



SHOP WITH COPS: Lake Wales Police treat the children. See Page 21

Attorney John Shannon, family die in plane crash



The tail end of the Cessna 340 plane that crashed at takeoff at the Bartow Municipal Airport on Christmas Eve.

PHOTO COURTESY OF POLK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

By **JEFF ROSLOW**
JROSLOW@SCMGINC.COM

BARTOW – John Shannon, an attorney from Lakeland, four family members and a family friend died Sunday morning in a plane crash at the Bartow Municipal Airport.

Shannon, 70, was the

pilot of the plane. The passengers on board included his daughter, Olivia Shannon, 24, a Southeastern University student from Lakeland, daughter, Victoria Shannon Worthington, 26, a Baltimore school teacher, Worthington's husband, Peter Worthington, Jr. a third



SHANNON

Lakeland. His daughter and her

year law student at the University of Maryland, and family friend Krista Clayton, 32, a teacher at Jewett Academy in

husband arrived in town Saturday for the holidays from Baltimore where they live. Krista joined the family on the trip.

The pilot, John Shannon, filed a flight plan that morning to fly to Key West. The Cessna 340 double engine plane took off from the airport

CRASH | 8

Solution may be making new rec center

By **CHARLES A. BAKER III**
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LAKE WALES – The perceived lack of recreational opportunity was a hot button topic at another Lake Wales City Commission meeting Dec. 19.

Lake Wales Police Athletic League coach Burney Hayes petitioned the commission for more support saying that ever since flooding prevented the league from being able to use the Lake Wales High School gym, there have been scheduling conflicts at Kirkland Gym where they have been playing since.

Mayor Eugene Fultz told Hayes he tried to help the league get use of the gym at Roosevelt Academy but was told that since they had already agreed to let the Lake Wales High School basketball team to use the gym while flooding was repaired that they could also not let the PAL league also use the school gym. Fultz referred Hayes to the newspaper to learn more about what happened.

Asked what he meant through email by the referral to the newspaper, Fultz said sometimes the press can help solve problems. Last week the

newspaper contacted the Polk County School Board about this problem, before Fultz took the opportunity to do so, and their response was to allow the charter high school boys use the gym at Roosevelt Academy, a non charter school.

“What I may have said to (Roosevelt Academy Principal Dr. Deborah

SOLUTION | 8

Rabbi Mendel Friedman of Chabad of Lakeland helped celebrate the final night of Hanukkah Dec. 19.

PHOTO BY CHARLES A. BAKER III



Site specific favored for solar farm

By **JEFF ROSLOW**
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BARTOW – The Bartow City Commission on Tuesday will step carefully into solar power as the board decided in a workshop how to proceed in changing the Comp plan to accommodate a utility it knows little about.

TECO has proposed under the name KMT Farm and Timber, to build a solar farm on 483 acres off U.S. 98. The solar farm would not serve Bartow, other cities. The attraction of the site has to do with existing lines. Attorneys representing the photovoltaic

company have found land that commissioners deem would be valuable for home development. Before this proposal from TECO, the city signed on with Nova Sol to build a solar farm on 40 acres to serve its customers as the contract it currently has for utilities

will run it. The new contract, which the city signed on to a month before the TECO proposal, is for five years.

At its meeting on Dec. 4, commissioners held off on changing the Comp Plan to accommodate TECO's request and future solar farms

in all global setting and scheduled a workshop on Dec. 11 where they asked Planning Director Bob Wieggers to draw up a change to the Comp Plan to make a site specific ordinance for them to consider.

Commissioner Trish Pfeiffer urged

commissioners to step carefully into what it is allowing. While saying going into solar energy is probably a



PFEIFFER

SITE | 8

Lawmakers trying to help Puerto Ricans in state

By **CHARLES A. BAKER III**
CBAKER@SCMGINC.COM

WINTER HAVEN — Both of the Congressmen representing Polk County in Washington D.C. signed a letter Dec. 20 requesting Federal Emergency Management Agency Administrator William Long extend two programs benefiting Hurricane Maria evacuees

from Puerto Rico who are currently living in Florida.

The letter, signed by U.S. Rep. Darren Soto, D-Kissimmee, and U.S. Rep. Dennis Ross, R-Lakeland, states more than 250,000 evacuees from Puerto Rico currently live in Florida. But after looking into the matter, the numbers do not seem to add up.

Signed by a total of nine Florida legislators, the signatories sought the extension of the Hurricane Maria Displaced Survivors Transitional Sheltering Assistance program which is scheduled to expire Jan. 13.

Under TSA, disaster survivors may be eligible to stay in a motel for a limited amount of time. According to Rep.

Soto, as many as 1,000 Puerto Ricans are currently still living in Florida motels who may become homeless Jan. 13.

LAWMAKERS | 31

U.S. Rep. Darren Soto said 250,000 moved from Puerto Rico to Florida.

PHOTO BY KATHY LEIGH BERKOWITZ



THIS WEEK

Wednesday, Dec. 27-Sunday, Jan. 21

Flashlight Night Exhibition, Polk Museum of Art, 800 E Palmetto St., Lakeland. <http://polkmuseumofart.org>

Wednesday, Dec. 27-Sunday, Jan. 14

Bound Ascension: The Sculpture of Gino Miles Exhibit. Polk Museum of Art, 800 E Palmetto St., Lakeland. <http://polkmuseumofart.org>

Wednesday, Dec 27

Coloring for Grown Ups, 11:30 a.m. Lake Wales Public Library, 290 Cypress Garden Lane, Lake Wales.

Yoga Class, 5:30 p.m. Lake Wales Public Library, 290 Cypress Garden Lane, Lake Wales.

Little Sprouts Story Time, 9:30 a.m. Winter Haven Public Library, 325 Avenue A NW, Winter Haven.

iPad Basics, 3:30 p.m. Winter Haven Public Library, 325 Avenue A NW, Winter Haven

Kids' New Year's Eve Party at Legoland, 10 a.m. Legoland Florida, 1 Legoland Way, Winter Haven. <http://www.legoland.com>

Farmers Market, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Fort Blount Park, Bartow. 863-519-0508, or email lsimpson@mainstreetbartowfl.com

Italian Buffet, 5-7 p.m. \$9 per person. American Legion Post 71, 1230 Scenic Highway, Lake Wales. 863-589-5689

WELCOME TO YOUR COMMUNITY CALENDAR
 Want to see your event on this page? Call us at 863-533-4183 or email news@scmginc.com.

Thursday, Dec. 28

LEGO-Mania! 9:30 a.m. Lake Wales Public Library, 290 Cypress Garden Lane, Lake Wales.

Creative Writing Critique Group, 1-3 p.m. Winter Haven Public Library, 325 Avenue A NW, Winter Haven

Windows 10 Introduction, 2-4:30 p.m. Winter Haven Public Library, 325 Avenue A NW, Winter Haven

Offshoots Lab, 4 p.m. Winter Haven Public Library, 325 Avenue A NW, Winter Haven.

Technology Help Desk, 5 p.m. Winter Haven Public Library, 325 Avenue A NW, Winter Haven

Kids' New Year's Eve Party at Legoland, 10 a.m. Legoland Florida, 1 Legoland Way, Winter Haven. <http://www.legoland.com>

Great Russian Nutcracker by the Moscow Ballet, 7 p.m. Tickets \$195.25, \$117.14, \$80.76, \$57.36, \$45.13, \$33.96. Service charges may apply. Available at The Lakeland Center Box Office or by calling The Lakeland Center Box Office 863-834-8111 or 888-397-0100, and online at www.thelakeland-center.com.

Weight Watchers, noon. Use main entrance. First Baptist Church of Bartow, 410 E. Church St., Bartow. The church emphasized that it is not affiliated with Weight Watchers.

The Sentimental Journeymen 7 p.m. Cappella men's chorus meets weekly on Thursday. Men who love to sing are invited to visit and experience the fellowship and enjoyment of ensemble singing. Experience is not necessary. St. Johns Methodist Church, 1800 Cypress Gardens Blvd., Winter Haven. Contact Paul Evert at 863-289-7227 or rshaw2@tampabay.rr.com.

Fun Run, about 6 p.m. People take a 5K run starting and ending at the Wine Stable restaurant each Thursday. Usually they stay at the Wine Stable afterward. They start at approximately 6 p.m. Wine Stable, 150 S. Broadway, Bartow.

Service Dog Training, 9-11 a.m., 1-3 p.m. Call Marvin Desselle at 863-214-0601 for details. American Legion Post 71, 1230 Scenic Highway, Lake Wales. 863-589-5689

Friday, Dec. 29
 Hometeam New Years Rally, 4 p.m. Tickets at <http://bit.ly/HOMETEAM2017>. Maddox Ranch, 2505 W Bella Vista

St., Lakeland
 Kids' New Year's Eve Party at Legoland, 10 a.m. Legoland Florida, 1 Legoland Way, Winter Haven. <http://www.legoland.com>

Chair Yoga, 9:30 a.m. Bartow Public Library, 2150 S. Broadway Ave., Bartow. 863-534-0131

Simplicity Band, 6:30 p.m., free. Central Park, 4th St. NW, Winter Haven

Hold On, I Know This! Christmas Edition, 7:30 p.m. Quizmasters Nick Allred and Benedict Heaps host holiday edition. Tickets \$15 day of show. LkldTV Studio B, 202 N Massachusetts Ave., Lakeland

Saturday, Dec 30
 Kids' New Year's Eve Party at Legoland, 10 a.m. Legoland Florida, 1 Legoland Way, Winter Haven. <http://www.legoland.com>

Racing Game, 4 p.m. \$1 per race. American Legion Post 71, 1230 Scenic Highway, Lake Wales. 863-589-5689

Downtown Farmers Curb Market, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. 200 N Kentucky Ave., Lakeland

Time for a Change Meditation, 9 a.m.-noon, \$35. Bok Tower Gardens, 1151 Tower Blvd., Lake Wales

Hometeam New Years Rally, all day. Tickets at <http://bit.ly/HOMETEAM2017>. Maddox Ranch, 2505 W Bella Vista St., Lakeland

Sunday, Dec 31
 Christmas Tree Burning, 6:30 p.m. Mary Holland Park, Bartow.

Murder Mystery Dinner Theater: The Cat Screamed at Midnight, 6 p.m., \$50. Ramon Theater, 15 E Wall St., Frostproof.

Kids' New Year's Eve Party at Legoland, 10 a.m. Legoland Florida, 1 Legoland Way, Winter Haven. <http://www.legoland.com>

Bingo, 1 p.m. \$10/10 games. American Legion Post 71, 1230 Scenic Highway, Lake Wales. 863-589-5689

Hometeam New Years Rally, all day. Tickets at <http://bit.ly/HOMETEAM2017>. Maddox Ranch, 2505 W Bella Vista St., Lakeland

Monday, Jan. 1
 Food Truck Invasion, 5-9 p.m. Lake Wailes Park/Gazebo, 499 E Park Ave., Lake Wales. 863-678-4182, ext. 225

Carillon Concert: New Year's Day, 1 p.m. Bok Tower Gardens, 1151 Tower Blvd., Lake Wales

Tuesday, Jan. 2
 Bartow City Commission Meeting, 6 p.m. Bartow City Hall Commission Chambers, 450 N. Wilson Ave., Bartow.

Lake Wales City Commission Meeting, 6 p.m. Lake Wales City Hall, 201 W. Central Ave., Lake Wales. 863-678-4182 x 270

Little Sprouts Story Time, 10:30 a.m. Winter Haven

Public Library, 325 Avenue A NW, Winter Haven

Cameos Memoirs Writing Class, 2-4 p.m. Winter Haven Public Library, 325 Avenue A NW, Winter Haven. 863-294-6042 or bevlerner@aol.com

Lego Club, 4 p.m. Winter Haven Public Library, 325 Avenue A NW, Winter Haven

Nature Meets Art, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., free. Michael Crews Gallery/Lake Wales Arts Council, 1099 Highway 60 E, Lake Wales. <http://www.lakewalesartscouncil.org>

Wednesday, Jan 3
 Nature Meets Art, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., free. Michael Crews Gallery/Lake Wales Arts Council, 1099 Highway 60 E, Lake Wales. <http://www.lakewalesartscouncil.org>

Little Sprouts Story Time, 9:30 a.m. Winter Haven Public Library, 325 Avenue A NW, Winter Haven

Winter Haven City Commission Agenda Review Session, 6:30 p.m. Winter Haven City Hall, 451 Third St. NW, Winter Haven. 863-291-5627.

Coloring for Grown Ups, 11:30 a.m. Lake Wales Public Library, 290 Cypress Garden Lane, Lake Wales.

Helping Those in Grief Workshop, 2 p.m. Lake Wales Public Library, 290 Cypress Garden Lane, Lake Wales.

Yoga Class, 5:30 p.m. Lake Wales Public Library, 290 Cypress Garden Lane, Lake Wales.

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

The following places are closed for New Year's Day.

The U.S. Small Business Administration's staff Customer Service representatives continue to operate at temporary locations to answer program questions, assist in applying for an SBA disaster loan and to help with the reconsideration process. The outreach center at the Polk County Breneman Auditorium, 1702 U.S. 17 S., Bartow, will be closed on Saturday Dec. 30-Monday, Jan. 1.

Winter Haven City Hall will be closed Monday, Jan. 1.

For garbage pickup Monday garbage and recycling will be picked up on Tuesday. Tuesday's will be picked up on Wednesday. Thursday and Friday will remain the same. Yard debris and junk will be picked up a day later all week.

Bartow City Hall will be closed Monday, Jan. 1.

Bartow garbage collection on the week of New Year's Monday collection will be on Tuesday. Tuesday's collection will be on Wednesday. Thursday's and Friday's collection will be the same

Lake Wales City Hall

will be closed Monday, Jan. 1.

In Lake Wales, on Jan. 1 garbage, bulk and yard waste will be picked-up on Jan. 2. Jan. 2 garbage, bulk and yard waste will be picked-up on Jan. 3. Jan. 3 garbage, bulk and yard waste will be picked-up on Jan. 4. Jan. 4 garbage, bulk, yard waste and recycle will be picked-up on Jan. 5. Jan. 5 garbage, bulk, yard waste and recycle will be picked-up on Jan. 6. Claw truck will service on Friday.

Fort Meade City Hall will be closed Monday, Jan. 1.

For garbage collection in Fort Meade Jan. 1 garbage and recycle will be picked-up on Jan. 2. Jan. 2 garbage and recycle will be picked-up Jan. 3. Jan. 3 bulk and yard waste will be picked-up on Jan. 4. Jan.4 garbage will be picked-up on Jan. 5. Jan. 5 garbage will be picked-up on Jan. 6. Claw truck will service Saturday.

Frostproof City Hall will be closed Monday, Jan. 1.

In Frostproof, Jan. 5 garbage, recycle, bulk and yard waste will be picked-up on Jan. 6. Claw truck will service this week on Saturday.

The Neil Combee Administration Center will be closed Monday, Jan. 1

The Polk County Courthouse will be closed Monday, Jan. 1.

The Polk County Tax Collector will be closed Monday, Jan. 1.

Polk County Clerk of Courts & Comptroller will be closed Monday, Jan. 1

The Polk County Landfill will be closed on Monday, Jan. 1, and reopen the following day.

For residential collection customers of unincorporated Polk, if a customer's collection day falls on the Christmas holiday or New

Year's Day holiday, then collection will occur one day later.

Polk County Public Schools will not have classes for the students from Dec. 22-Jan. 3. The administration center will be closed Dec. 22-Jan. 1.

The Lake Wales Charter Schools will be closed from Dec. 22-Jan. 3.

Post Offices will be closed on Monday, Jan. 1.

Most banks will be closed Monday, Jan. 1. Call your local branch to confirm.

The newspaper business and editorial offices will be closed Monday, Jan. 1.

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VIEWPOINT

Recyclables: the trash nobody loves

It wasn't so many years ago that disposal of garbage and trash was a simple proposition: cities, by and large, piled it at what was accurately called the city dump, and counties generally left it to residents of sparsely settled rural areas to dispose of their own refuse.

More often than not, society's discards were set afire and left to smolder for hours or days, releasing an odor that smelled — for good reason — like smoldering garbage.

Next came "sanitary landfills," a method of disposing of garbage by burying it. Skeptics referred to the process as filtering society's future drinking water through layers of rotting garbage.

These evolved into lined landfills, in which leachate is captured by plastic liners, a vastly more palatable process than the mis-named "sanitary landfills."

As terms like "ecology" and "environment" entered the lexicon on a more frequent basis, society's emphasis turned from disposal to recycling. The concept of transforming today's trash into tomorrow's commodities had a "feel good" component as well as an apparent economic one.

One of the leaders in the recycling movement was the newspaper industry, which encouraged the recycling of what was known as ONP (old newspapers) into new newsprint. It meant not only the reduction of paper in landfills, but the reduced consumption of trees for pulpwood.

Our Viewpoint

Families saved empty aluminum cans, either turning them in at recycling stations for cash or giving them to Scout troops, churches, and other organizations for their fund-raising programs.

Today's recycling market for most paper products (cardboard, ONP, and most other grades of paper) remains strong, as does the market for aluminum and most other metals.

But the volume of plastics and glass products entering the recycling stream has created an unintended consequence for the recycling movement. An article by County Commissioner Bill Braswell, published in this newspaper last week, spelled out some of the reasons that the costs of recycling are far more than the revenues produced.

He is not the first elected official to lament that recycling does not work out as well as most people think.

In an interview after that article was published, he explained some of the other reasons why recyclables have become the trash that nobody wants.

It is news, he said, that nobody wants to hear, because it goes contrary to the pride that responsible citizens take in their weekly placing of supposedly recyclable waste at the curb.

Most of these products, he said, end up in the landfill. There are several reasons.

Until Jan. 1 of this year, Braswell said, China was by far the world's biggest consumer of recyclables. On that date, it vastly reduced the volume and variety of items it would accept.

And on Jan. 1 of next year — less than a week away — China plans to eliminate accepting recyclables altogether, Braswell said.

When recycling became popular, most plastic products were made from the same raw materials, and lent themselves to recycling into new products. Today, there are many different components going into various plastics, and they are not interchangeable. As a result, there is almost no market for plastics. It is cheaper to start with new materials than to sort all the varieties of plastics.

Glass presents its own problems. Recycling opportunities for glass are limited at best, and the presence of broken glass can make large quantities of other products worthless. How many bottles do you suppose get broken every time recycling containers are dumped into solid waste collection trucks?

Braswell predicts that as new technologies are developed, policies on recycling will change. He also believes that lined landfills will be reused as biodegradable garbage is reduced to as little as 5 percent of its original volume.

That's the good news; the bad news is that today's recycling technology has not found solutions for all the problems.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

How we can help

Dear Editor,

2017 Medicare Annual Enrollment Period has officially come to a close. I am one of many trained volunteers who give our time and share our knowledge as Medicare Counselors to Medicare beneficiaries. These Medicare beneficiaries wish to make a change in their healthcare providers and coverage and can only do so during the AEP from October 15-December 7. The Dept. of Elder Affairs and the Senior Connection Center are the supporting Agencies for SHINE (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders) Volunteer Counselors. We have many counseling

sites throughout Polk County; in Winter Haven we are very fortunate to counsel beneficiaries at our Winter Haven Public Library Kathryn L. Smith Memorial. I want to sincerely thank the Winter Haven Public Library staff for their accommodating, professional, caring and certainly always helpful attitudes. The needs of the public we serve as "SHINERS" varies so we need our resources and counseling sites to be very dynamic in support of our needs for private counseling rooms and designated areas. Winter Haven

LETTERS | 5



Burning Christmas trees; because we've always done it

For most of my adult life, I have been an Episcopalian, and if we Anglicans are justifiably known for one thing, it is for our commitment to our traditions.

Anglicans, it has been said, will tolerate a little genteel heresy, but keep your cotton-pickin' hands off the Book of Common Prayer.

When in doubt — a condition for which Anglicans are not particularly famous — we will do things the way we've always done them.

How many Episcopalians does it take to change a light bulb?

Reply: "Four; one to screw in the new light bulb, three to talk about how much nicer the old light bulb was."

Alternate reply: "Change that light



S.L. Frisbie

S.L. Frisbie can be contacted at sfrisbie@hedartlandnews.com

bulb? My great-grandmother gave the church that light bulb when she was confirmed in 1878!"

So why does Bartow burn its discarded Christmas trees on New Year's Eve?

Because we've been doing it since 1936, that's why!

Dad had a well-earned reputation for the gift of gab, and some folks say I inherited a little of it.

It is a talent that earns you an occasional invitation to be a master of ceremonies.

An MC at an event is sort of like a corpse at an Irish Wake: everybody knows you have to have one, but they hope he won't talk too long.

Incidentally, it's called "the gift" of gab, because for most of us, it doesn't pay anything. It gives new meaning to the term "free speech." But for us gabbors, just having an audience of attentive gabbees is reward enough.

One such occasion is to be MC Sunday night at Bartow's annual Christmas tree burning. Dad was MC for several decades.

I think it was 21 years ago that he asked me to fill in for him when he developed a cold on New Year's Eve. A year later he suggested that I take over the job.

That makes me a newcomer to the program, given that Eda Marchman is in her 42nd year as chairman, give or take a year.

Bartow has been burning its discarded Christmas trees on or near New Year's Eve since 1936, with occasional interruptions for World War II, bad weather, and once or twice, a tree chipping.

Nye Jordan, who was about three years older than baseball, began the tradition, asserting that it was bad luck to have

FRISBIE | 5

We welcome your letters

Letters are welcome on virtually any subject, but we do have some rules. Please keep them to less than 250 words. Letters will be edited to length as well as grammar and spelling. All letters must be signed with full name — not initials. An address and telephone number must be included. The phone number and address are not for publication, but must be provided. The Letters to the Editor section is designed as a public forum for community discourse and the opinions and statements made in letters are solely those of the individual writers. Readers can send letters and column submissions to news@scmginc.com or mail them to 99 3rd St. NW, Winter Haven, FL 33881.

The Winter Haven Board of Trade ...

Along about 1910 ... in fact before Winter Haven formally incorporated, local businesses banded together to form a Board of Trade. Forerunner to the Chamber of Commerce it existed until 1923 when it transitioned to the Chamber.

The group published one of the earliest promotional pieces for the community. This column shares some of its information and claims for comparison to today – a century later. We estimate the year it was published as 1913 and it pegs Winter Haven's population at 1200! Information in quotes includes the punctuation of the era.

It begins, "Winter Haven is the center of the world's richest citrus-fruit section, and likewise the center of the famous lake region of Polk County. Unlike many cities of southern Florida, Winter Haven is not a mere winter resort – it is a substantial town, with an energetic year-round population, greatly increased during the winter months by tourists, home-seekers, and hundreds of northerners, who find here an ideal climate and unusual social advantages."

"Both in winter and summer Winter Haven has ideal climatic conditions. In winter the temperature is mild and free from extremes. In summer Winter Haven feels none of the discomforts of the so-called semitropical sun ... The rainy season checks undue warmth, and the nights are delightfully cool." (Remember, this was before air-conditioning.) "The air is always pure, the water is bright, clear, and refreshing, and mosquitoes seldom are known."

The brochure goes on to tout the



Bob Gernert Beneath the Chinaberry Tree

Bob Gernert is a student of Winter Haven history and founded the Museum of Winter Haven History.

local altitude (200 feet above sea level) as a great advantage both climatic and natural. It noted that elevation there were "no swamps, fevers, malaria or great humidity." It also notes the lakes are all "the product of overflowing springs" which we know today is not true. There can be some seepage from the aquifer but none of the area lakes are "spring-fed."

And lest the lazy become interested the text states, "Winter Haven does not seek, invite, or tolerate the shiftless or the idle. It is not the place for the person who expects to make a fortune without individual effort ..."

Citrus was king and the dominant industry as noted in this claim, "Florida grapefruit and oranges, owing to soil and climatic conditions, are far superior to California-grown fruit, which is produced in heavy clay soil and forced to maturity by irrigation. Florida has ample rainfall and needs no irrigation for citrus fruits ... Because of its supremacy in the culture of citrus fruits, Winter Haven's prosperity is founded on a stable basis. The finest orange groves in the world are in the immediate vicinity of the town. More than 8,000 acres here are devoted to citrus culture ..."



PHOTO PROVIDED

This early postcard shows Central Avenue looking east toward downtown at about the time the Board of Trade published the brochure. Your vantage point is between Central Park and South Park. The large barren tree on right is the Chinaberry tree as this must have been taken in winter. The arched building beyond the tree now houses Arabella's Ristorante.

Finally the Board noted that, "Winter Haven has as good schools as any in Polk County."

There were two modern buildings and five trained teachers. A "thorough high school course" was offered. There were four churches (Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist and Christian) and three hotels "near the railroad station." It also mentioned nearby Florence Villa with a hotel called "The Plantation Home" (commonly called the Florence Villa Hotel) that could accommodate 200 guests.

The Board of Trade officers were J. E. Crump, President; Dr. J.H. Ross, Vice President and A.C. Nydegger, Secretary Treasurer. The brochure provides an interesting look at how the city we know was promoted a century ago. They may have taken just a bit of "editorial

license."

Note: May you and yours have a memorable New Year!

About the series

Early in Winter Haven's history, a large Chinaberry tree grew near the middle of Central Avenue at the corner of the Snell Bank (now the Times Square building). It was beneath this tree that early residents shared the news and solved the challenges of the day.

The Museum of Winter Haven History will reopen from 9 a.m.-noon Saturday, Jan. 6. There are many new displays and pieces of Winter Haven history to see. Group visits are also available by appointment. Contact Bob Gernert at 863-206-6855 or bobgernert@gmail.com.

Watch out for mail theft

In mid-December, a 34-year-old Highland City woman had a medical emergency in her bedroom. Rescue workers responded, tended to her needs, and transported her to the hospital, where she soon recovered. That's the good news for her. The bad news for her is that, on her bed, right out in the open, was a large amount of mail ... envelopes with the names and addresses of many different people from the south Lakeland area. In addition to that, also in plain view, two large bags of mail on the floor ... also addressed to other people. Now sometimes, our very skilled deputies have to work hard to turn up clues to solve crimes. And then there are times like this when the crime jumps up in their face and says, "Hey, look at me."

The woman was arrested and charged with criminal use of personal identification and petit theft. And this wasn't the first time she's stolen from someone. If all goes well, the criminal justice system will hold her accountable for her theft.

I tell you this story for two reasons. One, it amuses me how she was caught. Two, and more importantly, I want it to be a



Grady Judd Polk County Sheriff

reminder about how important it is to take steps to protect yourself from mail theft and identity fraud. The victims of this woman did not even realize they were victims until our deputies informed them of their investigation. Hopefully, it was discovered before any damage could be done to the victims' credit and finances.

A lot of personal information can be obtained from your mail, so you need to protect it. Consider a locking mailbox, or a post office box. If you still have your mail delivered conventionally, please take the mail out as soon as possible — and never leave outgoing mail with the flag up. Once you go through your mail, be careful what you throw away. Shredding mail that

has your personal information on it is an excellent option.

Personal information is stolen all the time ... from the mail, online transactions, purse and wallet thefts, and scams. Once the bad guys have your information, there are many different ways they can profit from it. With online transactions, the thieves usually get hundreds or thousands of victims at one time. Then, they will take that information and sell it. And sometimes, the information gets sold many times. Let's say a large health insurer has their computers hacked, and your Social Security number is among the thousands taken. Your number could continually be sold for years, making the headache of cleaning up your credit history even worse.

If someone has your personal information, he or she can get credit cards in your name, and make purchases that will be charged back to you. They could assume your identity, and if they get caught for speeding, you would have a citation written under your name. And of course, you would have no idea that a citation was written, so the ticket would never get paid, and then suddenly you might have a

warrant for your arrest. Pretty scary stuff.

If your Social Security card is lost or stolen, notify the Social Security Administration immediately. If you know someone has already used your SSN, contact the Federal Trade Commission. If it was stolen, you'll also need to notify law enforcement.

If your credit cards or debit cards get lost or stolen, contact the financial institution who issued the cards as soon as possible, so they can be cancelled. If the cards were stolen, you'll also want to contact law enforcement.

One other suggestion about protecting your credit is to check your credit score. Federal law allows each person one free credit report every 12 months from each of the three nationwide credit reporting companies (Equifax, Experian, TransUnion). Just know that those companies will try to sell you other services, so be sure to follow instructions carefully. If you see something wrong with your credit, you'll want to take action immediately. If you'd like more information about credit fraud, check out the Federal Trade Commission online (FTC.gov).

FRISBIE

FROM PAGE 4

a Christmas tree in the house on New Year's Day. In the days before the invention of tree stands that held water, Christmas trees were drier than a prairie dog's paws in the

desert in July, and represented a real fire hazard. Bad luck indeed.

The height of Bartow's pile of discarded trees has diminished over the years, given the increasing popularity of artificial trees. But the event is still popular enough to draw a pretty good crowd to the south

end of Mary Holland Park at 6:30 p.m. every New Year's Eve.

Regular attendees may have memorized my spiel by now, since it changes little from year to year. History is like that, unless you are into the "political correctness" movement and believe that history should be rewritten periodically.

For instance, I tell why the event was staged in its original location for only one year; why the event was suspended during World War II; and the marvelous idea I had for a special tree burning when the calendar rolled over to the year 2000. Unfortunately, I was the only one who recognized

what a fantastic idea it was.

But the history of our tree burning is much longer than this column, and you are invited to come hear it recounted yet again Sunday night.

Lawn chairs, mosquito repellent, and a willingness to chuckle at old anecdotes are encouraged.

See you there?

(S. L. Frisbie is retired. He refers to the bonfire as consuming "discarded trees," not "live trees," on the theory that the moment a Christmas tree is cut down, it becomes a "dead tree." He can be annoyingly literal about stuff like that.)

LETTERS

FROM PAGE 4

Library staff went above

and beyond on many occasions and without advance notice to meet our needs. On behalf of our Polk County Medicare beneficiaries

and SHINE counselors who counseled at the Winter Haven Public Library I want to extend heartfelt thanks. The library staff contributed

beyond measure to a very successful Annual Enrollment Period. We "SHINERS" will continue to counsel at our Winter Haven Public Library

throughout the year for beneficiaries who are new to Medicare. In addition we look forward to 2018 AEP and the opportunities to

show off our Library, its amenities and certainly its gracious and professional staff.

MICHELE Z. CLARK
Polk County SHINE Counselor

County offers many services

Christmas is here and it should be a joyous time celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. Unfortunately, there are people in our county who are not as fortunate as many of us and have little to celebrate.

Polk County offers many services for people with genuine needs. Our citizens overwhelmingly passed the indigent care tax to help those with physical and mental health issues. Whether it's veterans needing someone to talk to, the elderly needing a healthy meal, or an individual needing health care, Polk County is there. From mental health counseling to dental services to drug addiction to spousal abuse, we have a program. As taxpayers, you can be assured we understand your concern for fraud and abuse of these programs and we make sure the need is real. More than 36,000 individuals use these partially subsidized health care programs.

Polk County is not a wealthy county, 17 percent of our residents live below the poverty line. Our average annual household income is more than



Bill Braswell

**Polk County
Commissioner**

\$14,000 below the national average. Regardless we must do what we can to help our friends in time of need. Our unemployment level is low but for those seeking job opportunities we have Career Source Polk. If you're an employer needing employees let Career Source Polk help you find them.

As County Commissioners one of our top priorities is keeping Polk County a business-friendly place and encouraging businesses to locate here. We have become the logistics center for the state and there are many job opportunities coming with that. E-commerce is alive and well in our county. We are positioned in the crossroads of opportunity. With Florida Poly growing and Suntrax under construction we will see more high paying jobs moving into

our county. Polk County's future is bright, but some need a little help along the way. There are plenty of other organizations that also offer assistance. Some are faith based and some are community based but the point here is no one who needs help should go without it. Polk County is full of giving people.

Since becoming a county commissioner I have been amazed at the giving spirit in our county. If you know someone who needs a hand put them in touch with us and we can get them going in the right direction. The old saying, "there but by the grace of God go I" has never been more true. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you.

Bill Braswell is a Polk County Commissioner for District 3.

Candlelight Christian Academy reaches out

This in from Savannah Gandy:

"On Friday, Dec. 8, Candlelight Christian Academy students and staff reached out to their community. The day started off at the Dollar Tree. The elementary students bought five items for a boy or girl their age in need.

"While the elementary students were shopping, the middle and high school boys helped out at the local care center office in downtown Lake Wales. They served there by moving furniture and packing food boxes. The middle and high school girls went to the Care Center Gift Wrap Center.

Gandy continues, "While they were there, they stuffed stockings and wrapped them for Christmas Care Packages



Kathy Leigh Berkowitz

People Helping People

Kathy can be contacted at klberkowitz@scmginc.com

for families in the area. To wrap up the day, the Candlelight Chorus Club members spread some joy at The Grove Nursing Home by performing some classic Christmas carols. They not only performed for the residents there, but got to know them a little and gave them a Christmas Card written by several of the Candlelight students and staff. Candlelight Christian Academy encourages you to reach out into your community

not only at Christmas time, but every day of the year."

Editor's Note: We know there are people and organizations in the community who deserve recognition. Send those photos and blurbs to us, and we will make sure to include them in this column. Email them to klberkowitz@scmginc.com or call Kathy Leigh Berkowitz at 863-804-3273. We believe good news travels fast.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE AIR PERMIT

Florida Department of Environmental Protection
Air and Solid Waste Permitting, Southwest District Office
Draft/Proposed Permit No. 1050175-013-AV
Greif Packaging LLC
Polk County, Florida

Applicant: The applicant for this project is Greif Packaging LLC. The applicant's responsible official and mailing address are: Jeff Brozio, Plant Manager, Greif Packaging LLC, 211 Sandra Jackson Rd., Auburndale, FL 33823.

Facility Location: The applicant operates the existing Greif Packaging LLC, which is located in Polk County at 211 Sandra Jackson Rd in Auburndale, Florida.

Project: The applicant applied on November 14, 2017 to the Department for a Title V air operation permit renewal to the Title V operation permit for the existing facility with no changes. This is a renewal of Title V Air Operation Permit No. 1050175-012-AV. The existing facility consists of metal drum container manufacturing and coating operation.

Permitting Authority: Applications for Title V air operation permits are subject to review in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 403, Florida Statutes (F.S.) and Chapters 62-4, 62-210, and 62-213 of the Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.). The proposed project is not exempt from air permitting requirements and a Title V air operation permit is required to operate the facility. The Permitting Authority responsible for making a permit determination for this project is the Department of Environmental Protection's Air and Solid Waste Permitting Section in the Southwest District Office. The Permitting Authority's physical address is: 13051 North Telecom Parkway, Suite 101, Temple Terrace, Florida 33637-0926. The Permitting Authority's mailing address is: 13051 North Telecom Parkway, Suite 101, Temple Terrace, Florida 33637-0926. The Permitting Authority's phone number is 813-470-5700.

Project File: A complete project file is available for public inspection during the normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday (except legal holidays), at the address indicated above for the Permitting Authority. The complete project file includes the draft permit, the Statement of Basis, the application, and the information submitted by the applicant, exclusive of confidential records under Section 403.111, F.S. Interested persons may view the draft/proposed permit by visiting the following website: <https://fldep.dep.state.fl.us/air/emission/apds/default.asp> and entering the permit number shown above. Interested persons may contact the Permitting Authority's project review engineer for additional information at the address or phone number listed above.

Notice of Intent to Issue Permit: The Permitting Authority gives notice of its intent to issue a renewed Title V air operation permit to the applicant for the project described above. The applicant has provided reasonable assurance that continued operation of the existing equipment will not adversely impact air quality and that the project will comply with all appropriate provisions of Chapters 62-4, 62-204, 62-210, 62-212, 62-213, 62-296 and 62-297, F.A.C. The Permitting Authority will issue a final permit in accordance with the conditions of the draft/proposed permit unless a response received in accordance with the following procedures results in a different decision or a significant change of terms or conditions.

Comments: The Permitting Authority will accept written comments concerning the draft/proposed Title V air operation permit for a period of 30 days from the date of publication of the Public Notice. Written comments must be received by the close of business (5:00 p.m.), on or before the end of this 30-day period by the Permitting Authority at the above address. As part of his or her comments, any person may also request that the Permitting Authority hold a public meeting on this permitting action. If the Permitting Authority determines there is sufficient interest for a public meeting, it will publish notice of the time, date, and location in the Florida Administrative Register (FAR). If a public meeting is requested within the 30-day comment period and conducted by the Permitting Authority, any oral and written comments received during the public meeting will also be considered by the Permitting Authority. If timely received written comments or comments received at a public meeting result in a significant change to the draft permit, the Permitting Authority shall issue a revised draft/proposed permit and require, if applicable, another Public Notice. All comments filed will be made available for public inspection. For additional information, contact the Permitting Authority at the above address or phone number.

Petitions: A person whose substantial interests are affected by the proposed permitting decision may petition for an administrative hearing in accordance with Sections 120.569 and 120.57, F.S. Petitions filed by any persons other than those entitled to written notice under Section 120.60(3), F.S., must be filed within 14 days of publication of the Public Notice or receipt of a written notice, whichever occurs first. Under Section 120.60(3), F.S., however, any person who asked the Permitting Authority for notice of agency action may file a petition within 14 days of receipt of that notice, regardless of the date of publication. A petitioner shall mail a copy of the petition to the applicant at the address indicated above, at the time of filing. A petition for administrative hearing must contain the information set forth below and must be filed (received) with the Agency Clerk in the Office of General Counsel, 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, MS 35, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000, Agency_Clerk@dep.state.fl.us, before the deadline. The failure of any person to file a petition within the appropriate time period shall constitute a waiver of that person's right to request an administrative determination (hearing) under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, F.S., or to intervene in this proceeding and participate as a party to it. Any subsequent intervention (in a proceeding initiated by another party) will be only at the approval of the presiding officer upon the filing of a motion in compliance with Rule 28-106.205, F.A.C.

A petition that disputes the material facts on which the Permitting Authority's action is based must contain the following information: (a) The name and address of each agency affected and each agency's file or identification number, if known; (b) The name, address, any email address, telephone number and any facsimile number of the petitioner; the name, address, any email address, telephone number, and any facsimile number of the petitioner's representative, if any, which shall be the address for service purposes during the course of the proceeding; and an explanation of how the petitioner's substantial interests will be affected by the agency determination; (c) A statement of when and how each petitioner received notice of the agency action or proposed decision; (d) A statement of all disputed issues of material fact. If there are none, the petition must so indicate; (e) A concise statement of the ultimate facts alleged, including the specific facts the petitioner contends warrant reversal or modification of the agency's proposed action; (f) A statement of the specific rules or statutes the petitioner contends require reversal or modification of the agency's proposed action including an explanation of how the alleged facts relate to the specific rules or statutes; and, (g) A statement of the relief sought by the petitioner, stating precisely the action the petitioner wishes the agency to take with respect to the agency's proposed action. A petition that does not dispute the material facts upon which the Permitting Authority's action is based shall state that no such facts are in dispute and otherwise shall contain the same information as set forth above, as required by Rule 28-106.301, F.A.C. Because the administrative hearing process is designed to formulate final agency action, the filing of a petition means that the Permitting Authority's final action may be different from the position taken by it in this written notice of Intent to Issue Air Permit. Persons whose substantial interests will be affected by any such final decision of the Permitting Authority on the application have the right to petition to become a party to the proceeding, in accordance with the requirements set forth above.

Mediation: Mediation is not available in this proceeding.

EPA Review: EPA has agreed to treat the draft/proposed Title V air operation permit as a proposed Title V air operation permit and to perform its 45-day review provided by the law and regulations concurrently with the public comment period, provided that the applicant also transmits an electronic copy of the required proof of publication directly to EPA at the following email addresses: R4TitleVFL@epa.gov. Although EPA's 45-day review period will be performed concurrently with the public comment period, the deadline for submitting a citizen petition to object to the EPA Administrator will be determined as if EPA's 45-day review period is performed after the public comment period has ended. The final Title V air operation permit will be issued after the conclusion of the 45-day EPA review period so long as no adverse comments are received that result in a different decision or significant change of terms or conditions. The status regarding EPA's 45-day review of this project and the deadline for submitting a citizen petition can be found at the following website address: <http://www2.epa.gov/caa-permitting/florida-proposed-title-v-permits>.

Objections: Finally, pursuant to 42 United States Code (U.S.C.) Section 7661d(b)(2), any person may petition the Administrator of the EPA within 60 days of the expiration of the Administrator's 45-day review period as established at 42 U.S.C. Section 7661d(b)(1), to object to the issuance of any Title V air operation permit. Any petition shall be based only on objections to the permit that were raised with reasonable specificity during the 30-day public comment period provided in the Public Notice, unless the petitioner demonstrates to the Administrator of the EPA that it was impracticable to raise such objections within the comment period or unless the grounds for such objection arose after the comment period. Filing of a petition with the Administrator of the EPA does not stay the effective date of any permit properly issued pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 62-213, F.A.C. Petitions filed with the Administrator of EPA must meet the requirements of 42 U.S.C. Section 7661d(b)(2) and must be filed with the Administrator of the EPA at: U.S. EPA, 401 M Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20460. For more information regarding EPA review and objections, visit EPA's Region 4 web site at <http://www2.epa.gov/caa-permitting/florida-proposed-title-v-permits>.



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WINTER HAVEN NEWS

State of the City: Winter Haven 'reinvented'

By **KATHY LEIGH BERKOWITZ**
 KLBERKOWITZ@SCMGINC.COM

WINTER HAVEN – “We have so many members of our leadership team here that we could have our staff meeting,” said City Manager Mike Herr, upon opening his State of the City address to the Winter Haven Chamber of Commerce last week. Hosted by Chamber group Endeavor, which targets business professionals aged 21 to 42, the event saw a fully sold out house for the event, held at the Chamber conference room.

At least two tables were full of city department heads, commissioners, and other city officials. Rep. Sam Killebrew was in attendance as well.

Herr's first six months as city manager have been eventful.

“One of the things that I discovered after moving here was our community marketing message, that we have been reinvented,” said Herr. “I think that is important, because it says that we know a lot about our history and it also says that we know about our future — from an economic development and a destination standpoint,

in central Florida.”

Applauding the Chamber's effort for such a “creative marketing message,” he said it is “really how we market our community. That is going to have everything to do with our ability to create jobs and maintain jobs.”

“My own personal belief is that Winter Haven is the best city in Polk County. And it is the most dynamic city of 41,000 in the state of Florida. Take a look at the people that are in the room today, the diversity, the intelligence, that says a lot about our city,” Herr said.

Although the city population is currently around 41,000, it is set to grow to some 60,000 by 2030. Meanwhile, the city manager said, Winter Haven behaves like a city of 100,000 when it comes to an expectation of excellence.

That said, he added “Let's don't complicate economic development.”

The city needs to focus on three things, Herr said.

“Focus on quality, not quantity,” he noted, adding that the secret to create and keep new jobs in the community is to focus on the quality that

is there, so it will be more “sustainable.”

Focus on the work force and education, and strong business partners.

He said many times, partners are silent.

“We are not silent here,” he said, “and that is a real credit to communication and to talent.”

The city's job is large, he admitted.

“Take care of patching potholes, make sure we have safe drinking water every day. Make sure we are protecting the environment, make sure the wastewater treatment plants are working. Make sure that the southwest complex is open. Make sure that the northeast complex is open. Make sure that we have excellent events so people can enjoy themselves. Make sure the parks are clean, make sure the garbage is picked up. So that's a lot about growing. Winter Haven, I think will be successful in the future.”

Winter Haven also needs to continue to be a “vibrant business community,” he said. “And bring only the best and smartest millennials.”

At this, he applauded Endeavor and welcomed

the young professionals to consider a career “working in the public sector.”

Herr's address was followed by T. Michael Stavres, assistant city manager, who gave up an update on the city's capital projects, and a report from City Growth Management Director Merle Bishop.

Bishop said, “We are booming, folks, and it is a good place to be.”

That statement was partially based on the 634 single family building permits, which he says, “is a record.”

Downtown is growing and so are both its CRA and the Florence Villa CRA.

“The growth has been

happening in spite of ourselves. And I say that because sometimes we sort of get in the way of what could happen. Regulatory obstacles created issues in the downtown commercial district, and those were eliminated at the city level to encourage more residential,” he said, adding, “We think that has spurred additional interest in downtown,” Bishop said.

Hiep Nguyen, the city's chief information officer, spoke on best practices at the city level, sharing about how technology connects the community and how “these connections matter.”

Explaining the city's dark fiber, he said the

Dark Fiber Enterprise is excess fiber that the city can lease to service providers. The city has five miles of fiber underground, and 20 miles of conduit with no fiber yet. The city is looking to add conduit and increase from 5 to 60 miles out.

The leases currently bring in \$128,000 to the city, income which can be folded back into the department, so it is not reliant upon taxes or the general budget to sustain itself.

“I am Hiep (pronounced Hip), and you are not,” he joked with the young professionals, who repeated it as if a long time family joke.

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE PERMIT

The Department of Environmental Protection gives notice of its intent to issue a permit to Byrd Septic Services, Inc., 0 Rooks Road, Davenport, FL 33840, to operate the existing Septage Management Facility (SMF), Byrd Septic SMF, and Land Application Site (LAS), Byrd Septic LAS. The SMF is designed to treat 0.010 Million Gallons per day (MGD) of septage by lime-stabilization. The LAS consists of approximately 27.53 total acres to be used for treated septage application. The LAS will be used to grow grasses for a hay operation. The SMF and LAS are located at latitude 28° 09' 14.1" N, longitude 81° 34' 33" W on 0 Rooks Road, Davenport, FL 33837 in Polk County. The Department has assigned permit file number FLA994367-001-DW3S/NP to the proposed project.

The intent to issue and application file are available for public inspection during normal business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except legal holidays, at the Department's Southwest District Office, 13051 N Telecom Pkwy, Suite 101, Temple Terrace, Florida 33637-0926, at phone number (813) 470-5700.

The Department will issue the permit with the attached conditions unless a timely petition for an administrative hearing is filed under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, within fourteen days of receipt of notice. The procedures for petitioning for a hearing are set forth below. A person whose substantial interests are affected by the Department's proposed permitting decision may petition for an administrative proceeding (hearing) under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes. The petition must contain the information set forth below and must be filed (received by the Clerk) in the Office of General Counsel of the Department at 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Mail Station 35, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000.

Under Rule 62-110.106(4), Florida Administrative Code, a person may request an extension of the time for filing a petition for an administrative hearing. The request must be filed (received by the Clerk) in the Office of General Counsel before the end of the time period for filing a petition for an administrative hearing.

Petitions filed by any persons other than those entitled to written notice under Section 120.60(3), Florida Statutes, must be filed within fourteen days of publication of the notice or within fourteen days of receipt of the written notice, whichever occurs first. Section 120.60(3), Florida Statutes, however, also allows that any person who has asked the Department in writing for notice of agency action may file a petition within fourteen days of receipt of such notice, regardless of the date of publication.

The petitioner shall mail a copy of the petition to the applicant at the address indicated above at the time of filing. The failure of any person to file a petition or request for an extension of time within fourteen days of receipt of notice shall constitute a waiver of that person's right to request an administrative determination (hearing) under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes. Any subsequent intervention (in a proceeding initiated by another party) will be only at the discretion of the presiding officer upon the filing of a motion in compliance with Rule 28-106.205, Florida Administrative Code.

A petition that disputes the material facts on which the Department's action is based must contain the following information, as indicated in Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code:

- (a) The name and address of each agency affected and each agency's file or identification number, if known;
- (b) The name, address, any e-mail address, any facsimile number, and telephone number of the petitioner, if the petitioner is not represented by an attorney or a qualified representative; the name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner's representative, if any, which shall be the address for service purposes during the course of the proceeding; and an explanation of how the petitioner's substantial interests will be affected by the determination;
- (c) A statement of when and how the petitioner received notice of the Department's decision;
- (d) A statement of all disputed issues of material fact. If there are none, the petition must so indicate;
- (e) A concise statement of the ultimate facts alleged, including the specific facts the petitioner contends warrant reversal or modification of the Department's proposed action;
- (f) A statement of the specific rules or statutes the petitioner contends require reversal or modification of the Department's proposed action, including an explanation of how the alleged facts relate to the specific rules or statutes; and
- (g) A statement of the relief sought by the petitioner, stating precisely the action petitioner wishes the Department to take with respect to the Department's proposed action.

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

Mediation under Section 120.573, Florida Statutes, is not available for this proceeding. 12/27/17



PHOTO BY KATHY LEIGH BERKOWITZ

City Manager Mike Herr brings the State of the City address at last week's Greater Winter Haven Chamber of Commerce lunch hosted by Endeavor Young Professionals.

adobe-3529545

SOLUTION

FROM PAGE 1

Kindel) may not have helped PAL or the high school," Fultz said. "I wanted Mr. Hayes to know that (recent press reporting) had done such a great job helping the high school."

Commissioner Terry Howell told Hayes it made sense that the Polk County School Board chose to prioritize the Lake Wales High School basketball team over the Lake Wales PAL league in terms of using the Roosevelt Academy gym while the LWSH gym was being repaired.

"The answer to all this is building a new recreation center," Fultz told Hayes. "Get out and advocate and vote for that."

Lake Wales City Manager Ken Fields has previously stated there will not likely be a voting referendum on recreation until 2019. On Dec. 9 Fields said his reasoning for wanting to wait until next year is that some new businesses will be opening and the new tax income could fund such an endeavor.

"I love problems like this," Fields said. "It shows the city is growing.

Requests for more recreational facilities keep coming in and we are currently working on a master plan. We have the land to put new facilities in place it's just the cost of construction that we have to plan for. This is Lake Wales time in my mind, there are a lot of good quality jobs coming."

Assistant City Manager James Slaton then stepped to the podium to say that city staff had met with Lake Wales PAL volunteers recently about helping with the scheduling conflicts at Kirkland Gym and he thought the problem had been resolved. Slaton said they managed to help open Kirkland Gym earlier to accommodate PAL volunteers and athletes. Newly hired Lake Wales Recreation Coordinator Stephanie Edwards is reportedly also working to help resolve the problem.

Deputy mayor doubles down

At the end of the commission meeting, Lake Wales Deputy Mayor Robin Gibson said that members of the Lake Wales Leadership Council had decided and voted on their five highest priorities. The



PHOTO BY CHARLES A. BAKER III

Rabbi Mendel Friedman said his favorite mayor is Eugene Fultz "because he likes to dance." Lake Wales City Manager Ken Fields joined in on the fun with Mayor Fultz Dec. 19.

Lake Wales Leadership Council is an informal group of people that Gibson organized to try and determine what priorities local leaders wanted to work on to improve the community.

Gibson said their highest priority was completion of the Walesbilt Hotel, formerly the Grand Hotel.

At the first Lake Wales Leadership Council meeting in early December, Gibson advocated for having the council pressure the Lake

Wales City Commission to not renew a building permit for current restoration work being done by Winter Haven developer Ray Brown. Gibson said if the building permit was not renewed it would open up the possibility of having another developer take over the restoration efforts.

Some, including Fields, members of the commission and others, have said Brown is not restoring the historic hotel at a sufficient pace. Others have supported

Brown and the topic has shown to be controversial over the years.

Documents show the deputy mayor has represented another developer who had previously submitted a bid to complete the restoration effort and lost and that it could be a conflict of interest for him to advocate against the current developer as such.

Gibson recently requested the newspaper print a correction saying he has never represented another developer

interested in restoring the historic hotel. This was denied because there are public records of such and multiple anonymous sources that have disclosed such to the newspaper.

The Florida Commission on Ethics recently ruled against Gibson in an unrelated conflict of interest case involving giving away the Hardman School Complex to the Lake Wales Charter School Board of Trustees, which he legally represents.

SITE

FROM PAGE 1

good idea, the site this place is going to put its farm is prime residential area and she is not so sure this is a good idea. In fact, she was not sure allowing any solar farm in any prime development area.

"The best option for most communities is to put it on the worst land here," she said citing articles she's read from solar farms being placed in other cities in the country. "They could go in brownfields and buffer zones." Other suggestions would be agricultural land that is no longer producing.

She said she favors solar power, but it might be better to "have it in our back yard and not the front hallway."

The land where this is being proposed is going to be built up with medical and housing developments nearby

and while this land has not sold for residential use after many years of trying to do so, Pfeiffer said she thought it may not be good for the city to give it up for the 30 years a solar plant can run on a site.

Commissioner Billy Simpson said the fact that this land has not successfully been developed for residential, the city should do something with it, and if this can net money for the town, it could be worthwhile.

However, Pfeiffer's thought was taking this property out of being able to sell for residential use for 25 to 30 years is a lot of time. And in the last year property sales in Bartow are happening at a pace not seen in a long time.

"We sold eight buildings downtown in the last year and a half," she said. "When was the last time that happened? We're moving up. This is prime property for people growth not stagnant growth."



PHOTO BY JEFF ROSLOW

Jack Brandon, Bart Allen, attorneys with Peterson & Myers, and Diane Chadwick, a planning principal, talk with each other at a public hearing on Dec. 4.

In the terms of favoring a site specific plan at the public hearing at the Dec. 4 meeting, former mayor Brian Hinton warned commissioners about a global plan in general terms. He said if the Comp Plan is amended to do such, something may come up to it or a future commission where it wouldn't work and could do well for the city, but commissioners would not be able to do anything because they'd be tied in to what they were about

to OK.

Those words went a long way and forced the commission to stop the public hearing and put TECO's plans on hold, a move that disturbed TECO attorney Jack Brandon. However, he eventually agreed to come back to the commission for its Jan. 2 meeting while commissioners had a workshop to decide what direction to go. TECO urged commissioners to quickly make a decision because the company is on a short time frame to make this farm operational.

In making the decision between site specific and global, Pfeiffer said there is much to a solar farm commissioners are not aware of; making decisions now could hurt them in the long run because of that.

"There are many things we haven't talked about because we didn't know to talk about them," she said. "If for whatever reason, some ordinance makes them

dismantle and it's not decommissioned, if for some reason it goes down in 15 years is that part of the ordinance dormant?" She said the site can't be put back to the way it was, for example, because all the trees are gone.

She said the commission is putting the cart before the horse.

"We haven't chartered into this territory before. This is new. Nova Sol is different though some of this my apply to them," she said. "What type of solar system is allowed? On top of that there is height restriction, mitigation nuances, visual impacts, solar impact issues? There is a whole bunch of stuff to consider."

She said this project is not allowing the city to start small and build. It is already big.

"One of those issues is location, location, location. I have to think what is best for our city. Property owners and the people in general. The

great good is what we have to take into account. Twenty-five years is what we are taking out of production."

To deal with this, City Attorney Sean Parker said the previous proposed ordinance would have any property more than 25 acres come to commission for approval for a planned development.

"It is site specific process in a way," he said. "I am trying to draw a distinction on the big picture. I envision this picture on this is on a pending application. My takeaway from last Monday's meeting, there was a lot of heartburn on a broad application of all categories, number one. We were moving quickly and that concern was dealt with by all."

Commissioner Leo Longworth said if the Comp Plan was site specific, he'd be more apt to listen to the proposal from TECO. Commissioners meet at 6 p.m. Jan. 2 at City Hall.

CRASH

FROM PAGE 1

at 7:15 a.m. It got off the ground for a short period of time, then crashed and caught fire, killing all on board.

All of the victims perished upon or immediately after impact, the sheriff's office reported.

Autopsies will be conducted later this week to determine their exact causes of death.

Whether the dense morning fog had anything to do with the crash is not known, said John Helms, who took over director of the Bartow Municipal Airport on Dec. 18.

"It was very, very foggy out there," Helms said. "The line crew could not

even see, but they said they could hear it."

He said the flight tower is closed today with it being Christmas Eve.

Cindy Barrow, who is retiring as the director of the airport on Jan. 4, said the Florida Aviation Administration has been notified of the crash.

"This is a horrific tragedy, especially on Christmas Eve, and the

victims and their families are in our prayers," the sheriff's office statement said.

The Cessna 340 twin-engine plane crash is under investigation by the FAA and National Transportation Safety Board. The death investigation is under investigation by the sheriff's office. The identifications will be confirmed by the Medical Examiner's

Office. The sheriff's office believes these are the victims of the crash based on interviews with family, friends and witnesses at the airport.

"I am very heart broken to learn that my Marine Corps friend who had a heart of gold, was a pilot, an attorney, president of the Lakeland Republican Club and gave back to the local community ... I was

just with him this past Sunday at a Christmas party. God please give comfort to the family members," said Kathryn Gates-Skipper.

Shannon ran for the state House of Representatives in 2014 and lost in the Republican primary to Colleen Burton. He also served as president of the Polk County Republican Club.

WINTER HAVEN NEWS

Dantzler floats proposal for Social Security building

By **KATHY LEIGH BERKOWITZ**
 KLBERKOWITZ@SCMGINC.COM

WINTER HAVEN – Commissioner Brad Dantzler has an idea as to the future of the Social Security building, the city annex, City Hall and arts as an economic development driver.

The word is “Kunsthal.”

A “Kunsthal” is a European concept, where a government or public entity will provide art space, but not buy the art.

Sitting inside his office at Raymond James, he uses a sketchpad and pen, drawing out a map of City Hall.

At one time, there was an atrium at City Hall. He suggested bringing that back and then creating a “Kunsthal.”

“Polk Museum of Art buys a lot of art, so a lot of their budget goes for art. Winter Haven is not prepared to do that. But I think Winter Haven could build a Kunsthal,” he said.

“And have art shows come in. It is sort of a cottage industry that has cropped up now,” he added.

The cost of such an endeavor would actually improve economic development and be a driver for the economy itself, as doctors, artists, musicians, and the like enjoy having a quality offering of things to do in town.

“I think fine arts is a big part of economic development,” said Dantzler.

“We can afford it.”

Types of unusual art shows could include things such as traveling displays of Japanese Wedding Dresses, for example, or Chinese textiles. “There are shows that could come in and bring a whole bunch of Chinese textiles, and you could have a three month show, which would bring people in from all over, who are interested in Chinese textiles,” he said.

“It gives people in Winter Haven the chance to see a display of Chinese textiles

that they would never have gotten to see otherwise. And then three months later, you send that one on and maybe do African Headdresses.”

“These are ones that I have been to. If we were to buy Japanese wedding dresses, that would be \$20,000 to \$30,000 apiece, but if we could have a show come in, and see 20 or 30 of these that we would never get to see otherwise. And the show might be \$20,000 for three months ... if you have 20 or 30 of them on display, you would have people going and spending a half day looking at them.”

He said people in Orlando and Tampa would drive here to see those displays.

Dantzler had started a Cultural Artists Commission, they are the ones he said, that got all the Little Libraries and painted utility boxes around town going.

Sale of the building

Requests for proposal will go out in January, and it appears that perhaps, the city of Winter Haven may try once again to sell the old Social Security building, located at 245 and 255 W. Central Ave. The parcel is owned by the city, a piece of land that came with the land to build the parking garage, and now is not needed by the city.

There are a variety of things the city could do regarding the building.

The city could sell it and put the money in the general fund, sell the property and earmark it for the arts, keep the property and “donate” it back to the public (an unlikely event, because it would create more of a financial drain on the city in upkeep and would also keep it off city tax rolls.)

Dantzler’s accounting background kicked in during the last city commission meeting in December, when the sale of the Social Security building



PHOTO PROVIDED

Architectural rendering of the former Social Security building.

was discussed during commissioner reports and comments.

He suggested either setting it aside for the arts community (it at one time was used as an arts venue), or selling it and keeping the money “as an asset,” to put towards city support of art endeavors.

Dantzler’s belief is that currently the property is an asset, and should be maintained as such.

“Accounting 101,” he said.

Along the lines of how to fund the Kunsthal, City Hall would have to be moved in order for that to happen.

City commissioners have discussed moving City Hall to Nora Mayo Hall.

According to city records, that could be about a \$1 million move.

Dantzler suggested taking the money from the Social Security building (when it sells, if it does), then selling the city annex also (for about \$500,000 or whatever they get) and combining the money from both to help fund the move to Nora Mayo Hall.

That would leave the entire City Hall building open (which is a Gene Leedy architectural design, and Leedy is famous for his architecture), for a possible arts venue.

STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE PERMIT

The Department of Environmental Protection gives notice of its intent to issue a permit to Louie Burton Septic Tank Service, 2925 Reynolds Road, Lakeland, FL 33803, to operate the existing Septage Management Facility (SMF),

Louie Burton Septic Tank Service SMF, and Land Application Site (LAS), Louie Burton Property LAS. The SMF is designed to treat 0.002 million gallons per day (MGD) annual average flow of septage by lime-stabilization. The LAS consists of approximately 10.26 total acres to be used for treated septage application. The SMF is located at latitude 28° 0’ 36.4” N, longitude 81° 53’ 31.6” W on 2925 Reynolds Road, Lakeland, FL 33803 in Polk County. The LAS is located at latitude 28° 2’ 45” N, longitude 81° 51’ 15” W on 4150 Kosuthville Ave, Lakeland, FL, in Polk County. The Department has assigned permit file number FLA994341-001-DW3S/NP to the proposed project.

The intent to issue and application file are available for public inspection during normal business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except legal holidays, at the Department’s Southwest District Office, 13051 N Telecom Pkwy, Suite 101, Temple Terrace, Florida 33637-0926, at phone number (813) 470-5700.

The Department will issue the permit with the attached conditions unless a timely petition for an administrative hearing is filed under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, within fourteen days of receipt of notice. The procedures for petitioning for a hearing are set forth below.

A person whose substantial interests are affected by the Department’s proposed permitting decision may petition for an administrative proceeding (hearing) under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes. The petition must contain the information set forth below and must be filed (received by the Clerk) in the Office of General Counsel of the Department at 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Mail Station 35, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000.

Under Rule 62-110.106(4), Florida Administrative Code, a person may request an extension of the time for filing a petition for an administrative hearing. The request must be filed (received by the Clerk) in the Office of General Counsel before the end of the time period for filing a petition for an administrative hearing.

Petitions filed by any persons other than those entitled to written notice under Section 120.60(3), Florida Statutes, must be filed within fourteen days of publication of the notice or within fourteen days of receipt of the written notice, whichever occurs first. Section 120.60(3), Florida Statutes, however, also allows that any person who has asked the Department in writing for notice of agency action may file a petition within fourteen days of receipt of such notice, regardless of the date of publication.

The petitioner shall mail a copy of the petition to the applicant at the address indicated above at the time of filing.

The failure of any person to file a petition or request for an extension of time within fourteen days of receipt of notice shall constitute a waiver of that person’s right to request an administrative determination (hearing) under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes. Any subsequent intervention (in a proceeding initiated by another party) will be only at the discretion of the presiding officer upon the filing of a motion in compliance with Rule 28-106.205, Florida Administrative Code.

A petition that disputes the material facts on which the Department’s action is based must contain the following information, as indicated in Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code:

- (a) The name and address of each agency affected and each agency’s file or identification number, if known;
- (b) The name, address, any e-mail address, any facsimile number, and telephone number of the petitioner, if the petitioner is not represented by an attorney or a qualified representative; the name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner’s representative, if any, which shall be the address for service purposes during the course of the proceeding; and an explanation of how the petitioner’s substantial interests will be affected by the determination;
- (c) A statement of when and how the petitioner received notice of the Department’s decision;
- (d) A statement of all disputed issues of material fact. If there are none, the petition must so indicate;
- (e) A concise statement of the ultimate facts alleged, including the specific facts the petitioner contends warrant reversal or modification of the Department’s proposed action;
- (f) A statement of the specific rules or statutes the petitioner contends require reversal or modification of the Department’s proposed action, including an explanation of how the alleged facts relate to the specific rules or statutes; and
- (g) A statement of the relief sought by the petitioner, stating precisely the action petitioner wishes the Department to take with respect to the Department’s proposed action.

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

Mediation under Section 120.573, Florida Statutes, is not available for this proceeding

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WINTER HAVEN NEWS

Winter Haven High pageant debuts

By **KATHY LEIGH BERKOWITZ**
KLBERKOWITZ@SCMGINC.COM

WINTER HAVEN – Truly history in the making, Winter Haven High School had its first Miss Winter Haven High pageant, put on by the school's Cultural Connection Club.

Held at the Gorman Ayers Fine Arts Auditorium on the school's campus, the competition crowned Paige Chavez, a 17-year-old senior, as the new Miss Winter Haven High Class of 2018, and Maia McCarthy, a 16-year-old junior, as the Miss Winter Haven High's Outstanding Teen.

Nine student contestants competed in the categories of Private Interviews, Lifestyle & Fitness, Talent, Evening Gown, and On-Stage Question.

Dr. Vincent Miller and Regina Walden were the pageant's faculty co-sponsors.

"It wasn't just a beauty pageant," said Walden, who noted the purpose of the Cultural Connection Club is to build culture within the lives of students who might not otherwise be exposed to experiences that would make them "well rounded."

The program exposed them to the arts, college tours, theater, and other events.

"And as a teacher, I 100 percent believe that learning is not just contained to the four walls," she said.

"We thought what better way to do that than to have a pageant," she said.

Each contestant had to come up with a platform she would advocate to win the crown. They had to get sponsors.

"Many of them are already doing community

service in the area of their platform," Walden added.

And the pageant was a completely student led event, from the stage to the technical directors, those who secure sponsors.

"We know it is experiences that make us, not things," Walden said.

Teachers said the pageant exceeded their wildest expectations. Additionally, they were invited to the workroom to vote on their pick for Miss Congeniality.

And the boys do not want to be left out. Walden said they are already asking "are you going to do something for the guys?" Escorts for the event came from the sports teams and the JROTC, students escorting students they might not talk to.

"This kind of bridges those friend gaps," she said.

Three teachers and the principal met with the contestants the Saturday before the event, to get to know the girls.

"A big shout out to our principal," said Walden.

Paige Chavez, Miss Winter Haven, said, "As a senior in high school and having gone through the rigorous tests it has to offer I feel as though I truly deserve this title. In society, people of color have been misinterpreted for decades, and being the first official face of Winter Haven High, a school that used to be segregated, brings such honor to myself and my fellow peers."

Maia McCarthy, winner of Miss Winter Haven High School's Outstanding Teen crown, said winning the title of Miss Winter Haven High School's Outstanding Teen "is (and not to sound so cliché about it) and will always be one of the most



Paige Chavez, Miss Winter Haven High Class of 2018, is pictured with the contest judges (L to R): Heather Jackson, Barbara Jackson, Dreama Davidson, Kevin Wright, and WHHS Principal Gina Williams.

memorable moments of my life.

"I have dreamt of being able to be on a stage showcasing my talents, confidence, and beauty in front of people for literally as long as I can remember. I remember sitting on my grandma's couch watching Next Top Model, we would both get so excited to see the girls that looked like me. And I'd get up and start doing my princess wave and 'Maia's Tyra walk' as my grandmother called it. Winning this pageant makes me feel like I have accomplished something truly great because this is just the beginning of my voice actually meaning something in society. And it has definitely been the confidence booster that I have been praying for. Who would've known that this dream that I've had as a little 5-year-old girl could actually be happening to me. Winning has made not only my family proud, but myself and my beautiful grandmother, may her soul Rest In Peace as she watches me hopefully claim my

next Title along this long pageant road."

Chavez received a \$500 scholarship provided by the Public Education Partnership of Winter Haven and the opportunity to compete for the Miss Florida title in Lakeland June 25-30. Chavez plans to study Biology at the University of South Florida and pursue a career as an OB/GYN or cosmetic surgeon.

McCarthy received a \$250 scholarship and the opportunity to compete in the Miss Florida's Outstanding Teen pageant to be held in conjunction with the Miss Florida competition this summer. McCarthy is a Cadet Corporal and Platoon Sergeant for the Winter Haven High School Army JROTC and plans to study broadcasting and journalism after graduating in May 2019.

A number of other contestants received awards during the competition. Marisol Ortega, an 18-year-old senior, was first runner-up for Miss Winter Haven High Class of 2018. Sydney Thompson,



PHOTOS PROVIDED

Winter Haven High School hosted the first ever Miss Winter Haven High Pageant. Pictured here are WHHS students (female contestants, male escorts & emcees) along with Miss Florida 2017 Sara Zeng (red) and Miss Florida's Outstanding Teen 2017 Reece Weaver.

a 16-year-old junior, was first runner-up for Miss Winter Haven High's Outstanding Teen and was the overall winner for the Talent competition

performing contemporary dance. Savannah Lang, a 15-year-old sophomore, was chosen by the school faculty and staff as Miss Congeniality.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given that on January 9, 2018 Extra Space Storage will sell at public auction at the storage facilities listed below, to satisfy the lien of the owner, personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the following locations:

Extra Space Storage 1492
1012 US Highway 92 Auburndale, FL 33823
(863)221-0007
January 9, 2018 * 9:30 a.m.

| | | |
|-------|-------------------|-----------------|
| D0331 | Shayla Robinson | Household goods |
| H1040 | Jesumene Pierre | Household goods |
| H1165 | Russell Travis | Household goods |
| H1169 | Crystal Dominguez | Household goods |

Extra Space Storage 1596
2930 US Hwy 98 N Lakeland FL 33805
(863) 224-2677
January 9, 2018 * 11:00 a.m.

| | | |
|------|---------------------|------------------|
| 1410 | Selena Scott | Household goods |
| 5204 | Kerchira Bishop | Household goods |
| 1428 | Kim Locke | Household goods |
| 3004 | John Peterson | Household goods |
| 5303 | Shonte Cobbs | Household goods |
| 5110 | Katelyn MacArthur | Household goods |
| 2307 | Ashley Whitfield | Household goods |
| 1119 | Heather Kuhn | Household goods |
| 5003 | Charde'Jah Robinson | Household goods |
| 1007 | Ericka Bell | Boxes, Furniture |

Extra Space Storage 1493
2190 Harden Blvd, Lakeland FL 33803
(863) 680-8092
January 9, 2018 * 2:00 p.m.

| | | |
|-------|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| C0405 | Sheryle Burkett | furniture & household goods |
| B0325 | Summer Potts | household Goods |
| C0470 | Xael Jimenez | household furnishing |
| C0465 | Amanda Galvani | household items |
| D0547 | Blaine Fisher | household items |
| F0997 | Jeremy Robertson | household items |
| C0439 | Devanshae Broadnax | household goods |
| D0564 | Malachi Livingston | household goods |
| A0115 | Christina Bozeman | household goods |
| A0105 | Rita Greig | household items, furniture |
| F0921 | Tari Terry | household goods |
| C0418 | Alexis Stevenson | Furniture |
| C0480 | Carlie Rowan | clothes, storage totes, mattress |
| E0640 | Lakesha Campbell | household goods |

Purchase must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

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Miss Florida 2017 Sara Zeng (red) poses with Miss Florida's Outstanding Teen 2017 Reece Weaver (green) and (center) Paige Chavez, Miss Winter Haven High Class of 2018.

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WINTER HAVEN NEWS

Girls Inc. Sock Tree project lives on

By CHARLES A BAKER III
CBAKER@SCMGINC.COM

WINTER HAVEN – Another generation of women is carrying out a simple but important holiday tradition that started in 2008 at the non-profit Girls Inc. A decade ago, long-time Dennison Middle School English teacher Phyllis Gilbert started the tradition of decorating a Christmas tree at Girls Inc. with colorful socks that the girls could pick off the tree just before the holiday. After retiring from the Polk County School Board, Gilbert started volunteering at Girls Inc. regularly and became popular tutoring in the homework room, among many other places where she donated her time. “Phyllis knew a great deal about history,” said Girls Inc. Executive Director Peggy Threlkel. “When we gave her the She Knows Where

She is Going award she laughed. She was quite old at that point and she said she should be getting the She Knows Where She Has Been award.” Before passing to a better life in 2014, Gilbert was also a member of Friends of the Library, the Polk County Historical Association, the Woman’s Club of Winter Haven and she won the Winter Haven Chamber of Commerce Banker’s Cup award in 1997. “Phyllis was a long time member of the Woman’s Club of Winter Haven,” said member Jane McGinnis. “She is my inspiration for volunteering at the Winter Haven Library, Girls Inc. and the Woman’s Club of Winter Haven. When she was no longer active physically she bequeathed her idea to (club member) Claire Apfelbaum. A vibrant member of our

organization, Claire was passionate about the Sock Tree project.” Threlkel said on the days Claire did not volunteer in the homework room the girls would ask where she was. “The girls would clammer for Miss Claire,” Threlkel said. “Is Miss Claire coming today? Where is Miss Claire they would say.” Now that Claire has also passed, another generation of Woman’s Club of Winter Haven members have taken up the role of decorating the Sock Tree. On Dec. 18 Woman’s Club of Winter Haven members McGinnis, Suzanne Sherry, Peggy Fuller, Cheryl Price and Lisa Brown carried on the tradition. “We continue to share the special ideas of these two women on an annual basis not only to benefit the girls but also to honor and remember our deceased friends and



PHOTO BY CHARLES A. BAKER III

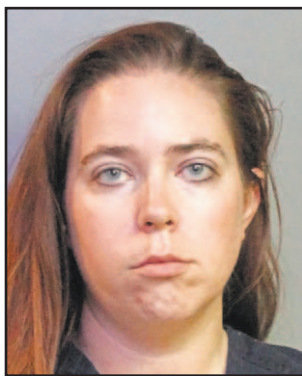
From left Woman’s Club of Winter Haven members Cheryl Price, Lisa Brown, Peggy Fuller, Suzanne Sherry and Jane McGinnis finished decorating the Sock Tree at Girls Inc. Dec. 18.

members,” McGinnis said. The Woman’s Club of Winter Haven has been in existence since 1913. They meet on the first Thursday of the month from November through May and guests are always welcome. Threlkel said that Girls Inc. is always in need of more volunteers like members of the Woman’s Club. “Volunteer mentors help the girls have a connection with women who are active in the community,” Threlkel said. “Seeing others give back means they may do the same thing when they grow up.” To donate your time, stop by Girls Inc. or call 863-967-2864.

Physics teacher facing five years prison

By CHARLES A BAKER III
CBAKER@SCMGINC.COM

WINTER HAVEN – A 27-year-old Winter Haven woman and former physics teacher at Haines City High School was arrested on third-degree felony charges Dec. 18 for allegedly transmitting sexually explicit messages over the course of around a year to a 15-year-old from Texas. In early September, Robin Dunlap voluntarily turned herself in to the Winter Haven Police Department saying she had been sending explicit video and other sexual messages to a boy she believed to be 19 “and still in high school” up



Robin Dunlap until the child’s mother confronted her online. After the child was interviewed out of state, a WHPD detective made a follow up contact with Dunlap Dec. 17. Dunlap reportedly admitted to maintaining the sexual online relationship. An anonymous student

who was a member of Dunlap’s physics class told the newspaper that after Dunlap was arrested and school official told students that the Polk County School Board had not been previously warned about what Dunlap admitted in September. The student said Dunlap was teaching up until her arrest. The arrest affidavit documents three subsequent days in September when the student and teacher exchanged illegal messages and a text conversation dated Dec. 11 in which Dunlap is referred to as “yes mistress” in reply to what appear to be messages from Dunlap ordering

the boy to do things for her online. “He is the only person that (I) can talk to and the only one that understands (me),” Dunlap said according to court documents. “(Dunlap said) she continued to speak to the victim because the victim was making suicidal statements.” Her husband filed for divorce in November. Dunlap was granted pre-trial release on \$50,000 bond Thursday with court-ordered monitoring, no contact with anybody under the age of 18 and no internet

use. The relationship reportedly started on Xbox One and moved to a program called Kik and GoogleHangouts.

NOTICE
ERICA DAWN STUBBS HALSTEAD
The State of Tennessee, Department of Children’s Services, has filed a petition against you seeking to terminate forever your parental rights to Savannah Lynn Stubbs. It appears that ordinary process of law cannot be served upon you because your whereabouts are unknown. You are hereby ORDERED to serve upon Rebecca Brady, Attorney for the Tennessee Department of Children Services, 600 Hearthwood Court, Cookeville, Tennessee 38506, (931) 646-3013, an Answer to the Petition for Termination of Parental Rights filed by the Tennessee Department of Children Services, within thirty (30) days of the last day of publication of this notice, which will be December 27, 2017, and pursuant to Rule 103(c)(3) of the Tenn. R. Juv. P. you must also appear in the Circuit Court of Putnam County, Tennessee at Cookeville, Tennessee on the 29th day of January, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. for the Adjudicatory Hearing on the Petition for Termination of Parental Rights filed by the State of Tennessee, Department of Children’s Services. If you fail to do so, a default judgment will be taken against you pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 36-1-117(n) and Rule 55 of the Tenn. R. of Civ. P. for the relief demanded in the Petition. You may view and obtain a copy of the Petition and any other subsequently filed legal documents at the Circuit Court Clerk’s Office, Cookeville, Tennessee. 12/6,13,20,27 adno=3523093



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Citrus money passes House but could stall in Senate

By **JIM TURNER**

THE NEWS SERVICE OF FLORIDA

TALLAHASSEE – Federal relief for Florida citrus growers cleared the U.S. House on Thursday, Dec. 21, but its fate remained unclear in the Senate, which may not take up the package until January.

Before the House vote, leaders separated an \$81 billion disaster-relief package that includes citrus money from a short-term funding resolution needed to keep the government open through mid-January.

The move drew protests from some members of Florida's congressional delegation, as they believe the relief



ROONEY

“must-pass” label of the funding bill.

U.S. Rep. Tom Rooney, a Charlotte County Republican who helped lead efforts to get the crop-damage money into the relief package this week, was among those who voted against the short-term funding bill.

“I have been repeatedly told and promised that federal aid would be on the way,” Rooney said in a prepared statement. “The bill released

package, which includes \$2.6 billion for crop losses, became less likely to win Senate approval without the

this week containing my request to help Florida's farmers recover from the storm became a piece in a political and partisan game. The political reality is that the only way this disaster funding was going to be signed into law before Christmas was for it to be combined with the continuing resolution.”

U.S. Rep. Dennis Ross, a Lakeland Republican,



ROSS

farmers. “Today's continuing resolution says to

Florida farmers: You're on your own,” Ross said in a prepared statement. “It neglects Florida's citrus producers who needed something – anything – to help them stave off this devastation.”

The vote on the relief package came after Republicans cobbled together enough support to narrowly approve the continuing resolution, which is aimed at keeping the government funded through Jan. 19.

State officials and members of Florida's congressional delegation have pursued citrus-industry funding through a series of previous disaster packages.

Florida Agriculture Commissioner Adam Putnam's department

estimated in October that the citrus industry took a \$761 million hit from Hurricane Irma. Since then, a number of lawmakers and Putnam said the damage estimate has grown to possibly more than \$1 billion, as fruit continued to fall early from trees that were flooded by the September storm.

State officials, including Putnam and Florida Citrus Commission Chairman G. Ellis Hunt, rushed to Washington on Wednesday to put faces behind the disaster funding request.

Putnam said in a release Thursday that Florida's agriculture industry cannot fully recover “without the emergency assistance.”

In addition to

the citrus losses, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services has estimated that Irma inflicted \$624 million in damage to the nursery industry, \$237.5 million in damage to the cattle industry, \$11.8 million in damage to dairy farmers, \$383 million in damage to the sugar industry, and \$180 million in damage to vegetable and non-citrus fruit growers.

Florida growers were overlooked in two prior disaster-relief packages approved by Congress in response to Hurricane Harvey in Texas, Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands and wildfires in California.

Imported citrus numbers continue to grow

By **JIM TURNER**

THE NEWS SERVICE OF FLORIDA

TALLAHASSEE – An increase in imported orange juice is anticipated by the Florida Citrus Commission to offset a decline in tax revenue from the state's hurricane-battered growers, who await congressional action on disaster relief.

The commission – during a brief conference call Wednesday, Dec. 20, agreed to shift \$556,147 from reserves to help cover the Department of Citrus' budget for the current fiscal year, with the transfer leaving a \$682 negative balance. Taxes on citrus pay for the department's operations.

Christine Marion, commission secretary, said continued demand by Floridians for orange juice is expected to increase the need for citrus to be imported, which – because it is taxed like citrus grown in the state – should offset the negative balance.

Unlike in past years, imported citrus now accounts for more than half – currently topping 55 percent – of the citrus taxed by the state.

Meanwhile, Florida agriculture leaders, including Agriculture Commissioner Adam Putnam and Citrus Commission Chairman G. Ellis Hunt, rushed to Washington, D.C. as some kinks emerged in a reported deal announced Tuesday to include \$2.6 million for crop losses – with an emphasis on citrus – in an expanded \$81 billion disaster-relief bill.

“It's a roller coaster up here,” Hunt said Wednesday morning. “We've had some good news yesterday, and

then we a little jumped the tracks, maybe, at the moment. ... There's quite a team assembled and we're all working extremely hard and trying to kind of push this thing over the finish line.”

The overall relief package – nearly double the White House's requested \$44 billion proposal – has been attached to a short-term “continuing resolution” needed to keep the federal government open through Jan. 19.

The resolution was initially expected to go before the U.S. House on Tuesday, but is now expected to come up for a vote later this week. The measure would then go before the Senate.

Issues have emerged regarding reauthorization of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act in the package, while Texas officials are pushing to get more money for its post-Hurricane Harvey recovery.

The plan is the third disaster-relief package this year in response to hurricanes in Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico and wildfires in California. The biggest parts are \$27.6 billion that would go to replenish the Federal Emergency Management Agency's disaster-relief account and \$27.8 billion for community development block grants that could be used toward flood prevention and infrastructure repairs.

Gov. Rick Scott released a statement Wednesday saying disaster relief is critical for the agriculture industry, as well as local school districts educating students who came to Florida from Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria. He also said the package needs to be clear that money would go to infrastructure projects such

as repairs to the Herbert Hoover Dike around Lake Okeechobee.

“As Hurricane Irma was bearing down on our state, we were forced to evacuate communities surrounding the lake due to safety concerns identified by the Army Corps of Engineers,” Scott wrote. “The lake reached dangerous levels, and Florida cannot go through another hurricane season without exploring all avenues of federal funding to fix the dike.”

For Florida's citrus growers, on pace for the lowest harvest since the 1944-1945 growing season, the impact of Hurricane Irma in September came after they have struggled for a decade against citrus greening disease.

Putnam's department estimated in October that the state's agriculture industry suffered a \$2.5 billion hit from Irma, with the citrus industry losses at \$761 million. The citrus figure is expected to top \$1 billion as damages continue to be reported and some growers in the southwestern part of the state face 70 percent to 90 percent losses.

Putnam, seeking citrus-industry aid in the relief package, has warned imports could take hold in greater numbers as the signature crop continues to struggle while beverage companies seek alternative sources of citrus.

“You have the major brands, Coke, Pepsi, Florida's Natural, who are trying to meet the needs of consumers,” Putnam said last week. “And in many cases, it's going to result in additional imports from Brazil, which also undermines Florida citrus and its market share.”



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BARTOW NEWS

DAR put 10 wreaths at Bushnell

By GAYE HARLOW
CORRESPONDENT

Bartow Daughters of the American Revolution continues to honor the service of our military veterans. For the second year, the chapter donated \$150 to purchase 10 wreaths for the Wreaths Across America project at the National Cemetery at Bushnell.

Six members joined 11,000 other volunteers at Bushnell on Dec. 16

to place 27,000 wreaths on the gravesites of U.S. veterans buried at this cemetery. A remembrance ceremony took place at the cemetery afterwards.

Members also visited patients at the VA Hospital in Tampa with 200 books, 47 pair of socks, a bag of toiletries, more than 50 T-shirts, and 731 signed Christmas cards. After a festive meeting in a member's home, holiday

refreshments were delivered to elderly members and to Bartow police and fire departments. The DAR had 18 worn out American flags taken to the American Legion for proper retirement.

Chapter Honorary Regent Pauline Snapp passed away recently, and the chapter will work with Bartow Parks Department to plant a tree in her memory on Jan. 16.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Sue Fahnestock, Dorinda Garrard, Kerry Kennedy, Doris Wooden, Linda Munroe, Jenny Mudgett, Martha Bolton helped lay 49 wreaths at the National Cemetery in Bushnell.



FILE PHOTO

People watch the trees burn Wednesday night at Mary Holland Park as dozens of trees burn at the 78th Annual Christmas tree burning.

Christmas trees to burn on New Year's Eve

Repeating a tradition established in 1936, Bartow will burn its discarded Christmas trees at 6:30 p.m. on Sunday, New Year's Eve.

The event was established by the late Nye E. Jordan, who said it was bad luck to have a Christmas tree in the home after New Year's. Jordan was a volunteer firefighter, and friends suspected that he may have established the superstition himself as a way to encourage Bartowans to get their dried trees out of the home because of the fire hazard they represented.

The tree burning will be held at the south end of Mary Holland Park.

City employees gather the discarded trees from curbside after Christmas, piling them into one large "tree." Residents whose trees are not picked up may take them to the park and toss them onto the pile.

There will be brief group singing; prayers for the New Year by Rev. Becky Toalster, rector of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church; and a history of the event recounted by S.L. Frisbie, IV, retired publisher of The Polk County Democrat.

Bartow firefighters will be on hand to set the trees afire, and to keep watch until the pile is reduced to

glowing embers.

Eda Marchman is chairman of the event, as she has been for 43 years.

When it appeared that the event might be abandoned because nobody wanted to be in charge, Marchman stepped forward and announced that she would be chairman. Nobody has challenged her for her self-appointed

leadership position.

While bleachers will be provided, some spectators prefer the comfort of bringing their own folding chairs. Mosquito repellent also is recommended.

For information on the event, see Frisbie's column, "Burning Christmas trees; because we've always done it" on Page 4 of today's issue.

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STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE PERMIT

The Department of Environmental Protection gives notice of its intent to issue a permit to Robby's Septic Tank & Plumbing Service, 9158 Hall Road, Lakeland, FL 33809, to operate the existing Septage Management Facility (SMF), Robby's SMF, and Land Application Site (LAS), Robby's LAS.

The SMF is designed to treat 0.010 Million Gallons per day (MGD) of septage by lime-stabilization. The LAS consists of approximately 64.86 total acres to be used for treated septage application. The LAS will be used to grow grasses for a hay operation. The SMF and LAS are located at latitude 28° 11' 25.4" N, longitude 82° 2' 27.4" W on 10300 Old Dade City Road, Lakeland, FL 33810 in Polk County.

The Department has assigned permit file number FLA993905-001-DW3S/NP to the proposed project. The intent to issue and application file are available for public inspection during normal business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except legal holidays, at the Department's Southwest District Office, 13051 N Telecom Pkwy, Suite 101, Temple Terrace, Florida 33637-0926, at phone number (813) 470-5700.

The Department will issue the permit with the attached conditions unless a timely petition for an administrative hearing is filed under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes, within fourteen days of receipt of notice. The procedures for petitioning for a hearing are set forth below.

A person whose substantial interests are affected by the Department's proposed permitting decision may petition for an administrative proceeding (hearing) under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes. The petition must contain the information set forth below and must be filed (received by the Clerk) in the Office of General Counsel of the Department at 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, Mail Station 35, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000. Under Rule 62-110.106(4), Florida Administrative Code, a person may request an extension of the time for filing a petition for an administrative hearing.

The request must be filed (received by the Clerk) in the Office of General Counsel before the end of the time period for filing a petition for an administrative hearing. Petitions filed by any persons other than those entitled to written notice under Section 120.60(3), Florida Statutes, must be filed within fourteen days of publication of the notice or within fourteen days of receipt of the written notice, whichever occurs first. Section 120.60(3), Florida Statutes, however, also allows that any person who has asked the Department in writing for notice of agency action may file a petition within fourteen days of receipt of such notice, regardless of the date of publication.

The petitioner shall mail a copy of the petition to the applicant at the address indicated above at the time of filing. The failure of any person to file a petition or request for an extension of time within fourteen days of receipt of notice shall constitute a waiver of that person's right to request an administrative determination (hearing) under Sections 120.569 and 120.57, Florida Statutes. Any subsequent intervention (in a proceeding initiated by another party) will be only at the discretion of the presiding officer upon the filing of a motion in compliance with Rule 28-106.205, Florida Administrative Code.

A petition that disputes the material facts on which the Department's action is based must contain the following information, as indicated in Rule 28-106.201, Florida Administrative Code:

- (a) The name and address of each agency affected and each agency's file or identification number, if known;
- (b) The name, address, any e-mail address, any facsimile number, and telephone number of the petitioner, if the petitioner is not represented by an attorney or a qualified representative; the name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner's representative, if any, which shall be the address for service purposes during the course of the proceeding; and an explanation of how the petitioner's substantial interests will be affected by the determination;
- (c) A statement of when and how the petitioner received notice of the Department's decision;
- (d) A statement of all disputed issues of material fact. If there are none, the petition must so indicate;
- (e) A concise statement of the ultimate facts alleged, including the specific facts the petitioner contends warrant reversal or modification of the Department's proposed action;
- (f) A statement of the specific rules or statutes the petitioner contends require reversal or modification of the Department's proposed action, including an explanation of how the alleged facts relate to the specific rules or statutes; and
- (g) A statement of the relief sought by the petitioner, stating precisely the action petitioner wishes the Department to take with respect to the Department's proposed action.

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

Mediation under Section 120.573, Florida Statutes, is not available for this proceeding. 12/27/17

POLK COUNTY SPORTS

Taylor: President and coach



FIVE GOOD MINUTES WITH...

(At the top level, arena football isn't having a very good off season, with the Tampa Bay Storm, an Arena Football League for the past 26 years, announcing last week they were closing down. Leaving the storied league but with four active franchises at the moment. But below that, the sport is actually doing pretty well, as the Florida Tarpons have shown. The American Arena League team, which will enter its seventh season next spring, and its first in Polk County, has played in five league championship games since its start in Fort Myers. Michael Taylor has been a part of it all, as president and coach of the team, and is excited to bring pro ball back to the RP Funding Center in a big way. The league has teams all the way from Austin, Texas, to Atlanta to Vermont, and will play a nine-game regular season starting in March. The Tarpons open their regular home season April 14 when they host the Richmond Roughriders, the team they lost to in the league championships last year on the last play of the game. Taylor reflects upon the sport, the team, and what the Tarpons are all about. For information, visit www.floridatarpons.com.)

SCMG: So what's the secret? Playoffs in six straight years, five championship game appearances, what have you figured out about the arena game?

MT: "You know, the key to the arena game is to have veteran, experienced players. There's no substitute for experience in this game. The seasons aren't long enough to spend a lot of time developing people at key positions like quarterback. And believe it or not, offensive lineman are the next most valuable. Center is the hardest offensive line position to find, especially in the arena game, because you have three defensive linemen so the center is always going to have someone in their face the entire game."

SCMG: Tell us about the AAL and how it came about, and your

expectations for the level of play?

MT: The AAL is a merger between two leagues, the Arena Pro Football League which we were in last year, and the Can-Am League. So we're excited about the teams that have come in. Having a group of teams that have been in existence for some time is really important. And that's what we have this year. I think it's going to be more competitive than what we've had the last several years. It's very exciting, for all of us, including for our fans. We get to play the team that beat us twice last year in the home opening game. And I'm sure Richmond will be better this year than last, they were a first year team. So now they've got a season under their belts, and I know from some of their signings, they'll be better. The biggest thing will be getting them in our environment. Both games last year were in Richmond."



SCMG: You're both president and coach. Does one ever talk to the other?

MT: Well, the president second-guesses everything everyone does. I'm notorious for being very prepared for any situation, so having a valuable staff and being able to put a lot of things on them is important to us. I'm a big believer in using all your resources."

SCMG: You've got Chris Wallace coming back to play quarterback. Tell us about him.

MT: "Chris has played for something like 17 seasons of arena football. He's the all-time passing leader for af2, and he played for the Florida Firecats which was the af2 team in Fort Myers that was the team there prior to the Tarpons. So that's kind of how we got together. His experience is what makes Chris so valuable. He gives you a leg up playing against guys that are new to the game."

SCMG: And what makes him so successful in the arena game?

MT: "Chris has an incredible IQ for the arena game. In all the years I've been around the game, he by far and away has the highest IQ for the game itself that I've seen. Chris is almost like a player coach. He calls 99 percent of the offensive plays. That's not usual in

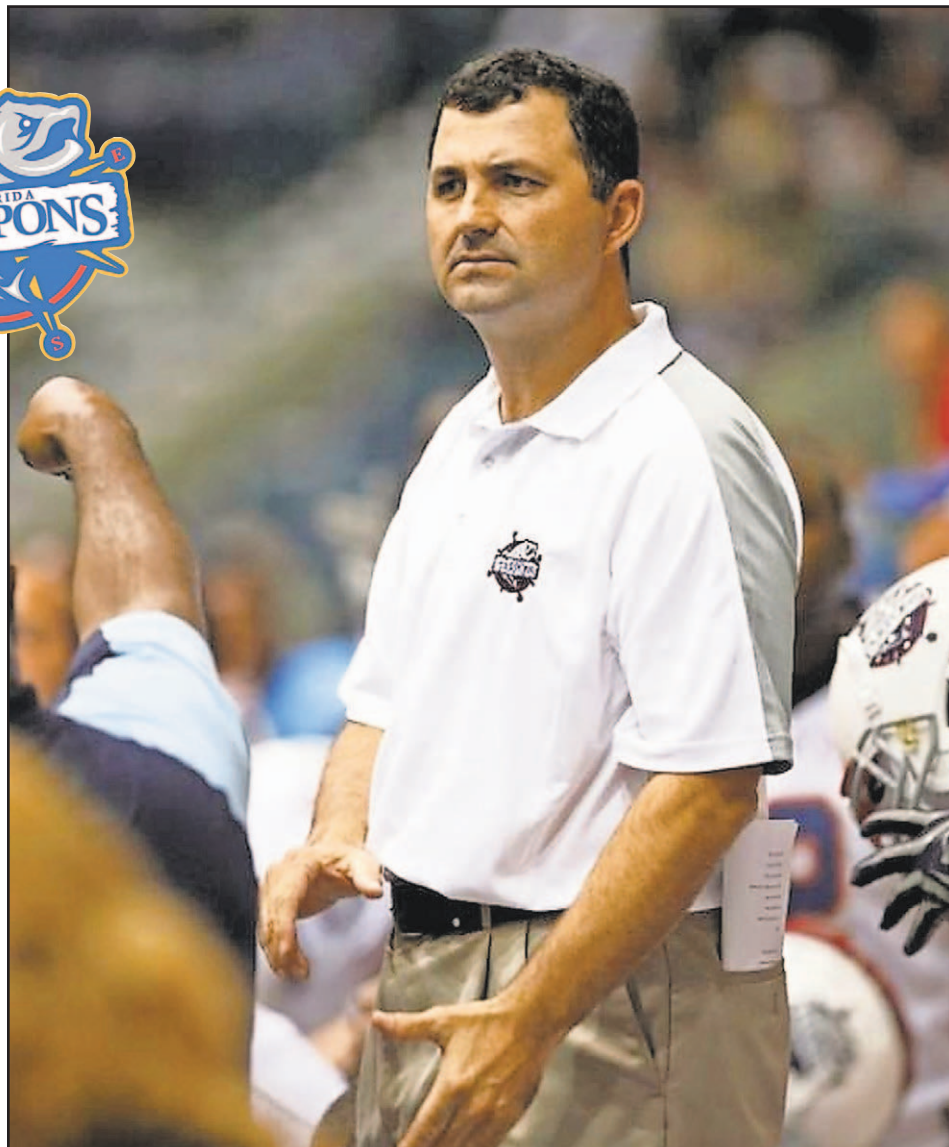


PHOTO PROVIDED

Michael Taylor is president and coach of the Florida Tarpons.

this game, but when you have someone of Chris Wallace's experience and talent, I'm a big believer in using your resources. He's very adept at in game changes and things like that. In between possessions, or if we see things during the drive, we'll throw a play in but Chris, ever since he's been with the Tarpons, we've let him call his own plays."

SCMG: And I know your dad is one of the people, one of the coaches actually, who have influenced your success in the game. How is that?

MT: "When you say the biggest influence, I think of the coaches who have helped shape my beliefs and philosophy on which the Tarpons are

built. I would have to first start with the first coach I ever had which was my dad. He coached me from 5 years old up to high school. My dad was a builder by trade. Some of my earliest childhood memories are being with him at the ball park or on the job. I would say that's where I learned work ethic. Probably the biggest lesson I have ever learned in life is take pride in your work and be willing to put your name on anything you do. My criteria for member of the Tarpons are based on those things. It doesn't matter if you are talking about Loyd and the training staff or Dr. Buchanan and the medical team, they all have pride in their work and put their name on the results."

Amateur championship coming after Irma postponement



The Scouting Report

A look a head at some of the interesting, fun and unusual sports and recreation events in our neck of the woods.

AM I THE BEST AM? – One of the many casualties of this fall's Hurricane Irma was one of the area's most important golf tournaments, the Polk County Men's Amateur Championship. The 41st renewal of the festivities were rescheduled, and the new date is Jan. 6 and 7 at Lone Palm Golf Club. If you're good enough to play in it, you probably

already know that the deadline to enter is Dec. 30, so tee it up in a hurry if you're interested. If you just want to spectate, and there's some pretty good gold on display, you still have time to put in on your calendar.

WORLD CUP WANNABES – Soccer continues to grow in popularity, so it was pretty much considered a disaster this fall when it failed to qualify for the 2018 World Cup. Part of the hand wringing is prompted by how young talent gets identified and developed in the U.S. That's why it's kind of a big deal when the Florida Youth Soccer Association will hold a Olympic Development training event in Auburndale Jan 6 and 7 at Lake Myrtle Park. Boys ages 12 and 13 and girls age 11 will be taking the

pitch. Other boys and girls will visit in March for a similar event then. According to the FYSA, the program is to identify players for our men's and women's Youth National Teams. The selection process takes place through state, regional and national events. The primary benefit to the player is to be able to train, play, and compete against the best players in their age group." For more information, go to www.fysa.com.

AHOY MATEY – Oh to be a kid again. What's more fun than dressing up and pretending to be a pirate for a few hours. The Bartow Recreation Department will be giving youngsters just that chance soon, with its "Pirate Play Day" on Jan. 6 at the Mary Holland Pirate Ship playground,

starting at 11 a.m. We're most interested in the edible treasure chest that is supposed to be part of the festivities. You can register at the civic center of Carver Center, or by calling the city's parks and recreation department at 863-534-0120.

PLAYGROUND PAUSE – Just as a heads up since so many in East Polk like to visit the Lake Eva Community Park recreation facilities, the playgrounds there will be closed starting Jan. 2. The city will be doing resurfacing and structure renovation work, which is expected to last until about the end of February. City officials say they'll update the progress of the work at the end of January when they'll have a better idea just how much of February will be lost.

POLK COUNTY SPORTS

A rare bird for Christmas



Brian Ackley
Ackley's Angles

Winter Haven's Ed Rizer got his Christmas present early this year. It wasn't under the tree, but in it. It wasn't colorfully wrapped, in fact, it was pretty drab. There was no bow on the package, just a beak.

Rizer is an avid birdwatcher, and the rarely-sighted fork-tailed flycatcher is what made this the happiest of holidays.

Hordes of camera-wielding bird-watchers have spent much of the last couple of weeks descending on 80 Foot Road east of Bartow to delight in the bird, which hasn't been overly camera shy, taking roost during the day in an unassuming clump of trees just north of Cox Road.

"There's only a couple seen in America each year, all the way up to Massachusetts, mostly coastal, but there's no rhyme or reason to where they're going to go," Rizer said. "It's a bird from the tropics, that's prone to wander from time-to-time. He'll probably stay for a while, he may winter here."

It's likely the bird was attracted to the spot because other flycatchers, including the western king bird and scissor-tailed flycatcher, have made it home for a while now.

"They've been wintering here for at least the last three years. They associate with each other and roost together," Rizer said.

The big, open, rural fields are attractive to the birds as feeding grounds, as is an area around Sand Lake where they apparently go at night to nest.

Rizer said he lost count somewhere around 195 as to the "lifer" birds he's seen. That's what birdwatchers call them when they personally spy a species they have never seen before. But he estimated that this reclusive flycatcher was maybe around 220 for now.

Of course, Polk is a prime bird watching area, even for novices. The Florida Rare Bird Alert Network indicates just in the last week along, sightings of clay-colored sparrows, an American Redstart, Kentucky Warbler and Northern Waterthrush.

Saddle Creek Park and Circle B Bar Ranch are among the hottest spots. Circle B watchers have recorded over 200 different species at the county-managed site, not to mention almost four-dozen different butterfly species. With paved trails and tram rides, watching doesn't get much easier than this.

Saddle Creek is close behind, with



PHOTO BY ED RIZER

This Polk County resident, Ed Rizer, got a Christmas present on top of the tree this year: a fork-tailed flycatcher that was in a tree on 80 Foot Road. The bird attracted a crowd of birdwatchers all week to see the rare species.

about 170 different birds noted there. Bald Eagles and the striking kite-tailed swallow, the biggest of the swallow family that will take your breath away upon sighting, are regular visitors. Mosaic Peace River Park is another popular spot to see kite-tailed swallows, but the boardwalk park has been closed since hurricane Irma. The canoe and kayak launch area just across the

road, however, is open. One of Winter Haven's hidden gems is the Lake Region Audubon's Street Nature Center on Lameraux Road. The indigo bunting and painted bunting are striking reminders of how beautiful birds can be, and are often seen during the winter there. Lake Kissimmee State Park has also had some 200 different species sighted.

New pickleball season approaching

By **NEIL SIMPSON**
CORRESPONDENT

The South Central Florida Pickleball League was established by David Majick of Highlands Ridge, Avon Park, in 2011 to promote the game of pickleball while enhancing the lifestyle of residents of 55-plus communities. The league has promoted positive social interaction between the communities while allowing players to test their pickleball skills against the best local talent. The league is built upon fair play, honesty and a true sense of enjoyment.

League membership has changed through the years. Solivita in Poinciana and River Bend in LaBelle competed in the past. In 2017 Frostproof entered a team for the first time and Sun 'N Lake returned after a one-year absence.

Teams for 2018 are: Del Webb, Orlando, Lake Ashton from Lake Wales, Frostproof, with players from Camp Inn, Lily Lake and Rainbow RV Resort, Avon Park's Highlands Ridge plus Sun 'N Lake and Tanglewood from Sebring.

This "Best Eight" league is open to women and men with each club fielding four teams of two players ranked in ability from one through four. The majority of the players are men but there are always some women involved.

In recent years, some communities have decided to field a women's only team. Del Webb, Highlands Ridge and Tanglewood have had a team for the past few seasons. For 2018 they'll be joined in the SCFPL Ladies' League by entries from Frostproof and Buttonwood Bay of Sebring.

On Dec. 2, representatives from all 11 teams met to review rules, make



PHOTO BY NEIL SIMPSON

Team representatives; back row, from left; Bob Auchenbach, Del Webb; Joseph Oblon, Sun 'N Lake; Mickey Dorman, Highlands Ridge; Dave Shaner, Highlands Ridge. Middle row; JP Lefebvre, Frostproof; Todd Berger, Frostproof; Rhonda Berger, Frostproof; Jim Jones, Sun 'N Lake; Dwight Berg, Highlands Ridge; Ralph Rickard, Lake Ashton. Front row; Charlie Pirrello, Dale Webb; Daniel Rheault, Frostproof; Donna Landers, Highlands Ridge; Cheryl McCullough, Tanglewood; Susan Price, Highlands Ridge; Dan Pillitteri, Tanglewood.

a few changes, establish the season's schedule and play a little pickleball. The 2018 season will begin the week of Jan. 15 and wind up with the Ladies Championship on March 8 at Del Webb and the Best Eight Championship, also being hosted by Del Webb, on March 10.

Before the season gets underway, teams will be holding tryouts in their

communities and getting in lots of practice in an effort to wrestle the Ladies' title away from Tanglewood and take the Best Eight banner back from Lake Ashton.

The new year will bring lots of action to courts throughout the region. Upcoming tournaments include:
Jan. 19-21 Riverbend Gamma Pickleball Classic, LaBelle.

Feb. 8-11 Silver Palms Gamma Pickleball Classic, Okeechobee.
Feb. 10-11 Heartland Games For Active Adults Pickleball Tournament, Tanglewood, Sebring.
Feb. 23-25 Tanglewood Winter Classic, Sebring.
Mar. 6-7 Polk Senior Games Pickleball Tournament, Solivita, Poinciana.

POLICE BEAT

The information is gathered from police, sheriff's office, Florida Highway Patrol, jail and fire records. Not every arrest leads to a conviction and guilt or innocence is determined by the court system.

Man charged with murder

A Winter Haven man wanted for first-degree murder, Johnny Ray



OWSLEY

Owsley Jr., turned himself in to the Polk County Jail where he was arrested on an outstanding warrant.

Owsley was wanted for the Dec. 11 murder of Patrick Adam Thrower, 35, of Winter Haven.

Polk County Sheriff's Office homicide detectives are investigating the murder of Thrower, who was shot to death on Monday, Dec. 11 at Ave J NW and 25th Street NW in Winter Haven.

Detectives identified the Owsley Jr., 32, of Winter Haven.

When deputies arrived at the scene Monday, Thrower was suffering from multiple gunshot wounds to his chest and back and was transported by EMS to Lakeland Regional Medical Center. Thrower succumbed to his injuries at 2 p.m.

Detectives learned that Owsley arrived at his residence, confronted Thrower, and told him to get out of his (Owsley's) house. Thrower had been invited to the home by Owsley's live-in girlfriend. Owsley and Thrower exited the residence together, and then Owsley shot Thrower.

Man charged with attempted murder

On Wednesday, Dec. 20, PCSO deputies arrested Jahmari McCray, 18, for attempted murder and other charges in the shooting of a 62-year-old Winter Haven woman.

At 5:15 a.m. on Sunday, Dec. 10, 2017, a Winter Haven woman was shot one time when she was sitting in her car at the Circle K store located at 1108 Spirit Lake Road. No robbery occurred, and the suspect fled on foot.

The suspect was described as a young black male in his early 20s wearing a black hoodie with white lettering, and black pants. Through tips from the community, he was positively identified as McCray, with ties to Winter Haven and Bartow.

Detectives obtained a warrant for his arrest for attempted murder, carrying a concealed firearm, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, discharging a firearm in public, and four counts of violation of probation.

Deputies learned that McCray was placed on

probation in October, and had an ankle monitor attached. On Dec. 5, McCray cut off the ankle monitor and had a VOP warrant issued for his arrest at that time.

On Tuesday, Dec. 19, information about McCray and his prior mugshot was sent out to the media and posted to social media. On Wednesday, Dec. 20, during the evening hours, McCray was located in the Gordonville area of Bartow due to an anonymous tip.

He was taken into custody peacefully.

Due to another, deputies recovered the gun that McCray used.

McCray was taken to the Polk County Jail on his warrant, and deputies filed additional charges of possession of an altered firearm (the serial number was scratched off), and attempted armed robbery.

Polk teacher arrested for domestic violence

Polk County Sheriff's Office deputies arrested Auburndale Central Elementary School teacher Holly Seckinger, 44, Bartow, for battery/domestic violence on Wednesday, Dec. 20, stemming from an incident that occurred on Tuesday, Dec. 19.

The following is the probable cause from the arrest affidavit:

"On Dec. 19, police responded to 1807 Imperial Blvd, Bartow, in reference to a family disturbance. Upon arrival, police contacted Holly Seckinger, who said she and her live-in boyfriend, Dennis Ayers, were involved in a verbal argument. Seckinger said Ayers went to his mother's residence.

Police contacted Ayers at his mother's residence, where he advised he and Seckinger were involved in a verbal argument; however, it turned physical when Seckinger intentionally threw a metal chair at him, striking him in the hand. Ayers advised this was done intentionally and against his will.

He suffered a minor scratch to the hand because of this incident, police reported.

The two are in an intimate dating relationship and reside together as family.

A criminal history check revealed Seckinger to have no previous battery convictions.

Three arrested at area parks

On Dec. 21, Undercover Vice Unit conducted an operation at Saddle Creek

Park and Gator Creek Preserve in response to complaints about lewd activity at these parks and three suspects were arrested and each were trespassed from all county parks.

Kenneth Davis, 75, of Bartow, exposed himself to a male undercover detective at Saddle Creek Park in Lakeland, and solicited the detective to perform a lewd act.



DAVIS

He told detectives he's been married for 40 years. Davis was charged with one count indecent exposure and one count soliciting another to commit lewdness. He was released from jail after posting \$1,000 bond.

Ervin Mulligan, 66, of Lakeland, exposed himself to a male undercover PCSO detective at Gator Creek Preserve in Lakeland, and solicited the detective to perform a lewd act, police reported.



MULLIGAN

Mulligan told detectives (and they confirmed) he was arrested at Saddle Creek Park during a similar undercover operation in 2010. At that time he was trespassed from all county parks. He also told detectives he's been married for 12 years.

He was charged with one count indecent exposure, one count soliciting another to commit lewdness and one count trespassing. He was booked into the Polk County Jail on \$2,000 bond.

Robert Ross, 70, of North Carolina, solicited a male undercover detective to perform a lewd act, and grabbed the detective against the detective's will at Saddle Creek Park in Lakeland, police reported.

Ross was arrested and charged with one count battery and one count soliciting another to commit lewdness.

He told detectives he's been married for 12 years. He was booked into the Polk County Jail on \$750.00 bond.

Detectives arrest organized retail crime suspects

On Dec. 20, the PCSO Organized Retail Crime Unit charged four of five suspects (one died in November) who were working together to steal hundreds of thousands of

dollars' worth of merchandise from Home Depot stores in six counties during an 11-month time frame: Polk, Hillsborough, Lake, Orange, Osceola, and Seminole.

In all, the suspects were charged with 26 felonies by the Office of the Statewide Prosecutor. The suspects committed 275 confirmed thefts during the time frame July 2016 - June 2017, depriving Home Depot of more than \$222,000, police reported.

The investigation began in April when the sheriff's office was contacted by Home Depot loss prevention personnel. The suspects worked together, under the direction of Alberto Vera-Caraballo, to take merchandise (including flooring, vanities, countertops, doors, tools, and accessories) to the self-checkout lanes, and while one suspect distracted the clerk, the other suspect walked out of the store with the items in a cart, bypassing all points of sale.

The suspects would then

return the stolen merchandise back inside the store in exchange for a Home Depot gift card. They then sold the gift cards at a jewelry store in Altamonte Springs.

Transactions involving the return of merchandise without a receipt in exchange for a Home Depot gift card require a person to use personal identification - in some incidents, the suspects used their own ID cards; in several other incidents, the suspects used the stolen identification cards from 15 victims, 13 of whom live in Florida, and two of whom live in Texas.

From November 2016 to February, the suspects committed 19 of the 275 thefts at the Home Depot store located at 6335 S. Florida Ave., Lakeland, stealing more than \$16,000 worth of merchandise to make fraudulent returns, the sheriff's office reported.

In all, the suspects obtained 271 Home Depot gift cards, totaling \$220,000 - Alberto then sold them to a jewelry store for a

total value of \$149,000 (\$71,000 less than the face value of the cards), police reported. Recently, Home Depot changed its return policy, no longer allowing the private sale of Home Depot gift cards.

Upon completion of the investigation, detectives got warrants for five suspects' arrests, then learned one suspect died on Nov. 5. She was Michdalie Palerm-Martinez, 40, the girlfriend of the ringleader, Vera-Caraballo.

She completed one fraudulent return using her own ID card, and several returns using stolen ID cards. She used a stolen ID to bond out Vera-Caraballo.

Those arrested were: Vera-Caraballo, 48, of Cypress Bay Court, Orlando

Victor Diaz-Martinez, 53, of Tikimber Lane, Orlando

Alexander Febles-Mirelis, 36, of Desoto Drive, Kissimmee

Giselle Sanchez Juala, 41, of Desoto Drive, Kissimmee

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For the community



Lora Donley, far right, greets the next family to receive gifts. The Mission had the event well organized. Each person or family received a number with their dinner plate, and were called in order to the gift line.



PHOTOS BY KATHY LEIGH BERKOWITZ

Hundreds of people, including seniors, children and families, were fed last Friday at The Mission.



This young man holds up a brand new Teddy bear he received for Christmas at the annual Christmas party held at The Mission. Even Santa took a break from preparing his sleigh to stop and see the kids.



A room full of elves, the second shift of about 35 people that turned out to help The Mission prepare for its Christmas outreach, gets busy to the task of wrapping and sorting presents for children and adults.



"Take my picture!" says Lloyd Johnson, after receiving his Christmas gift and meal during the annual Christmas breakfast at The Mission in Winter Haven.



Volunteers did everything from direct the crowd to the gift line, to slicing ham for the Christmas breakfast.



The smiles are what Christmas is all about. These two young men pose for a photo while their mom stands nearby.



Children played with their Teddy Bears and some of the parents did, too.



Beate Nelson said The Mission helped her when she was homeless for a short time. Here, she crochets a red Christmas purse while eating dinner during the Christmas party.

Hurts, Habits, Hang-ups?

Celebrate Recovery

January 5th; 7:00pm
 Haines City Christian Fellowship - 1500 Robinson Dr, Haines City
 863-659-4875 - hccfellowship.com

adno=352923

OBITUARIES

Betty Jean Feaster

Betty Jean Feaster, 83, of Babson Park, Fla., passed away Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2017, at her residence.

Betty was born March 29, 1934, in Frostproof, Fla., to Eddie and Cleo (née Tindell)

Respress. She lived most of her life in the Central Florida area before moving to Ohio in late 1970s with her second husband. She returned to Babson Park in the late 1990s. She is survived by her

daughters, Martha Dease (Raymond) of Lake Wales, Fla., Bonnie Caraway of Lake Wales, Fla.; sons, Edward Caraway (Donna) of Babson Park, Fla., Eugene Caraway of Alturas, Fla.; stepdaughters,

Terri B. Pinder of Winter Haven, Fla., Patty Waller (Lawrence) of Jacksonville, Fla.; 7 grandchildren; 1 step-grandchild; an abundance of great-grandchildren; and great-great-grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Wilson "Dick" Feaster; stepson, Jon W. Feaster; brothers, Bill Respress, Harry Respress, Bobby Respress; and two sisters, Bonnie-Marl Respress,

Edith Marlow; her former husband, Charles Caraway. Memorial service will be held after cremation at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2018, at the Marion Nelson Funeral Home Frostproof.

Hurricane Irma debris collection ends in January

Polk County has scheduled the end of all countywide Hurricane Irma debris collection by contracted haulers by the end of January.

Polk's contracted hauler will begin the final pass through of the county starting next month, which means all Polk County residents must have their hurricane debris set for pickup by Jan. 2.

The final day for Hurricane Irma debris collection is Jan. 31. If the hurricane debris isn't placed at the curbside for pickup by the time haulers make their final pass, the drivers will not return for a late pickup.

Debris should not be mixed, but separated by type, including vegetation (trees, limbs), construction and demolition (wood, fences, shingles), white goods (appliances), and bulky household items. All debris should be hurricane related. Debris piles should not encroach on roadway travel lanes, sidewalks or drainage swales. Piles of newly cut "green" routine yard waste, which includes Christmas trees, will not be collected by haulers.

Resident debris drop-off sites will close permanently Dec. 31.

The following locations are the only two remaining resident drop-off sites for Hurricane Irma vegetative debris:

- 5901 Strickland Ave. in south Lakeland on the west side of the road at the ball park.
- Mount Tabor Road in North Lakeland at the northwest corner of the intersection of North

Galloway Road and Mount Tabor Road across the street from 3008 Mount Tabor Road.

Resident debris drop-off sites are limited to Polk County residents, including all city residents as well. County staff will be checking identification to confirm residency. These sites have typically been open Friday through Monday. However, due to the While disposal is free, residents must abide by the following restrictions:

- Personal vehicles (cars/trucks) only
- Trailers not exceeding 8 feet by 16 feet
- Vegetative debris only (branches, tree trunks, shrubs, etc.)
- No commercial haulers/customers

Holy Spirit plans rummage sale

Holy Spirit Council of Catholic Women is planning its annual Rummage/Bake Sale from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Friday, Jan. 19 and from 8 a.m.-noon Saturday, Jan. 20, in the Holy Spirit Parish Center, 644 S. Ninth St., Lake Wales.

Items for sale include glassware, holiday decorations, toys, appliances, jewelry, furniture, knick-knacks, and clothing. The clothing will include men's shirts and slacks, blouses, skirts, women's slacks, jackets, and pantsuits.

Bake goods will include homemade bread, cupcakes, cookies, and muffins. Breakfast items will also be offered at a minimum cost during the sale.

A boutique table and a white

elephant table will display special items for sale.

SCORE plans workshops

Central Florida SCORE has planned Winter/Spring 2018 workshop series in partnership with the Lakeland Chamber of Commerce. The workshops are scheduled the fourth Thursday, on Jan. 25, Weave Your Web, Optimize Your Website; Feb. 22, Leads with LinkedIn; March 22, Leveraging Your Business with "The Cloud"; April 26, Increase Your Sales With Relationship Building; May 24, Balancing the Books for Growth, Simple Bookkeeping Setups.

Workshops will be held at the Chamber, 35 Lake Morton Drive, Lakeland. Registration begins at 7:45 a.m. It costs \$10.

Registration for series is now available at <https://centralflorida.score.org/> Take A Workshop link.

For information, please contact Becky Bywater, 863-838-1079

Wawa opens in Davenport

Wawa, Inc. plans opened a store at 43582 U.S. 27 in Davenport and had a grand opening for it Dec. 21.

The celebration will include exciting fanfare, ribbon cutting, a charitable hoagie building competition between the Polk County Sheriff's Office and Polk County Fire Rescue and free coffee through Dec. 31.

The grand opening of this store marks the 46th store to open in 2017.

Throughout the year, Wawa

plans to bring the Wawa experience to more communities than ever before with the opening of more than 50 new stores and remodeling of 75 existing stores throughout its operating area in the Mid-Atlantic and Florida markets.

Through the grand opening Wawa will make donations to charities selected by local police, fire firefighters and emergency responders, as a result of its Hoagies for Heroes hoagie building competition.

"Throughout 2017, as we open and remodel a record number of stores, we look forward to demonstrating our commitment to fulfilling lives with our fresh food and beverages, showcasing our latest store design and expanded offerings, and creating more meaningful connections at our stores and through our Wawa app," said Brian Schaller Sr. vice president of Real Estate and Fuel Operations for Wawa Inc. "Our grand opening celebrations are an exciting way for us to highlight our commitment to investing in new and existing communities through fun celebrations, charitable donations, and thousands of new customer connections."

Saturday added to Main Street Bartow

The Main Street Bartow Farmers Market has expanded and will now be held the third Saturday of the month running from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. as well as every Wednesday where it has been from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., at Fort

Blount Park, which is at the corner of Main Street and Broadway Avenue in downtown Bartow.

The Farmers Market vendors offer a wide variety of products including fresh produce, honey, jams, relishes, desserts, jewelry, crafts, and more. The park is also a beautiful spot for a leisurely lunch, with food vendors offering a variety of items.

More vendor space remains and Main Street Bartow continues to seek vendors offering top quality fresh products ranging from plants to seasonal flowers, sauces and other food items, and artisan crafts. The vendor fee for a 12-foot x 12-foot space is \$10 per week.

For information or a form, call 863-860-1883, Main Street Bartow at 863-519-0508, or email mainstreetbartow@verizon.net.

Get fit in the park

Fortress Fitness after taking off for the summer returns Saturday.

Marie Wilmot, local fitness guru, has designed a program for the Chamber of Commerce to help the community get fit. The events take place the second Saturday of the month at 9 a.m. in Fort Blount Park

- On the schedule is:
- Jan. 13: Greg, Rick & Krissy (UFC Box & Burn)
 - Feb. 10: Tammi Green (Empower Fit Dance)
 - March 10: Mariah Andressen-Otten (Yoga)
 - April 14: Juanita Pullum (Boot Camp)
 - May 12: Jude Dauphin (Uptown Fitness)

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SCHOOL NEWS

Schools seeking Hall of Fame nominations

Nominations are being accepted for the 2018 inductees to Polk County Public Schools' Hall of Fame.

Nominees should be individuals who attended a Polk County public school and made significant professional contributions in the arts, business, clergy, education, entertainment, government, law, military, media, medicine, science, sports or other fields. The nomination deadline is Tuesday, Jan. 30.

New members being inducted into the Hall of Fame will be announced in April. The 2018 inductees will be honored on May 24, along with valedictorians and salutatorians from each high

School Briefs

school's 2018 graduating class.

To make a nomination, or view previous Hall of Fame members, please visit www.polk-fl.net and enter the keyword "Hall."

The Hall of Fame began in 1985 as a way to recognize former students who have distinguished themselves in their careers or communities. It currently has 120 members.

Inductees for 2017 were Joe Nathan Halman Jr., deputy county manager for Public Safety for the Board of County Commissioners; Col. William D. McGarrity, chief of staff of the Military District of

Washington, D.C.; and Donald H. Wilson Jr., a fifth generation Polk County resident who has practiced law for more than 35 years as a partner with Boswell & Dunlap, LLP.

Other members include business entrepreneurs, judges, artists, entertainers, athletes, military leaders, scientists, inventors, Florida governors and more.

People can help the teachers help the students

The Polk Education Foundation is always in need of new and gently used items for their Free Teachers Market.

The Free Teacher

Market is a place where teachers can come and shop without spending a dime. They can pick up books, school supplies, incentives, gently used organizational items, teacher resources, and more.

Items such as backpacks, arts/crafts supplies, school supplies and office supplies. Organizers, tubs, bins, incentives are also needed.

Many STEM (science, technology, engineering, math) teachers are looking for small containers, microscope slides, scales, etc. to use in student investigations. If you prefer to invest financially, donations can be made at www.polkeducationfoundation.org be

sure to designate for the Free Teacher Market.

For information about the Teacher's Market go to <http://www.polk-fl.net/districtinfo/departments/officeofthesuperintendent/pefmarket.htm>

Fundraising campaign gives gift of education

What if you could give the gift of a high school diploma this holiday season?

Polk County Public Schools operates two adult education schools where students strive toward a brighter future.

Students can learn English via our ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Language)

programs, take citizenship classes, or enroll in ABE (Adult Basic Education) courses that lead to GED (General Education Diploma) courses.

A GED is the equivalent of a high school diploma. The GED test is \$32 per test (Math, Language Arts, Social Studies, and Science), for a total of \$128.

This can be a hefty price for students struggling to make a living while also attending school.

Those interested in sponsoring a student or making a donation to either the West Area Adult or East Area Adult schools can contact them for more information.

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Townsend suggests starting something new

By **JEFF ROSLOW**
 JROSLOW@SCMGINC.COM



TOWNSEND

BARTOW – Still excited about teacher's union and the district finalizing its contract, School Board Member Billy Townsend suggested the board start something new: get with area legislators and talk to them before the session starts.

Despite the session starting earlier this year than most, which is in January, it may not be possible this year, but he asked at the Dec. 11 School Board meeting how other people felt about the idea.

"I suggest we have one of those things because the impasse hearing itself made an impression

on me ... all of us in one room for six or seven hours, and what we got out of it was pretty good," he said. "I'd

like to do this before the session starts. I know it starts early this year," but, he said, in the aftermath of the impasse, he said it would be an advantage for the board to know what is possible, and what isn't from the state.

School Board Chairman Lynn Wilson wanted to know if there had to be a format for that. Attorney Wes Bridges said it could be done, and probably the

superintendent should be involved especially if the president of the teacher's union is involved. That is because the bargaining team is under the superintendent.

"I think absolutely we can do that," Bridges said. "It could be like a work session where we can go over the ins and outs of Chapter 407 (of the Florida statutes) of what the legislative body is. There may be things we haven't done before because we haven't been aware of it. It would be fair game to talk about the process."

Townsend wanted to know if it could be held at the Jim Miles Center on U.S. 98, a bigger venue to allow more of

the public to attend. Bridges said it could be held anywhere as long as it is properly advertised.

The suggestion was welcomed by other board members.

"I'm always open to inviting legislators, though sometimes getting them to come is a task," said Board Member Hazel Sellers. "I would love for the legislators to visit our schools."

"We should do this," Board Member Lori Cunningham said. "Anytime we can be more transparent, we should. Learning what the ground rules are is important."

She added it may not be necessary to move the meeting to the Jim Miles center as the

auditorium in Bartow at the administration may have enough room.

Townsend he would have no problem holding it anywhere, but he wanted to hear what Marianne Capozziello, president of the Polk Education Association, thought.

She said at the work session on Dec. 11 that teachers were supposed to vote that day on the contract, and there are some who are angry. Some of it may be a lack of understanding between what the school district can do as it is tied to what the legislature allows it to do, she said.

"Meeting with the legislators to talk about the rules they

are putting in place is not a bad idea to me. I know we don't have all the parameters. It's not bargaining and we have to be careful in how we set up the meeting," she said.

Wilson said once the process of voting on the teacher's contract and approval is final, the board should move ahead with Townsend's plan and harbor in the union with it.

"I think we should take a deep dive on the structure imposed and we can benefit by having the legislators here to own their own work. It would be a great tradition to start before they go to Tallahassee to have their session."

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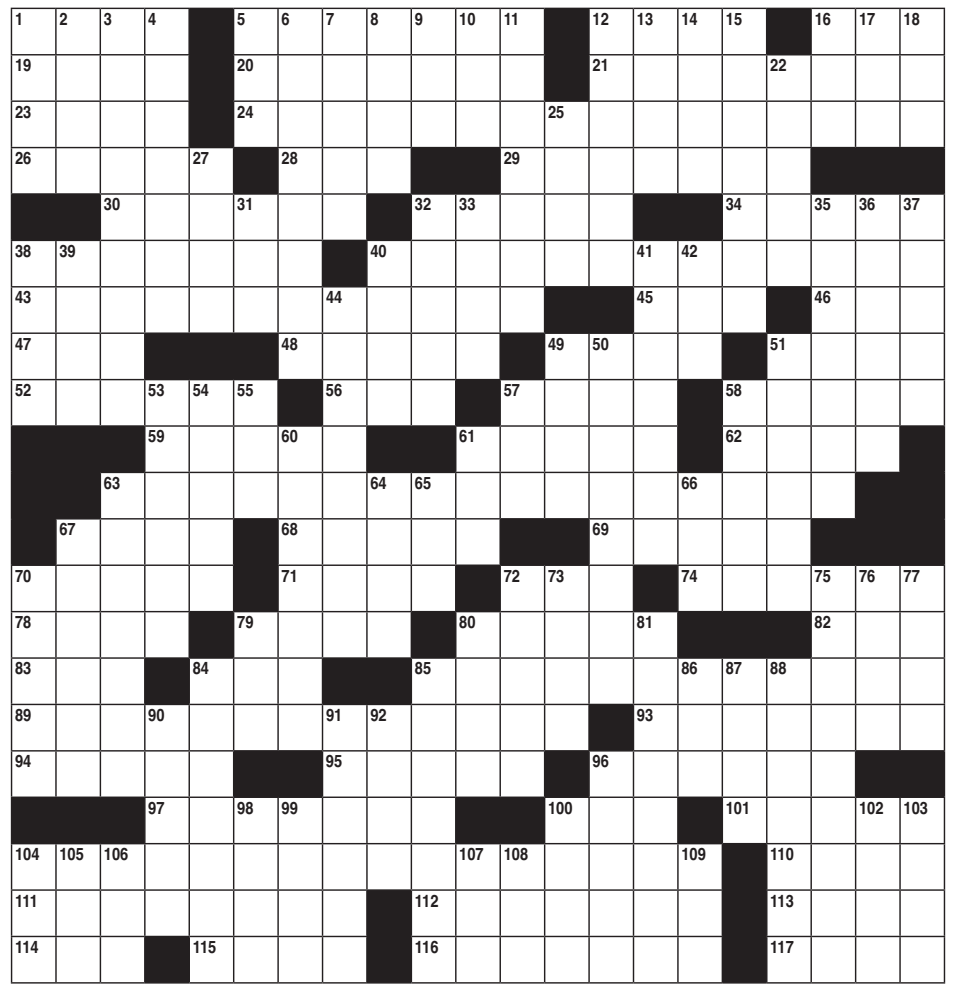
FOR ANSWERS, TURN TO PAGE 31

No. 1217

OH, ONE LAST THING
BY ANDREW J. RIES / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ


- ACROSS**
- 1 Neighbor of Sudan
 - 5 Queen in the "Star Wars" movies
 - 12 Basics
 - 16 Things that people like to have ripped?
 - 19 First sentence of a news story
 - 20 Party animal
 - 21 Comedian who was a regular on "The Steve Allen Show"
 - 23 Sources of lean meat
 - 24 Comparatively strong, like some French wine?
 - 26 Grime
 - 28 "Yo!"
 - 29 Went by
 - 30 Fearful
 - 32 1998 De Niro thriller
 - 34 Highway noise barriers
 - 38 One who's in it but doesn't win it
 - 40 Egyptian leader obsessed with his appearance?
 - 43 Certain Lincoln Center soprano?
 - 45 It may pop on a plane
 - 46 Dietary std.
 - 47 China's Chiang ___-shek
 - 48 Yes or no follower
 - 49 Light on one's feet
- DOWN**
- 1 Score marking
 - 2 Powerful engine, for short
 - 3 Nighttime Cartoon Network programming block
 - 4 Wipe off the map
 - 5 Start of MGM's motto
 - 6 Quaint "I believe"
 - 7 Like Wrigley Field's walls
 - 8 Brave
 - 9 Landon who lost in a landslide
 - 10 Pastoral locale
 - 11 Big name in 1980s-'90s TV talk
 - 12 State capital that's the setting of "Ironweed"
 - 13 Betty ___
 - 14 Mean, lowdown sorts
 - 15 Court conference
 - 16 CNN commentator Navarro
- ACROSS**
- 51 Submissive
 - 52 Fleet
 - 56 "Totally awesome!"
 - 57 Bit of food ... or feud?
 - 58 Part of a house
 - 59 Peach ___
 - 61 ___-frutti
 - 62 Buttonhole, e.g.
 - 63 Shooting craps while waiting for one's train?
 - 67 Actress Hatcher
 - 68 All skin and bones
 - 69 "I had a dream, which was not all a dream" poet
 - 70 George Eliot's "___ Marner"
 - 71 Finely decorated
 - 72 Antagonist
 - 74 Much of Mongolia
 - 78 Automaker sold by G.M. in 2017
 - 79 Territory
 - 80 White undercoat
 - 82 Broadbrim, e.g.
 - 83 Inits. for getting around the Loop
 - 84 Protagonist in David Foster Wallace's "Infinite Jest"
 - 85 Comment from a cook who cools the cheese sauce before serving?
 - 89 Woodwind that's O.K. to play?
 - 93 Something that's free of charge
 - 94 Weapon seen on the Kenyan flag
 - 95 Big stinks
 - 96 Done, slangily
 - 97 Units for binge watchers
- DOWN**
- 100 Actor Patel of "Lion"
 - 101 "Don't ___ me"
 - 104 Cupid's catchphrase?
 - 110 Part
 - 111 Attention hog's cry
 - 112 Vigilant
 - 113 "The Dukes of Hazzard" spinoff
 - 114 Intimidate
 - 115 One of eight in "The 12 Days of Christmas"
 - 116 Egg-shaped Hasbro toys introduced in 1971
 - 117 Certain soft drinks, informally
- ACROSS**
- 17 The Cougars of the West Coast Conf.
 - 18 Determination in a prenatal exam
 - 22 Holiday meal
 - 25 Came down
 - 27 Long lunch?
 - 31 It's to be expected
 - 32 Leveled
 - 33 Eleven: Fr.
 - 35 Cheesy dish
 - 36 Seminal symbol of mass production
 - 37 Lose
 - 38 Paul who sang "Lonely Boy"
 - 39 King who said, "Nothing will come of nothing"
 - 40 Woman's name that means "truth"
 - 41 Disloyalty
 - 42 Loft filler
 - 44 Director of 1991's "Mississippi Masala"
 - 49 Genesis brother
 - 50 Early Beatle
 - 51 Sam who ran the bar on "Cheers"
 - 53 Unconcerned with right and wrong
 - 54 Parts of supermarkets
 - 55 & 57 Very nearly
 - 58 Topic at the Kinsey Institute
 - 60 32-ounce purchase at 7-Eleven
 - 61 Mining supply
 - 63 Free
 - 64 Chasm
 - 65 It decreases a QB's rating: Abbr.

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- 66 Busy hosp. areas
- 67 Best of the best
- 70 Knee-highs, e.g.
- 72 Doesn't know for a fact, say
- 73 ___ buco
- 75 Secreted signal
- 76 El ___
- 77 Cricket rival of Harrow
- 79 Material once set afire and put in a catapult
- 80 Grasp, informally
- 81 Human, typically, diet-wise
- 84 Announcement upon a grand arrival
- 85 Entertainment with camels, maybe
- 86 It sank after W.W. II
- 87 Go cold turkey
- 88 Said
- 90 Goaltender Dominik in the Hockey Hall of Fame
- 91 Wrinkle-free, say
- 92 Lincoln's place
- 96 Wild
- 98 Old-movie dog
- 99 ___ Valley
- 100 Give a beating
- 102 Go forcefully (through)
- 103 1979 Roman Polanski film
- 104 Inc. relative
- 105 Win on "Hollywood Squares"
- 106 "I shall return," e.g.
- 107 Des-Moines-to-Dubuque dir.
- 108 Add years
- 109 Sentence fragments: Abbr.

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HEALTH and WELLNESS




Eclipse burned this woman's eye, leaves imprint on retina

By TOM AVRIL

THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

Remember how eye doctors were warning people not to stare at the solar eclipse in August without proper protection?

They were right.

A woman in her 20s gazed at the eclipse without any protection for six seconds, then again for up to 20 seconds while wearing dark glasses that apparently were not strong enough, according to a report in the journal *JAMA Ophthalmology*.

The alarming result: an eclipse-shaped spot was burned onto the retina of her left eye.

Advanced retina scans, performed at New York Eye and Ear Infirmary of Mount Sinai, revealed damage in the shape of the sun with the silhouette of the moon crossing its outer edge, study authors said. The woman described a corresponding "hole" in the center

of her vision, sketching a similar shape that looked like a cookie with a bite out of it.

Her right eye was less severely damaged, her doctor said, because the left is her dominant eye.

The damage remained visible on follow-up scans that were performed six weeks later, said Avnish Deobhakta, retina surgeon at the Mount Sinai facility.

"It was an amazing concordance between what you would've seen in the eclipse and what actually was almost imprinted in terms of damage on her retina," he said.

A Pennsylvania man also suffered damage in one eye, though public details are scarce. That case was described to NPR by Ralph Chou, an expert on eclipse-related eye damage at the University of Waterloo.

"This young man had played it safe by only looking at the eclipsing

sun with one eye," Chou told NPR. "He looked with one eye and he got fried."

Physicians do not yet know if the damage sustained by these two patients will be permanent, but the signs are not encouraging.

The woman treated at Mount Sinai has not undergone additional scans since her six-week follow-up visit, but recently told physicians by phone that the hole in her vision remains — more than three months after the eclipse that captivated viewers across the country.

And since her case was publicized, Mount Sinai physicians have been contacted by others who say they suffer lasting damage from looking at eclipses decades ago, Deobhakta said.

Looking at a solar eclipse is not inherently any more dangerous than looking at the sun under normal

circumstances. The difference is that during an eclipse, the partly obscured sun appears less bright, so viewers may be under the impression that it is safe to look at.

It is not.

Concerned for her vision after her initial naked-eye view of the eclipse — a series of glances totaling about six seconds — the New York patient then borrowed a pair of dark glasses from a fellow spectator. That is when the real damage seems to have occurred, Deobhakta said. The glasses apparently were not sufficiently protective, yet the woman looked through them for 15 to 20 seconds.

"It was brighter than she would have thought," Deobhakta said. "She could still see other structures in the environment outside of the eclipse."

With proper eclipse glasses, the viewer can see only the outline of

the sun, while the sky surrounding it appears pitch black. The woman did not know the brand name of the glasses she borrowed, but the resulting damage suggests they could have been one of several unapproved, counterfeit models that were on the market in the weeks leading up to the Aug. 21 event.

The woman's eye damage occurred primarily in the light-sensitive cells called cones, which enable the perception of color. The sophisticated scanning equipment used to detect the damage has become available only in the last five years — repurposed from technology used in space telescopes, Deobhakta said.

The Mount Sinai physician said he and his colleagues were expecting more cases of eclipse-related injury, but saw just the one woman who suffered lasting damage. Two

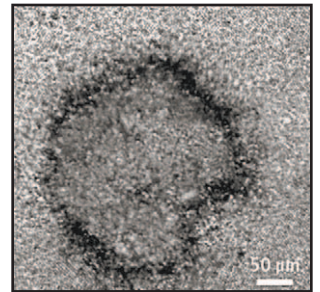


PHOTO PROVIDED

An eclipse-shaped image was burned onto the retina of a woman in her 20s who stared at the Aug. 21 phenomenon without good eye protection. A retina scan revealed the dark gray circle in the shape of the sun with the moon's silhouette crossing its edge at lower right.

other patients experienced mild symptoms that have since cleared up. He attributed the low number of patients to widespread warnings in the media.

Stay tuned for similar warnings in seven years. Star-gazers will have another chance to see a solar eclipse in 2024.

Celebrate New Year's with international cuisine

The rapidly expanding multi-cultural food scene in the U.S. is the result of our nation's population increasing diversity, growth in overseas travel, as well as easy Internet access. Additionally, the wellness revolution is inspiring people to consume healthier diets that include more fresh vegetables, seafood, lean meats, and use flavorful herbs, spices, and sauces in order to cut down on sugar and unhealthy fats.

This trend has led to the proliferation of ethnic restaurants, food specialty stores, interest in international cooking and exploring new and adventurous recipes.

Celebrate our country's melting pot. "Travel the world" without leaving home and without all the hassles and expense. Prepare an exciting, yet easy, quick, and affordable New Year's dinner. Ethnic markets, health food stores, and most supermarkets today are stocked with thousands of ingredients from around the globe. So fasten your seat belt and cook up some new adventures. Happy and healthy New Year to you.

SEAFOOD STEW (BUILLABAISSE)

This renowned French dish can be served with a baked potato.

4 servings

1-1/2 pounds fish, or a seafood combination (fish, shrimp and/or scallops)

1/4 cup olive oil



Judy E. Buss

Mission Nutrition

Health Correspondent

1 stalk celery, thinly sliced
1 medium yellow onion, chopped
3 green onions, thinly sliced
3 cloves garlic, finely chopped
3/4 teaspoon dried thyme
1 large tomato, finely chopped
2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley leaves
Salt and pepper to taste
1 cup bottled clam juice (in canned fish section or fresh seafood dep.)
1 cup dry white cooking wine

Peel and devein shrimp and rinse all the seafood. Drain. Cut the fish into bite-size pieces and place in a bowl. Set aside. Wash and dry celery and green onions. In large saucepan, heat oil over medium heat. Mix in celery, both kinds of onions, garlic and thyme. Cover and cook slowly 8 minutes. Add tomatoes, parsley, salt, pepper, clam juice, and wine, and simmer 10 minutes. Stir in the seafood and cook 10-15 more minutes.

GERMAN-STYLE RED CABBAGE

Traditionally served with meat and potatoes.

4 servings

4 cups shredded red cabbage
1/2 cup raisins
1-1/2 tablespoons olive oil (not extra virgin)
1/8 teaspoon pepper
2 tablespoons wine vinegar
1-1/2 tablespoons whole wheat flour
3/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
3/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg

Place shredded cabbage in small saucepan and enough water to just cover. Mix in raisins, oil, and pepper. Cover, and bring to a boil over medium heat. Reduce heat to medium-low and cook about 12 minutes, until the cabbage is tender. Meanwhile, in a cup, mix vinegar and flour with a fork until smooth. Set aside. To the cabbage add the cinnamon and nutmeg. When cabbage is cooked, add 4 tablespoons liquid from the cabbage to flour mixture in the cup and mix until blended and smooth. Gradually add flour mixture to cabbage, stirring constantly. Dissolve remaining flour lumps by pressing them with the back of a spoon against saucepan wall. Cover, and cook slowly 5 minutes until the liquid is thickened, stirring occasionally.

CURRIED TOFU-COCONUT STEW

Serve this scrumptious Indian stew on a bed of brown or wild rice.

4 servings

1/4 cup olive oil
1 large yellow onion, finely chopped

2 cloves garlic, finely chopped
1 package cubed Firm tofu, or a brick Firm tofu
1-1/2 teaspoons ground ginger
1/2 teaspoon salt
2-1/2 tablespoons curry powder
5 tablespoons whole wheat flour
1 cup water
2-1/2 cups coconut milk
1-1/2 cups roasted unsalted peanuts
2/3 cup raisins
1/2 cup shredded unsweetened coconut

In medium saucepan heat oil over medium heat. Add onion, cover, reduce heat to medium-low and cook slowly 8 minutes. Add garlic and cook about 4 more minutes, until onion is translucent. Meanwhile, drain tofu, place on plate and wrap in paper towels to blot excess moisture. After a few minutes, remove paper towels and cut tofu into small cubes, if not already cubed. When the onion is translucent, mix in ginger, salt, curry, and flour until well blended. Adjust heat to medium-high and gradually add the water and coconut milk stirring constantly. When sauce begins to boil, reduce heat to medium-low, cover, and cook slowly about 7 minutes until thickened, stirring frequently. Gently mix tofu into coconut milk mixture and cook slowly 3 more minutes. Serve over cooked brown or wild rice and top with the peanuts, raisins, and shredded coconut.

Judy E. Buss is a Nutritional Cooking Instructor. She is a blogger for the American Holistic Health Association.

HEALTH and WELLNESS

B Street gets donation to help with Irma damage



PHOTOS PROVIDED

Wales Medical Center and Heart of Florida Regional Medical Center presented the B Street Community Center in Lake Wales with \$5,000 to support the hurricane relief efforts they performed in the wake of Hurricane Irma. From left is Delton Hayes, Janice Snell, Clinton Horne, Lake Wales Medical Center CEO Rebecca Brewer, Roscoe Williams, Narvell Peterson, Jerome Mack and Alice Sanders.

Continuing a long-standing tradition of being good community partners, Heart of Florida Regional Medical Center and Lake Wales Medical Center recently donated \$5,000 to the B Street Community

Center in Lake Wales to assist them with the aid they provided to the community in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma.

Lake Wales Medical Center CEO Rebecca Brewer presented the

check in October. In total, the two sister hospitals donated \$35,000 to community agencies in East Polk to assist with hurricane relief.

“As large organizations, it’s important to us to partner with

our community to assist those who were on the front lines of hurricane cleanup and restoration,” said Heart of Florida CEO Ann Barnhart said. “Our hospitals sheltered large numbers of special needs evacuees, and we know that there were many in the community who were helping get the damage cleared and making people’s homes safe for them to return.”

Brewer added, “Right after the storm, the hospitals were the only places that had hot food, so we set up and served our community until power began being restored at area restaurants and in neighborhoods. We also had lobbies full of people charging their cell phones and other devices so they could stay in communication with family members.”

“We are proud of our tradition of always being a good community partner, and we are appreciative of the support of our corporate office that enables us to continue giving back to the communities we

serve,” Brewer said.

Watson names PEER award winner

LPN Jessica Caughell was named the PEER Award winner for December.

Caughell is a Senior Patient Financial Services representative who has worked at Watson Clinic for six years. She is considered a “go to” person and one of her department’s hardest working and dedicated employees.

She assists everyone with a positive attitude and a smile on her face, nominators noted.

As PEER Award winner, Caughell received a plaque, dinner at a local restaurant, a reserved parking spot and a free service from the spa to acknowledge her contributions to the organization. PEER stands for Program for Employee Excellence and Recognition, and an employee is named the winner of the award at Watson each month.



Jessica Caughell displays her PEER award plaque alongside Watson Clinic Chief Administrative Officer Stan Piotrowski.

Before, when I looked in the mirror all I saw was my weight.

Now I see the real me.

The happy, healthy, active me.

**As I’m getting smaller,
my world is getting bigger.**

Weight loss surgery changed my life.



FREE WEIGHT LOSS SURGERY SEMINAR

Tuesday, January 2, 4:00 p.m.

Monday, January 8, 4:00 p.m.

Heart of Florida Regional Medical Center
First Floor Boardroom, 40100 U.S. 27, Davenport, FL

Register today at HeartofFloridaWeightLoss.com
or call 866-997-DOCS (3627)



Health Events Tailored to You

BayCare Events in Polk County

Featured Events (No cost to attend)

Anterior Hip Replacement

Learn all you want to know about anterior hip replacement. Free refreshments and free parking. Registration is required: (855) 314-8352
Monday, January 15, 6pm
 Samuel Messieh, MD
 Solivita Mosaics Restaurant
 395 Village Drive, Kissimmee

Women's Hospital Classes

All classes at Winter Haven Women's Hospital are held in Classroom A, 101 Ave. O S.E., Winter Haven. Registration is required: (855) 314-8352

Sibling Class

Addresses the joys and challenges of being an older sibling. Age-appropriate information and activities help children prepare. For children ages 3-10.
Saturday, January 6, 10-11am
 Cost: \$10

Prepared Childbirth (4-Session)

In-depth coverage of the third trimester, labor, breathing, relaxation, birthing and postpartum concerns.
Wednesdays, January 10, 17, 24, 31, 6:30-8:45pm
 Cost: \$40

Breastfeeding Class

Covers breastfeeding basics, skin-to-skin contact, tips for returning to work and when to call a health care provider/lactation consultant.
Saturday, January 13, 9:30am-12pm
 Cost: \$15

Newborn Care

Covers various aspects of safe infant care including feeding, diapering, bathing and signs of illness, as well as cues and communication.
Thursday, January 18, 6-9pm
 Cost: \$15

Smoking Cessation (No cost to attend)

Quit Smoking Now (5-Session)

Covers creating a quit plan, coping with cravings, and physical and emotional symptoms. Free quitting aids available while supplies last and only if medically appropriate. Registration is required: (877) 252-6094
Wednesdays, January 10, 17, 24, 31, and February 7 5:30-6:30pm
 Winter Haven Hospital
 Wellness Center Conference Room

Smoking Cessation Class

This class provides valuable tools to help you quit using tobacco. Includes four free weeks of patches, gum or lozenges. Registration is required: (877) 252-6094

Thursday, January 18, 5:30-7:30pm
 Bartow Regional Medical Center
 Classrooms 1 & 2

Tuesday, January 30, 10am-12pm
 Bartow Regional Medical Center
 Classrooms 1 & 2

Orthopedic Events (No cost to attend)

Total Joint Replacement

Increase your knowledge of total joint replacement, prepare for surgery and get familiar with the recovery process.

Tuesdays, January 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, 1-2pm
 Bartow Regional Medical Center
 Classroom 1
 Registration is required: (863) 519-1665

Thursdays, January 4, 11, 18, 25, 12:30-2pm
 Winter Haven Hospital
 Wellness Center Conference Room
 Registration is required: (863) 297-1808

Cancer Support (No cost to attend)

Look Good Feel Better

This free program from the American Cancer Society is designed for women dealing with hair loss and skin changes from chemotherapy and radiation. Registration is required: (800) 227-2345
Tuesday, January 9, 10am-12pm
 Winter Haven Hospital
 Education Classroom F

Woman-to-Woman Cancer Support Group

Information, support and coping strategies for women who have or have survived cancer. Registration is not required.
Mondays, January 9 and 23, 6-7pm
 Winter Haven Hospital
 Wellness Center Conference Room

Ovarian Cancer Support Group

A group for individuals with ovarian cancer to share emotions and experiences with other patients. Registration is not required.
Monday, January 15, 5:30-7pm
 Winter Haven Hospital
 Wellness Center Conference Room

Man-to-Man Cancer Support Group

Offering information for men who have cancer or have survived it. Registration is not required.
Tuesday, January 16, 1:30-2:30pm
 Winter Haven Hospital
 Quality Improvement Conference Room

Weight Management (No cost to attend)

Weight Management Information

Take the first step to weight management and attend an information session. Registration is required: (855) 314-8350
Tuesday, January 9, 6-7pm
 Bartow Regional Medical Center
 Classroom 1

Support Groups (No cost to attend)

Heart-to-Heart Cardiac Support Group

Support group for patients with various cardiac conditions. Registration is required: (863) 280-6066
Tuesday, January 9, 3-4pm
 Winter Haven Hospital
 Wellness Center Conference Room

Stroke Support Group

For stroke survivors, family members and caregivers. Topics are determined by the needs of the group. Registration is not required.
Friday, January 12, 12:30-2pm
 Winter Haven Hospital
 Private Dining Room, Basement Bistro

Caregivers Support Group

A safe place for sharing caregiving and self-care tips, discussing the challenges of caring for a loved one and finding emotional support. Registration is not required.
Friday, January 12, 1:30-2:30pm
 Winter Haven Hospital
 Wellness Center Conference Room

Brain Injury Support Group

Open forum for brain injury survivors and their caregivers, family and friends on how to live life to the fullest after a traumatic injury. Registration is not required.
Tuesday, January 23, 7-8:30pm
 Winter Haven Hospital
 Wellness Center Conference Room

Diabetes Support Group

This is an open discussion held by a certified diabetes educator for all diabetes-related topics. Registration is required: (855) 314-8352
Thursday, January 25, 11am-12pm
 Winter Haven Hospital
 Wellness Center Conference Room

Mental Health Peer Recovery Program

Provides education, support and socialization for participants diagnosed with mental health issues, moving them toward recovery. Registration is not required.
Mondays, 11am-3pm
 Lion's Park Clubhouse 820 Ave. L S.W.,
 Winter Haven

Wednesdays, 12:30-4:30pm

Winter Haven Hospital
 Center for Behavioral Health
 1201 First St. S.

To register for a class or for a physician referral: (855) 314-8352



Bartow Regional Medical Center
 2200 Osprey Blvd., Bartow

Winter Haven Hospital
 200 Ave. F N.E., Winter Haven

Winter Haven Women's Hospital
 101 Ave. O S.E., Winter Haven

STOCKS LISTING CHANGE - REQUESTS WELCOME!

The Sun Newspaper is tweaking the way stocks are listed in the daily paper. We will continue to run a wide range of stocks, but we're trying to eliminate stocks our readers don't want. If you do not see your stock in the paper, please let us know

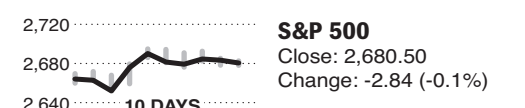
and we will put it in the listings. Email the name of the company and the symbol to nlane@sun-herald.com, or call 941-206-1138. You can leave the stock name and symbol on voice mail. When requesting a stock, please include where you live so we can run the listing in the appropriate edition. If you reach voice mail, please leave your contact information so your call can be returned.

Market summary table with columns: DOW (24,746.21 -7.85), NASDAQ (6,936.25 -23.71), S&P 500 (2,680.50 -2.84), 10-YR T-NOTE (2.48% ...), 30-YR T-BOND (2.81% -0.02), CRUDE OIL (\$59.97 +1.50), GOLD (\$1,284.10 +8.70), EURO (\$1.1867 -0.0003)

Money & Markets

Combined Stocks From the New York Stock Exchange and the Nasdaq.

Table of stock listings with columns: P/E Name, Last, Chg, and a list of various stock symbols and their prices.



Stocks Recap table with columns: NYSE, NASD, Vol. (in mil.), Pvs. Volume, and a list of stock symbols and their prices.

Table of stock listings with columns: HIGH, LOW, CLOSE, CHG., %CHG., WK, MO, QTR, YTD, and a list of various stock symbols.

Large table of stock listings with columns: Symbol, Price, Change, and a list of various stock symbols and their prices.

Interestrates logo and text: 'The yield on the 10-year Treasury note was unchanged Tuesday at 2.48 percent. Yields affect rates on mortgages and other consumer loans.'

TREASURIES, BONDS, and PRIME RATE FED FUNDS table with columns: YEST, PVS, NET CHG, 1YR AGO.

Foreign Exchange section with text: 'The dollar weakened compared to the euro and Japanese yen, and dipped very slightly compared to the British pound. It rose against the Mexican peso.'

MAJORS table with columns: Symbol, Close, Chg, %Chg, 1Yr Ago, and a list of major currencies and their values.

Commodities section with text: 'Oil prices jumped more than 2 percent after militants in Libya bombed a pipeline. The prices of gold, copper and silver also rose.'

FUELS, METALS, and AGRICULTURE table with columns: Symbol, Close, Pvs., %Chg, %YTD, and a list of commodity prices.

Stock Footnotes: Stock Footnotes: cd - Issue has been called for redemption by company. d - New 52-week low. ec - Company formerly listed on the American Exchange's Emerging Company Market-plate. g - Dividends and earnings in Canadian dollars. h - Does not meet continued-listing standards. If - Late filing with SEC. n - Stock was a new issue in the last year. The 52-week high and low figures date only from the beginning of trading. pf - Preferred stock issue. pr - Preferences. pp - Holder owes installments of purchase price. ri - Right to buy security at a specified price. rs - Stock has undergone a reverse stock split of at least 50% within the past year. s - Stock has split at least 20 percent within the last year. u - Trades will be settled when the stock is issued. wd - When distributed. wt - Warrant, allowing a purchase of a stock. u - New 52-week high. un - Unit, including more than one security. vj - Company in bankruptcy or receivership, or being reorganized under the bankruptcy law. Appears in front of the name. Stocks in bold are worth at least \$5 and changed 5 percent or more in price. Underlining for 50 extra actively traded stocks of the day. 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. Mutual Fund Footnotes: b - Fee covering market costs is paid from fund assets. d - Deferred sales charge, or redemption fee. f - front load (sales charges). m - Multiple fees are charged, usually a marketing fee and either a sales or redemption fee. NA - not available. p - previous day's net asset value. s - fund split shares during the week. x - fund paid a distribution during the week. Source: Morningstar and the Associated Press.

HOROSCOPE

ARIES (March 21-April 19). In the cry of one broken heart is the song of all the broken hearts through history. It's why you can't listen without echoing the mournful resonance inside you.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20). If you don't easily fall asleep, there are good reasons; perhaps too much is on your mind, or an exciting possibility has you reeling. Or could you be awake in someone else's dream? Embrace the mystical: It's good for imagination.
GEMINI (May 21-June 21). While Frank Sinatra may have had a hit doing it "My Way," for most people

the real adventure begins when "My Way" doesn't pan out and we must learn to do it "a way" (or in today's case, any possible way that will work, really).
CANCER (June 22-July 22). There's something coming your way — an important sale or a bonus. The rewards will have a direct correlation to the work you put in and the stellar attitude in your approach. It's nice when things happen this cleanly.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You're usually pretty intuitive about what others might need, but what this intuition is probably telling you now is to just ask. You'll be quite surprised by what you hear.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Dreams are good; plans are better. A little of both will serve you best.

Because if you only plan, it won't be interesting enough, and if you only dream, it won't be practical enough.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll be on the hunt for a new experience. So while the cost matters, and the risk is a factor to consider as well, the enticement of the unfamiliar teamed with your curiosity will trump your trepidation.
SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You care about something that isn't conventional. Getting into it more might lead you slightly and temporarily away from certain people who will never really get it, but it definitely will bond you with people who share your interest.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The moment when it happens is not the next one; it's always this one... if for no other reason than the fact that you can't live or do anything in the next one. Keep reminding yourself to stay alert to what's happening.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Since you are the beholder, you get to say what's beautiful. Try to do this away from the influence of others to get a true read. Otherwise you'll be unduly swayed.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). It's easy to say no when you have already said yes to something else. Since your schedule fills up on a first-come, first-served basis, you'll do well to be the first one to fill it up with what you really want your life to be about.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). According to Grabel's Law, two is not equal to three, not even for large values of two. In a related story, getting something different from what you want (even if you get a lot of it) is still not getting what you want.
TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Dec. 27). An investment made years ago will finally pay off in 2018. Among the stellar decisions you'll make this year will be your choice to rely on the reliable. Loved ones will give you the lift you need to stretch into new roles and challenges. A friendship gets sweeter with a shared adventure. Speak your heart in June. Gemini and Libra adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 30, 45, 22, 19 and 31.

BIBLE

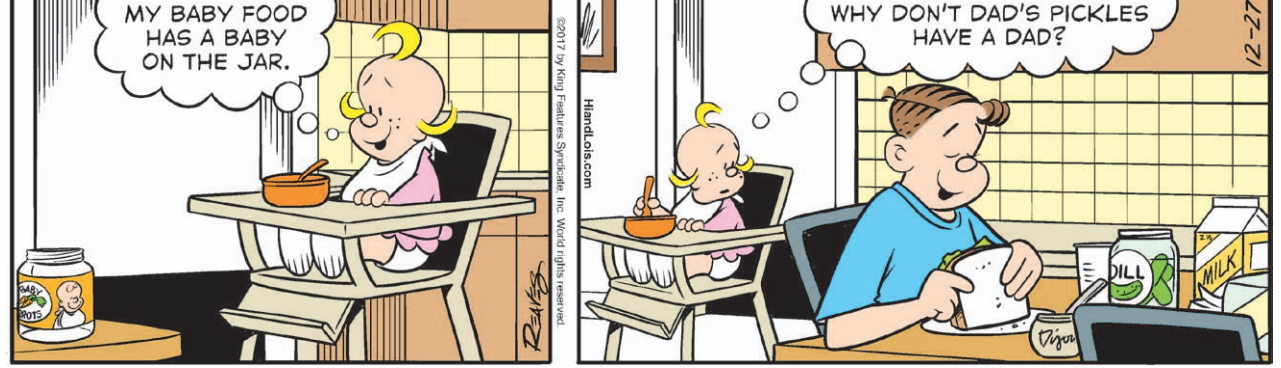
"And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner."
 — Luke 18:13.
 Here is the prayer that brings the peace. Pray it now! When we acknowledge to God what we are, He immediately shows us what He will do. Jesus said, "Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out."



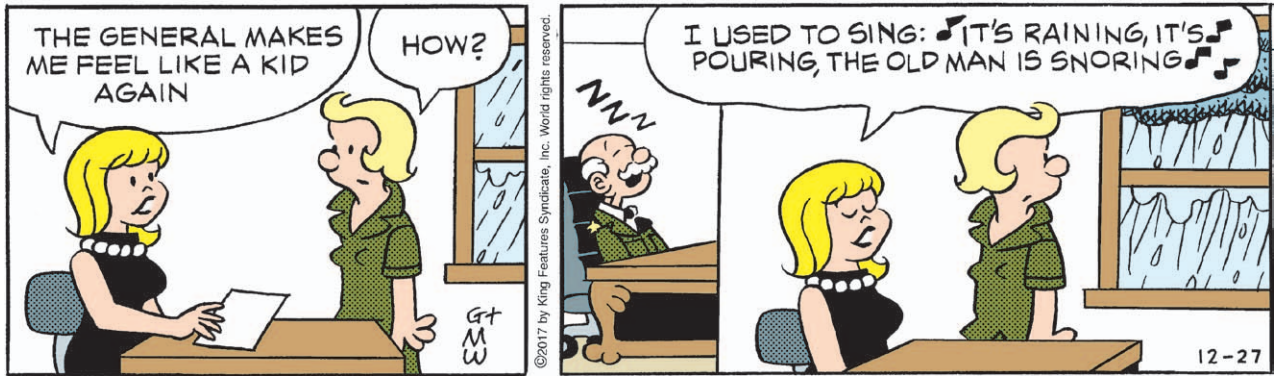
MALLARD FILLMORE By Bruce Tinsley



HI AND LOIS By Brian and Greg Walker



BEEBLE BAILEY By Mort Walker



Challenger

DIRECTIONS:
 Fill each square with a number, one through nine.
 • Horizontal squares should add to totals on right.
 • Vertical squares should add to totals on bottom.
 • Diagonal squares through center should add to total in upper and lower right.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|-------|
| | | | | | 12-27 |
| | | | | 1 | 8 |
| | 1 | | | | 6 |
| | | | | 2 | 8 |
| 2 | | | | | 8 |
| 8 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 6 |

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|----------|-------|----|----|----|
| solution | 12-26 | 14 | | |
| 9 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 14 |
| 9 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 17 |
| 9 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 19 |
| 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 36 |
| 36 | 17 | 19 | 14 | 28 |

Yesterday's Challenger Answers

MARMADUKE By Brad Anderson



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE By Chris Browne



THE WIZARD OF ID By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM By Mike Peters



Cryptoquip

12-27

DL MAIJRAHU CKJVOJFXJHTU
 MGX AK G RAV LZAI
 HAIDKA'M, PACTH NJ RJ TJLX
 PDXN XNJ ODEEG FZCMNH?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN HIGH WINDS TOTALLY RUIN YOUR OUTDOOR EVENT, I WOULD SAY YOU'VE HAD UNINVITED GUSTS.
 Today's Cryptoquip Clue: C equals U

WORD SLEUTH • SPOTTED WORDS

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

Tuesday's unlisted clue: MAGNUM

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
 Wednesday's unlisted clue hint: A BEAM OF LIGHT ON STAGE

| | | | |
|-----------|------------|--------------|-----------|
| Despotism | Ink night | Spotless | Starspot |
| Eyepot | Nightspot | Spotsylvania | Sunspots |
| Fusspot | Spot-check | Spotter | Unspotted |
| Hotspot | Spot-weld | Spotty | |

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PICKLES By Brian Crane



B.C. By Mastroianni & Hart



Husband's threat of divorce compels wife to lose weight

DEAR ABBY: I have been married for 18 years and have two wonderful kids, ages 14 and 12. Ten months ago, my husband said to me, "I told you I would divorce you if you ever got fat." I was shocked! Yes, I have gained some weight over the years, but at 5 feet 5 inches tall and 150 pounds, I was not exactly obese.



Dear Abby

I was frightened by what he said, so I took off 25 pounds. He didn't appear to notice, so I asked him, "Now what do you think?" He said, "You have no muscle tone!"

Abby, nothing I do is good enough. I work part-time and take care of our kids and the house. I go out of my way to cook and bake interesting things for them. Any appreciation? His praise is, "Not bad."

Abby, what should I do? — BIGGEST LOSER IN NEW YORK

DEAR "LOSER": Before I answer your question, I should point out that the way some abusers maintain control is by withholding approval, love, money, etc.

According to the National Institutes of Health, a woman who is 5 feet 5 inches tall should weigh between 114 and 144 pounds to be considered a normal weight. For your husband to threaten you with divorce if you didn't lose weight was brutal. Nothing you do is good enough because keeping you insecure and always trying to gain his approval is how he maintains the upper hand in your marriage. Losing weight is not easy. You should have been praised for your success.

Since you asked what to do, I'll tell you: Take him at his word. Your husband may have said your muscle tone is flabby, but from where I sit, what's sagging is your self-esteem. Go to the gym. Improve that muscle tone, and along with it your image of yourself. Then, once you have achieved your goal and feel better about yourself, decide whether you want to remain married to a man who has such poor "muscle tone" between the ears.

DEAR ABBY: I am a 63-year-old widow. I have not been with a man since

my husband died 10 years ago. I am now dating a 31 year-old man. I am deeply in love with him. He says he's in love with me, too, but his family says he doesn't know what love is. He was previously in a four-year relationship with someone his own age.

Am I crazy for dating a man who is 31? He's everything I have always wanted, and what I would consider the perfect man for me. He claims his only problem with dating me is that I will probably pass away in 20 years, and he will be alone and devastated. My concern is I feel I am preventing him from future children and a possible wife his own age. He says he doesn't want kids, but I'm not so sure. Please tell me what to do. I have never been in this situation before.

— HELP, PLEASE, IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR HELP, PLEASE: As relationships evolve, couples learn more about each other. You didn't mention how long you and this man have been involved with each other, but if it has been less than a year, you would be wise to slow things down. It would be in your interest to know why his family thinks he doesn't know what love is. The answer to that question could be enlightening.

As to your not being certain that he doesn't want to be a father, in spite of the fact that he says he doesn't, not everyone wants children. If you aren't sure that everything he's telling you is the truth, I suggest you wait a few more innings before swinging for a home run.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Boost that buffet!

Dear Heloise: It's our custom to hold an open house on New Year's Day, when friends and family can just drop by to say "Happy New Year!" Every year I seem to serve the same old thing. Got any suggestions to make this year's buffet special? — Kate M., Shawnee, Okla.



Hints from Heloise

Kate, I sure do! It's from my book "In the Kitchen With Heloise":

Heloise's Hawaiian Curried Shrimp

- 6 tablespoons butter
 - 1 medium onion, finely chopped
 - 2 teaspoons finely chopped fresh ginger
 - 6 tablespoons flour
 - 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
 - 2 to 3 teaspoons curry powder
 - 2 cups whole dairy milk
 - 1 cup coconut milk (you can use canned)
 - 3 cups cooked shrimp
- Melt the butter in a large saucepan over medium heat. Add onion and ginger, and cook slowly until transparent. Add the flour, salt and curry powder, and mix thoroughly. Add the milk and coconut milk, stirring constantly. Cook slowly until thick and smooth. Add the shrimp and heat thoroughly. — Heloise

Water in bacon?

Dear Heloise: Can you tell me what's happened to bacon? When I cook a major brand of bacon, water comes out, but very little bacon grease is produced. What's going on? — Susan P., via email

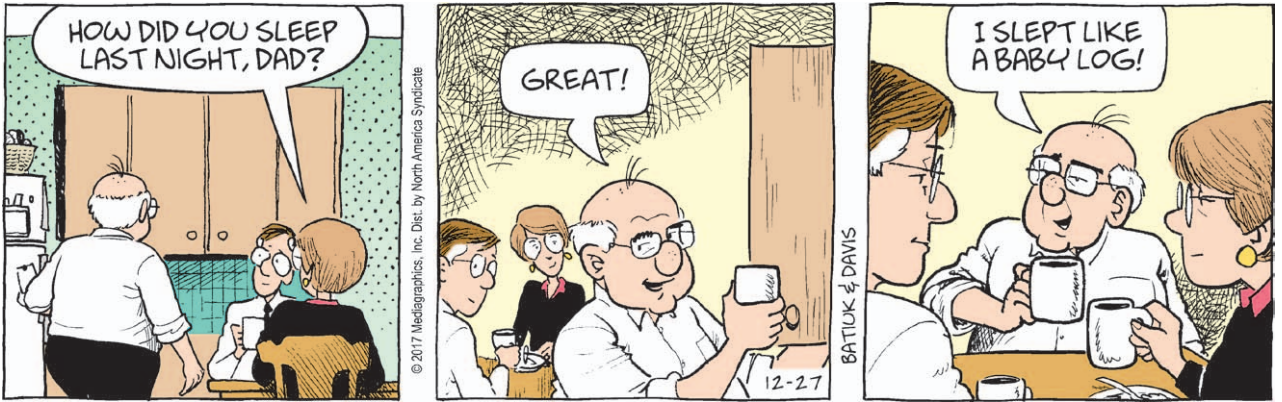
Susan, there are two primary methods of curing bacon: pumping is one, and dry curing is another. Pumped bacon has ingredients added directly into the meat, which speeds up the curing process. If not correctly drained, the bacon can emit a white liquid substance during frying.

Dry-cured bacon requires a curing mixture be rubbed on the bacon. After the curing process, the meat usually is hung for up to two weeks until the moisture is drawn out. — Heloise

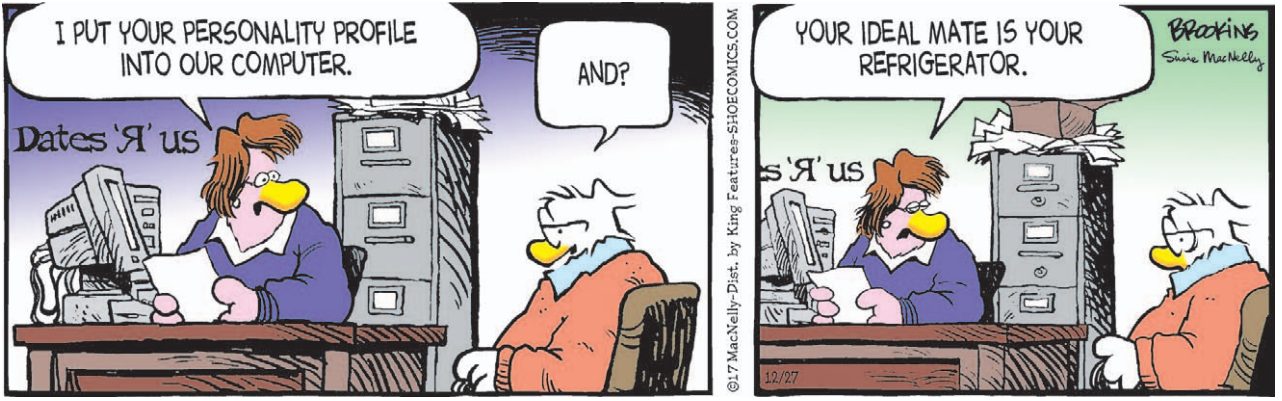
PEANUTS By Charles Schulz



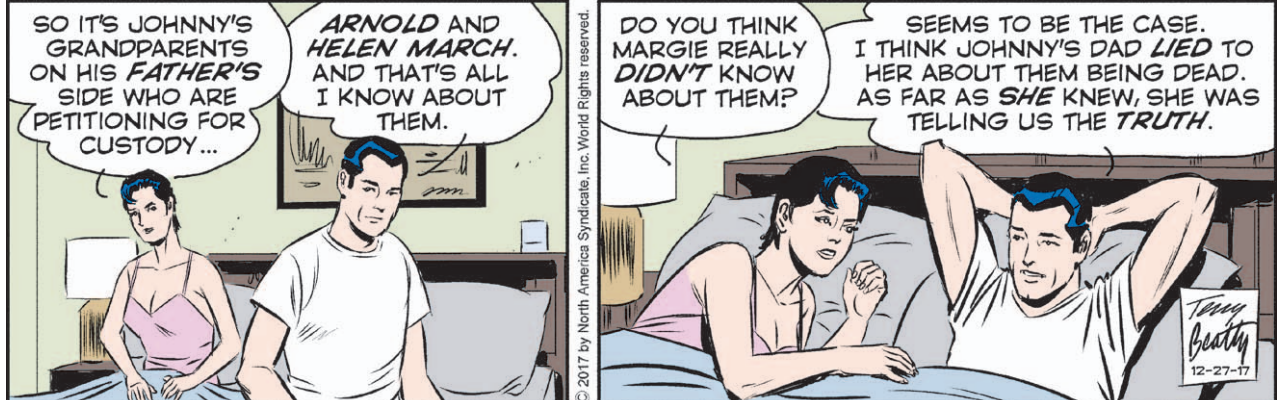
CRANKSHAFT By Tom Batiuk & Chuck Ayers



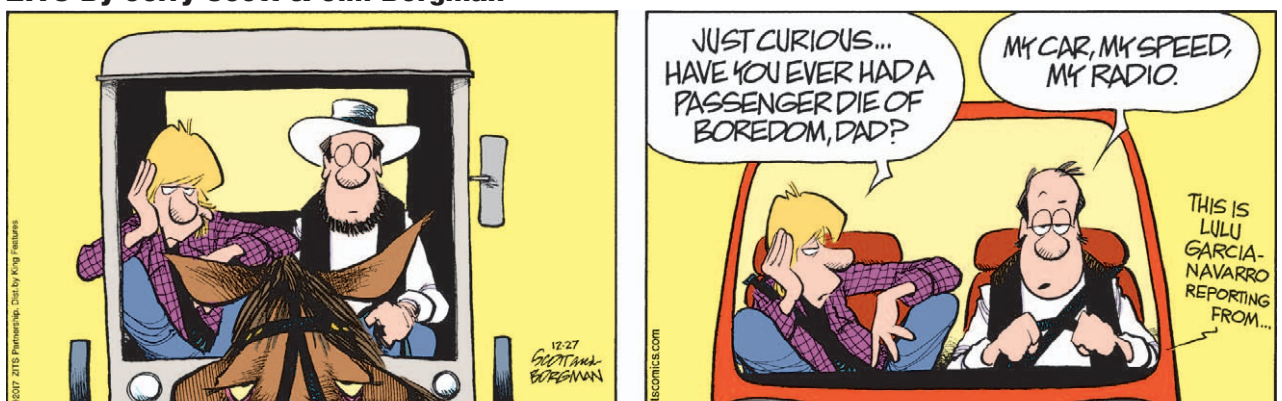
SHOE By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



REX MORGAN By Terry Beatty



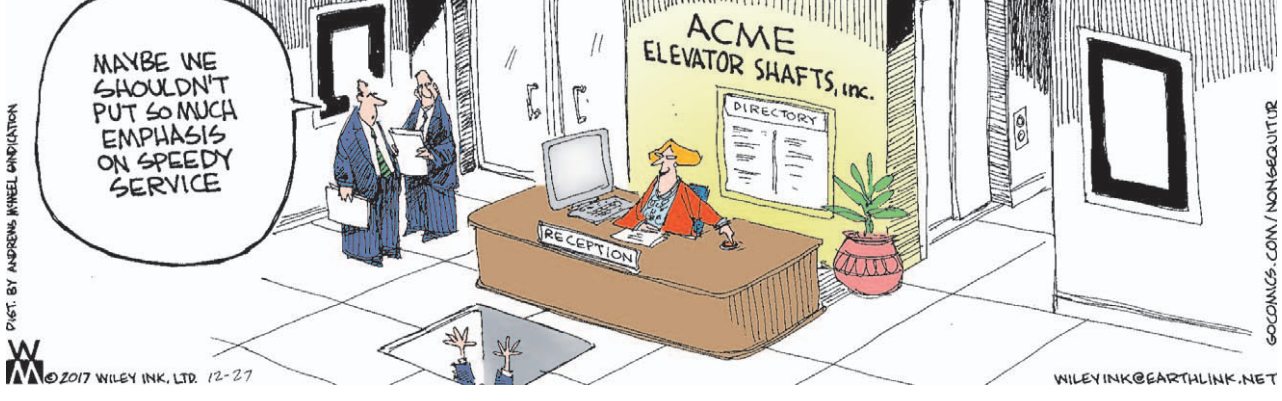
ZITS By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman



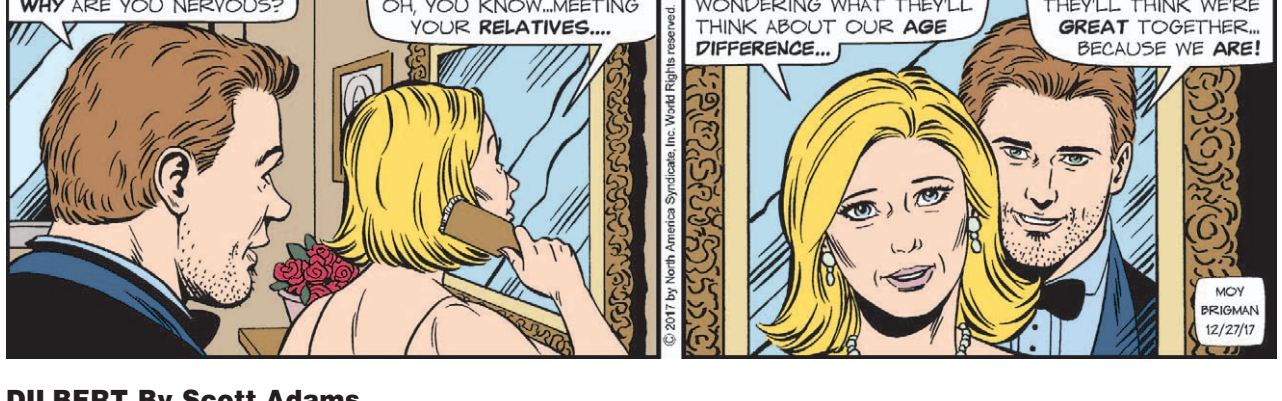
GARFIELD By Jim Davis



NON SEQUITUR By Wiley



MARY WORTH By Karen Moy and June Brigman



DILBERT By Scott Adams



Wednesday, December 27, 2017

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH BOB JONES

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SOLVING THE PROBLEM

Neither vulnerable, South deals

NORTH

- ♠ 6 2
- ♥ K J 3 2
- ♦ Q 10 6 5 2
- ♣ Q 8

- WEST**
- ♠ A Q 9 7 3
 - ♥ 10 4
 - ♦ A K J 9
 - ♣ K 4

- EAST**
- ♠ J 8 4
 - ♥ 7 6 5
 - ♦ 8 7 4
 - ♣ 7 5 3 2

SOUTH

- ♠ K 10 5
- ♥ A Q 9 8
- ♦ 3
- ♣ A J 10 9 6

The bidding:
 SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
 1♣ Dbl 1♦ Pass
 1♥ 1♠ Pass
 3♣ Pass 4♥ All pass

Opening lead: Ace of ♠

The auction gave South ample warning that the king of spades might not be well placed, but he soldiered on bravely anyway. Brave is what we call it when it leads to success. His game try was accepted by North and he now had to find a way to solve the spade problem.

The ace of diamonds opening lead held the trick and West shifted to the 10 of hearts, won in dummy with the jack. One way to solve the spade problem was to find the king of clubs onside, so South hopefully ran the queen of clubs at trick three. No luck there, as West won the king of clubs and led another trump, won in hand by declarer with the queen.

Looking at two almost certain spade losers, South came up with a clever plan. He cashed the ace and jack of clubs, discarding a spade from dummy. A low heart to dummy's king drew the last outstanding trump, and South led dummy's remaining spade to his 10. West won with the queen but could do nothing to hurt declarer. A diamond would set up dummy's queen, so West did the best he could by leading a low spade away from his ace. South was not fooled and discarded a diamond from dummy, winning with the king in his hand. He ruffed his remaining spade in dummy and claimed the rest. Nicely played!

(Bob Jones welcomes readers' responses sent in care of this newspaper or to Tribune Content Agency, LLC., 16650 Westgrove Dr., Suite 175, Addison, TX 75001. E-mail: tcaditors@tribpub.com)

7 LITTLE WORDS

Find the 7 words to match the 7 clues. The numbers in parentheses represent the number of letters in each solution. Each letter combination can be used only once, but all letter combinations will be necessary to complete the puzzle.

CLUES

- 1 like turbid waters (5)
- 2 like sitcom laughter, maybe (6)
- 3 Nobel-winning novelist Toni (8)
- 4 groups of roses, often (6)
- 5 pre-arrange (6)
- 6 made a facsimile (7)
- 7 don't get behind this ball (5)

SOLUTIONS

| | | | | |
|-----|-----|----|----|-----|
| NS | RR | CA | MU | ED |
| RKY | DO | ED | IS | SC |
| MO | RI | ZE | NN | SCA |
| PT | GHT | NN | EI | ON |

Tuesday's Answers: 1. PROOF 2. LURE 3. TEARSTAIN 4. BRIEF 5. BACKPACK 6. LIFTED 7. SPOTTED

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JUMBLE

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

| |
|---|
| TYTKI |
| □□□□□ |
| ©2017 Tribune Content Agency, LLC All Rights Reserved. |
| VICCI |
| □□□□□ |
| GIDNIO |
| □□□□□ |
| NIWONM |
| □□□□□ |

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

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

BORN LOSER By Art and Chip Sansom

BLONDIE By Dean Young and John Marshall

MUTTS By Patrick McDonnell

BABY BLUES By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott

DOONSBURY By Garry Trudeau

FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE By Lynn Johnston

Yesterday's Jumbles: PANIC CLERK VASTLY THROWN
 Answer: The new national book club had — LOCAL CHAPTERS

KENKEN

THE LOGIC PUZZLE THAT MAKES YOU SMARTER.

EASY

| | | | |
|----|----|-----|----|
| 4 | 3+ | | 1- |
| | | | |
| 3+ | | 12X | |
| | | | |
| 2- | 7+ | | 2 |
| | | | |
| | | 2÷ | |
| | | | |

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WORKSPACE:

CHALLENGING

| | | | | |
|-----|----|-----|-----|----|
| 3- | 4 | 11+ | 6X | 1- |
| | | 5- | | |
| | | | | |
| 3 | 3- | 2÷ | 3- | |
| | | | | |
| 2÷ | | 15X | 5- | |
| | | | | |
| 11+ | | | 15+ | 2 |
| | | | | |
| 6X | | 4 | | |
| | | | | |

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12-27-17

RULES

1 Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 4 (easy) or 1 through 6 (challenging) without repeating.

2 The numbers within the heavily outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners.

3 Freebies: Fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.

PREVIOUS ANSWERS

| | | | |
|----|----|----|----|
| 6X | 3- | 1- | 2÷ |
| 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| | 7+ | 3+ | |
| 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 |
| 3- | | | 3 |
| 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 |
| | 2 | 4+ | |
| 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 |

NATION/WORLD

NATION BRIEFS

Fruitcake package temporarily halts Seattle ferry service

SEATTLE (AP) — Authorities say a wrapped present that turned out to be a fruitcake temporarily halted service at a Seattle ferry terminal while police investigated.

Washington State Patrol Trooper Kevin Fortino says troopers were notified Tuesday that a suspicious package was found beneath a Christmas tree in the pedestrian waiting area.

Fortino says the package was deemed suspicious because it was unmarked and was the only gift under the tree.

Officials evacuated the terminal and kept all inbound ferries away for about a half-hour while the police bomb squad investigated.

Fortino says the gift was found to be a fruitcake.

He says it wasn't clear why it was left at the terminal.



AP PHOTO

Police secure the perimeter of a home in Troy, New York, Tuesday, Dec. 26, after four bodies were discovered in a basement apartment.

4 people dead in home; police say deaths appear suspicious

TROY, N.Y. (AP) — Police say four people have been found dead and may have been killed in an apartment in New York's capital region.

The bodies were discovered Tuesday afternoon in a basement apartment in a house in Troy, a city near Albany.

Troy police say the deaths are being treated as suspicious. The Albany Times-Union says the building's property manager discovered the dead.

Troy Police Capt. Daniel DeWolf calls the deaths "horrible, terrible" and sad.

Officers swarmed the street and cordoned off the area around the house.

A phone call to one of the home's apartments was answered by someone who declined to comment.

Appeal seeking Idaho horse herd sterilization is dismissed

BOISE, Idaho (AP) — A federal appeals court has dismissed an effort to allow the sterilization of a herd of wild horses in Idaho.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals earlier this month granted a request by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management to stop the effort.

Documents filed by BLM seeking the dismissal of its own appeal didn't include a reason.

The BLM in 2015 released a plan to sterilize horses in the Saylor Creek Herd Management Area and replenish the herd with wild horses captured elsewhere.

The American Wild Horse Campaign sued, fearing the case could set a precedent. A U.S. District Court ruled that the herd had to be able to produce healthy foals.

Military turns to oyster reefs to protect against storms

By WAYNE PARRY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIDDLETOWN, N.J. — Earle Naval Weapons Station, where the Navy loads some of America's most sophisticated weapons onto warships, suffered \$50 million worth of damage in Superstorm Sandy. Now the naval pier is fortifying itself with some decidedly low-tech protection: oysters.

The facility has allowed an environmental group to plant nearly a mile of oyster reefs about a quarter-mile off its shoreline to serve as a natural buffer to storm-driven wave damage.

Other military bases are enlisting the help of oysters, too. In June, environmental groups and airmen established a reef in the waters of Elgin Air Force Base Reservation in Florida, and more are planned nearby. Oysters also help protect Naval Station Norfolk in Virginia.

Three oyster reefs protect the USS Laffey museum in South Carolina. And military installations in Alabama and North Carolina have dispatched their enlisted



AP PHOTO

In this Nov. 21 photo, oysters grow on larger shells at the Earle Naval Weapons Station in Middletown New Jersey. Coastal communities around the world are planting oyster reefs to protect shorelines against the damaging effects of waves during storms.

personnel to help build oyster reefs in off-base coastal sites.

They are among hundreds of places around the U.S. and the world where oyster reefs are being planted primarily as storm-protection measures. And a bill just introduced in Congress would give coastal communities \$100 million over the next five years to create "living shorelines" that include oyster reefs.

"Having a hardened structure like that oyster reef will absorb some of that wave energy," said

Earle spokesman Bill Addison. "All the pipes and cables that are on the pier now, all of that was washed away and had to be rebuilt. And there was a lot of flooding that came into the base. Will this protect us against all of that? No, but it will do a significant amount of good to protect the base and the complex and our surrounding communities."

The NY/NJ Baykeeper group has been experimenting with oysters at the Navy pier since 2011, originally as a way to see

if the shellfish, through their natural filtering ability, might help improve water quality in the murky Raritan Bay. (They did somewhat).

In summer 2016, the group planted the oyster reef primarily as a storm protection measure — a trend that has taken hold around the world within the past decade or so, according to Bryan DeAngelis, a program coordinator for The Nature Conservancy in Rhode Island. Every coastal state in America is using oyster reefs as either a combination storm-protection or a water improvement project, or both.

In addition to cleaning the water, the oyster reefs help blunt the force of incoming waves.

"They are nice speed bumps," said Meredith Comi, an official with the Baykeeper group.

Environmentalists say "living shorelines" including oyster colonies are far preferable to, and cheaper than, armoring the coast with steel seas walls or wooden bulkheads that invariably accelerate erosion of the sand in front of such manmade structures.

In break with tradition, Trump doesn't host a state dinner

By DARLENE SUPERVILLE
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump couldn't stop talking about the red carpets, military parades and fancy dinners that were lavished upon him during state visits on his recent tour of Asia. "Magnificent," he declared at one point on the trip.

But Trump has yet to reciprocate, making him the first president in almost a century to close his first year in office without welcoming a visiting counterpart to the U.S. with similar trappings.

Trump spoke dismissively of state dinners as a candidate, when he panned President Barack Obama's decision to welcome Chinese President Xi Jinping with a 2015 state visit. Such visits are an important diplomatic tool that includes a showy arrival ceremony and an elaborate dinner at the White House.

"I would not be throwing (Xi) a dinner," Trump

said at the time. "I would get him a McDonald's hamburger and say we've got to get down to work."

Last month it was Xi's turn to literally roll out the red carpet. The Chinese leader poured on the pageantry as he welcomed Trump to Beijing on what was billed as a "state visit, plus." Trump also made state visits to South Korea and Vietnam.

White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said there is no "singular reason" why Trump hasn't extended a state visit invitation yet, but added that the administration hopes to schedule a visit early in 2018. Sanders gave no hints about which of Trump's foreign counterparts are being considered for the diplomatic honor.

A state visit typically is offered as a sign of friendship and to showcase strategic ties between countries that are important to each other, said Anita McBride, a veteran of three Republican administrations who last

served as chief of staff to first lady Laura Bush.

"The White House is the world stage to elevate that," she said. "These occasions really go a long way to solidify and strengthen relationships."

Trump speaks often about his relationships with many of his foreign counterparts, including Xi. Trump and the Chinese leader met at Trump's Florida estate in April, and Trump treated Xi to a full dinner — not the aforementioned burger — and what Trump described as "the most beautiful piece of chocolate cake."

"President Xi was enjoying it," the president reported.

Trump has also met at the White House, sometimes over lunch as well as abroad, with many of his foreign counterparts. He recently put the figure at more than 100.

But nothing compares to a state visit.

The White House portion of the visit begins with an elaborate arrival ceremony on the South Lawn, including the

pomp of a military honor guard, a troop review and leader statements.

The leaders meet privately in the Oval Office before they hold a joint news conference in the East Room or the Rose Garden. The evening ends with the foreign leader as the guest of honor at a lavish state dinner attended by hundreds, including members of Congress, business leaders, celebrities, political donors and others.

The visiting leader also has lunch at the State Department, and sometimes will address a joint meeting of Congress.

Such visits are reserved for when the U.S. wants to put on its "best face" for a particular leader and ally, said Peter Selfridge, who served as a liaison between the White House and visiting foreign dignitaries as U.S. chief of protocol from 2014 to January 2017.

"It's a really important arrow in a president's quiver when it comes to the diplomatic nicety side of his work," Selfridge said.

Saudi Arabia hosts world chess games, testing reform limits

By AYA BATRAWY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Saudi Arabia is hosting a world chess tournament for the first time on Tuesday nearly two years after the country's top cleric issued a religious edict against playing the board game. Politics have also interfered, with players from Israel and Qatar missing the tournament due to regional tensions.

Saudi Arabia's top cleric, Grand Mufti Sheikh Abdulaziz Al Sheikh, said in early 2016 that chess is "forbidden" in Islam because it wastes time and can lead to rivalry among players. Similarly, top Iranian clerics have also decried the game, saying it can lead to gambling, which is not permissible in Islam.

The mufti's comments at the time led to an outcry on social media by young Saudis who defended the game as

intellectually stimulating. Muslims, who introduced chess to Europe, have been playing the game since the 7th century in Persia.

Despite the mufti's past criticism, Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman has pushed for greater social openings, including lifting a ban on women driving that goes into effect next year, allowing concerts and movies, and easing rules on gender segregation.

The chess tournament, however, has also been hit by regional politics. Israelis say Saudi Arabia ignored requests by Israeli players to obtain visas to participate in the tournament. Israel and Saudi Arabia do not have diplomatic relations.

Meanwhile, players from Qatar and Iran, which have strained ties with Saudi Arabia, have been granted visas to participate in the tournament. However, Qatari players will not compete



AP PHOTO

In this Monday, Dec. 25, photo released by Saudi Press Agency, two Saudi officials play chess during the opening the first ever chess tournament in Riyadh.

in the championship because Qatar's chess federation said organizers demanded that the players not display the Qatari flag during the competition.

A statement issued by the World Chess Federation said that visas for players from Iran and Qatar were secured. It made no mention of Israeli players.

"The fact that players from Iran and Qatar may

decide not to participate, after consulting their own authorities, is clearly their own individual decision," the statement said.

The statement added that Saudi authorities had proposed that for security reasons the Qatari players should play under the organization's flag, but that the issue was resolved and the Qatar Chess Association was informed that their players would play under their own flag.

WORLD BRIEFS

Homemade liquor kills 12, sickens 21 in Dominican Republic

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP) — Authorities in the Dominican Republic say at least a dozen people have died and 21 more have been hospitalized after drinking homemade liquor containing methanol.

Officials say the first deaths occurred last week and the remaining people recently became sick after drinking the same liquor during funerals for the initial victims.

Health Secretary Altagracia Guzman said Tuesday that officials are trying to find the source of the liquor and no one has been arrested.

Authorities say that the deaths occurred near the border the Dominican Republic shares with Haiti and that an unknown number of people also died in Haiti.

The liquor is known as clairin and is made from sugarcane.

Egypt presidential hopeful calls for new election law

CAIRO (AP) — An Egyptian presidential hopeful is proposing a new election law aimed at ensuring a free and transparent vote next year.

Rights lawyer Khaled Ali told a packed news conference on Tuesday that a free election requires "real guarantees that include lifting the emergency state" imposed since April. He is also demanding the release of jailed journalists and the opening of public spaces for political activism.

President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi is widely expected to run for and win a second four-year term, but he has yet to formally announce his candidacy.

Ali could be disqualified from running over an obscenity conviction.

Egypt has waged a massive crackdown on dissent since el-Sissi led the military overthrow of an elected but divisive Islamist president in 2013.

Suspected Saudi-led coalition airstrike in Yemen kills 25

SANAA, Yemen (AP) — Yemeni witnesses and security officials say a Saudi-led coalition airstrike on a crowded market has killed at least 25 people, including children.

They say Tuesday's strike in the western province of Taiz wounded at least 30 others.

The witnesses and officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they feared retaliation or were not authorized to brief the media.

The coalition could not immediately be reached for comment.

International rights groups have accused the coalition of bombing civilian gatherings, markets, hospitals and residential areas across Yemen since the beginning of its air campaign against Iran-backed rebels, known as Houthis, in March 2015.

The stalemated war has killed more than 10,000 civilians and pushed the Arab world's poorest country to the brink of famine.

☉** ☐😊☘~🌙👉☼*✿✕☘+☽*▲☾*♊♎♏☽♏♁♂♆

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

CRYPTO FUN

☐☾♏☘♊☽☽~☼+

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to grilling.
 Each number corresponds to a different letter.
 (Hint: 2 = e)

A. 6 1 12 6 2 24 10 2

Clue: Cooking method

B. 3 20 13 13 25 2

Clue: Make a hissing sound

C. 24 4 1 25 3

Clue: Used to barbecue

D. 8 2 1 25

Clue: Food

Answers: A. barbecue B. sizzle C. coals D. meal

WORD SCRAMBLE

Rearrange the letters to spell something pertaining to grilling.

A S E C U

☐☐☐☐☐

Answer: Sauce

Guess Who?

I was born on July 5, 1950 in New York. My band was a big hit during the 1980s and one of my albums contributed multiple tracks to the "Back to the Future" soundtrack.

Answer: Huey Lewis

BARBECUE WORD SEARCH

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

WORDS

| | |
|--------------|-------------|
| BACKYARD | JUICY |
| BARBECUE | KABOB |
| BASTE | KITCHEN |
| BUNS | MARINADE |
| BURNT | MEATS |
| COVER | MUSIC |
| CRISPY | PARTY |
| DELICIOUS | POPPING |
| DINING | POULTRY |
| ENTERTAINING | SAFETY |
| FIRE | SCRAPE |
| FLIP | SECURE |
| FRANKFURTER | SMOKE |
| GRILLING | SPATULA |
| HAMBURGER | TEMPERATURE |
| HEAT | TIMING |
| HICKORY | VEGETABLES |
| HUNGRY | WATCH |

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

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Continued from previous page

NYSE

Table of NYSE stocks with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like BarHarbr s, BRiPhCrd, BarFlEur, etc.

Table of NYSE stocks with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like BrhtSch n, Brinker, Brinks, etc.

Table of NYSE stocks with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like ChinaLife s, ChinaMbrn, ChinaBorun, etc.

Continued from previous page

NYSE

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like CrosTim, CrwnCstle, CrwnCst pfA, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like DxsPGBB, DxrREBarr, Dir2OyTrB, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like EVFIRIP, EV LIdDur, EV MAMU, etc.

- D -

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like DCP Mid, DCT IndTr, DDR Corp, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like DolbyLab, DollarGen, DomMidst, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like EdwLdFsci, eHICarSvc, EHC, etc.

- E -

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like ETRacBDC, ETRMLPS, ETRALERNG, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like ETRacBDC, ETRMLPS, ETRALERNG, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like EneerJexR, EneerJexR, EneerJexR, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like ETRacBDC, ETRMLPS, ETRALERNG, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like ETRacBDC, ETRMLPS, ETRALERNG, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like ETRacBDC, ETRMLPS, ETRALERNG, etc.

- F -

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like FB Finl n, FBL Fin, FCB Fin, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like FB Finl n, FBL Fin, FCB Fin, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like FB Finl n, FBL Fin, FCB Fin, etc.

Continued from previous page

NYSE

Table with columns: Name, Ticker Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, YTD Last %Chg. Includes stocks like FTTQASivDiv, FTOASivDiv, FTOEURDiv, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, YTD Last %Chg. Includes stocks like Frankl Mun, FrnkL MunO, FrkL US SM, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, YTD Last %Chg. Includes stocks like GraniteCo, GranIPnt n, GranIRE, etc.

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NYSE

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD, %Chg. Lists various stocks including HSPX, KLDW, WEAR, CEFS, JIBR, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD, %Chg. Lists various stocks including iShGBCStp, iShRst, iShGBCDis, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD, %Chg. Lists various stocks including iShCoreInt, iShEUSC, iShCorePac, etc.

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NYSE

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes rows for KrmChEnv n, KrmOnBelt n, Krs Cr nTc, etc.

L

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes rows for L Brands, L3 Tech, LCI Inds, etc.

M

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes rows for M&T Bk, M&T Bk wt, M&T Bk pIC, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes rows for Meredith, Meritage, Meritor, etc.

N

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes rows for NCI Bid/Sy, NCR Corp, NGL EnPt, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes rows for NovaBay rs, NovaGld g, Novartis, etc.

O

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes rows for OCI Ptrs, OFG Bncp, OFG pA, etc.

P-Q

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes rows for PBF Energy, PBF Logist, PC&F Fund, etc.

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NYSE

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Lists various stocks like PSBPk pT, PSBPk pV, PSBPk pU, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Lists various stocks like PS SP Val, PS SP Int, PS SC High, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Lists various stocks like PrudUK pA, PrudUK, PrudSHHY, etc.

- R -

- S -

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NYSE

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, YTD Last %Chg. Includes stocks like SPDR, SPY, and various sector funds.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, YTD Last %Chg. Includes stocks like Sensient, Sequans, Seritage, and various technology companies.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, YTD Last %Chg. Includes stocks like TJX, TPG, TPGP, and various retail and consumer goods companies.

- U -

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NYSE

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like Usaa EMVI, Usaa STBd, Usaa IntBd, etc.

- V -

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like VFC Corp, VFC, Vaaloo, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like VanHIDvY, VanGEM, VanGrth, etc.

- W -

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like W&T Off, WBI TacTf, WBI TacY, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like WtWatch, WeinRkt, WeinstMk, etc.

Nasdaq

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like :A-MarkPM, AACN, AC Immun, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like ADDvtgTch, AAlliHold, AdmaBio, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like AllenaPh n, AlliHold, All MMA n, etc.

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Nasdaq

Main table containing Nasdaq stock listings with columns for Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol, YTD %Chg, and YTD %Chg.

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Nasdaq

Table of Nasdaq stock market data with columns for Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD, %Chg. Includes sections for E, H, F, G, and I.

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Nasdaq

Main table containing stock market data for Nasdaq, organized into columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes sub-sections for L-L, M-M, and N-N.

N-N

Continuation of the stock market data table, listing various stocks under the 'N-N' sub-section.

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Nasdaq

Main table containing Nasdaq stock listings with columns for Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol, and YTD %Chg. Includes sub-sections for -S-, -O-, and -P-Q-.

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Nasdaq

Table of Nasdaq stock market data including Ticker, Name, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 1000s, Last, %Chg, and YTD. Includes major tickers like AAPL, MSFT, GOOGL, and various industry-specific stocks.

- U -

Table of Nasdaq stock market data for the 'U' section, listing various technology and financial stocks.

- W -

Table of Nasdaq stock market data for the 'W' section, listing various utility, healthcare, and consumer goods stocks.

Money Markets

Table of Money Markets data, organized into columns for different market segments. Each column includes Fund Name, Assets, Mat, Avg, Comp, and YTD. Lists various investment funds like BLFF TrFund, DAD Gvt, and FUNDTRYSR.

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Money Markets

| Fund | | | | | Fund | | | | | Fund | | | | | Fund | | | | | Fund | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|--------|---------|---------|----------|---------------|--------|---------|---------|----------|--------------|----------|---------|---------|----------|--------------|--------|---------|---------|----------|----------------|----------|---------|---------|----------|----------------|------------|-----|------|-----|-----|
| Fund | Assets | Avg Mat | Avg Yld | Comp Yld | Fund | Assets | Avg Mat | Avg Yld | Comp Yld | Fund | Assets | Avg Mat | Avg Yld | Comp Yld | Fund | Assets | Avg Mat | Avg Yld | Comp Yld | Fund | Assets | Avg Mat | Avg Yld | Comp Yld | | | | | | |
| SEI DIT MMC | ... | ... | ... | ... | US Treas Tr | 56 | ... | ... | ... | BBH TxEx | ... | ... | ... | ... | FedFLMu WS | ... | ... | ... | ... | HSBC CalMMD | ... | ... | ... | ... | SchwNYMuSw | 1288 | 20 | .76 | ... | |
| SEI DillncGvB | ... | ... | ... | ... | USAA Mutl | 4419 | 40 | .98 | ... | BMO TaxF I p | 253 | 13 | 1.24 | 1.25 | FedGAMUCsh | 192 | 12 | .77 | ... | HSBC NYTFA | ... | ... | ... | ... | SchwPAMUni | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| SEI DailyTr C | ... | ... | ... | ... | USAA Treas | 3362 | 34 | .91 | ... | BMO TaxF Y | 102 | 13 | .99 | 1.00 | FedMAMUCS p | 48 | 33 | .22 | ... | HSBCInv CA | ... | ... | ... | ... | SchwTXFValAd | 618 | 19 | .98 | ... | |
| SEI DITGvIIA | 2097 | 40 | 1.02 | 1.02 | VALIC MMktI | 320 | 12 | .01 | .01 | BNYMeInMuM | 652 | 10 | 1.20 | ... | FedMAMuniSv | 55 | 31 | .63 | ... | HgtCshMunA | ... | ... | ... | ... | ShwbTE | 9374 | 16 | .92 | ... | |
| SEI LaPr | ... | ... | ... | ... | VANG MMKl | 126 | 11 | .01 | .01 | BLMunFdPCS p | ... | ... | ... | ... | FedMDMUCsh | ... | ... | ... | ... | IMCT NewYork p | ... | ... | ... | ... | SchwBTEXEx | 757 | 16 | 1.02 | ... | |
| SEI DITPrmA | ... | ... | ... | ... | VangAdmTr | 15893 | 49 | 1.14 | ... | BRLM Muni | 147 | 37 | 1.12 | 1.12 | FedMMDUCsh | ... | ... | ... | ... | JPMMuMMP | 77 | 6 | .97 | .97 | SchwC | 5254 | 14 | .73 | ... | |
| SEI DITPrmB | ... | ... | ... | ... | VangFd | 85451 | 52 | 1.18 | ... | BRMUnst | ... | ... | ... | ... | FedMUCsh | ... | ... | ... | ... | JPMuMMR | ... | ... | ... | ... | ScudTECshInst | 51 | 48 | 1.00 | ... | |
| SEI DITPrSA | 89 | 49 | 1.05 | 1.06 | VangPr | 83493 | 55 | 1.36 | ... | BRNUSv | ... | ... | ... | ... | FedMunObiA | 882 | 35 | 1.12 | ... | JPMorganCA | ... | ... | ... | ... | TDAMCAMU | 126 | 34 | .44 | .44 | |
| SEI DITTRIIA | 586 | 42 | 1.02 | 1.02 | VangPrnst | 12648 | 55 | 1.42 | ... | BRNC | ... | ... | ... | ... | FedMunObiCap | 235 | 35 | 1.02 | ... | JPMorganNY | 134 | 6 | .81 | .81 | TDAMMuni | 374 | 39 | .47 | .47 | |
| SEI DITTRIB | ... | ... | ... | ... | VicFedMMI | ... | ... | ... | ... | BRNUSv | ... | ... | ... | ... | FedMunObiSv | 454 | 35 | .87 | ... | JPMorganTF | 11 | 15 | .74 | .75 | TDAMNYM | 95 | 27 | .49 | .49 | |
| SEIDITPrmH | ... | ... | ... | ... | Vic Fed MMMS | ... | ... | ... | ... | BRF NYMUnit | 19 | 6 | 1.17 | 1.18 | FedNCMUCsh | ... | ... | ... | ... | JPMorg TFRp | 1524 | 15 | .88 | .89 | TRowSumTru | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| SSgAMMA F | ... | ... | ... | ... | VictoryFRF | ... | ... | ... | ... | BROHInst | ... | ... | ... | ... | FedNJMuCsSv | ... | ... | ... | ... | JPMtxFRp | 2364 | 15 | .63 | .64 | TRowCA c | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| SSgAPrm | ... | ... | ... | ... | VictGvtResSel | ... | ... | ... | ... | BRPASv | ... | ... | ... | ... | FedNJMuWS | ... | ... | ... | ... | JPMorgTFAgcy | 663 | 15 | 1.07 | 1.08 | TRowNY c | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| SSgAUSGvA | ... | ... | ... | ... | VictGvtResTr | ... | ... | ... | ... | BRVALnst | ... | ... | ... | ... | FedNYMuCSv | 64 | 44 | .75 | ... | JPMtxFRinst | 11437 | 15 | 1.12 | 1.13 | TRowTE c | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| SSgAUSTry | ... | ... | ... | ... | VictoryInstNS | ... | ... | ... | ... | BRFCAMuni | 46 | 11 | 1.11 | 1.12 | FedNYMuCS p | 57 | 44 | .27 | .20 | LMPNYMuO | ... | ... | ... | ... | TxExCAPrem | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| STI CshRes | ... | ... | ... | ... | VictoryNYOB | ... | ... | ... | ... | BR PA Instl | ... | ... | ... | ... | FedNYMuCsl | 12 | 44 | .52 | ... | MTB NYTF | ... | ... | ... | ... | TXFrMnyPrm | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| SansomSt | ... | ... | ... | ... | VictoryPRO | ... | ... | ... | ... | BR PA Invest | ... | ... | ... | ... | FedOHMuCsh | ... | ... | ... | ... | ML CMA Cal | ... | ... | ... | ... | TxMnyMKA | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| SaratgUSGvl | 9 | 1 | .01 | ... | WARRAdCSMB | ... | ... | ... | ... | BoiACATERsln | ... | ... | ... | ... | FedOHMuCShv | ... | ... | ... | ... | ML CMA CT | ... | ... | ... | ... | TaxFRMMSvc | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| SIscvGR-Pr | 10481 | 23 | .94 | ... | WARRAdCSMB | ... | ... | ... | ... | BoiACATERsln | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidOHMuWS | ... | ... | ... | ... | ML CMA MA | ... | ... | ... | ... | TaxFRMMSvc | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| SchwBACR | 3751 | 23 | .87 | ... | WARRAdCSMB | ... | ... | ... | ... | BoiACATERsln | ... | ... | ... | ... | FedPAUniCSv | 50 | 22 | .20 | .11 | ML CMA MA | ... | ... | ... | ... | TaxFRMMSvc | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| SchwBChRes | 36018 | 20 | .89 | ... | WARRAdCSMB | ... | ... | ... | ... | BoiACATERsln | ... | ... | ... | ... | FedPAUniCSv | 16 | 22 | .59 | ... | ML CMA NJ | ... | ... | ... | ... | TxExCAPrem | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| Schwbln | 571 | 32 | 1.15 | ... | WeissTreasury | ... | ... | ... | ... | BoiACATERsln | ... | ... | ... | ... | FedTaxFobWS | 2493 | 39 | 1.06 | ... | ML CMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... | TouchstnFITF | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| SchwBrtAdv | 211 | 30 | 1.14 | ... | WeitzGvMM | ... | ... | ... | ... | BoiACATERsln | ... | ... | ... | ... | FedTxFrObSv | 184 | 39 | .81 | ... | ML CMA OH | ... | ... | ... | ... | TouchstnOHTF I | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| SchwValAdv | 14585 | 31 | 1.16 | ... | WellsFargA | 469 | 15 | .93 | .94 | BoiACATERsln | ... | ... | ... | ... | FedVAMUWS | ... | ... | ... | ... | ML CMA TE | ... | ... | ... | ... | TouchstnOHTFFR | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| SchwValAdvUtl | 12497 | 31 | 1.31 | ... | WFCashInlAdv | 119 | 16 | 1.10 | 1.11 | BoiAMRSAdv | ... | ... | ... | ... | FedNYMuSv | 113 | 13 | .62 | ... | MnyMgtPlus | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA CA | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| SchwValAdvSt | ... | ... | ... | ... | WFCashInst | 662 | 16 | 1.23 | 1.24 | BoiAMRCAP | ... | ... | ... | ... | FedMIMUCSv | ... | ... | ... | ... | MS CalTF | 31 | 6 | .59 | .60 | UBS RMA NJ | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| SchwValAdvPr | ... | ... | ... | ... | WFGovAdm | 1360 | 37 | .98 | .98 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FedMIMUCSv | ... | ... | ... | ... | MS NYMFM | 17 | 6 | .67 | .67 | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| SchwBv | 25612 | 25 | .64 | ... | WFGvMMA | 258 | 37 | .71 | .71 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FedTxF c | 286 | 7 | 1.10 | ... | MS TFDly | 59 | 8 | .71 | .71 | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| SchwBMM | 8021 | 26 | .86 | ... | WellsFargol | 100 | 3029 | 46 | .76 | .76 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidCA | 2704 | 27 | .73 | ... | MS TFDly | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Schw UST | 15806 | 17 | .64 | ... | WellsFargol | 100 | 3029 | 46 | .76 | .76 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidCA | 2704 | 27 | .73 | ... | MS TFDly | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| ScudCshAARP | ... | ... | ... | ... | WellsFargol | 100 | 3029 | 46 | .76 | .76 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidCA | 2704 | 27 | .73 | ... | MS TFDly | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| SecurityCsh | ... | ... | ... | ... | WellsFargol | 100 | 3029 | 46 | .76 | .76 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidCA | 2704 | 27 | .73 | ... | MS TFDly | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| SentinelGov A | ... | ... | ... | ... | WellsFargol | 100 | 3029 | 46 | .76 | .76 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidCA | 2704 | 27 | .73 | ... | MS TFDly | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| ShTrInUS | ... | ... | ... | ... | WellsFargol | 100 | 3029 | 46 | .76 | .76 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidCA | 2704 | 27 | .73 | ... | MS TFDly | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| SignalMM I | ... | ... | ... | ... | WellsFargol | 100 | 3029 | 46 | .76 | .76 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidCA | 2704 | 27 | .73 | ... | MS TFDly | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| SmbBarPRDyLiq | ... | ... | ... | ... | WellsFargol | 100 | 3029 | 46 | .76 | .76 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidCA | 2704 | 27 | .73 | ... | MS TFDly | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| SiFRmMLLGA | 122 | 36 | .87 | .87 | WellsFargol | 100 | 3029 | 46 | .76 | .76 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidCA | 2704 | 27 | .73 | ... | MS TFDly | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| SiInstsLRSA | 8677 | 22 | 1.43 | 1.44 | WellsFargol | 100 | 3029 | 46 | .76 | .76 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidCA | 2704 | 27 | .73 | ... | MS TFDly | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| SunAmMMA | 117 | 10 | .01 | .01 | WellsFargol | 100 | 3029 | 46 | .76 | .76 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidCA | 2704 | 27 | .73 | ... | MS TFDly | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| TAIDEXTAmB t | ... | ... | ... | ... | WellsFargol | 100 | 3029 | 46 | .76 | .76 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidCA | 2704 | 27 | .73 | ... | MS TFDly | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| TCW Gallieol | ... | ... | ... | ... | WellsFargol | 100 | 3029 | 46 | .76 | .76 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidCA | 2704 | 27 | .73 | ... | MS TFDly | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| TDAMMMInlv | 496 | 43 | .69 | .69 | WellsFargol | 100 | 3029 | 46 | .76 | .76 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidCA | 2704 | 27 | .73 | ... | MS TFDly | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| TDAMMMKPr | 83 | 43 | .69 | .69 | WellsFargol | 100 | 3029 | 46 | .76 | .76 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidCA | 2704 | 27 | .73 | ... | MS TFDly | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| TDAMUSGv | 1027 | 38 | .54 | .54 | WellsFargol | 100 | 3029 | 46 | .76 | .76 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidCA | 2704 | 27 | .73 | ... | MS TFDly | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| TIAA-Cref Life | ... | ... | ... | ... | WellsFargol | 100 | 3029 | 46 | .76 | .76 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidCA | 2704 | 27 | .73 | ... | MS TFDly | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| TIAA-CREF Inst | 433 | 49 | .01 | .01 | WellsFargol | 100 | 3029 | 46 | .76 | .76 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidCA | 2704 | 27 | .73 | ... | MS TFDly | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| TIAA-CREF MM | ... | ... | ... | ... | WellsFargol | 100 | 3029 | 46 | .76 | .76 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidCA | 2704 | 27 | .73 | ... | MS TFDly | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| TIAA-CREF Ret | 302 | 49 | .01 | .01 | WellsFargol | 100 | 3029 | 46 | .76 | .76 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidCA | 2704 | 27 | .73 | ... | MS TFDly | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| TIAA-CREF Ret | 117 | 49 | .01 | .01 | WellsFargol | 100 | 3029 | 46 | .76 | .76 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidCA | 2704 | 27 | .73 | ... | MS TFDly | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| TRowSumCR | ... | ... | ... | ... | WellsFargol | 100 | 3029 | 46 | .76 | .76 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidCA | 2704 | 27 | .73 | ... | MS TFDly | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| TRowPRF | ... | ... | ... | ... | WellsFargol | 100 | 3029 | 46 | .76 | .76 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidCA | 2704 | 27 | .73 | ... | MS TFDly | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| TRowUST | ... | ... | ... | ... | WellsFargol | 100 | 3029 | 46 | .76 | .76 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidCA | 2704 | 27 | .73 | ... | MS TFDly | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| TargetUSGvt | ... | ... | ... | ... | WellsFargol | 100 | 3029 | 46 | .76 | .76 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidCA | 2704 | 27 | .73 | ... | MS TFDly | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Thriv MM Inst | 81 | 32 | .77 | .77 | WellsFargol | 100 | 3029 | 46 | .76 | .76 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidCA | 2704 | 27 | .73 | ... | MS TFDly | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Thriv MMK A | 318 | 32 | .48 | .48 | WellsFargol | 100 | 3029 | 46 | .76 | .76 | BoiANNTY | ... | ... | ... | ... | FidCA | 2704 | 27 | .73 | ... | MS TFDly | ... | ... | ... | ... | UBS RMA NY | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Touchstone Inst | ... | ... | ... | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Top 20 Mutual Funds

By Year-to-Date Percent Return

| Name | Obj | Pct Load | NAV | YTD Rtn | Phone Number |
|-------------------------------------|-----|----------|--------|---------|--------------|
| Direction MEMktsB2X b | LE | NL | 58.58 | +76.1 | 800-851-0511 |
| ProFunds UltraMvLn | LE | NL | 65.78 | +73.6 | 888-776-3637 |
| Rydex NASDAQ1002xStrH b | LE | NL | 124.97 | +70.9 | 800-820-0888 |
| ProFunds ULINASDAQ100Inv | LE | NL | 184.98 | +70.5 | 888-776-3637 |
| Rydex NASDAQ1002xStrC m | LE | 1.00 | 100.69 | +69.7 | 800-820-0888 |
| Neuberger Berman GrtrChinaEqIn | CH | NL | 15.94 | +65.4 | 800-366-6264 |
| Kinetics InternetNoLoad d | LG | NL | 64.98 | +65.2 | 800-930-3828 |
| Kinetics InternetAdvC m | LG | 1.00 | 56.65 | +64.1 | 800-930-3828 |
| Columbia GrtrChinaIn | CH | NL | 55.21 | +60.4 | 800-345-8611 |
| Columbia GrtrChinaC m | CH | 5.75 | 50.93 | +60.1 | 800-345-8611 |
| Columbia GrtrChinaC a | CH | 1.00 | 47.21 | +58.9 | 800-345-8611 |
| Matthews ChinaIn | CH | NL | 22.11 | +58.7 | 800-789-2742 |
| ProFunds IntlUltraSectInv | LE | NL | 69.28 | +58.5 | 888-776-3637 |
| ProFunds UltDow30Inv | LE | NL | 126.76 | +57.9 | 888-776-3637 |
| Firsthand TechOpps | ST | NL | 10.01 | +55.9 | 888-884-2675 |
| U.S. Global Investor ChinaRegionInv | b | CH | NL | 11.36 | +55.4 |
| 800-873-8637 | | | | | |
| Kinetics GIBAdv d | SW | 5.75 | 8.04 | +54.9 | 800-930-3828 |
| Kinetics GIBNoLoad d | SW | NL | 8.05 | +53.9 | 800-930-3828 |
| Overweisk ChinaOpps m | CH | NL | 16.84 | +53.9 | 800-323-6166 |
| John Hancock GrtrChinaOpA m | CH | 5.00 | 25.46 | +53.0 | 800-225-5291 |

By Total Net Assets

| Name | Obj | Total Assets | Percent Return/Rank | YTD | 5-Yr | Pct Load |
|-------------------------------|-----|--------------|---------------------|-------|---------|----------|
| Vanguard 500IdxAdmrl | LB | 231,836 | +3.2 | +22.1 | +15.9/A | NL |
| Vanguard TInSlidxAdmrl | LB | 187,806 | +3.0 | +21.4 | +15.7/A | NL |
| Vanguard Inslidx | LB | 141,099 | +3.2 | +22.1 | +15.9/A | NL |
| Vanguard TInSlidxInv | LB | 126,701 | +3.0 | +21.3 | +15.6/B | NL |
| Vanguard TInSlidx | FB | 118,325 | +4.0 | +26.3 | +70/C | NL |
| Vanguard TInSlidxInv | LB | 112,203 | +3.0 | +21.4 | +15.7/A | NL |
| Vanguard InslidxPlus | LB | 92,555 | +3.2 | +22.1 | +15.9/A | NL |
| Fidelity Contrafund | LG | 90,869 | +5.5 | +32.5 | +16.7/B | NL |
| Vanguard TInSlidxInvPlus | FB | 89,457 | +5.5 | +26.4 | +71/C | NL |
| Vanguard WIngtAdmrl | MA | 87,135 | +2.5 | +14.6 | +10.9/L | NL |
| American Funds GrAmrcA m | LG | 85,356 | +1.5 | +26.2 | +16.2/B | 5.75 |
| Vanguard TIBMdxAdmrl | CI | 81,616 | -2.0 | +3.2 | +20/C | NL |
| American Funds IncAmrcA m | AL | 77,239 | -2.0 | +12.9 | +9.6/C | 5.75 |
| Fidelity 500IndexPm | LB | 74,522 | +3.2 | +22.1 | +15.9/A | NL |
| American Funds CptInclBldrA m | IH | 72,013 | +1.1 | +13.7 | +7.7/A | 5.75 |
| Dodge & Cox SIK | LV | 69,876 | +5.5 | +18.8 | +16.5/A | NL |
| Vanguard TInSlidxAdmrl | FB | 66,445 | +5.5 | +26.4 | +71/C | NL |
| Dodge & Cox IntlStk | FB | 64,913 | +5.5 | +23.3 | +8.5/A | NL |
| American Funds InvCAmrcA m | LB | 63,338 | +3.5 | +19.7 | +11.1/B | 5.75 |
| American Funds AmrcBalA m | MA | 62,823 | +2.2 | +15.4 | +11.5/A | 5.75 |

By 4-Week Percent Return

| Name | Obj | Pct Load | NAV | 4-Wk Rtn | Phone Number |
|--------------------------------|-----|----------|--------|----------|--------------|
| Aberdeen FocUSEqA m | LG | 5.75 | 6.64 | +30.8 | 866-667-9231 |
| Kinetics InternetAdvC m | LG | 1.00 | 56.65 | +24.1 | 800-930-3828 |
| Kinetics InternetNoLoad d | LG | NL | 64.98 | +24.1 | 800-930-3828 |
| Kinetics GIBAdvC m | SW | 5.75 | 8.04 | +18.6 | 800-930-3828 |
| Kinetics GIBNoLoad d | SW | NL | 8.05 | +18.6 | 800-930-3828 |
| Kinetics GIBAdvC m | SW | 1.00 | 7.62 | +18.5 | 800-930-3828 |
| Kinetics MktOppnsInv d | SF | NL | 27.03 | +14.4 | 800-930-3828 |
| Kinetics MktOppnsAdvC m | SF | 1.00 | 25.38 | +14.3 | 800-930-3828 |
| Russell InvUSSmCpEqC b | SB | NL | 29.76 | +13.8 | 800-777-7354 |
| ProFunds UltSrtOilGasInv | EE | NL | 38.90 | +11.4 | 888-776-3637 |
| Rydex EngyVocSvH b | EE | NL | 25.94 | +10.8 | 800-820-0888 |
| Rydex EngyVocSvLn | EE | NL | 28.48 | +10.8 | 800-820-0888 |
| ProFunds UltDow30Inv | LE | NL | 126.76 | +10.4 | 888-776-3637 |
| Fairholme Funds Fund d | LV | NL | 20.05 | +9.6 | 866-202-2263 |
| Fidelity Select Transportation | ID | NL | 104.55 | +9.5 | 800-544-8544 |
| Ivy EngyA m | EE | 5.75 | 12.48 | +9.4 | 800-777-6472 |
| Ivy EngyC m | EE | 1.00 | 11.60 | +9.4 | 800-777-6472 |
| Fidelity Advisor Energy | EE | NL | 36.46 | +8.9 | 877-220-0098 |
| Fidelity Select Energy | EE | NL | 44.94 | +8.8 | 800-544-8544 |
| Highland SmCpEqA m | SG | 5.75 | 13.18 | +8.8 | 877-665-1287 |

Continued from previous page

| Name | Obj | NAV | 4-wk Rtn | YTD Rtn | 3-yr Rtn/Rk |
|-----------------|-----|-------|----------|---------|-------------|
| WithApprStrAdv | WS | 16.27 | +1.8 | +21.8 | +7.8/C |
| AC Alternatives | | | | | |
| EqMktNtrlInv | NE | 11.26 | -1.1 | +1.1 | -3/D |
| MktNtrlValInv | NE | 10.45 | +1.2 | +1.4 | +2.9/A |
| AltActAlloA f | MA | 17.67 | +1.7 | +14.5 | +6.0/C |
| FlexCrdtA m | HY | 3.43 | +4.4 | +4.8 | +4.3/D |
| FoccdDivStrB m | LV | 18.79 | +7.7 | +20.7 | +10.3/A |
| FoccdDivStrC m | LV | 17.78 | +7.7 | +20.7 | +10.3/A |
| IntlDivStrA m | FV | 9.42 | +2.4 | +16.0 | +9/E |
| MitAstAlloA f | MA | 18.32 | +1.9 | +13.6 | +6.1/C |
| MitAstAlloC m | MA | 18.30 | +1.8 | +12.8 | +5.4/D |
| SrFIngrRtA m | BL | 8.10 | +5.5 | +4.2 | +4.2/B |
| SrFIngrRtC m | BL | 8.09 | +5.2 | +3.9 | +3.9/C |
| StrBdA m | MU | 3.45 | +1.7 | +0.8 | +0.3/C |
| StrValA m | LV | 31.61 | +4.2 | +15.9 | +7.0/D |
| USGvtSecA m | GI | 9.05 | -4.4 | -4.4 | -4/E |

Mutual Funds

| Name | Obj | NAV | 4-wk Rtn | YTD Rtn | 3-yr Rtn/Rk |
|-------------------|-----|-------|----------|---------|-------------|
| EqGrIn x | LB | 32.52 | +2.6 | +22.4 | +8.5/D |
| EqGrIn x | LB | 32.49 | +2.6 | +22.2 | +8.2/D |
| EqInC x | LV | 8.92 | +2.7 | +13.2 | +10.2/A |
| EqIncl x | LV | 8.93 | +2.9 | +13.8 | +9.4/A |
| EqIncl x | LV | 8.92 | +2.8 | +13.5 | +10.5/A |
| EqIncl x | LV | 8.89 | +2.8 | +12.9 | +9.9/A |
| EqInclR6 x | LV | 8.93 | +2.8 | +13.8 | +10.8/A |
| GIBGoldInv | SP | 8.72 | +2.0 | +10.2 | +9.5/B |
| GIBGrInv | WS | 12.18 | -2.0 | +27.2 | +8.2/C |
| GIBRISestInv | GR | 11.72 | -1.0 | +12.9 | +3.9/C |
| GovtBdA m | GI | 10.91 | -4.0 | +1.6 | +9/C |
| GovtBdInv | GI | 10.91 | -4.0 | +1.8 | +12/B |
| GovtBdR5 | GI | 10.91 | -3.4 | +2.0 | +14/B |
| GrA m | LG | 31.94 | +1.3 | +30.8 | +12.1/B |
| GrIn | LG | 33.48 | +1.4 | +30.8 | +12.1/B |
| GrIn | LG | 32.92 | +1.3 | +30.5 | +12.0/B |
| GrR b | LG | 31.25 | +1.3 | +29.9 | +11.3/C |
| GrR6 | LG | 33.44 | +1.4 | +31.0 | +12.3/B |
| HYInv | HY | 5.72 | -2.2 | +5.9 | +4.5/D |
| HYMunil | HM | 9.68 | +4.0 | +9.1 | +5.1/B |
| HYMunilInv | HM | 9.68 | +4.0 | +8.9 | +4.8/B |
| HeritageA m | MG | 20.81 | +1.5 | +21.5 | +7.9/D |
| HeritageC m | MG | 16.79 | +1.4 | +20.6 | +7.1/E |
| Heritagel | MG | 23.87 | +1.5 | +22.1 | +8.4/D |
| HeritagelInv | MG | 22.48 | +1.5 | +21.8 | +8.2/C |
| IncdGrA x | LV | 39.33 | +3.5 | +20.6 | +8.2/D |
| IncdGrI x | LV | 39.44 | +3.5 | +21.1 | +8.7/B |
| IncdGrIn x | LV | 39.39 | +3.5 | +20.9 | +8.5/C |
| InflAgdBdA x | IP | 11.53 | -1.1 | +2.0 | +1.4/C |
| InflAgdBdInv | IP | 11.55 | -1.2 | +2.2 | +1.7/D |
| InflAgdBdR5 | IP | 11.54 | -1.2 | +2.5 | +1.9/B |
| IntlTrmTxFrBdA m | MI | 11.32 | +1.1 | +4.2 | +2.0/D |
| IntlTrmTxFrBdI | MI | 11.32 | +1.1 | +4.7 | +2.5/B |
| IntlTrmTxFrBdInv | MI | 11.32 | +1.2 | +4.5 | +2.3/C |
| IntlBdInv | IB | 13.07 | -9.0 | +9.5 | +8/D |
| IntlDiscInv | FR | 16.86 | -1.1 | +38.9 | +11.5/C |
| IntlGrA m | FG | 13.27 | -1.2 | +29.6 | +6.3/E |
| IntlGrI | FG | 13.07 | -1.1 | +30.2 | +6.8/E |
| IntlGrIn | FG | 13.15 | -1.2 | +29.8 | +6.5/E |
| IntlOppsInv | FR | 11.10 | +7.0 | +43.4 | +14.2/A |
| InvGinnieMaelInv | GI | 10.41 | -4.0 | +1.0 | +10/C |
| InvGinnieMaeR5 | GI | 10.41 | -4.0 | +1.2 | +12/B |
| InvOC2020A m | TE | 12.62 | +7.0 | +10.5 | +4.5/D |
| InvOC2020I | TE | 12.64 | +6.9 | +11.0 | +5.0/C |
| InvOC2020R b | TE | 12.63 | +6.9 | +10.2 | +4.8/D |
| InvOC2020B b | TE | 12.62 | +6.8 | +10.2 | +4.8/D |
| InvOC2025A m | TG | 14.99 | +9.0 | +11.8 | +5.0/E |
| InvOC2025I | TG | 14.99 | +9.0 | +12.2 | +5.4/D |
| InvOC2025R b | TG | 14.99 | +9.0 | +12.1 | +5.2/E |
| InvOC2025R b | TG | 14.98 | +9.0 | +11.5 | +4.7/E |
| InvOC2030A m | TH | 13.09 | +9.0 | +13.0 | +5.4/E |
| InvOC2030I | TH | 13.11 | +9.0 | +13.5 | +5.9/D |
| InvOC2030R b | TH | 13.11 | +9.0 | +13.2 | +5.7/D |
| InvOC2030R b | TH | 13.09 | +8.2 | +12.7 | +5.2/E |
| InvOC2035A m | TI | 16.37 | +1.0 | +14.3 | +5.9/E |
| InvOC2035I | TI | 16.39 | +1.0 | +14.7 | +6.4/E |
| InvOC2035Inv | TI | 16.37 | +1.0 | +14.5 | +6.1/E |
| InvOC2035R b | TI | 16.37 | +1.0 | +14.0 | +5.6/E |
| InvOC2040A m | TJ | 13.84 | +1.2 | +15.6 | +6.8/D |
| InvOC2040I | TJ | 13.84 | +1.2 | +15.6 | +6.8/D |
| InvOC2040Inv | TJ | 13.84 | +1.2 | +15.9 | +6.6/E |
| InvOC2040R b | TJ | 13.82 | +1.1 | +15.3 | +6.1/E |
| InvOC2045A m | TJ | 17.36 | +1.2 | +17.0 | +6.8/E |
| InvOC2045I | TK | 17.39 | +1.3 | +17.6 | +7.3/E |
| InvOC2045Inv | TK | 17.37 | +1.2 | +17.3 | +7.1/E |
| InvOC2045R b | TK | 17.36 | +1.2 | +16.7 | +6.6/E |
| InvOC2050A m | TN | 14.17 | +1.3 | +18.1 | +7.2/E |
| InvOC2050I | TN | 14.19 | +1.3 | +18.6 | +7.6/D |
| InvOC2050Inv | TN | 14.18 | +1.4 | +18.4 | +7.4/D |
| InvOC2050R b | TN | 14.17 | +1.3 | +17.7 | +6.9/E |
| InvOC2055A m | TL | 15.18 | +1.3 | +18.6 | +7.4/E |
| InvOC2055Inv | TL | 15.19 | +1.3 | +18.9 | +7.6/E |
| InvOC-AgrInv | AL | 17.44 | +1.0 | +18.9 | +7.5/D |
| InvOC-ConsrvInv | CA | 14.06 | +6.0 | +18.4 | +7.4/C |
| InvOCInRetA m | RI | 13.42 | +8.0 | +9.8 | +4.2/B |
| InvOCInRetI | RI | 13.43 | +8.0 | +10.2 | +4.7/A |
| InvOCInRetR b | RI | 13.42 | +8.0 | +10.0 | +4.5/B |
| InvOCInRetR b | RI | 13.40 | +8.0 | +9.5 | +4.0/C |
| InvOCModInv | MA | 16.17 | +9.0 | +15.2 | +6.2/C |
| InvOCVryAgrInv | XM | 18.92 | +1.4 | +22.6 | +8.7/A |
| InvOCVryCsrInv | XY | 12.29 | +5.5 | +6.2 | +3.4/C |
| LvCoValInv x | LV | 10.25 | +3.8 | +11.4 | +6.9/D |
| MidCpValA x | MV | 17.50 | +4.1 | +11.4 | +9.8/A |
| MidCpValC x | MV | 17.34 | +4.0 | +10.6 | +9.0/B |
| MidCpValI x | MV | 17.54 | +4.2 | +11.9 | +10.3/A |
| MidCpValInv x | MV | 17.53 | +4.1 | +11.6 | +10.1/A |
| MidCpValR x | MV | 17.46 | +4.1 | +11.1 | +9.6/A |
| MidCpValR5 x | MV | 17.54 | +4.2 | +12.1 | +10.5/A |
| NTCoreEqPlusG x | LB | 16.66 | +2.7 | +20.4 | +7.7/D |
| NTEquGrG x | CI | 10.71 | -2.2 | 9.3 | +2.4/B |
| NTEqGrG x | EM | 13.26 | -1.9 | +46.2 | +13.2/A |
| NTGrG | LG | 17.34 | +1.3 | +31.1 | +12.0/B |
| NTHeritageG | MG | 13.97 | -1.6 | +22.4 | +8.5/C |
| NTIntlGrG | FG | 12.18 | -1.0 | +30.7 | +6.8/E |
| NTLgCoValG x | LV | 11.59 | +3.9 | +11.8 | +6.8/E |
| NTMidCpValG x | MV | 13.57 | +4.2 | +12.2 | +10.5/A |
| NTSmCoG x | SB | 9.70 | +1.8 | +12.1 | +7.8/D |
| RIEsttA x | SR | 27.93 | -1.3 | +3.9 | +3.5/D |
| RIEsttI x | SR | 28.02 | -1.3 | +4.4 | +4.0/C |
| RIEsttInv x | SR | 27.95 | -1.3 | +4.2 | +3.8/D |
| Shel | LV | 71.40 | +1.5 | +29.5 | +13.4/A |
| SellInv | CS | 10.30 | +1.5 | +29.3 | +13.1/D |
| ShrtDurlv | CS | 10.19 | +1.4 | +29.4 | +13.1/D |
| ShrtTrmGovtInv | GS | 9.50 | -1.1 | +2.2 | +3/D |
| ShtDrlntPrbDInv x | IP | 10.11 | -4.0 | +4.4 | +1.1/D |
| ShtDrlntPrbDR5 x | IP | 10.19 | -2.2 | +7.0 | +1.3/C |
| SmColnv | SB | 15.52 | -1.8 | +11.5 | +7.3/D |
| SmCpGrA m | SG | 16.69 | +2.0 | +25.9 | +9.7/C |
| SmCpGrI | SG | 17.59 | +2.1 | +26.4 | +10.1/B |
| SmCpGrInv | SG | 17.22 | +2.0 | +26.1 | +9.9/C |
| SmCpValA x | SV | 8.66 | +3.2 | +10.2 | +10.2/B |
| SmCpValI x | SV | 8.83 | +3.3 | +10.6 | +10.7/A |
| SmCpValInv x | SV | 8.75 | +3.3 | +10.5 | +10.5/A |
| StrAIAGrsC m | AL | 8.36 | +1.1 | +18. | |

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Mutual Funds

Main table containing mutual fund data with columns for Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk, and a grid of additional fund names and their respective metrics.

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

Mutual Funds

Table listing mutual funds with columns for Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk, Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk, Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk, Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk.

Continued from previous page

Mutual Funds

Table with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk, Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk, Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk, Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk. Rows include various mutual funds like GIBEqC, GIBGRA, GIBHYA, etc.

Continued from previous page

Table with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Risk. Contains fund data for SIKSPLUS, PACIFIC CAPITAL, PRIMECAP, PARAMETRIC, PARNASSUS, PAX, PAYDEN, PEAR TREE, PERFORMANCE, PERMANENT, PERRITT, PIONEER, PUTNAM, RBC, RIVERNORTH, RIVERBRIDGE, ROCKEFELLER, ROYCE, SAMG, SCHWAB, SEAGAL BRYANT & HAMI, SELECTED, SEQUOIA, SHELTON, SIT, SNOG CAPITAL, SOUND SHORE, SPIRIT OF AMERICA, STATE FARM, STATE STREET, STERLING CAPITAL, STEWARD, STONE HARBOR, STRALEM FUND, T. ROWE PRICE, RUSSELL, etc.

Mutual Funds

Table with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Risk. Continuation of mutual fund data from the previous section.

Mutual Funds

Table with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Risk. Continuation of mutual fund data from the previous section.

Mutual Funds

Table with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Risk. Continuation of mutual fund data from the previous section.

Continued on next page

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Table with columns for Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk, and multiple columns for various mutual funds including The Investment House, Third Avenue, Thompson, Thornburg, Thrivent, Timothy, Tocqueville, Torray, Touchstone, Transamerica, Tributary Funds, Trust For Credit Uni, UBS, UBS PACE, USA Mutuals, USAA, Undiscovered Manager, VALIC Co II, Vanguard, VanEck, Vanguard, Vericimetry, Victory, Virtus, Waddell & Reed Adv, and Westwood.