuel prices lower than the state average. The GasBuddy app found at least two stations reporting unleaded at $2.13 Monday morning: the Chevron in Crystal River and the Marathon in Hernando.

"Oil prices returned to pre-pandemic levels last week, so it should come as no surprise that gas prices followed suit," said Mark Jenkins, spokesman, AAA — The Auto Club Group. "Fuel prices have been pressured higher by optimism surrounding a new stimulus package and COVID-19 vaccine news. These are two big pieces in the puzzle for long term improvement in fuel demand, which has been heavily hampered by the pandemic."

Crude oil prices increased more than 5% last week. A barrel of U.S. crude oil settled at $49.10 on Friday. That's $2.53 per barrel more than the week before and the highest daily settlement since February.



MATTHEW BECK/Chronicle file
B-Line Carriers driver Rob Liddington delivers 8,000 gallons of fuel March 2 at a Circle K in Inverness. Gasoline prices are the highest since March.

Despite the multi-year lows expected for the year-end holidays, the decision to travel this year is more likely to be about health concerns — related to the pandemic — than what price drivers will pay at the pump.

The auto club anticipates 4.5 million Floridians will travel for the year-end holidays. The majority of them (4.3 million) are expected to take a road trip.

Deputies apprehend 2 juveniles in auto thefts

JEFF BRYAN
Staff writer

Late Friday, Dec. 18, Citrus County Sheriff's Office deputies apprehended two juvenile accomplices of an 18-year-old St. Petersburg male, who was arrested Thursday, Dec. 17, charged with auto theft after stealing a truck in the early morning hours of that same day, according to a Citrus County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) spokeswoman.

Investigators were able to obtain post-Miranda confessions from all three suspects, said Jodi Sanders, agency spokeswoman.

The Chronicle is not naming the two juveniles, both of Dunnellon, because of their age, 17 and 16, respectively.

The 17-year-old was charged with six counts of burglary of a conveyance; two counts of burglary becoming armed; two counts of grand theft of a firearm; four counts of petit theft; three counts of grand theft auto; one count each of criminal mischief and burglary of a structure.

The 16-year-old was charged with six counts of burglary of a conveyance; three counts of burglary becoming armed; two counts of a grand theft of a firearm; four counts of petit theft, three counts of grand theft auto and one count of criminal mischief.

Both of the male teens have been released into parental custody, Sanders said. The state attorney's office would make the choice to charge the juveniles as adults, said Jodi Sanders, agency spokeswoman.

Robert Walton III, who is now residing in Beverly Hills, was charged with two counts of grand theft of a fire arm; one count each of auto theft, fleeing/eluding law enforcement, resisting an officer without violence and operating a vehicle without a valid driver's license.



Robert Walton III faces multiple charges.

On Friday, CCSO detectives also charged Walton with five counts of a burglary of a conveyance, three counts of petit theft and one additional count of auto theft, according to arrest records.

In addition, Walton was charged with violating probation. No bond was set; he remains incarcerated at the Citrus County Detention Facility.

Thursday morning's incident unfolded shortly after 4 a.m. when Walton and his accomplices broke into several vehicles in Pine Ridge, stealing one vehicle before traversing to the Crystal River area. There, Carey said, authorities said Walton broke into several more vehicles before stealing a truck. The owner of the vehicle called 911 with a deputy nearby.

While responding to the call, the deputy and others began pursuing the truck. The other stolen vehicle was traveling behind it with its emergency lights, but it was unknown to law enforcement officers at the time that the car was stolen, Carey said.

The truck was recovered in the Lecanto Walmart parking lot, while the car was recovered in the YMCA parking lot, where the two suspects remained on the loose after abandoning the vehicle and fleeing into the woods adjacent to the YMCA.

"During the course of the investigation it was learned that the suspects stole multiple firearms and were armed," Sanders wrote in news release. "With the assistance of K9 deputies, all reported firearms were later recovered.

"This is a great example of a collaborative team effort from the initial responding deputies, detectives, criminal intelligence analysts and crime scene specialists to identify and hold the offenders accountable.

As always, Sanders said, the CCSO would like to remind citizens that the first step in protecting yourself, your family, and your property is to follow simple crime prevention tips.

"Eighty-five percent of vehicle burglaries in Citrus County occur when a vehicle is left unlocked so be sure to secure your vehicles, home, shed, garage and trailers," she said.

Around the COUNTY

Schedule a pet adoption

Citrus County Animal Services and Citrus County Foundation for Animal Protection (CCFAP) are partnering this holiday season. Adoption fees are $20 for dogs and cats, not including county license fee for Citrus County residents.

Those who adopt through Dec. 23, Animal Services is offering, with support from CCFAP volunteers, the option to have elves deliver the pet on Christmas morning to your front door.

For information on how to reserve an "Elf Delivery" or to adopt a pet, call 352-746-8400 or visit citrusbocc.com/departments/community_services/animal_services/index.php.

Order takeout for the holidays

The Key Training Center is partnering with KC Wine and Koffee to offer takeout options for the holidays for a good cause. Currently they are receiving orders for the two platter options, where you'll be able to pick them up from the Key Center staff at KC Wine and Koffee's new location on Citrus Avenue in Crystal River.

There is a small cheese/meat/fruit platter option with one bottle of wine, and a large cheese/meat/fruit platter option with two bottles of wine. To place an order and get more information, call 352-795-5541, ext. 312.

Play shuffleboard

Open shuffleboard is played at 3 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday at Wallace Brooks Park, Inverness. All equipment is provided. For information, call 407-983-9169.

Buy a calendar, support charity

The Central Citrus Rotary Club is asking the community to support the club and its endeavors through its annual calendar program.

For $35, donors will receive a 2021 calendar with 365 daily prizes throughout the year. One thousand calendars are individually numbered, and the calendar matching the daily midday Florida Cash 3 Lotto number receives the daily prize. It is never less than $35 and can vary from that amount to $50 up to $500 on New Year's Day.

If you would like to make a donation and receive a calendar, email Vera Swade, president of Central Citrus Rotary Club, at vswade5016@aol.com or visit citrusrotary.com or its Facebook page.

Homebuyer class set in February

Looking to purchase your first home? The UF/IFAS Extension Citrus County will offer a free First Time Homebuyer virtual class from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursdays, Feb. 4 through 25. To register and receive a link, visit cchomebuyers.eventbrite.com. Contact Sarah at the UF/IFAS Extension Citrus County office at 352-527-5700 or ellissm@ufl.edu. Participants that attend the entire 4-week program will receive a Certificate of Completion. Class size is limited and pre-registration is required.

— From staff reports

3497-1222 TUCRN

CITRUS COUNTY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

Thursday, January 7, 2021 at 9:00 AM
Lecanto Government Building
3600 West Sovereign Path, Room 166
Lecanto, Florida 34461

JOEL BRENDER, CHAIR	JAMES ROYS
MICHAEL FACEMYER, 1ST VICE CHAIR	KURT STONE
DAVID BRAMBLETT, 2ND VICE CHAIR	SCOTT BORGESON (Alternate)
ROBERT BASS	DONNY HARRELSON (Alternate)
JAMES BROOKS	CHUCK DIXON (School Board)

A. CALL TO ORDER
B. INVOCATION
C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
D. ROLL CALL
E. CHAIRMAN TO READ THE APPEAL PROCESS AND MEETING PROCEDURES
F. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – Receive comments from the public
G. APPROVE MINUTES – Approval of available minutes
H. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS
I. EX PARTE COMMUNICATION: County Attorney
J. APPLICATIONS

1. ALTAS AMENDMENT
   a. AA-21-01 Margaret Grimm

   REQUEST: This request is to amend the Land Development Code (LDC) Atlas Map and the Master Plan of Sugarmill Woods Cypress Village from the Planned Development Residential (multi-family designation), to the Planned Development Residential (single-family designation).

   LOCATION: Section 17, Township 20 South, Range 18 East; more specifically, Lot 8, Block B-N, of the Sugarmill Woods Cypress Village subdivision, Plat Book 9, Page 141; also known as Alternate Key Number 1529191, which address is known as 25 Seagrape St., Homosassa, FL. A complete legal description is on file with the Land Development Division.

   STAFF CONTACT: Joe Hochadel, Principal Planner, and Miranda Anaya, Planner I, Land Development Division

K. ADDITIONAL ITEMS
L. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS
M. ADJOURN

If any person decides to appeal any decision made by the Commission with respect to any matter considered at this meeting or hearing, he or she will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, he or she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

Any person requiring reasonable accommodation at this meeting because of a disability or physical impairment should contact the County Administrator's Office, 3600 W. Sovereign Path, Suite 267, Lecanto, FL 34461, (352) 527-5210, at least two days before the meeting. If you are hearing or speech impaired, dial 7-1-1, 1-800-955-8771 (TTY) or 1-800-955-8770 (v), via Florida Relay Service.

Si necesita un traductor de español por favor haga arreglos con el Condado dentro de dos días de la notificación de la publicación (352-527-5370).

000ZJE2





Today's HOROSCOPES

Birthday — Verify information carefully this year. The best way to eliminate uncertainty is to know what you are up against and to act accordingly. Refuse to let anyone try to sway your opinions or decisions. Run the show instead of taking a wait-and-see approach.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — An aggressive position will help you get your way. Use your intelligence to outmaneuver any competition. Don't let uncertainty cause you to miss an opportunity.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Be careful not to start something you cannot finish. Pay attention to personal growth.

Pisces (Feb. 20-March 20) — Connect with people who have helped you in the past, and show interest in what others are doing. You'll discover some valuable information that will help you upgrade your approach.

Aries (March 21-April 19) — You could feel pressure to get things done before the year comes to a close. Stay focused on what's important to you.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) — A sudden change will cause uncertainty. Figure out precisely what you want to do, and put your strategy in place.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) — Trust in yourself, not in what someone is telling you. Look at every angle and consider the consequences of your actions.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) — Rely on your intelligence, creativity and charisma to help you seal a deal, connect with someone you want to work alongside or commit to someone special.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) — Don't jump to conclusions. Keep track of you spend, your actions and what's still on your to-do list. Romance is encouraged.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Embrace change. Making room for projects and home improvements or clearing a space conducive to learning something new will empower you to reach your goal.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Consider what will make your life easier and less stressful and will encourage better concentration, then make the necessary adjustments.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Think outside the box, and you'll surprise someone special. Speak up and take action; everything will fall into place.

Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Control your emotions in order to avoid appearing insecure or indecisive. Focus on getting things done.

ENTERTAINMENT

Finneas on Bond theme song

Mesfin Fekadu
AP music writer

NEW YORK — The path to Billie Eilish and Finneas getting the "yes" to compose a song for the upcoming James Bond film was almost as thrilling and exhilarating as watching the action-packed movie on screen.

"We said to our team, 'If anyone has anyone who knows anyone, just convey that we would love to do this,'" Finneas explained. "We've always been trying to write a Bond song."

The siblings eventually met with a producer on the film who let them read some of the script. And while in Texas for Austin City Limits for live shows, Finneas and Eilish wrote and recorded "No Time to Die" just in time to meet the deadline.

"I have a mobile studio and I started playing that piano part, like, well that's really pretty. Over a couple of days, we wrote the whole song and recorded the whole vocal and sent it in. That was October 2019. We were waiting with bated breath for a while. They deliberate. A lot of people have to say yes."

Then came a phone call from the icon Hans Zimmer, who invited Finneas and Eilish to London to see the film and record the track with an orchestra.

"I was like, 'Done. Let's go,'" Finneas exclaimed. "It was a pretty intense week. We were in London. We had (film producer) Barbara (Broccoli). We had the director, Cary (Joji Fukunaga), who's become a friend of mine. We had Hans. We had Stephen Lipson. We had a 70-piece orchestra at AIR Studios, and I was still like, 'Do we have the job? Is it going to be our song?' I don't think we knew if it was going to be our song or not until basically when it was announced that it was going to be our song."



Associated Press

Billie Eilish, left, and Finneas O'Connell pose Jan. 26, 2020, in the press room with their awards at the 62nd annual Grammy Awards in Los Angeles. The pair wrote and recorded "No Time to Die" just in time to meet the deadline for the upcoming James Bond film.

"I don't fault them for at all, I think that they want what's best for the film," Finneas continued. "They want to make sure that everyone is totally happy with it. I think that's a good way to make sure that everything's good. It was definitely last minute and pretty stressful. It was a long process."

"No Time to Die" was released in February, though the film has been pushed back until April 2021 because of the coronavirus pandemic. The song, which has reached gold status, has peaked at No. 16 on Billboard's Hot 100 chart and is nominated for best song written for visual media at the 2021 Grammy Awards, to take place on Jan. 31.

Finneas and Eilish also picked up Grammy nominations for song and record of the year for "Everything I Wanted," a song about their relationship as siblings and being there for one another. The new nominations come almost a year after the duo won 11 Grammys at the 2020 show.

"So gratifying and wonderful and hard to articulate how meaningful it is to me," Finneas said of their nominations. "In the aftermath of it, I've felt a couple of things. I've talked about this a bit — being nominated is really wonderful on its own. In some ways, winning, although very humbling and a huge honor, is not even as good as being nominated because of the peer group."

Today in HISTORY

Today is Tuesday, Dec. 22, the 357th day of 2020. There are nine days left in the year.

Today's Highlight:

On Dec. 22, 2001, Richard C. Reid, a passenger on an American Airlines flight from Paris to Miami, tried to ignite explosives in his shoes, but was subdued by flight attendants and fellow passengers. (Reid is serving a life sentence in federal prison.)

On this date:

In 1858, opera composer Giacomo Puccini was born in Lucca, Italy.

In 1944, during the World War II Battle of the Bulge, U.S. Brig. Gen. Anthony C. McAuliffe rejected a German demand for surrender, writing "Nuts!" in his official reply.

In 2003, a federal judge ruled the Pentagon couldn't enforce mandatory anthrax vaccinations for military personnel.

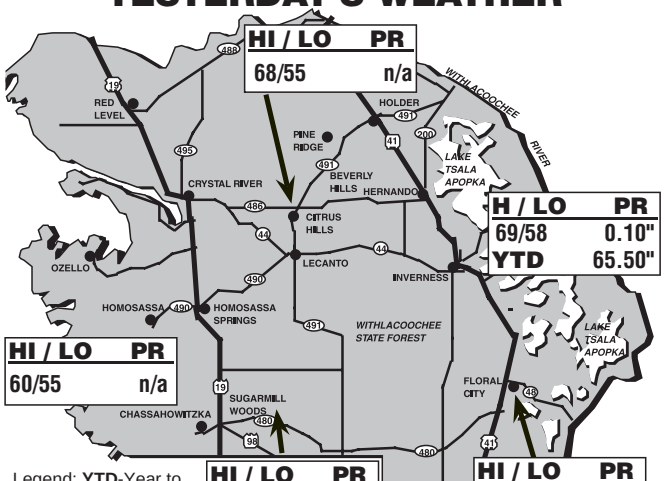
Ten years ago: President Barack Obama signed a law allowing gays for the first time in history to serve openly in America's military, repealing the "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

Five years ago: Migration experts said more than a million people who had been driven out of their countries by war, poverty and persecution entered Europe in 2015.

One year ago: Baba Ram Dass, a 1960s counterculture spiritual leader who experimented with LSD and traveled to India to find enlightenment, died at the age of 88.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Hector Elizondo is 84. Country singer Red Steagall is 82. Baseball Hall of Famer Steve Carlton is 76. Former ABC News anchor Diane Sawyer is 75. Baseball All-Star Steve Garvey is 72. Golfer Jan Stephenson is 69. Rapper Luther "Luke" Campbell is 60. Actor Ralph Fiennes is 58. Actor Lauralee Bell is 52. Country singer Lori McKenna is 52. Actor Dina Meyer is 52. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, is 50. Actor Heather Donahue is 47. Actor Chris Carmack is 40. Actor Harry Ford is 38. Actor Greg Finley is 36. Pop singer Meghan Trainor is 27.

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER



Legend: **YTD**-Year to Date, **PR**-Daily Precipitation

THREE DAY OUTLOOK

Exclusive daily forecast by: Bay News 9

TODAY & TOMORROW MORNING
High: 68° **Low:** 41°
Seasonably cool with partly sunny skies.

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY MORNING
High: 74° **Low:** 57°
A mix of sun and clouds.

THURSDAY & FRIDAY MORNING
High: 72° **Low:** 37°
Gusty storms and windy

ALMANAC

Data from Crystal River Airport

TEMPERATURE

Yesterday	67/57
Record*	85/24
Normal	72/44
Mean temp.	58
Departure from mean	4

PRECIPITATION

Yesterday	0.03"
Total for the month	1.04"
Total for the year	23.41"
Normal for the year	50.97"

*Official record values from Tampa International

UV INDEX: 4
0-2 minimal, 3-4 low, 5-6 moderate, 7-9 high, 10+ very high

BAROMETRIC PRESSURE 30.09

DEW POINT
Yesterday at 3 p.m. 50°

HUMIDITY
Yesterday at 3 p.m. 56%

POLLEN COUNT**
Today's active pollen:
Juniper, composites
Today's count: 6.9/12
Wednesday's count: 6.7
Thursday's count: 5.4

AIR QUALITY
Yesterday observed Good
Pollutant Ozone

SOLUNAR TABLES

Provided by ezfshn.com

DATE	DAY	MINOR (MORNING)	MAJOR (MORNING)	MINOR (AFTERNOON)	MAJOR (AFTERNOON)
12/22	TUESDAY	7:19	6:56	5:37	7:16
12/23	WEDNESDAY	7:19	7:36	5:37	7:56

CELESTIAL OUTLOOK

Dec 29 · Jan 6 · Jan 13 · Jan 20

SUNSET TONIGHT	5:37 pm
SUNRISE TOMORROW	7:19 am
MOONRISE TODAY	1:08 pm
MOONSET TODAY	12:37 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:

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

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

TIDES

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

TUESDAY

City	High		High		Low		Low	
Chassahowitzka*	11:32 a.m.	0.4 ft	None	n/a	5:58 a.m.	0.2 ft	7:31 p.m.	0.1 ft
Crystal River**	9:46 a.m.	1.7 ft	10:27 p.m.	1.7 ft	4:23 a.m.	0.8 ft	4:55 p.m.	0.6 ft
Withlacoochee*	7:04 a.m.	2.2 ft	8:00 p.m.	2.5 ft	2:09 a.m.	1.0 ft	2:14 p.m.	0.8 ft
Homosassa***	10:36 a.m.	0.9 ft	11:41 p.m.	1.0 ft	4:49 a.m.	0.3 ft	5:28 p.m.	0.3 ft

FLORIDA TEMPERATURES

City	H	L	F'cast	City	H	L	F'cast
Daytona Bch.	65	50	pc	Miami	74	67	pc
Fort Lauderdale	74	65	pc	Ocala	67	44	pc
Fort Myers	72	54	pc	Orlando	67	51	pc
Gainesville	65	43	pc	Pensacola	65	54	s
Homestead	75	63	s	Sarasota	71	51	pc
Jacksonville	66	46	s	Tallahassee	65	40	s
Key West	74	67	pc	Tampa	71	49	pc
Lakeland	69	48	pc	Vero Beach	70	57	pc
Melbourne	67	55	pc	W. Palm Bch.	72	68	pc

MARINE OUTLOOK

Today: Northeast winds around 15 knots diminishing to 5 to 10 knots late in the afternoon. Seas 2 to 3 feet. Bay and inland waters a moderate chop.

Gulf water temperature
63°
Taken at Crystal River

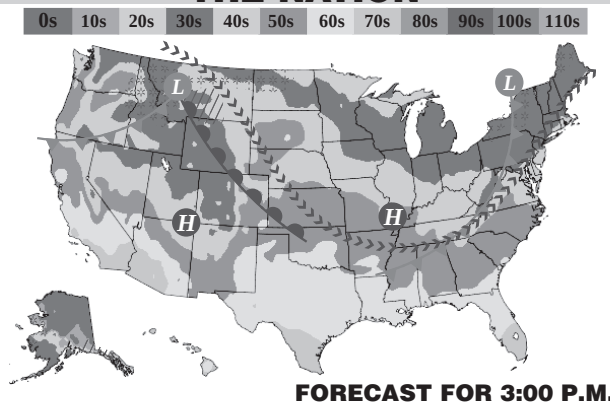
LAKE LEVELS

Location	MON	SUN	Full
Withlacoochee at Holder	29.54	29.58	34.64
Tsala Apopka-Hernando	37.71	37.73	38.66
Tsala Apopka-Inverness	38.95	38.96	39.73
Tsala Apopka-Floral City	40.19	40.20	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-precent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any one year. This data is obtained from the Southwest Florida Water Management District and is subject to revision. In no event will the District or the United States Geological Survey be liable for any damages arising out of the use of this data. If you have any questions you should contact the Hydrological Data Section at (352) 796-7211.

THE NATION

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



FORECAST FOR 3:00 P.M. Tuesday

City	MON H	L	Pcp.	TUE H	L	Fcst
Albany	40	28	0.00	39	24	mc
Albuquerque	54	25	0.00	56	23	s
Asheville	57	30	0.00	48	30	s
Atlanta	60	36	0.00	57	36	s
Atlantic City	44	32	0.00	46	32	mc
Austin	75	40	0.00	72	58	mc
Baltimore	50	37	0.00	47	29	pc
Billings	42	36	0.04	46	20	ra
Birmingham	61	43	0.00	60	40	s
Boise	58	43	Trace	41	19	ss
Boston	35	27	Trace	40	27	mc
Buffalo	40	34	0.03	38	29	rs
Burlington, VT	38	34	0.00	36	17	ss
Charleston, SC	63	45	0.60	62	43	s
Charleston, WV	49	31	0.07	44	29	mc
Charlotte	58	43	0.00	55	33	s
Chicago	47	34	Trace	42	37	pc
Cincinnati	46	25	Trace	43	33	mc
Cleveland	42	37	0.00	41	32	rs
Columbia, SC	61	46	0.01	60	34	s
Columbus, OH	39	32	0.07	41	30	cl
Concord, NH	35	25	Trace	39	18	pc
Dallas	72	35	0.00	70	56	mc
Denver	57	37	0.00	60	21	s
Des Moines	47	36	0.00	47	33	pc
Detroit	40	34	Trace	40	32	mc
El Paso	62	27	0.00	64	40	s
Evansville, IN	58	38	0.00	50	39	s
Harrisburg	39	32	Trace	43	25	mc
Hartford	37	27	0.00	40	26	mc
Houston	73	41	0.00	68	57	pc
Indianapolis	48	36	0.04	43	35	pc
Kansas City	59	34	0.00	62	41	s
Las Vegas	68	41	0.00	67	38	s
Little Rock	69	36	0.00	63	47	s
Los Angeles	84	57	0.00	70	46	s
Louisville	55	39	0.00	47	35	s
Memphis	63	40	0.00	60	46	s
Milwaukee	43	32	Trace	38	34	mc
Minneapolis	39	27	Trace	41	26	mc
Mobile	59	46	0.00	65	49	s
Montgomery	59	46	0.00	62	38	s
Nashville	60	33	0.00	54	39	s
New Orleans	63	54	0.00	63	54	pc
New York City	46	37	0.00	43	32	pc
Norfolk	46	41	0.04	53	33	s
Oklahoma City	65	34	0.00	66	50	s
Omaha	54	40	0.00	56	28	s
Palm Springs	78	47	0.00	74	50	s
Philadelphia	41	34	0.00	44	29	mc
Phoenix	76	43	0.00	71	42	pc
Pittsburgh	38	32	0.01	39	27	cl
Portland, ME	31	20	Trace	40	23	pc
Portland, OR	62	46	0.35	46	31	mc
Providence, RI	37	28	0.00	41	26	pc
Raleigh	55	42	0.00	52	31	s
Rapid City	50	24	0.01	59	18	pc
Reno	56	22	0.00	46	18	s
Rochester, NY	40	33	Trace	38	28	rs
Sacramento	50	35	0.00	58	34	pc
Salt Lake City	53	37	0.00	43	19	ss
San Antonio	74	32	0.00	72	58	mc
San Diego	80	45	0.00	63	47	pc
San Francisco	58	43	0.00	60	43	pc
Savannah	62	49	0.24	64	42	s
Seattle	56	40	1.26	44	32	pc
Spokane	53	37	0.10	39	21	s
St. Louis	59	38	0.00	55	44	s
St. Ste Marie	37	27	0.00	31	23	mc
Syracuse	40	36	0.00	37	26	ss
Topeka	60	41	0.00	64	37	s
Washington	46	40	0.00	48	29	pc

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

YESTERDAY'S NATIONAL HIGH & LOW
HIGH 87, Chino, Calif.
LOW -7, Gunnison, Colo.

WORLD CITIES

CITY	MON H/L/SKY	CITY	MON H/L/SKY
Acapulco	95/69/s	Lisbon	61/53/pc
Amsterdam	55/49/ra	London	57/50/ra
Athens	56/48/pc	Madrid	54/44/pc
Beijing	35/25/s	Mexico City	71/58/ra
Berlin	55/41/ra	Montreal	32/29/sn
Bermuda	71/69/ra	Moscow	33/24/mc
Cairo	72/57/pc	Paris	58/56/ra
Calgary	24/14/sn	Rio	83/78/ra
Havana	75/69/ra	Rome	59/48/s
Hong Kong	63/58/mc	Sydney	79/65/ra
Jerusalem	58/48/pc	Tokyo	50/39/s
		Toronto	36/33/mc
		Warsaw	40/35/ra

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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Contact us about circulation/delivery issues:

352-563-5655

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I want to place an ad:
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I want to send information to the Chronicle:
MAIL: 1624 N. Meadowcrest Blvd., Crystal River, FL 34429
FAX: Advertising – 352-563-5665, Newsroom – 352-563-5665
EMAIL: Advertising: advertising@chronicleonline.com
Newsroom: community@chronicleonline.com

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Trina Murphy ..... Operations/Advertising director, 563-3232
Tom Feeney. ..... Production manager, 563-3275
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Shotgun Was $699, Now $649
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vHome Defense Shotgun
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Core30 Keymod .308 16"
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Prefilled Stocking
$110
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MCD

Annual Tree of Remembrance event through Jan. 2

Special to the Chronicle

Providing a continuing tradition of recognizing loved ones during the holiday season, Friends of Citrus and the Nature Coast's annual Tree of Remembrance Celebration is underway at Herry's Thrift & Gift Shoppes at 8471 W. Periwinkle Lane in Homosassa Springs and 1581 W. Gulf to Lake Highway in Lecanto. A Tree of Remembrance is also located at Fero Funeral Home, 5955 N. Lecanto Highway in Beverly Hills.

For a donation of any amount, a paper ornament can be placed on a tree in honor or memory of a loved one.

For a gift of $25 or more, the donor receives an "In Loving Memory" picture frame that can accommodate a 3-by-3-inch photo of the loved one being remembered.

Trees are available at all three locations through Jan. 2, 2021. In addition, a Virtual Tree of Remembrance can be found under the donate tab at www.friendsofcitrus.org.

Friends of Citrus and the Nature Coast is a charitable organization providing community grief support workshops for anyone who has experienced a loss, telephone support, grief support resources for all ages, educational materials for parents and teachers, wellness support programs and children's grief support camps.

When you buy items, donate merchandise or volunteer at Herry's Thrift & Gift Shoppes, you support Friends of Citrus and the Nature Coast's mission of providing help, hope and healing to people in grief.

For details about programs or for ways you can help, call 352-249-1470 or visit www.friendsofcitrus.org or Friends of Citrus on Facebook.

Worth NOTING

Meals On Wheels in need of drivers

Citrus County's Meals On Wheels program joins the National Meals On Wheels Association of America to ensure meals are providd for homebound seniors in Citrus County; volunteers are needed. Meals are delivered Mondays through Fridays.

Each meal route consists of 10 to 20 stops, taking one to two hours to complete, and drivers will be reimbursed for mileage. For information or to become a driver, call:

■ Homosassa/Crystal River Area: West Citrus Community Center, 352-795-3831.

■ Inverness/Floral City Area: East Citrus Community Center, 352-344-9666.

■ Hernando/Inverness Area: Hernando Area Senior Program, 352-566-2328.

■ Beverly Hills/Lecanto/Citrus Springs area: Central Citrus, 352-527-5942.

RSVP for free weight-loss seminar

Citrus Memorial is offering a free weight loss seminar at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 19, at the Citrus Memorial Health Foundation YMCA in Lecanto.

"Is Weight Loss Surgery Right For You?" with general surgeon Dr. Parth Patel will give a general overview of obesity and weight loss options, including the process to become a candidate for a robotic-assisted gastric sleeve procedure. Masks will be required and seating will be limited; an RSVP is required; call 352-637-3337 or visit citrusmh.com.

— From staff reports

Obituaries

Steve Johns, 67

CRYSTAL RIVER

Steve Johns, 67, of Crystal River, Florida, passed away on Sat., Dec. 12, 2020 at his home.


Steve Johns

A native of Ft. Benning, GA, he was born May 7, 1953 to Bruce and Sue (Morrison) Johns, one of two children, and moved to Crystal River before he turned one year old. Steve was a lifelong marine mechanic and served both Riverhaven Marina in Homosassa, FL, then as the owner and operator of R + S Performance. Mr. Johns had a passion for Formula One Boat Racing, and raced for the Circuit City Team. But Steve actually enjoyed any form of racing, be it boats, classic cars (especially Corvettes), and even motorcycles. His perfect day would be spent riding in his classic cars, especially his Corvette, or his motorcycle with family and friends. Steve was the Vice President of the Touch of Class Corvette Club and as a longtime faithful and devoted member of First United Methodist Church of Homosassa, he was a Chairman of the Trustees and a devoted volunteer in the church's Food Pantry.

In addition to his father Bruce, he was preceded in death by his loving wife of 31 years, Beth Nordling Olsen Johns, on Sept. 26, 2016 and his father-in-law, Stanley Olsen, on Sept. 30, 2020. In addition to his mother, Sue Johns-Meyer and his sister Teresa Johns-Gordon (husband Roy), Steve is survived by his three children: Michael Johns (wife Patti), Citrus Springs, FL; Ashley Rainwater (husband James "J.R."), Union, SC and Christine Bell (husband Timothy) of Durham, NC; grandchildren Carter Nichols (wife Emma), Anthony Nichols and Aniah and Aliviah Rainwater; great grandchildren Alex and Slate Nichols and his mother-in-law, Betty Olsen.

Friends will be received on Sat., Jan. 9, 2021 from 11:30 A.M. until 1:00 P.M. at First United Methodist Church of Homosassa, 8831 W. Bradshaw St., Homosassa, FL 34448, where a Funeral Service of Remembrance will commence at 1:00 P.M. with Pastors Patti Aupperlee and Chris Kirk officiating. Interment will be private and in lieu of flowers, Steve's family requests memorial contributions be made to Blessings of Citrus County at www.citruscountyblessings.org Services entrusted to Wilder Funeral Home, Homosassa, Florida. www.wilderfuneral.com

SO YOU KNOW

■ Obituaries are at chronicleonline.com.

■ For information, call 352-563-5660.

Robert Norberg Sr., 88

LAWTEY

Robert A. Norberg, Sr., 88, of Lawtey, Florida passed away December 16, 2020.

He was born February 12, 1932 in Joliet Illinois. Robert was a member of the VFW and American Legion Inverness, Florida. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps in the Korean War where he was awarded the Korean Service Medal, Purple Heart and National Defense Ribbon.


Robert Norberg Sr.

Mr. Norberg is survived by his sons: Robert Norberg (Cindy) of Lawty, Florida; Guy Norberg (Robin) of Floral City, Florida; nine grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild. Robert is predeceased by his wife: Muriel Norberg; son: Dean Norberg and daughter: Francis Jones.

A service will be held on Monday, December 21, 2020 at 11:00 (with visitation from 10:00 to 11:00) in the Purcell Chapel. A committal service will follow at 12:30 p.m. at Florida National Cemetery with military honors provided by U.S. Marines Honor Guard and Sumter County Honor Guard. Arrangements entrusted to Purcell Funeral Home, Bushnell, Florida.

Sign the guest book at www.chronicleonline.com.

Sandy Robinson

Robinson, Sandy J. died Friday December 18, 2020.

Viewing and family Line up will be Held at The Mt Caramel MissionaryBaptist Church 3451 East Lemon Drive Hernando Fl, on Wednesday December 23rd 2020 from 9 am to 10 am, Followed by a Graveside Service at The Floral City Community Cemetery at 11:00 a.m., with Bishops Demetrius Franklin and Sandrew Wright Officiating.

Professional Services Entrusted to: J.T. Campbell Funeral Home and Cremation Services Macedonia Chapel

"When You Need Us Most"

352 587-8080

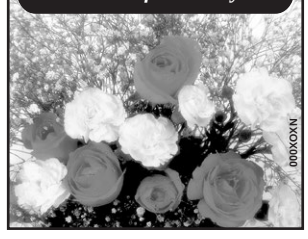
HOLIDAY DEADLINES

■ Due to the upcoming Christmas holiday, obituaries submitted for publication Friday, Dec. 25, through Monday, Dec. 28, have a deadline of **noon Thursday, Dec. 24**, 2020.

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VIRUS

Continued from Page A1

COVID-19 data on the FDOH dashboard is subject to change as epidemiological investigations reveal new information about a case.

According to the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) on Dec. 21, Citrus County had 40 people in hospital with a primary diagnosis of COVID-19.

There was also 25% of hospital beds available in the county, according to the AHCA, and 10% of local adult intensive care units were open.

There were no changes since Dec. 14 in the 145 positive inmate cases at the CoreCivic-managed jail in Lecanto, County Administrator Randy Oliver said Monday, adding four inmates are still recovering from the virus. No inmate deaths have been reported.

CoreCivic spokesman Ryan Gustin said Monday two housing pods out of the jail's 30 remain on quarantine, a decrease of two since Dec. 14.

Visitation remains in effect, Gustin said.

Gustin said one CoreCivic employee contracted the virus since Dec. 14. Since the pandemic's onset, 13 jail workers became infected and all but one have since been medically cleared.

Those with questions about someone in the jail's custody can contact CoreCivic's Operations Concern Center by either calling 877-834-1550 or emailing Operations@CoreCivic.com.

For information about CoreCivic's response to COVID-19, visit corecivic.com/covid-19-response.

According to the FDOH on Monday, 213 cases were reported for inmates housed at correctional centers in the county, and for staff who live locally but could also work at an outside facility. It's an increase of five since Dec. 14.

As of Dec. 18, since the 2020-21 academic year began Aug. 20, there have been 265 COVID-19 cases on Citrus County School District campuses, up 25 since Dec. 15. Of those cases, 174 were students and 91 were school staff.

Long-term care facilities in the county have documented a total 1,038 cases, up 67 since Dec. 14, according to the FDOH.

Here are the number of COVID-19 cases ranked by Citrus County's 15 zip codes that were reported on Dec. 21:

34452 (Inverness, Floral City, Inverness Highlands North and Inverness Highlands South): 764, an increase of 30 since Dec. 14.

34461 (Black Diamond, Citrus Hills, Homosassa Springs, Lecanto, Pine Ridge and Sugarmill Woods): 710, up 50.

34446 (Homosassa, Homosassa Springs, Lecanto and Sugarmill Woods): 585, up 47.

34465 (Beverly Hills, Black Diamond, Citrus Springs, Lecanto and Pine Ridge): 575, up 38.

34429: (Crystal River, Ozello, Homosassa Springs, Lecanto and Black Diamond): 571, up 25.

34442 (Citrus Hills, Citrus Springs, Hernando, Lecanto and Pine Ridge): 534, up 46.

34453 (Inverness, Citrus Hills, Hernando, Inverness Highlands North and Lecanto): 442, up 42.

34428 (Crystal River, Red Level and Inglis): 377, up 24.

34434 (Dunnellon, Citrus Springs, Hernando and Pine Ridge): 356, up 30.

34448 (Homosassa, Homosassa Springs, Sugarmill Woods, Lecanto and Crystal River): 280, up 24.

34450 (Inverness and Inverness Highlands South): 267, up 19.

34433 (Dunnellon, Citrus Springs and Pine Ridge): 226, up 11.

34436 (Floral City): 186, up 15.

34445 (Holder, Citrus Springs, Hernando and Pine Ridge): 10, up two.

34449 (Inglis and Yankeetown): Less than five, no change.

Contact Chronicle reporter Buster Thompson at 352-564-2916, bthompson@chronicleonline.com or visit tinyurl.com/yxn2ahso to see more of his stories.

For the RECORD

Citrus County Sheriff's Office

Domestic battery arrests

■ **Seth Kirk**, 30, of Homosassa, at 9:05 a.m. Dec. 14 on felony charges of domestic battery by strangulation and resisting an officer with violence.

■ **Ellie Jones**, 64, of Inverness, at 3:40 p.m. Dec. 14 on an active warrant for misdemeanor charges of violating a condition of pre-trial release on a domestic violence charge and battery.

Other arrests

■ **Glenn Manchester**, 54, of North Junglecamp Road, Inverness, at 11:19 a.m. Dec. 14 on a misdemeanor charge of retail petit theft. According to his arrest affidavit, Manchester is accused of shoplifting merchandise valued at $14.83 from the Inverness Walmart. His bond was set at $500.

■ **Jasmine Lockard**, 26, of Crystal River, at 12:40 p.m. Dec. 14 on a felony charge of trafficking in stolen property. Her bond was set at $5,000.

■ **Jase Crisler**, 18, of Inverness, at 3:03 p.m. Dec. 14 on felony charges of burglary with battery and aggravated battery with use of a deadly weapon. His bond was set at $35,000.

■ **Charlinda Harper**, 27, of Hernando, at 6:20 p.m. Dec. 14 on felony charges of burglary and grand theft. Her bond was set at $7,000.

■ **Wayne Hall**, 52, of South Jackson Street, Beverly Hills, at 8:05 p.m. Dec. 14 on an active warrant for felony violation of probation stemming from an original charge of dealing in stolen property.

■ **Michael Lettieri Jr.**, 40, of Crystal River, at 10:21 p.m. Dec. 14 on an active warrant for misdemeanor battery. His bond was set at $1,000.







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DeSantis: Reservoir 'top environmental priority'

JIM TURNER
News Service of Florida



Associated Press

Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis Monday, Dec. 14, at Tampa General Hospital.

TALLAHASSEE — Gov. Ron DeSantis on Monday backed a controversial reservoir being built in the Everglades while announcing the state will use a pool of environmental money to help Miami-Dade County protect Biscayne Bay from continued degradation.

DeSantis said his office will continue to support the $1.6 billion Everglades Agricultural Area reservoir, which was approved by the Legislature in 2017 but has recently been questioned by new Senate President Wilton Simpson, R-Trilby. DeSantis addressed the issue as he outlined plans to provide a $10 million match for local efforts to restore Biscayne Bay.

"The EAA reservoir remains a top environmental priority for my administration, and we look forward to pressing ahead as quickly as possible," DeSantis said while at Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park in Key Biscayne.

Simpson, during a Florida Chamber of Commerce event on Dec. 8, described the man-made lagoon — intended to redirect water south from Lake Okeechobee — as a "mistake."

Simpson, who became president last month, added that as lawmakers face a $3 billion to $4 billion shortfall in the next budget, the state "probably should stop building" the reservoir.

The 2017 law provides $64 million a year for the reservoir, requiring it to be built on state-owned land rather than private farmland in the Everglades Agricultural Area. The law also allows Florida to boost funding for the work by issuing up to $800 million in bonds.

The state anticipates half the funding for the work to come from the federal government.

Simpson said the state's approach to improving water quality in South Florida should be through deep injection wells on the north side of Lake Okeechobee, where more water enters the lake.

Simpson's comments have drawn blowback from several Treasure Coast lawmakers.

The reservoir was pushed by former Senate President Joe Negron, R-Stuart, because water discharged from the lake into waterways to the west and east was causing algae problems.

DeSantis on Monday called the reservoir "one of the most important Everglades restoration projects in history."

"The project provides significant ecological benefits, reduces harmful discharges to the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee estuaries, and importantly sends more clean water south to the Florida Everglades," DeSantis said.

DeSantis went to Biscayne Bay to highlight work that will be undertaken to protect the bay, with the state money matching funding by Miami-Dade County.

"In the coming weeks, the county and state will work collaboratively to identify worthwhile projects and pursue them without delay," DeSantis said.

Money for the match is coming from $625 million in the current fiscal year budget for water projects and the Everglades.

Miami-Dade County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava, a Democrat, said the bay, vital to the region's tourism, has been in a near collapse for years. That stems from nutrient pollution, in part due to a historic over-reliance on septic systems rather than sewers, and the region's aging water system infrastructure.

"We've seen the impacts of this crisis firsthand, especially in recent months," Levine Cava said. "Our seagrass meadows are in retreat. There are algae blooms that are plaguing the formerly crystal-clear waters, and the fish kills were literally bringing the crisis off our shores vividly to the surface, all too recently. And our beautiful coral reefs are in jeopardy as well."

Miami-Dade County has already proposed six projects that will cost about $5 million. Among those projects will be converting some homes and businesses from septic tanks to sewer systems and helping scientists understand Stony Coral Tissue Loss Disease, which has affected the region's coral reef system.

POLL

Continued from **Page A1**

Adults under 30 are more likely than those older to say they feel very sad or lonely — and more feel these emotions this year than they did last year.

Koenen said this is a time that young adults normally would be starting their independent lives. But now, graduation ceremonies may have been canceled, they may be forced to live with their families and it could be difficult to find a job because of the slowed economy.

For those who live alone, it's "really hard right now (because) you're literally alone all the time," she said.

Brennan, who's 76, said she's lucky to have the companionship of her adult daughter, and hadn't worried much about the virus until the number of infections and deaths began climbing in recent weeks. She and her daughter have been careful, wearing masks and patronizing the same stores to minimize potential exposure.

"But when figures started ramping up again ... I could feel a sense of foreboding, especially watching what's going on around (town) with the lack of stringency and the lack of mask-wearing," said Brennan, a retired health care worker, who said she's stocked up on baked goods and other favorites to ride out the holidays at home.

Both Brennan, whose husband died five years ago, and Smith said they have found satisfaction in helping others, rather than dwelling on what they cannot do.

"It is important to take care of those who absolutely need it and those who need only on a temporary basis," said Brennan, who has donated to Nashua's soup kitchen and children's home.

Smith said he helped a couple of families, including a server at a coffee shop he frequents, who were struggling because of lost wages during the pandemic. Come January, he'll donate to the local food bank.

Still, just 37% of Americans say they feel especially generous, compared with 52% last year.

Americans are also less likely to say they feel very grateful, though a 60% majority still say so, down from 73% a year ago.

Last year, similar majorities across ages and races said they were grateful. Now older Americans and Black Americans are especially likely to say they are. Koenen said it could be a reflection of their experiences.

"Maybe they're grateful that they're still here and also perhaps longer life gives one perspective," Koenen said. "We do know gratitude increases resilience and mental health."

Focusing on gratitude can help reduce anxiety, as can finding ways to help others, Koenen said. "So many felt helpless ... but I think people feel better if they can do something," she said.

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9589 SW Hwy 200, Ocala, FL
www.canterfieldofocala.com

PAID ADVERTISEMENT
ASSISTED LIVING vs NURSING HOMES

We frequently get asked about costs and payments for Assisted Living and how it is different from Nursing Homes. Here is a brief summary.

Question: Both Assisted Living Facilities (ALFs) and Skilled Nursing Facilities (SNFs) are considered "Long Term Care" facilities. So what's the difference?

Answer: Nursing Homes are reserved for those who NEED skilled nursing staff 24 hours a day and cannot be cared for at home or in an ALF. ALFs are for those people who might have some needs for assistance with bathing, dressing, incontinence, or taking their medications correctly, but are also for those who are independent, or simply want to be in a place where there are nursing staff available 24 hours a day in case they have a fall, a heart problem, or other issue. The ALF can serve as a safety net for those living alone or whose spouse can no longer safely help.

Question: Does Medicare pay for these?

Answer: Generally, not. If you are at a Nursing Home for Rehabilitation only, most of the cost is paid for by Medicare or your Medicare replacement plan, and you (or your insurance) pay a portion for up to about 100 days. If you need to stay long term (months or years) Medicare does not pay. Medicaid (the insurance for those with no assets and less than about $2,000 a month income) will pay for your care, provided you are sick enough to qualify.

For Assisted Living, Medicare does not pay for your stay and Medicaid is not accepted by most facilities. You are responsible for the costs unless you have a special insurance called "Long Term Care Insurance". Long Term Care Insurance will pay for most of the cost of Assisted Living as long as you can prove that you need assistance with at least 2 Activities of Daily Living (ADL's) which are bathing, dressing, eating, transferring, and toileting. People with Alzheimer's disease or other types of dementia typically automatically meet this requirement.

Another coverage for Assisted Living is available for Veterans who were in the service during a time of war, such as WWII, Korea, or Vietnam. Even the widow of a veteran can get some assistance. There are some income requirements, and you must need some ADL assistance (similar to Long Term Care Insurance), but it can provide monthly assistance of about $1,000 to $1,900 a month.

Assisted Living ranges greatly in terms of services and the quality of meals, staff, and accommodations. Some provide for basic needs of having unlicensed help available 24 hours a day if help is needed. Others, like Canterfield, have licensed nurses on staff 24 hours, have beautiful accommodations, and a wide variety of chef prepared meals with plenty of choices. All are monitored by the Department of Health and are regularly inspected.

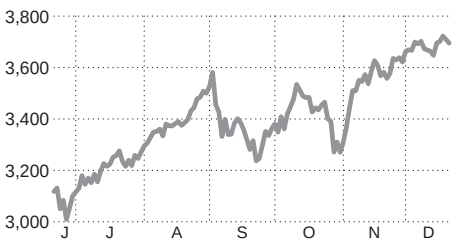
When it comes to living in our later years, we realize there is no need to stay in your home and worry about missing medications, cooking meals, shopping, cleaning, getting repairs and yard work done if assisted living can do it for you. Why worry when an award winning assisted living community like Canterfield can fix gourmet meals, do your laundry, cleaning, and maintenance, and even drive you to doctors appointments. Stop worrying about your health, and start focusing on the best things in life, like making new friends and enjoying great activities. Check out assisted living today and see how really affordable it can be.

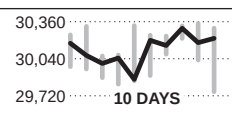
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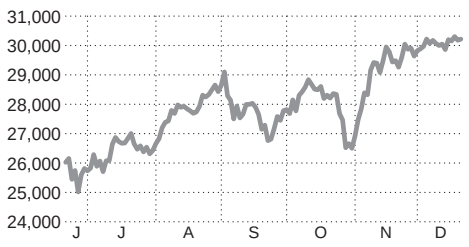


S&P 500
Close: 3,694.92
Change: -14.49 (-0.4%)





Dow Jones industrials
Close: 30,216.45
Change: 37.40 (0.1%)



StocksRecap

	NYSE	NASD
Vol. (in mil.)	4,228	4,834
Pvs. Volume	6,508	6,375
Advanced	811	1409
Declined	1741	1833
New Highs	93	205
New Lows	6	12

	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	CHG	%CHG	YTD
DOW	30,304.14	29,755.53	30,216.45	+37.40	+0.12%	+5.88%
DOW Trans.	12,538.73	12,310.26	12,485.53	-80.54	-0.64%	+14.53%
DOW Util.	852.20	836.37	844.96	-12.30	-1.43%	-3.89%
NYSE Comp.	14,408.11	14,171.77	14,378.85	-88.97	-0.61%	+3.35%
NASDAQ	12,751.27	12,525.22	12,742.52	-13.12	-0.10%	+42.02%
S&P 500	3,702.90	3,636.48	3,694.92	-14.49	-0.39%	+14.37%
S&P 400	2,283.27	2,241.54	2,282.18	-5.08	-0.22%	+10.62%
Wilshire 5000	39,100.50	38,407.93	39,033.97	-96.68	-0.25%	+18.69%
Russell 2000	1,970.67	1,934.66	1,970.33	+0.34	+0.02%	+18.09%

Stocks of Local Interest

NAME	TICKER	52-WK RANGE LO	52-WK RANGE HI	◇CLOSE	CHG	%CHG	WK	MO	QTR	YTD %CHG	1YR %RTN	P/E	DIV
AT&T Inc	T	26.08	39.55	**29.01**	**-.39**	-1.3	▼	▲	▲	-25.8	-17.7	15	2.08
Ametek Inc	AME	54.82	121.69	**118.11**	**+.01**	...	▬	▲	▲	+18.4	+19.3	49	0.72
Anheuser-Busch InBev	BUD	32.58	83.54	**70.01**	**-1.49**	-2.1	▼	▲	▲	-14.7	-9.4	17	1.10e
Bank of America	BAC	17.95	35.72	**29.74**	**+1.07**	+3.7	▲	▲	▲	-15.6	-15.7	11	0.72
Capital City Bank	CCBG	15.61	30.95	**24.64**	**+.39**	+1.6	▲	▲	▲	-19.2	-13.3	2	0.60f
Citigroup	C	32.00	83.11	**61.23**	**+2.17**	+3.7	▲	▲	▲	-23.4	-20.1	9	2.04
Disney	DIS	79.07	179.45	**170.69**	**-2.20**	-1.3	▼	▲	▲	+18.0	+17.5	23	1.76
Duke Energy	DUK	62.13	103.79	**89.10**	**-1.22**	-1.4	▼	▼	▲	-2.3	+5.3	22	3.86f
EPR Properties	EPR	12.56	73.59	**30.90**	**-1.27**	-3.9	▼	▼	▲	-56.3	-48.2	9	4.32
Equity Commonwealth	EQC	24.38	30.97	**26.42**	**+.02**	+0.1	▲	▼	▼	-8.8	-4.9	27	2.50e
Exxon Mobil Corp	XOM	30.11	71.37	**41.95**	**-.78**	-1.8	▼	▲	▲	-39.9	-32.6	10	3.48
Ford Motor	F	3.96	9.57	**8.93**	**-.02**	-0.2	▼	▲	▲	-4.0	-1.7	7	...
Gen Electric	GE	5.48	13.26	**10.77**	**-.04**	-0.4	▼	▲	▲	-3.5	-1.6	dd	0.04
HCA Holdings Inc	HCA	58.38	165.98	**163.09**	**-1.25**	-0.8	▼	▲	▲	+10.3	+15.2	25	1.72f
Home Depot	HD	140.63	292.95	**270.99**	**+.54**	+0.2	▲	▼	▼	+24.1	+28.6	27	6.00
Intel Corp	INTC	43.61	69.29	**46.36**	**-1.10**	-2.3	▼	▲	▼	-22.5	-9.3	16	1.32
IBM	IBM	90.56	158.75	**123.39**	**-2.46**	-2.0	▼	▲	▲	-7.9	-1.6	13	6.52
LKQ Corporation	LKQ	13.31	38.38	**35.92**	**-.23**	-0.6	▼	▲	▲	+0.6	+2.9	21	...
Lowes Cos	LOW	60.00	180.67	**164.33**	**+1.13**	+0.7	▲	▲	▼	+37.2	+39.0	37	2.20
Lumen Technologies	LUMN	8.16	15.30	**9.92**	**-.24**	-2.4	▼	▼	▼	-24.9	-14.3	4	1.00
McDonalds Corp	MCD	124.23	231.91	**211.67**	**-3.41**	-1.6	▼	▼	▼	+7.1	+11.6	32	5.16f
Microsoft Corp	MSFT	132.52	232.86	**222.59**	**+4.00**	+1.8	▲	▲	▲	+41.1	+43.2	44	2.24f
Motorola Solutions	MSI	120.77	187.49	**165.22**	**-5.04**	-3.0	▼	▼	▲	+2.5	+7.0	31	2.84f
NextEra Energy	NEE	43.70	83.34	**74.40**	**-.11**	-0.1	▼	▼	▼	+24.9	+27.5	5	1.40
Piedmont Office RT	PDM	11.26	24.78	**15.82**	**-.09**	-0.6	▼	▼	▲	-28.9	-18.0	7	0.84
Regions Fncl	RF	6.94	17.33	**15.54**	**+.28**	+1.8	▲	▲	▲	-9.4	-7.2	11	0.62
Smucker, JM	SJM	91.88	125.62	**114.38**	**-1.50**	-1.3	▼	▼	▼	+9.8	+16.4	15	3.60f
Texas Instru	TXN	93.09	167.24	**162.43**	**-1.64**	-1.0	▼	▲	▲	+26.6	+30.9	29	3.60
UniFirst Corp	UNF	121.89	217.90	**206.47**	**-2.63**	-1.3	▼	▲	▲	+2.2	-1.0	23	1.00
Verizon Comm	VZ	48.84	62.15	**59.49**	**-.97**	-1.6	▼	▼	▬	-3.1	+1.6	13	2.52f
Vodafone Group	VOD	11.46	20.53	**16.40**	**-.75**	-4.4	▼	▲	▲	-15.2	-7.1		0.97e
WalMart Strs	WMT	102.00	153.66	**145.97**	**+.02**	...	▬	▼	▲	+22.8	+22.3	84	2.16f
Walgreen Boots Alli	WBA	33.36	59.78	**40.67**	**-.02**	...	▬	▲	▲	-31.0	-25.2	7	1.87f

Dividend Footnotes: a - Extra dividends were paid, but are not included. b - Annual rate plus stock. c - Liquidating dividend. e - Amount declared or paid in last 12 months. f - Current annual rate, which was increased by most recent dividend announcement. i - Sum of dividends paid after stock split, no regular rate. j - Sum of dividends paid this year. Most recent dividend was omitted or deferred. k - Declared or paid this year, a cumulative issue with dividends in arrears. m - Current annual rate, which was decreased by most recent dividend announcement. p - Initial dividend, annual rate not known, yield not shown. r - Declared or paid in preceding 12 months plus stock dividend. t - Paid in stock, approximate cash value on ex-distribution date.
PE Footnotes: q - Stock is a closed-end fund - no P/E ratio shown. cc - P/E exceeds 99. dd - Loss in last 12 months.

Interestrates

The yield on the 10-year Treasury held steady at 0.93% on Monday. Yields affect rates on mortgages and other consumer loans.

TREASURIES	LAST	PVS	NET CHG	1YR AGO
3-month T-bill	.09	.08	+0.01	1.57
6-month T-bill	.09	.09	...	1.57
52-wk T-bill	.09	.09	...	1.52
2-year T-note	.13	.13	...	1.61
5-year T-note	.39	.39	...	1.72
7-year T-note	.63	.67	-0.04	1.84
10-year T-note	.93	.93	...	1.91
30-year T-bond	1.68	1.70	-0.02	2.34

CONSUMER RATES	NAT'L AVG	WK AGO	6MO AGO	1YR AGO
48 month new car loan	4.02 ▬	4.02	4.04	4.37
Money market account	0.20 ▬	0.20	0.20	0.28
1 year CD	0.40 ▼	0.41	0.41	0.51
$30K Home equity loan	4.76 ▼	5.26	4.97	5.43
30 year fixed mortgage	2.86 ▲	2.85	3.04	3.32
15 year fixed mortgage	2.37 ▼	2.41	2.58	2.82

	PRIME RATE	FED FUNDS
LAST	3.25	.13
6 MO AGO	3.25	.13
1 YR AGO	4.75	1.63

Commodities

Crude oil prices fell more than 2%, as did prices for wholesale gasoline and heating oil. Gold fell slightly and silver prices rose. Wheat and corn prices rose.

FUELS	CLOSE	PVS	%CHG	%YTD
Crude Oil (bbl)	47.79	49.10	-2.67	-21.7
Ethanol (gal)	1.33	1.32	+0.38	-3.6
Heating Oil (gal)	1.48	1.51	-2.35	-27.1
Natural Gas (mm btu)	2.71	2.70	+0.19	+23.6
Unleaded Gas (gal)	1.36	1.40	-2.52	-19.5
METALS	**CLOSE**	**PVS**	**%CHG**	**%YTD**
Gold (oz)	1879.20	1885.70	-0.34	+23.7
Silver (oz)	26.28	25.95	+1.27	+47.4
Platinum (oz)	1016.10	1043.10	-2.59	+4.6
Copper (lb)	3.57	3.63	-1.53	+27.9
Palladium (oz)	2304.40	2360.90	-2.39	+20.7
AGRICULTURE	**CLOSE**	**PVS**	**%CHG**	**%YTD**
Cattle (lb)	1.11	1.10	+0.12	-11.3
Coffee (lb)	1.24	1.24	-0.77	-4.2
Corn (bu)	4.40	4.38	+0.57	+13.5
Cotton (lb)	0.75	0.77	-3.11	+8.3
Lumber (1,000 bd ft)	882.30	850.30	+3.76	+117.5
Orange Juice (lb)	1.18	1.17	+0.60	+21.3
Soybeans (bu)	12.43	12.20	+1.91	+31.8
Wheat (bu)	6.11	6.08	+0.49	+9.4

(Previous and change figures reflect current contract.)

MutualFunds

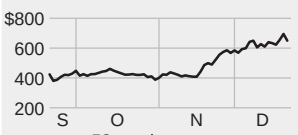
FAMILY	FUND	NAV	CHG	TOTAL RETURN YTD	1YR	3YR*	5YR*
American Funds	AmrcnBalA m	29.86	-.10	+9.6	+9.9	+8.4	+9.9
	CptWldGrIncA m	58.20	-.53	+13.1	+13.6	+8.5	+11.2
	CptlIncBldrA m	62.07	-.56	+1.5	+1.9	+3.6	+6.5
	FdmtlInvsA m	68.26	-.43	+12.9	+13.3	+10.4	+13.6
	GrfAmrcA m	66.65	-.50	+36.0	+36.0	+19.1	+18.5
	IncAmrcA m	23.29	-.13	+3.8	+3.9	+5.5	+8.2
	InvCAmrcA m	43.76	-.23	+12.8	+13.0	+9.5	+12.8
	NwPrspctvA m	59.25	-.57	+30.6	+31.2	+17.0	+16.2
	WAMtlInvsA m	49.30	-.25	+5.8	+5.9	+8.8	+12.2
Dodge & Cox	Inc	14.59	-.01	+9.0	+9.2	+6.1	+5.6
	Stk	189.22	-.59	+5.3	+5.9	+6.7	+12.2
Fidelity	500IdxInsPrm	128.00	-.50	+16.4	+16.8	+13.4	+15.1
	Contrafund	16.63	-.03	+31.5	+31.9	+18.5	+18.1
	TtlMktIdxInsPrm	106.36	-.32	+19.3	+19.6	+13.8	+15.4
	USBdIdxInsPrm	12.42	...	+7.5	+7.5	+5.4	+4.3
Schwab	SP500Idx	56.68	...	+16.9	+18.4	+13.4	+15.3
T. Rowe Price	BCGr	164.64	-.38	+34.0	+34.2	+20.9	+19.8
Vanguard	500IdxAdmrl x	340.80	-2.70	+16.4	+16.8	+13.4	+15.1
	DivGrInv	33.44	-.25	+10.4	+10.6	+13.2	+13.4
	GrIdxAdmrl	129.30	-.30	+38.7	+39.5	+22.3	+20.3
	InTrTEAdmrl	14.86	...	+5.1	+5.3	+4.6	+3.6
	IntlGrAdmrl	157.51	-1.99	+57.0	+58.1	+21.9	+21.5
	MdCpIdxAdmrl	256.25	-1.24	+17.6	+18.0	+11.9	+13.5
	PrmCpAdmrl x	151.97	-16.41	+15.9	+15.8	+13.0	+16.1
	STInvmGrdAdmrl	11.02	...	+5.1	+5.3	+4.0	+3.3
	TrgtRtr2025Inv	22.24	-.08	+12.1	+12.4	+8.5	+9.8
	TrgtRtr2030Inv	41.10	-.17	+12.8	+13.0	+8.8	+10.4
	TtBMIdxAdmrl	11.61	...	+7.4	+7.5	+5.5	+4.3
	TtInBIdxAdmrl	23.43	+.01	+4.5	+4.4	+5.1	+4.4
	TtInSIdxAdmrl	31.72	-.39	+8.7	+9.4	+4.5	+8.8
	TtInSIdxInv	18.97	-.23	+8.7	+9.4	+4.5	+8.8
	TtlSMIdxAdmrl	93.93	-.28	+19.5	+19.8	+13.9	+15.4
	TtlSMIdxInv	93.88	-.28	+19.4	+19.7	+13.8	+15.3
	WlngtnAdmrl	80.42	-.12	+9.4	+9.6	+9.1	+10.7
	WlslyIncAdmrl x	68.06	-1.73	+7.6	+7.8	+7.1	+7.9

*– Annualized; d - Deferred sales charge, or redemption fee. m - Multiple fees are charged, usually a marketing fee and either a sales or redemption fee. x - fund paid a distribution during the week.

StoryStocks

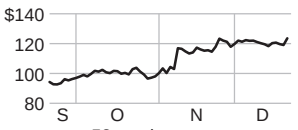
Stocks ended lower on Wall Street as a new, potentially more infectious strain of the coronavirus has countries around the world restricting travel from the United Kingdom, raising worries that the economy is about to take even worse punishment.

Tesla TSLA
Close: **$649.86 ▼-45.14 or -6.5%**
The electric car marker formally joined the S&P 500 stock index.



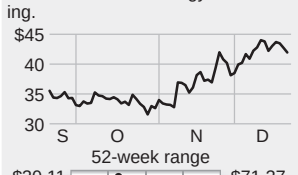
Vol.: **56.8m (1.2x avg.)** PE: **1,298.7**
Mkt. Cap: **$613.8 b** Yield: **...**

JPMorgan Chase JPM
Close: **$123.55 ▲4.47 or 3.8%**
Federal Reserve allowed large U.S. banks to buy back their own stock, saying they had enough reserves to survive another downturn.



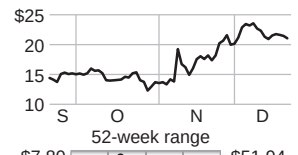
Vol.: **27.5m (1.8x avg.)** PE: **16.1**
Mkt. Cap: **$376.6 b** Yield: **2.9%**

Exxon Mobil XOM
Close: **$41.95 ▼-0.78 or -1.8%**
Energy companies fell along with the price of crude as traders worried about demand for energy weakening.



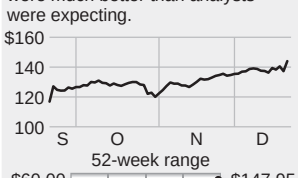
Vol.: **27.8m (0.9x avg.)** PE: **53.9**
Mkt. Cap: **$177.4 b** Yield: **8.3%**

Carnival CCL
Close: **$21.06 ▼-0.40 or -1.9%**
Travel-related companies fell as countries imposed new restrictions on the U.K. following the appearance of a new virus strain there.



Vol.: **51.3m (1.0x avg.)** PE: **...**
Mkt. Cap: **$15.2 b** Yield: **...**

Nike NKE
Close: **$144.02 ▲6.74 or 4.9%**
The athletic shoe maker reported results for its latest quarter that were much better than analysts were expecting.



Vol.: **15.8m (2.4x avg.)** PE: **82.0**
Mkt. Cap: **$180.6 b** Yield: **0.8%**

Company Spotlight: Not stressed

JPMorgan Chase rose after the bank passed the Federal Reserve's "stress test" and said it would buy back $30 billion of its stock.

The tests, mandated by Congress in the wake of the 2008 financial crisis, found that 33 of the largest U.S. banks all had ample capital cushions girding them against unexpected losses, enabling them to keep lending even during a crisis, the central bank said.



After Friday's Fed announcement. New York-based JPMorgan said its share repurchase program would begin in the first quarter of 2021 and that it intended to leave its dividend of $0.90 per share unchanged.

"Our highest and best use of capital continues to be supporting our clients and driving an inclusive economic recovery," said CEO Jamie Dimon.

JPMorgan Chase & Co. rose 3.8% to close at $123.55 on Monday.

JPMorgan Chase (JPM) Monday's close: **$123.55, +4.47**

52-WEEK RANGE $77 $141

Price-earnings ratio: **16** (Based on past 12-month results)

Total return	1-yr	3-yrs*	5-yrs*
JPM	-8.1%	7.9	16.4
Div. yield: 2.9%		Dividend: $3.60	

AP *annualized Source: FactSet

New virus worries drag down stocks

Associated Press

Stocks fell on Wall Street Monday, giving back some of their recent gains, as a new, potentially more infectious strain of the coronavirus in the United Kingdom raised worries that the global economy could be in for even more punishment.

The S&P 500 lost 0.4%, its second straight decline after climbing to an all-time high on Thursday. The benchmark index pared its loss as the day progressed, however, recovering from an earlier 2% drop. Treasury yields mostly fell, a sign that investors are worried about the economy. Crude oil prices fell on worries about disappearing demand.

The selling came on a busy day of trading, with plenty of forces pushing and pulling the market. Thin trading ahead of a holiday-shortened week may also be exacerbating moves, analysts said.

News of a new and potentially more infectious strain of the coronavirus has countries around the world restricting travel from the United Kingdom. That has traders worried about the possible economic consequences should it spread to other countries or prove resistant to vaccines being distributed now.

The S&P 500 fell 14.49 points to 3,694.92. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 37.40 points, or 0.1%, to 30,216.45 after erasing an earlier 423 point loss. The Nasdaq composite slipped 13.12 points, or 0.1%, to 12,742.52. The Russell 2000 small-cap index gained 0.34 points, or less than 0.1%, to 1,970.33.

Encouraging news out of Washington helped keep the selling in check. Congress finally appeared set to act on a $900 billion relief effort for the economy. House and Senate leaders were planning to vote Monday on the deal, which would include $600 in cash payments sent to most Americans, extra benefits for laid-off workers and other financial support.

Monday was also the first day of trading for Tesla since joining the S&P 500 index. The electric-vehicle maker surged so much this year, nearly 731% as of Friday evening, that some critics say its price doesn't make sense. But its inclusion in the benchmark index triggered $90.3 billion in trades, as the company instantly became the sixth-biggest in the S&P 500. Tesla slumped 6.5% Monday.

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OPINION

"To care for those who once cared for us is one of the highest honors."
Tia Walker, author

CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE

CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE

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Founded by Albert M. Williamson

"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.

COMPASSIONATE CARE

Baker Act facility needs dementia patient care provisions

Mental health care is delicate.

Few know the fragility of and compassion needed in such care quite like Debbie Selsavage, Citrus County's own top dementia care advocate and expert.

THE ISSUE:
Local dementia care advocate suggests dementia-specific model for Baker Act facility.

OUR OPINION:
Listen to Debbie Selsavage; she is an expert.

Selsavage, a certified trainer and consultant, and a dementia practitioner who formed Coping with Dementia LLC after the journey of caring for her late husband, Albert, recently made a plea to the county to get its proposed Baker Act facility right — with proactive provisions for those taken in with dementia and Alzheimer's.

Drawing on her own experiences with her husband's dementia (who was Baker Acted twice), she urges the county to make careful considerations when preparing to intake dementia and Alzheimer's patients into Baker Act care.

Everyone involved with the eventual construction and staffing of a Baker Act facility would be wise to embrace Selsavage's plea. She is right and her suggestions are smart.

Selsavage believes individuals with dementia should never be admitted into a general population where noise, aggressive behavior and over-stimulation is likely to cause great emotional stress and possibly even physical injury. She suggests the future Baker Act facility in Citrus have a segregated area for those suffering with the disease, including screening areas, admission and holding procedures in place that work to soothe the causes of "dementia behaviors." That includes an area free of loud noise and designed not to look like a jail cell.

Her plan also includes dementia-specific training sessions for Baker Act facility staff and first responders to learn how to identify and interpret dementia behaviors, and how to respond appropriately and effectively.

Those charged with the facility design and staff training should seek Selsavage's council. Her knowledge is vast and she thinks of all things dementia in a proactive way, seeing a need where many of our local leaders would not, simply because they haven't had the same experiences.

Over the years, Selsavage has become a passionate trailblazer, helping society better understand and cope with the challenges of those afflicted by dementia. She believes in a better way to treat those with dementia, and she actively works to find solutions and spread awareness in the Citrus community.

Her ideas and strategies to improve care for those battling dementia and Alzheimer's are cutting edge, and not only benevolently aim to provide a better quality of life for patients, but for their caregivers as well.

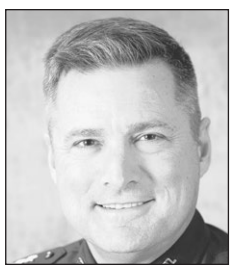
She envisions Citrus County as a model for compassionate and enlightened treatment, and the Board of County Commissioners and Lifestream would be astute to take advantage of her consultancy.

United Way needs your help

■ The United Way of Citrus County needs your help this Christmas season. The Chronicle is asking that residents consider contributing $36 (or whatever you can afford) to the annual campaign. Checks can be sent to: Gerry Mulligan, Citrus County Chronicle, 1624 N. Meadowcrest Blvd., Crystal River, FL 34429. They can also be dropped off at the Chronicle office in Inverness or Crystal River. Thanks for being part of the solution to our community's problems.

Gerry Mulligan, publisher

Sheriff says 'Secure it Citrus'



Mike Prendergast
GUEST COLUMN

Though this time of year is filled with generous hearts and loving spirits for most of us, it does not mean it is safe to forget about the importance of crime prevention this holiday season.

There are some who will take advantage of the hustle and bustle of the holidays, stealing your hard-earned money and belongings, leaving you feeling more like the Grinch than jolly old Saint Nick. The best way to avoid becoming a victim is following the basics of crime prevention.

Rule No. 1: Secure it Citrus. It seems so simple, but in Citrus County an average of 85% of vehicle burglaries occur when a vehicle is left unsecured. This is even more prevalent with the increase in holiday shopping as thieves may circle parking lots, pulling door handles to see how many of your purchases they can swipe.

Secure it Citrus also applies to your homes, towing trailers, and sheds; most criminals can be deterred by a simple locked door or hitch.

CCSO wants all of our citizens to get into the habit of securing their doors and belongings every time they exit their vehicle or home.

Rule No. 2: Put your junk in the trunk. Taking crime prevention a step further, never leave valuables in plain sight while your vehicle is parked. If the temptation is strong enough, criminals may smash windows to get to the valuables inside. This means, as you travel from store to store, be sure to put your shopping bags in the trunk and out of sight.

This also applies year round to all valuables such as purses/wallets, firearms, cellphones, and computers/tablets.

Rule No. 3: Don't overshare travel plans. With many of us hitting the road to visit family or take trips over the holidays, it is important to moderate what information you share online about your travel plans. While it might be nice for close family and friends to share your excitement for an upcoming trip, some may use this information to burglarize your home while you are away. To be safe, don't share trip details until after you have returned.

Rule No. 4: Avoid scams. While this season may call for a kind and generous spirit, citizens should always be cautious of any person or organization asking for money. Some common holiday scams to remember include: fraudulent charities, scammers impersonating a loved one in "distress" on the phone or via email needing money, and untrustworthy websites stealing your card information when you buy online. By doing a few quick minutes of research, whether that be calling your loved one or an online search to see if there are any similar scams reported, can save you a big headache later on.

There is nothing more important to the Citrus County Sheriff's Office than protecting our citizens, but the best way to prevent crime is by working together. If we all lock our doors, secure our belongings, safeguard our travel plans, and practice caution when it comes to our wallets, this holiday season is sure to be merry and bright.

Mike Prendergast is the sheriff for Citrus County.

LETTERS to the Editor

Media should be ashamed of itself

I read the Monday, Dec. 21, opinion editorial "Loose Lips" and had to laugh.

I wonder when the media, the Chronicle included, will quit lying to the public. In your lecture you opine "... a relentless virus that has infected millions of Americans, killed over 300,000" In fact, COVID-19 has not killed anywhere near that many people!

Just go to the CDC website and you'll see 94% of those who died actually did so because of other underlying conditions but also may, or may not, have tested positive for COVID-19. They acknowledge the numbers have been inflated due to a variety of reasons and incentives.

Only about 6% of those who died actually did so as a direct result of the virus!

Their website also identifies the survival rates for the various age groups. When one looks at those numbers objectively, one sees the overall survival rate is over 98%! I wonder what the survival rate is for the ordinary flu.

Speaking of the flu, I saw an article the other day that pointed out flu cases in 2020 were down 96%. I wonder why that is. You don't suppose every case of the flu is now attributed to COVID-19, do you?

And the media loves to talk about how many people have tested positive. I wonder, are there millions of people who have tested positive, or have there been millions of positive tests? I have a friend who is a medical care professional. She tested positive, was quarantined, no symptoms, but had to be repeatedly tested before she could return to work. Every time she was tested, (including five positives) each was counted in the county's total of positive tests! So, I wonder, how many people have actually contracted the virus, given how the numbers have been so egregiously manipulated during this entire episode.

What's even more maddening is most who do test positive don't even know they have it! The hyperbole surrounding this virus is astonishing. The media should be ashamed of itself. It appears to me to be nothing more than an attempt to scare, and thus control, the people of America. It should stop.

Report the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

Gary Kenworthy
Hernando

OPINIONS INVITED

- **Viewpoints** depicted in political cartoons, columns or letters do not necessarily represent the opinion of the editorial board.
- **All letters** must be signed and include a phone number and hometown, including letters sent via email. Names and hometowns will be printed; phone numbers will not be published or given out.
- **We reserve** the right to edit letters for length, libel, fairness and good taste.
- **SEND LETTERS TO: The Editor,** 1624 N. Meadowcrest Blvd., Crystal River, FL 34429; or email to **letters@chronicleonline.com**.

The commercials are annoying

I think I've had enough!

We are stuck in our homes for many hours because of the pandemic, and I think we watch a lot of TV.

Well, I thought that Bright House was driving us crazy with so many commercials, but now Spectrum makes Bright House look like a rookie.

Not only that, Spectrum commercials are on over and over and over, plus the magnitude of other commercials are out of control. We see seven to nine commercials after every break from news and TV shows.

Most of all the commercials are dumb and we don't even know what they are selling when they advertise their products. If we're watching TV, we put up with multitudes of prescriptions, cars, trucks, weight loss, really dumb insurance, political commercials and a whole lot of products, over and over, and day after day.

It would be nice to watch half-hour or one-hour TV programs without 60% of the time showing commercials.

Plus, what about the FCC not controlling the loud sounds when commercials are shown? And how can we read the 2 seconds of small print on the disclaimers for the advertisement? That's illegal!

Come on, attorney general, can't you stop this nonsense when we're trying to enjoy our programs? You (the government) were supposed to stop the loud commercials and the unreadable disclaimers. So when are you going to do something about television programming?

I know all about reach and frequency and these commercials are way overboard and way too many. It's tough to enjoy our TV programs with all the interruptions.

Ray Jarzyna
Hernando

Trump damaging democracy

A response to a letter of Dec. 3. You can tell that the letter writer is a strong supporter of Trump and DeSantis. Let's face it, the governor is no paragon of virtue when it comes to citizens' rights. He had his police raid a house of a public servant with guns drawn she was in charge of tracking the virus. She refused to fudge the figures and was fired.

I now know what the lame duck president is made of. He is what I thought he was, an arrogant autocrat who can't believe he lost the election, even after the Supreme Court ruled against him. His lies are causing considerable damage to our democracy. I know his followers don't understand how he lost. After all, they have done all they could to cripple the USPS and slow down the mail.

The Republican states removed ballot places, mail drop-off boxes and cut back early voting polls. Given all the road blocks put in the way of voting, particularly in minority areas, it's amazing to me that Joe Biden actually won the election by over 7 million votes.

The letter writer insists that BLM groups are causing havoc in the cities. No, this is just not true. BLM is a peaceful protest group. But with the instigation of our president and his influence upon the white supremacist groups which just love coming out and causing trouble when the BLM march. They are the ones burning and looting and killing people. They are the ones that arrive with AR15s strapped to their shoulders. Oh, sure, there probably some people who can't help themselves and cause damage, but that is not what BLM is about. They are protesting the killing of black and brown people by the police, and yes, there was a police department that was defunded. The sheriff was a Ku Klux Klan member and some of the deputies were involved with white supremacist groups.

The second misconception of this writer is her reference to antifa. Antifa is normally a peaceful group that is against fascism. Yes, it was attacked by white supremacists with guns and torches at Charlottesville, and they defended themselves. The largest antifa group was sent to Europe by the USA. Mussolini created the first fascist government in Europe and Hitler was on his way to do the same, it was called World War II.

Roger Cullen
Old Homosassa

THE CHRONICLE *invites you to call "Sound Off" with your opinions about local or statewide subjects. You do not need to leave your name, and have less than a minute to record.* ***COMMENTS*** *will be edited for length, libel, personal or political attacks and good taste. Editors will cut libelous material.* ***OPINIONS*** *expressed are purely those of the callers.*

NATION & WORLD
CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE

House passes $900B relief

Editor's note: The Senate decision is not included since the vote occurred after press deadline.

ANDREW TAYLOR
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The House easily passed a $900 billion pandemic relief package Monday night that would finally deliver long-sought cash to businesses and individuals and resources to vaccinate a nation confronting a frightening surge in COVID-19 cases and deaths.

Lawmakers tacked on a $1.4 trillion catchall spending bill and thousands of pages of other end-of-session business in a massive bundle of bipartisan legislation as Capitol Hill prepared to close the books on the year.

The lopsided 359-53 vote was a bipartisan coda to months of partisanship and politicking as lawmakers wrangled over the relief question, a logjam that broke after President-elect Joe Biden urged his party to accept a compromise with top Republicans that is smaller than many Democrats would have liked.

The relief package, unveiled Monday afternoon, sped through the House in a matter of hours. A Senate vote that would send the bill to President Donald Trump appeared likely to follow soon.

The bill combines coronavirus-fighting funds with financial relief for individuals and businesses. It would establish a temporary $300 per week supplemental jobless benefit and a $600 direct stimulus payment to most Americans, along with a new round of subsidies for hard-hit businesses, restaurants, and theaters and money for schools, health care providers and renters facing eviction.

The 5,593-page legislation — by far the longest bill ever — came together Sunday after months of battling, posturing and postelection negotiating that reined in a number of Democratic demands as the end of the congressional session approached. President-elect Joe Biden was eager for a deal to deliver long-awaited help to suffering people and a boost to the economy, even though it was less than half the size that Democrats wanted in the fall.



Associated Press

U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree is seen at the U.S. Capitol at night after negotiators sealed a deal for COVID relief Sunday, Dec. 20, 2020, in Washington. Top Capitol Hill negotiators sealed a deal Sunday on an almost $1 trillion COVID-19 economic relief package, finally delivering long-overdue help to businesses and individuals and providing money to deliver vaccines to a nation eager for them.

"This deal is not everything I want — not by a long shot," said Rules Committee Chairman Jim McGovern, R-Mass., a longstanding voice in the party's old-school liberal wing. "The choice before us is simple. It's about whether we help families or not. It's about whether we help small businesses and restaurants or not. It's about whether we boost (food stamp) benefits and strengthen anti-hunger programs or not. And whether we help those dealing with a job loss or not. To me, this is not a tough call."

The Senate was also on track to pass a one-week stopgap spending bill to avert a partial government shutdown at midnight and give Trump time to sign the sweeping legislation.

Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, a key negotiator, said on CNBC Monday morning that the direct payments would begin arriving in bank accounts next week.

Democrats promised more aid to come once Biden takes office, but Republicans were signaling a wait-and-see approach. The measure would fund the government through September, wrapping a year's worth of action on annual spending bills into a single package that never saw Senate committee or floor debate.

The final bill bore ample resemblance to a $1 trillion package put together by Senate Republican leaders in July, a proposal that at the time was scoffed at by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., as way too little.

Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., took a victory lap after blocking far more ambitious legislation from reaching the Senate floor. He said the pragmatic approach of Biden was key.

"A few days ago, with a new president-elect of their own party, everything changed. Democrats suddenly came around to our position that we should find consensus, make law where we agree, and get urgent help out the door," McConnell said.

On direct payments, the bill provides $600 to individuals making up to $75,000 per year and $1,200 to couples making up to $150,000, with payments phased out for higher incomes. An additional $600 payment will be made per dependent child, similar to the last round of relief payments in the spring.

The $300 per week bonus jobless benefit was half the supplemental federal unemployment benefit provided under the $1.8 billion CARES Act in March. That more generous benefit and would be limited to 11 weeks instead of 16 weeks. The direct $600 stimulus payment was also half the March payment.

"Anyone who thinks this bill is enough hasn't heard the desperation in the voices of their constituents, has not looked into the eyes of the small-business owner on the brink of ruin," said Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer.

Biden gets first dose of COVID-19 vaccine

Says 'nothing to worry about'

JILL COLVIN AND ALEXANDRA JAFFE
Associated Press

NEWARK, Del. — President-elect Joe Biden on Monday received his first dose of the coronavirus vaccine on live television as part of a growing effort to convince the American public the inoculations are safe.

The president-elect took a dose of Pfizer vaccine at a hospital not far from his Delaware home, hours after his wife, Jill Biden, did the same. The injections came the same day that a second vaccine, produced by Moderna, will start arriving in states. It joins Pfizer's in the nation's arsenal against the COVID-19 pandemic, which has now killed more than 317,000 people in the United States and upended life around the globe.



Associated Press

President-elect Joe Biden receives his first dose of the coronavirus vaccine at ChristianaCare Christiana Hospital in Newark, Del., Monday, from nurse practitioner Tabe Mase.

"I'm ready," said Biden, who was administered the dose at a hospital in Newark, Delaware, and declined the option to count to three before the needle was inserted into his left arm. "I'm doing this to demonstrate that people should be prepared when it's available to take the vaccine. There's nothing to worry about."

The president-elect praised the health care workers and said President Donald Trump's administration "deserves some credit getting this off the ground." And Biden urged Americans to wear masks during the upcoming Christmas holiday and not travel unless necessary.

Vice President-elect Kamala Harris and her husband are expected to receive their first shots next week.

Other top government officials have been in the first wave of Americans to be inoculated against COVID-19 as part of the largest largest vaccination campaign in the nation's history.

Vice President Mike Pence, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., and other lawmakers were given doses Friday.

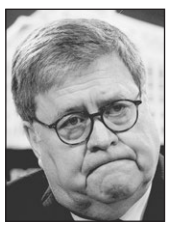
They chose to publicize their injections as part of a campaign to convince Americans that the vaccines are safe and effective amid skepticism.

US charges bombmaker in 1988 Pan Am explosion

ERIC TUCKER AND MICHAEL BALSAMO
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Justice Department announced new charges Monday against a Libyan bombmaker in the 1988 explosion of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, an attack that killed 259 people in the air and 11 on the ground.

The charges were announced on the 32nd anniversary of the bombing and in the final news conference of Attorney General William Barr's tenure, underscoring his personal attachment to a case that unfolded during his first stint at the Justice Department. He had announced an earlier set of charges against two other Libyan intelligence officials in his capacity as acting attorney general nearly 30 years ago, vowing that the investigation would continue. Though Barr had not appeared at a press conference in months, he led this one two days before his departure as a career bookend.



William Barr
Attorney General.

In presenting new charges, the Justice Department is revisiting a case that deepened the chasm between the United States and Libya, laid bare the threat of international terrorism more than a decade before the Sept. 11 attacks and produced global investigations and punishing sanctions.

The case against the alleged bombmaker, Abu Agela Masud Kheir Al-Marimi, is for now more theoretical than practical since Masud is not in U.S. custody and it is unclear if he ever will be, or if the evidence will be sufficient for conviction. But it nonetheless represents one of the more consequential counterterrorism announcements from the Trump administration Justice Department.

"At long last, this man responsible for killing Americans and many others will be subject to justice for his crimes," Barr said.

A breakthrough in the investigation came when U.S. officials in 2017 received a copy of an interview that Masud, a longtime explosives expert for Libya's intelligence service, had given to Libyan law enforcement in 2012 after being taken into custody following the collapse of the regime of the country's leader, Col. Moammar Gadhafi.

In that interview, U.S. officials said, Masud admitted building the bomb in the Pan Am attack and working with two other conspirators to carry it out and said the operation was ordered by Libyan intelligence. He also revealed that he had been summoned by a Libyan intelligence official to a meeting in Tripoli and asked whether the "suitcases" were finished.

The Pan Am flight exploded over Lockerbie less than an hour after takeoff from London on Dec. 21, 1988, en route to New York City and then Detroit. Among the 190 Americans on board were 35 Syracuse University students flying home for Christmas after a semester abroad.

Nation BRIEFS

Eruption



Associated Press

People watch an eruption from Hawaii's Kilauea volcano on the Big Island on Sunday. The volcano shot steam and an ash cloud into the atmosphere for about an hour.

Exam administrator gets probation in bribery scheme

BOSTON — A former college entrance exam administrator was sentenced on Monday to one year of probation for her role in the college admissions bribery scheme that has ensnared wealthy parents across the nation.

Niki Williams, a former employee of the Houston Independent School District, pleaded guilty in September to one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud and mail fraud and honest services wire fraud and mail fraud. She was sentenced in a video conference by a federal judge in Boston.

Williams, 46, was one of 50 people arrested last year in the scheme, in which authorities say undeserving kids were admitted to top universities with bogus athletic credentials or fake test scores.

Williams, who administered the college entrance exams at the public high school where she worked, was accused of taking bribes from the admissions consultant at the center of the scheme, Rick Singer, in exchange for allowing someone to take exams in place of the children of Singer's clients or correct their answers.

Prosecutors requested a sentence of six months in prison, while Williams' attorney said prison was unwarranted. U.S. District Judge Indira Talwani said it will be punishment enough that Williams has lost her job and will carry a felony conviction.

Williams was also ordered to repay $12,500 she received in the scheme. She declined to comment during the hearing.

Acrobats hurt in circus accident reach $52.5M settlement

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Eight acrobats severely injured when the rigging suspending them by their hair plummeted to the floor during a circus performance in Rhode Island in 2014 have reached a $52.5 million settlement with the ownership and management of the arena where the circus was held, their lawyer confirmed Monday.

"It's a great result, it's the right result and it's a just result," Zachary Mandell, an attorney for the eight women, said of the settlement, first reported by The Providence Journal.

A metal clip that held the acrobats 20 feet (6 meters) above the floor of the Dunkin' Donuts Center snapped during the May 2014 performance, causing the women to suffer broken bones and spinal injuries. A ninth worker on the ground was also hurt.

Some of the women still suffer from "life-altering" injuries, according to Mandell, who said he could not get into specifics because of medical privacy laws.

"These clients will now be able to have meaningful recoveries with the assistance of this settlement," he said.

According to the lawsuit, SMG agreed to manage all events and maintain safety inside the center, and arranged with Florida-based Feld Entertainment Inc., the parent company of the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus, to bring the circus to Providence.

— From wire reports

Dogs ease isolation for nursing home residents

MARY ESCH
Associated Press

Eileen Nagle sees her family in video chats and drive-by visits, but that hasn't made up for the lack of warm hugs in the nine months since the pandemic led her nursing home to shut its doors to visitors.

Enter Zeus.

"Zeus is a friendly little snowball, very happy," said Nagle, 79, after the peppy bichon frise paid a visit to her room at Hebrew Home at Riverdale, overlooking the Hudson River in the Bronx. "Petting and playing with the dogs breaks up the day and gets you to forget about yourself for a while."

Hebrew Home has had a pet therapy program for 20 years; tiny Zeus and gentle giant Marley the Great Dane are the current snugglers in residence. Now, the activities department is expanding the canine corps with two new recruits in training to give residents more of the affectionate physical contact that has become so scarce and precious in the coronavirus era.

"It's uplifting to have Zeus come and visit me, especially with COVID and being restricted to my room," said 80-year-old Jeff Philipson, beaming as he ran his fingers through Zeus' silky white fur while the dog clambered on his bed. "I talk on the phone every day with my daughter and my son, but that's as good as it can get for now."

When the pandemic lockdown began in March, dog therapy was suspended along with most other activities at the nursing home.

"I decided we needed to re-energize the pet visiting program since there's no outside visitation allowed," said Daniel Reingold, founder of the pet therapy program and president and CEO of RiverSpring Health, nonprofit operator of 103-year-old Hebrew Home. "They've been on the floors bringing happiness and unconditional love to residents and staff alike."

The dogs belong to staff members who bring them to work every day. But the program doesn't allow just any dog.

"It has to be a combination of the right owner, right dog and right temperament," said Reingold, whose own rescue dog, Kida, is one of the new recruits. "The dogs have to be assessed, follow basic commands and be able to cope with wheelchairs, elevators, medication carts and all the other things they'll encounter on a floor."

Cats are also used in the pet therapy program — but only robotic ones. Hebrew Home has numerous lifelike animatronic cats that purr and meow as residents hold them in their laps and stroke their fur. "The cats are especially soothing to people with dementia," said Catherine Farrell, director of therapeutic activities, primary dog handler and owner of Marley.

"The love of an animal is incredible," Farrell said. "It releases endorphins, reduces blood pressure, reduces anxiety. For people here who had animals in their life history, seeing dogs triggers memories and opens communication."

While Farrell has to remain 6 feet away from residents and wear a face mask and plastic shield, Marley can plop his head on their beds as they pet him.

"To break through the social distancing barrier is really important," Farrell said. "It's one of the only ways they're able to touch another living being and gain satisfaction from that physical connection."

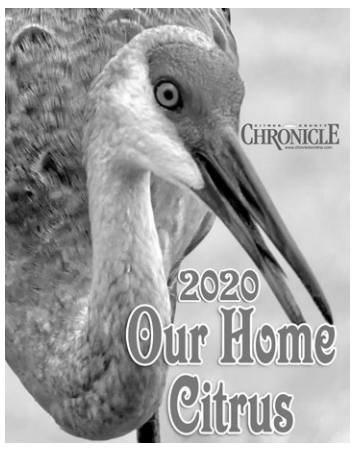
But it's not just about petting a dog, said Olivia Cohen, dog handler and assistant director of the therapeutic activities program. For some residents, the interaction can break down barriers and open communication and emotional expression, she said.

Cohen recalls one woman who was struggling with anxiety and having trouble coping with the new environment when she moved into the home. "Nothing would get through to her to help her," Cohen said. "But when I brought the dog to her, her complete affect changed from crying to having her face light up and telling stories about her own experiences."



Associated Press

Jeff Philipson, 80, right, smiles, Dec. 9, as he visits with Zeus, a bichon frise, at The Hebrew Home at Riverdale in New York. New dog recruits are helping to expand the nursing home's pet therapy program, giving residents and staff physical comfort while human visitors are still restricted because of the pandemic.



We need your information

As our community grows, it becomes even more important that we know how to keep in touch with each other. The Chronicle's annual publication of Our Home Citrus is the best and most complete resource for all those important organizations, clubs, hobby groups and other ways we make friends, share pastimes and help each other out.

If you would like your group to be listed in this publication please go to ChronicleOnline.com/OurHomeCitrus and fill out the online form, or fill out the form below and mail or deliver by December 31, 2020 to:

Citrus County Chronicle
Attention: Cindy Connolly
1624 N. Meadowcrest Blvd.
Crystal River, FL 34429

NAME OF ORGANIZATION (must be nonprofit) _____
ORGANIZATION WEB PAGE _____
MEETING PLACE: Specific building designation
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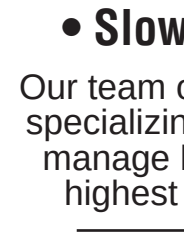
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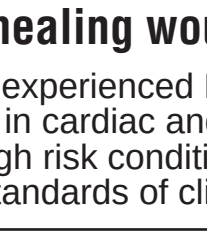
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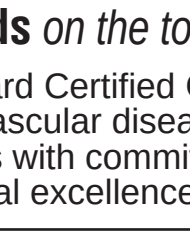

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M.D., FACC
Cardiology Interventional & Endovascular

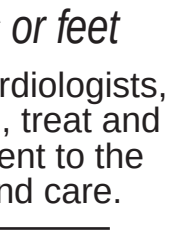

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Dr. Basel Al Aloul
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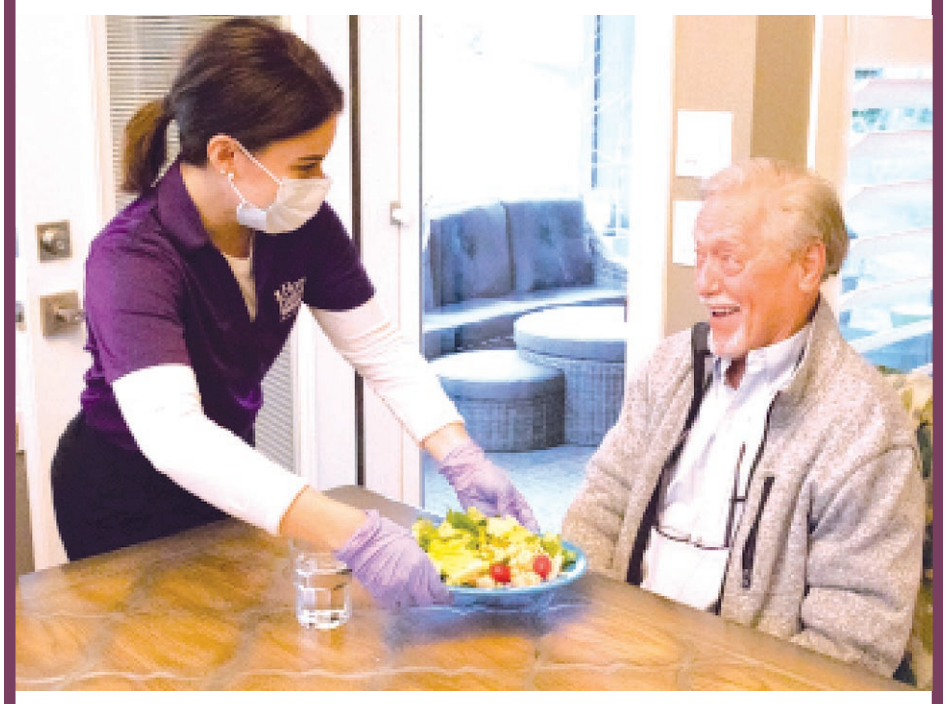

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HEALTH & LIFE
CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE

Be Healthy ...

Sign up for the Chronicle's new Be Healthy newsletter. Get links to local health stories and tips to keep you healthy. Get a free copy sent to your inbox every Tuesday. Sign up now at https://tinyurl.com/y2ucgwuv

Make a pledge to be healthier, safer in 2021

Extension to offer Matter of Balance

Special to the Chronicle

Have you turned down a chance to go out with friends or family because you were concerned about falling? Have you cut down on a favorite activity because you might fall? If so, A Matter of Balance is a program for you.

Matter of Balance Class will be offered Wednesdays, starting Feb. 3, 2021, and running until March 24, from 10 a.m. to noon. Classes are held once a week for eight weeks for two hours each at UF/IFAS Extension Citrus County, 3650 W Sovereign Path in Lecanto.

Fear of falling can be just as dangerous as falling itself. People who develop this fear often limit their activities, which can result in severe physical weakness, making the risk of falling even greater. Many older adults also experience increased isolation and depression when they limit their interactions with friends and family.

A Matter of Balance can help people improve their quality of life and remain independent. A Matter of Balance is designed to reduce the fear of falling and increase activity levels among older adults. Participants learn to set realistic goals to increase activity, change their environment to reduce fall risk factors, and learn simple exercises to increase strength and balance.

Face coverings are required for all participants at in-person events. Individuals at a higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 (including older adults and vulnerable people of all ages with certain underlying medical conditions) should avoid in-person events and gatherings at this time.

Pre-registration is required and is first come, first served so call early.

For more information or to register, contact the UF/IFAS Extension Citrus County office at 352-527-5700.

DON'T LIVE WITH THE HURT

Medicare approves acupuncture for chronic low back pain

According to the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (NCCIH), acupuncture can treat neck and lower back pain symptoms, as well as discomfort due to osteoarthritis and knee pain.

In January 2020, Medicare approved up to 20 acupuncture treatments annually for those with chronic lower back pain. Some conditions apply. For example, under Original Medicare (Part B) beneficiaries may only receive acupuncture treatment in MD, DO or ARNP's office. Medicare Advantage (Part C) beneficiaries have more flexibility and may receive acupuncture in a MD, DO, ARNP or Licensed Acupuncturist's office.



David Bibbey
ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE

There are over 25 Medicare Advantage Plans, several Statewide Medicaid Managed Care plans and other Special Needs Plans offered in Citrus County, including plans from AARP, Humana, Aetna, BlueCross, Elite, Freedom, Premier and WellCare.

Of these, several plans already offer the acupuncture benefit for Chronic Low Back pain and more plans have included acupuncture benefits in 2021.

Medicare has approved acupuncture coverage as part of a growing effort to help people access nonopioid pain management. Acupuncture is an evidence-based office procedure, well-supported by research and proven to relieve pain and improve individuals function and mobility.

Receiving Acupuncture treatments from a trained and licensed health care professional is a safe and effective way to treat low back pain. The treatment triggers the body's release of pain-relieving chemicals that occur naturally in the body. Imaging studies that evaluate brain activity have shown that when people they receive acupuncture, the treatment helps reduce activity around overactive pain receptors.

The effects of acupuncture on chronic pain can be long lasting, according to an article published in the journal Pain. In a review of 29 clinical trials involving people with headache or pain in the lower back, neck, shoulder, or knee, an estimated 90% of the 17,922 participants reported that pain relief lasted at least 12 months after their acupuncture treatments.

The most common adverse effects are sensitivity and minor bleeding at the treatment site.

Although practitioners may use acupuncture to treat other conditions, Medicare will only cover its use in the treatment of lower back pain.

Contact David Bibbey, L.Ac. (licensed acupuncturist) at Alternative Primary Care, Crystal River, phone 352-464-1645.



MetroCreative

Wrapping up the year, getting ready for 2021

Well, it's almost the end of the year and my last column until 2021. If you're like most people, the idea of 2021 is refreshing. Most want to put 2020 in the past and look forward to a better year ahead.

Though 2020 has been challenging, there were a few positive things for me. When March hit and we were all at our homes, we connected with so many family members via Zoom. Those Zoom sessions were a lot of fun in a time when being with loved ones was so limited.

I used all of the extra time out of the office to get my "to-do" list around the house completed. This was exciting for me as there never seems to be enough time to get that list finished.

My son Frankie, who lives in Atlanta, came home for a very extended visit. Lucky for him, and us, it was easy to work from home. This allowed us to do many things as a family that we've missed over the last few years.



Dr. Frank Vascimini
SOUND BITES

Despite the office being closed for about two and a half months we stayed in touch with our staff of over 20 years. It goes to show you — once a team, always a team. We persevered through one of the most difficult times in our lives and came out of it closer than ever.

Though there were so many things to celebrate, we had our share of tragedy. Some of our family members contracted COVID — most did just fine while others suffered greatly. My thoughts and prayers go out to all of you who have experienced the same.

Rita's mom was diagnosed with cancer again. She survived uterine cancer and pancreatic cancer, and is now fighting leukemia induced by all the chemotherapy agents that helped her survive the others. Please keep her and Rita in your prayers. They certainly need them.

Though getting through the holidays is going to challenge each of us in our own unique way, I'm going to choose to remember "the reason for the season" as the saying goes. I'm going to cherish all of the people in my life, both friends and family. It's so easy to forget these simple ideas. I want to wish each and every one of you, my loyal readers, a very blessed holiday season and a Happy New Year. Stay happy, healthy and, of course, safe.

Dr. Frank Vascimini is a dentist practicing in Homosassa. Send your questions to 4805 S. Suncoast Blvd., Homosassa, FL 34446 or email DrVascimini@MasterpieceDentalStudio.com.

Can hydroxychloroquine help COVID-19 infection?

Q: I recently had a positive COVID-19 test and my doctor prescribed hydroxychloroquine for me. Is this drug effective for COVID-19 infection?

A: The use of hydroxychloroquine for COVID-19 infection has been controversial since the pandemic began and unfortunately, has even been politicized.

However, the potential benefit of hydroxychloroquine for the treatment of COVID-19 has finally been "debunked" by a large clinical study recently conducted by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Clinical Trials Network.

In this well-designed clinical trial conducted at 34 U.S. hospitals, treatment with hydroxychloroquine (400 mg twice daily for 2 doses followed by 200 mg twice daily for 8 doses, or a placebo sugar pill) did not improve or worsen clinical outcomes for 479 adults hospitalized with moderate to severe COVID-19 disease. *(Self WH et al: Effect of Hydroxychloroquine on Clinical Status at 14 Days in Hospitalized Patients With COVID-19 - A Randomized Clinical Trial JAMA.*



Dr. Richard Hoffmann
ASK THE PHARMACIST

2020;324(21):2165-2176).

While several other clinical studies have demonstrated similar results, this is the largest and best study of hydroxychloroquine in COVID-19 patients to date.

It should be noted, however, that hydroxychloroquine is FDA approved for the treatment and prevention of malaria, as well as for the treatment of lupus erythematosus and rheumatoid arthritis.

Common side effects of hydroxychloroquine include nausea, loose stools, stomach pain, blurred vision, skin rash, loss of appetite, and headache.

However, serious drug interactions and abnormal heart rhythms, which could be fatal, can also occur.

Richard P. Hoffmann, Pharm.D., is a retired pharmacist and medical writer with more than 50 years of experience. He currently serves on FDA Advisory Committees for the evaluation of new drugs and devices and is a Patient Research Advocate for the Parkinson's Foundation.

■ **So you know:** The information contained in the Health & Life section is not intended to cover all possible directions, precautions, warnings, drug interactions, allergic reactions or adverse effects and is not intended to replace consultation with a physician.

SPORTS
CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE
Section B - TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2020

THE NUMBER: 160

Career NFL sacks for Kevin Greene, third-most all-time. The Hall of Fame linebacker died Monday at the age of 58.



Kevin Greene



■ Heat and Lakers aim for repeat trips to the NBA Finals./**B2**

■ NBA previews/**B2**
■ TV listings/**B3**
■ Comics/**B4**
■ Scoreboard/**B5**
■ Lottery, TV/**B5**
■ Sports briefs/**B5**
■ Classifieds/**B5**

Polite helps No. 21 FSU beat Gardner-Webb 72-59

Junior guard pours in career-high 15 points

BOB FERRANTE
Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE — Anthony Polite had a career-high 15 points and Balsa Koprivica added a season-best 14 as No. 21 Florida State pulled away late to defeat Gardner-Webb 72-59 on Monday night.



Anthony Politte

Polite scored in double figures for the fourth straight game. The redshirt junior guard did so just six times in the 2019-20 season.

The Seminoles (5-1) outrebounded Gardner Webb 53-30 and went 24 of 32 (75%) from the free throw line to put the game away.

Koprivica, a sophomore center, has scored in double figures in four of six games.

Lance Terry had 23 points for Gardner-Webb (1-4), which did not score in the final 2:42. Terry was 8 of 19 from the floor.

Florida State is 60-14 since the start of 2018-19 season.

POLL IMPLICATIONS

Florida State slid from No. 15 to No. 21 on Monday and this win likely will do little to impress voters.

TAKEAWAYS

Florida State: The Seminoles won despite going 6 of 33 (18%) from 3-point range. They had made at least eight 3s in every game this season.

Gardner-Webb: The Runnin' Bulldogs came in shooting 40% from 3-point range but were just 9 of 33 (27%) against the Seminoles.

UP NEXT

Florida State: The Seminoles have a break for the holidays and will play at Clemson on Dec. 29.

Gardner-Webb: The Runnin' Bulldogs break for the holidays and will play at Hampton on Dec. 30.

AP BASKETBALL POLLS

Gonzaga strengthens grip on No. 1 spot

Gonzaga has strengthened its hold on the No. 1 spot in The Associated Press men's college basketball poll after beating Iowa.

The Zags received 61 of 64 first-place votes from a media panel in the poll released on Monday. No. 2 Baylor got the remaining three first-place votes and No. 3 Kansas moved up two spots this week. Iowa, which dropped one spot after losing to Gonzaga, and Villanova rounded out the top five.

No. 10 Texas cracked the top 10 for the first time since reaching No. 6 in 2014-15.

Michigan State dropped eight spots to No. 12 after losing 79-65 to Northwestern on Sunday.

Oregon State out of women's Top 25

NEW YORK — Oregon State's four-year run in the Top 25 ended Monday when the Beavers fell out of The Associated Press women's basketball poll for the first time since 2016.

The Beavers had the seventh-longest active streak, being ranked for 76 consecutive weeks dating to Dec. 19, 2016. Oregon State lost its lone game last week, falling to Washington State and dropping out of the poll from No. 21.

While the Beavers' streak is over, Stanford remained No. 1 for the third consecutive week. Tara VanDerveer became the winningest coach in women's basketball history, passing the late Pat Summitt, with her 1,099th victory. Stanford received 26 of 30 first-place votes from a media panel. Louisville, UConn, North Carolina State and South Carolina followed the Cardinal again in the poll. Connecticut holds the longest active streak of being ranked, with 515 consecutive Top 25 appearances.

Arizona, Baylor, Oregon, Texas A&M and UCLA round out the first 10 teams in the poll.

— From wire reports

On the doorstep



Associated Press

Tampa Bay tight end Rob Gronkowski gives a thumbs up during the second half of a game against the Atlanta Falcons, Sunday, Dec. 20, in Atlanta. The Buccaneers won 31-27 and can clinch a playoff berth with one more victory.

Brady, slow-starting Buccaneers on verge of playoff berth

FRED GOODALL
AP sports writer

TAMPA — For one half the Tampa Bay Buccaneers look like playoff pretenders, the next they resemble Super Bowl contenders.

Bruce Arians is as baffled as anyone by his team's puzzling slow starts, inconsistency the coach says has and will continue to haunt them against stronger competition.

The Bucs (9-5) assured themselves of their first winning season since 2010, rallying from a 17-point second-half deficit to beat the Atlanta Falcons and move closer to Tampa Bay's first playoff berth in 13 years.

One more win and the Bucs are in.

Tom Brady came to the rescue, throwing for 320 yards after halftime to lead yet another double-digit comeback against the Falcons, who've never beaten the six-time Super Bowl champion.

The reality, though, is Tampa Bay hasn't fared nearly as well this season in bids to overcome slow starts against opponents they could potentially face again in the postseason.

"That's what I talked to them (about)," Arians said after Sunday's 31-27 victory at Atlanta.

"We lost to the Chiefs and the Rams by three, both of those games spotting them (points) and playing this way," Arians added. "You're not going to beat those good teams playing this way."

The Bucs have been outscored 59-7 in the first quarter of their past six games.

Somehow, they've still managed to go 3-3 during the stretch, with wins over three sub-.500 teams (Carolina, Minnesota, Atlanta) and a trio of losses to division title contenders (New Orleans, Los Angeles Rams, Kansas City).

"We're going to have to figure out how to play our best for 60 minutes as opposed to 30," Brady said.

"My comments to the team after the game: 'If we can play 30 minutes like that, why the hell can't we play 60?' " Arians added. "It's frustrating."

The coach is not sure what the Bucs can try to do differently to avoid slow starts moving forward.

"It's almost like, 'Quit talking about it and maybe it will change,'" Arians said.

WHAT'S WORKING

Brady led scoring drives on five straight possessions to begin the second half against the Falcons, finishing with a season-best 390 yards passing and two touchdowns without a turnover. Tampa Bay also finished with just one penalty for 10 yards.

"Our discipline is paying off for us," Arians said. "We do dig holes, but we stay disciplined and we find ways to win."

WHAT NEEDS HELP

With Ronald Jones out, the Bucs averaged just 2.8 yards per carry rushing, gaining 51 yards on 18 attempts. Leonard Fournette led the way with 49 yards on 14 carries, but did score on a pair of 1-yard runs.

STOCK UP

Receiver Antonio Brown had five catches for a season-high 93 yards and scored his first touchdown since joining the Bucs after serving an eight-game suspension for violating the NFL's personal conduct policy.

See DOORSTEP/**Page B5**

Clemson, Irish lead all-ACC honors

AARON BEARD
AP sports writer

Second-ranked Clemson and fourth-ranked Notre Dame headline The Associated Press All-Atlantic Coast Conference teams and individual awards for the 2020 season.

The Tigers, who beat the Fighting Irish in Saturday's league championship game for a sixth straight title, had a league-high 10 selections in results released Monday after voting by 14 sports writers who cover the conference. That list included quarterback Trevor Lawrence as the offensive player of the year and freshman defensive end Myles Murphy in a tie for league newcomer of the year with Miami quarterback D'Eriq King, a redshirt senior who transferred from Houston.

The Fighting Irish — who gave up their cherished football independence for this year to join the league race due to the coronavirus pandemic — was second with nine selections. That included linebacker Jeremiah Owusu-Koramoah as the league's defensive player of the year, while Brian Kelly was voted coach of the year after leading Notre Dame to a 10-0 regular-season record.

Both Clemson and Notre Dame are headed to the College Football Playoff, giving the ACC two playoff teams for the first time.

North Carolina and Miami were next with six selections each, with the Orange Bowl-bound Tar Heels claiming both first-team running back positions with Javonte Williams and Michael Carter, as well as receiver Dyami Brown as the only unanimous selection on the team.

2020 AP All-ACC Football Team

Players at all positions are listed alphabetically with name, school, height, weight, class and hometown; "u-" denotes unanimous selections:

First team

Offense

QB — Trevor Lawrence, Clemson, 6-6, 220, jr., Cartersville, Georgia

RB — Javonte Williams, North Carolina, 5-10, 220, jr., Wallace, North Carolina

RB — Michael Carter, North Carolina, 5-8, 199, sr., Navarre, Florida

OT — Liam Eichenberg, Notre Dame, 6-6, 302, gr., Cleveland

OT — Christian Darrisaw, Virginia Tech, 6-5, 314, jr., Upper Marlboro, Maryland

OG — Aaron Banks, Notre Dame, 6-6, 330, sr., Alameda, California

OG — Tommy Kraemer, Notre Dame, 6-6, 317, gr., Cincinnati

C — Jimmy Morrissey, Pittsburgh, 6-3, 305, r-sr., Huntingdon Valley, Pennsylvania

TE — Hunter Long, Boston College, 6-5, 253, r-jr., Exeter, New Hampshire

u-WR — Dyami Brown, North Carolina, 6-1, 185, jr., Charlotte, North Carolina

WR — Amari Rodgers, Clemson, 5-10, 210, sr., Knoxville, Tennessee

All-purpose player — Khalil Herbert, Virginia Tech, 5-9, 212, gr., Fort Lauderdale, Florida

K — Jose Borregales, Miami, 5-10, 205, r-sr., Miami

Defense

DE — Rashad Weaver, Pittsburgh, 6-5, 270, r-sr., Fort Lauderdale, Florida

See ACC/**Page B5**

Heat returning champs, have challengers

Six teams in East appear capable of winning conference

Tim Reynolds
AP basketball writer

Milwaukee's Giannis Antetokounmpo is the two-time reigning MVP. Brooklyn's Kevin Durant is a two-time NBA Finals MVP and about to get back on the floor after recovering from injury. Washington's Russell Westbrook is still a triple-double machine. Boston's Jayson Tatum signed an extension this offseason that could pay him close to $200 million over five years.

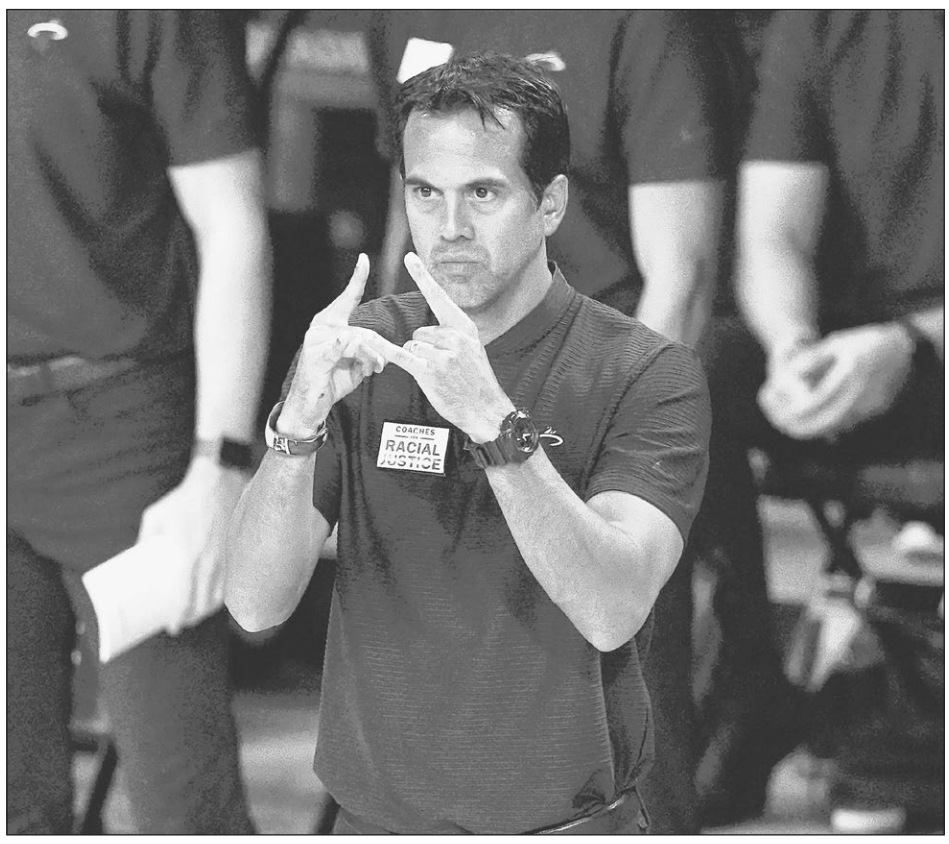
And none of them even play for the defending Eastern Conference champions.

The Miami Heat were the best of the East last season, NBA finalists for the first time since 2014 and bring back almost all their top players from a year ago — yet they're still bracing for what could be a very intense race this season. That speaks to how good the depth in the East will be, with the Bucks, Nets, Celtics, Toronto and Philadelphia all joining Miami as legitimate conference contenders entering the season.

All six of those teams are unquestionably good but at least two won't win a single playoff series.

"The competition is really good in the East," Miami coach Erik Spoelstra said. "Our guys understand that and that's the job of the coaching staff to figure out where we can improve."

A look at the East, in predicted order of regular-season finish:



Associated Press

Miami Heat head coach Erik Spoelstra directs his team during the first half in Game 6 of the NBA Finals against the Los Angeles Lakers Sunday, Oct. 11, in Lake Buena Vista. The Heat are the defending Eastern Conference champs, but have plenty of competition in a quest to repeat.

PLAYOFF BOUND

1. Milwaukee — Giannis Antetokounmpo is now signed for years to come, the Bucks added Jrue Holiday and they're in line to be the first East team to earn the No. 1 seed in three consecutive years since Chicago in 1996 through 1998.

2. Boston — Kemba Walker's knee remains a bit of a concern and Gordon Hayward has moved on to Charlotte. That said, Boston and coach Brad Stevens have more than enough — Jayson Tatum, Jaylen Brown, Marcus Smart — to contend once again.

3. Brooklyn — The waiting is over and it's time to see Kevin Durant in a Nets uniform. New coach Steve Nash has assembled a star-studded staff of assistants and Durant, Kyrie Irving and the very underrated sharpshooter Joe Harris should click quickly.

4. Miami — The defending East champs will miss Jae Crowder, but their young core led by Bam Adebayo, Tyler Herro and Duncan Robinson could and should get even better. Point guard Goran Dragic in the sixth-man role clearly worked wonders last season.

5. Toronto — It's starting as a season of change for the Raptors, who'll play in Tampa. Kyle Lowry and Pascal Siakam are back, Fred VanVleet is signed, and if new bigs Aron Baynes and Alex Len fit quickly Toronto will be fine.

6. Philadelphia — It was an offseason of big moves — Doc Rivers, Daryl Morey, trading Josh Richardson and Al Horford — and the 76ers look better on paper. But what still has to be proven is whether Ben Simmons and Joel Embiid truly work together.

7. Atlanta — The Hawks are all-in on making a playoff run and added plenty of shooting with Danilo Gallinari and Bogdan Bogdanovic. The biggest addition: Adding Rajon Rondo as the veteran voice in the locker room and a mentor to Trae Young.

8. Washington — Russell Westbrook and Bradley Beal, if healthy, aren't going to be the backcourt that misses the playoffs. Reuniting Westbrook with coach Scott Brooks was a genius move by general manager Tommy Sheppard. The question will be if Washington can defend.

IN THE MIX

9. Indiana — The Pacers have made the playoffs in each of the last five seasons and lost in the first round every time. Victor Oladipo's future remains a big question. Indiana is certainly playoff-capable, but it's hard to see a major forward.

10. Orlando — There are very good pieces here, led by Nikola Vucevic. But not having Jonathan Isaac this season is going to seriously hurt, and Cole Anthony's learning curve will be steep without the benefit of summer league and a full offseason.

11. Chicago — The Bulls haven't had more than 27 wins in any of the last three seasons. If new Chicago coach Billy Donovan changes that, it'll be a good year for the Bulls. Coby White's development could dictate how the season goes.

FACING LONG ODDS

12. Charlotte — Lottery pick LaMelo Ball seems NBA-ready and the Hornets have plenty of other young pieces that they like. The Hornets simply couldn't shoot or score well enough to consistently compete last season; will have to wait and see if those numbers can change after a nine-month layoff.

13. Cleveland — Depth is a huge question, but Kevin Love can still score, Andre Drummond can still rebound and the super-young backcourt of Collin Sexton and Darius Garland will be fun to watch. Rookie Isaac Okoro's motor will quickly earn him respect.

14. New York — It's going to get better with coach Tom Thibodeau and Leon Rose overseeing everything. It's also going to take some time before it gets good again at Madison Square Garden. Obi Toppin's development this year must be priority No. 1.

15. Detroit — Derrick Rose is a former MVP, Blake Griffin a six-time All-Star, Wayne Ellington still one of the best shooters walking the earth, Rodney McGruder is of the highest character and toughness. But it's tough to see the Pistons winning much.

WHAT TO KNOW

BIG NUMBERS

With Washington's Bradley Beal (30.5), Atlanta's Trae Young (29.6) and Milwaukee's Giannis Antetokounmpo (29.5) all averaging 29 points or more last season, it marked the first time since 2005-06 when the East had three players scoring at that rate. The list then: Philadelphia's Allen Iverson, Cleveland's LeBron James and Washington's Gilbert Arenas. Before that, the most recent time it happened was 1987-88 with Boston's Larry Bird, Atlanta's Dominique Wilkins and Chicago's Michael Jordan.

EAST VS. WEST

The last time the East teams combined to have a winning regular season record against Western Conference teams was 12 seasons ago. The East went 178-211 vs. the West last season. The East won the series 231-219 in 2008-09 — and that, amazingly, was the only time in the last 21 years that it had a winning record against the West.

SCHEDULE TWEAK

With the regular season down to 72 games this season instead of the customary 82, it means East teams will face each other only three times apiece this year. Most East teams typically face one another four times per season, with a few exceptions each season.

PLAYOFF STREAKS

Toronto enters this season coming off seven consecutive playoff appearances, the longest current run in the East and tied with Portland for second-longest in the NBA behind Houston's eight in a row. Boston (six), Indiana (five), Milwaukee (four), Philadelphia (three), Brooklyn (two) and Orlando (two) are the East's other clubs with active multi-year playoff appearance streaks.

LeBron's Lakers load up for a run at a repeat

Curry looks to shoot Warriors back into postseason

Brian Mahoney
AP basketball writer

LeBron James barely had time to put down his latest trophy before having to start defending it.

It was an extremely short offseason for the Los Angeles Lakers, who won their 17th NBA championship on Oct. 11. That didn't leave much time for rest and relaxation before getting back to work in advance of their Dec. 22 season opener.

But it was long enough to load up for a run at a repeat.

Besides signing James and fellow superstar Anthony Davis to contract extensions, the Lakers added Montrezl Harrell and Dennis Schroder, who finished 1-2 last season in voting for the Sixth Man Award. Former Defensive Player of the Year Marc Gasol now mans the middle and Wesley Matthews will be counted on to knock down the open shots created by James, who led the league last season in assists.

That has the Lakers looking like the favorites to remain the best in the West and perhaps the whole NBA, which would break a tie with Boston to make them the winningest franchise in league history. James won back-to-back titles in Miami and understands the difficulty in trying to stay on top.

"I guess the bull's-eye just becomes even greater, even if that's even possible," said James, beginning his 18th season. "For me personally, the bull's-eye has always been on my back, or my front, since I entered the league and then you add in the Laker name on top of that. The Lakers franchise, the bull's-eye has been on this franchise for a long time as well.

"So understanding that everyone's going to come at us, everyone's going to try to take away from us defending our title. But for me personally, last year we won the ring, we won a title and this year is a new challenge."

A look at the West, in predicted order of regular-season finish:



Associated Press

In this Oct. 11 file photo, Los Angeles Lakers' LeBron James dunks during the first half in Game 6 of the NBA Finals against the Miami Heat in Lake Buena Vista.

PLAYOFF BOUND

1. Los Angeles Lakers — Once LeBron James had his grip on the Eastern Conference title in 2011, he held onto it for eight years, so it won't be easy for any West team to snatch it from him.

2. Denver — The Nikoka Jokic-Jamal Murray combination could be the envy of many teams for years.

3. Los Angeles Clippers — Kawhi Leonard, Paul George will have to shake off an ugly ending to last season when they start up again under new coach Tyronn Lue.

4. Portland — Damian Lillard and CJ McCollum might finally have the health and talent in their frontcourt to allow the Trail Blazers to play like they did in the bubble all season.

5. Utah — The Jazz have shooting outside, Rudy Gobert inside, and Donovan Mitchell to do it all on nights when those things aren't good enough.

6. Phoenix — Undefeated run in the bubble followed by the acquisition of Chris Paul has the Suns thinking big.

7. Dallas — Luka Doncic might very well win the MVP award, but Kristaps Porzingis needs to stay healthy to be in the lineup with him for the Mavericks to win much more than that.

8. Houston — Could finish much higher — or lower — depending on what happens with the James Harden situation that lingers over coach Stephen Silas' first season.

IN THE MIX

9. New Orleans — The Pelicans have Zion Williamson from the start of the season this time as they begin play under new coach Stan Van Gundy.

10. Golden State — Stephen Curry will try to shoot the Warriors back into the playoffs, but it won't be easy with Klay Thompson set to miss a second consecutive season with an injury.

11. Memphis — Rookie of the Year Ja Morant and the Grizzlies won't sneak up on anyone like they did last season in a surprising run that nearly netted them a playoff spot.

FACING LONG ODDS

12. Sacramento — De'Aaron Fox will have the Kings playing fast and fun, but it takes a little more than that to contend in the West.

13. Minnesota — Karl-Anthony Towns and D'Angelo Russell are proven players, but it might take No. 1 pick Anthony Edwards time to make an NBA impact with such little preparation time.

14. San Antonio — Seems strange starting any season without slotting San Antonio into a playoff spot, but Gregg Popovich's Spurs are no longer the surest thing in the NBA.

15. Oklahoma City — The Thunder are stocked with future draft picks, but that's not going to do them any good on the court now.

WHAT TO KNOW

L.A.'S OTHER TEAM

The Clippers' collapse in the bubble, when they blew a 3-1 lead against Denver in the Western Conference semifinals, cost them a showdown with the Lakers and coach Doc Rivers his job. Tyronn Lue will now try to lead them to the NBA Finals spot that's remained out of reach for the franchise.

HOUSTON'S PROBLEM

The Rockets have the NBA's longest current streak of playoff appearances at eight years, all since James Harden arrived for the 2012-13 season. But with Harden potentially on his way out amid reports he wants to be traded, Houston goes into the season as an unknown.

SUNS RISING

Phoenix hasn't made the playoffs since 2010, when it lost to the Lakers in the Western Conference finals. The Suns made a spirited run at ending that by going 8-0 in the seeding games at Walt Disney World and come back now with an All-Star backcourt after trading for Chris Paul to play alongside Devin Booker. who averaged 26.6 points last season.

GOLDEN AGAIN?

Five straight NBA Finals appearances were followed by the worst record in the NBA as the Warriors tumbled to the bottom of basketball when Klay Thompson missed the season and Stephen Curry missed nearly all of it. Curry will try to shoot Golden State back into the postseason, still without his backcourt mate but with some intriguing pieces that include Andrew Wiggins, newcomer Kelly Oubre Jr. and No. 2 pick James Wiseman.

MAVERICKS' MAN

Luka Doncic led the NBA with 17 triple-doubles last season to pace a potent Dallas offense. But the Mavericks had to finish the playoffs without an injured Kristaps Porzingis and start this season the same way, so the point guard might have to be even better than last season to get them through the early portion of their schedule.

TUESDAY EVENING DECEMBER 22, 2020

C: Comcast, Citrus S: Spectrum D/I: Comcast, Dunnellon & Inglis F: Oak Forest H: Holiday Heights

	C	S	D/I	F	H	6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
2 (WESH) NBC	19		19			News	News	ET	Holly	The Voice 'PG' CC		Saturday Night Live (In Stereo) '14' CC				News	J. Fallon
3 (WEDU) PBS	3	3		14	6	World News	BBC News	PBS NewsHour (N) (In Stereo) CC		Queen Victoria and Her Nine Children 'G'		Queen Victoria	Queen Victoria and Her Nine Children		Queen Mother	The Queen Mother (In Stereo) '14' CC	
5 (WUFT) PBS	5		5			DW News	BBC	PBS NewsHour (N)		Suze Orman's Ultimate Retirement Guide				Sounds/Season		Aging Backwards 3	
8 (WFLA) NBC	8	8	8	8	8	News	Nightly News	NewsChannel 8	Ent. Tonight	The Voice (In Stereo) 'PG' CC		Saturday Night Live Popular Christmas-themed sketches. (In Stereo) '14' CC				NewsChannel 8	Tonight Show
9 (WFTV) ABC	20	7	20			News at 6pm	World News	Jeopardy! 'G' CC	Wheel of Fortune	The Bachelorette (Season Finale) (N) (In Stereo) 'PG' CC (DVS)				Supermarket Sweep (N) (In Stereo) 'PG'		Eyewit. News	Jimmy Kimmel
10 (WTSP) CBS	10	10	10	10	10	10 Tampa Bay	Evening News	Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy! 'G' CC	The Price Is Right at Night (N) CC		Let's Make a Deal Primetime (N) 'PG'		NCIS "Into the Light" '14' CC (DVS)		10 Tampa Bay	Late-Colbert
13 (WTVT) FOX	13	13		13	13	News	News	Ac. Hollywood	TMZ (N) 'PG'	NEXT "FILE 9; FILE 10" NEXT targets Congresswoman Beatty. '14' CC (DVS)				FOX13 10:00 News (N) (In Stereo) CC		FOX13 11:00 News (N) (In Stereo) CC	
20 (WCJB) ABC			11			News	ABC	ET	Inside Ed.	The Bachelorette (Season Finale) (N) 'PG'				Supermarket Sweep		News	J. Kimmel
22 (WCLF) IND	2	2	2	22	22	Christian Fitness	Joyce Meyer	Kenneth Hagin	Great Awakening with		Word Excellence	Contending, Faith	Andrew Wom	Perry Stone 'G'	Watch Therefore	Purpose for Life	The Great Awake
24 (WYKE) FAM	16	16	16		15	Vegas Unveiled: A Virtual Vegas		Daily Flash 'G'	Citrus Today	Sully's Biz Brew		Heartland Poker Tour		Vegas Unveiled: A Virtual Vegas		Citrus Court	Citrus Today
28 (WFTS) ABC	11	11		11	11	ABC Action News	World News	Inside Edition	The List (N) 'PG'	The Bachelorette (Season Finale) (N) (In Stereo) 'PG' CC (DVS)				Supermarket Sweep (N) (In Stereo) 'PG'		ABC Action News	Jimmy Kimmel
32 (WMOR) IND	12	12		5		The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Mom 'PG' CC	Mom '14' CC	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Schitt's Creek	Schitt's Creek	Big Bang Theory	Family Guy '14'
38 (WTTA) MNT	6	6	6	9	9	Extra 'PG'	ET	FamFeud	FamFeud	NewsChannel 8		NFL Football Tampa Bay Buccaneers at Atlanta Falcons.					
40 (WACX) TBN	21		21			Vic Show	The 700 Club CC		Babers	SkyWatch	P. Stone	Bill W.	Let's Go!	A. Courte	S.Channel	Faith	Prince
44 (WTOG) CW	4	4	4	12	12	Mike & Molly '14'	Mike & Molly '14'	Two and Half Men	Two and Half Men	Swamp Thing "Loose Ends" 'MA'		Tell Me a Story "Favorite Son" (N) 'MA'		CW44 News (N)	CW44 News (N)	2 Broke Girls 'PG'	2 Broke Girls '14'
50 (WVEA) UNI	15	15	15	15	14	Noticias	Noticiero	Rosa de Guadalupe		Te doy la vida 'PG'		Amor eterno (N) 'PG'		Como tú no hay dos		Noticias	Noticiero
51 (WOGX) FOX			13	7	7	Fox 51	Fox 51	Big Bang	Big Bang	NEXT "FILE 9; FILE 10" '14' CC (DVS)				FOX 51 News		Dateline 'PG' CC	
66 (WXPX) ION		17				Criminal Minds '14'		Criminal Minds '14'		Criminal Minds '14'		Criminal Minds '14'		Criminal Minds '14'		Criminal Minds '14'	
A&E	54	48	54	25	27	Storage Wars 'PG'	Storage Wars 'PG'	Storage Wars 'PG'	Storage Wars 'PG'	Storage Wars 'PG'	Storage Wars 'PG'	Storage Wars 'PG'	Storage Wars 'PG'	Storage Wars 'PG'	Storage Wars 'PG'	Storage Wars 'PG'	Storage Wars 'PG'
ACCN		99				College Baseball		College Baseball						College Baseball			
AMC	55	64	55			★★★ *"Love Actually"* (2003, Romance-Comedy) Hugh Grant, Laura Linney. 'R' CC				★★ *"Four Christmases"* (2008, Romance-Comedy) Vince Vaughn. 'PG-13' CC				★★ *"Fred Claus"* (2007, Comedy) Vince Vaughn, Paul Giamatti. 'PG' CC			
ANI	52	35	52	19	31	Tanked "Holiday Madness" 'PG'		Tanked (In Stereo) 'PG' CC		Tanked: Sea-Lebrity Edition "Tracy Morgan's Octopus Shark Showdown" (N) (In Stereo) 'PG'						Tanked (In Stereo) 'PG' CC	
BET	96	71	96			★½ *"Tyler Perry's A Madea Christmas"* (2013, Comedy) Tyler Perry, Kathy Najimy, Chad Michael Murray. Madea dishes out her own brand of Christmas spirit. 'PG-13' CC								★★½ *"The Best Man Holiday"* (2013, Comedy-Drama) Morris Chestnut. 'R' CC			
BIGTEN	742	809				To Be Announced		College Soccer CC				College Soccer CC				Ohio State Football Classic CC	
BRAVO	254	51	254			Below Deck		Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley
CC	27	61	27		33	The Office '14' CC	The Office '14' CC	The Office '14' CC	The Office '14' CC	The Office '14' CC	The Office '14' CC	Drunk History	Drunk History	Dunham		Dunham	
CMT	98	45	98	28	37	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders		Reba 'PG' CC	Reba 'PG' CC
CNN	40	29	40	41	46	Situation Room		Erin Burnett OutFront		Anderson Cooper		Cuomo Prime Time		CNN Tonight		CNN Tonight	
ESPN	33	27	33	21	17	College Football		College Football Boca Raton Bowl: Teams TBA. (N) (Live)							SportsCenter W/Van Pelt		
ESPN2	37	28	34	43	49	SportsCenter (N)		College Basketball				College Basketball West Virginia at Kansas.				NFL Live CC	
FBN	106	149	106	99	41	The Evening Edit (N)		Lou Dobbs Tonight		Kennedy (N) CC		The Evening Edit		Lou Dobbs Tonight		Kennedy CC	
FLIX		118	170			★★★ *"Moon"* (2009, Science Fiction) Sam Rockwell. (In Stereo) 'R' CC				★★★ *"Fright Night"* (2011, Horror) Anton Yelchin, Colin Farrell. (In Stereo) 'R' CC				★★½ *"Cabin Fever"* (2002) Jordan Ladd. (In Stereo) 'R' CC		*"Dark Blue"* 'R'	
FNC	44	37	44		32	Special Report		The Story		Tucker Carlson		Hannity (N) CC		The Ingraham Angle		Fox News at Night	
FOOD	26	56	26			Chopped 'G' CC		Chopped 'G' CC		Chopped 'G' CC		Chopped (N) 'G'		Supermarket		Chopped 'G' CC	
FREEFORM	29	52	29	20	28	★★★ *"Home Alone"* (1990) Macaulay Culkin. 'PG' CC			★★½ *"Home Alone 2: Lost in New York"* (1992, Children's) Macaulay Culkin, Joe Pesci. (In Stereo) 'PG' CC						★★½ *"The Night Before"* (2015) Joseph Gordon-Levitt. 'R'		
FS1	732	112	732			College Football: B1G Championship: Teams TBA						Women's College Basketball				NFL Films	Sports
FSNFL	35	39	35			College Football		College Basketball Louisville at Pittsburgh.				NHL Hockey From Jan. 12, 2020.					Polaris
FX	30	60	30		51	★★ *"Skyscraper"* (2018, Action) Dwayne Johnson, Chin Han. (In Stereo) 'PG-13' CC				★★½ *"The Fate of the Furious"* (2017, Action) Vin Diesel. A mysterious woman forces Dom to betray the crew. 'PG-13' CC						★★½ *"The Fate of the Furious"* CC	
GOLF	727	67	727			PGA Golf				PGA Tour Golf BMW Championship, Final Round. 'G' CC							
HALL	59	68	39	45	54	*"On the Twelfth Day of Christmas"* (2015, Romance-Comedy) Brooke Nevin. 'NR' CC				*"A Christmas Carousel"* (2020, Romance) Rachel Boston, Neal Bledsoe. 'NR' CC				*"Marry Me at Christmas"* (2017, Romance) Rachel Skarsten, Trevor Donovan. 'NR' CC			
HBO	302	201	302	2	2	His Dark Materials	★★ *"Battleship"* (2012) Taylor Kitsch. Earth comes under attack from a superior alien force. 'PG-13' CC					Under the Grapefruit Tree: CC		News, World	Industry "Pre-Crisis Activity" 'MA' CC		Industry 'MA'
HBO2	303	202	303			Alabama Snake	★★½ *"Tower Heist"* (2011, Comedy) Ben Stiller. (In Stereo) 'PG-13' CC				Industry 'MA'	Industry "Reduction in Force" 'MA' CC		★★½ *"Cruel Intentions"* (1999, Drama) Sarah Michelle Gellar. (In Stereo) 'R' CC			
HGTV	23	57	23	42	52	Fixer to Fabulous "A Home to Love" 'G'		Fixer to Fabulous 'G' CC		Fixer to Fabulous (N) 'G' CC		Fixer to Fabulous (N) 'G' CC		House Hunters	Hunters Int'l	House Hunters	Hunters Int'l
HIST	51	54	51	32	42	The Curse of Oak Island (In Stereo) 'PG'		The Curse of Oak Island (In Stereo) 'PG'		The Curse of Oak Island: Digging Deeper		The Curse of Oak Island (N) 'PG'		Beyond Oak Island "Civil War Gold" 'PG'		The Curse of Oak Island (In Stereo) 'PG'	
LIFE	24	38	24		21	*"The Santa Squad"* (2020, Romance) Aaron Ashmore, Rebecca Dalton. 'NR' CC				*"The Christmas High Note"* (2020, Romance) Jamie Luner. Premiere. 'NR' CC				*"Inn Love by Christmas"* (2020, Romance) Jonna Walsh, Jesse Hutch. 'NR' CC			
LMN	119	50	119			*"Saving My Baby"* (2019, Suspense) Brianne Davis, Tonya Kay. 'NR' CC				*"Birthmother's Betrayal"* (2020, Suspense) Monica Rose Betz, Tanya Clarke. 'NR' CC				*"Stolen in Plain Sight"* (2020, Suspense) Gracie Gillam, Gary Grubbs. 'NR' CC			
MSNBC	42	41	42			The Beat With		The ReidOut (N)		All In With		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word		The 11th Hour	
NBCSN	448	26	730			Engine Power	Engine Power	Mecum Top 10	Mecum Top 10	Caffeine & Octane	Caffeine & Octane	Carcass	Carcass	Proving Grounds (N)		Caffeine & Octane	Caffeine & Octane
NGEO	109	65	109			Life Below Zero "Past Lives" 'PG'		Life Below Zero "Full Circle" '14' CC		Life Below Zero "Sky's the Limit" '14'		Atlas of Cursed Places (N) CC		Life Below Zero "Full Circle" '14' CC		Life Below Zero "Sky's the Limit" '14'	
NICK	28	36	28	35	25	Loud	Loud	Loud	Loud	Top Elf 'G' CC		Sheldon	Sheldon	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
OWN	125	24	103			Delicious Miss		The Haves, Nots		The Haves, Nots		*"First Christmas"* (2020) Idara Victor. 'NR'				The Haves, Nots	
OXY	123	44	123			Unsolved Mysteries		Unsolved Mysteries		Unsolved Mysteries		Unsolved Mysteries		Unsolved Mysteries		Unsolved Mysteries	
PARMT	37	43	37	27	36	★★★★ *"Rocky"* (1976) Sylvester Stallone. 'PG' CC			★★ *"Rocky IV"* (1985, Drama) Sylvester Stallone, Talia Shire. (In Stereo) 'PG' CC				★★★ *"Rocky Balboa"* (2006, Drama) Sylvester Stallone, Burt Young, Antonio Tarver. (In Stereo) 'PG' CC			
SEC	745	72				SEC Inside (N)	SEC Inside	College Basketball James Madison at Florida. From Exactech Arena in Gainesville, Fla.				College Basketball VCU at LSU. (N) (Live)				SEC Inside	SEC Storied
SHOW	340	241	340			★★★½ *"1917"* (2019, War) 'R' CC		Ray Donovan "Exsuscito" 'MA'		Your Honor "Part Three" CC		Inside the NFL (N) (In Stereo) 'PG' CC		Shameless (In Stereo) 'MA' CC		Inside the NFL (In Stereo) 'PG' CC	
SUN	36	31	36			Inside Pitch	To Be Announced								Rays All-Access 2020		Rays Prospect
SYFY	31	59	31	26	29	★½ *"Death Wish"* (2018, Action) Bruce Willis, Vincent D'Onofrio. 'R' CC (DVS)				★★ *"Transformers: The Last Knight"* (2017, Action) Mark Wahlberg. The war between Transformers and humans threatens Earth. 'PG-13' CC (DVS)							Futurama 'PG'
TBS	49	23	49	16	19	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Misery	Conan	Misery
TCM	169	53	169	30	35	★★★★ *"The Lion in Winter"* (1968, Historical Drama) Peter O'Toole. 'PG' CC				★★ *"Christmas in Connecticut"* (1945, Comedy) Barbara Stanwyck. 'NR' CC				★★★ *"In the Good Old Summertime"* (1949) Judy Garland, S.Z. Sakall. 'NR' CC			
TDC	53	34	53	24	26	Moonshiners: Deck the Stills (N) '14'		Moonshiners: Deck the Stills (N) '14'		Moonshiners "No Ordinary Run" (N) (In Stereo) '14' CC				Moonshiners: Deck the Stills "Christmas with the Moonshiners" (N) '14' CC			
TLC	50	46	50	29	30	Welcome		Welcome		7 Little Johnstons		Fat Fabulous		Welcome		Invasion: Lights	
TMC	350	261	350			★★½ *"Crooklyn"* (1994) Alfre Woodard. Family deals with life in 1970s Brooklyn.				★★½ *"Home for the Holidays"* (1995) Holly Hunter. CC			★★ *"The Money Pit"* (1986) Tom Hanks. A couple's new mansion is a lemon. 'PG'			*"Phil"* (2019) 'R'	
TNT	48	33	48	31	34	NBA Pregame (N) (In Stereo Live) CC		NBA Basketball Golden State Warriors at Brooklyn Nets. From Barclays Center in Brooklyn, N.Y. (N Subject to Blackout) CC						NBA Basketball Los Angeles Clippers at Los Angeles Lakers. (N Subject to Blackout)			
TOON	38	58	38	33		*"Teen Titans Go"*		*"Steven Universe: The Movie"* (2019) 'NR'				American	American	American	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy
TRAV	9	106	9		44	The Dead Files 'PG'		The Dead Files 'PG'		The Dead Files "Risk of Possession" 'PG'				The Dead Files 'PG'		The Dead Files 'PG'	
truTV	25	55	25	98	55	Jokers	Jokers	Jokers	Jokers	Jokers	Jokers	Jokers	Jokers	★★½ *"Due Date"* (2010) 'R' CC			
TVL	32	49	32	34	24	Andy G.	Andy G.	Andy G.	Andy G.	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King	King
USA	47	32	47	17	18	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit '14'		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit '14'		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit '14'		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit '14'		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit '14'		Modern Family	Modern Family
WE	117	69	117			Law & Order "Pledge" '14' CC		Law & Order "Lucky Stiff" '14' CC		Law & Order "Illegitimate" '14' CC		Law & Order "Crimebusters" '14'		Law & Order "Rapture" '14' CC		Law & Order Extortion plot. '14' CC	
WGN-A	18	18	18	18	20	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	NewsNation (N)		NewsNation (N)		NewsNation (N)		NewsNation CC	

Bridge

PHILLIP ALDER
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

Ellen Hopkins, whose novels are particularly popular with teenagers and young adults, said, "For short-term relaxation, I take a hot tub. It's my best way to unblock writers' block, too. For a bit longer relaxation, I enjoy camping. Just being in the wilderness, with no phones or computers or anything I have to do really refreshes my spirit."

Which word in that quote is appropriate for today's deal? South is in three no-trump. West leads the spade king, immediately wishing he could have an "undo" and change to the spade two!

The Baltic states have done well keeping coronavirus under control, permitting live events. This deal arose during one of the weekly training sessions in Latvia.

South took a shot at three no-trump, hoping that he would not lose the first five tricks.

Karlis Rubins (West) knew that he had to get his partner on lead for a spade return through declarer's 10 —ts

but how?

South, with only six top tricks, needed to establish diamond winners. But he should also have known that he could not afford to let in Jelena Alfejeva (East). So, when declarer played a low diamond toward his hand at trick two, he should have covered East's card with his nine (or seven). When he actually won with his ace, West immediately unblocked his king.

Declarer played a diamond to the queen and continued with a low heart, East carefully putting up her 10 (I would have played the jack). So, when South took the trick with his ace, West unblocked again, dropping the queen. Now East had to get on lead to push a spade through.

	North	
	♠ A	
	♥ K 8 5 4	
	♦ Q 10 8 6 3	
	♣ K 7 2	
West		East
♠ K Q J 9 2		♠ 7 4 3
♥ Q 7 6		♥ J 10 3
♦ K 4		♦ J 5 2
♣ 9 4 3		♣ Q 10 6 5
	South	
	♠ 10 8 6 5	
	♥ A 9 2	
	♦ A 9 7	
	♣ A J 8	

Dealer: West
Vulnerable: East-West

South	West	North	East
	1♠	Dbl.	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♠ K

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SEQTU

POSLI

WOSIND

REETOS



Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @PlayJumble

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

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(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: HOUND IMPEL MISFIT POCKET
Answer: They were discussing all the different doorbells and asked the salesperson to — CHIME IN

MORE PUZZLES

■ Find the daily crossword puzzle inside the *Chronicle's* classified pages, along with Sudoku, Wordy Gurdy and a word puzzle.

Annie offers advice

Dear Readers: The letter from No More Balloons caused quite a reaction, with many of you offering suggestions for other ways of celebrating. Here is a sampling:

Dear Annie: Bubbles are the answer instead of balloons. There are bubble machines, and there are large hoops to make your own. Dish soap is best if you are making your own. Bubbles are beautiful and iridescent. **— Bubble Lover**



DEAR ANNIE

Dear Annie: In The Villages, Florida, we have thousands of golf carts. When someone has a birthday, we make a parade caravan. People decorate their carts with party regalia and then take their turn in line to drive past the hospital, senior center or the home of the special person. Usually, the person is sitting outside so we can see each other.

No balloons in sight, but lots of funny gifts are left at a "gift corral" at the recipient's driveway. My dad and I are poets, and we like writing a special poem for the occasion. But some paraders sing a favorite song. Lots of veterans are here who love to hear our national anthem, and everyone in the caravan joins in.

I don't like fresh-cut flowers because they die quickly. I just can't keep them alive for more than two days. So, I appreciate your idea of planting a tree. It makes a forever gift. I've attended parties where we get a few people to pitch in to buy a tree or shrub or even seedlings. And we have people signed up to do the planting.

Great idea to keep our ocean life safe from plastics. Use reusable bags for shopping. I give them as gifts with pictures to match the recipient's favorite things or places. **— New Ideas**

Dear Annie: I have many suggestions for how to celebrate special occasions and help our world.

■ Plant a tree. Contact your local parks department, state parks department, national parks. They know all about this and can help make it very special. The Nature Conservancy could also help. Do it right with experienced arborists to make sure your tree has the best chance to thrive and procreate. Some people buy cheap trees, plant improperly and then endure grief when the tree fails.

■ Gather donations for a homeless shelter, extended care facility, animal rescue or other acts of mercy.

■ Sponsor a memorial for a walkathon, bricks for a new hospital, a park bench, a picnic table, a bus shelter (if allowed) or any number of needed things.

■ Pay for spaying or neutering. Work with local wildlife agencies to sponsor nesting boxes for birds, bats, butterflies and other wildlife.

■ Contact extended care facilities to see what their residents and employees need.

■ Sponsor a service animal for wounded veterans or others needing help.

■ Contact your Humane Society for memorial ideas.

I could go on and on. Let the memories of your loved ones make a positive impact. And don't forget to do it again on anniversaries of their birthdays. You don't have to be rich to do these things. Any good done in their names keeps their memories alive. **— May Your Hearts Find Peace**

Dear Hearts: What beautiful sentiment and wonderful suggestions. Thank you!

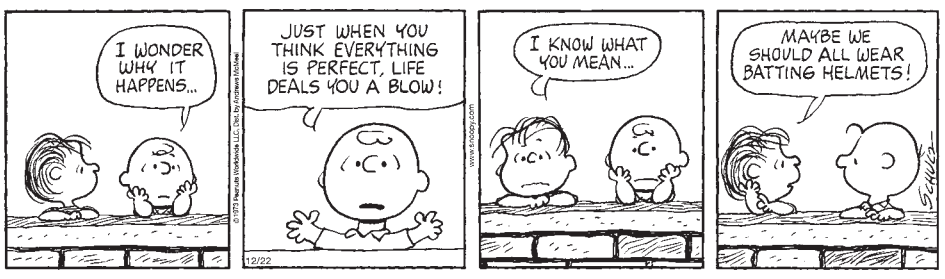
Send your questions for Annie Lane to dearannie@creators.com. To find out more about Annie Lane and read features by other Creators Syndicate columnists and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate website at www.creators.com.

LOCAL SUPPORT

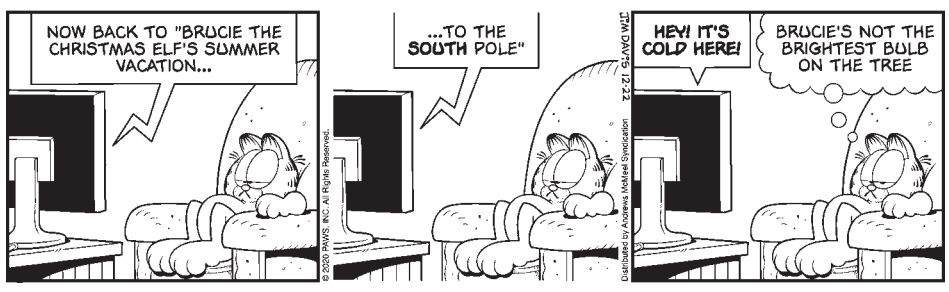
■ The Centers: 352-628-5020

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

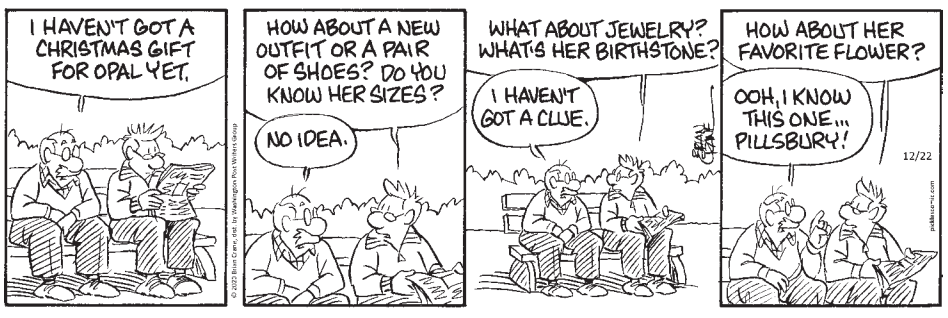
Peanuts



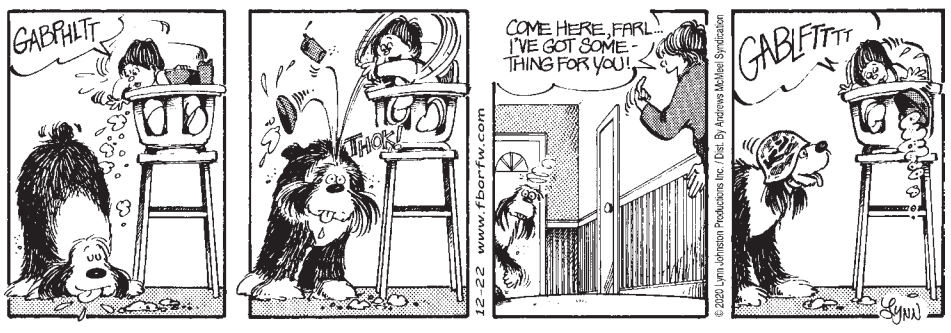
Garfield



Pickles



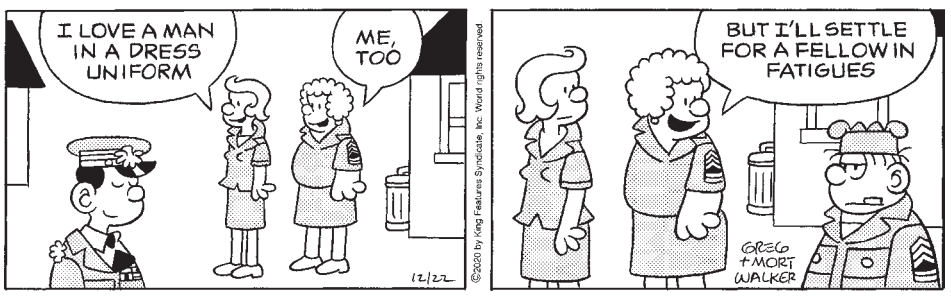
For Better or For Worse



Sally Forth



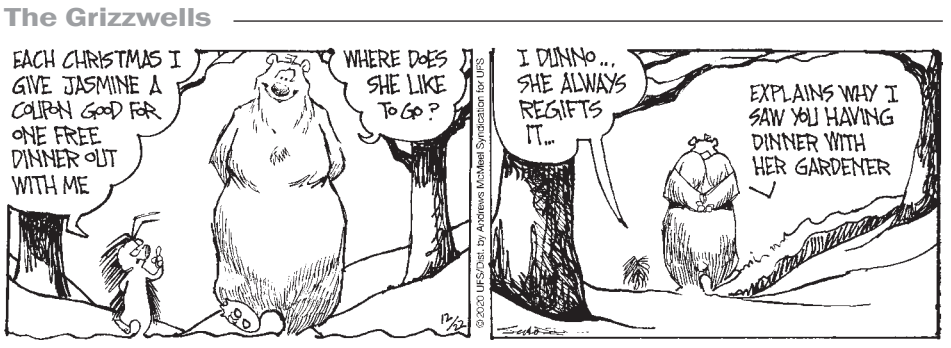
Beetle Bailey



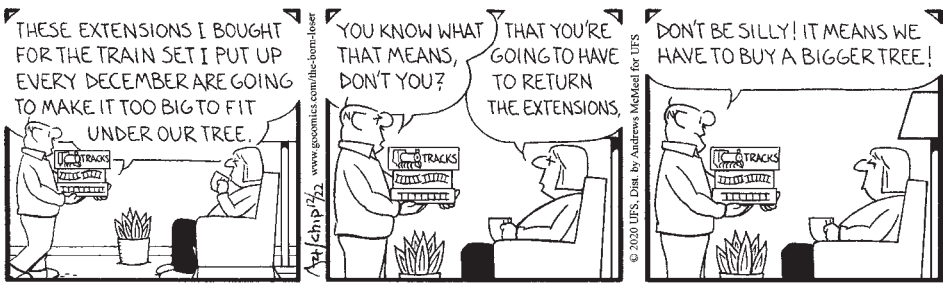
Dilbert



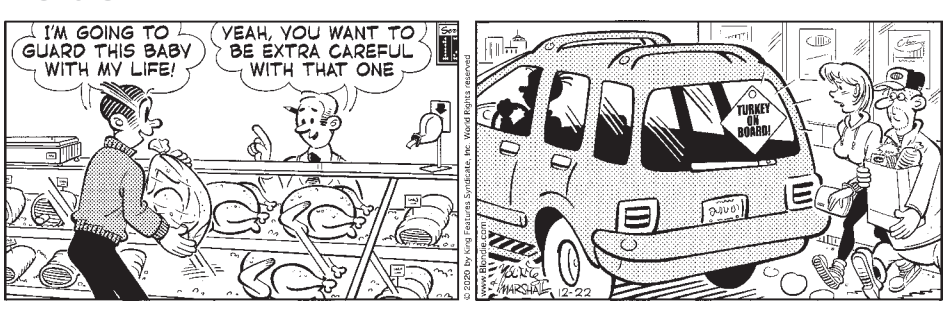
The Grizzwells



The Born Loser



Blondie



Moderately Confused

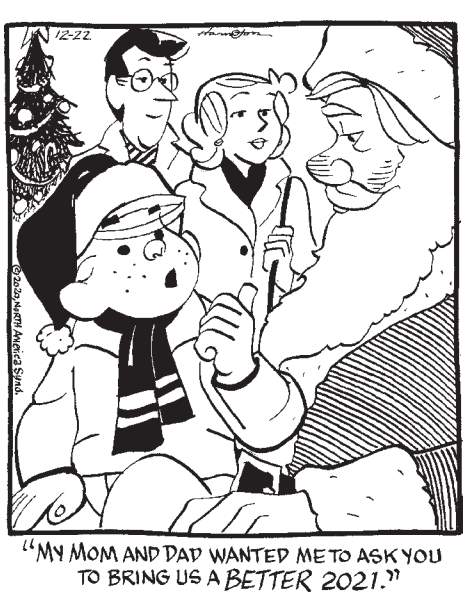


Rubes



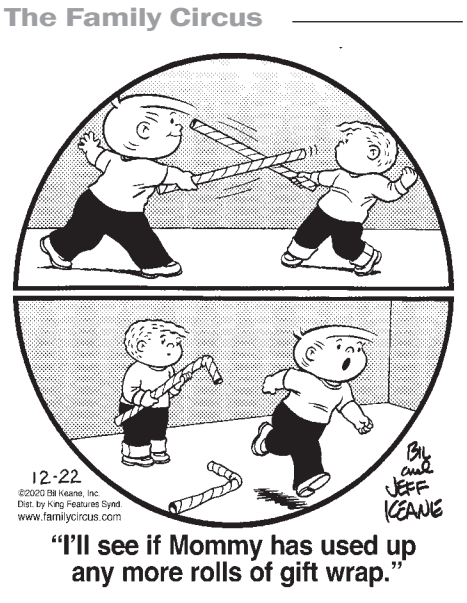
Trivial pursuit in progress

Dennis the Menace



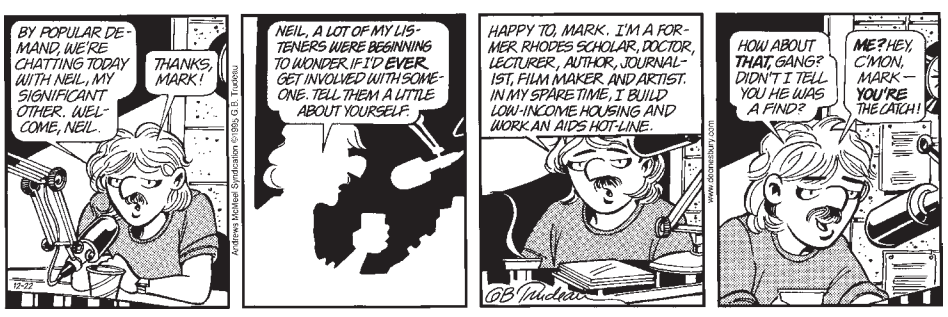
"MY MOM AND DAD WANTED ME TO ASK YOU TO BRING US A BETTER 2021."

The Family Circus

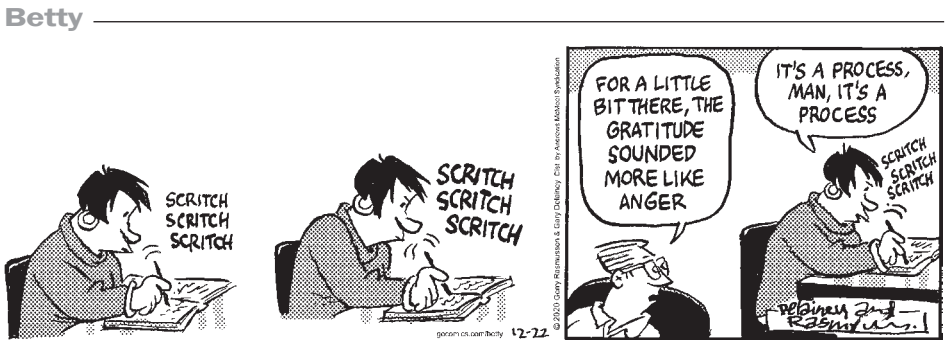


"I'll see if Mommy has used up any more rolls of gift wrap."

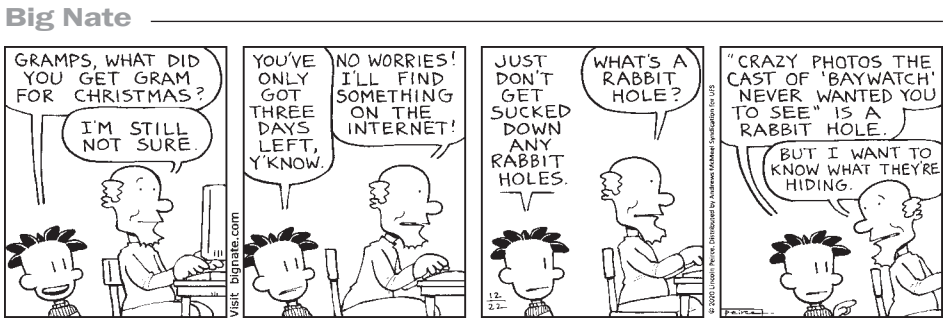
Doonesbury Flashbacks



Betty



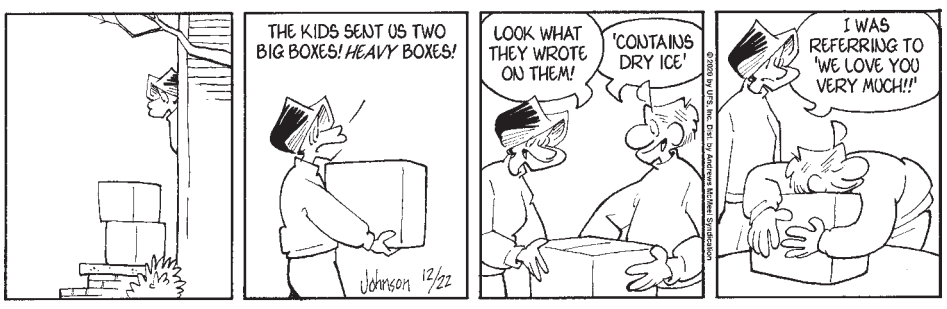
Big Nate



Frank & Ernest



Arlo and Janis



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

NOTE THAT COVID-19 SAFETY PROTOCOLS ARE IN PLACE.

"A Muppet Christmas Carol" (G) Dec. 22, 1 p.m.
"The Star" (PG) Dec. 23, 1 p.m.
"Hugo" (PG) Dec. 26, 3 p.m.
"When Harry Met Sally" (R) Dec. 27, 3 p.m.
"The Court Jester" (NR) Dec. 28, 1 p.m.
"Captain Underpants: The First Epic Movie" (PG) Dec. 29,1 p.m.
"How To Train Your Dragon" Dec. 30, 1 p.m.
"The Dukes — Live Performance" Jan. 14, 7 p.m.

Local RADIO

WJUF-FM 90.1 National Public
WHGN-FM 91.9 Religious
WXCV-FM 95.3 Adult Mix.
WXOF-FM 96.7 Classic Hits
WEKJ FM 96.3, 103.9 Religious
WSKY 97.3 FM News Talk
WXJB 99.9 FM News Talk
WXCZ 103.3 Country
WXCZ-FM 104.3 Country
WDUV 105.5 FM Hudson
WJQB-FM 106.3 Oldies
WFJV-FM 107.5 Classic Rock
WRZN-AM 720 Religious

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

Today's clue: L equals B

"PZB KZYT BTMKZD, ETZEVT TNCSTB

MBT LNH PMDK MDW SMRT CZ JKT YT,

ZB CSTU WZD'C AJNCT JDWTBKCMDW

GSMC N'Y WZNDH." PBTW GNVVMBW

Previous Solution: "The marvelous thing about lack of planning is that failure comes as a complete and utter surprise." Peter Green

BASKETBALL

Men's AP Top 25

	Record	Pts	Prv
1. Gonzaga (61)	4-0	1597	1
2. Baylor (3)	5-0	1538	2
3. Kansas	7-1	1426	5
4. Iowa	6-1	1365	3
5. Villanova	7-1	1304	7
6. Houston	5-0	1272	6
7. West Virginia	7-1	1225	8
8. Tennessee	4-0	1109	10
9. Wisconsin	6-1	1051	12
10. Texas	7-1	1035	11
11. Rutgers	6-0	878	19
12. Michigan State	6-1	839	4
13. Creighton	6-2	773	9
14. Missouri	5-0	768	16
15. Texas Tech	6-2	661	14
16. Virginia	3-1	510	17
17. North Carolina	5-2	492	22
18. Illinois	5-3	468	13
19. Michigan	6-0	367	25
20. Duke	3-2	352	21
21. Florida State	4-1	335	15
22. Xavier	8-0	249	-
23. Ohio State	6-1	245	20
24. Virginia Tech	6-1	181	-
25. Oregon	6-1	167	-

Others receiving votes: San Diego State 146, Richmond 142, Saint Louis 64, Arkansas 54, Indiana 53, Clemson 28, Florida 20, Georgia 19, Colorado 13, Brigham Young 9, Purdue 9, Louisville 8, Northwestern 7, UCF 6, Minnesota 4, UCLA 3, Oklahoma State 3, LSU 2, Western Kentucky 2, SMU 1.

Women's AP Top 25

	Record	Pts	Prv
1. Stanford (26)	6-0	742	1
2. Louisville (1)	5-0	693	2
3. Connecticut (1)	4-0	676	3
4. North Carolina St. (2)	8-0	674	4
5. South Carolina	5-1	641	5
6. Arizona	6-0	600	6
7. Baylor	7-1	558	7
8. Oregon	6-0	557	7
9. Texas A&M	8-0	491	10
10. UCLA	5-1	461	11
11. Arkansas	8-1	435	12
12. Mississippi State	5-1	417	13
13. Kentucky	7-1	391	9
14. Maryland	5-1	381	14
15. Northwestern	3-0	325	16
16. Ohio State	4-0	255	17
17. Michigan	5-0	248	19
18. DePaul	4-2	203	24
19. Indiana	3-2	175	15
20. Texas	5-1	168	22
20. South Florida	4-1	168	23
22. Syracuse	5-1	107	18
23. Gonzaga	4-2	82	25
24. Missouri State	4-2	76	20
25. Michigan State	6-0	55	-

Others receiving votes: Georgia 30, North Carolina 28, Oregon State 25, South Dakota State 21, Iowa State 19, Tennessee 12, Arizona State 8, Rutgers 6, Iowa 6, Wake Forest 4, Georgia Tech 4, Rice 3, Villanova 3, Alabama 2.

FOOTBALL

NFL standings

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
yx-Buffalo	11	3	0	.786	407	340
Miami	9	5	0	.643	352	257
New England	6	8	0	.429	289	301
N.Y. Jets	1	13	0	.071	206	413

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Indianapolis	10	4	0	.714	399	320
Tennessee	10	4	0	.714	436	361
Houston	4	10	0	.286	315	386
Jacksonville	1	13	0	.071	275	423

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Pittsburgh	11	3	0	.786	366	264
Cleveland	10	4	0	.714	368	374
Baltimore	9	5	0	.643	403	287
Cincinnati	3	10	1	.250	271	355

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
yx-Kansas City	13	1	0	.929	435	310
Las Vegas	7	7	0	.500	377	421
Denver	5	9	0	.357	276	395
L.A. Chargers	5	9	0	.357	327	389

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Washington	6	8	0	.429	302	295
Dallas	5	9	0	.357	339	433
N.Y. Giants	5	9	0	.357	244	311
Philadelphia	4	9	1	.321	303	361

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-New Orleans	10	4	0	.714	397	297
Tampa Bay	9	5	0	.643	401	321
Atlanta	4	10	0	.286	355	353
Carolina	4	10	0	.286	323	356

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
yx-Green Bay	11	3	0	.786	434	339
Chicago	7	7	0	.500	315	318
Minnesota	6	8	0	.429	360	388
Detroit	5	9	0	.357	335	435

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Seattle	10	4	0	.714	413	339
L.A. Rams	9	5	0	.643	345	269
Arizona	8	6	0	.571	391	329
San Francisco	5	9	0	.357	333	352

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division

Thursday's Games

L.A. Chargers 30, Las Vegas 27, OT

Saturday's Games

Buffalo 48, Denver 19
Green Bay 24, Carolina 16

Sunday's Games

Baltimore 40, Jacksonville 14
Chicago 33, Minnesota 27
Dallas 41, San Francisco 33
Indianapolis 27, Houston 20
Miami 22, New England 12
Seattle 20, Washington 15
Tampa Bay 31, Atlanta 27
Tennessee 46, Detroit 25
Arizona 33, Philadelphia 26
N.Y. Jets 23, L.A. Rams 20
Kansas City 32, New Orleans 29
Cleveland 20, N.Y. Giants 6

Monday's Game

Cincinnati 27, Pittsburgh 17

Friday, Dec. 25

Minnesota at New Orleans, 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 26

Tampa Bay at Detroit, 1 p.m.
San Francisco at Arizona, 4:30 p.m.
Miami at Las Vegas, 8:15 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 27

Atlanta at Kansas City, 1 p.m.
Carolina at Washington, 1 p.m.
Chicago at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
Cincinnati at Houston, 1 p.m.
Cleveland at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.
Indianapolis at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Baltimore, 1 p.m.
Denver at L.A. Chargers, 4:05 p.m.
L.A. Rams at Seattle, 4:25 p.m.
Philadelphia at Dallas, 4:25 p.m.
Tennessee at Green Bay, 8:20 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 28

Buffalo at New England, 8:15 p.m.

Florida LOTTERY

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

PICK 2 (early)
7 - 2

PICK 2 (late)
8 - 2

PICK 3 (early)
6 - 7 - 8

PICK 3 (late)
4 - 0 - 4

PICK 4 (early)
6 - 1 - 1 - 5

PICK 4 (late)
7 - 6 - 8 - 5

PICK 5 (early)
4 - 4 - 2 - 1 - 6

PICK 5 (late)
3 - 9 - 5 - 0 - 0

FANTASY 5
2 - 10 - 11 - 15 - 31

CASH 4 LIFE
12 - 29 - 32 - 38 - 60

CASH BALL
1

Sunday's winning numbers and payouts:

Fantasy 5: 11 – 14 – 18 – 19 – 35

5-of-5	1 winner	$167,857.56
4-of-5	200	$135
3-of-5	6,972	$10.50

Cash 4 Life: 20 – 21 – 36 – 47 – 53
Cash Ball: 3

5-of-5 CB	No winner
5-of-5	No winner

Players should verify winning numbers by calling 850-487-7777 or at www.flalottery.com.

On the AIRWAVES

TODAY'S SPORTS

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

12 p.m. (ACCN) Maine at Boston College
2 p.m. (ACCN) Fairfield at William & Mary
7 p.m. (ACCN) Notre Dame at Syracuse
7 p.m. (ESPN2) Texas Tech at Oklahoma
7 p.m. (ESPNU) Tennessee Tech at Western Kentucky
7 p.m. (FS1) Nebraska at Wisconsin
7 p.m. (FSNFL) Louisville at Pittsburgh
9 p.m. (ACCN) North Carolina at NC State
9 p.m. (ESPN2) West Virginia at Kansas
9 p.m. (ESPNU) North Dakota State at TCU
9 p.m. (SEC) VCU at LSU

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

9 p.m. (FS1) DePaul at Creighton

NBA

7 p.m. (TNT) Golden State Warriors at Brooklyn Nets
9:45 p.m. (TNT) Los Angeles Clippers at Los Angeles Lakers

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

3:30 p.m. (ESPN) Famous Idaho Potato Bowl: Tulane vs Nevada
7 p.m. (ESPN) RoofClaim.com Boca Raton Bowl: UCF vs BYU

HOCKEY

6 p.m. (NHL) 2021 IIHF World Junior Championship: Switzerland vs Austria
9:30 p.m. (NHL) 2021 IIHF World Junior Championship: Finland vs United States

Prep CALENDAR

TODAY'S PREP SPORTS

BOYS BASKETBALL

5 p.m. Lecanto vs. HCA at Weeki Wachee

SPORTS BRIEFS

Panthers stay undefeated with blowout victory

The Lecanto boys basketball team improved to 11-0 on the season with a 93-39 pounding of Gulf on Monday night at Weeki Wachee.

The Panthers are scheduled to play Hernando Christian Academy tonight at 5 p.m. back at Weeki Wachee.

HOF linebacker, pass rush great Kevin Greene dies

Hall of Fame linebacker Kevin Greene, considered one of the fiercest pass rushers in NFL history, has died. He was 58.

Greene died Monday, the family confirmed, as did the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

No cause of death was given.

A two-time All-Pro and five-time Pro Bowl selection, Greene finished his career with 160 sacks, which ranks third in league history behind only Bruce Smith (200) and Reggie White (198). He also had 23 forced fumbles and five interceptions.

Greene was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2016.

He played 15 seasons in the NFL for four teams: the Los Angeles Rams (1985–1992), Pittsburgh Steelers (1993–1995), Carolina Panthers (1996, 1998-99) and San Francisco 49ers. He was All-Pro in 1994 and 1996.

Army takes bowl spot left by Vols' withdrawal

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Army went from left out of the bowls to replacing Tennessee in the Liberty Bowl on Monday night, hours after the Volunteers withdrew because of COVID-19 test results.

The 9-2 Black Knights were left without a bowl Sunday night after a nearly two-month-long commitment to the Independence Bowl when the Dec. 26 game in Louisiana was called off without an available team to play.

A spot became available Monday when Tennessee (3-7) became the first team to back out since bowl berths were announced and paused all football activities after receiving the results of Sunday's testing.

Peoples sets bowl rushing mark, Appalachian St. rolls

CONWAY, S.C. — Camerun Peoples ran for a bowl-record 319 yards and tied a record with five rushing touchdowns as Appalachian State (9-3) beat North Texas 56-28 Monday in the Myrtle Beach Bowl.

Peoples, a sophomore, surpassed the 307 yards rushing of Georgia Tech's PJ Daniels in the 2004 Humanitarian Bowl.

North Texas (4-6) fell behind 28-7 and had no answer for Peoples.

— From wire reports

DOORSTEP

Continued from Page B1

STOCK DOWN

Although the defense stiffened in the second half against Atlanta, Arians was not happy with the way the unit began the game, or allowed the Falcons to drive 75 yards to reopen a 17-point lead after Brady got the offense on track early in the third quarter.

INJURED

Cornerback Carlton Davis, who leads the team with four interceptions, left the Falcons game with a groin injury.

KEY NUMBER

1 — victory needed to finish with double-digit wins for the first time since 2010, when the Bucs went 10-6.

NEXT STEPS

The Bucs can clinch a playoff spot by winning at Detroit on Saturday.

ACC

Continued from Page B1

DE — Jaelan Phillips, Miami, 6-5, 266, r-jr., Redlands, California
DT — Alim McNeill, North Carolina State, 6-2, 320, jr., Raleigh, North Carolina
DT — Bryan Bresee, Clemson (tie), 6-5, 300, fr., Damascus, Maryland
DT — Miles Fox, Wake Forest (tie), 6-1, 286, gr., Lawrenceville, Georgia
LB — Payton Wilson, North Carolina State, 6-4, 240, r-so., Hillsborough, North Carolina
LB — Jeremiah Owusu-Koramoah, Notre Dame, 6-2, 215, sr., Hampton, Virginia
LB — Chazz Surratt, North Carolina, 6-2, 225, gr., Denver, North Carolina
CB — Asante Samuel Jr., Florida State, 5-10, 184, jr., Sunrise, Florida
CB — Derion Kendrick, Clemson, 6-0, 190, jr., Rock Hill, South Carolina
S — Divine Deablo, Virginia Tech, 6-3, 226, r-sr., Winston-Salem, North Carolina
S — Kyle Hamilton, Notre Dame, 6-4, 219, so., Atlanta
P — Pressley Harvin III, Georgia Tech, 6-0, 255, sr., Alcolu, South Carolina

Second team

Offense

QB — Sam Howell, North Carolina, 6-1, 225, so., Indian Trail, North Carolina
RB — Kyren Williams, Notre Dame, 5-9, 195, so., St. Louis
RB — Travis Etienne, Clemson, 5-10, 205, sr., Jennings, Louisiana
OT — Robert Hainsey, Notre Dame, 6-5, 290, sr., Pittsburgh
OT — Jackson Carman, Clemson (tie), 6-5, 335, jr., Fairfield, Ohio
OT — Ikem Ekwonu, North Carolina State (tie), 6-4, 325, so., Charlotte, North Carolina
OG — Joshua Ezeudu, North Carolina, 6-4, 325, so., Lawrenceville, Georgia
OG — Ikem Ekwonu, North Carolina State, 6-4, 325, so., Charlotte, North Carolina
C — Jarrett Patterson, Notre Dame, 6-5, 305, jr., Laguna Hills, California
TE — Brevin Jordan, Miami, 6-3, 245, jr., Las Vegas
WR — Zay Flowers, Boston College, 5-11, 178, so., Fort Lauderdale, Florida
WR — Jaquarii Roberson, Wake Forest, 6-1, 182, r-jr., Murfreesboro, North Carolina
All-purpose player — Travis Etienne, Clemson, 5-10, 205, sr., Jennings, Louisiana
K — Alex Kessman, Pittsburgh, 6-3, 190, r-sr., Clarkston, Michigan

Defense

DE — Patrick Jones II, Pittsburgh, 6-5, 260, r-sr., Chesapeake, Virginia
DE — Chris Rumph II, Duke, 6-4, 235, r-jr., Gainesville, Florida
DT — Jared Goldwire, Louisville, 6-6, 305, sr., Tacoma, Washington
DT — Jarrod Hewitt, Virginia Tech, 6-1, 280, r-sr., Venice, Florida
LB — Isaiah McDuffie, Boston College, 6-1, 224, r-jr., Buffalo, New York
LB — Charles Snowden, Virginia, 6-7, 240, sr., Silver Spring, Maryland
LB — Baylon Spector, Clemson, 6-2, 230, gr., Calhoun, Georgia
CB — Andrew Booth Jr., Clemson, 6-0, 195, so., Dacula, Georgia
CB — Al Blades Jr., Miami (tie), 6-1, 192, jr., Fort Lauderdale, Florida
CB — Ifeatu Melifonwu, Syracuse (tie), 6-3, 213, r-jr., South Grafton, Massachusetts
CB — Nick McCloud, Notre Dame (tie), 6-1, 192, gr., Rock Hill, South Carolina
S — Nolan Turner, Clemson, 6-1, 205, r-sr., Vestavia Hills, Alabama
S — Bubba Bolden, Miami (tie), 6-3, 200, r-jr., Las Vegas
S — Paris Ford, Pittsburgh (tie), 6-0, 190, r-jr., Pittsburgh
P — Lou Hedley, Miami, 6-4, 220, r-jr., Mandurah, Australia

Coach of the year — Brian Kelly, Notre Dame
Offensive player of the year — Trevor Lawrence, Clemson
Defensive player of the year — Jeremiah Owusu-Koramoah, Notre Dame
Newcomer of the year — (tie) D'Eriq King, Miami, qb, 5-11, 202, r-sr., Manvel, Texas; Myles Murphy, Clemson, de, 6-5, 275, fr., Marietta, Georgia



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Lost

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Announcements

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Thank you!
Because of you we are all here now.

All WWII Vets
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7490 Suncoast HWY
Until 1/3/21 10a-8p
Thank you!
Because of you we are all here now.

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No Weekends. Excellent Benefits.

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EOE/DFW

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Routes take approx. 3-5 hours to complete in the early morning hours. Must have reliable insured vehicle and valid driver's license.

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DINING ROOM CHAIRS Set of 5, wood and wicker, $100 **(352) 503-6337**

Collectibles

Christmas Village Complete set, houses, trees, store-front, church etc $50 352-746-4613

DOLLS- Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus+Grandma 25" tall- elec. candle Exc. cond. -$100 for all **352-746-4613**

DOLLS- Sleeping Mrs. Santa Claus- elec. & she snores jingle bells -comes w/ paperwork $30 352-746-4613

Hand painted South-west Native American Ceramics- Earnest inquiries only - Call for appt. **352-527-9897**

Jim Beam Decanters (8) UNOPENED- Cars and Trucks, $50 & up 352-746-3988

Appliances

FLOOR LAMP Good condition. Brown and brass with green shade. $10 OBO. Text **352-573-6945**

LG Washer & Dryer w/ pedestals fairly new, lg capacity $1300 **352-344-8971 leave message**

SMITTYS APPLIANCE REPAIR 352-564-8179

WASHING MACHINE lg, fr loader, has leak may need hose rep. sold"as is".$75 pics avail. 352-746-4160

Tools

TOOL KART For Work-shop or garage. On wheels need ph number for pictures, only 50.00 **352-464 -0316**

TVs/Stereos

TV 25" VIZIO flat screen has HDMI port & remote good condi-tion delivery available $70. 352-613-0529

Building Supplies

Bathroom Faucet Brand New $10 **(352) 436-2953**

Furniture

2 SOLID OAK END TABLES $125 for both 352-527-0644

CHANGING TABLE/ DRESSER - blonde finish, has storage area in Good Cond! $100. 352-613-0529

COFFEE TABLE & 2 END TABLES Medium wood finish. Good cond. $50 OBO Text **352-573-6945**

COFFEE TABLE ***Whitewashed Solid Oak w/ glass inserts*- 50"L x 30"W & MATCHING END TABLES 27"L x 22"W** ***Excellent Condition!*** **$225 352-527-0644**

COMPUTER DESK W/ CHAIR -Small computer desk with swivel rolling desk chair $30 OBO Text **352-573-6945**

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ROUND BED/COUCH used in Florida room. Good Condition - only $100 **352-464-0316**

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WOMEN'S LEATHER COAT sz: 10/12 like new condition $50 252-571-0610

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General

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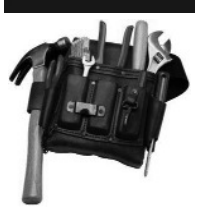
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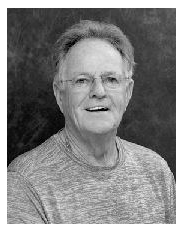
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Lt. blue, both tops, ***NEW*** conv. top w/ ***NEW*** inner headliner - 43,937mi, garage stored ***-Moving Must Sell-***
$24,500 obo **Lv txt msg**
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2003, exc. shape, everthing works, $3400 **(352) 422-3015**



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How to Avoid a Fake Check Scam

- **INSIST ON CASH**
- **Don't accept a check for more than the selling price. You can bet it's a scam.**
- **Inform the Buyer that you'll wait two weeks before sending any merchandise.**
- **Never use money from a check to send gift cards, money orders, or wire money to strangers or someone you just met.** ***Many scammers demand that you send money through money transfer services like Western Union or MoneyGram, or buy gift cards and send them the PIN numbers. Once you wire money, or give someone the gift card PINs, it is like giving someone cash. It's almost impossible to get it back.***
- **Toss offers that ask you to pay for a prize. If it's free, you shouldn't have to pay to get it.**



SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mepham Group

Level 1 2 3 4

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

Solution to Monday s puzzle 12/22/20

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

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

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Tuesday, December 22, 2020

KATHLEEN SAXE

WORD GAME

TODAY'S WORD -- ANONYMITY

(ANONYMITY: an-un-NIM-ih-tee: The quality or state of being unknown or unacknowledged.)

Average mark 18 words
Time limit 30 minutes

Can you find 24 or more words in ANONYMITY?
The list will be published tomorrow.

YESTERDAY'S WORD -- ARMIES

amir	rime	miser	semi
arise	rise	emir	sire
arms	mare	same	smear
raise	maser	sari	
rase	mesa	seam	
ream	mire	sear	

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

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ACROSS

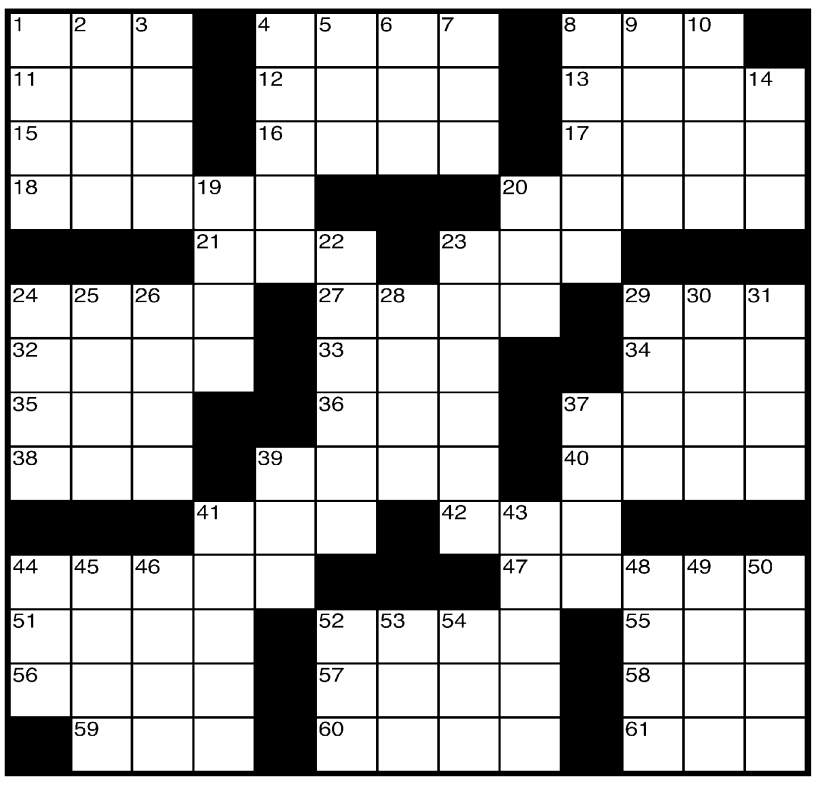
1 Used a pew
4 Say grace
8 Oomph
11 Yuck!
12 Observance
13 Stork kin
15 Ernesto Guevara
16 Thought
17 Lawless role
18 Suspends
20 College books
21 Aussie bird
23 Scottish for John
24 Suit part
27 Billionth, in combos
29 D.C. initials
32 Whale like Shamu
33 Softball toss
34 Pipe fitting
35 Mauna —
36 College maj.
37 Mr. Lugosi
38 Tax-form ID
39 Mollusk
40 Wise — — owl
41 One of the Stooges
42 Startled cry
44 Cut of beef
47 Instruct
51 Road map info
52 Kid around with
55 Coral island
56 Judge's garb
57 Layered cookie
58 Put a stop to
59 Con's vote
60 Pulls
61 Sandra or Ruby

DOWN

1 Of that kind
2 — Khan
3 After which
4 Chandelier pendant
5 Get — of that junk!
6 Tucked away
7 Affirmative vote
8 Siren
9 Alpine goat
10 Garden herb
14 Stockholm carrier
19 Wooden clog
20 Eastern philosophy
22 Lacking the means
23 Tax form item
24 Tennessee alums
25 Mythical archer
26 Look over quickly
28 Diva's rendition
29 Turns right
30 Clay pot
31 Blueprint
37 Use the oven
39 Pull a fast one
41 Amble
43 Social mores
44 Wintertime sound
45 — — of bricks
46 Singer — McEntire
48 Made a hole-in-one
49 Bamboo stalk
50 London park
52 Little bit
53 Galleon cargo
54 Baste

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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



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WORDY GURDY®

BY TRICKY RICKY KANE

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

1. Greenish-blue fishing line spool (1)

2. Utah national park jungle cat (2)

3. Potato chips or cookie hut (1)

4. Game participant wage giver (2)

5. Münster version of TV's Mr. Munster (2)

6. Messes up trail marks cut into trees (2)

7. Overwhelming superiority conspicuousness (3)

ANSWERS
1. TEAL REEL 2. ZION LION 3. SNACK SHACK 4. PLAYER PAYER
5. GERMAN HERMAN 6. BOTCHES NOTCHES 7. DOMINANCE PROMINENCE

12-22-20

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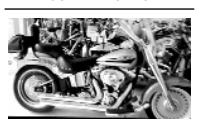
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Misc. Notices

3507-1222 TUCRN

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AGENCY ACTION BY THE SOUTHWEST FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Notice is given that the District's Proposed Agency Action is approval of the application for a Water Use Permit to serve **limestone mining** activities. The total authorized withdrawal is **7,800** GPD, Peak Month is **17,000** GPD, and Maximum is **17,000** GPD. The project is located in Citrus County, **Section(s) 8, 9, 10,16, 17, Township 17 South, Range 16 East**. The permit applicant is **Cemex Construction whose address is 11430 Camp Mine Road, Brooksville, FL. The Permit No. is 20 007819.0**.

The file(s) pertaining to the project referred to above is available for inspection Monday through Friday except for legal holidays, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the Southwest Florida Water Management District, Tampa Office.

NOTICE OF RIGHTS

Any person whose substantial interests are affected by the District's action regarding this matter may request an administrative hearing in accordance with Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes (F.S.), and Chapter 28-106, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.), of the Uniform Rules of Procedure. A request for hearing must (1) explain how the substantial interests of each person requesting the hearing will be affected by the District's action, or proposed action; (2) state all material facts disputed by each person requesting the hearing or state that there are no disputed facts; and (3) otherwise comply with Chapter 28-106, F.A.C. A request for hearing must be filed with and received by the Agency Clerk of the District at the District's Tampa address, 7601 US Hwy. 301, Tampa, FL 33637-6759 within 21 days of publication of this notice. Failure to file a request for hearing within this time period shall constitute a waiver of any right such person may have to request a hearing under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, F.S.

Misc. Notices

Because the administrative hearing process is designed to formulate final agency action, the filing of a petition means that the District's final action may be different from the position taken by it in this notice of agency action. Persons whose substantial interests will be affected by any such final decision of the District in this matter have the right to petition to become a
party to the proceeding, in accordance with the requirements set forth above.

Mediation pursuant to Section 120.573, F.S., to settle an administrative dispute regarding the District's action in this matter is not available prior to the filing of a request for hearing

Published December 22, 2020

Lien Notices

3506-1222 TUCRN

The following vehicles will be sold at **PUBLIC AUCTION** on the property of **SCALLY'S LUBE & GO TOWING AND RECOVERY**, **1185 N. Paul Drive, Inverness, FL 34453; 352-860-0550;** in accordance with Florida Statute 713.78. Auctions are as follows: Sales will begin at **8:00 AM** on the date of sale. All vehicles may be viewed 30 minutes before sale. For more details, call 352-860-0550.

1) 2009 PONTIAC VIBE
VIN# 5Y2SP67889Z455769 AUCTION DTD: 01/05/21
2) 2016 TOYOTA COROLLA
VIN# 5YFBURHE9GP498359 AUCTION DTD: 01/11/21
3) 2007 HONDA CIVIC
VIN# 1HGCM66877A040888 AUCTION DTD: 01/11/21
4) 2001 KIASANTE FE
VIN# KM8SC83D01U091371 AUCTION DTD: 01/14/21
5) 1999 IZUSU RODEO
VIN# 4S2CK58W1X4306564 AUCTION DTD: 01/15/21
6) 2001 FORD MUSTANG
VIN# 1FAFP42X91F213430 AUCTION DTD: 01/22/21
7) 1999 INFINITI
VIN# JNKBY31A8XM605279 AUCTION DTD: 01/25/21
8) 2017 LARK TRAILER
VIN# 5RTBE1219HD062361 AUCTION DTD: 01/29/21

Scally's Lube & Go Towing and Recovery reserves the right to bid on all vehicles in Auction. All sales final at 9:00 AM.

Published December 22, 2020