

POLOK NEWS SUN



#XanderStrong Battle Bash, July 21 Rally in support of 13-year-old Xander Martinez at a benefit event later this month PG 8



Webber Warrior Marcus Begg Faith, marriage, and baseball are all important to this Webber University athlete PG 12



The Club at Idlewood What was the Peace River Country Club, now the Club at Idlewood set to open in July PG 16



PHOTO BY CHARLES A BAKER III

Lake Wales city staff are worried that residents will vote to pass a reduction in property taxes during the midterm elections in November.

LW bracing for homestead vote impacts

WRITTEN BY BRIAN ACKLEY NEWS CORRESPONDENT

LAKE WALES – While city commissioners look to craft a new budget this year, they are doing so with the expectation they may have a significant revenue hole to fill in its 2019-20 spending plan.

That's because in November, Florida voters will get the chance to expand the state's homestead property exemption. Local leaders are bracing for that to pass, and if it does, it will mean a revenue drop of almost \$200,000 for Lake Wales, city officials are estimating.

"The latest numbers that have come out from the property appraiser indicates if it were to pass our projected loss would be about \$189,000, \$191,000, something in that range. Right now, that represents what is the typical growth in general fund revenues in a year," City Manager Ken Fields said. "So what that means is in the 2019-20 budget, we would be absolutely

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# THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

## The Bartow Adult Concert Band

**When:** Wednesday, July 4, 2018 | 2:30 p.m.

**Where:** Bartow Civic Center

2250 S. Floral Ave., Bartow

This one-hour free concert will be conducted by Phil Wharton

## Red, White & Boom at Legoland

**When:** Jul. 04, 2018 | 12 a.m.

**Where:** Legoland Florida,

1 Legoland Way, Winter Haven.

[www.legoland.com](http://www.legoland.com)

Celebrate America's independence on Wednesday, July 4 with patriotic LEGOLAND activities such as LEGO builds, Americana apparel, a dance party and the biggest fireworks show of the year!

## 4th of July Festivities

**When:** Jul. 04, 2018 | 2 p.m.

**Where:** Lake Wailes Park/Gazebo,

499 E Park Avenue, Lake Wales.

Crafts, food, rides, DJ Parties by Robert.

Celebration from 2-9 and fireworks at 9:15

## 4th of July Bartow Extravaganza

**When:** Jul. 04, 2018 | 2:30 p.m.

**Where:** Bartow Civic Center,

2250 S Floral Ave, Bartow.

Start with the free Adult Band Patriot Concert at 2:30 p.m. in Bartow Civic Center. Then head over to the park for an afternoon and evening of music, good food, and activities for the whole family. Opening ceremony is at 4:30, with musical acts scheduled from 5 to 9:30 p.m. Fireworks at 9:30, followed by an all-star jam session featuring the solo artists. Don't forget to bring lawn chairs, blankets, and bug spray!

## Thunder on the Ridge

**When:** Jul. 04, 2018 | 3-10 p.m.

**Where:** Lake Eva Park,

555 Ledwith Ave., Haines City.

With the title of Polk County's largest firework display, we strive to make this a memorable event. We will have cold beer, food, live entertainment, cornhole tournament, children's activities, and much more!

## City of Davenport's 4th of July Celebrations

**When:** Jul. 04, 2018 | 3-9:45 p.m.

**Where:** Lewis Mathews Sports Complex,

400 Palm Street, Davenport.

3:00 P.M. — 9:45 P.M. FIREWORKS DISPLAY STARTS AT 9:15 P.M. Largest display in Polk County. 863-419-3300 Ext: 137 or visit our website [www.mydavenport.org](http://www.mydavenport.org) Entertainment Schedule Josh Blevins Band 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. Reading of the Declaration of Independent 5 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Josh Blevins Band 5:30 p.m. — 8:30 p.m. Studio C 8:45 p.m. — 9 p.m. City Commission 9 p.m. — 9:15 p.m. Fireworks 9:15 p.m.

## July 4th Fireworks Extravaganza

**When:** Jul. 04, 2018 | 5 p.m.

**Where:** Publix Field at Joker Marchant Stadium, 2301 Lakeland Hills Blvd., Lakeland.

[www.milb.com/lakeland](http://www.milb.com/lakeland)

Lakeland Flying Tigers vs. Jupiter Hammerheads. Celebrate the Fourth of July with the largest fireworks show in Polk County following the game. The Sofa Kings will perform between the game and fireworks.

## Slyce Pizza Bingo Night

**When:** Jul. 05, 2018 | 6:30 p.m.

**Where:** Slyce Pizza Kitchen,

1551 3rd St. SW, Winter Haven.

FREE Thursday Night Bingo!! 5 Bingo games, last game of the night will be a progressive cover all pot. Come on out for some fun!!

## Laurie & Rusty Wright at Tempo 1930

**When:** Jul. 06, 2018 | 7-10 p.m.

**Where:** Tempo 1930, 58 4th St NW, Winter Haven.

## Saturday Mornings at Hammock Hollow

**When:** Jul. 07, 2018 | 8 a.m.

**Where:** Bok Tower Gardens,

1151 Tower Blvd., Lake Wales.

<http://boktowergardens.org>

Each week, kids can learn more about the world around them at the Discovery Cart and express their creativity with a special art project at Doodle Bug Art Place. Activities are included in general admission, free for members.

## Summer Fun Days

**When:** Jul. 07, 2018 | 9 a.m.

**Where:** Lake Wales Depot Museum and Cultural Center, 325 S Scenic Hwy, Lake Wales.

Summer Fun Days will feature a different theme each Saturday with object discovery, hands-on history tours, art projects, storytelling, fun snacks, special guest presentations, dress up activities, and more. JULY 7 — PIONEERS — Storytelling, making your family tree, and wildlife demo. For more information contact the Lake Wales Museum, 325 S Scenic Highway, Lake Wales, Florida 33853; 863-676-1759 or visit [cityoflakewales.com/439/Depot-Museum](http://cityoflakewales.com/439/Depot-Museum).

## Crystal Bowl Sound Bath

**When:** Jul. 07, 2018 | 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

**Where:** Inside Out Yoga,

52 4th St. NW, Winter Haven.

Join Cosmic Sound Healer Buffy La Roux as she facilitates a high vibratory journey of Sound through time and space. During this deeply meditative and transformative experience., (863) 224-2311 20

## Summer Children's Program:

### Talako Indian Dancers

**When:** Jul. 10, 2018 | 10:30 a.m.

**Where:** Haines City Parks & Rec,

555 Ledwith Ave, Haines City.

Group from Orlando will dance sponsored by the Friends of the Haines City Public Library, Inc.

## Farmers Market at Visitor Info Center

**When:** Jul. 12, 2018 | 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

**Where:** Central Florida's Visitor Information Center,

101 Adventure Ct., Davenport.

Every Thursday

## Kids Yoga-Stretch and Story with Allison

**When:** Jul. 12, 2018 | 9:45-10:30 a.m.

**Where:** Inside Out Yoga,

52 4th St. NW, Winter Haven.

<http://www.ioyogastudio.com/>

Basic, fun and gentle yoga poses. Cool down and relaxation with a story. Small treat and beverage provided for each child. Ages 4 to 6 Adults are welcome to wait for their children in the lounge area. \$35/child Liability forms are required and may be completed at the child's first lesson. (863) 224-2311

## Central Florida Healthcare Job Fair

**When:** Jul. 12, 2018 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

**Where:** Auburndale Community Center,

405 Bennett Street, Auburndale.

Looking for a career in healthcare? Whether you're ready to get your career started or a seasoned professional, plan to attend the Central Florida Healthcare Job Fair. For more details visit [centralfloridamediagroup.com/events](http://centralfloridamediagroup.com/events) or contact Juanita Halter at 863-248-7537 [juanita@centralfloridamediagroup.com](mailto:juanita@centralfloridamediagroup.com)

## Legally Blonde, The Musical

**When:** Jul. 12 through 29, 2018

**Where:** Theatre Winter Haven,

210 Cypress Gardens Blvd., Winter Haven.

<http://www.theatrewinterhaven.com>

A fabulously fun international award-winning musical based on the adored movie, Legally Blonde, follows the transformation of Elle Woods as she tackles stereotypes, snobbery and scandal in pursuit of her dreams. This action-packed musical explodes on the stage with memorable songs and dynamic dances. Legally Blonde contains adult humor, innuendo, and mild language. (863) 294-7469

## Summer Celebrations

**When:** Jul. 13, 2018 | 5-8 p.m.

**Where:** Bok Tower Gardens,

1151 Tower Blvd., Lake Wales.

<http://boktowergardens.org>

Enjoy sunset in the Gardens with live music from Acoustic Dose at the Blue Palmetto Cafe, dinner specials and family friendly games! Music lasts from 6pm — 8pm Included with general admission, free to members.

## After Hours Meet & Greet

**When:** July 26th 6pm-8pm

**Where:** Jensen's 100 3rd Street, Winter Haven

Teachers, parents and community members you are invited to this business after-hours event! Lisa "Bone" Miller is from Winter Haven and now lives in North Lakeland where she is campaigning to represent District 7 on the Polk County School Board. Visit and share her website! Bring friends and remind them that this countywide vote is August 28th! Hunter Smith, a blue devil classmate will be on the mic! It will be a great evening! <http://www.Lisa4PolkSchools.com>

## POLK NEWS SUN

**Polk News Sun** (USPS 437320), an affiliate of Sun Coast Media Group, Inc., is published weekly (on Wednesday) by Polk News Sun, 99 3rd St. NW, Winter Haven, FL 33881. Periodicals Postage Paid at Lakeland, FL.

• Phone (863) 533-4183

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Polk News Sun, 99 3rd St. NW, Winter Haven, FL 33881

**Phone: 863-533-4183**

**Fax: 863-533-0402**

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# COUNTY NEWS

## Best grades in years

WRITTEN BY  
BRIAN ACKLEY  
NEWS CORRESPONDENT

The smiles were all pretty broad across the county last week after grades for the 2017-18 school year were released by the state.

In fact, for the first time since 2010, the Polk County school district earned a "B" grade, according to data released by the Florida Department of Education on June 27.

"I'm thrilled, absolutely thrilled," said Polk County Public Schools Superintendent Jacqueline Byrd. "Our 'B' is the result of a huge amount of hard work on the part of every single student, employee, parent, and community supporter of our school district. I am immensely proud of this grade and the huge steps forward our district is taking."

For the past seven years, the district earned a "C" rating. And, for the first

time in seven years, none of the school district's schools earned a grade of "F". There were three such school last year in the county. The district also reduced its number of "D" schools to seven, down from 17 in the 2016-17 school year.

Meanwhile, the number of schools earning a "B" or "C" increased. There are 27 "B" schools, up from 23 last school year, and 66 "C" schools, up from 57 a year ago.

Twenty-three of the district's schools earned a grade of "A," down slightly from 25 in 2016-17.

The data takes into account both public and charter schools in the county, and the Lake Wales Charter Schools system also showed gains as well. Edward W. Bok Academy, a middle school which is adding a north campus for the coming school year for 200 6th graders, earned its eighth-straight "A" grade, while Lake Wales High School improved from a "C" to a "B" school.

In addition, two charter elementary schools also showed better than the previous year, with Hillcrest Elementary improving to a "B" grade, and Janie Howard Wilson earning a "C" designation. Dale R. Fair Babson Park Elementary remained a "B" school while Polk Avenue Elementary remained at the "C" level.

"It is gratifying to see all the hard work in our classrooms paying off," Charter Schools Superintendent Dr. Jesse Jackson said. "I always like to say that's where the magic happens, in the classroom, but it is much more than that. It's the effort of every teacher, community partner, administrator, staff member and most importantly the students themselves who are continuing to make us all very proud."

The two schools that made the biggest jumps were Winter Haven's Garner Elementary, which improved from an "F" to a "C," and Mulberry High, which improved from a "D" to a "B."

Garner was among six schools in the second year of a turnaround process after having earned a grade of "D" or

"F" for more than two consecutive years. The other schools were Bartow Middle, Griffin Elementary (Kathleen), Kathleen Middle, Lake Alfred Polytech Academy and Lake Marion Creek Middle (Poinciana).

All but two of those schools, Lake Marion Creek and Griffin, improved their grades to a "C." Earlier this year, the PCSB contracted with an external operator, Educational Directions, to manage any of the six schools that did not improve to a "C" or better.

Three high schools, including Mulberry High, improved their grades: Mulberry High jumped from a "D" to a "B," George Jenkins High improved from a "C" to a "B," and Lakeland High improved from a "C" to a "B." In 2016-17, no traditional public high school in Polk County scored higher than a "C," school officials noted.

Polk County is now ranked 50th out of 67 school districts in the state, a jump from 56th a year ago, according to a school spokesperson.

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# North and South Chain of Lakes locks repaired

WRITTEN BY  
CHARLES A BAKER III  
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WINTER HAVEN – The “locks” connecting the North and South Chain of Lakes have been repaired and upgraded just in time for two great summer water events.

Boaters living on the north side of town will now be able to drive by boat all the way to the Legoland area for the Winter Haven #ChainLife “The Flotilla” event July 21. On the way home boaters can stop along the shores of Lake Idylwild and enjoy fireworks, great music and summer fun at the #XanderStrong Battle Bash at the Moose Lodge on Havendale Boulevard.

Staff with the Lake Region Lakes Management District, an independent taxing district responsible for maintaining the Chain of Lakes, replaced two doors and a lifting cable to the “locks” near McKibben Powersport Honda Friday June 29.

The North and South Chain of Lakes exist at different levels so to take a boat from one chain to the other, boaters must pass through a lock system. In late June both of the “doors” that lift and allow boaters to enter and exit the locks were replaced and upgraded. Staff were able to make all the repairs without much downtime for boaters.



PHOTO BY CHARLES A BAKER III  
*The “doors” in the “locks” connecting the North and South Chain of Lakes were repaired last week just in time for summer boating.*

## Polk public school students all qualify for free breakfast, lunch next year

WRITTEN BY  
CHARLES A BAKER III  
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POLK COUNTY - Students in every traditional Polk County public school will qualify for free breakfast and lunch for the 2018-19 school year.

According to Polk County Schools Director of School Nutrition Jenna Kaczmariski, last year students at all but 13 schools qualified for free meals.

“Every year we review the numbers

and this year we were able to provide free meals district wide,” Kaczmariski said.

Students who attend public charter schools may also qualify for free meals at school. Kaczmariski said that staff at charter schools could qualify for the same funding. If your child attends a charter school, simply ask school staff if your child will benefit.

“Most charter schools manage their own food service,” Kaczmariski said.

## Lightning – No Laughing Matter

WRITTEN BY  
GRADY JUDD  
SHERIFF

According to the National Weather Service, Florida is the lightning capital of the country. If you’ve lived here for any length of time, you may have already noticed we are stricken with this claim to fame.

There are some oft-quoted myths, and truths, surrounding what one should do when lightning is near. In light of the fact there were several injuries in June in the central Florida area attributed to lightning strikes, we wanted to let our citizens know about the Do’s and Don’ts of lightning.

When lightning is forecast or near, and thunder is heard, DO:

Go inside and stay inside a sturdy house, building, or car with a roof

Stay indoors for at least 30 minutes after you hear thunder for the last time

DON’T:  
Try to hide in a dugout, shed, pavilion, or other small structure

Use or touch electronics, outlets, corded phones, or windows

Go under or near a tall tree, or metal pole or object

Swim or be near water

Some of the common myths surrounding lightning are: you should just crouch or stay low to the ground if you’re outside; lightning never strikes the same place twice; you can be electrocuted if you touch someone who has been stricken.

An average of 47 people per year are killed by lightning in the U.S. and two-thirds of the deaths in the past 10 years were attributed to people who were outside enjoying leisurely activities, including fishing, golfing, beaching, and camping. Play it safe – go indoors or hide out in a car to reduce your risk of being struck.

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# Southeastern Starts Faith-Based Post-Secondary Transition Program

LAKELAND — This coming August, not only will Southeastern University welcome new and returning college students, it will also welcome students to a new program — one of the only faith-based post-secondary transition programs in the United States. The program, SEU Link, is designed to assist students with mild intellectual disabilities in making the transition from high school to adulthood.

“Our associate provost, Dr. Amy Bratten, presented this idea of starting a post-secondary transition program for college-aged students with disabilities,” said Dr. David Grant, associate professor of education at Southeastern University. Grant jumped at the chance to be a part of the new program.

Through this post-secondary transition program, students can receive a certificate of accomplishment and

an industry credential in one of three fields — hospitality, healthcare or technology — over a four-year period on Southeastern’s campus. The program is based upon giving students the tools necessary for them to take college classes, obtain gainful employment and to live independently.

During their first year, the program of study for the students includes Link-specific courses in employability and independent living. Students will also be able to audit existing SEU courses, such as personal financial stewardship, history, English, social work, education and many more. During their junior and senior years, they will be able to put their classes into practice through working in jobs on and off campus.

Students enrolled in the program will live in dorms at the university with a trained student mentor who will assist

in guiding them through the daily aspects of independent living. Not only will students have the opportunity to experience living on a college campus, but they will also build relationships and gain skills with non-disabled peers both inside and outside of the classroom setting.

“The post-secondary transition program could be the first time students spend time outside of their families and with peers who have disabilities,” said Grant. “Students will be exposed to a completely different dynamic and receive the full collegiate experience. It will be a positive experience for everyone involved.”

The program has garnered interest from people around the nation and even other countries, with some looking to enroll within the next few years. While the program is still in the developmental stages, Grant is excit-

ed for the opportunities the program will offer to families.

“I am excited about how the program will fulfill a need that many families have. When you think about it, for a parent of a child with a disability, the child has been in school most of their life, and now all of a sudden school is completed and the parents do not have other options. This program will be providing for this need, giving families and students opportunities to make the successful transition into adulthood,” said Grant.

Tuition costs \$16,700 a year. Students planning to live on campus will pay for housing and a meal plan in addition to tuition costs.

For more information, please contact Dr. David Grant at [dggrant@seu.edu](mailto:dggrant@seu.edu).

## SPCA Florida welcomes new Executive Director

Lakeland — After a four-month search SPCA Florida’s Board of Directors has selected Shelley Thayer as the next Executive Director to lead the 39-year-old non-profit animal welfare organization.

“We couldn’t be happier about Shelley leading the charge for our organization. She brings a strong set of philanthropic skills and understands the unique environment of animal welfare,” explains Karen Mitchell, SPCA Florida Board President.

Previously the executive director for Cat Depot in Sarasota, Thayer has worked with Best Friends Animal Society, assisting with several major rescue operations and co-authoring rapid response procedures.

Thayer has led the charge and rallied for wildlife rescue and rehabilitation, domestic animal rehabilitation, and big cat rescues. Thayer is the past president for the Florida Association of Animal Welfare Organizations (FAAWO) and now currently serves as a board member.

Before entering the nonprofit world, her career included twenty years of marketing. Shelley implemented national unveilings/events and new brand launches for name brands such as General Mills, PepsiCo, Universal, Disney and McCormick & Company. During Shelley’s marketing career, she remained connected to humane organizations as both a volunteer and fundraiser.

“SPCA Florida has made a serious commitment to homeless animals throughout our state,” said Shelley Thayer. “Their “no kill” initiative for Polk County which was implemented in 2012 is a mission I not only embrace but am dedicated to achieve. I am proud to join this amazing team as their new Executive Director.”

Thayer will officially join SPCA Florida in July. She and her family which includes three rescued cats and one rescued dog will reside in Lakeland.

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# ON THE COVER

## HOMESTEAD

FROM PAGE 1

flat. We would see no revenue growth whatsoever in property taxes.”

For the last several years, commissioners have approved budgets with the so-called “roll back” tax rate, which means setting a final figure that generates the same amount of tax revenue collected in the previous year after factoring in any increase in property values. That usually correlates to a slight reduction in the tax rate each budget cycle.

But that might be coming to an end.

“If the homestead exemption passes, yeah, there will be a one year hiccup,” Field added. “We have to be prepared to deal with that. That’s an issue for us.”

Fields said there would be at least one option that would not hurt revenues, which is keeping the tax rate for the new budget year exactly where it is now.

“One possible strategy is that opposed to going to rollback is to keep the millage at the same level it is right now, take advantage of the growth

in our tax base, and take that funding and in a sense use that as a reserve for the following year, to basically smooth things out if you will,” Fields said. “So we take that difference and apply it to the following year, to keep us on sort of an even keel.”

The commission will be holding another budget workshop next Tuesday, July 10. The city’s budget year runs from Oct. 1 to Sept. 30.

He added that the impact shouldn’t be too severe since growth in the city has

been strong lately.

“If you’ve sort of gotten hooked on that growth every year, and something gets cut off yeah it can really hurt you, but we’ve been very conservative in our budgets,” Fields said. “And I think that growth will continue. We’re seeing projects coming out of the ground on U.S. 27. We’re seeing an uptick in housing. We’ve got some large projects that are scheduled to go. There’s a lot of good things happening for the long term, we’re going to continue to see growth.”

## More Chain of Lakes Field House details released

WRITTEN BY  
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WINTER HAVEN – A couple of weeks ago, Winter Haven Assistant City Manager T. Michael Stavres gave the county commissioners an update on the Chain of Lakes Field House and Conference Center construction project.

The presentation was filled with lots of information but as the saying goes, a picture tells a thousand words. The Winter Haven Sun obtained permission from city staff and staff with the architect firm of Straughn Trout to publish renderings of what the complex will look like when construction is complete.

Construction is scheduled to begin as early as late August with the first portion of work focusing on renovations of the existing Chain of Lakes Complex, including areas inside of the complex where the gymnasium, Parks and Recreation administrative offices and the meeting facilities in the back of the building now exist.

Outside construction of the new Field House structure is anticipated to start in October 2018.

The newspaper previously reported that the existing gymnasium would have a second floor observation area, but city staff said the existing gymnasium will be removed to make space for a theater workshop for building



PHOTO PROVIDED

*The entrance points to the Field House and theater will look modern and beautiful.*



PHOTO PROVIDED

*The Field House will be large enough to fit three Nora Mayo Halls inside.*

theater sets and other space to be used for a future “black box theater.” The new gymnasium in the Field House will have a second floor observation area.

The new Field House, large enough to fit three Nora Mayo Halls on the inside, will provide space for an Orlando Magic NBA basketball farm team which will practice here in Winter Haven and play at the RP Funding Center in Lakeland.

The basketball team will not have sole use of the Field House once complete. The new gymnasium will be used to host the basketball team plus other athletic activities, conferences, exhibition space, trade shows, performances, banquets and other special events, city staff said.

The Rowdy Gaines Olympic Pool will remain.



PHOTO PROVIDED

*Three Nora Mayo Halls would be able to fit inside the Field House once built. An Orlando Magic NBA basketball farm team will be practicing in the facility once it’s built. The Winter Haven community will be able to use the Field House for public events also.*

# WINTER HAVEN NEWS

## Bartender Bash showcases Venue 650

WRITTEN BY  
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WINTER HAVEN – Hundreds of area residents raised glasses, and money, for a great cause at the 16th Annual Bartender Bash July 28 at Venue 650, a new event venue business in the old News Chief building near the Velda Farms Dairy on Sixth Street SW.

The Bartender Bash is a fundraiser for the Citrus Center Boys and Girls Clubs. Organizer Kelly Krieger said last year the fundraiser generated around \$30K.

Krieger said the money is used to fund the Summer Brain Gain program, a learning-loss prevention program for area children on summer break from school.

Eleven teams of local leaders set up bars within the venue. Supporters paid a door fee to get access to an open bar, some food and a few good

raffle drawings.

Staff with Spectrum Studio, a local salon, served up Twisted Hibiscus, a tequila cocktail with hibiscus tea, pineapple, jalapeño, mint and soda water for example. Owners of the Bike Shop of Winter Haven served a coffee cocktail called “Joe Breezer.” Haven magazine staff served “Blackberry Bourbon Smash.” Peterson and Myers staff dressed up as Elle Woods and Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and served various martinis. Polk County Commission Chair Todd Dantzler dressed up as Donald Trump and served “Moscow Mules” with his family. Keaton Alexander and Marcus Jahna of Lake Wales served “Blood Orange Mojito” with friends Matt and Caroline Pryor. The Adams Estate group served “Pink Christina” which is a cherry flavored champagne.

Other teams included The Lab Lounge, Kathy Prince of Haines City, Cracker Queen and Brad Farris, Sam Killebrew and Bill Dan Beaver.



PHOTO BY CHARLES A BAKER III  
Venue 650, a relatively new event venue in Winter Haven, was showcased at the 16th Annual Bartender Bash June 28, 2018.

## DCF, PCSO stop taboo relationship

WRITTEN BY  
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cbaker@scmginc.com

WINTER HAVEN – Thirty-three-year-old James McArthur Johnson III was arrested June 22 for allegedly getting a juvenile pregnant - twice.

The girl reportedly had sex with the convicted felon for the first time at age 13. According to redacted court documents, the two met at hotels over the course of around four years to hide their taboo relationship.

According to the Polk County Sheriff's Office social media page, the girl refused to tell her parents who the father of their grandchild was. After the young mother recently had a miscarriage, she told somebody who the father was and subsequently, a call was placed to the child abuse hotline.

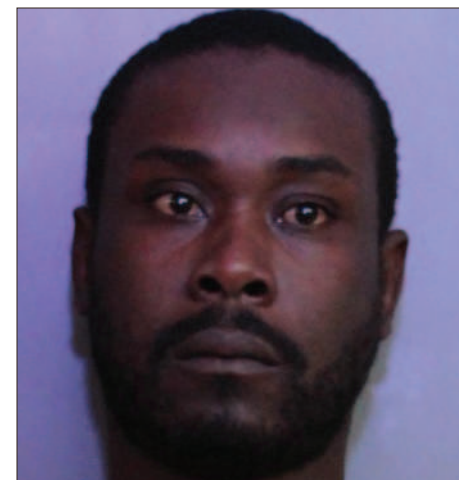
Deputies in the PCSO Special Victims Unit ended up setting up a controlled phone call between the young mother and Johnson during which time Johnson allegedly said, “Next year is almost here,” possibly in reference to when the girl turns 18, according to court documents.

“Yeah, we don't have much longer, then we can be together and no one can say (anything),” the young mother said.

After being notified by DCF staff, PCSO deputies doing surveillance on Johnson reportedly witnessed him selling drugs from his home at 1503 31st Street NW, west of Lake Cannon in the Inwood community of Winter Haven.

Inside, deputies found 42.3 grams of marijuana, 9.7 grams of heroin, cash, two loaded weapons and a photo of the child the two had together.

Johnson has not made bond and is still incarcerated. Arraignment is July 24.



James McArthur Johnson III

**E3 Partnership** - 38 Temporary workers needed in Woodland, MS from August 18, 2018 – November 10, 2018. Clearing ground of rocks, sticks & roots by hand, clear brush and trees with chain saw. **General Field & Fence Maintenance.** Use wood to build and repair boxes for digger. Manually weeding fields by hand or using hand tools. Participate in irrigation activities. Load & unload boxes on trucks trailers or sweet potato harvesters. Repair, maintain and clean all hand tools and mechanical equipment prior to and after use. **All tools and supplies will be provided at no cost to workers.** Worker may be asked to do welding and torch work when needed. Workers will be operating skid steers. Workers will only use tractor to pull digger. **Sweet Potatoes** - Use of mechanical digging equipment to dig potatoes. May harvest sweet potatoes by hand with use of buckets. Must be able to sort, grade & pack potatoes by size quality or type. **Three (3) months experience on a commercial farm needed for mechanical diggers and sorting and grading sweet potatoes.** Verifiable experience references required. Will also plant, cultivate & harvest the following: Purple Hull Peas, Beans and Corn. **General Specifications and Physical Requirements of the Job** - Cell phone use is only allowed for breaks and emergencies only. The majority of the workday is spent on one's feet and outdoors. Hours and days of work may vary due to weather conditions. Due to possible Date of Need changes, worker is required to purchase travel insurance if available. **We will reimburse the worker for transportation cost (including travel insurance) and subsistence to the employers' work site from the place of recruitment upon completion of 50 percent of the contract period.** Transportation payment will be no less (and is not required to be more) than the most economical and reasonable common carrier transportation charges for the distances involved. **Employer may conduct a criminal background check. A copy of the work contract or a copy of the ETA 790 in lieu of a work contract, and any modifications, will be provided to the worker on the day the work commences.** If the employee is unable or unfit to perform the duties listed after the 14 day pretrial, the employee will receive warnings, hours may be reduced to the minimum allowed in the certified petition or terminated. **Workers will be paid \$10.73 per hour, three fourth's guarantee, 35 hours per week. Housing, equipment and transportation provided at no cost to workers who cannot reasonably return to their permanent residence at the end of each workday.** We participate in the E-Verify program and workers must have valid identification for I-9 preparation when they report to begin work. **Complete job description can be found at your local SWA/Job Center. Apply for this job at the State Workforce/Job Center office in your area or call your nearest office. MS (662) 842-2175, AL (256) 259-1835, LA (318) 676-7705, FL (863) 385-3672, use Job Order: MS263228.**

# #XanderStrong Battle Bash, #ChainLife Flotilla July 21

WRITTEN BY  
CHARLES A BAKER III  
cbaker@scmginc.com

WINTER HAVEN – Xander Martinez, now 13, has tried out to play football with the Winter Haven Sertoma Park Youth Football league almost every year since he was six, two years after he was first diagnosed with the C-word.

“I don’t say that word anymore,” said his grandmother Judy Taylor.

Jim and Judy Taylor care for Xander and his younger brother AJ in a lovely home filled with musical instruments. It’s the kind of home family and friends gravitate toward. Pulling up to their driveway, Xander and his friends were outside playing. Surrounding him, they went to play video games as Mrs. Taylor began sharing her life experiences. Her son Jason and his wife and children stopped by for a visit soon after. Eventually Xander and his buddies went swimming in the rain.

On Friday, Xander got a little short of breath in the pool. Two weeks ago, Xander could barely walk from one room to another in the family home. Such is life around the C-word.

“We want him to have more good days like this,” Judy said.

Over the past three years Jim and Judy Taylor have made a musical name for themselves as hosts of Jim ‘N’ Judy’s Big Ass Jam on Wednesdays at Jensen’s Corner Bar in downtown Winter Haven. As active members of the community, the Taylors have crossed paths with many people.



PHOTO BY JASON TAYLOR

Medical problems have not stopped Xander Martinez, center with tongue out, from enjoying life. Xander was feeling well enough to hang out with friends June 28. On July 21, Winter Haven leaders are throwing him a party he will hopefully never forget.

Friend Melanie Brown came up with the idea to throw Xander a party and make it an annual event to benefit a child going through the battle of his or her life. Judy Taylor said it was efforts by Brown and many others who have shown that the Winter Haven community is willing to rally and support when called upon.

The #XanderStrong Battle Bash starts at 11 a.m. on July 21 and ends with fireworks around 9 p.m. Boaters participating in the Chain Life Winter Haven “The Flotilla” event that day can drive their boats all the way to the #XanderStrong Battle Bash at Winter Haven Moose Lodge 1023 on the shores of Lake Idylwild.

There will be plenty of opportunities to have fun for the kids and the adults including two music stages and a Xander Zone.

The main stage lineup starts with Blake Free (11a to noon), Sarah and the Swinging Richards (12:30p to 1:30), Southern Blend (2p to 3), Kat & the Dawgs (3:30p to 4:30), Almost There (5p to 6), Josh Blevins Band (6:30p to 7:30) and then Nathan Baldwin Band (8p to 9).

On the acoustic stage, early risers will be rewarded by a quick set from the Porch Pickers (noon to 12:30p), Acoustic Dose (1:30p to 2), Southerndipity (3p to 3:30), Walls/Free Whiskey (4:30p to 5), Spirit and the Cosmic Heart (4:30p to 5). Michael LuBecke will likely play songs from his new album *Dragonfly* from 7:30p to 8p.

The Xander Zone will feature a DJ, slide, bounce house, face painting,

a race car simulator, and karate and clogging exhibitions.

Shirts and donations can be made at: <https://www.xanderstrong.us>

Winter Haven area organizers Melanie Brown, Lora Watts Donley, Amberle Madden, Adrienne Richards, Mickenzie Peisher, Nicole Milton and many others helped put the event together.

Sky Powersports donated a cooler for the raffle and golf carts and tents for the event. Yonderway Outfitters donated a kayak for the raffle. Jessie’s Lounge and LA’s Midway Saloon donated sangria and Monkey Juice for the grown folk. Express Printing donated flyers. Dixie Signs donated banners. Winter Haven Moose Lodge 1023 donated space. Barbeque dinners were donated by Bryan Anthony Peebles and Chuck and Heather Havis with catering by Sonny’s BBQ. O’Steen Meats donated an entire pig for the raffle. Wormy Shelnutt is supposed to be giving airboat rides. Tinia Clark will be face painting.

Xander, whose grandparents are from Philly, got to see the Eagles win the Super Bowl as part of a Make-A-Wish event. Xander loves the Green Bay Packers.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Xander Martinez, bald from chemotherapy, gets some moral support from his uncle Jason Taylor.

Rumor has it organizers reached out to the Green Bay NFL team to contribute something special as well.

#ChainLife #XanderStrong

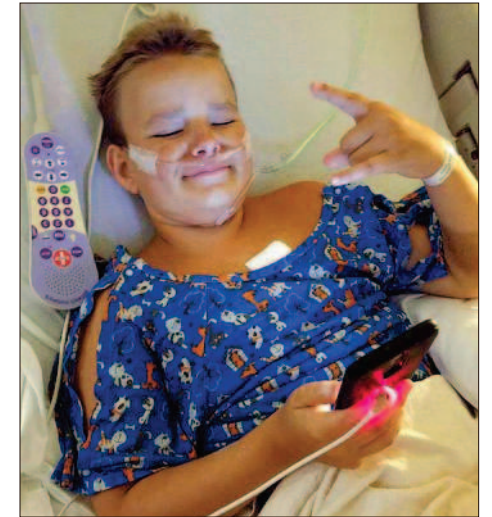


PHOTO PROVIDED

Diagnosed at age four, Xander Martinez has been in and out of hospitals his whole life. On July 21, 2018 he will have a chance to forget about all that for a few hours. The #XanderStrong Battle Bash takes place at the Moose Lodge on Havendale Boulevard in a couple of weeks.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Xander has tried out for youth football almost every year since he was six. Now 13, Xander still can’t play but the moral support he provides his team was enough to get one of his coaches to wear Xander’s jersey number.

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# Beneath the Chinaberry Tree

## How Our Lakes Got Their Names

WRITTEN BY  
BOB GERNERT

Joe Spann, the former Library Manager for the Polk County Historical and Genealogical Library compiled a comprehensive look at how many Polk County lakes got their name. The origin of some names remains a mystery and some are speculation, but here is a look at the names of some familiar Winter Haven bodies of water.

We'll begin on the northern end of the southern chain. Lake Hartridge was named in 1849 by Dr. John Westcott. He surveyed the sections in this area and named the lake after his good friend Dr. Theodore Hartridge of Jacksonville. The lake was shown with this name on the first government plat drawn in 1854 by John Jackson. (You will find that many lakes in our area were named for friends of Dr. Westcott.)

The origin of Lake Idylwild's name is a mystery. It was first shown with the name on the 1890 Lake Region map.

Lake Jessie was named by Frank Fuller in 1882 after his daughter, "Bessie." Referred to as Lake Bessie in notes accompanying the 1890 sectional map, but appears as "Lake Jessie" on the 1890 Lake Region map.

Lake Cannon first appeared on Dr. John Westcott's survey of this area in 1849 as "Lake Canon." Westcott, a devout Episcopalian is thought to be responsible. At the time high water connected it with Lake Mirror and Lake Spring making it one body of water. The lake was also listed as "Canon" on the 1856 Military Map and the 1890 Lake Region map. At some point after 1890 "Canon" (a reference to the Bible) became the more common "Cannon."

Lake Mirror was first referred to as separate from Cannon on the 1890 Lake Region map. Person responsible for the name is unknown. Lake Spring was also referred to by its name on the 1890 map. Again the person responsible for the name is unknown. Lake Howard is thought to have been named by Dr. Westcott in his 1849 survey. Westcott lived in Madison County near members of the Howard family. Spann surmised it is highly likely that Westcott named the lake for those friends. Lake May is the subject of Native American lore that says this lake appeared after a serious muck fire. It is known to have deep muck deposits along the bottom. First shown with the name on the 1890 Lake Region Map.

Lake Shipp is another thought to have been named by Dr. Westcott for his friends, the Shipp family of Madison

County. It is shown with this name on the 1854 and 1856 Military maps. Lake Lulu and Lake Roy were first shown on the 1890 Lake Region map with these names. No origin of either name has been determined.

Lake Eloise was first shown with this name on the first government survey of 1850. Thought to be named for Eloise Moody, daughter of Polk pioneer Benjamin F. Moody. Lake Summit was first shown with that name on the 1890 Lake Region map. No determination on origin of name. Lake Winterset was first referred to as "Lake Carrie" on the 1890 sectional map but as Lake Winterset on the 1890 Lake Region map.

That summarizes the names in the southern Chain of Lakes. Next week we'll explore the names of other area bodies of water. For now, we hope you enjoyed City of Winter Haven fireworks over Lake Silver on July 3 and celebrate with a display from LEGOLAND over Lake Eloise on July 4th!

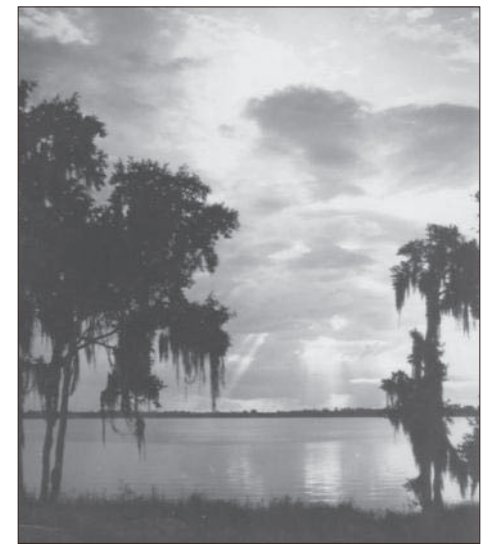


PHOTO PROVIDED  
*This photograph by Robert Dahlgren depicts a sunset on Lake Howard circa 1920.*

The information for this vignette was taken entirely from a report, "The Naming of Polk County Lakes" by Joe Spann. Revised 2007.

*The Museum of Winter Haven History is closed for the summer as we create new displays. Group visits are available by appointment. Contact Bob Gernert at 863-206-6855 or bobgernert@gmail.com.*

## Live Oaks hacked to make room for road expansion

WRITTEN BY  
CHARLES A BAKER III  
cbaker@scmginc.com

WINTER HAVEN – Several readers have inquired about why more than a dozen Live Oak trees lining Central Avenue and Dundee Road were substantially cut back last week.

According to City of Winter Haven staff, while the Central Avenue / Dundee Road widening project is not expected to begin until October, TECO staff are getting a head start preparing to move utilities. Some of the wood utility poles are being exchanged out for much larger metal poles near the Buckeye Loop Road substation near the bowling alley.

"TECO has been working with property owners that have trees that could be impacted," said Assistant to the Winter Haven City Manager Donna Sheehan. "We have been told by the TECO line clearing arborist that tree trimming is an alternative to tree removal and most should rebound with time from the practice. The TECO arborist also shared that some trees will be removed and replaced with less impactful alternatives."

Some readers said the trimmed back Live Oak trees now look like broccoli stalks.

**EM Farms, LLC – 20 Temporary workers needed in Woodland and Pontotoc, MS, from approximately 8/21/2018-11/7/2018.** Applicants must be 18 years or older. The company may conduct criminal background checks. Duties may vary from time to time. May drive skid stir loader. Use wood to build and repair boxes for digger. Preparing the ground for planting. Manually weeding fields by hand or using hand tools. Repair, maintain and clean all hand tools and mechanical equipment prior to and after use. (All tools and supplies will be provided at no cost to workers) Work in extreme weather conditions. Workers may be asked to operate vehicles. Covering potatoes with use of bedding machine & covering with plastic. Pulling plastic from covered potatoes. Cut slips by hand with knife, place in boxes to load & unload onto trucks and trailers. Walk behind potato transplanter and fill in slips by hand. Riding mechanical transplanter and loading slips in planting cups. Dividing plants by hand. Three months commercial experience needed for hand cutting slips and use of mechanical transplanter on a licensed farm. Workers should expect periods of little/no work during harvest time. Hours and days of work may vary due to weather conditions. Due to possible Date of Need changes, worker is required to purchase travel insurance if available. We will reimburse the worker for transportation cost (including travel insurance) and subsistence to the employers work site from the place of recruitment upon completion of 50 percent of the contract period. Transportation payment will be no less (and is not required to be more) than the most economical and reasonable common carrier transportation charges for the distances involved. A copy of the work contract or a copy of the ETA 790 in lieu of a work contract, and any modifications, will be provided to the worker on the day the work commences (or before work commences). If the employee is unable or unfit to perform the duties listed after the 14 day pretrial, the employee will receive warnings, hours may be reduced to the minimum allowed in the certified petition or terminated. Workers will be paid \$10.73 per hour, 3/4 guarantee, 35 hours per week, housing, equipment and transportation provided at no cost to workers who cannot reasonably return to their permanent residence at the end of each work day. We participate in the E-Verify program and workers must have valid identification for I-9 preparation when they report to begin work. Complete job description can be found at your local SWA/Job Center. **Apply for this job at the State Workforce/Job Center office in your area, call the nearest office in your area MS 662-842-2175, AL 256-259-1835, LA 318-676-7705, FL 863-385-3672, use job order# MS 263703**

# Cypress Montessori greets new principal

WRITTEN BY  
KATHY LEIGH BERKOWITZ

Cypress Montessori is getting a new principal this fall, but a familiar face, as Nicole Erol takes the helm.

Having been a teacher at the school, the move will put her in a different role.

She enjoys being an educator, she says, because she gets to see her students develop an inner love for learning.

"Everyday I get to see a child's face light up because they feel proud that they completed a task on their own," she says.

As principal, she says her plans are to continue to strengthen our school community and support teachers in their efforts to help students succeed.

"What makes our school unique is our individualized approach that allows children the freedom to explore with the guidance of our dedicated educators," says Erol. "Children use specially designed Montessori materials to learn the concepts of language, mathematics, culture and practical life skills."

She knows the value of good mentors, she says, for she has had some great examples along the way.

"I have had some great principals and mentors over the years," she says. "I believe a good principal leads by example, builds a strong school community and is a great listener."

Erol has served at Cypress Junction Montessori since they opened their doors in August 2016. Before coming to Cypress Junction Montessori, she worked at another local Montessori school.

Something people may not know about her is that she enjoys snorkeling, she says.

And she also really enjoys downtown Winter Haven. That the school is centered downtown is a big plus, she notes.

"A large part of Montessori education is the importance of community. Our methods empower students to make their own decision and likely see the impact of those decisions within the community they are a part of. Here at CJM, while we build our internal community the close proximity to the city's core also helps our students see their larger role outside our school walls. Look for us around town more in the upcoming years as our students continue to build these relationships," she adds.

What can the community do to help her in her objectives?

"Maria Montessori recognized a need for children to explore both in and outside of the classroom. Going out, as it is known in Montessori terms, is designed to foster independence and resourcefulness, and give children important real-life experiences. This program is a way for the children to go out into the larger community and explore areas of personal interest in concrete ways. This coming school year our secondary students will be exploring different interests and skills in an internship experience. One way the community can help is by partnering up with CJM to provide these 'real world' experiences for our students," she notes.

Erol did her undergrad work at the University of Florida and is currently attending Sarasota University, finishing up her Master of Arts in Montessori Leadership.



Nicole Erol

# It's a new week, make it count



PHOTO PROVIDED

The difference between your body this week and next is what you do over the next seven days.

Staff with Healthy Habits opened their second store in Winter Haven June 26. The new health store is located at 509 Cypress Gardens Boulevard near the Dairy Queen. The store is open from 9 a.m. until 8 p.m. For more information call 875-6551.

**Brower Farms- 37 Temporary workers needed in Bruce, MS. from approximately, August 28, 2018 to November 08, 2018.** Workers will perform assigned duties as instructed by their supervisor. General Field & Fence Maintenance - Preparing the ground for planting. Manually weeding fields by hand or using hand tools. Participate in irrigation activities. Load & unload boxes on trucks trailers. All tools and supplies will be provided at no cost to workers. Workers may be asked to operate vehicles, farm equipment, and any other equipment related to the planting, cultivation of crops. Sweet Potatoes - Covering potatoes with use of bedding machine. Cut slips by hand with knife, place in boxes to load & unload onto trucks. Dividing plants by hand. Three months commercial experience on a licensed farm needed for hand cutting slips and use of mechanical transplanter. General Specifications and Physical Requirements of the Job: The majority of the workday is spent on one's feet and outdoors. Work is performed in outdoor agricultural fields and involves exposure to sun, wind, rain, soil, mud, dust, heat, cold and other natural elements. There is a lifting requirement of 5-60 pounds. Employer may conduct criminal background checks on all new applicants for employment. Due to possible Date of Need changes, worker is required to purchase travel insurance if available. We will reimburse the worker for transportation cost (including travel insurance) and subsistence to the employers work site from the place of recruitment upon completion of 50 percent of the contract period. Transportation payment will be no less (and is not required to be more) than the most economical and reasonable common carrier transportation charges for the distances involved. A copy of the work contract or a copy of the ETA 790 in lieu of a work contract, and any modifications, will be provided to the worker on the day the work commences. If the employee is unable or unfit to perform the duties listed after the 14 day pretrial, the employee will receive warnings, hours may be reduced to the minimum allowed in the certified petition or terminated. Workers will be paid \$ 10.73 per hour, three fourth's guarantee, 35 hrs. per week, housing, equipment and transportation provided at no cost to workers who cannot reasonably return to their permanent residence at the end of each work day. We participate in the E-verify program and workers must have valid identification for I-9 preparation when they report to begin work. Complete job description can be found at your local SWA/Job center. **Apply for this job at the State Workforce/Job Center office in your area; call the nearest office in your area MS (662) 842-2175, AL (256) 259-1835, LA (318) 676-7705, FL (863) 385-3672, use job order # MS 263650.**

# COUNTY SPORTS

## Ridge Rewind

WRITTEN BY  
BRIAN ACKLEY  
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

**VIVA VICTOR** – If you're a local soccer fan at all, then you know the name, Victor Parreiras. And if you are a local soccer fan, and don't know the name, shame on you. The Brazilian born star hurt his knee in the first game of the Major Arena Soccer League last fall, yet still was the Florida Tropics fourth leading scorer, and second overall in assists. He had surgery right after the season ended in early March, which meant his delay in getting on the pitch with the Lakeland Tropics would last almost to July. But in the 55th minute of the second half Saturday night at Bryant Stadium, Parreiras was put into the match against the SIMA Aguilas, in a showdown for first place. Thirteen minutes later, Parreiras banged in a rebound of a Ricardo Diegues shot for the only goal of the game, giving the Tropics a 1-0 win, and putting them in a tie with the Aguilas for first place in the USL Premier Development League's southeast division, with a game in hand. Lakeland starts a three-game road trip Wednesday, and will finish out the regular season July 14 at Bryant Stadium against Weston FC, with Parreiras finally along for the ride, and just in time.

**BOYS OF SUMMER** – You might have seen that Chain O'Lakes was a busy beehive of baseball activity this past weekend. That was a bunch of the local youth under 18 baseball teams getting some summer swings in the annual Firecracker event. Hardee was unbeaten to take the title, Winter Haven won two of the three games they played, while Lake Region and Lake Wales each took one win. The Blue Devils downed the Highlanders 7-2 in their matchup, Mason Gantasamo was the offensive star for Winter Haven.

## Scouting Report

WRITTEN BY  
BRIAN ACKLEY  
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

**POOL PLUS ONE** – It might be a couple of years yet, scouting out well in advance you might say, but it's looking more and more like Haines City will be getting a second community pool, which is great news for those who might head to Lake Eva, only to be turned away by capacity crowds there. A public workshop was held last week to explore options for a new pool facility at 8 Acre Park. City commissioners have already approved the plan going forward, and the workshop was one more step towards getting a shovel, and a whole lot of nice, cool, clear water, in the ground.

**HUNTER'S ALERT** – The annual Florida Deer and Turkey Expo is right around the corner, for those jonesing for a little hunting action this time of year. The show will run July 20-22 at the RP Funding Center in Lakeland. All kinds of opportunities to shoot, special seminars, even a trick shooting demonstration is all part of the fun. Go to [www.deerinfo.com](http://www.deerinfo.com) for details. And, apropos of absolutely nothing, we just thought we'd let you know that the Center is hosting a beer and bacon festival in August. Seriously, why haven't we heard of this before?

**BOAT BONANZA** – Speaking of the great outdoors, and the RP Funding Center for that matter, this weekend is the big annual Lakeland Boat Show. Kids under 12 are free, and adults get in for \$5. Seminars from the good folks at Captain Joe Fishing school will be on hand among the highlights, not to mention the millions of dollars in boats that you can dream about. For more details, go to [www.lakeland-boatshow.com](http://www.lakeland-boatshow.com).

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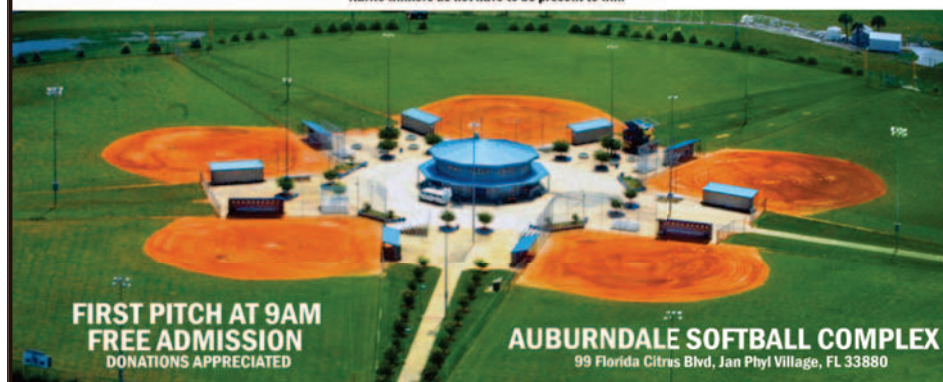
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# Marcus Begg: Of God and baseball

WRITTEN BY  
BRIAN ACKLEY  
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

By any measure, the Webber Warriors had a pretty incredible baseball season this spring.

They won their first-ever Sun Conference league championship and made their second straight appearance in the NAIA national championship tournament. Nine times they defeated nationally-ranked opponents, including three wins over teams that were ranked in the top four at the end of the regular season.

Their league title came when they beat St. Thomas University in consecutive games. St. Thomas was ranked No. 3 in the country.

They set records for most homers and most wins in a season.

And in the center of it all, slugger Marcus Begg, by any measure, will tell you it was far from the highlight of his young life. That's because the Odessa, Florida, native is, you might say, a man with a mission.

Above it, certainly, was his marriage. So too was his two-year mission trip after he completed high school. You see, Begg's circuitous route to Babson Park was supposed to start at Brigham Young University – he decided he was

going to become a Mormon at age 8 – but his mission work in Arizona derailed that. So instead, he enrolled and played at Southern Virginia University, before realizing he wanted to be closer to home.

That's how he wound up at Webber, where, as part of the magical season, he tied for the team lead in homers with 11 and moved to No. 2 on the school's all-time round-tripper list with 21. This summer, he's playing in the Florida Collegiate Summer League – the only player in the league that's married, by the way.

Unlikely as it all seems, Begg knows it's all by design. Just not his.

"I don't like to think of things in terms of future plans and how my life is going to be years from now. Lately things have worked out without much planning, so I feel like if that is God's plan for me, I trust it," he told Samantha Millren for a story on the FCSL website.

And while he's not sure where he's going either, that too is alright with him.

"To be honest, I'll figure it out as time unfolds," he said. "The dream obviously is to continue further in my baseball career, but a lot of it will come down to what God has in mind for me, and my wife and I will make those adjustments when the time comes."



PHOTO COURTESY WEBBER INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY  
Marcus Begg and the Webber Warriors had a dream season in 2018, but baseball is far from No. 1 on Begg's priority list.

## 4<sup>th</sup> of July

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# Downtown Lake Wales in line for makeover

WRITTEN BY  
BRIAN ACKLEY  
NEWS CORRESPONDENT

LAKE WALES – Downtown will be getting a makeover in the coming months, thanks to the reboot of Lake Wales Main Street.

Board members for the group are expected to finalize this month, what firm will create the new identity.

“We received many, many RFP’s (requests for proposals), and I can honestly say that every single (one) we received was amazing,” said Main Street Executive Director Karen Thompson, who came aboard last fall. “By August, I’m guessing we’ll have negotiations and have everything done and have a firm hired.”

She stressed that the project will be funded by the organization, and not taxpayers, although the city does give Main Street some funding. Thompson indicated that already, the group has gotten \$50,000 in donations.

“With private donations, it’s truly a community project,” Thompson added. “Once we hire a planner, it will be their job to have multiple charrettes and to have forums for the community to come and put forth their ideas for downtown.”

The committee that narrowed the list of potential firms that will work on the downtown area included Main Street board members Rusty Ingley and Ryan Buskirk, Thompson, City Planning Director Kathy Bangle, Bok Tower Gardens President David Price, commercial developer John Scott and

Ronnie Wood, a Lake Wales resident who at one time was head of the city’s Main Street program, and is now the state coordinator for Main Street programs throughout Florida.

“It’s been a very busy a productive six months. We’ve come along way in a short, short amount of time,” Thompson added. “A vibrant downtown is our end goal.”

The Main Street board meets monthly, and is organized into four committees, including an organizational group which is in charge of fundraising.

“They are the backbone of the organization,” Thompson noted.

The economic restructuring group has surveyed what space is actually available for potential retailers. Thompson said they have already had discussions with a microbrewery that might be interested in locating in Lake Wales.

“We have a complete inventory of downtown available properties, what’s for sale, what’s for rent,” she indicated. “We’ve identified their strengths and weaknesses, and we’ve also identified what it is in the retail mix that we are missing.”

She said the group could work with the city’s Community Redevelopment Agency to possible offer incentives to help fill vacancy’s downtown.

She said just in the last few months, there have been a number of new



stores and shops that have opened, including Giorgio’s restaurant, 417 Boutique, Catherine’s Christian Bookstore, and Bloom Box Flora. City commissioner Tonya Stewart, who also sits on the CRA board, also recently opened a law office downtown as well.

City Commissioner Robin Gibson, said at least one merchant has been pleased so far with their decision to locate there. Giorgio’s is a fine dining restaurant in space last occupied by Festival Steak and Seafood.

“I’ve always worried about him in the heat of the summer. He is very happy with the reception he’s received downtown and that portends well for the kind

of business that can do well,” Gibson said. “He’s happy with the present and looking forward to the future.”

The other committees cover design and promotions.

Thompson noted that there are now over 40 vendors at a “rebranded” Farmer’s Market Saturday’s downtown, and that downtown residents have been issued decals which allow them to park in the city lot on Stuart Avenue across from the Arcade Building for more than the normal two-hour time limit.



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# LAKE WALES NEWS

## LW school staff, trustees looking ahead

WRITTEN BY  
BRIAN ACKLEY  
NEWS CORRESPONDENT

LAKE WALES – Leaders from all six Lake Wales Charter School will continue focusing on four main areas over the next few school years, part of the “LWCS 2022” initiative that actually kicked off last year.

About 40 administrators and staffers in the system, including members of the board of trustees, met for a nearly day-long retreat June 18 to focus on initiatives such as enriching student programs, teacher and staff recruitment, data driven practices and finances and fostering partnerships.

Superintendent Dr. Jesse Jackson noted that the “LWCS 2022” project was slowed down a bit because of the impacts of Hurricane Irma that did serious damage at Edward W. Bok Academy – which despite the major disruption earned an A grade from the state for the eighth straight year – and closed all the systems schools for more than a week.

“Within some of our schools, we have extremely robust STEM programs and some are in the process of developing that,” Dr. Jackson said about student program. “But when you think about the future of education, you think about it being heavily, deeply rooted in

STEM. When you think about future careers and opportunities, they’re heavily, deeply embedded in STEM education, so we began last to year to look at that, what that could be like, and how could we implement that system wide.”

Dr. Jackson said talent recruitment and development might be the most important initiative since it can help set the foundation for the system’s success.

“You can have any program, you can have anything you think is really important, but if you don’t have great people serving children, you don’t have what you really need to have,” he noted. “That magic is going to happen with those people. The magic is always going to happen where the action is which is in the classroom.”

He said the system has also created a system-wide data committee.

“It’s that data that’s going to drive our system’s improvement. It’s not hocus-pocus,” Dr. Jackson added. “It’s all about the data, even down to the individual student level. Good or bad, it’s an important driver for us. If it’s bad, what do we do with that data? We trace it back to the circumstance that creates that data. We have to be hawks on data.”

## Senator Rubio opens office in Lake Wales

LAKE WALES – Staff with the office of Senator Marco Rubio are trying to set up offices in every county in the state to make it easier for residents to seek help or provide feedback.

In Polk County, an office has been set-up at the Lake Wales Chamber of Commerce at 340 West Central Avenue. Sen. Rubio’s staff will be in Lake Wales every Tuesday from noon until 4 p.m.

Staff will be able to assist with immigra-

tion, Medicare, IRS/Banking, Military/VA, Social Security or Legislative issues.

According to Gulf Coast Regional Director Jonathan Torres, if this location proves to be active staff should be visiting until further notice. If not, a new location may be opened.

For more information, call 813-853-1099.



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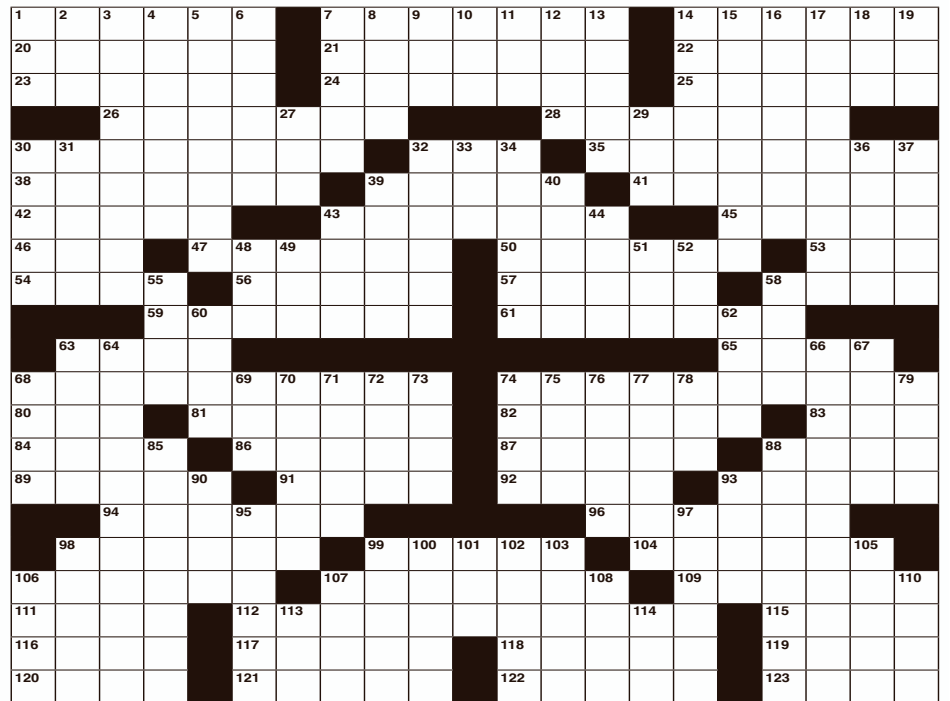
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Lake Wales Medical Center is owned in part by physicians.

## CREATURE FEATURE

BY TIMOTHY POLIN / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

After completing this puzzle, draw a line starting at the middle square of 59-Across and connect five appropriate squares in roughly clockwise order to reveal an image suggested by this puzzle's theme.

- |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
| <p><b>ACROSS</b></p> <p>1 "Friendly" cartoon character</p> <p>7 Pro</p> <p>14 Symbols in calculus</p> <p>20 Simple kind of antenna</p> <p>21 Expenditures' counterpart</p> <p>22 Lacking a break</p> <p>23 Add surreptitiously</p> <p>24 Worrisome sight for a swimmer</p> <p>25 With spite</p> <p>26 Some Houdini feats</p> <p>28 John of spy fiction</p> <p>30 Something extraordinary that won't soon be forgotten</p> <p>32 Some northern Europeans</p> <p>35 Bit of hydrotherapy</p> <p>38 Caffeinated drink with tapioca balls</p> <p>39 Doled (out)</p> <p>41 Opposite of colorblindness?</p> <p>42 "___ Jacques"</p> <p>43 Ones eligible for marathon prizes</p> <p>45 "Don't bite the hand that feeds you," e.g.</p> <p>46 Flight-board abbr.</p> <p>47 Sinking feelings</p> <p>50 Mistrusts</p> <p>53 Mother or sister</p> | <p>54 Does more than ask</p> <p>56 Dr. ___ Sattler, "Jurassic Park" paleobotanist</p> <p>57 Energy giant that fell into ignominy in 2002</p> <p>58 Elevs.</p> <p>59 Peevish quality</p> <p>61 Get a new mortgage</p> <p>63 [Kiss]</p> <p>65 Powerful D.C. lobby</p> <p>68 Scylla or Charybdis</p> <p>74 Speedy wide receiver, perhaps</p> <p>80 Skill</p> <p>81 [Fingers crossed]</p> <p>82 Buzz out in space</p> <p>83 And so on: Abbr.</p> <p>84 Staff leader?</p> <p>86 &amp; 87 What might cost you an arm and a leg?</p> <p>88 Silver-tongued</p> <p>89 2004 also-ran</p> <p>91 Martin who wrote "The Pregnant Widow"</p> <p>92 Evening, in ads</p> <p>93 Southern sandwich</p> <p>94 Is there in spirit?</p> <p>96 Zen Buddhist goal</p> <p>98 Makes fun of</p> <p>99 Menace in 106-Down</p> <p>104 Bad-mouth</p> <p>106 Add spice to</p> <p>107 Metaphor for deliberate ignorance</p> | <p>109 Gobbled (down)</p> <p>111 Seriously uptight</p> <p>112 Fictional setting for 106-Down</p> <p>115 "A ___ believes no one" (old saying)</p> <p>116 Pottery</p> <p>117 Caffè ___</p> <p>118 Justin Bieber or Justin Timberlake</p> <p>119 Concerning</p> <p>120 Conventions: Abbr.</p> <p>121 "There, there"</p> <p>122 Disgustingly obsequious</p> <p>123 Class with drills</p> | <p>19 Locale for a trough</p> <p>27 Fairy-tale "lump"</p> <p>29 Hack</p> <p>30 Hit BBC comedy, briefly</p> <p>31 Peter of "The Maltese Falcon"</p> <p>32 Handles deftly</p> <p>33 Utmost degree</p> <p>34 Farm machine</p> <p>36 Something to angle for</p> <p>37 "In Dulci Jubilo" and others</p> <p>39 Modest skirts</p> <p>40 Modern subject of F.A.A. regulation</p> <p>43 TV show with the season's highest rating, often</p> <p>44 "___ U.S.A." (1963 hit)</p> <p>48 Sports arbiter</p> <p>49 Pixelike</p> <p>51 Cabaret accessory</p> <p>52 Country-music channel, once</p> <p>55 Decorative pillowcase</p> <p>58 Adjudicate, as a case</p> <p>60 "This is looking bad"</p> <p>62 Lyricist Sammy</p> <p>63 Singer Haggard</p> <p>64 Golfer's obstacle</p> <p>66 Ska-punk band with the 1997 song "Sell Out"</p> <p>67 Sunning area</p> <p>68 Ax</p> |
|--|--|--|--|
- DOWN**
- 1 Things investors take an interest in?
- 2 Suffer
- 3 106-Down director
- 4 Pink, e.g.
- 5 Brought out
- 6 Christen anew
- 7 Tidiness
- 8 Proud, fiery types, they say
- 9 Save for later, in a way
- 10 Fathers or brothers
- 11 Santa \_\_\_
- 12 No longer in force
- 13 Gives meaning to
- 14 Horn of Africa native
- 15 Neon, e.g.
- 16 Transmission
- 17 Like the menace in 106-Down
- 18 Common knee injury site, briefly



- |   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
| <p>69 Seasonal quaff</p> <p>70 Small herrings</p> <p>71 Is a crowd</p> <p>72 Actor Morales</p> <p>73 Deteriorates</p> <p>74 Beginning</p> <p>75 Precollege, for short</p> <p>76 Text tweaks</p> <p>77 Midcrisis hire, perhaps</p> | <p>78 Word with black or blood</p> <p>79 Frozen-dessert chain</p> <p>85 Leaves nervously exhausted</p> <p>88 Thugs</p> <p>90 Aromatic yellow citrus</p> <p>93 Preppy wear</p> <p>95 Himalayan native</p> | <p>97 Cheap and gaudy</p> <p>98 Charged</p> <p>99 Scrap</p> <p>100 Actress Salma</p> <p>101 Movie org. whose "100 Years ... 100 Thrills" list has 106-Down at No. 2</p> <p>102 Takes a load off</p> <p>103 Superman, by birth</p> | <p>105 "Coo-oo-ool!"</p> <p>106 1975 summer blockbuster</p> <p>107 Morse clicks</p> <p>108 Indian blueblood</p> <p>110 Teensy amount</p> <p>113 Yogi's accessory</p> <p>114 Oscar ___ (Hollywood honor, informally)</p> |
|---|--|---|---|

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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Everyone Welcome</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>BARTOW CHURCH OF GOD</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">1460 East Stuart St Bartow, FL 33830 863.868.8603</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Elwood F. Kern, Pastor</i> Sunday School, 10:00am Morning Worship, 11:00am Sunday Evening, 6:00pm Wednesday, 7:00pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>New Life BAPTIST CHURCH</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sunday School 10 am</li> <li>• Morning Worship 11 am</li> <li>• Sunday Evening 6 pm</li> <li>• Wed Evening 7 pm</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">*KJV Bible Preaching *Hymns &amp; Spiritual Songs <i>Pastor Maurice Thompson</i> 807 West Memorial Blvd. Lakeland 863.229.6337</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>"ALL WELCOME"</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>JOIN US!</b></p>

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# BARTOW NEWS

## The Club at Idlewood set to open

WRITTEN BY  
JEFF ROSLOW  
NEWS CORRESPONDENT

BARTOW – After looking like a brick in the yard for more than five years, what used to be the Peace River Country Club is scheduled to arise from its five-year hibernation before the summer ends.

Now called The Club at Idlewood, the 11,000-square foot building at 150 Idlewood Road, is getting closer to opening, said Buddy Wise, who bought the building and property when it was auctioned.



PHOTOS BY JEFF ROSLOW  
*There's a new sign in front of what used to be known as the Peace River Country Club. Now called the The Club at Idlewood, it is scheduled to open in late July.*

Wise, a 40-year member of the club, said he went to the auction but never with the intention to buy it. He wanted to see it auctioned.

When he got there any thought about bidding became dimmer.

"The roof was leaking," he said, and there was a big puddle in the ballroom's wood floor.

But for \$250,000 he bought it.

"I was wondering if I'd be better off in life ... maybe I should bid," said Wise who spent a career with his own insurance business. "I believe in God and I prayed about whether I should get it. I bid and another guy kept bidding. The auctioneer asked me if I'd go to \$250,000."

He did and it was his.

"Once I got it, everyone thought I was out of my head," Wise said. "People thought it should have been torn down ... it would have mold and mildew."

But he added, it was not so and "It didn't have any termites."

Now it appears he is on his way to realizing a dream, leaving something for his six children who grew up in Bartow. He said a recent appraisal by Wauchula State Bank, which has the mortgage, was \$1.5 million. In 2013, the Polk County Property Appraiser's Office valued the property at \$392,273.

To try to work more money into it, Wise seeks to attract customers, now available online at <http://www.theclubatidlewood.net/> for \$75 a month per person, \$125 for families and \$60 for those 70 and older. Use of the pool behind the building will be a \$4 entry fee for anyone.

Wise plans regular trips on a shuttle bus to the Hard Rock Casino in Tampa and he is working with cruise lines for packages. He also plans to rent for meetings, weddings, and more.

For golfing, the city-owned Bartow Golf Course is next door. Wise said he is also working on trades with other Polk County golf courses for trades of play.

Opening inside the country club will be Wise Guy, a full service restaurant and Blue Marlin Bar by the pool, where the "Jimmy Buffet will play," Wise joked.

Wise is also talking with local merchants to try to offer discounts around Polk County for members of the club.

One change coming to the nearly 8-acre property is four acres behind it will be lots for sale as single-family homes.

And by the way, the roof was not leaking, as Wise said, glad he saved a lot of money for what that could have been.

"That tree that used to be out front, the water was getting into the gutter and it was getting under the metal."



*Buddy Wise stands in the Blue Marlin bar next to the swimming pool at the The Club at Idlewood. With construction going on, the plan is to reopen the club in late July. It has been closed since 2013*



*From the swimming pool, swimmers, sun tanners and those at the Blue Marlin bar can view the golf course.*



# Down payment assistance moves west

WRITTEN BY  
JEFF ROSLOW  
NEWS CORRESPONDENT

BARTOW – The funding incentive the Community Redevelopment Agency offers prospective homeowners in the east end of town, will expand to the west side.

The addition of funding help for potential west side homeowners is outside the policy the board passed in the Residential Blight Elimination Funding Policy, but it will help satisfy the CRA's intent in that document, "to improve the vitality of the East End Community and the CRA district by encouraging redevelopment and eliminating residential blight."

It appears though the down payment assistance for west side help is up to \$15,000, on the east side the assistance is up to \$30,000.

"My question is about \$15,000 on the west," said Commissioner Karen Guffey. "The east side is \$30,000, why is there a \$15,000 difference?"

CRA Executive Director Stephen Cox said a study of house values, the east was 15 percent higher than the west.

To that, Commissioner Clif Lewis said the contract actually says 25 percent up to \$30,000 for the east side. He added homes and areas have to be identified.

He said not all west side property is low-income. However, he is in favor of

expanding the help.

Vice Chair Alvin Smith Jr., also wanted to point out that it is for prospective homeowners and not investors.

Part of the Residential Blight Elimination Funding Policy says the person "would be required to establish purchased property as his or her primary permanent residence and remain on the property as a homesteader for five years." If the homeowner re-sells before five years that person would have to pay back the CRA.

"This is not for the investor?" Smith asked. "We're not being distinct and I have a problem with it."

Commissioner John Bohde suggested if the policy should return and be re-written to expand the territory. He added, though, he was fine with just expanding it. Cox agreed expanding it would be a good move.

"I would want to present the policy for a review and make changes if you want," Cox said. "We have it online and we can see it. But my concern is what we want to do with the west side? I'm getting inquiries that we have a policy on the east side and can you help us?" (<http://www.cityofbartow.net>)

Ultimately the board voted 6-0 to allow Cox the down payment assistance on the west side.

# July Happenings at the History Center

BARTOW – Journey into Polk history this month at the Polk County History Center. The following programs and events are open to the public and free of charge:

**July 17, 12:15 to 1 p.m. – Lunch and Learn – "Communities of the Kathleen Area," by Lois Sherrouse-Murphy**

**July's Family Program – Curators of Curiosity - All Month**

Did you know that the vote for United States independence from Great Britain actually took place on July 2? Do you know who is credited with serving as the primary author of the Declaration of Independence? Learn these and other interesting facts about Independence Day in our children's gallery throughout the month of July. Young learners can demonstrate pride in country by making a patriotic paper quilt square to be on display in the History Center.

Settlers from Georgia and the Carolinas began arriving in the communities of the Kathleen area in the 1840s, well before the establishment of Polk County, Florida, in 1861. Against the backdrop of the Seminole Wars, the Civil War, public land incentive programs and the coming of the railroads in the 1880s, the eight northwest Polk communities of Galloway, Gibsonia, Green Pond, Griffin, Kathleen, Providence, Socrum and Winston were well established by 1900. Self-sufficient and resilient pioneers set up homesteads, nurtured large families, built churches and schools, served in positions of leadership and created an agricultural-based economy with cattle raising, citrus, timber and logging and strawberry farming.

**July 4 – Independence Day**

The Polk County History Center will be closed in observance of Independence Day.

**HISTORY CENTER | 21**

**Independence Day**  
**"Freedom has its life in the hearts, the actions, the spirit of men and so it must be daily earned and refreshed – else like a flower cut from its life-giving roots, it will wither and die."**  
**— Dwight D. Eisenhower**

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# EDITORIAL

## Reflections on government on the Fourth of July

WRITTEN BY  
S.L. FRISBIE  
NEWS COLUMNIST

It was such a simple concept to understand when we studied American Government in elementary school, 65 or 70 years ago:

- Congress passes laws.
- The Supreme Court interprets the laws.
- The president enforces the laws.

Today, it would be hard to come up with such a simple lesson plan to explain how government works.

How about:

- Congress muddles through the law-making process, generally following the dictates of its partisan leaders.
- The Supreme Court rewrites the laws to reflect the political biases of its members.
- The president vetoes the laws he especially doesn't like, ignores the ones he sort of doesn't like, and creates new laws by executive order.

In the process, the president blames Congress (and his predecessor) for everything that goes wrong, and members of Congress blame members of the opposite party for what goes wrong while claiming credit for anything that goes right.

The Supreme Court by and large remains outside of the fray except for the few times a year when it makes a really controversial decision.

The court comes in for an extra measure of public notice when one of its members retires, an action which brings out the worst in the other two branches.

The sole criterion that gets any signif-

icant degree of interest from parties to the process is a potential nominee's stand on the most controversial topics of recent years, topics like abortion and homosexual marriage.

Justice Anthony Kennedy, who announced his retirement plans a few days ago, has brought a refreshing outlook to the court, holding views I would describe as conservative centrist, and a willingness to thoughtfully consider both sides of an issue on its Constitutional merits.

There undoubtedly are other legal scholars of similar intellectual integrity, but it's anybody's guess if such a nominee would pass muster in the vetting process.

Democrats, predictably, are declaring that the president should wait until after the next election before naming a nominee, in the hope that their party will capture a majority in the Senate and be able to block confirmation of any nominee.

President Trump, who did not just fall off a turnip truck, has better sense than to walk into that trap.

In the meantime, "We the People of the United States," whose supremacy in the political process is asserted in the preamble to the Constitution, will watch in dismay as our servants in Washington reduce the selection of the next justice of the Supreme Court to a political dogfight.

But despite it all, Happy Birthday, America.

*(S.L. Frisbie is retired. He majored in government at FSU, covered city and county commissions and school boards in two counties and three cities over the course of half a century in journalism, and is a self-described government junkie.)*

## Bridge Replacement Project Closing Eagle Lake Loop Road for 150 Days

BARTOW — Starting Monday, Polk County will close Eagle Lake Loop Road in southwest Winter Haven for 150 days to help speed the replacement of the aging bridge structure spanning the Wahnetta Farms Drainage Canal. Project limits extend along Eagle Lake Loop Road from just east of the intersection at Rifle Range Road to about 450 feet east of the canal. Through traffic will be detoured around the work zone along Rifle Range Road and Eloise Loop Road.

Nearby residents can expect a couple weeks of pile driving during limited morning hours starting late July or early August. Pile driving hours will be dictated by electric service provider TECO Energy Inc., since overhead power lines have to be temporarily de-energized to accommodate long bridge piles and tall pile-driving equipment. TECO anticipates no interruptions to their service.

Peak hour traffic congestion is expected. Commuters are advised to drive with caution, follow detour signs and allow for extra time for trips through this area. CSX Transportation will coordinate train activity at their rail crossing east of the bridge with Polk County during the road closure.

Built around 1961, the Eagle Lake Loop Road Bridge is classified as functionally obsolete. The new structure will meet current structural and safety standards to include two (2) 12-foot wide travel lanes with 8-foot wide shoulders and a 5-foot wide sidewalk. Once completed, the new bridge will handle car, bike and pedestrian traffic better and more safely than the current bridge structure.

For more information, contact Bill Skelton with the Polk County Roads & Drainage Division at (863) 535-2230.

**Jim Suber Farm - 10 temporary workers needed in Eupora, MS, from approximately 8/25/2018-11/03/2018.** Workers will perform assigned duties as instructed by their supervisor. Must be 18 years or older. Duties may vary from time to time. Use wood to build and repair boxes for digger. Manually weeding fields by hand or using hand tools. May operate skid loader. May drive tractor while pulling mechanical transplanter. Drain water from fields with hand tools and shovel when needed Load & unload boxes on trucks trailers Repair, maintain and clean all hand tools and mechanical equipment prior to and after use. All tools, supplies and equipment will be provided at no cost to workers. Work in extreme weather conditions. Must be able to work with minimum supervision. Covering potatoes with plastic. Cut slips by hand with knife, place in boxes to load & unload onto trucks. Dip potato slips. Walk behind potato transplanter and fill in slips by hand. Riding mechanical transplanter and loading slips in planting cups. Dividing plants by hand. Three months commercial experience on a licensed farm needed for hand cutting slips and use of mechanical transplanter. The company may conduct criminal background checks. Workers should expect periods of little/no work. Hours and days of work may vary due to weather conditions. Due to possible Date of Need changes, worker is required to purchase travel insurance if available. We will reimburse the worker for transportation cost (including travel insurance) and subsistence to the employers work site from the place of recruitment upon completion of 50 percent of the contract period. Transportation payment will be no less (and is not required to be more) than the most economical and reasonable common carrier transportation charges for the distances involved. A copy of the work contract or a copy of the ETA 790 in lieu of a work contract, and any modifications, will be provided to the worker on the day the work commences. If the employee is unable or unfit to perform the duties listed after the 14 day pretrial, the employee will receive warnings, hours may be reduced to the minimum allowed in the certified petition or terminated. General farm labor will be paid \$10.73 per hour. 3/4 guarantee, 35 hours per week. Housing, equipment and transportation provided at no cost to workers who cannot reasonably return to their permanent residence at the end of each workday. We participate in the E-Verify program and workers must have a valid identification for I-9 preparation when they report to begin to work. Complete job description can be found at your local SWA/Job Center. **Apply for this job at the State Workforce/ Job Center Office in your area or call your nearest office. FL 866-482-4473, AL 256-259-1835, GA 404-656-6000, MS 662-842-2175, Using Job # MS 263687**

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# HEALTH AND WELLNESS

## Motivational program on bullying prevention, technology and self-esteem



Judd, who has served as Polk County Sheriff since 2004, is a staunch advocate for raising awareness among parents and youth over the dangers of cyberbullying. He will offer advice and insight on how texting and social media have changed the way preteens and teens communicate with each other – and not always in a positive way. Sometimes, as in the case with social media threats of school shootings and suicides, his law enforcement officers must step in to ensure lives are not endangered.



Sheriff Grady Judd

Founder of Jaylen's Challenge Foundation and recipient of the 2017 Princess Diana Legacy Award, Jaylen Arnold

Lakeland – Parents and preteens are invited to the important Safeguarding Your Preteen event on Thursday, July 26, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., featuring Polk Sheriff Grady Judd and nationally known anti-bullying proponent Jaylen Arnold.

The event, free and open to the community, will take place in the new Carol Jenkins Barnett Pavilion for Women and Children on the south side of the Medical Center Campus, 1324 Lakeland Hills Blvd.

Jaylen Arnold, recipient of the 2017 Princess Diana Legacy Award, is a Lakeland teenager who founded Jaylen's Challenge Foundation nine years ago to combat bullying. Now 17 years old, Jaylen speaks about bullying from firsthand experience. His symptoms of Tourette syndrome, Asperger's syndrome and obsessive compulsive disorder unfortunately made him a target for being picked on by other children. He now goes around the country as part of his Bullying No Way mission, which is "The more we understand each other, the more we will love the differences we have and the similarities we share." For more information about Jaylen, please visit [www.JaylensChallenge.org](http://www.JaylensChallenge.org).

In addition, Lakeland Regional Health Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist Aarti Patel, MD, will share with parents how to handle their preteen's requests for access to video games, social media, cell phones and other electronic devices – and any ensuing discussions about privacy, responsible communications and unhealthy behaviors.

Preteens who attend will have a separate, more personal discussion with Jaylen Arnold.

Light dinner will be served. RSVPs are required by July 23, 863.687.1400.



Lakeland Regional Health Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist Aarti Patel, MD



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# BayCare Calendar of Events

Bartow Regional Medical Center, Winter Haven Hospital and Winter Haven Women's Hospital offer an array of support groups, screenings and healthy living activities in Polk County each month. The following events will be held in July.

## Weight Management

• Weight Management Information Take the first step to weight management surgery and attend an information session. Registration is required: (855) 314-8350 July 10, 6-7 p.m. Bartow Regional Medical Center, Classroom 1 2200 Osprey Blvd, Bartow

## Orthopedic Classes

• Total Joint Replacement Increase your knowledge of total joint replacement, prepare for surgery and get familiar with the recovery process. July 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31, 1-2 p.m. Bartow

Regional Medical Center, Classroom 1 Registration is required – Free Call (863) 519-1665

July 12, 19 and 26, 12:30-2 p.m. Winter Haven Hospital, Wellness Center Conference Room 200 Avenue F N.E., Winter Haven Registration is required – Free Call (863) 297-1808

## Support Groups

All support group sessions are free. Unless otherwise noted, registration is not required.

## Aphasia Support Group A

• Support group for people with aphasia and their caregivers. July 5, 4-5:30 p.m. Winter Haven Hospital, Wellness Center Conference Room

## 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. July 13, 1:30-2:30 p.m. Winter Haven Hospital, Wellness Center Conference Room

## 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. July 10, 10 a.m.-noon Winter Haven Hospital, Education Classroom F Registration is required: (800) 227-2345.

## Mental Health Peer Recovery

• Program Provides education, support and socialization for participants diagnosed with mental health issues, moving them toward recovery. Mondays, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Lions Park Clubhouse 820 Ave. L SW, Winter Haven

• Wednesdays, 12:30-4:30 p.m. Winter Haven Hospital Center for Behavioral Health 1201 First St. S., Winter Haven

## Maternity Classes

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

## Prepared Childbirth (4 Sessions)

• In-depth coverage of the third trimester, labor, breathing, relaxation, birthing and postpartum concerns. July 9, 16, 23 and 30, 6:30-8:45 p.m. Cost: \$40

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# History Center

FROM PAGE 17

Settlers from Georgia and the Carolinas began arriving in the communities of the Kathleen area in the 1840s, well before the establishment of Polk County, Florida, in 1861. Against the backdrop of the Seminole Wars, the Civil War, public land incentive programs and the coming of the railroads in the 1880s, the eight northwest Polk communities of Galloway, Gibsonia, Green Pond, Griffin, Kathleen, Providence, Socrum and Winston were well established by 1900. Self-sufficient and resilient pioneers set up homesteads, nurtured large families, built churches and schools, served in positions of leadership and created an agricultural-based economy with cattle raising, citrus, timber and logging and strawberry farming.

Program presenter Lois Sherrouse-Murphy is the museum assistant at the Polk County History Center, president of the Kathleen Area Historical Society, descendant of the Georgia Salzburgers and Kathleen-area pioneer families, and serves as a local and family historian.

Book Club Recommended Reading is, "Communities of the Kathleen Area," by Lois Sherrouse-Murphy

The companion book to the Lunch and Learn program by Lois Sherrouse-Murphy offers a glimpse into pioneer life of early settlers of the northwest Polk communities of the Kathleen Area. Through the use of vintage, captioned photographs, this title in Arcadia Publishing's Images of America series covers the period from 1850 through 1930 and includes chapters on pioneers, religion, education, homesteads, the agricultural industry and more.

**July 21, 11 a.m. – Architectural Tour**  
Join us for an architectural tour of the History Center and learn about neoclassical architecture, the construction of the building and the stories behind the iconic Old Polk County Courthouse. The architectural tour is on the third Saturday of each month at 11 a.m.

**July 28, 11 a.m. – Research Workshop – Seminole War Historic Sites, Research and Reporting**

Local historian Dean McCracken, a recent presenter at the History Center, will be on hand to share his research methodology and the people, places and events that occurred in and around Polk during the Seminole Wars, the longest and most expensive Indian Wars in U.S. history. Relive the times before, during, and after Florida became a state as the U.S. Army and the Seminole Tribe battled each other for the right to call Florida home.

The Polk County History Center is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday at 100 E. Main St. in Bartow. Visit [www.polkhistorycenter.org](http://www.polkhistorycenter.org) or call (863) 534-4386 for more information on exhibits and programming. All programs and events are free and open to the public.

## Crossword Answers from Page 15

C	A	S	P	E	R	O	L	D	H	A	N	D	S	I	G	M	A	S				
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## LEGAL

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE TENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR POLK COUNTY, FLORIDA**

CASE NO: 53-2016CA-003151-0000-00

IN RE:  
POLK COUNTY YOUTH FAIR, INC.,  
Petitioner.

### NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY TO THE CIRCUIT COURT

Petitioner, POLK COUNTY YOUTH FAIR, INC. hereby gives PUBLIC NOTICE pursuant to § 616.03, Florida Statutes (2017), of its intention to apply to the Circuit Court of the Tenth Judicial Circuit, in and for Polk County, Florida for approval of amendments to its Charter. Application to the Circuit Court will be made July 27, 2018 at 9:00 AM in Hearing Room 8B-1 (8th Floor, Red Elevators), at the Polk County Courthouse, 255 North Broadway Avenue, Bartow, Florida 33830. If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the Office of the Court Administrator, (863)534-4690; if you are hearing or voice impaired, call TDD (863)534-7777 or Florida Relay Service 711. Dated this 14th day of June, 2018.

/s/ W.A. "Drew" Crawford  
W.A. "Drew" Crawford  
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## LEGAL PUBLIC NOTICE

### PUBLIC NOTICE

THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS AND APPEALS FOR THE CITY OF FORT MEADE will hold a Public Hearing at the Fort Meade Community Center, 10 SW 3rd St Fort Meade FL 33841 on **Monday, July 16, 2018 at 5:30 PM** to consider the following requests:

Mr. Clarence Sampson is requesting a variance that would allow him to have a metal carport in his front yard. Located at 201 Sand Mountain Rd. Parcel ID: 25-31-27-470110-000010

Per Unified Land Development Code, Article 2.06.00 General Regulation for Accessory Uses and Article 7.11.00 Variances

HDG Marketing Industries LLC is requesting a variance for lot size, width, and setbacks located at 521 N French Ave. Parcel ID: 25-31-27-4465000-000041

Per Unified Land Development Code, Article 7.11.00 Variances

This information is available for public review in the Building Department from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday. All interested property owners may appear at the Public Hearing to make objections as they may have. No objections being raised, it is presumed none exist



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# We Care staff seeking doctors to volunteer

WRITTEN BY  
CHARLES A BAKER III  
cbaker@scmginc.com

WINTER HAVEN – Tucked away behind TruckMasters USA on Sixth Street near Rick's Bar-B-Q is a non-profit health agency that has helped thousands upon thousands of county residents to get free health care for nearly two decades without much fanfare.

We Care of Central Florida connects the working poor with no health insurance to doctors willing to volunteer their labor, all while working to get grant money and donations to pay for things like medical tests.

The Winter Haven non profit recently hired a new Chief Executive Officer, Heather Stephenson, who is well respected in Highlands County for her past work leading a free clinic there. Stephenson said in her new job, one of her highest priorities is finding more specialty care physicians willing to donate their time to serve Polk County residents who cannot afford healthcare.



PHOTO PROVIDED  
We Care of Central Florida CEO Heather Stephenson recently moved to Winter Haven from the Sebring area where she made a name for herself directing a free clinic. Now she is helping the working poor here in Polk County.

Stephenson said she wants local doctors to know there are benefits to teaming up with We Care of Central Florida that go beyond feeling good

for helping those in need. Donating time can generate a waiver of the Biennial License renewal fee, donating time can fulfill 25 percent of continuing education hours required for a license and the donated time is covered by sovereign immunity, a state sponsored liability protection.

Specialty care providers can determine how many patients and which cases to take and the patients all have established primary care doctors.

Currently We Care of Central Florida staff get referrals from 12 local free clinics plus most of all the established hospitals in the area who treat the working poor and need help referring said clients to specialty care. In all they handle around 1,200 referrals every three months and there is currently a waiting list for more. Around 100 physicians already work with the non profit annually.

"That's why we need more specialty care providers," Stephenson said.

Specialty services offered include: cardiology, dermatology, diagnostic testing, endocrinology, gastroenterology, general surgery, gynecology, neurology, neurosurgery, ophthalmology, optometry, oral surgery, orthopedics, otolaryngology, pain management, pathology, podiatry, pulmonology, rheumatology and urology.

In addition to helping the working poor with general health care, there are specific programs. Project Think Pink provides free mammograms to the uninsured and the underinsured. If something unusual is found, continued treatment may be provided.

Project New Sight helps those without insurance to get glasses, glaucoma treatments and cataract surgeries when diagnosed.

While much of the funding comes from the half cent sales tax for indigent health care, the non profit staff also need local donations including cash, office supplies and even used glasses. Donations are not used for administrative costs, Stephenson said.

Last year the non profit staff received several substantial donations. The an-

nual All American Ride for the Tatas motorcycle poker run raised \$7,500 for the agency. Residents at the Frost-proof golf resort at Lily Lake raised \$4,711 and residents of the Del Webb community near Haines City recently raised \$21,709.

Since 1999, We Care of Central Florida has provided over \$20M in health care services to county residents. Last year alone, staff coordinated patient appointments valued at almost \$2M.

"We have made great strides in increasing the number of volunteer providers and specialties available, diversifying our funding pools and creating and implementing new programs like Project New Sight, however, there is still a lot of work to be done," Stephen-



PHOTO PROVIDED  
PCSO Sheriff Grady Judd was the keynote speaker at a recent We Care fundraiser in the Del Webb community near Haines City. Pictured with the sheriff are, from left, Shana Santiago, Cheri Hall, Heather Stephenson and Robin Cook.

## Cornerstone Hospice Lakeland office Open House and Ribbon Cutting

Lakeland– The community is invited to a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Open House in celebration of Cornerstone Hospice and Palliative Care's new office location in Lakeland.

Cornerstone Hospice, which serves seven Central Florida Counties, has leased 8,270 square feet of space at Highland Square Plaza, located at 2140 East County Road 540A, in Lakeland.

**WHO:** Lakeland Mayor Bill Mutz, Auburndale Mayor and Cornerstone Hospice Foundation Board Member Tim Pospichal, Cornerstone Hospice CEO Chuck Lee, Cornerstone Hospice

**WeCare** of Central Florida  
Volunteer physicians making a difference.

PHOTO PROVIDED  
We Care of Central Florida has been serving Polk County residents since 1999.

son said. "We have some great things in the works, and I am very excited about the future of We Care and honored to be part of an organization that makes such an impact in this community."

If you are a specialty care physician willing to donate your time, or just want more information, please email [info@wecarecentralflorida.org](mailto:info@wecarecentralflorida.org).

Vice President of Hospice Services Jason D'Auria, Lakeland Chamber of Commerce representatives and Cornerstone Hospice employees

**WHAT:** Cornerstone Hospice Lakeland Office Ribbon Cutting, followed by an Open House. Attendees will be able to tour the building, learn about Cornerstone Hospice services and inquire about becoming a volunteer. Light Hors d'oeuvres will be provided.

**WHEN:** Thursday, August 2, 2018  
4 – 6 P.M.

**Ribbon Cutting at 4 p.m., followed by open house and tours.**

# FOUR SURGERIES. FORTY-SEVEN DAYS IN THE ICU. PHYSICAL THERAPY. AS IF BEING A KID ISN'T HARD ENOUGH.

Zia Milan Sutherland had a rough 5th grade. A week after coming down with a bad cold, Zia collapsed. She was rushed to BayCare's St. Joseph's Children's Hospital, where doctors determined her sinus infection had progressed into a brain infection, and two abscesses were pushing on her brain. Doctors performed four surgeries: draining the abscesses, a bifrontal craniotomy, a surgery to drain her sinuses and a procedure to replace a bone flap in her head. All were successful and now Zia's only concern is being a regular kid.



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St. Joseph's Hospital-North • St. Joseph's Hospital-South • South Florida Baptist Hospital • Winter Haven Hospital • Winter Haven Women's Hospital*

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## Heavy rain forecast could complicate cave rescue

Heavy rains forecast for northern Thailand could worsen flooding in a cave where 12 boys and their soccer coach are waiting to be extracted by rescuers. *See page 8*



# US to stop encouraging race as factor in school admissions

By ERIC TUCKER  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration on Tuesday rescinded Obama-era guidance that encouraged schools to take a student's race into account to promote diversity in admissions. The shift suggests schools will have the federal government's blessing to leave race out of admissions and enrollment

decisions, and it underscores the contentious politics that continue to surround affirmative action policies, which have repeatedly been challenged before the Supreme Court. The admissions memos were among 24 policy documents revoked by the Justice Department for being "unnecessary, outdated, inconsistent with existing law, or otherwise improper." Attorney General Jeff Sessions called the

changes an effort to restore the "rule of law" and blamed past administrations for imposing new rules without seeking public comment. "That's wrong, and it's not good government," Sessions said in a statement. The action comes amid a high-profile court fight over Harvard University admissions as well as Supreme Court turnover expected to produce a more

critical eye toward schools' race-conscious admissions policies. The court's most recent significant ruling on the subject bolstered colleges' use of race among many factors in the admission process. But the opinion's author, Anthony Kennedy, announced his retirement last week, giving President Donald Trump a chance to replace him with a justice who may be more

reliably skeptical of admissions programs that take race and ethnicity into account. The new policy dramatically departs from the stance of the Obama administration, which in a 2011 policy document said courts had recognized schools' "compelling interest" in ensuring racially diverse populations. The guidance said that while race

POLICY | 3

# How much all-seeing artificial intelligence surveillance is too much?

By MATT O'BRIEN  
AP TECHNOLOGY WRITER

BOSTON — When a CIA-backed venture capital fund took an interest in Rana el Kaliouby's face-scanning technology for detecting emotions, the computer scientist and her colleagues did some soul-searching — and then turned down the money. "We're not interested in applications where you're spying on people," said el Kaliouby, the CEO and co-founder of the Boston startup Affectiva. The company has trained its artificial intelligence systems to recognize if individuals are happy or sad, tired or angry, using a photographic repository of more than 6 million faces. Recent advances in AI-powered computer vision have accelerated the race for self-driving cars and

powered the increasingly sophisticated photo-tagging features found on Facebook and Google. But as these prying AI "eyes" find new applications in store checkout lines, police body cameras and war zones, the tech companies developing them are struggling to balance business opportunities with difficult moral decisions that could turn off customers or their own workers. El Kaliouby said it's not hard to imagine using real-time face recognition to pick up on dishonesty — or, in the hands of an authoritarian regime, to monitor reaction to political speech in order to root out dissent. But the small firm, which spun off from an MIT research lab, has set limits on what it will do. The company has

HOW MUCH | 3



AP PHOTOS

Above: In this April 23 photo, Ashley McManus, global marketing director of the Boston-based artificial intelligence firm, Affectiva, demonstrates facial recognition technology that is geared to help detect driver distraction.

Left: Rana el Kaliouby, CEO of the Boston-based artificial intelligence firm, Affectiva, demonstrates their facial recognition technology, in Boston. Recent advances in AI-powered computer vision have spawned startups like Affectiva, accelerated the race for self-driving cars and powered the increasingly sophisticated photo-tagging features found on Facebook and Google.

# NATO allies defend military spending amid Trump criticism

By LORNE COOK and JAN M. OLSEN  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BRUSSELS — NATO allies are pushing back against U.S. criticism that they are not spending enough on defense, as President Donald Trump ratchets up pressure ahead of a summit next week. In the last few weeks before NATO's July 11-12 summit in Brussels, Trump sent letters to

Norway, other European allies and Canada demanding that they boost defense spending. After Russia annexed Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula in 2014, NATO allies agreed that year to end defense budget cuts, start spending more as their economies grew and move toward a goal of 2 percent of GDP for defense spending within a decade. In an email Tuesday to The Associated Press, Norwegian

Defense Minister Frank Bakke-Jensen said "Norway stands by its decision of the NATO Summit in 2014 and is following up on this." Norway has spent "far beyond" NATO's target on new military equipment, he added. German Defense Minister Ursula von der Leyen said Tuesday that "we stand by the 2 percent goal we've set." She added that "we're on the path there. And we're prepared ... to take substantial

responsibility within the alliance." When faced with the suggestion that such German explanations for not spending 2 percent of GDP yet might not make an impression on Trump, she retorted: "We don't want to impress anyone." The upcoming NATO summit is the first major meeting since the fractious Group of Seven talks in Canada last month. NATO officials are concerned that trans-Atlantic divisions over trade tariffs and the

U.S. pullout from the Paris global climate agreement and the Iran nuclear deal could undermine alliance unity. In the letter to Norwegian Prime Minister Erna Solberg, dated June 19, Trump wrote that despite her country's important role in the alliance Norway "remains the only NATO ally sharing a border with Russia that lacks a credible plan to spend 2 percent of its

NATO | 3

# Trump continues interviews with Supreme Court candidates

By CATHERINE LUCEY and KEN THOMAS  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump spoke with three more potential Supreme Court candidates on Tuesday as a key senator privately aired concerns about one of the contenders. That follows four Trump interviews with judicial candidates a day earlier, as well as a conversation with Republican Sen. Mike Lee of Utah, who is not regarded as a top contender. An administration official said Trump had spoken to seven candidates in total. "These are very talented

people, brilliant people," Trump said during an appearance in West Virginia. "We're going to give you a great one." With trademark flair, Trump has said he'll announce his pick to replace retiring Justice Anthony Kennedy on Monday, choosing from a list of 25 candidates vetted by conservative groups. Top contenders include federal appeals judges Raymond Kethledge, Amul Thapar, Brett Kavanaugh and Amy Coney Barrett. Trump has also been consulting with lawmakers — including Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., who has expressed reservations about Kavanaugh's candidacy, according

to a person familiar with the call. Paul has told colleagues that he wouldn't vote in favor of Kavanaugh if the judge is nominated, citing Kavanaugh's role during the Bush administration on cases involving executive privilege and the disclosure of documents to Congress. Trump's choice to replace Kennedy — a swing vote on the nine-member court — has the potential to be part of precedent-shattering court decisions on abortion, health care, gay marriage and other issues. On Monday, Trump interviewed Kethledge, Thapar, Kavanaugh and Barrett, according to a person

with knowledge of the meetings who was not authorized to speak publicly about them. The White House did not disclose Trump's additional conversations, but two other names considered top contenders are Thomas Hardiman, who has served with Trump's sister, now on senior inactive status, on the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia; and Joan Larsen, who serves on the federal appeals court in Cincinnati and previously served as a Michigan Supreme Court Justice. The president also spoke by phone with Lee on Monday, as first reported by the Deseret

News and later confirmed by the senator's office, which characterized it as an interview. Asked about the call, White House spokesman Raj Shah said only, "Yesterday, the President spoke on the phone with Sen. Mike Lee." Lee is the only lawmaker on Trump's list of potential justices. Since Trump said his short list includes at least two women, speculation has focused on Barrett, a former law clerk to Justice Antonin Scalia and a longtime Notre Dame Law School professor who serves on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 7th Circuit.

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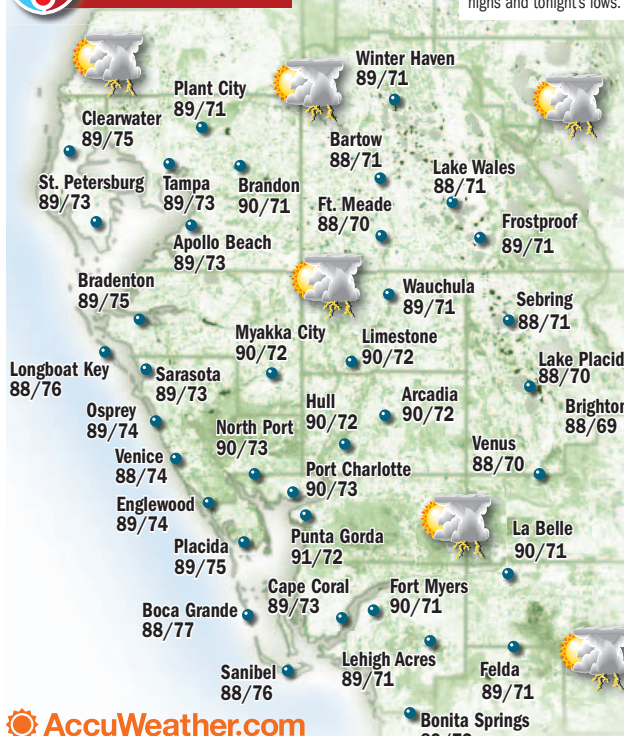
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TODAY / TONIGHT THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY MONDAY

Weather forecast for today through Monday, including high/low temperatures and chance of rain percentages.

85° GULF WATER TEMPERATURE



AccuWeather.com logo and website information.

PORT CHARLOTTE weather forecast and record information.

MONTHLY RAINFALL table with columns for month, 2018, 2017, Avg., and Record/Year.

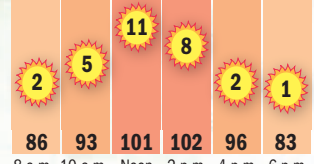
VENICE weather forecast and record information.

SEBRING weather forecast and record information.

FLORIDA CITIES

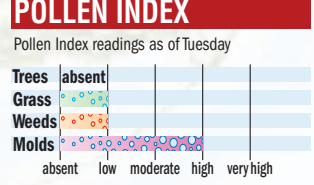
Table of weather forecasts for various Florida cities including Apalachicola, Bradenton, Clearwater, etc.

CONDITIONS TODAY

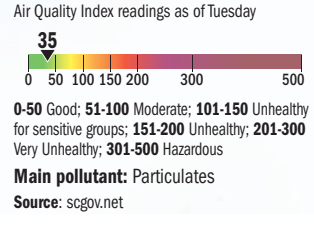


8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m. The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

POLLEN INDEX



AIR QUALITY INDEX



TIDES

Tide schedule for Punta Gorda and Englewood.

MARINE

Marine forecast including wind speed, seas, and bay/inland direction.

SUN AND MOON

Sun and Moon schedule table with rise and set times for today and Thursday.

SOLUNAR TABLE

Solunar table with minor and major moon phases and times.

The solunar period schedule allows planning days so you will be fishing in good territory or hunting in good cover during those times.

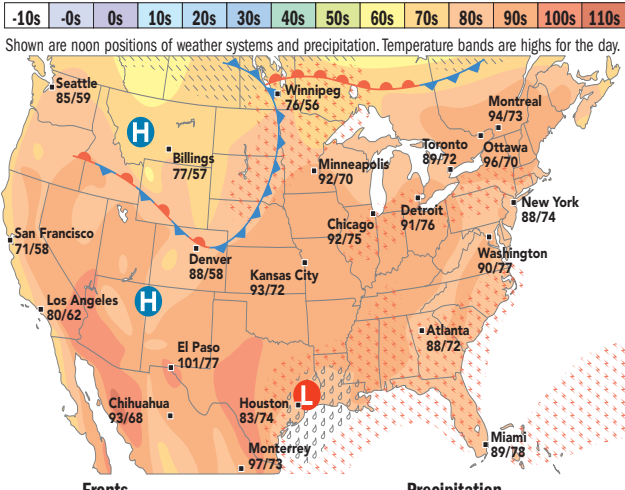
WEATHER HISTORY

Thomas Jefferson signed the Declaration of Independence July 4, 1776, in Philadelphia; he noted the temperature was 76.

WEATHER TRIVIA™

Q: The lowest temperature on Earth was recorded in July; where? A: Vostok Antarctica, July 21, 1983; minus 128.6 F.

THE NATION Publication date: 07/4/18



Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.

U.S. Extremes (For the 48 contiguous states yesterday)

High 103° at Needles, CA Low 30° at Stanley, ID

Table of weather extremes for various U.S. cities including Albuquerque, Anchorage, Atlanta, etc.

WORLD CITIES

Table of weather conditions for various world cities including Amsterdam, Baghdad, Beijing, etc.

Large advertisement for Warren's Auto Sales featuring a fox mascot and the slogan 'Clear and Simple Car Buying For Over 40 Years! HUGE Inventory Of Quality Pre-Owned Vehicles!'.

Table listing various car models and their features, such as 2013 Chevrolet Equinox, 2015 Ford Edge, etc.

Table listing various car models and their features, such as 2011 Buick Lacrosse, 2015 Ford Fusion, etc.

Warren's Auto Sales contact information, including address (811 US HWY 27 S., Avon Park), phone number (863-452-2931), website (www.warrensautosales.com), and awards.

# Panel calls intel assessment on Russia meddling 'sound'

By DEB RIECHMANN  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — A Senate committee said Tuesday that U.S. intelligence agencies' assessment of Russian activities during the 2016 presidential election was based on "sound" analysis not swayed by politics. The January 2017 intelligence assessment said Russian activities in the run-up to the presidential election represented a "significant escalation" in a long history of Russian attempts to interfere in U.S. domestic politics, the committee said. The intelligence agencies found that Russians had engaged in cyber-espionage and distributed messages through Russian-controlled propaganda outlets to undermine public faith in the democratic process, "denigrate" Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton and develop a "clear preference" for Donald Trump. The Senate intelligence committee's report comes

as Trump continues to cast doubt on whether Russians interfered in the presidential election. Late last month, Trump tweeted: "Russia continues to say they had nothing to do with Meddling in our Election!" The report also comes two weeks before Trump is scheduled to meet with Russian President Vladimir Putin in Helsinki, Finland. The committee said it perused thousands of pages of documents and conducted interviews with relevant parties that helped the CIA, FBI and National Security Agency compile its review about Russian meddling. Committee chairman Sen. Richard Burr, R-N.C., said the panel spent 16 months reviewing the sources, tradecraft and analytic work underpinning the intelligence community assessment and sees "no reason to dispute the conclusions." "In all the interviews of those who drafted and prepared the ICA (intelligence community assessment),

the committee heard consistently that analysts were under no politically motivated pressure to reach any conclusions," the committee said. Virginia Sen. Mark Warner, the ranking Democrat on the committee, said the panel thoroughly reviewed all aspects of the intelligence agencies' work leading up to its assessment. "The Russian effort was extensive and sophisticated, and its goals were to undermine public faith in the democratic process, to hurt Secretary Clinton and to help Donald Trump," Warner said. Earlier this year, Republicans on the House intelligence committee concluded there was no collusion or coordination between Trump's presidential campaign and Russia. Democrats on the House panel sharply disagreed, saying the Republican-controlled panel had not interviewed enough witnesses or gathered enough evidence to make a definitive assessment.

# S&P 500 snaps 3-day winning streak

By ALEX VEIGA  
AP BUSINESS WRITER

U.S. stocks closed lower Tuesday as a swift sell-off in the final minutes of trading wiped out earlier gains and snapped a three-day winning streak for the market. Technology companies and banks led the market slide, outweighing gains in health care and energy stocks. The Dow Jones Industrial Average and S&P 500 each fell 0.5 percent. The Nasdaq composite fell nearly 1 percent, while smaller companies bucked the trend with modest gains. The trading session was shortened ahead of the Independence Day holiday. Once investors return Thursday, they'll have no shortage of reasons to snap out of the holiday lull by the end of the week. On Friday the U.S. is set to impose a 25 percent tariff on \$34 billion worth of Chinese imports. And China is expected to strike back with tariffs on

a similar amount of U.S. exports. The big question is how far the two countries will go in their dispute over trade. "The market might get worked up about a tit-for-tat retaliation, which we'll probably see," said Scott Wren, senior global equity strategist for the Wells Fargo Investment Institute. "There's a relatively low probability of an all-out trade war." The Trump administration has said it won't target an additional \$16 billion worth of Chinese goods until it gathers further public comments. It's also identifying an additional \$200 billion in Chinese goods for 10 percent tariffs, which could take effect if Beijing retaliates. The S&P 500 index fell 13.49 points, or 0.5 percent, to 2,713.22. The Dow Jones Industrial Average slid 132.36 points, or 0.5 percent, to 24,174.82. The Nasdaq lost 65.01 points, or 0.9 percent, to 7,502.67.

## ALMANAC

Today is **Wednesday, July 4**, the 185th day of 2018. There are 180 days left in the year. This is Independence Day.

### Today in history

On **July 4, 1776**, the Declaration of Independence was adopted by delegates to the Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia.

### On this date

In **1802**, the United States Military Academy officially opened at West Point, New York. In **1817**, ground was broken for the Erie Canal in Rome, New York. The middle section of the waterway took three years to complete; the entire canal was finished in 1825. In **1826**, 50 years to the day after the Declaration of Independence was adopted, former presidents John Adams and Thomas Jefferson both died. In **1917**, during a ceremony in Paris honoring the French hero of the American Revolution, U.S. Army Lt. Col. Charles E. Stanton, an aide to Maj. Gen. John J. Pershing, declared: "Lafayette, we are here!" In **1939**, Lou Gehrig of the New York Yankees delivered his famous farewell speech in which he called himself "the luckiest man on the face of the earth." In **1947**, the small central California town of Hollister was overrun by thousands of motorcycling enthusiasts, dozens of whom ended up being arrested, most for drunkenness, in what came to be called the "Hollister Riot." In **1966**, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Freedom of Information Act, which went into effect the following year. In **1987**, Klaus Barbie, the former Gestapo chief known as the "Butcher of Lyon," was convicted by a French court of crimes against humanity and sentenced to life in prison (he died in September 1991). In **1997**, NASA's Pathfinder spacecraft landed on Mars, inaugurating a new era in the search for life on the red planet.

### Today's birthdays

Actress **Eva Marie Saint** is 94. Actress **Gina Lollobrigida** is 91. Playwright **Neil Simon** is 91. Singer **Bill Withers** is 80. Actor **Ed Bernard** is 79. Actress **Karolyn Grimes** is 78. Vietnam War veteran and peace activist **Ron Kovic** is 72. Rhythm and blues musician **Ralph Johnson** (Earth, Wind and Fire) is 67. Rock musician **Domingo Ortiz** (Widespread Panic) is 66. Singer **John Waite** is 66. Rock musician **Kirk Pengilly** (INXS) is 60. Rock **DJ Zonka** is 56. Rock musician **Matt Malley** is 55. Actor **Al Madrigal** is 47. Actress **Janica Berger** is 44. Actor-singer **John Lloyd Young** is 43. Singer **Stephen "Ste" McNally** (BBMak) is 40. Actress **Becki Newton** is 40. Actor **Mo'Nique** is 36. **Malia Obama** is 20.

### Bible verse

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path."  
— **Psalms 119:105**.  
*Living life without the benefit of the Word of God is like trying to see in the dark. Read the Bible and let God lead you.*

## NATO

FROM PAGE 1

gross domestic product on defense." The stance was repeated in a similar letter to Belgium, where Trump said it will "become increasingly difficult to justify to American citizens why some countries continue to fail to meet our shared collective security commitments."

Trump dressed down his NATO counterparts last year, publicly berating them for not spending enough and claiming they owe the U.S. money. When he first came to office he even suggested that the U.S. — by far NATO's most powerful ally — might not protect countries that don't pull their weight. In Canada, Defense Minister Harjit Sajjan's chief of communications said the government has committed to increasing funding by

more than 70 percent over the next decade. "This plan has been rigorously costed, is fully funded, and serves Canada's defense needs. It also upholds our long-standing role as an active contributor to global peace and security," said Director of Communications Renée Filiatrault. Despite the political rhetoric from the Trump administration, the 2 percent figure does not concern spending on

NATO and no one owes the alliance or any ally money. It is about the size of national defense budgets only. Other factors that nations take into consideration when looking at burden-sharing are the amount of money spent on new military equipment and contributions to NATO operations. But the U.S. spends more on defense than all the others combined — 3.61 percent of GDP in

2016, or around \$664 billion. That's roughly two thirds of total spending on national budgets, according to NATO estimates. "The president has publicly shared his frustration that he'd like to see other countries step up and do more, particularly when they have the capability and they've made the commitment to do 2 percent. He'd like to see them fulfill that commitment," White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee said Tuesday.

## POLICY

FROM PAGE 1

shouldn't be the primary factor in an admission decision, schools could lawfully consider it in the interest of achieving diversity. "Institutions are not required to implement race-neutral approaches if, in their judgment, the

approaches would be unworkable," the guidance said. "In some cases, race-neutral approaches will be unworkable because they will be ineffective to achieve the diversity the institution seeks." That guidance has now been rescinded, as have more than a half-dozen other similar documents, including some that sought to explain court rulings

affirming the use of race as one of several factors in the admissions process. In one such document, the Obama administration stated, "As the Supreme Court has recognized, diversity has benefits for all students, and today's students must be prepared to succeed in a diverse society and an increasingly global workforce." The Trump

administration's announcement is more in line with Bush-era policy that discouraged affirmative action and instead encouraged the use of race-neutral alternatives, like percentage plans and economic diversity programs. Though such guidance doesn't have the force of law, schools could presumably use it to defend themselves against lawsuits

over admission policies. The Trump administration's Justice Department had already signaled concern about the use of race in admissions decisions. The department, for instance, has sided with Asian-American plaintiffs who contend in a lawsuit against Harvard that the school unlawfully limits how many Asian students are admitted.

## HOW MUCH

FROM PAGE 1

shunned "any security, airport, even lie detection stuff," el Kaliouby said. Instead, Affectiva has partnered with automakers trying to help tired-looking drivers stay awake, and with consumer brands that want to know if people respond to a product with joy or disgust. Such queasiness reflects new qualms about the capabilities and possible abuses of all-seeing, always

watching AI camera systems — even as authorities are growing more eager to use them. In the immediate aftermath of Thursday's deadly shooting at a newspaper in Annapolis, Maryland, police said they turned to face recognition to identify the uncooperative suspect. They did so by tapping a state database that includes mug shots of past arrestees and, more controversially, everyone who registered for a Maryland driver's license. Initial information given to law enforcement authorities said that police had

turned to facial recognition because the suspect had damaged his fingerprints in an apparent attempt to avoid identification. That report turned out to be incorrect and police said they used facial recognition because of delays in getting fingerprint identification. In June, Orlando International Airport announced plans to require face-identification scans of passengers on all arriving and departing international flights by the end of this year. Several other U.S. airports have already been using such scans for some,

but not all, departing international flights. Chinese firms and municipalities are already using intelligent cameras to shame jaywalkers in real time and to surveil ethnic minorities, subjecting some to detention and political indoctrination. Closer to home, the overhead cameras and sensors in Amazon's new cashier-less store in Seattle aim to make shoplifting obsolete by tracking every item shoppers pick up and put back down. Concerns over the technology can shake

even the largest tech firms. Google, for instance, recently said it will exit a defense contract after employees protested the military application of the company's AI technology. The work involved computer analysis of drone video footage from Iraq and other conflict zones. Similar concerns about government contracts have stirred up internal discord at Amazon and Microsoft. Google has since published AI guidelines emphasizing uses that are "socially beneficial" and that avoid "unfair bias."

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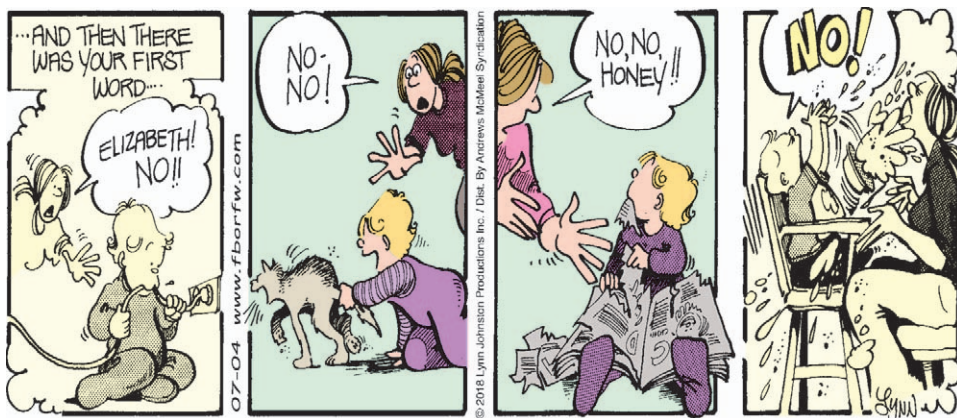
PUNTA GORDA PORT CHARLOTTE NORTH PORT ENGLEWOOD VENICE SARASOTA BRADENTON NAPLES FT. MYERS BONITA SPRINGS







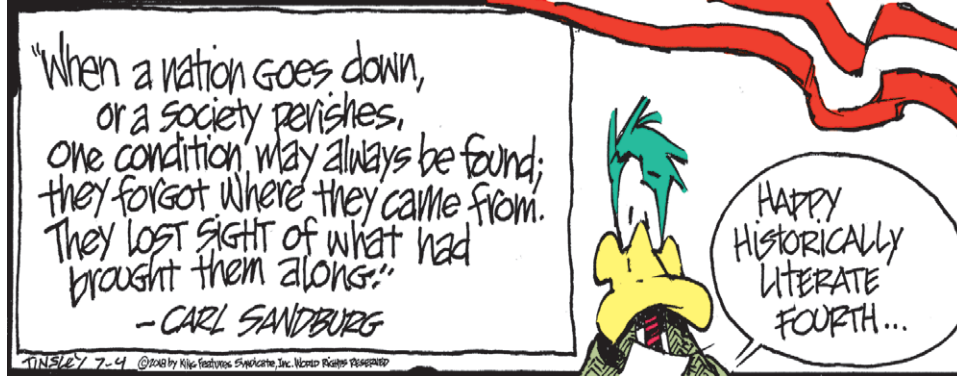
FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE By Lynn Johnston



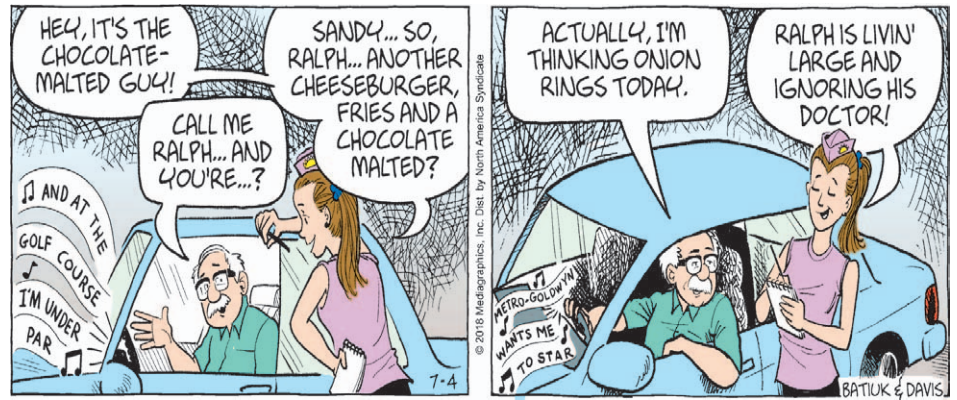
PEANUTS By Charles Schulz



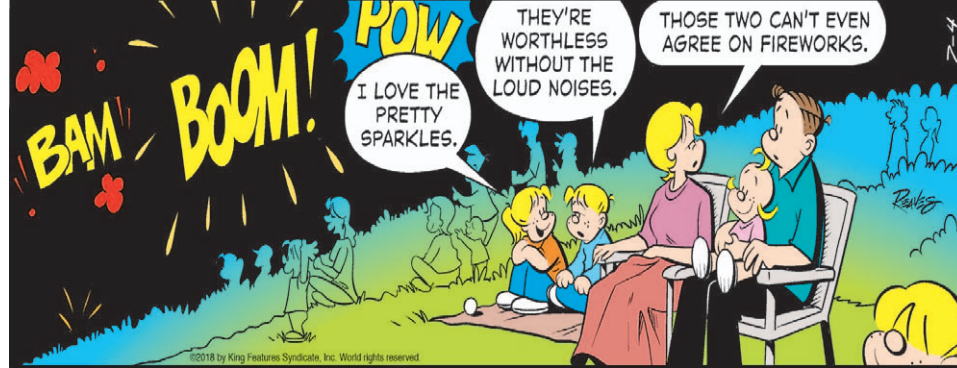
MALLARD FILLMORE By Bruce Tinsley



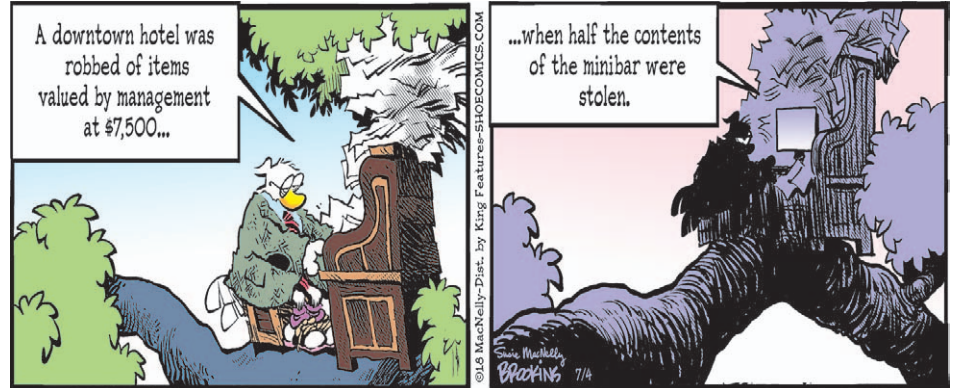
CRANKSHAFT By Tom Batiuk & Chuck Ayers



HI AND LOIS By Brian and Greg Walker



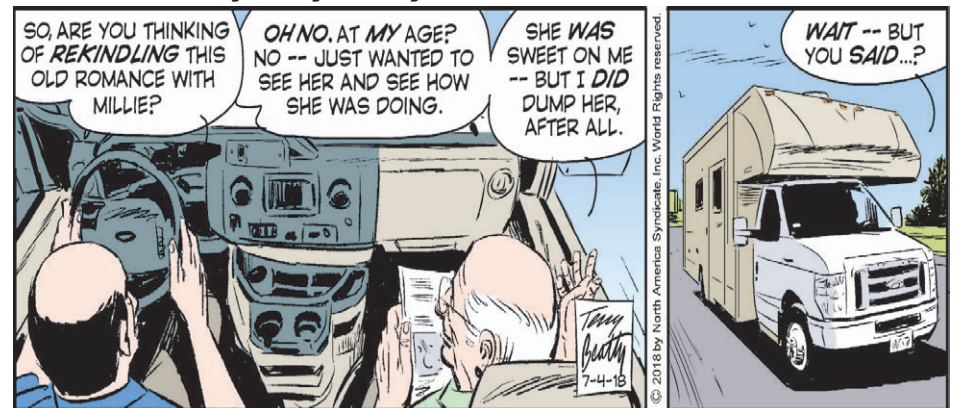
SHOE By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



BETLE BAILEY By Mort Walker



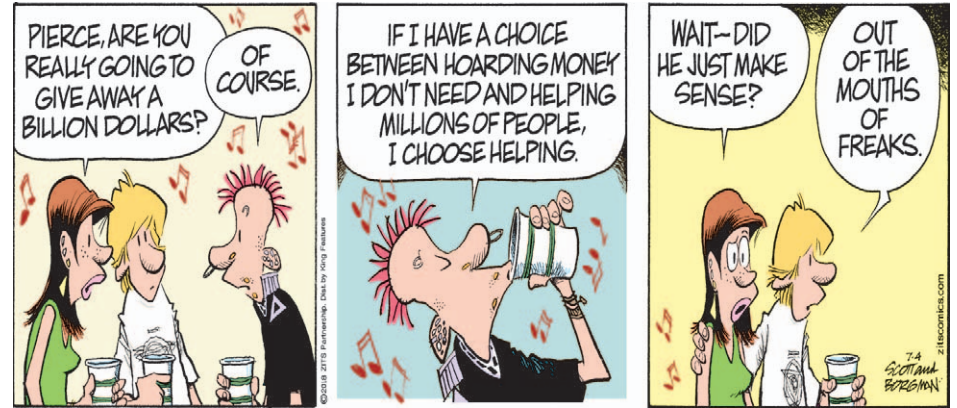
REX MORGAN By Terry Beatty



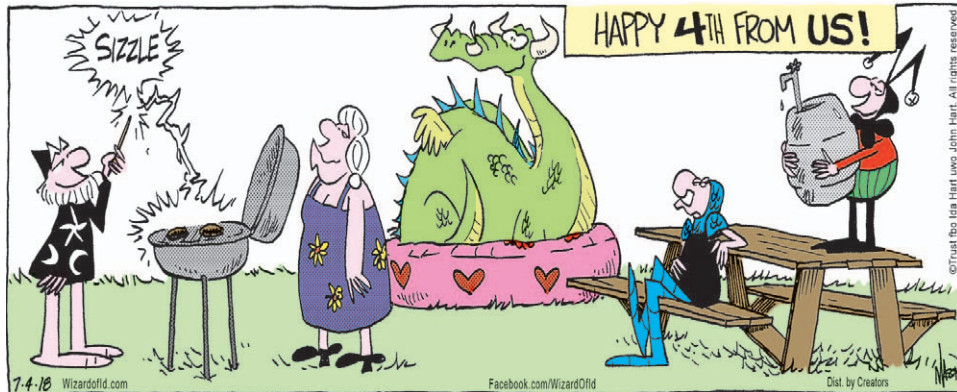
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE By Chris Browne



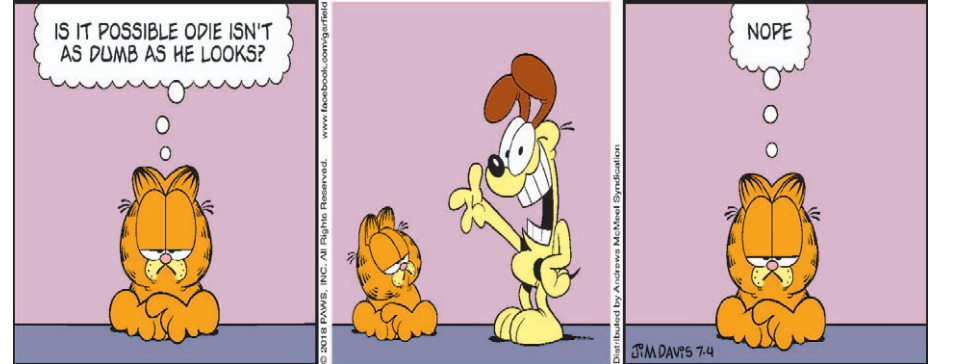
ZITS By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman



THE WIZARD OF ID By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



GARFIELD By Jim Davis



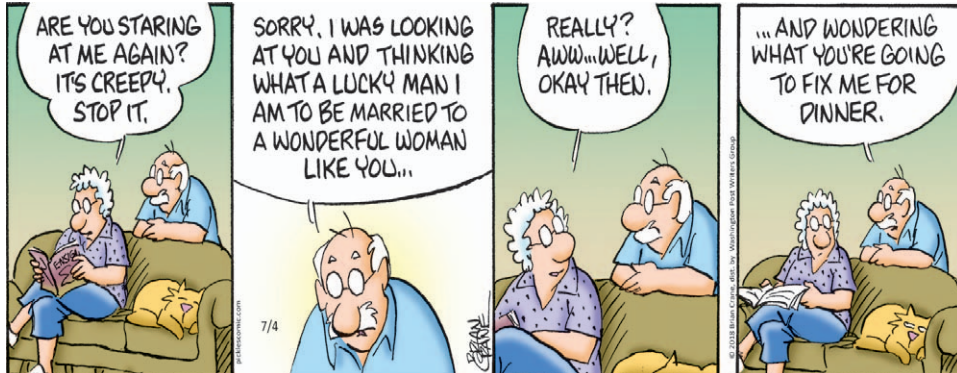
MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM By Mike Peters



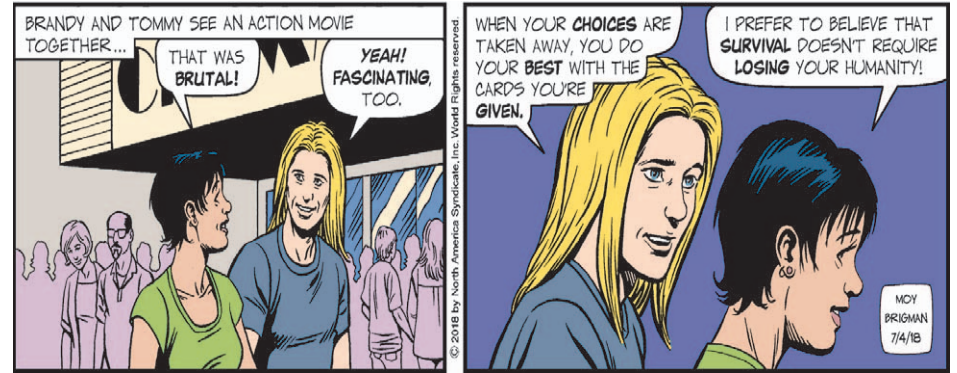
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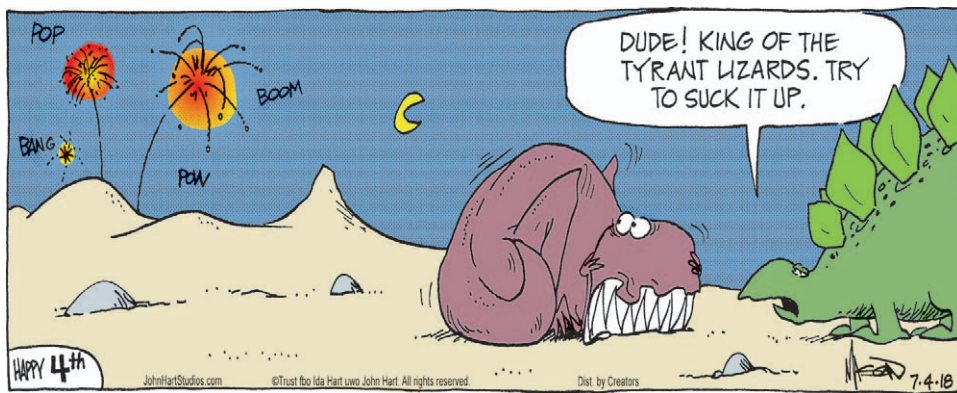
PICKLES By Brian Crane



MARY WORTH By Karen Moy and June Brigman



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DILBERT By Scott Adams



# Forecast of heavy rain could complicate Thai cave rescue

By TASSANEE VEJONGSA  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MAE SAI, Thailand — Heavy rains forecast for northern Thailand could worsen flooding in a cave where 12 boys and their soccer coach are waiting to be extracted by rescuers, possibly forcing authorities to have them swim out through a narrow, underwater passage in the cavern, a top official said Tuesday.

The 13, who disappeared when flooding trapped them in the cave they were exploring on June 23 after a soccer game, were found by rescue divers late Monday night in the cavern in northern Chiang Rai province during a



AP PHOTO

This Monday photo released by Tham Luang Rescue Operation Center shows the boys and their soccer coach as they were found in a partially flooded cave, in Mae Sai, Chiang Rai, Thailand.

desperate search. The effort drew international help and has riveted Thailand.

The boys, aged 11-16, and their 25-year-old coach were described as

healthy and being looked after by seven members of the Thai navy SEALs, including medics, who were staying with them inside the cave. They were mostly in stable condition and

have received high-protein drinks.

While efforts to pump out floodwaters are continuing, it's clear that some areas of the sprawling cavern cannot be drained, said Interior Minister Anupong Paojinda, a member of Thailand's ruling military junta. In order to get them out ahead of the bad weather forecast for later in the week, they might need to use diving gear while being guided by professional divers, he said.

Anupong said the boys would be brought out via the same complicated route through which their rescuers entered, and he conceded that if something went awry, it could be disastrous.

# UN members: Syria not answering chemical weapons questions

By EDITH M. LEDERER  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

UNITED NATIONS — Syria is still failing to answer questions about its chemical weapons program, years after becoming a party to the chemical weapons convention, members of the U.N. Security Council said Wednesday.

Swedish Ambassador Olof Skoog, the current council president, said many members raised the issue during a closed meeting on Syria's chemical weapons at which U.N. disarmament chief Izumi Nakamitsu gave a briefing by video.

"There are a lot of uncertainties" in Syria's declaration to the Organization

for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons of its chemical weapons program, "and that is part of the problem," Skoog told The Associated Press after the meeting.

Britain's deputy U.N. ambassador, Jonathan Allen, said before the meeting that members would be discussing "how to ensure the Syrian regime dismantles their chemical weapons program."

The council meeting followed last week's 82-24 vote by OPCW member nations giving the international chemical weapons watchdog the authority to determine blame for chemical attacks for the first time, over strong objections from Russia and Syria.

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Rachel Cote, LMT or Kellie Shanks, LMT

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and Special Low Rates.*



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NYSE

Table with 15 columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol, Last, YTD %Chg. Contains multiple columns of stock data including BkNYM pIC, BkNova g, BnkUtd, etc.



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NYSE

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD %Chg. Contains stock data for companies like FMC Corp, FNB, FNB FL pFE, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD %Chg. Contains stock data for companies like FrankLibG, FrankLibGIE, FrnL LoV n, etc.

- G -

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD %Chg. Contains stock data for companies like GAMCO s, GATX, GATX 66, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD %Chg. Contains stock data for companies like GrahamH s, Graing, GWW, GPTA, etc.

- H -

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD %Chg. Contains stock data for companies like HCA Hldg, HCI Grp, HCP Inc, etc.

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NYSE

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD, %Chg. Includes entries like HorizGbl n, HorizF22 n, HorizMgR n, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD, %Chg. Includes entries like iSMnSCV, iSMNCVal, iShGblUtil, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD, %Chg. Includes entries like iPBetaEgy, iPBtaLvstK, iPBtaPrM, etc.

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NYSE

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like KKR pA, KKR pf B, KKR Inco, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like Maiden pA, Maiden pf C, MaidenHid, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like NewHome, NwIreland, ANJ Rscs, etc.

L

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like L Brands, L-3 Tch, LCI Inds, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like MetLife, MetLife pfA, MetLife B, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like OCI Ptrs, OFG Bncp, OFG pfA, etc.

M

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like M&T Bk, M&T Bk wt, M&T Bk pfA, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like NCI Bldg, NCR Corp, NGL EnPt, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like N&M, N&M pfH, N&M pfM, etc.

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NYSE

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like OpEMRev, OppenHdg, Oracle, etc.

P-Q

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like PBF Engy, PBF Lcm, PBF Fund, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like PS Consvr, PSCrudeDS, PwSBMetS, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like PSEG, APubStrg, PubSt pfU, etc.

- R -

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like RAIT pfA, RAIT pfB, RAIT pfC, etc.

- S -

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like S&P Gbl, SAP SE, SCANA, etc.

Continued from previous page

NYSE

Main table containing NYSE stock listings with columns for Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 1000s, Last, %Chg, 52-week, Vol, and YTD. Includes a large 'T' symbol in the middle of the table.

Continued on next page

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NYSE table columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes rows for UDR, AUI Corp, UMH, etc.

- V -

NYSE table columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes rows for VF Corp, VICE, VOCI, etc.

NYSE

NYSE table columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes rows for Veeva, Veeva, Veeva, etc.

- W -

NYSE table columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes rows for W&T Off, WBI, WBI, etc.

NYSE table columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes rows for Walmart, WalMart, WalMart, etc.

Nasdaq

Nasdaq table columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes rows for A-MarkPM, AAO, AC Immun, etc.

Nasdaq

Nasdaq table columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes rows for Adomani, Adomani, Adomani, etc.

Nasdaq

Nasdaq table columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes rows for Alliqua, AllotComm, AllotComm, 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, Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol, YTD %Chg, Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol, YTD %Chg.

- C -

- B -

- D -

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Nasdaq

Table with columns: Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like DOLPH, DOMO, DOWA, etc.

- E -

Table with columns: Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like eBay, EBAY, EBAY, etc.

- F -

Table with columns: Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like FATB, FBFB, FBFB, etc.

Table with columns: Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like FstNwBc, FstSavFin, FstSolar, etc.

- G -

Table with columns: Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like GWillFood, GThera n, GLBA, etc.

Table with columns: Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like GlobusM, GluMobile, GLOU, etc.

- H -

Table with columns: Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like H&E Eap, HD Supply, HLA Acq, etc.

Table with columns: Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like HudsonGbl, HudsonT, HunkJB, etc.

Continued on next page

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Nasdaq

Main table containing stock market data for Nasdaq, including columns for Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol, and YTD %Chg. The table is organized into columns and includes various stock symbols and their corresponding financial metrics.

Continued on next page



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Nasdaq

Table with 15 columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, YTD Last %Chg. Includes sections for O, P-Q, R, and T.

Continued on next page

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Nasdaq

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes TTM Tch, TactSys, Taitron h, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes Ubiquiti, UbiBeauty, UltimSoft, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes VikingRay n, ViewTh n, VikingTh wt, etc.

- W -

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes -WCF Bop n, WD40, WIMI, etc.

- V -

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes -VBI Vac n, VEON, VOXX Intl, etc.

X-Y-Z

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes xGTech wt rs, XGTI, XOMA, etc.

- U -

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes :US AutoPts, PRTS, USCR, etc.

Money Market Funds

Large table with columns: Fund, Avg Maturity, Avg Yield, Fund, Avg Maturity, Avg Yield, Fund, Avg Maturity, Avg Yield. Lists various money market funds like CapResFdp, Cash Account Tr, etc.

Continued on next page

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Money Market Funds

Table of Money Market Funds with columns for Fund, Avg Maturity, Avg Yield, and Fund details.

Tax Exempt

Table of Tax Exempt Funds with columns for Fund, Avg Maturity, Avg Yield, and Fund details.

Toronto stocks

Table of Toronto Stocks with columns for Name, Vol, High, Low, Last, Chg, Name, Vol, High, Low, Last, Chg, Name, Vol, High, Low, Last, Chg, Name, Vol, High, Low, Last, Chg.

Treasury bonds

Table of Treasury Bonds with columns for Rate, Date, Bid, Ask, Chg, Yld, Rate, Date, Bid, Ask, Chg, Yld, Rate, Date, Bid, Ask, Chg, Yld, Rate, Date, Bid, Ask, Chg, Yld.

FOOTNOTE: Rate-The annual interest rate the Treasury bond provides to investors. Date-The month and year the bond will expire. Bid-The price investors will pay for the bond. Ask-The price at which investors will sell. A bond price is expressed as a percentage of its original purchase cost of \$1,000.

Mutual Funds

Table of 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.

How to Read the Mutual Fund Tables

Here are the 4,300 biggest mutual funds listed on Nasdaq. Tables show the fund name, sell price or net asset value (NAV), daily net change and weekly net change. Underlining highlights the funds ranked in the top 20% in each of the last 5 years.

Continued on next page

Top 20 Mutual Funds

By Year-to-Date Percent Return

Table with columns: Name, Obj, Pct Load, NAV, YTD, Phone Number. Lists top 20 mutual funds by year-to-date percent return.

By Total Net Assets

Table with columns: Name, Obj, Total Assets, Percent Return/Rank, YTD, 5-Yr, Pct Load. Lists top 20 mutual funds by total net assets.

By 4-Week Percent Return

Table with columns: Name, Obj, Pct Load, NAV, 4-Wk Rtn, YTD, Phone Number. Lists top 20 mutual funds by 4-week percent return.

Continued from previous page

Continuation of the 'By Year-to-Date Percent Return' table, listing mutual funds from Val m to EquGrInv.

Mutual Funds

Table listing various mutual funds with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD, 3-yr Rtn/Rk. Includes categories like Arbitrage, Ariel, Aristote, Artisan, Ashmore, Auxier, Ave Maria, BBB, BMO, Baron, BNY Mellon, Baird, BlackRock, and American Funds.

Continuation of the 'By 4-Week Percent Return' table, listing mutual funds from HYBdInv m to RspMunInc m.

Continued from previous page

Mutual Funds

Table with columns for Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rrk, and a grid of various mutual fund entries including categories like Bond, Domestic, International, Money Market, and Specialty Funds.

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

Mutual Funds

Table listing various mutual funds with columns for Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rrk, and 5-yr Rtn/Rrk. Funds include Growth&InclK, HighIncome, Independence, and many others.

Continued on next page

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Mutual Funds

Table with 18 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. Contains data for various mutual funds such as BallncA m, BallncR3 b, BallncR4 b, CapAppHLSIA, etc.

Continued on next page

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Mutual Funds table with columns for Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk, and multiple columns for various fund categories including MFS, CoreEq, North Country, etc.



Continued from previous page

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. The table lists various mutual funds and their performance metrics across four columns.

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

Table with columns for Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk, and multiple columns for Mutual Funds (Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk). The table is organized into sections: Undiscovered Manager, VALIC Co I, VALIC Co II, Value Line, VanEck, Vanguard, Timothy, Tocqueville, Torrey, Touchstone, Transamerica, Tweedy, Browne, U.S. Global Investor, UBS, USA PAC, USA Mutuals, Usana, and Westwood. Each section contains a list of investment vehicles with their respective performance metrics.