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## MADURO'S OPPONENTS BRAVE TEAR GAS TO DELIVER AID

Opponents of Venezuela President Nicolas Maduro braved tear gas as they rescued boxes of emergency food and medicine from burning trucks during violent clashes on the Colombian border.

See *The News Wire*

Sunday, February 24, 2019

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# Our lawmakers are fighting contractor fraud

## H.D. Custom Homes debacle prompts bills from Rep. Grant, Sen. Albritton

By **ELAINE ALLEN-EMRICH**  
COMMUNITY NEWS EDITOR

Two local lawmakers have filed bills to close loop holes that let some contractors rip off customers.

Rep. Mike Grant (R-Port Charlotte) represents Charlotte County and worked with State Attorney Amira Fox, 20th Judicial Circuit along with Charlotte County



GRANT

Commissioner Bill Truex on a bill to reduce contractor fraud.

The trio heard from dozens of H.D. Custom Homes customers and sub contractors who were left with little or nothing after the Englewood company abruptly closed its doors in November.

Many had unfinished homes they've already paid for with liens mounting. Most had to pay again for the same supplies and services. Subcontractors including pool companies, cabinet makers, disposal removal, and concrete workers were never fully paid for their services.



FILE PHOTO BY ELAINE ALLEN-EMRICH

In December, more than 50 people attended a meeting involving customers of HD Custom Homes. Many spoke about what was not finished or not started with their homes mostly in Charlotte and Sarasota counties. The group was so large, it spilled into the lanai and side room of the Gulf Cove home.

FRAUD | 8

# WALK WITH CAUTION

## What streets are most dangerous for pedestrians, and why?

By **LIZ HARDAWAY**  
STAFF WRITER

Robert Ward is scared to grab his mail, even though his mailbox is just across the street from his house.

Between his home and mailbox is a two-lane street — Hillsborough Boulevard in Port Charlotte — with no posted speed limit sign nearby, no sidewalk, no stop sign, and no crosswalk. Just dozens of cars zooming by.

He waits for a gap in traffic until feeling safe to cross the street and get his mail.

"One problem is the speed," he said, "and people aren't paying attention." Once the weekend hits, he said the road becomes "nothing but a drag strip."

It's so bad that he doesn't even let his 11-year-old daughter go get the mail.

A few blocks down the road is where the first stop sign past Toledo Blade Boulevard appears on Prineville Street.

That's where a 45-year-old man was killed while walking in 2013. The death is

marked on a sprawling map as just one of thousands of pedestrian fatalities, which were analyzed in a recent national study covering 2008 to 2017.

That study called "Dangerous by Design" found Florida is the most dangerous state for pedestrians.

The North Port-Sarasota-Bradenton area is the fourth most dangerous metropolitan area having had between six and 13 pedestrian fatalities annually between 2010 and 2017.

And Charlotte County is not immune from such tragedy either. The county had between one and five of these deaths each year in that time.

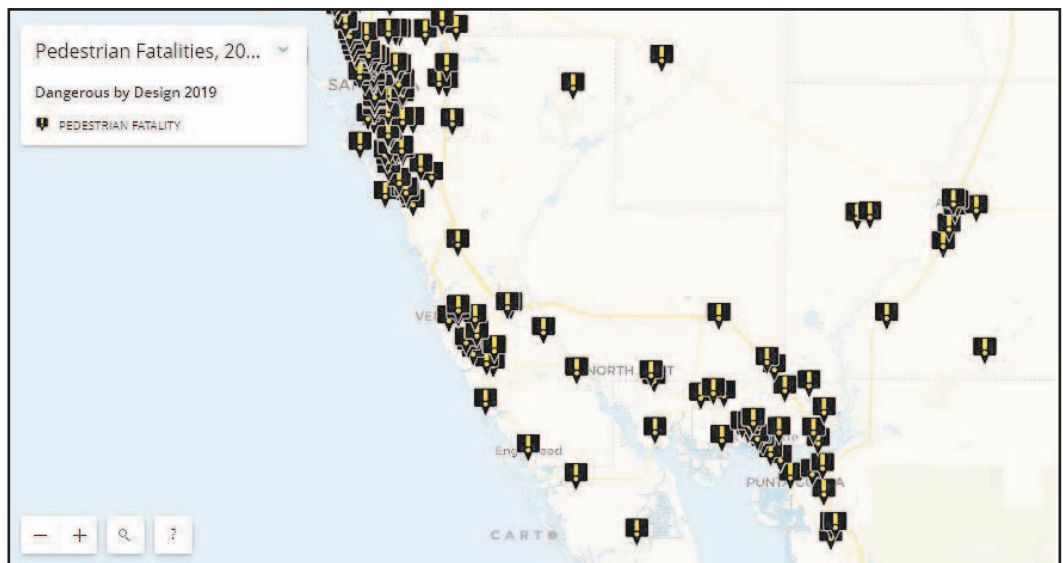
It doesn't end there. An annual average of about 57 crashes with pedestrians unfolded in that time in Charlotte County. In Sarasota County, there were about 146 crashes involving pedestrians where people weren't necessarily injured.

A key recommendation from the study by Smart



SUN PHOTO BY LIZ HARDAWAY

Though Robert Ward said he doesn't know anyone in his neighborhood of Hillsborough Boulevard in Port Charlotte who has been injured due to fast cars, his trash cans have been hit a few times, with one car's mirror even flying off from impact.



MAP PROVIDED

Pedestrian fatalities in the region showing North Port, Port Charlotte, Punta Gorda, Englewood, Venice and Arcadia, which was featured in the Dangerous by Design report for the years 2008 to 2017.

STREETS | 10

“

**There are some places where there are no accidents (with pedestrians)... It's so dangerous, no one walks there."**

— Gary Harrell, Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO director

# Stay off the murals

## Signs, police to deter riding, walking on new PG Harborwalk murals

By **DANIEL SUTPHIN**  
STAFF WRITER

A new mural called "Tails from the Harbor" is being painted along the Punta Gorda Harborwalk under the U.S. 41 southbound bridge, and it's starting to get some real attention from visitors.

But, not always in the right way.

Images of kids riding their bikes on, and people walking on the 76-foot, inclined wall were posted to Facebook recently. That post has since been removed; however, the Punta Gorda Historical Mural Society asked the city for help

in preventing this in the future.

"What happens is before the mural's (surface) is sealed, any kind of walking on it does scrape it up," said Kelly Gaylord, Mural Society president. "We haven't had many issues (with this but) it's a very

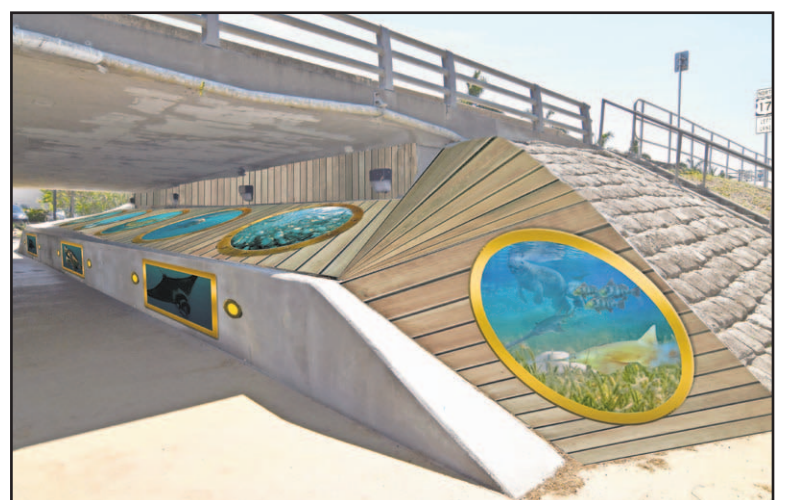


PHOTO RENDERING PROVIDED

A rendering of what murals will look like once they're completed, from the west side of U.S. 41 southbound bridge in Punta Gorda.

MURALS | 8

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**CHARLIE SAYS**  
Watch out for pedestrians!



# SCF Venice is latest beneficiary of Jervey's generosity

Philanthropist is leaving bulk of his estate to school

By **BOB MUDGE**  
STAFF WRITER

WEST VILLAGES — Bill Jervey readily admits he has a thing for libraries.

He's also in a position financially to do things that get his name put on them, like his first real hero, Andrew Carnegie.

First, it was the new Venice Public Library.

On Wednesday, it will be the library at the State College of Florida (SCF) — Venice campus.

The campus' huge lake — it's actually a watershed preserve — will also bear his name.

It goes back to when Jervey was a kid in Hawaii, hanging out at the local library to read books about finance. It's a facility he recently learned had been funded by Carnegie.

His family had moved to Hawaii in 1956 from just outside Washington, D.C., where his father worked at the forerunner to the Federal Aviation Administration.

"I wasn't a beach guy," Jervey said, so he spent his time in the stacks.

He bought his first stock at age 13 — shares of Curtis Publishing, which put out the Saturday Evening Post and the Ladies Home Journal. He made a quick profit and was hooked on investing.

He spent a lot of time in libraries as a student as well, graduating at the top of his class from the University of Hawaii; being awarded a Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship; and then earning master's and doctorate degrees from the

## IF YOU GO

The ceremony recognizing Bill Jervey's gifts to State College of Florida is at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 27, on the Venice campus, 8000 South Tamiami Trail. It's open to the public.

University of Arizona.

He kept investing the whole time.

After a year of teaching at a small college in New Mexico, Jervey decided it was time to act on his long-held dream of moving to Florida. His family had visited Venice in the mid 1950s but a job offer took him to Orlando to teach at Florida Technological University, now the University of Central Florida.

He was there for 13 years before deciding to leave his tenured position at age 37 and make his investing sideline his full-time job.

A week later, coincidentally, the stock market took off in what's sometimes called the "Reagan boom" and in less than a year, Jervey was a millionaire.

He made his way back to Venice as a resident about 10 years ago and decided to use his wealth to do good in the city he has adopted as his home.

His first gift was \$25,000 toward the Lord-Higel House renovation, a matching grant to get the project going again after it had languished for a time. Most often, he said, he likes to donate seed money like that, though he has also pledged \$50,000 as a capping grant to complete this project.

Next, he donated \$15,000 as a challenge grant toward



SUN PHOTO BY BOB MUDGE

**Bill Jervey chats with State College of Florida, Manatee-Sarasota Foundation Executive Director Cassandra Holmes outside the library that now bears his name. He said he wanted the name to be a little different from the one on the William H. Jervey Jr. Venice Public Library.**

acquiring a circus train car to be restored and displayed at the Venice Train Depot.

A million-dollar endowment to the Library Foundation for the benefit of Venice's library was next. He was a regular at the old one, monitoring his portfolio, until it was closed due to mold problems.

"That was like my second home," he said earlier.

Jervey had contemplated a smaller gift but agreed to the larger donation when he learned the facility could be named for him. It opened in December.

The urban forest being created along the east side of the Intracoastal Waterway is a recipient of a donation, too.

## A growing 'family'

More than a year ago, Jervey said he was planning a major gift to "a local institution of higher learning."

His donation to SCF — a substantial gift now and

the bulk of his estate later — has been in the works for a couple of years, he said.

Like many people passing by on U.S. 41, Jervey said he didn't know the school existed, other than from seeing its sign. When he drove in to see it, he fell in love.

"I've been to universities all over the world that didn't have a campus this beautiful," he said.

He was equally impressed with the school's innovative programs, he said, such as the collegiate school that will be opening with a class of 11th-graders in the fall. Graduates will receive both a high school diploma and a two-year college degree.

There's also the Gator Engineering program, a collaboration with the University of Florida. Students take their basic math and science courses at SCF, then move to Gainesville for the engineering curriculum.

That program's "Den" — its study area — is the beneficiary of a capping donation from Jervey.

His estate will fund two endowments: one for students at SCF Venice and collegiate school graduates, one for the SCF Foundation to spend as it wishes.

All together, the gifts represent the largest donation the Foundation has ever received, Executive Director Cassandra Holmes said.

Jervey already sponsored scholarships for Venice High students, including one for the student representative to the city's Historic Preservation Board, but wanted to do something bigger in education.

With all the housing developments in the area around the SCF campus and the baseball complex that will be the center of Florida operations for the Atlanta Braves, "I think this campus is going to explode," he said.

Never married, Jervey said he thinks of the recipients of his major gifts as his children, including the SCF library and lake. "My family is growing," he said.

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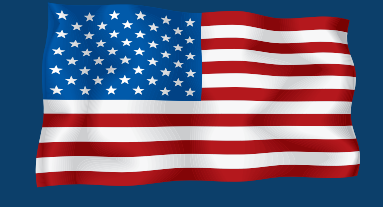
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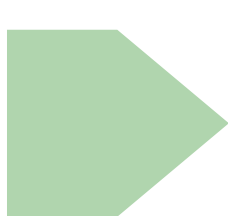
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# Charlotte trash contract goes to hearing

## Commissioners rejected the low bid as too high in December

By **BETSY CALVERT**  
STAFF WRITER

Charlotte County will pay for a mediator in negotiating its next trash service contract. This is for the contract that commissioners rejected in December as having

too steep a jump in price from the existing contract. Commissioners approved the cost of using a mediator — a lawyer — earlier this month. The three-year trash contract is for residential and

commercial properties in the county outside of Punta Gorda, which has its own service. County code requires a mediator and a public hearing for the contract, said County Attorney Janette Knowlton. The contractor must

present their current and proposed schedule of fees, their revenues and projected growth, she said. “It goes before a hearing officer, and they decide whether their rates fees and charges are just, reasonable

and compensable,” Knowlton said. The hearing date has not been set, but would likely be soon, Knowlton said. It will be a public hearing. Two companies bid on trash service this year. The low bid was from the current

contractor, Pompano Beach-based Waste Management, Inc. The increase would cost households an extra \$115 a year. Commissioners asked county staff to work with the contractor for other options. *Email: betsy.calvert@yoursun.com*

# Beach Road wreck victims identified

By **STEVE REILLY**  
STAFF WRITER

ENGLEWOOD — The Florida Highway Patrol hasn't concluded its investigation of the three-vehicle wreck on Beach Road Thursday, but troopers released the names of the motorists Friday. Two of the three motorists have out-of-state licenses. FHP identified Nancy Robertson, 86, as one of the out-of-state license holders. The Tennessee woman sustained multiple leg fractures and was airlifted from the scene in

critical condition. A second driver was identified as Patrick James Smith, 42, who was issued a Massachusetts license. He reportedly refused medical treatment. FHP identified the third driver as Judith Ann Wheeler, 72, who was issued a Florida driver's license. She, too, was airlifted after the wreck. Her condition was unknown, according to FHP reports. FHP identified the three sedans involved in the wreck: a 2004 white Cadillac, a leased 2018 black Nissan, a Hertz rental 2019

silver Chevrolet sedan. However, troopers didn't identify Friday which motorist drove what vehicle. The FHP received the 911 call at 1:17 p.m. Thursday but did not complete the on-scene investigation until 9:51 p.m. Two of the three vehicles hit head-on, while the third was rear-ended at the foot of the Tom Adams Bridge on Manasota Key, according to FHP and other reports. The force of the accident caused a wheel to fly off one of the vehicles into a bicyclist warning sign on the side of the road. Charlotte County

Sheriff's deputies shut down Beach Road vehicle traffic for hours. Beach Road is the route between mainland Englewood and Manasota Key. The only other roadway on and off the barrier island is Manasota Beach Road, six miles north of Beach Road. Southbound traffic on State Road 776 backed up for nearly a mile Thursday while emergency officials responded to the crash. FHP reopened the Beach Road shortly after 4 p.m. Thursday. The FHP expects to conclude its investigation and issue a report next week. *Email: reilly@sun-herald.com*



SUN FILE PHOTO BY STEVE REILLY

A three-car wreck on Beach Road Feb. 21 was violent enough to send a wheel from one of the cars flying into a pedestrian warning sign at the foot of the Tom Adams Bridge.

# Woman dies in Desoto crash Saturday

A woman from Port St. Lucie died Saturday in a single vehicle crash along State Road 70 in Desoto County, according to Florida Highway Patrol. Linda Wood, 68, was riding as a passenger in a 1997 Mercury driven by David Wood, 64, of Port St. Lucie. David Wood was seriously injured and taken to Desoto Memorial Hospital, according to FHP. Linda Wood was also taken Desoto Memorial but did not survive. According to FHP, the crash happened around 8:30 a.m., west of SE Highlands County Line Road. The vehicle was traveling west on State Road 70, but traveled onto the northern shoulder of the road, became airborne, and collided with a canal embankment, according to FHP.

## POLICE BEAT

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

- Kristina Lee Reilly, 33, of Venice, Fla. Charges: out of county warrant, failure to appear, and underlying charge. Bond: \$6,070.
- Daniel Tritto, 59, of Spring Hill, Fla. Charge: knowingly driving while license suspended or revoked. Bond: \$3,000.
- Shawn Matthew Carlson, 27, 21400 block of Ironton Ave., Port Charlotte. Charge: violation of probation or community control. Bond: none.
- Kimberly Anne King, 55, 17100 block of Toledo Blade, Port Charlotte. Charge: violation of probation or community control. Bond: none.
- James Robert Porter, 46, of Perioa, Ill. Charge: DUI. Bond: \$5,000.
- Demarco Lee Tibbetts, 35, 5300 block of Sago Plam Rd., North Port. Charge: possession of not more than 20 grams of marijuana. Bond: \$2,500.
- Ronald Dean Moore, 61, 1800 block of Okolona St., North Port. Charge: DUI damage to property or person. Bond: \$3,000.
- Omar Pulgarin, 27, of Nocatee, Fla. Charge: battery by intentional touch or strike. Bond: \$5,000.
- Joseph Patrick O'Neil Debelle, 39, of Miami, Fla. Charge: battery on officer/firefighter/E.M.T. Bond: \$15,000.
- William Joseph Larson III, 31, 1600 block of Maryknoll Rd., Englewood. Charges: violation of probation or community control, two counts of possession of a controlled substance without a prescription, possession of not more than 20 grams of marijuana, and possession or use of drug paraphernalia. Bond: \$14,000.
- Stuart Ray Middleton, 41, 2800 block of 12th St., Englewood. Charge: simple assault. Bond: \$3,000.
- Jonathan Aaron Blid, 37, 9300 block of Catherine Ave., Englewood. Charges: tampering with or fabricating physical evidence, fleeing or attempting to elude LEO, and knowingly driving while license suspended or revoked. Bond: \$8,000.
- Daniel Garret Frank Boccia, 36, of Duneeden, Fla. Charge: out of county warrant. Bond: none.
- Domingo Cruz Diaz, 42, of Clear Water, Fla. Charge: operating a motor vehicle without a valid license. Bond: \$3,000.

The Punta Gorda Police Department reported the following arrests: • Charles Backus Moore, 32, 2400 block of Conway Blvd., Port Charlotte. Charges: disorderly intoxication and violation of probation or community control. Bond: \$3,000. • Lisa Ann Anderson, 59, of Travercity, MI. Charge: battery by intentional touch or strike. Bond: \$2,000. *Email: Liz.Hardaway@yoursun.com*

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<p><b>PORT CHARLOTTE/PUNTA GORDA - THE ANIMAL WELFARE LEAGUE - 3519 Drance St. (941) 625-6720</b></p>	<p><b>DE SOTO COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER (863) 993-4855</b></p>
<p><b>ENGLEWOOD - SUNCOAST HUMANE SOCIETY - 6781 San Casa Dr. (941) 474-7884</b></p>	<p><b>ENGLEWOOD - EARS ANIMAL RESCUE SOCIETY - 145 W. Dearborn St. (941) 475-0636</b></p>

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING MATTERS: PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE FUTURE LAND USE MAP AND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ELEMENTS, DEVELOPMENTS OF REGIONAL IMPACT OR CHANGES THERETO, REZONINGS, PRELIMINARY AND FINAL PLATS, STREET AND PLAT VACATIONS, DRC FINAL DETAIL PLANS OR CHANGES THERETO, TEXT AMENDMENTS AND STREET NAMING

A PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSALS AND PETITIONS AS DESCRIBED BELOW WILL BE CONDUCTED BY THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD ON MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2019, at 1:30 P.M. OR AS SOON THEREAFTER AS THE MATTER MAY BE HEARD DURING THE COURSE OF ACTION. THE HEARING WILL BE HELD IN COMMISSION CHAMBERS, ROOM 119, FIRST FLOOR, BUILDING A, THE CHARLOTTE COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER, 18500 MURDOCK CIRCLE, PORT CHARLOTTE, FLORIDA. THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD IS NOT BOUND TO CONSIDER THE PETITIONS IN THE ORDER LISTED IN THIS NOTICE. ANY OF THESE PETITIONS MAY BE CONSIDERED AS SOON AS THE MEETING COMMENCES.

COPIES OF SAID PETITIONS WITH COMPLETE LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS AND SUBSEQUENT STAFF REPORTS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW AT THE CHARLOTTE COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (18400 MURDOCK CIRCLE) AND ALL CHARLOTTE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES. ADOBE PORTABLE DOCUMENT FORMAT (.pdf) FILES OF ALL PETITION PACKETS AND AN AGENDA WILL BE PLACED AT THE FOLLOWING INTERNET ADDRESS: <http://www.charlottecountyfl.gov/boards-committees/pz/Pages/Meeting-Agendas.aspx>

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE URGED TO ATTEND THESE PUBLIC HEARINGS. THE PUBLIC IS WELCOME TO SPEAK; THERE WILL BE A FIVE-MINUTE TIME LIMIT FOR EACH CITIZEN'S PRESENTATION ON AN AGENDA ITEM. IF YOU HAVE SPECIFIC QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS, YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO CONTACT A STAFF PERSON AT ANY TIME IN ADVANCE OF THE PUBLIC HEARING(S). PLEASE CALL 941-764-4903 AND MENTION THE PETITION NUMBER OF THE MATTER YOU WISH TO DISCUSS.

### PETITION

#### PV-19-01-01

#### Legislative

#### Commission District II

P.G.B.K. Properties, LLC is requesting to vacate a portion of the Amended Plat Of South Punta Gorda Heights And Its First Addition Subdivision, including a one-block segment of Saint Pierre Road, a total of 11.77 acres, more or less, as recorded in Plat Book 5, Pages 17A-17C, of the Public Records of Charlotte County, Florida, and located south and west of U.S. Highway 41, north of First Avenue, and east of Payne Street, in Section 34, Township 41, Range 23, in Commission District II.

SHOULD ANY AGENCY OR PERSON DECIDE TO APPEAL ANY DECISION MADE BY THE BOARD WITH RESPECT TO ANY MATTER CONSIDERED AT SUCH MEETING, A RECORD OF THE PROCEEDING, AND FOR SUCH PURPOSE, A VERBATIM RECORD OF THE PROCEEDING IS REQUIRED, WHICH RECORD INCLUDES THE TESTIMONY AND EVIDENCE UPON WHICH THE APPEAL IS TO BE BASED.

Charlotte County Board of County Commissioners does not discriminate on the basis of disability. This nondiscrimination policy involves every aspect of the County's functions, including access to and participation in meetings, programs and activities. FM Sound Enhancement Units for the Hearing Impaired are available at the Front Security Desk, Building A of the Murdock Administration Complex. Anyone needing other reasonable accommodation or auxiliary aids and services please contact our office at 941.764.4191, TDD/TTY 941.743.1234, or by email to [David.Lyles@CharlotteCountyFL.gov](mailto:David.Lyles@CharlotteCountyFL.gov)

Publish: February 24, 2019

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# VIEWPOINT

## OUR VIEW

### Governor right to push ahead with drug imports

**OUR POSITION:** Ask a Canadian snowbird about drug prices north of the border. What key policy do conservative Republican Gov. Ron DeSantis and independent/progressive Sen. Bernie Sanders agree on? That U.S. citizen should have access to lower-cost prescription drugs from neighbor-to-the-north Canada.

DeSantis told a crowd in The Villages Wednesday he would work to overcome federal roadblocks to citizens eager to import prescription medication from Canada. According to news reports, the announcement was met with enthusiastic cheers in the Republican stronghold.

Also critical, DeSantis said he'd spoken with President Trump about the matter. Trump also was enthusiastic about the possibility of lowering health care costs for both government and consumers through what should be a relatively simple action.

Include us in the cheering section.

This is a sensible move, something that Canadian snowbirds fully recognize. It's a market bargain-hunting U.S. residents have tapped into for years now, although it is, technically, not permitted.

Consider some numbers. The average price for patented prescription drugs is three times higher in the United States than Canada. According to The Commonwealth Fund, Americans spent \$1,011 per capita for pharmaceuticals in 2015, compared to \$669 per capita for Canadians.

As for individual medications, the monthly cost of the cholesterol drug Crestor is \$86 in the U.S., after an average discount of \$129; the same Crestor costs \$32 in Canada.

Lantus (a form of insulin used by diabetics) costs \$186 here (with a \$186 discount); \$67 north of the border. Advair (for asthma) costs \$155 monthly in the U.S. (with a \$155 discount), and \$74 in Canada. Sovaldi (used to treat hepatitis C) is a whopping \$17,000 monthly (with an average discount of \$12,300) in the U.S., and \$14,943 in Canada.

We could continue through the most-used medications in the United States, but you get the idea.

Canadian drugs are cheaper. Drugs in all other developed nations are cheaper because the United States does not regulate or negotiate prices of new prescription medications that enter the market, according to the Vox new site. The Canadian government won't approve a drug unless it deems the cost to be reasonable.

That means the price of Humira, say, or Crestor, or Advair is lower. Same drug. Smaller cost.

Back to Sanders: His state, Vermont, was the first state in the U.S. to pass a law allowing the importation of Canadian prescription drugs last year. Problem is, the federal government hasn't signed off, as it must.

DeSantis wants the Legislature to do something similar. But the Republican governor has a key ally: the Republican president.

The governor also promised there would be "appropriate regulatory steps in place" to protect Florida citizens. The pharmaceutical industry so far has used its money and influence to fight off all such measures, under the guise of consumer protection.

Bunk. This is a smart, targeted initiative: a cheaper alternative for those in need. It deserves cheers.

## BEST DIRECTOR AND ACTOR

IN A HATE CRIME HOAX



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Not a big fan of 'Young Sheldon'

Editor:

Is it any wonder that there is violence in schools, because today's youth have such poor role models on television?

Recently, for example, I had the displeasure of watching an episode of "Young Sheldon," a "comedy" about a 10-year-old genius in high school and his adjustment to life in taking advanced classes. In the episode I saw Sheldon makes friends with the school bully, to save his older brother from being beaten up.

Encouraged with his success, he tries making friends with another bully, only to cause a fight. Sheldon, turns up with a sling shot, and a rock, takes aim and fires the rock at the bully. Then runs. Unfazed, the bully hunts Sheldon down and puts him in his locker.

If this was an actual situation, Sheldon would be expelled from school and possibly put in juvenile hall, genius or not.

I fail to see the humor in someone being hit by a rock. That is certainly assault and battery. And if only one person imitates this character's behavior, then the networks would be more than justified by cancelling the show.

If you want good comedy see the film "Stan & Ollie." Leave "Young Sheldon" alone.

**Max Kramer Goodall II**  
North Port

### Fare thee well old friend Joe

Editor:

Recently, a good friend, passed away. That's a common-enough happening, considering our "age group" in Charlotte County and, nearby.

But "what" makes this something "noteworthy" is that this wonderful, curmudgeonly, cantankerous but always "the gentleman" was this. He refused to have his obituary published and, this, two weeks later, seems to be so.

Why? Well, in our disagreements (over various issues of no consequence) as I might quote something from a newspaper, near or far, he would quip, "What! That communist rag!" Didn't matter that it may have been a renowned journalist.

But here's the thing: My friend never belittled or showed disrespect. Just, disagreed, saying, "What can

you expect from a communist rag?" Ergo, no obit.

As he sat and drank his Budweiser at the bar, he might regale those nearby with a "corrected" fact. I'm going to miss that. I am sure many others shall, also.

Here's to you, Joe Diddick.

**Patrick Dickson**  
Port Charlotte

### Hold council meetings in the evening

Editor:

To the Punta Gorda mayor, City Council, city manager and staff:

It is way beyond time for you to vote on changing the time of City Council meetings from 9 a.m. to evening meetings. I suggest 6:30 p.m.

This change, as you know, would provide working class folks an opportunity to express their opinions on agenda items and, more importantly, would finally provide you the opportunity to hear and address a greater number of citizen/taxpayer concerns.

As it stands now, you only hear the opinions, wants and dissatisfactions of PGI folks who, as most of us know, are retired, and privileged.

If you refuse to bring this to a vote, if you claim some legal mumbo jumbo inhibits you from acting, or if you vote to continue the status quo, be assured most of us will undoubtedly understand your reasoning.

Furthermore, by not voting, your expressed intention to be "inclusive" will be, well, you decide.

**Ronna James**  
Punta Gorda

### Congress must act on 'national emergency'

Editor:

Donald Trump's fake national emergency is a direct attack on our democracy. The Constitution's separation of powers clause gives each of our three branches of government a system of checks and balances on the other two branches. Trump violated this provision by refusing to seeking the advice and consent of Congress prior to declaring his national emergency.

It is critical that Congress rein in this executive overreach of the rule of law. Congress is obligated to check Executive Branch abuses, and there is a clear path for them to do this.

First, the National

Emergencies Act provides a procedure for Congress to terminate a state of emergency by passing a resolution. Although this procedure has never been used, now is the time to act. Secondly, with their new oversight powers, House Democrats can immediately schedule hearings and investigations into this illegal power grab. They should do so ASAP.

And we, as voters, can aid in this process. Call or write your U.S. Congressional representative, Greg Steube or Vern Buchanan. Tell him to vote to end this phony national emergency, protect our democracy, and reestablish the rule of law.

**Karen J. Fisk**  
Rotonda West

### Too many contractors acting improperly

Editor:

I need to speak about contractor deceitfulness. This occurs quite often in Florida and I would like to educate the public with my experience.

The more I speak to people around town, this has occurred to more than we know. Contractors are taking advantage of the public for profit, leaving us to search for legal consultation. Those of us who are attempting to make this community more beautified are being taken advantage of. What to be aware of.

This unfortunate experience has left my husband and myself in a very large debt. I honestly believe our experience could help others faced with the same issues.

**Maria Moniz**  
Englewood

### What's needed is term limits

Editor:

I have been taking your paper for seven years and have read most of the letters to editor. It appears to me that most of the people are very one-sided.

I will keep it very simple. I think our politicals are a disgrace. I think the people running for office can play as dirty as they like until the election is over, but when they have won they need to go to Washington and forget their party and get their heads together and solve the problems of the U.S.

I think all they worry about is winning the next election and keeping the party in power. I think that they have made the House and Senate jobs so good

they will almost anything to stay in office.

That is one very good reasons to put in term limits.

**Rodney Cannon**  
Punta Gorda

### Missed opportunity for NYC development

Editor:

Boy, talk about shooting yourself in the foot. The protesters in New York who object to Amazon getting tax breaks or economic incentives have killed the goose. Now some other lucky state and city will benefit.

Where were those protesters when sports stadiums received huge incentives? In this case we are talking about jobs and tax revenue and economic vitality.

I have never been a fan of bribing business to come to any area. The benefits to both sides should be all that is necessary. But we have evolved into a practice of incentivizing business. And we have a segment of our population who, in the absence of an understanding of the business world, oppose businesses based on the belief that "businesses are too wealthy." Driving away business based on erroneous beliefs is (to be kind) misguided.

This is a great opportunity for a public discussion and education.

**Jean Arcamone**  
Englewood

### Mosaic, DeSoto square off April 3

Editor:

In July 2018 the Board of County Commissioners of DeSoto County voted to deny Mosaic's request to rezone 14,000 acres from farming to mining. Mosaic has requested an appeal to dispute this resolution. The date for this public mediation is Wednesday, April 3, beginning at 9 a.m. in the DeSoto Administration Building, 1st Floor Boardroom, 201 East Oak St., Arcadia.

Charlotte County definitely has an environmental interest in any decision concerning Mosaic, especially for a county that borders us.

I would strongly urge Charlotte County citizens, organized groups, and elected officials (Punta Gorda City Council members and county commissioners) to attend this important meeting.

**Jane Merriam**  
Punta Gorda

## HOW TO SUBMIT A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Letters are welcome on virtually any subject, but we do have some rules. Please keep them to less than 250 words. Letters will be edited to length as well as for grammar and spelling. All letters must be signed with full name — not initials. An address and telephone number must be included. The phone number and address are not for publication, but must be provided. Due to the number of letters received, we are able to run only one letter per person per month.

The Letters to the Editor section is designed as a public forum for community discourse, and the opinions and statements made in letters are solely those of the individual writers. The newspaper takes no responsibility for the content of these letters. Please send or bring correspondence to the Sun, Letters to the Editor, 23170 Harborview Road, Charlotte Harbor, FL 33980. Readers may email Letters to the Editor at letters@sun-herald.com. Further questions or information, call 941-681-3003.



# Thou shall read this and hopefully comply

Rules are a necessity, I think we can all agree. Otherwise, this crazy world would be a whole lot more crazier than it is, so I reckon we ought to be thankful for them.

Today I'd like to present some new rules that need enforcing in the worst kind of way, even if they're not written. On second thought, they're written as of today, in this column.

We're all familiar with the Ten Commandments and are familiar with the definition of the haves and the have nots. I call



Grits & Pieces

**Luke WILSON**

mine the shalls and the shall nots, and though they're not inscribed on stone tablets, they ought to be. Here's a dozen for you:

Thou shall not walk around with thy britches pulled down so low that thy underpants are exposed to the world. Penalty for such

behavior may result in an atomic wedgie.

Thou shall use turn signals when driving. Nearby drivers are not mind-readers, thou knowest.

Thou shall not create and perpetuate drama on Facebook by posting cryptic lamentations that beseech others to ask what ails thee. Knock it off, or risk being deleted.

Thou shall not use cellphones during family dinners. That is just plain rude and, besides, thy phone may get all greasy if thou art eating

fried chicken.

Thou shall chew with thy mouth closed. Nobody wants or needs to see the mess thy teeth have ground food into, nor hear the smacking racket it makes. Eww.

Thou shall not leave the toilet-paper roll empty without replacing it with a fresh roll. Failure to do so will ensure that thee will find it empty some day, when thou art most deserving.

Thou shall respect thy parents and elders. Otherwise, thy children and grandchildren will

learn such behavior and impart it to thee.

Thou shall not talk during theater movies, nor when watching television with others, except during commercials. Hold thy comments and thy tongue.

Thou shall refrain from sharing spoilers in regards to movie or book endings. Jumping the gun may result in thee being jumped thyself.

Thou shall not text while driving, lest thee risk meeting thy maker too soon.

Alas.

Thou shall wash thy hands before exiting restrooms, especially in dining establishments. Those failing to comply need to be scourged and forced to eat liver in exile for the rest of thy days.

Thou shall not put sugar on grits.

Woe be unto those who do, and may infestations and plagues be upon those who do.

These are but a few, but implementation and enforcement of all this just might bless this mess we call life here on earth. Amen.

# When faith helped me remember how to live

Adapted from a sermon delivered at Washington National Cathedral on Feb. 17, 2019.

When the Dean of the Washington National Cathedral and I were conspiring about when I might speak, I think he mentioned Feb. 3 as a possibility. A sermon by me on that date would have been considerably less interesting because I was, at that point, hospitalized for depression. Or maybe it would have been more interesting, though less coherent.

Like nearly one in 10 Americans — and like many of you — I live with this insidious, chronic disease. Depression is a malfunction in the instrument we use to determine reality. The brain experiences a chemical imbalance and wraps a narrative around it. So the lack of serotonin, in the mind's alchemy, becomes something like, "Everybody hates me." Over time, despair can grow inside you like a tumor.

I would encourage anyone with this malady to keep a journal. At the bottom of my recent depression, I did a plus and minus, a pro and con, of me. Of being myself. The plus side, as you'd imagine, was short. The minus side included the most frightful clichés: "You are a burden to your friends." "You have no future." "No one would miss you."

The scary thing is that these things felt completely true when I wrote them. At that moment, realism seemed to require hopelessness.

But then you reach your breaking point — and do not break. With patience and the right medicine, the fog in your brain begins to thin. If you are lucky, as I was, you encounter doctors and nurses who know parts of your mind better



Washington Post

**Michael GERSON**

than you do. There are friends who run into the burning building of your life to rescue you, and acquaintances who become friends. You meet other patients, from entirely different backgrounds, who share your symptoms, creating a community of the wounded. And you learn of the valor they show in lonely rooms.

Over time, you begin to see hints and glimmers of a larger world outside the prison of your sadness. The conscious mind takes hold of some shred of beauty or love. And then more shreds, until you begin to think maybe, just maybe, there is something better on the far side of despair.

I have no doubt that I will eventually repeat the cycle of depression. But now I have some self-knowledge that can't be taken away. I know that — when I'm in my right mind — I choose hope.

That phrase — "in my right mind" — is harsh. No one would use it in a clinical setting. But it fits my experience exactly.

- In my right mind — when I am rested and fed, medicated and caffeinated — I know that I was living within a dismal lie.

- In my right mind, I know I have friends who will not forsake me.

- In my right mind, I know that chemistry need not be destiny.

- In my right mind, I know that weeping may endure for the night, but joy comes in the morning.

I think this medical condition works as a metaphor for the human condition.

All of us — whatever

our natural serotonin level — look around us and see plenty of reason for doubt, anger and sadness. A child dies, a woman is abused, a schoolyard becomes a killing field, a typhoon sweeps away the innocent. If we knew or felt the whole of human suffering, we would drown in despair. By all objective evidence, we are arrogant animals, headed for the extinction that is the way of all things. We imagine that we are like gods, and still drop dead like flies on the windowsill.

The answer to the temptation of nihilism is not an argument — though philosophy can clear away a lot of intellectual foolishness. It is the experience of transcendence we cannot explain, or explain away. It is the fragments of love and meaning that arrive out of the blue — in beauty that leaves a lump in your throat, in the peace and ordered complexity of nature, in the shadow and shimmer of a cathedral, in the unexplained wonder of existence itself.

I have one friend, John, who finds God's hidden hand in the habits and coloring of birds. My friend Catherine, when her first child was born, discovered what she calls "a love much greater than evolution requires." I like that. "A love much greater than evolution requires."

My own experience is tied to this place. Let me turn to an earlier, happier part of my journals, from May 2, 2002:

"It has probably been a month," I wrote, "since some prompting of God led me to a more disciplined Christian life. One afternoon I was led to the Cathedral, the place I feel most secure in the world. I saw the beautiful sculpture in the Bishop's Garden — the prodigal son melting into his father's arms — and the

inscription how he fell on his neck, and kissed him. I felt tears and calm, like something important had happened to me and in me. ... My goals are pretty clear. I want to stop thinking about myself all the time. I want to be a mature disciple of Jesus, not a casual believer. I want to be God's man."

I have failed at these goals in a disturbing variety of ways. And I have more doubts than I did on that day. These kinds of experiences may result from inspiration ... or indigestion. Your brain may be playing tricks. Or you may be feeling the beating heart of the universe. Faith, thankfully, does not preclude doubt. It consists of staking your life on the rumor of grace.

This experience of pulling back the curtain of materiality, and briefly seeing the landscape of a broader world, comes in many forms. It can be religious and nonreligious, Christian and non-Christian. We sometimes search for a hidden door when the city has a hundred open gates. But there is this difference for a Christian believer: At the end of all our striving and longing we find, not a force, but a face. All language about God is metaphorical. But the metaphor became flesh and dwelt among us.

Becoming alert to this reality might be called "enlightenment," or the work of the Holy Ghost, or "conversion." There really is no formula. Historically, there was Paul's blinding light on the road to Damascus. There was Augustine, instructed by the voice of a child to "take up and read." There was Pascal sewing into his jacket: "Since about half-past ten in the evening until about half-past midnight. FIRE.

Certitude. Feeling. Joy. Peace." There was Teresa of Avila encountering the suffering Christ with an "outpouring of tears." There was John Wesley's heart becoming "strangely warmed."

Here is how G.K. Chesterton described this experience in a poem called "The Convert":

"The sages have a hundred maps to give

That trace their crawling cosmos like a tree,

They rattle reason out through many a sieve

That stores the sand and lets the gold go free:

And all these things are less than dust to me

Because my name is Lazarus and I live."

It is impossible for anyone but saints to live always on that mountaintop. I suspect that there are people here today — and I include myself — who are stalked by sadness, or stalked by anger. We are afraid of the mortality that is knit into our bones. We experience unearned suffering, or give unreturned love, or cry useless tears. And many of us eventually grow weary of ourselves — tired of our own sour company.

At some point, willed cheerfulness fails. Or we skim along the surface of our lives, afraid of what lies in the depths below. It is a way to cope, but no way to live.

I'd urge anyone with undiagnosed depression to seek out professional help. There is no way to will yourself out of this disease, any more than to will yourself out of tuberculosis.

There are, however, other forms of comfort. Those who hold to the wild hope of a living God can say certain things:

- In our right minds

— as our most sane and solid selves — we know that the appearance of a universe ruled by cruel chaos is a lie and that the cold void is actually a sheltering sky.

- In our right minds, we know that life is not a farce but a pilgrimage — or maybe a farce and a pilgrimage, depending on the day.

- In our right minds, we know that hope can grow within us — like a seed, like a child.

- In our right minds, we know that transcendence sparks and crackles around us — in a blinding light, and a child's voice, and fire, and tears, and a warmed heart, and a sculpture just down the hill — if we open ourselves to seeing it.

Fate may do what it wants. But this much is settled. In our right minds, we know that love is at the heart of all things.

Many, understandably, pray for a strength they do not possess. But God's promise is somewhat different: That even when strength fails, there is perseverance. And even when perseverance fails, there is hope. And even when hope fails, there is love. And love never fails.

So how do we know this? How can anyone be so confident?

Because we are Lazarus, and we live. Michael Gerson's email address is michaelgerson@washpost.com.

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# Winchester woes on Sarasota County radar

## North Port, Englewood residents complained about road conditions

By **WARREN RICHARDSON**  
SUN CORRESPONDENT

**NORTH PORT** — Complaints by Englewood and North Port residents about the bumpy ride along Winchester Boulevard have reached the ears of Sarasota County decision-makers.

And Tuesday could see the start of eventual relief coming for those who use the road.

Sarasota County Administrator Jonathan Lewis will ask the county commissioners during his report Tuesday to add \$5 million to the county's 2019 budget to repave the deteriorating road between

River Road and the county line, a total of three miles.

That request will also include the four lanes of River Road near the intersection with Winchester.

Charlotte County repaved its portion of the road within the last two years.

According to county documents, if commissioners approve Lewis' request Tuesday, the estimated schedule to complete the project is nine months, which also includes design work and the procurement process to choose a contractor.

If the River Road portion is eliminated, the estimated timeline shortens to

eight months according to county documents.

The repaving project is not included in the county's current five-year capital improvements plan, but with a rating of 43 out of 100 possible points, and pot holes continuing, county officials feel the urgency to take action.

County traffic studies indicated an annual average daily traffic count of 9,647 vehicles enduring the bone-rattling conditions every day.

"This area is of highest concern due to its current degraded condition and traffic volume," Spencer Anderson, the county's

Public Works director, wrote in a memo to commissioners explaining the issues.

Commissioners will meet Tuesday and Wednesday in commission chambers at the County Administration Center, 1660 Ringling Blvd., Sarasota. The meetings will begin at 9 a.m.

Access Sarasota TV will also televise the meetings, and agendas are available at [www.scgov.net](http://www.scgov.net) by clicking on Meetings and Agendas under the Services tab. For more information, residents can also call the county's Call Center at 941-861-5000. *Email: [jondaltonwr@gmail.com](mailto:jondaltonwr@gmail.com)*



SUN FILE PHOTO BY STEVE REILLY

**Residents complaining about Winchester Road between North Port and Englewood have reached Sarasota County Commissioners — who are going to discuss the roadway Tuesday at their next meeting.**

# Turn lane into planned Sunseeker area coming

## Rebuilt Main Street to get a right turn lane off U.S. 41

By **BETSY CALVERT**  
STAFF WRITER

The state is building a right turn lane on U.S. 41 onto the Sunseeker-built Main Street just before

the southbound bridge over Charlotte Harbor.

To allow construction crews to work, Florida Department of Transportation announced it will be

intermittently closing southbound lanes from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. weekdays for the project. Closed lanes will be from Oakley Street to Main Street. Las Vegas-based

Allegiant Travel Company, which is about to construct the Sunseeker Resort, rebuilt the old Main Street as part of the deal to rezone 22 acres along the waterfront.

Charlotte County still owns Main Street. Work there is ongoing and Main Street is not yet open for traffic.

Sunseeker property is located immediately

south of Main Street and is currently a largely cleared landscape of dirt, rubble and construction equipment.

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## MURALS

FROM PAGE 1

delicate situation. I think it will take care of itself (in the long run)."

The city complied with the society's request and is in the process of developing signage and other deterrents, according to City Communications Manager Melissa Reichert.

"We were made aware of the concerns with people climbing on and riding bikes on the mural (Monday)," wrote Reichert in an email to the *Sun*.

"Police Chief Pam Davis directed foot patrols to look for and discourage climbing on the murals and suggested that signage be put into place directing people not to climb on the murals."

Most days, Harborwalk visitors can find artist Skip Dyrda on site, crafting his waterfront piece. He is also responsible for "Our First Firehouse" located at Punta Gorda Fire Station No. 1 (1410 Tamiami Trail) and "Ladies Remembered" at The Bayside Eye Center (314 N. Tamiami Trail).

Work on the new harbor

mural has slowed in recent weeks because of cold and rainy weather. Dyrda estimates the project will be done by the end of March, according to Gaylord.

"All our murals capture a slice of our history," Gaylord said. "The marine life in the harbor has played a major role in the settlement and development of Punta Gorda."

Dyrda began painting the mural on Jan. 8. He designed the work based on the shape and size of the wall, and the location along the harbor. The mural surface is the new

retaining wall constructed after the walk was widened in 2017, according to a Mural Society press release.

It's not the typical straight vertical wall the nonprofit is used to developing but, rather, angled with a 40-percent downward grade slope. It measures 76 feet in length and the total surface is just over 1,100 sq. ft. in size.

"I think it's a great design for this wall and will add to the Harborwalk experience," Gaylord said. "The artist likes to add small objects and animals to his

murals that you might not see the first time you look at it. This draws you in to take a closer look."

The mural will depict a variety of local fish, dolphins and other sea life.

"Fish was the major source of food for the natives for thousands of years and the reason the Spanish established fishing 'ranchos' in Punta Gorda to harvest the fish and send it back to their settlements in the Caribbean. Fishing has (also) been the area's major industry for many years," Gaylord said. "We hope the mural will not only provide

a lesson in our area's history but also inspire conservation of our fragile marine environment by highlighting species that are no longer here or in much less numbers."

The Mural Society is a nonprofit. All the money for the Harborwalk mural comes from donations, Gaylord said.

"The fundraising is complete," Gaylord said, "and we've raised all the money for the mural through individual donations and six sponsors."

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## FRAUD

FROM PAGE 1

HD Custom Homes owners Stephen Dukes and Matt Harden put their Englewood homes up for sale. Harden surrendered his construction license to the state. Dukes is still a licensed Realtor who can sell homes through a new corporation.

### What the legislation does ...

Grant's proposed House Bill 877 and an identical bill SB-1092 filed by Sen. Ben Albritton (R-Bartow), who represents parts of Charlotte County, amends the current state law. It changes criminal penalties for fraud offenses. It revises the maximum amount of a prospective buyer's deposit for a residential dwelling that must be put in escrow.

It doesn't allow a prospective customer to waive the right to have the deposit put in escrow. It requires escrow of certain payments received for the improvement of real property. The provision says a person, firm, corporation, agent, officer or employee who receives any payment on real property more than five percent of the project's cost must put the payment in an escrow account with a savings and loan association, bank or trust.

The proposal is also aimed at better protecting subcontractors.

According to the proposed language, a Florida Bar licensed attorney "must" give a certified letter detailing the amount and date of any payments made to subcontractors out of the payment received within 30 days after the receipt of payment.

All withdrawals from the account "shall require the signatures of both the building contractor or developer and the buyer or the buyer's agent," the new language specifies.

The new language removes the additional month a customer has to wait to file a complaint if the work isn't started after 90 days.

If the newly proposed law passes, contractors who collect money, but don't start the work on permits pulled for "any" 90 day period, face a third-degree felony for permits less than \$20,000; a second-degree felony for \$20,000 to \$49,999 and a first-degree felony for receiving \$50,000 or more. If the amount of payments misapplied has an aggregate value of less than \$1,000, the violator commits a third-degree felony.

Grant and Fox said under the current state statutes it's difficult to prosecute contractors who do repair, restoration, addition, improvement, or construction work of residential property, with the intent to defraud the owner, fail or refuse to perform any work for any 90-day period.

It's why they deleted the "intent requirement" for contractor fraud offenses. They said it's

nearly impossible to prove "beyond a reasonable doubt" if the contractor at the time of the sale didn't plan to build a house or a pool when taking deposits or full payments from customers.

Dukes told some of his HD Custom Homes customers he merely "ran out of money" he collected from them to finish their homes. He blamed the rising cost of supplies after Hurricane Irma in September 2017. Customers challenged him saying he took his family on lavish vacations and cruises and threw company parties which were posted on social media. Hardin, Dukes' business partner, was spotted in Facebook posts while on Key West diving excursions.

The language says the contractor "must give proper notification" via a certified letter that includes the reason for termination of the contract or the failure to perform sent return receipt requested, mailed to the last address on the contracting agreement.

The provisions says a state attorney or the statewide prosecutor, upon the filing of an indictment or information against a contractor, subcontractor,



FILE PHOTO BY ELAINE ALLEN-EMRICH

**Phil Jeleniewski, a 73-year-old Vietnam veteran, shows a signed contract he had with HD Custom Homes. He and his wife Diane gave HD Custom Homes \$10,000 in deposits in April. They sold their home up north before learning no permits were pulled to begin construction of their new home here.**

or sub-subcontractor — which charges such person with a violation — shall send a copy of the case to the Department of Business and Professional Regulation. The Department of Business and Professional Regulation "shall promptly open an investigation."

If probable cause is found, the investigative report is sent back to the

state attorney and the property owner. Currently, customers are not informed of investigations.

If the bill is passed, the new laws would take effect July 1.

While none of the provisions are retroactive to protect former HD Custom Homes customers, many are working with the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office who moved forward investigating nearly two dozen complaints.

Some customers hired attorneys to get some money back from the state recovery fund. It gives a small portion of money back to customers who have been ripped off by contractors. The statewide fund is built through money collected on every permit.

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# STREETS

FROM PAGE 1

Growth America and National Complete Streets Coalition is to stop referring to pedestrian fatalities as unavoidable “accidents.”

“We are continuing to design streets that are dangerous for all people,” the report notes. “Federal and state policies, standards and funding mechanisms still produce roads that prioritize high speeds for cars over safety for all people.”

Local planners, however, say roads here aren't designed to be dangerous. It's an issue of focus.

“Oftentimes in the past what the design has been focusing on is the automobile, rather than pedestrians or bicyclists,” said Gary Harrell, the director of the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda Metropolitan Planning Organization. “The philosophy is changing greatly.”

## Charlotte County deaths

Last year, five pedestrians were killed in Charlotte County.

One involved 90-year-old Vera Lozen, a Port Charlotte resident who was doing her daily walk one November morning.

She was walking along a painted crosswalk on Aaron Street in Port Charlotte, when Edward Bedingfield, 46, made a right turn onto Aaron Street from Gertrude Street, striking Lozen and pinning her under his 2003 Chevy Venture. Lozen died at the scene, the Florida Highway Patrol said in November.

Bedingfield received a traffic ticket for failing to yield at the right-of-way to a pedestrian at a crosswalk with signage. It carries a civil penalty of \$163, according to Charlotte Clerk of Courts records.

A case was filed Feb. 12 and Bedingfield has a traffic arraignment March 5.

Charlotte County has had 42 pedestrian fatalities since 2006. Fatalities have declined, with 2006 being the highest year for fatalities was in 2011 with five.

Since then, these deaths every year have amounted to four or less, with two in 2017, according to data from Florida's Integrated Report Exchange System (FIRES).

Still, it seems some areas see more of them than others.

Many pedestrian deaths in Charlotte County occurred near major roadways, particularly along U.S. 41. Eight fatalities have occurred along there since 2008.

Another apparent hot spot was near Port Charlotte Boulevard, and two deaths happened along Conway Boulevard and Melbourne Street, right before the bridge crossing to Punta Gorda.

There were also two deaths off U.S. 75, one on the intersection with Harborview Road, and another before the bridge crossing the Peace River. Three additional deaths were along U.S. 17 in Punta Gorda.

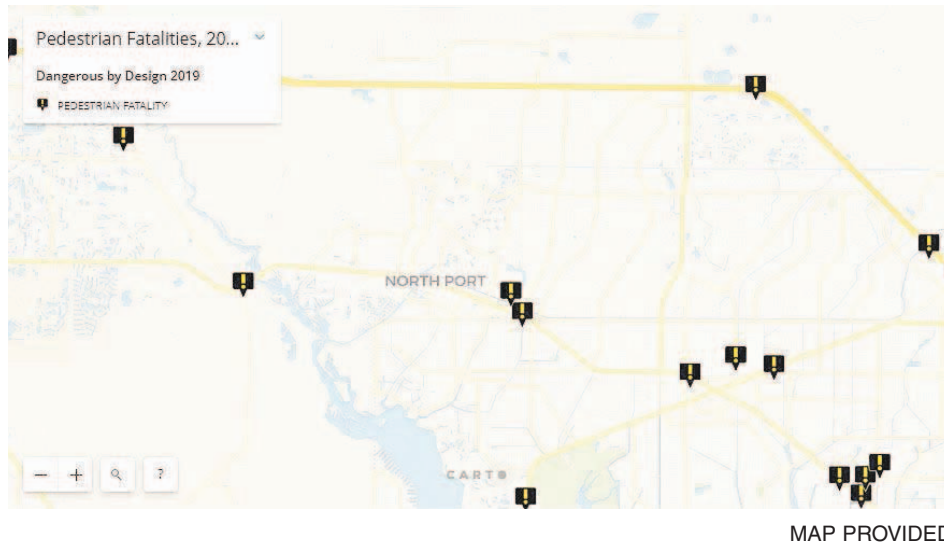
The Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO adopted its Regional Bicycle-Pedestrian Master Plan in late October. The study defines a plan to build a more complete network of bike lanes, sidewalks and trails to make the area safer to walk and bike in.

“There are some places where there are no accidents (with pedestrians),” said Harrell, Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO director.

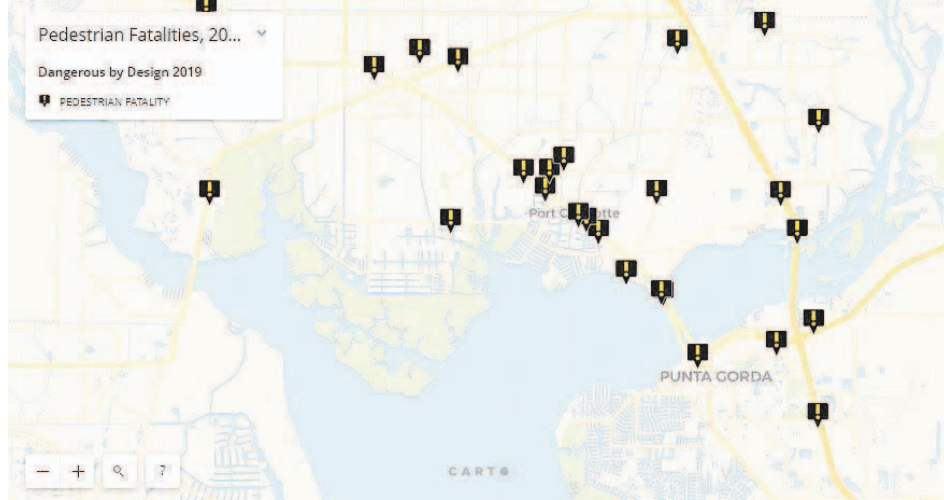
“It's so dangerous, no one walks there,” he added.

There are certain areas that truly can be improved, Harrell said, pointing to Taylor Road as a focus spot.

The city of Punta Gorda



MAP PROVIDED



MAP PROVIDED

## PEDESTRIAN SAFETY TIPS

- Always walk on the sidewalk if there is one. If no sidewalks are present, walk against the direction of traffic so that you can see oncoming vehicles.
- Always cross the roadway where pedestrians are expected, at corners or in crosswalks. Cross where pedestrians are expected. Always watch for traffic when crossing the street.
- Never enter the street from between parked cars. If a pedestrian has to cross mid-block, yield to the vehicle.
- Be seen. Wear bright, reflective colors on clothes, shoes, hats and wristbands. Carry a flashlight when walking at night.
- Pay attention. Avoid wearing headphones so that you can hear the traffic and pedestrians around you. Never text or look at your cell phone when crossing the street.
- Follow pedestrian signs and signals. Pedestrians should yield to vehicles if the crosswalk signal is red or flashes “Don't Walk.”

— Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles



SUN PHOTO BY LIZ HARDAWAY

North Port residents Andrea and Bill May prefer to walk in Gilchrist Park in Punta Gorda. “It's very safe,” Bill said, as the couple drives four or five times a week to walk their dog, Gunther, for an hour along the water.

is also planning a 17-mile system of shared-use pathways linking major city neighborhoods to places to work and play, said Mitchell Austin, the chief planner of urban design for Punta Gorda.

“Florida in general, like most sunbelt states, has a very auto-centric development pattern and transportation system,” Austin said. “Crashes tend to be more frequent and more severe particularly for vulnerable roadway users like people walking, bicycling or riding a motorcycle.”

Construction for the pathways began in 2008, and since then the city has completed approximately nine miles, Austin said. The city will also be working on additional construction and engineering designs for Harborwalk improvements, lighting on the Shreve Street path and new pathways along Cooper Street and Airport Road.

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) recognizes the rankings by the report “are in part the result of decades of transportation decisions,” Austin said, with the state continuing to implement a Complete Streets policy adopted in 2014.

“Where FDOT used to have a one size fits all standard for roadway

design,” Austin said, “it now recognizes the need... (for) context-sensitive road designs.”

Lozen's family is still in shock after her November death.

She was a healthy woman, just going on her daily morning walk to get some exercise. There should be more sidewalks, a family member said, and urged motorists to be careful when they see pedestrians.

## Sarasota County deaths

With the North Port-Sarasota-Bradenton area listed in the report as the fourth most dangerous metropolitan area for pedestrians nationwide, Sarasota County has had a total of 97 fatalities since 2006, according to data from FIRES.

The number of fatalities annually just recently

began getting into the double digits starting in 2014, with 11 fatalities that year. The following consecutive years involved 13, 11 and 12 fatalities.

The Sarasota/Manatee MPO “have strongly embraced a Complete Streets approach to improving safety and mobility for pedestrians,” said Alvimarie Corales-Cuadrado, the multi-modal transportation planner for the Sarasota/Manatee MPO.

One problem area shown in the Dangerous by Design study is along Veterans Boulevard, where two people died at the intersection on U.S. 41 and one person died in a nearby neighborhood. The Sarasota/Manatee MPO is starting a sidewalk project in mid-2019 along Veterans to “address some of the pedestrian fatalities in these areas,” Corales-Cuadrado said, as well as safety improvements on U.S. 41 from Tuscola Boulevard to Ortiz Boulevard, and roadway improvements on U.S. 41 from Salford Boulevard and Sumter Boulevard. Both projects are slated to end in Spring, 2019.

“Pedestrian safety is certainly a vitally important issue in our community and for jurisdictions here,” Corales-Cuadrado said.

The MPO has implemented performance measures to track their progress, and completed a safety report last year that highlights the most dangerous intersections and corridors.

“More than \$12 million worth of safety projects are currently underway or planned in the next five years in Sarasota and Manatee counties,” Corales-Cuadrado said. The projects will “incorporate a very high level of consideration of safety and complete streets.”

“It's not just about moving cars from one place to another,” she said.

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## RECOMMENDATIONS

The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act expires in 2020. This act provided long-term funding for road, bridge, bicycling and walking improvements from 2016 to 2020.

Smart Growth America, a coalition of advocacy organizations, which conducted the Dangerous By Design report, urges Congress to adopt a strong, complete street policy.

“We need performance measures that ensure states set targets that require progress toward creating safer streets and hold them accountable,” the study states. “We also need more high quality data on the street conditions where

fatalities occur.”

“National policy must reflect safety as a higher priority,” the study states, recommending the reallocation of spending to invest in projects to support walking, biking, transit and other modes of transportation.

**Here's the suggestions from the report:**

1. Set performance targets that will improve safety.
2. Prioritize safety over vehicle movement.
3. Provide state transportation officials and engineers with the most up-to-date training and education on implementing Complete Streets.
4. Prioritize projects that will benefit those

who suffer disproportionately.

5. Embrace the flexibility provided by the Federal Highway Administration to design safer streets.

6. Design roads to reduce speeds wherever possible.

7. Pass actionable Complete Streets policies that lay the groundwork for implementation.

8. Stop referring to pedestrian fatalities as unavoidable “accidents.”

9. Test out bold, creative approaches to safer street design.

— Smart Growth America's Dangerous by Design 2019 report

## Pedestrian death rates

In Florida, there were 5,433 pedestrian deaths in the 10-year span, which is an annual average of 2.73 pedestrian deaths per 100,000 people, or a Pedestrian Danger Index (PDI) calculated in the report, from Smart Growth America, as 182.0. Compare that to the national figures of 1.55 average annual deaths per 100,000 and a 55.3 PDI.

Based on PDI, the 20 most dangerous states for walking in the United States are:



Rank	State	Fatalities (2008-2017)	Average per 100,000	Pedestrian Danger index
1	Florida	5,433	2.73	182
2	Alabama	841	1.74	145
3	Delaware	250	2.67	127.1
4	Louisiana	1,047	2.25	125
5	Mississippi	551	1.84	122.7
6	Georgia	1,782	1.76	117.3
7	New Mexico	537	2.58	117.3
8	Texas	4,831	1.79	111.9
9	Arizona	1,503	2.23	111.5
10	South Carolina	1,144	2.37	107.8
11	Nevada	601	2.12	101
12	Tennessee	856	1.31	100.8
13	North Carolina	1,762	1.77	98.3
14	Oklahoma	596	1.54	85.6
15	Arkansas	427	1.44	84.7
16	California	7,127	1.84	68.2
17	Missouri	779	1.29	67.9
18	Maryland	1,059	1.78	65.9
19	Michigan	1,409	1.42	64.6
20	Kentucky	610	1.38	57.5

Source: Miami Herald, smartgrowthamerica.org  
Graphic: Staff, TNS

GRAPHIC PROVIDED

Top U.S. pedestrian death rates. Florida ranks as the most dangerous state in the nation for walking.

## CHARLOTTE PEDESTRIAN FATALITIES

Year	Crashes	Fatalities	Injuries
2017	57	2	48
2016	53	3	45
2015	56	3	50
2014	64	4	53
2013	57	3	41
2012	61	2	45
2011	56	5	43
2010	56	1	55

— Source: Florida's Integrated Report Exchange System

## SARASOTA COUNTY PEDESTRIAN FATALITIES

Year	Crashes	Fatalities	Injuries
2017	185	12	140
2016	154	11	122
2015	123	13	94
2014	151	11	126
2013	150	7	123
2012	140	6	120
2011	129	8	111
2010	136	7	125

— Source: Florida's Integrated Report Exchange System

## PEDESTRIAN LAWS

### Florida Statue 316.130

Pedestrians shall obey the instructions of any official traffic control device specifically applicable to the pedestrian unless otherwise directed by a police officer.

Pedestrians shall be subject to traffic control signals at intersections.

### Sidewalks

When provided, pedestrians shouldn't walk along or on the roadway. When not provided, pedestrians walking along or on a highway or road shall walk on the shoulder facing traffic.

### Crosswalks

Drivers at an intersection, even with a green light, should stop before entering the crosswalk and remain stopped to allow a pedestrian, with a permitted signal, to cross a roadway. This applies to when the pedestrian is on the crosswalk, or steps into the crosswalk and is upon the half of the roadway which the vehicle is traveling, or is too close to this half of the roadway to be in danger.

Pedestrians should walk on the right half of the crosswalk.

### When there's not a traffic signal

If there is no signage indicating otherwise, yield to the pedestrian crossing the roadway at the crosswalk.

### Pedestrian tunnel or overhead pedestrian crossing

Any pedestrian crossing a roadway at a point where this type of infrastructure has been provided shall yield to vehicles.

### Be a smart pedestrian

No pedestrian shall suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or run into the path of a car “which is so close that it is impossible for the driver to yield.”

### Don't pass a stopped car at a crosswalk

Cars behind a stopped car yielding to a pedestrian should not overtake and pass the stopped vehicle.

### When not at a crosswalk

Pedestrians yield to vehicles.



# Empanadas, tamales and flan, oh mi!

Latin cuisine is embraced by Charlotte Harbor, Port Charlotte, Grove City

Latino owners **Julio Aguilar** and **Walter Jimenez**, of the now-shuttered **Charlie's Subs**, once feared introducing local taste buds to Hispanic cuisine. Today, a new restaurant in Charlie's location celebrates it.



Sue WADE COLUMNIST

So do two others in Port Charlotte and Grove City.

## Charlotte Puerto Rican cantinas start small

When **Desiree and Marcos Marroquin** moved to Port Charlotte, they gravitated toward the cuisine Desiree had cooked since she was 11. The local Puerto Rican restaurant scene then was **Dary Colom's** now-departed **Cilantro's Restaurant**, where the couple got to know Aguilar and Jimenez.

The Marroquins already had a New Jersey restaurant — the 4.5-star, 100-seat **Surrender Café** of Woodbridge, renowned for its empanadas, pernil (pork roast) and tres leches cake.

With family members managing Woodbridge, they began the process of opening **Surrender Café Express** in Charlie's Charlotte Harbor unit. Both eateries embody, in name, the Marroquins' deep faith in yielding to what God intends.

Charlie's hidden Whidden Industrial Park location didn't concern them.

"It's small, which is good when you're just starting a place," said Desiree. "If you work hard and do things right, you'll succeed. I know my kitchen is clean and my food is delicious."

"Still, I know the challenges the location has, which is why we expanded the kitchen, leaving no inside seating. We do just takeout and delivery. But once people get to know our food and we've trained workers to prepare it, we'd like to open a larger place."

The menu, she explained, "isn't 100 percent typical Puerto Rican, because I give it my own spin. And we didn't really change breakfast

or sandwiches, because people like them."

**Surrender Café** (\$), 941-235-2353, 4290 James Street, is open Monday to Friday 7 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The colorful wrap on one of Port Charlotte's newest food trucks reads, "Because of you Mom ... Cocino con Corazón."

**Doris Fernandez'** mom, **Lydia**, always wanted her own restaurant.

"When I was growing up," said Doris, "I wanted to help her, but she passed away before we could do something together."

Only after Doris and husband Victor became empty-nesters was it time for her to start cooking with heart ... on wheels.

"A restaurant was hard, so we said, 'Let's try this and maybe do the restaurant later.'"

The **Puerto Rican Spice** food truck menu is small, cooked to order and delicious. Empanadas are compact and crispy, filled with frying cheese, guava, beef, veggies, even pizza. Because Doris grew up in Philadelphia, there's Philly cheesesteak for \$6. On different days, you can have pernil, chicken fricassee or beef stew with rice, plantains and a side for \$7.50. And of course there's flan.

What would Mom think of the truck?

"Oh, she'd love it," said Doris. "She'd be here with me right now."

**Puerto Rican Spice** (\$), 941-258-4822, will for now be at two locations: Mondays at 24Twentyone Event Center, 2421 Tamiami Trail, and Wednesdays at Lowe's Home Improvement, Murdock Carrousel, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## Tikka masala tamales?

The mellifluous moniker of a unique Indian-Mexican fusion hints at **Valerie Emery's** creativity.

"I'm not Hispanic and didn't grow up with Mexican food," explained the owner of Grove City's **Tamale Mundo**, open since November in the former **Green Fox Bistro** space. "I'm Cherokee, so I knew things like fry bread but fell in love with tamales."



The Tamale Mundo team: Katie Kupse, Karen Given, chef-owner Valerie Emery and Hunter Smith.

SUN PHOTO BY SUE WADE



Doris Fernandez is cooking with love at Puerto Rican Spice food truck in Port Charlotte.

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Harvester needs 24 temporary workers to cultivate and harvest citrus, 04-06-19 to 06-06-19. The employer is Paul, Inc. d/b/a Car Two. Workers will be paid \$11.24 per hour depending on work location and piece rate(s) may be offered depending on crop activity, but will be guaranteed \$11.24 per hour rate. Worksite is located in Charlotte County, Florida. Employer will guarantee the opportunity for work for the hourly equivalent of 3/4th of the hours of the work period. The employer will provide the tools necessary to perform the described job duties without charge to the worker. Housing will be provided for individual workers outside normal commuting distance. For workers residing beyond normal commuting distances, reasonable transportation and subsistence expenses to the worksite will be provided or paid by the employer after completion of 50% of the work period. Apply for this job at CareerSource Southwest Florida office located at 3745 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte, FL 33952 - (941)-235-5900 using job listing number FL10874600.

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**SUE**  
FROM PAGE 11

“For a long time, I told myself I was too old for the food business, then I realized the only thing I’d regret was not trying.”  
At 54, Emery has returned to her passion. She went into the organic tamale business at the end of 2016, eventually sharing the plant-based kitchen of Green Fox owner **Nicole Netik**.  
After outgrowing that location, she moved to a commercial kitchen in Sarasota but kept watching the Green Fox spot until it was available.  
Only recently has she been able to maintain regular store hours and keep up with burgeoning production for three farmers

markets — Englewood’s Dearborn Street on Thursdays, Sarasota’s Phillippi Farmhouse Market on Wednesdays, and Sarasota Farmers Market on Saturdays.  
She serves lunch only one day a week: Friday. Otherwise, from Monday to Friday, the store sells frozen tamales to take home and reheat following a set of simple instructions.  
As “Tamale World” implies, Emery has mastered crossover cuisine, borrowing complementary spices from worldwide cuisines including Mediterranean, Caribbean, Korean and East Indian. The cumin in the Tikka Masala Tamale, for instance, works perfectly in a Mexican recipe.  
She also makes a Mediterranean tamale

with spinach, mushrooms, sun-dried tomato, marinated artichokes and goat cheese. Butternut Squash Apple Almond is a new vegan flavor using West Indian Colombo curry powder. The popular Smoked Pork Chile Verde includes pork smoked for 14 to 16 hours.  
“The tamale style is Mexican, but ours are quite different,” said Emery. “They’re entirely gluten-free. We use organic, spice-infused corn grain and non-GMO ingredients. Whereas a traditional tamale has half an ounce of meat in 1 to 3 ounces of dough, ours have 2 ounces of dough and 3 ounces of meat and cheese.  
“I make them the way I like them — with a lot of stuff!”  
**Tamale Mundo (\$),**

941-830-8744, 3031 Placida Road, is open Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., served hot to your table only on Fridays. Order pickup at market or store from **tamalemundo.com**.  
**Last chance for Febtoberfest**  
If you missed the bier bash Friday and Saturday in the alley beside **Sandra’s Restaurant (\$-\$\$)**, 111 W. Olympia Avenue, Punta Gorda, you’ve got one more shot at it today. From noon until 4, owners **Sandra** and **Rainer Ruhland** are throwing a Bierfest with outside stage and seating, live German music and, of course, bier.  
Send restaurant and bar news and recommendations to columnist Sue Wade at [suewade47@aol.com](mailto:suewade47@aol.com).



SUN PHOTOS BY SUE WADE

An array of Tamale Mundo tamales are garnished with purple-cabbage slaw, baby heirloom tomatoes from Sarasota’s Honeyside Farms and swirls of crema.

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**STRUTTING THEIR STUFF FOR MAMMOGRAMS**



Bra Dazzle brunch raises money for uninsured, under-insured patients. See page 9

**IT'S A BIRD. NO, IT'S A PLANE!**



Model aircraft enthusiasts gather in PG to spread their (small) wings. See page 10

**SIP, LISTEN, DANCE**



14th annual Wine and Jazz Festival swings to success in Punta Gorda. See page 11

# OUR TOWN: SUNCOAST HOMES

Sunday, February 24, 2019

## Appraisal sabotages new construction

### Better to build near other new homes

**Q**uestion: I applied for a loan on a new home I had plans to build, but the lender denied it because the appraisal came in low. The builder said he hasn't encountered this issue with his other projects and suggested that I change lenders.



Columnist

**Brett SLATTERY**

Instead of using new homes for comps, the appraiser used homes built two years ago. Perhaps that's because there weren't many to choose from. The neighborhood where I hoped to build is an established area, so most of the resales are older homes.

There are hundreds of new home construction contracts out there based on building permits issued, but these values or contracts weren't used in the appraisal process.

Also, the replacement cost shown on the appraisal does equal the cost to build the home, but the lender would only consider the market-value approach.

Is this normal? Maybe all the other new construction buyers are cash buyers.

**A**nswer: If you had asked me this question during the five-year period spanning 2007 to 2011 I would've answered: "Yes. It is normal that low appraisals sabotage new construction projects." In fact, this was so common that most builders went out-of-business and new construction slowed to a trickle during that period.

Those were the post-bubble years. The number of new homes built, and the value of homes, imploded. From February 2006 to March 2011, home prices declined by 48 percent. During this period, the issuance of permits declined a remarkable 88 percent.

Buyers hoping to finance new construction with a mortgage were out of luck. That's because the market values shown on appraisals were adjusted downward to reflect the fact that new construction homes were losing value during the construction period. And worse, there was an expectation of further declines beyond the completion.

Of course, lenders refused to finance new construction on projects that were losing value, even as they were being built.

Since our market hit the bottom in 2011, home prices and other market conditions have improved significantly, fueling an accelerated pace of new construction. A quick look at county data indicates the number of new, single-family homes have increased from 317 in 2012 to 1,291 in 2018.

So, in this environment, the answer is "No, it is NOT normal for an appraisal to sabotage new construction financing." To shed light on this, I spoke with Mark Dean, co-founder of DM Dean, Inc.

Mark relayed to me that last year he completed 120 new homes locally. He only encountered one instance where the lender's appraisal failed to support the value of the home. Coincidentally, that project was also in your neighborhood.

Mark agreed with your inference that the lack of new construction in your neighborhood creates difficulty in finding comparables. While an established, attractive neighborhood is desirable, the insistence of many lenders that only near-by homes be used as comparables can negatively influence the outcome.

For this reason, Mark says it is much easier to obtain an acceptable appraisal in areas where there is a high concentration of new construction. These include areas like Rotonda West, South Gulf Cove, and Punta Gorda.

Mark also noted, from his experience, that a home which has significantly less square footage under air than surrounding homes can create obstacles in the appraisal process.

You referenced hundreds of other new homes under construction "out there" that could be used as comps. Because real estate is hyper-local, most lenders place constraints on appraisers that limit the appraisers to comps within a specific radius of the subject property. So the other homes "out there" aren't useful as comps.

I agree with you that it could be problematic if an appraisal is based on comps that sold a couple years ago. Home values have increased significantly in recent years. However, if you read the appraisal carefully, you may see that the appraiser has adjusted the price of those comps to reflect this.

You stated that the appraisal shows the replacement cost of the new home does justify the cost you will pay to construct your new home. However, the lender's focus is on the market value of the home because it is the resale value, not the cost, that serves as collateral for the loan.

Regarding cash buyers, I ran the numbers on 383 newly constructed homes that were sold on the MFR-MLS during 2018. Only 1/3 of the buyers paid cash; the rest financed their new construction.

And finally, I strongly agree with your builder, and with Mark, that you shop for another lender. I recommend you focus on local lenders because they have a better grasp of our local market. They are also more likely to use a local appraisal service that is familiar with our market.

Thank you for your question, and to Mark Dean of DM Dean, Inc. for information included in today's column.

*Brett Slattery is a Realtor and broker/owner of Brett Slattery Realty llc. Brett and his wife, Deb, specialize in residential home sales and listings. Reach him via 941-468-1430, Brett@BrettSlattery.com, or www.BrettSlattery.com.*

## 3200 Emerald Lane, North Port



3200 Emerald Lane, North Port, FL 34286  
County: Sarasota  
Year Built: 1993  
Current Price: \$229,900  
LP/SqFt: \$130.25  
Garage: 2-car  
Beds: 3  
Baths: 2

SqFt Heated: 1,765  
Total Acreage: .23  
Pool: no  
Location: in County  
Listing agent/brokerage: Pamela Pileggi-Caguiat, 941-376-0376, PamC4Homes@gmail.com; RE/MAX Platinum Realty, 941-929-9090



## 500 Gardens Edge #524, Venice



500 Gardens Edge #524, Venice, FL 34285  
County: Sarasota  
Year Built: 2007  
Current Price: \$259,500  
LP/SqFt: \$167.10  
Garage: 1-car  
Beds: 2  
Baths: 2  
SqFt Heated: 1,553

Total Acreage: N/A  
Pool: Community  
Location: in City Limits  
Listing agent/brokerage: The Deborah and Dick Miller Team, 941-662-9900, Deborah@FloridaMyNewHome.com; RE/MAX Platinum Realty, 941-929-9090



## 8561 Amberjack Circle #204, Englewood



8561 Amberjack Circle #204, Englewood, FL 34224  
County: Charlotte  
Year Built: 2007  
Current Price: \$289,000  
LP/SqFt: \$146.55  
Garage: 2-car  
Beds: 3  
Baths: 3

SqFt Heated: 1,972  
Total Acreage: N/A  
Pool: Community  
Location: In County  
Listing agent/brokerage: Sandra Adkins-Pertz, 941-587-3464, SandraLPertz@msn.com; RE/MAX Platinum Realty, 941-929-9090





# Home seller financing as viewed by buyers and sellers

By **JACK GUTTENTAG**  
THE MORTGAGE PROFESSOR

I received two letters of note in the same week. One read: "I am about

to buy a home, and the seller is offering me a loan at an interest rate 0.5 percent lower than the bank's rate. Should I take it?"

An offer of seller financing should put you on your guard.

Most cases of seller financing involve a prospective buyer willing

to pay the ask price who does not meet standard qualification requirements. In such cases, the seller is a reluctant lender looking to realize a target price on the house. In the case at hand, however, a qualified borrower exists but the seller wants to make the loan anyway, even at a below-market rate. The question is, why?

The best case is that the seller views the mortgage as a good investment. The worst case is that the seller wants to be the lender in order to conceal one or more problems connected to the property — mold, leaky roof, poor drainage, defective title, the list is endless — that he knows will come to light if an outside lender is involved.

Unless the seller can document that he is a mortgage investor who owns multiple mortgages, the buyer should assume the worst. If he proceeds with the seller as the lender, he should protect

himself in all of the following ways:

- Retain a real estate attorney.
- Require the seller to accept home and termite inspections by experts selected by the buyer.
- If there is an existing mortgage on the property, require the seller to provide a current statement; agree to a procedure where mortgage payments by the buyer are directed toward repayment of the existing mortgage; and agree to a procedure where the timely payment of property taxes and insurance is assured.

• Check whether a new title insurance policy is needed.

• Make sure the new mortgage is recorded. If I were the buyer in this case, I would view a loan rate 0.5 percent below the market as not worth the hassle.

The other letter writer asked, "What interest rate and fees should I charge if Ivv want to act as a

private mortgage lender?"

It is not clear whether this would-be lender is a home seller asking about a single transaction or is looking to go into business. As a seller focused on one deal, his major concerns should be:

• The sale price. He can afford to be generous on the interest rate and loan fees if the home price is favorable.

• The credit worthiness of the buyer. The seller should do a credit check, and verify income and employment, just as institutional lenders do.

• The risk features of the loan. When you are dependent on one loan, you want that loan to be well-secured, with the down payment especially important.

• The procedures to be used in paying taxes and insurance.

• Access to servicing software. You do not want to keep track of payments, balances, taxes, insurance and late charges on the backs of envelopes.

If the would-be lender who wrote me is looking to become a non-institutional source of mortgage loans for anyone, his problem is altogether different. Individuals cannot lend in the market for qualified loans because they are not authorized to deal with the federal agencies, which dominate this major segment of the market. They could operate in the nonqualified loan market, but to be competitive they would have to bring a substantial organization and capital to the process. An individual with limited resources could operate only in the hard money market.

Hard-money lenders lend strictly on the value of the collateral. They require borrowers to put 30-35 percent down, and charge high interest rates with short terms. These lenders do not bother with income, employment or credit reports. If borrowers cannot pay, the hard money lenders



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# Townhouses are increasingly the place to call home nationwide

By STEVE BROWN

THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

LAS VEGAS — The house of tomorrow may be a townhouse.

Rising construction prices and higher land costs have more builders and buyers turning to the high-density urban models.

Young buyers like the central location of most townhouses, too.

“If you look at the last four quarters of data of production of townhomes, the single-family attached market is up 24 percent,” said Robert Dietz, chief economist of the National Association of Home Builders. “It’s growing eight times as fast as the overall single-family market.”

With new home prices soaring, builders are hunting ways to produce more affordable houses. But finding land priced right for traditional homes — particularly in urban

markets — is a challenge.

Townhouses are increasingly an option, Dietz said.

“Townhouse construction tends to be a little smaller and more entry-level-market and more dense,” he said. “We see this as a great growth potential for the home building market.”

Townhouse starts totaled 14 percent of the total building market in 2018 — tied for the highest rate of construction ever, according to the NAHB.

“It’s the way out of some of those supply side headwinds,” he said at the building industry’s annual meeting this week in Las Vegas. “This kind of home is selling.”

“It’s just a question of whether builders can build it.”

Builders often have to compete with apartment developers for townhouse land. And cities can lag in providing proper zoning for the product.

There can be pushback from traditional homeowners, too.

When a large new home community in Fort Worth, Texas, recently added townhouses to its offering mix, homeowners in the development protested the move.

Builders started about 1,459 townhouses in the Dallas-Fort Worth area in 2018, according to Dallas housing analyst Residential Strategies. That was only about a 4 percent share of the market.

“This compares to the previous market peak in second quarter 2006, when there were 2,541 annual townhouse starts, representing a 5 percent share of market,” said Residential Strategies principal Ted Wilson.

Wilson said townhouses are attracting more D-FW buyers.

“Over the past three years, townhouse construction has grown by



TNS PHOTO

Townhouses are growing in popularity, in part due to rising construction prices and higher land costs.

126 percent,” he said. “With housing affordability being a significant challenge for many first-time buyers, townhomes offer an affordable solution.”

“Incredibly, we have noted that there have even been family buyers for

townhouses in some of the preferred school districts.” Empty nesters seeking to downsize are also attracted to the smaller homes.

Danushka Nanayakkara of the NAHB’s forecasting and analysis department said the industry is

forecasting continued townhouse growth.

“This is a very appealing market for the millennials that want to walk to work and restaurants in an urban location,” she said. “It’s a way for builders to have more density.”

## How do we make sure animals in no-pet community really are for emotional support?

By GARY M. SINGER

SUN SENTINEL

**Q:** I live in a 55+ community that does not allow pets. Now there are many dogs in the community claiming to be emotional support animals. Can we put a stop to this? — Debbie

**A:** In our no-pet community, the folks with ESA dogs allow them to run wild, using the whole property as their toilet. I get that we have to allow them their ESAs, but don’t they have to follow the rules still? — B.

**A:** The rules that govern an emotional support animal, or “ESA,” are

different from those for service animals. Service animals, such as those that assist the visually impaired, are specially trained and governed by certain disabilities laws, such as the Americans with Disabilities Act, or “ADA,” as well as housing laws.

ESAs do not require any training and are not covered by the ADA. However, they are often a legitimate form of therapy and comfort for people that need it. Unfortunately, these laws are sometimes abused by unscrupulous people. Many websites sell “ESA kits” to certify that a pet is a needed ESA. One

Florida attorney even got a certain cartoon pet certified as an ESA on behalf of a very famous mouse living in Orlando.

Because this is such a touchy subject and most people want to help those in need, many community associations have been reluctant even to question anyone who wants an animal in an otherwise no-pet community. Recently, because of some abuse, more and more communities are pushing back.

Associations are required to make reasonable accommodations for those in need of assistance. This does not

mean “any” accommodation, and associations are allowed to verify that the ESA is needed and to put reasonable restrictions and rules regarding ESAs. Reasonableness is key for both the association and the person seeking the accommodation.

The association cannot question an actual doctor’s judgment, nor can an owner allow their ESA to run wild. Reasonable rules can be put in place restricting where dogs can be walked and requiring owners to clean up after. Violators can accrue fines and other enforcement per the community’s rules. Gary M. Singer is a

Florida attorney and board-certified as an expert in real estate law by the Florida Bar. He practices real estate, business litigation and contract law from his office in Sunrise, Fla. He is the chairman of the Real Estate Section of the Broward County Bar Association and is a co-host of the weekly radio show Legal News and Review. He frequently consults on general real estate matters and trends in Florida with various companies across the nation. Send him questions online at [www.sunsentinel.com/askpro](http://www.sunsentinel.com/askpro) or follow him on Twitter @GarySingerLaw.

## HOME

FROM PAGE 2

get their money back through foreclosure. Before the great depression of the 1930s, all mortgage lenders including the institutions were hard money lenders. Today, they are a very small part of the market.

Jack Guttentag is professor emeritus of finance at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. Comments and questions can be left at <http://www.mtgprofessor.com>.

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# Camp sign-ups available in North Port

STAFF REPORT

**NORTH PORT** — Summer isn't really that far off. Because of that, the city of North Port has opened up registration for its summer camps. "With a wide variety of safe, fun, and engaging activities — the annual Parks & Recreation Summer Camp provides positive and life-changing experiences for children and teens entering first through eighth grade," the city said in a news release. "Depending on the camper's upcoming grade school level, they will join either the Xtreme Teen

Camp program or the GMAC Summer Camp program." Teen Xtreme is for middle school students going into sixth through eighth grades and takes place from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. from June 3 — Aug. 9 at the Morgan Family Community Center, 6207 W. Price Blvd., the city stated. "This teen camp will combine the fun of day camp with more challenging programs and activities for older kids. Campers will enjoy two field trips per week," it said. Cost is \$85 per week, the city said. There is also weekly extended care for

an additional cost. GMAC Summer Camp is for elementary school students in first through fifth grades and runs from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on June 3- Aug. 9 at the George Mullen Activity Center. It "offers an exciting full day of programs that are designed to build character and self-esteem in both small and large group settings," the city's news release stated. Cost is \$70 per week. There is also weekly extended care for an additional cost. Those interested can register online at [www.CityofNorthPort.com/camp](http://www.CityofNorthPort.com/camp). They can



SUN FILE PHOTO

**The Orange Octopuses dance to "Best Summer Ever" at George Mullen Activity Center in North Port on Friday as the kids celebrate the end of summer camp.**

also register in person at the Morgan Family Community Center, 6207 West Price Blvd., or the George Mullen Activity Center, 1602 Kramer Way. For more information, call 941-429-7275.

# North Port hosts annual Baby Shower

STAFF REPORT

**NORTH PORT** — The city is hosting its annual Community Baby Shower and Pre-School Expo in early April.

More information will be released in coming weeks, but officials are marking time and day from 10 a.m.-noon April 6 at George Mullen Activity Center, 1602 Kramer

Way, North Port. It is hosted by North Port's Social Services Division along with Healthy Start Coalition of Sarasota County. It is "for pregnant women and families

with children up to age 4," the city said in a news release. "There is no cost to attend. The event will feature information exhibits, door prizes, refreshments, a Diaper

Derby, activities for kids and much more," the city said. For more information, call North Port's Social Services Division at 941-429-3700.

## COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

### 'Conversations'

North Port is hosting "Community Conversations" to help discuss the city's budget. The next event takes place from 6-7:30 p.m. Feb. 25 at SCF-Venice, at the Sarah H. Pappas Professional Development Center, Building 800, Room 801, Selby Room, 8000 S. Tamiami Trail.

### North Port Project Graduation

North Port High School Project Graduation meets at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 26, at North Port High's Success Center. It is seeking volunteers. For more information, email [nphsprojectgrad@gmail.com](mailto:nphsprojectgrad@gmail.com).

### Community festival

San Pedro Catholic Church hosts its Community Festival March 1-3, co-sponsored by the city of North Port, the Atlanta Braves, Quality TV and other area businesses. It includes rides, games, a car and bike show, music and other events. During it, North Port will make a proclamation welcoming the Atlanta Braves.

### Tour de Parks

Friends of Legacy Trail hosts its annual Tour de Parks ride on Sunday, March 24. It starts and finishes at Venice Train Depot, 303 East Venice Avenue, Venice. There are 21-, 35- or 62-mile rides along Legacy Trail and other routes. Registration is \$40 through Feb. 27; \$45 between Feb. 28-March 20 and \$50 after March 20. The 62-mile ride begins at 7:30 a.m.; the 21-mile ride begins at 9:30 a.m. For more information, visit [www.friendsofthelegacytrail.org](http://www.friendsofthelegacytrail.org).

### St. Patrick's Dinner Dance

Holy Name Society of San Pedro Catholic Church hosts a St. Patrick's Dinner Dance beginning at 6 p.m. Saturday, March 16 with Meloni's corned beef and cabbage supper and music by Happy Feet. The donation is \$20. For tickets or more information, call Ron Sadowski at 941-416-5559 or Fred Kalita at 941-429-6602.

### AMVETS dinner

AMVETS Post 2000 Ladies Auxiliary hosts a St. Patrick dinner from 2-7 p.m. Sunday, March 17. It includes corned

beef, potatoes, cabbage and dessert for a \$10 donation. The post is at 401 Ortiz Blvd., Warm Mineral Springs. For more information, call 941-429-1999.

### Quarter auction

A North Port Quarter Auction will benefit North Port High School Project Graduation at 6:30 p.m. April 16 at Morgan Family

Community Center, 6207 W. Price Blvd., North Port. Participants must be 18 or older. For more information, call 941-586-8126 or email [npqainfo@gmail.com](mailto:npqainfo@gmail.com).

## HOBBY LOBBY

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Does not include Frames, Floral, Crafts, Seasonal or Candle Departments

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		Shelves	

Pillows, Rugs & Throws

Easter, St. Patrick's, Summer and items labeled The Spring Shop™ are not included in Home Decor sale.

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<b>FLORAL 50% OFF</b> Categories Listed Does not include Seasonal Department or items labeled "floral accents"	<b>FURNITURE</b> ALWAYS <b>30% OFF</b> THE MARKED PRICE*	<b>YARN &amp; NEEDLE ART</b> All Artiste® Floss & Threads Cotton Floss & craft thread packs, nylon, acrylic and cotton crochet threads <b>30% OFF</b> Premium Poly Foam, Nu-Foam® & Smart Foam Packaged Quilt Battings & Pillow Forms Poly-fil® 100% Polyester Fiberfill 12 oz <b>2.99</b>	<b>WEARABLE ART</b> Gildan® Youth and Adult Short-Sleeve T-Shirts 2.79 <small>Marked price \$3.99</small> Bandanas 100% Cotton Solid colors and patterns available 99¢ <small>As Priced</small> Boas Does not include Happy Bow® 3.99	<b>BEST-SELLING BOOKS</b> Bibles, Devotionals, Gift Books and Children's Books ALWAYS <b>40% OFF - 50% OFF</b> THE MARKED PRICE*	<b>PARTY</b> Streamers 17 1/2' Roll <b>99¢</b> 12' Balloons 25 Count Solid Color <b>1.59</b> Solid Color Table Cover Rectangular 5' x 8' and 16' oz <b>99¢</b> Candy Wafers 2 1/2" x 1 1/2" Does not include \$3.99 12 oz bag <b>1.99</b> 3.5 lb Buttercream Decorating Icing <b>9.99</b> White Fondant 6 lb <b>15.99</b> Cake Decorating All items labeled Sunny Side Up Bakery® includes Cakes, Cookies and Cupcake Essentials <b>30% OFF</b> 24 oz Fondant White All Colors <b>5.99</b> 8.99
<b>FRAMES 50% OFF</b> Categories Listed Ready-Made Open Frames Photo Frames Always 50% off the marked price* Our entire selection of basic & fashion tabletop frames and wooden photo storage Shadow Boxes, Display Cases & Flag Cases Art Prints & Posters Always 50% off the marked price*	<b>CRAFTS 30% OFF</b> Most Categories Listed DecoArt®, Ceramcoat®, FolkArt® and Anita's™ Craft Paint 2 oz & 4 oz and 16 oz All White Styrofoam™ Clay Modeling, oven-bake, air-dry & jewelry clay Krylon® Spray Paint Candle Wax, Candle Gel, Soap Blocks & Bases Leather and Leather Kits Priced \$4.99 & Up Children's Activity Kits, Paint & Pencil by Number Kits and Fuzzy Posters Priced \$4.99 & Up <b>40% OFF</b>	<b>ALL ITEMS LABELED THE PAPER STUDIO®</b> Stickers, Gemstones, Chipboard, Chip Decor®, Letters, Shapes & Mixed Media, Totes & Organizers, Scrapbook Albums & Refill Pages, Cards, Tags & Envelopes, Embellishments, Tools, Punches & Punch Sets, Paper Packs, Pads & Page Kits, Vinyl Single Sheets & Rolled Vinyl and Planners, Kits & Accessories <b>50% OFF</b>	<b>ART SUPPLIES 40% OFF</b> Most Categories Listed Sargent Art® Tempera Paints 16 oz Regular price \$1.99 <b>9.99</b> per pack All Strathmore® & Canson® Artist Pads All colors Does not include custom frames Foam Boards All colors Does not include custom frames 8 Sizes available. 8x10 <b>2.99</b> 11x14 <b>4.99</b> 16x20 <b>5.99</b>		
<b>JEWELRY MAKING 50% OFF</b> Categories Listed Explorer by Traditions™ Pendants, beads and filigree inspired by world travels Strung, Tubed & Boxed Beads Color Gallery™, Bead Treasures® and Czech Glass Beads Metal Gallery™ Does not include sterling silver Swarovski™ and Create Your Style™ Includes beads, flatback stones and charms. Does not include hotfix stones Bead Stringing By On-A-Cord®, On-A-String® & On-A-Wire® Timeline by Bead Treasures® Designs representing the Gilded Age Includes Components by DC Comics®	<b>ALL FABRIC</b> By the Yard <b>30% OFF</b> Calicos, fleece, home dec, flannel, broadcloth, satin and more Excludes precut bundles and fat quarters	<b>Scissors &amp; Rotary Cutters</b> Fiskars® and Singer® Sewology® Sewing Notions Home Decor Pillow Covers Home Decor & Apparel Trim By the Yard <b>50% OFF</b>	<b>HOBBY LOBBY</b> <b>40% OFF</b> Offer good for one item at regular price only. Limit one coupon per customer per day. Must present coupon at time of purchase. Offer is not valid with any other coupon, discount or previous purchase. One cut or one bolt of fabric or trim "by the yard" equals one item. Online fabric & trim discount is limited to yards, single cut. Excludes Cricut® products, candy & snack products, gum & mints, gift cards, custom orders, labor, metals, class fees or items labeled "Your Price". Exclusions subject to change. Cash Value 1/10¢. VALID THROUGH MARCH 2, 2019 Coupon For In-Store or Online Use!		

\*Discounts provided every day; marked prices reflect general U.S. market value for similar products. No coupons or other discounts may be applied to "Your Price" items.

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## NOTICES

3112 FICTITIOUS NAME

02/24/2019

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### 3138 OTHER NOTICES

#### PUBLIC NOTICE IRRIGATION WATER RESTRICTIONS

Charlotte County Mosquito and Aquatic Weed Control announces water use restrictions for the purposes of irrigation in the following fresh water bodies (Freshwater Canals and Fresh Water ponds) located in and around Tropical Gulf Acres. Specifically Pond 9 bordered by Capistrano Dr., Easel Dr., Saf-ron Dr., and Alandra Dr. and Pond 7 known as Bisset Lake at Bisset Park on Path ave and bordered by Pannikin Ave.

Do not use water from the above water bodies for irrigation purposes. Buoy will be placed in the waterways during the restriction duration. Water restrictions begin March 4, 2019 and will end 30 days later on April 4, 2019. When the buoys are removed from the water bodies, it will be safe to use the water for irrigation purposes. Area residents may also be contacted by Aquatic Weed Staff who will be in the area providing information. If residents affected by this notice have questions or need additional information, please call Charlotte County Aquatic Weed Control at 941-764-4370 between the hours of 08:00 AM and 3:00 PM. Publish: 02/22/19, 02/23/19, 02/24/19 384224 3659002

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\*Limit 5 Ads Per Week Excluding Pets & Firearms

# Turn your trash into cash! Advertise your yard sale!

To view today's legal notices and more visit, [www.floridapublicnotices.com](http://www.floridapublicnotices.com)



# Alice is home again; lots of her friends still waiting

Suncoast Humane Society's '10 Times the Love' program is in progress

Even though Alice is just one of more than 90 cats that have been adopted during Suncoast Humane Society's "10 Times the Love" special adoption promotion, what a special story she is.

We first met Alice in 2013 when she was brought in because of landlord issues. This beautiful 2-year-old, female Tortoiseshell was adopted almost immediately. For more than five years, Alice enjoyed a wonderful home with her human companion. Then, sadly, health issues forced her owner to move to a state far away. The health problems, coupled with the fact the airline refused to allow Alice a seat, forced a very tough decision. As a result, Alice was returned to Suncoast Humane Society.

Now 7 years old, Alice remained in the shelter's adoption cattery for nearly eight months. All the while, her previous owner kept thinking about Alice, checking the Society's website, seeing her picture and missing her.

Thankfully, the owner's health was greatly improving, and so one day, after many phone conversations with Suncoast Humane Society's adoption staff, the owner did something almost unbelievable.

She hopped on an airplane, flew to a nearby airport, rented a limousine, and headed for Suncoast Humane Society.

Following a brief meeting with friends who met her at the shelter, the adoption papers were signed and she and Alice were reunited.



Suncoast Humane Society  
**Phil SNYDER**

This story actually gets better. The limo had been waiting in the parking lot at Suncoast Humane Society. Alice and owner were rushed back to the airport, boarded the plane to her new home far away and sat together in first class. Alice is now enjoying the time of her life. Her owner keeps the adoption staff updated on a regular basis.

The "10 Times the Love" adoption special has proven to be the purr-fect solution to an overwhelming problem that was facing Suncoast Humane Society just a month ago. The day the promotion started, animal care staff was caring for more than 130 homeless cats at the animal shelter. Since then, more than 90 felines have been adopted, thanks to the special \$10 adoption fee. This success has prompted the Society to extend the promotion through March 16.

There are presently 30 cats and kittens available for adoption at Suncoast Humane Society. Hardly a day goes by that cats and dogs are not surrendered to area animal shelters. If you have room in your home and your heart, please consider adopting from a shelter. You will be giving a homeless pet that second chance at a quality life.

*Phil Snyder is executive director of the Suncoast Humane Society. Email him at philnsnyder@humane.org.*

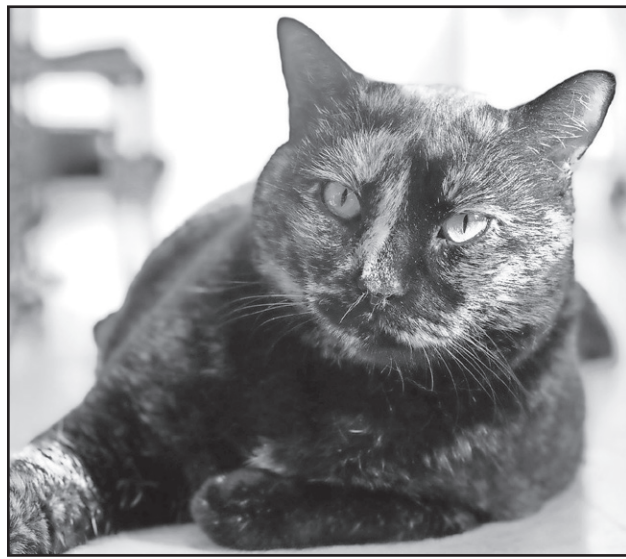


PHOTO PROVIDED BY LENA HART

Alice the cat has returned home.

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## OBITUARIES

### CHARLOTTE

#### Jeff Ellsworth Lennox

Jeff Ellsworth Lennox, 57, of Punta Gorda, Florida went to be with



the Lord on Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2018.

He was born in Pontiac, Michigan son of

Marie Lennox and the late Donald E. Lennox Sr.

Jeff graduated from Waterford Twp. High School in Waterford, Michigan. He was a Cub Scout and a Boy Scout; he loved sports of all kinds playing softball and basketball in Jr High. Jeff was a plumber by trade and worked out of Local 630 in West Palm Beach. He was a master plumber, journeyman plumber, pipe fitter and medical gas technician. Jeff worked most on hospitals, prisons and nuclear power plants. He lost his three year battle with cancer. Jeff deeply appreciated all the love and support from his church family and Pastor Bob.

He is greatly missed by his mother, Marie; brother, Donald E. (Deborah) Lennox Jr; nieces, Nicole and Noelle; great niece, Lyla Lennox all of Goodrich, Michigan and many cousins throughout the United States.

A celebration of Life Service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, March 2, 2019 at Friendship United Methodist Church 12275 Paramount Dr., TGA Punta Gorda, FL.

In lieu of flowers donations will be greatly appreciated in Jeff's memory to Friendship UMC.

If you wish to contact family or leave condolences visit [www.nationalcremation.com](http://www.nationalcremation.com).

#### Janet Alice Nelson

Janet Alice Nelson, 94, of Port Charlotte, Florida died peacefully Monday, February 18, 2019 with loved ones at her side.



Janet was born December 11, 1924 in Erie, Pennsylvania.

She was a retired Registered Nurse specializing in Neonatal Nursing. Later she worked for many years at the Post Office in Glen Head, NY. She was a Deacon and member of the Glenwood Presbyterian Church in Glenwood Landing, NY and also a member of the American Legion Auxiliary in Glen Head, NY.

Since moving to Port Charlotte in 1982, Janet was very active in the community. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Port Charlotte. At the church she enjoyed serving at the weekly Coffee Hour and was a former board member of the church's Small World Nursery School. Janet also served the church with her special ministry of sending encouraging cards and notes to people.

In addition, she enjoyed volunteering at Fawcett Memorial Hospital since 1985. Within that time, she devoted over 5,500

hours and was honored to receive the Frist Humanitarian Volunteer Award in recognition of her humanitarian and philanthropic spirit. Furthermore, at Murdock Family Medicine/Millennium she created the volunteer program and served as a volunteer for 13 years.

Janet's deep faith and love were a true inspiration for all whose lives were touched by her. Many people (of all ages) who were blessed to know Janet lovingly called her "Grandma". She is survived by her loving family, a daughter, Cathy Asaro of Port Charlotte; 5 grandchildren, Sandy Asaro, Frankie Asaro, Tanner Braun, Tina Nelson, George Nelson III; and 5 great grandchildren, Connor Asaro, Zachary Nelson, Tai Nelson, Jaiden Nelson, and Keira Nelson. She is also survived by many other dear family members and friends. She was preceded in death by her husband, George L. Nelson and a stepson, George L. Nelson, Jr.

A Memorial Service celebrating Janet's life will be held at a future date at the First Presbyterian Church, 2230 Harriet Street, Port Charlotte, Florida 33952. Interment was held at Restlawn Memorial Gardens in Port Charlotte.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to First Presbyterian Church of Port Charlotte.

Friends may visit online at [www.robersonfh.com](http://www.robersonfh.com) to extend condolences to the family.

Arrangements by Roberson Funeral Home Port Charlotte Chapel.

#### Helen V. Skrocki

Helen V. Skrocki, 93, of Port Charlotte, Florida died on Thursday, Feb. 21, 2019 at Tidewell Hospice House, Arcadia, Florida.

Arrangements by Roberson Funeral Home & Crematory Port Charlotte Chapel.

#### Lucille M. Stock

Lucille "Mickey" M. Stock, 91, of Port Charlotte, Florida died Wednesday,



February 20, 2019 at Tidewell Hospice House in Port Charlotte.

Mickey was born December 14 1927 to the late Otto and Lillian (Kongstvedt) Michelsen in Duluth, Minnesota. She was a retired secretary for a children's home in Minnesota and moved to Port Charlotte in 1991 from Duluth. She was a member of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church of Port Charlotte.

Lucille lived life with an adventurous spirit and an infectious smile. She made friends wherever she went. She volunteered for 10 years making costumes for the Charlotte Players. Throughout her life she loved to travel and camp having many great adventures with her family across the United States and later in life across the world.

Waiting to greet her in heaven are her husband Richard D Stock and her Daughter Candace Rae Stock. She is also preceded by her three sisters Esther, Ellen and Lorraine.

She is survived by her loving family, her companion and friend, Hugh C. Wyatt of Port Charlotte; two daughters, Kitty (Mark) Russell of Duluth, MN and Coleen (Todd) Nordwall of Hermantown, MN; a son, Thomas M. Stock of Denton, TX; Her 5 grandchildren Jessica, Rick, Seth, Tyler and Heather and 10 great grandchildren.

Memorial services will be held Monday 11:00 AM, February 25, 2019 with a visitation starting at 10:00 AM at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 2565 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte, FL 33952.

Memorial contributions in lieu of flowers may be made to: The American Federation for the Blind or Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.

Friends may visit online at [www.robersonfh.com](http://www.robersonfh.com) to extend condolences to the family.

Arrangements by Roberson Funeral Home & Crematory Port Charlotte Chapel.

#### Dolores Williams

Dolores "Dolly" Williams, 86, passed away on Monday, Feb. 4, 2019 in Port



Charlotte, Florida.

Dolly was born and raised in Erie, Pennsylvania and worked

as a teacher's aide with the special needs children she loved. At the suggestion of her mother's friend, she began writing letters to an Air Force private stationed overseas during the Korean War. When that serviceman returned to the U.S., they were married, and Dolly and Bill Williams were devoted to each other for the next 63 years. They traveled for many years in their Airstream and, after retirement, split their time between Pennsylvania and Port Charlotte.

Bill preceded Dolly in death. Dolly also survived the deaths of her brothers and sisters- Bob Angelotti, Helen Smith, Joe Angelotti, and Audrey Heavenly. Aunt Dolly was a cherished aunt to many nieces and nephews and considered her nephew and his wife, Rick and Colleen Heavenly of Punta Gorda, Florida to be her own children. Her grandson, Noah, survives her and was very special to her. She is also survived by a son and his wife. Dolly was also part of a family at River Commons in Port Charlotte where she made many friends, including the late Helen Carpenter, was a floor volunteer, participated in tai chi and music, taught exercise classes to the residents, helped the staff in the dining hall, and made sure all felt valued.

Her life was an example of her living faith: kindness, caring, support, compassion, and service to others. Services will be held at Port Charlotte Presbyterian Church at 2230 Harriet Street in Port Charlotte on March 30, at 11 a.m. She will be laid to rest with the love of her life in Sarasota National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in her name to her church.

Anytime her family gathers for a photo, they will indeed smile and say "whiskey" and remember how deeply Dolly loved and was loved.

### ENGLEWOOD

#### Norman Hall

Norman Hall, 85, of Rotonda West, passed away after a sudden illness on Sunday, Feb. 17, 2019.

He was born on Dec. 26, 1933 to Perley Hall and Edna Seaver in Northfield,

Vermont.

Norman graduated from Northfield High School. He was a veteran of the US Air Force, he spent most of his career working for IBM in New York and Vermont before retiring to live in Florida, where he worked part time at The Links at Rotonda Golf Course.

He is survived by his wife, Arlene McLeod; his sons and their spouses and partners, Michael and Donna Hall, David Hall and Joseph Romano, Kevin and Liza Hall, Thomas and Cheryl Hall, Jonathan and Hal Blondell-Hall; his grandchildren, Sean Hall and partner, Susan Mahl, Cristy Hall, Samantha Hall, Alexis Hall and Lana Hall; and by his great-grandson, Colby Cooper; as well as many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his first wife Jean Lahoud; and by his daughter, Andrea.

He will be remembered for his humor, honesty, and his prowess as a do-it-yourselfer.

Friends are invited to make donations in his memory to Tidewell Hospice, 210 Wexford Blvd, Venice FL. 34292.

#### Mildred Messner

Mildred "Millie" Messner, 101, died in Englewood on Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2019.

She was born Feb. 25, 1917 as one of ten children to Mary Ann and Alexander Hache.

Millie moved to Englewood in 1984 where she enjoyed golfing, bowling, line dancing and swimming.

She is survived by stepson, Edward (Carol) Messner; stepdaughter-in-law, Roxann Messner; several grandchildren; and great-grandchildren. She is also survived by siblings, Marion Rea, Donelda Soave, Doris (Ted) Jamieson and Desmond (Rosemary) Hache; numerous nieces and nephews.

Millie was preceded in death by husbands, Joseph Skidmore, William Graham and Marvin Messner; son, David Skidmore; stepsons, David, Bob and James Messner.

Arrangements are with National Cremation Society of Port Charlotte, FL.

#### Harry Ross Varney Jr.

Harry Ross Varney Jr. age 88 of Englewood, Florida died peacefully in Venice



Florida of natural causes, his family by his side.

Harry was born on July 14, 1930 in Burlington, Vermont to

Dr. Harry Ross Varney Sr. and Gladys Fuller Varney. Harry was married to Catherine Turner August 30, 1952. They had five children: Linda (Steve) Reinhalter of NC, Robert (Donna) Varney of VT, Suzanne (Erik) Johnsrud of VT, Dorothy (Jeff) Hill of VT and Carol Varney of FL and 14 grand-children and 3 great grand-children.

He received a BS in Agricultural Economics from University of Vermont and an MS in Agricultural Economics from Purdue University. Harry was town Lister and Selectman in Charlotte VT. He was a member of Masonic Lodge Friendship #24 for 62 years. He was member of Myakka Pines GC and Kwiniaska GC.

Harry was predeceased by his parents and beloved grand-daughter Sara Varney.

A graveside service will follow at a later date in Greenwood Cemetery, Bristol, Vermont.

In lieu of flowers please donate to Parkinson's Disease research.

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## COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

### Free tax help

AARP is hosting its Tax-Aide Program at various sites around North Port until April 15, but membership with AARP is not required. It takes place:

- 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Mondays at Holiday Park Recreational Center, Tuscola Boulevard Phase 1 Hall;
- 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesdays at North Port Senior Center, 4940 Pan

American Blvd.;

- 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursdays at San Pedro Catholic Church Activity Center, 14380 Tamiami Trail;
- 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Fridays at North Port Senior Center, 4940 Pan American Blvd.;
- 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Fridays — by appointment only — Shannon Staub Public Library, 4675 Career Lane. Call 941-861-1744. Taxpayers seeking

assistance should bring photo identification, last year's tax return, a Social Security card along with income and deduction documents.

### Scholarships available

Suncoast Credit Union has three available for \$2,000 each with a deadline of March 1 for Sarasota County students and March 31 for

Charlotte County students. Requirements: Demonstrate financial need, plan to enroll in a four-year university, two-year college, or technical college in Florida, begin post-secondary school in 2019-2020, submit a statement of goals and extracurricular activities. Apply online at [launchyourplan.com/suncoast-credit-union-scholarship/](http://launchyourplan.com/suncoast-credit-union-scholarship/). Allamanda Garden Club has two

scholarships available for \$2,000 each with a deadline of March 31. Requirements: Must be a college junior or senior or graduate/doctoral students pursuing degrees in the sciences or horticulture-related fields. College sophomores going into junior year are eligible. Preference to students who are residents of North Port, Port Charlotte, Englewood or Venice. For more information or to apply, visit [allamandagardenclub.com](http://allamandagardenclub.com) or contact Lisa Colburn by emailing [info@AllamandaGardenClub.com](mailto:info@AllamandaGardenClub.com).

com or contact Lisa Colburn by emailing [info@AllamandaGardenClub.com](mailto:info@AllamandaGardenClub.com).

### Yard sale

St. Nathaniel's Episcopal Church hosts a church yard sale from 8 a.m.-noon March 23. To reserve a table at a cost of \$15, contact Helen between 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays at 941-426-2520.

## AREA PROPERTY TRANSFERS

### CHARLOTTE COUNTY/NORTH PORT - COURTESY OF PUNTA GORDA, PORT CHARLOTTE, NORTH PORT ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

ML#	STATUS	CITY	ZIP CODE	ADDRESS	LIST PRICE	AREA	SOLD PRICE	SOLD DATE	POOL	BE	FB	HB	BUILT	PROPERTY STYLE	SOLD TERMS	LP/SQFT	SP/LP	LP/SQFT
C7408444	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33952	3100 HARBOR BLVD #207	62900	841	62900	2/14/2019	Community	1	1	0	1970	Condominium	Cash	74.79	1	74.79
C7410545	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33948	19505 QUESADA AVE #E108	79900	689	77000	2/15/2019	None	1	1	0	1985	Condominium	Cash	115.97	0.96	
C7408405	Sold	PUNTA GORDA	33955	11298 5TH AVE	84900	744	83250	2/15/2019	None	2	1	0	1962	Single Family Residence	USDA	114.11	0.98	
D6103367	Sold	PUNTA GORDA	33983	2200 BROADPOINT DR	89900	1688	85000	2/15/2019	None	3	2	0	1986	Single Family Residence	Cash	53.26	0.95	
C7409800	Sold	NORTH PORT	34287	402 MONZA AVE	93900	1582	91350	2/15/2019	None	2	2	0	1973	Single Family Residence	Cash	59.36	0.97	
C7410436	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33952	21906 CELLINI AVE	95500	905	90000	2/19/2019	None	2	1	1	1961	Single Family Residence	Cash	105.52	0.94	71.26
C7409896	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33948	19505 QUESADA AVE #F202	99000	838	95000	2/19/2019	Community	2	2	0	1985	Condominium	Cash	118.14	0.96	113.37
C7403908	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33980	3310 LOVELAND BLVD #207	99000	1044	85000	2/15/2019	Community	2	2	0	1990	Condominium	Cash	94.83	0.86	81.42
C7408849	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33948	19505 QUESADA AVE #S105	104900	899	100000	2/15/2019	None	2	2	0	1985	Condominium	Cash	116.69	0.95	
C7410089	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33952	1627 SCOTTEN ST	107000	1409	89500	2/15/2019	None	2	2	0	1970	Single Family Residence	Cash	75.94	0.84	
C7410022	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33952	21968 FELTON AVE	115000	874	115000	2/15/2019	None	2	1	0	1960	Single Family Residence	Conventional	131.58	1	
C7408540	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33952	2554 AMBROSE LN	115900	1363	110000	2/14/2019	None	3	1	0	1960	Single Family Residence	Cash	85.03	0.95	
O5730224	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33952	21323 COTTONWOOD AVE	118200	1284	109000	2/19/2019	None	2	2	0	1982	Single Family Residence	Conventional	92.06	0.92	
N6104037	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33981	12120 WEIMAR AVE	129900	918	125000	2/19/2019	None	2	1	0	1984	Single Family Residence	Cash	141.5	0.96	
C7410097	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33948	4358 PATES ST	138000	904	134000	2/19/2019	None	2	1	0	1982	Single Family Residence	FHA	152.65	0.97	82.72
C7409831	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33952	1242 STAMFORD ST	140000	1082	144500	2/15/2019	None	2	2	0	1980	Single Family Residence	Cash	129.39	1.03	80.06
A4422312	Sold	PUNTA GORDA	33983	1470 SAN CRISTOBAL AVE	140000	1148	135000	2/14/2019	Community	2	2	0	1989	Condominium	Cash	121.95	0.96	117.6
N6103956	Sold	ENGLEWOOD	34224	6800 PLACIDA RD #1015	144500	1092	148000	2/15/2019	Community	2	2	0	1991	Condominium	Cash	132.33	1.02	
C7409299	Sold	PUNTA GORDA	33983	1335 SAXONY CIR #313	148525	1165	140000	2/14/2019	Community	2	2	0	1993	Condominium	Cash	127.49	0.94	
N6103096	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33980	23050 RYE AVE	149000	1399	155000	2/19/2019	None	2	2	0	1981	Single Family Residence	VA	106.5	1.04	70.68
C7403490	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33952	2272 STARLITE LN	149500	1192	142000	2/19/2019	Private	3	1	0	1964	Single Family Residence	Cash	125.42	0.95	
A4421150	Sold	NORTH PORT	34287	6437 ELMWOOD RD	149900	1292	140000	2/15/2019	None	3	1	0	1982	Single Family Residence	VA	116.02	0.93	
C7407795	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33952	3167 PINETREE ST	152900	1100	145000	2/15/2019	Private	2	2	0	1972	Single Family Residence	Conventional	139	0.95	
D6103255	Sold	PUNTA GORDA	33950	523 E MCKENZIE ST	154900	1120	145000	2/15/2019	None	3	2	0	2008	Single Family Residence	Cash	138.3	0.94	
C7406772	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33952	3254 JAMESTOWN ST	158900	1310	158900	2/14/2019	None	2	2	0	1979	Single Family Residence	Conventional	121.3	1	76.69
C7409536	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33952	1402 KENMORE ST	159000	1313	152000	2/15/2019	None	2	2	0	1983	Single Family Residence	FHA	121.1	0.96	68.59
C7408992	Sold	NORTH PORT	34286	3879 PORTAIR AVE	159000	1287	133000	2/14/2019	None	3	2	0	1985	Single Family Residence	Cash	123.54	0.84	66.27
C7410193	Sold	NORTH PORT	34287	316 ORTEGA PL	164900	1274	169900	2/15/2019	Private	2	2	0	1984	Single Family Residence	Conventional	129.43	1.03	67.1
C7409322	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33954	23042 AUGUST AVE	164900	1262	164900	2/15/2019	None	3	2	0	1994	Single Family Residence	Conventional	130.67	1	88.47
C7401055	Sold	PUNTA GORDA	33955	25295 ESTRADA CIR	165000	1234	160000	2/15/2019	None	3	2	0	1994	Single Family Residence	Conventional	133.71	0.97	110.8
U8030361	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33952	1086 VERONICA ST	166000	1190	166000	2/15/2019	None	2	2	0	1979	Single Family Residence	VA	139.5	1	92.02
C7407703	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33948	17511 TERRY AVE	166888	1440	158000	2/17/2019	None	3	2	0	1980	Single Family Residence	FHA	115.89	0.95	
A4409682	Sold	PUNTA GORDA	33982	4614 GREENBRIAR DR	167000	1432	167000	2/15/2019	None	3	2	0	2006	Single Family Residence	USDA	116.62	1	86.98
N6103350	Sold	NORTH PORT	34287	5738 SABAL TRACE DR #10	169900	1168	162500	2/15/2019	Community	2	2	0	2005	Condominium	Cash	145.46	0.96	118.1
C7408346	Sold	NORTH PORT	34287	6119 JORDAN ST	169900	1365	169900	2/19/2019	None	3	2	0	1959	Single Family Residence	FHA	124.47	1	102.04
C7403474	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33980	24156 BUCKINGHAM WAY	170000	1239	160000	2/14/2019	Community	2	2	0	2001	Single Family Residence	Cash	137.21	0.94	85.93
C7411486	Sold	NORTH PORT	34286	2729 MAXIMO RD	174900	1270	162500	2/19/2019	None	3	2	0	2006	Single Family Residence	Cash	137.72	0.93	85.12
C7409685	Sold	NORTH PORT	34286	1146 WOODCREST LN	174900	1702	169000	2/14/2019	None	3	2	0	2003	Single Family Residence	Other	102.76	0.97	73.8
C7406603	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33952	1461 SCHENLEY ST	174900	1458	170000	2/15/2019	None	3	2	0	1974	Single Family Residence	VA	119.96	0.97	
C7410044	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33980	23269 OLEAN BLVD	175000	1364	172500	2/14/2019	None	3	2	0	1978	Single Family Residence	Cash	128.3	0.99	
D6104390	Sold	NORTH PORT	34287	2633 RIDGEWOOD DR	175000	1032	145000	2/14/2019	None	3	2	0	1991	Single Family Residence	FHA	169.57	0.83	88.85
C7410226	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33948	4203 PERCH CIR	177900	1485	175000	2/19/2019	None	3	2	0	1987	Single Family Residence	Conventional	119.8	0.98	94.34
A4420950	Sold	ENGLEWOOD	34224	1170 MARTIN DR	179000	802	179000	2/14/2019	None	2	1	0	1960	Single Family Residence	Cash	223.19	1	181.17
C7404639	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33980	24328 BUCKINGHAM WAY	179500	1079	172000	2/18/2019	Community	2	2	0	2001	Single Family Residence	Cash	166.36	0.96	
C7409577	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33952	3490 GREAT NECK ST	179891	1296	157500	2/14/2019	Private	2	2	0	1983	Single Family Residence	Cash	138.8	0.88	
D6104331	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33981	6259 COLISEUM BLVD	179900	1212	163000	2/15/2019	Community	3	2	0	2005	Single Family Residence	Cash	148.43	0.91	88.97
C7405620	Sold	PUNTA GORDA	33983	25666 AYSEN DR	179900	1516	179500	2/15/2019	None	3	2	0	1989	Single Family Residence	Conventional	118.67	1	82.19
D6102064	Sold	ENGLEWOOD	34224	10123 STONECROP AVE	179900	1502	153500	2/15/2019	None	3	2	0	1990	Single Family Residence	Cash	119.77	0.85	69.77
N6103058	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33952	22611 QUASAR BLVD	180990	1499	180990	2/15/2019	None	4	2	0	2018	Single Family Residence	FHA	120.74	1	93.53
C7406804	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33954	23493 PEACHLAND BLVD	184000	1740	177000	2/15/2019	None	3	2	0	1989	Single Family Residence	Conventional	103.37	0.96	68.74
A4419198	Sold	NORTH PORT	34286	2198 ALLIANCE AVE	185000	1241	189400	2/15/2019	None	3	2	0	2002	Single Family Residence	VA	149.07	1.02	
A4416459	Sold	NORTH PORT	34286	2781 W PRICE BLVD	187900	1572	178000	2/15/2019	None	3	2	0	1993	Single Family Residence	FHA	119.53	0.95	71.31
C7406607	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33952	21286 MULBERRY AVE	189000	1560	180000	2/14/2019	Private	3	2	0	1984	Single Family Residence	VA	121.15	0.95	80.07
D6102849	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33953	3413 GRAND VISTA CT #203	192000	1759	182000	2/15/2019	None	3	2	0	2003	Condominium	Cash	109.15	0.95	83.03
C7251426	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33980	24363 FOLKSTONE AVE	194900	1382	194000	2/15/2019	Community	2	2	0	2004	Single Family Residence	Conventional	141.03	1	96.76
C7405303	Sold	NORTH PORT	34286	1789 RAYWOOD AVE	195000	1380	185000	2/14/2019	None	3	2	0	2001	Single Family Residence	Conventional	141.3	0.95	93.25
D6103983	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33953	3313 GRAND VISTA CT #202	199900	1766	189900	2/15/2019	Community	2	2	0	2000	Condominium	Cash	113.19	0.95	
A4404379	Sold	NORTH PORT	34286	2384 W PRICE BLVD	204900	1641	202000	2/15/2019	None	3	2	0	2006	Single Family Residence	Conventional	124.86	0.99	80.86
N6103051	Sold	ENGLEWOOD	34223	1885 NEPTUNE DR	205000	1567	182000	2/15/2019	None	2	2	0	1979	Single Family Residence	Conventional	130.82	0.89	75.86
N6100928	Sold	PUNTA GORDA	33982	28131 ARROWHEAD CIR	205000	1672	203500	2/18/2019	Community	3	2	0	2018	Single Family Residence	Cash	122.61	0.99	90.81
C7405851	Sold	NORTH PORT	34288	2060 VALENTINE ST	206900	1437	206900	2/19/2019	None	3	2	0	2018	Single Family Residence	Cash	143.98	1	102.12
C7406660	Sold	PORT CHARLOTTE	33948	19652 MIDWAY BLVD	207500													



# Free showing of film on refugee crisis

‘Human Flow’ by Chinese artist coming March 9 to Mid-County Regional Library

By **BETSY CALVERT**  
STAFF WRITER

Four citizen groups in Charlotte County want you to see a 2017 film made by a Chinese dissident about the global refugee crisis.

Those groups raised money to bring a film called “Human Flow” by Chinese artist Ai WeiWei — who was once labelled the world’s most powerful artist — to Charlotte County.

The 140 minute film will be shown for free Saturday, March 9, at 1:30 p.m., at the Mid-County Public Library, 2050 Forrest Nelson Blvd., in Port Charlotte

Called “strangely beautiful” by a New York Times critic, the film travels to 23 countries to witness what the artist

and others have called the largest refugee crisis since World War II. An estimated 65 million people worldwide have been forced to leave their homes due to famine, war and climate change.

“It’s going to be a challenge that the world is shrinking, and people from different cultures and different religions are going to have to live with each other,” a narrator states in the film.

Ai WeiWei has said he was compelled to make this film in part due to his own childhood experience of displacement. During the Cultural Revolution, the Chinese government exiled his family in 1958 because it considered his father anti-communist. They lived in a cave for five years.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Four citizen groups are presenting the documentary “Human Flow” on March 9 at the Mid-County Library. It is about the worldwide displacement of about 65 million people from their homes, which is the largest refugee crisis since World War II. The film was made by the dissident Chinese artist Ai WeiWei who designed the bird’s nest sports stadium for the 2008 Olympics in Beijing.

Ai went on to become a successful artist in China. He was the artist behind the bird’s nest design of the Beijing National Stadium for the 2008 Olympics — a government monument

he later said he regretted helping to create. Due to his criticism of his government, he was arrested and detained for 81 days. A few years ago, he was allowed to travel again. He made

the film while living in Germany, and with funding from backers there.

The groups who are sponsoring the event include the Immigrant Justice Committee of the Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship of Charlotte County, Indivisible Action of Southwest Florida, the Hispanic American Citizens Council and the Democratic Hispanic Caucus.

## Why see this film?

Immigration Justice Committee member Laura Anderson said the film helped her to understand the struggle of the many immigrants she meets in Charlotte County, from her Russian

neighbors to hospital employees who helped her sister, to people with foreign accents who serve her in grocery stores.

“While I hear stories in the news, they are really just snippets of disconnected information and this movie connected for me, cause and effect, made the story compelling, and made the migrants human,” she said.

“Because of the Human Flow movie I have much more compassion for the hardships all of these people face because they were not born in this country,” Anderson added. “I don’t know their stories but I know all of them have gone through the process of finding a new home.”

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## AREA PROPERTY TRANSFERS

### SOUTH SARASOTA COUNTY - COURTESY OF VENICE AREA BOARD OF REALTORS

ML#	STATUS	ADDRESS	BE	FB	HB	YEAR BUILT	SW SUBDIV COMMUNITY NAME	PROPERTY STYLE	SOLD TERMS	SP /SQFT	SP /LP	CLOSE DATE	CLOSE PRICE	POOL Y/N
N6102855	Sold	1186 BIRD BAY WAY #109	1	1	0	1979	Bird Bay Village	Condominium	Cash	141.18	0.89	2/12/2019	120000	FALSE
N6103224	Sold	1707 BONITAS CIR #1734-D	2	2	0	1980	Villa Nova	Condominium	Cash	113.83	0.93	2/12/2019	135000	FALSE
U8021039	Sold	215 RUBENS DR #E	2	2	0	1980	Sorrento Park	Condominium	Cash	110.08	0.97	2/15/2019	142000	FALSE
A4423029	Sold	642 BIRD BAY DR E #102	2	2	0	1983	Bird Bay Village	Condominium	Conventional	141.34	0.94	2/15/2019	150100	FALSE
C7408176	Sold	1093 N CYPRESS POINT DR	2	2	0	1975	Venice Gardens	Single Family Residence	Cash	115.36	0.89	2/14/2019	160000	TRUE
N6101840	Sold	400 MISSION TRL E #A	2	2	0	1982	Mission Lakes	Condominium	Cash	158.83	1	2/15/2019	169000	FALSE
N6103371	Sold	415 CYPRESS RD	2	2	0	1977	South Venice	Single Family Residence	Conventional	136.03	1	2/11/2019	169900	FALSE
A4421682	Sold	650 BIRD BAY DR E #202	2	2	0	1983	Bird Bay	Condominium	Cash	160.08	0.97	2/15/2019	170000	FALSE
A4415610	Sold	214 WOODLAND DR #214	2	2	0	1980	Pine Run	Condominium	Conventional	130.7	0.93	2/14/2019	172000	FALSE
N6103760	Sold	1041 CAPRI ISLES BLVD #114	3	2	0	1991	Golf Green	Condominium	Cash	146.36	0.96	2/12/2019	185000	FALSE
A4415543	Sold	1335 KAREN DR	3	2	0	1978	East Gate Terrace	Single Family Residence	Conventional	180.95	0.97	2/13/2019	190000	FALSE
A4418063	Sold	230 SANTA MARIA ST #333	2	2	0	1973	Bella Costa	Condominium	Cash	197.33	1	2/12/2019	199900	FALSE
A4416332	Sold	11847 TEMPEST HARBOR LOOP	3	2	0	2010	Stoneybrook At Venice	Single Family Residence	Conventional	156.71	0.98	2/15/2019	215000	FALSE
N6102763	Sold	703 GONDOLA PARK DR #703BLG	2	2	0	2001	The Residence At Gondola Park	Condominium	Cash	171.88	0.92	2/15/2019	220000	FALSE
N5916733	Sold	1008 EUCLID RD	3	2	0	1979	South Venice	Single Family Residence	FHA	134.49	0.96	2/15/2019	225000	TRUE
D6100566	Sold	200 WETHERBY ST	2	2	0	1996	Wexford On The Green	Single Family Residence	Conventional	142.42	0.98	2/15/2019	235000	FALSE
D6104148	Sold	595 E BAFFIN DR	3	2	0	1988	South Venice	Single Family Residence	Conventional	147.87	0.96	2/11/2019	240000	TRUE
N6103024	Sold	101 PARK BLVD S #310	2	2	0	1973	Venice Park Sec Of Venice	Condominium	Cash	274.04	0.96	2/14/2019	265000	FALSE
O5756766	Sold	837 CHALMERS DR #837	3	2	0	1999	Patios Of St Andrews Park At Plant	Single Family Residence	Cash	144.43	0.99	2/12/2019	268500	FALSE
N6102610	Sold	19185 MANGIERI ST	2	2	0	2014	Islandwalk At The West Villages	Single Family Residence	Cash	187.2	0.99	2/15/2019	269000	FALSE
A4415332	Sold	4931 SUMMERTREE RD	3	2	0	1987	Southwood	Single Family Residence	Conventional	168.61	0.98	2/15/2019	275000	FALSE
D6102918	Sold	740 TANAGER RD	3	2	0	2006	South Venice	Single Family Residence	Cash	137.84	0.98	2/11/2019	275000	FALSE
D6103105	Sold	248 CORNELL RD	3	2	0	2006	South Venice	Single Family Residence	VA	131.59	1	2/14/2019	279900	FALSE
A4413910	Sold	20191 RAGAZZA CIR #201	3	2	0	2015	Gran Paradiso	Condominium	Conventional	130.27	0.98	2/15/2019	284900	FALSE
N6101813	Sold	2500 BAYSHORE RD	3	2	0	1962	Nokomis	Single Family Residence	Conventional	180.24	0.88	2/14/2019	290000	FALSE
T3138242	Sold	9848 WINGOOD DR	3	2	0	2019	Not Applicable	Single Family Residence	Cash	175.61	1	2/15/2019	294497	FALSE
N6102226	Sold	12070 GRANITE WOODS LOOP	3	2	0	2006	Stoneybrook At Venice	Single Family Residence	Conventional	151.01	0.98	2/15/2019	328000	FALSE
C7410108	Sold	1294 CIELO CT	3	2	0	2014	Not Applicable	Single Family Residence	Cash	171.36	0.95	2/12/2019	341000	FALSE
N6101503	Sold	5525 SENTIERO DR	2	2	0	2017	Not Applicable	Single Family Residence	Conventional	203.81	0.98	2/15/2019	342000	FALSE
N6102421	Sold	1383 STILL RIVER DR	3	2	0	2015	Grand Palm	Single Family Residence	Conventional	195.58	0.99	2/15/2019	345000	FALSE
N6102362	Sold	139 NOLEN DR	2	2	0	2016	Not Applicable	Single Family Residence	Cash	169.08	0.92	2/15/2019	350000	FALSE
A4422043	Sold	1906 TRIANO CIR #1906	3	2	0	2005	Triano	Condominium	Cash	174.81	0.99	2/15/2019	350500	FALSE
A4403722	Sold	631 ALHAMBRA RD #201	2	2	0	1973	Valencia Condo Apts	Condominium	Conventional	281.93	0.98	2/14/2019	362000	FALSE
A4420774	Sold	504 MEADOW SWEET CIR	3	2	0	2001	Rivendell	Single Family Residence	Conventional	204.14	0.97	2/15/2019	365000	FALSE
A4411566	Sold	5704 SEMOLINO ST	2	2	0	2018	Not Applicable	Single Family Residence	Conventional	216.1	0.92	2/15/2019	365000	FALSE
A4215482	Sold	1619 STILL RIVER DR	3	3	0	2018	Grand Palm	Single Family Residence	Conventional	154.88	0.9	2/11/2019	370000	FALSE
A4418588	Sold	704 MISTY PINE DR	3	2	0	1998	Sawgrass	Single Family Residence	Conventional	179.07	0.98	2/13/2019	373000	FALSE
N6103268	Sold	627 LAKESIDE DR	3	2	1	2003	The Lakes Of Jacaranda	Single Family Residence	Cash	190.84	0.95	2/15/2019	375000	TRUE
C7406192	Sold	10354 MEDJOOOL DR	3	3	0	2017	Sarasota National	Single Family Residence	Cash	172.04	0.95	2/11/2019	379000	FALSE
N6101613	Sold	4927 BELLA TERRA DR	3	2	0	2001	Venetia	Single Family Residence	Conventional	173.91	0.95	2/14/2019	380000	TRUE
A4212577	Sold	11773 ALTAMONTE CT	3	2	0	2018	Grand Palm	Single Family Residence	Cash	166.03	0.92	2/12/2019	393000	FALSE
N6103189	Sold	23536 COPPERLEAF DR	2	2	0	2016	Sarasota National	Single Family Residence	Conventional	214.07	0.98	2/15/2019	420000	TRUE
N6101232	Sold	339 ELK INLT	2	2	0	1968	Nokomis	Single Family Residence	Cash	351.88	0.96	2/14/2019	477500	FALSE
A4156797	Sold	516 TAMIAMI TRL S #402	3	3	1	2010	Not Applicable	Condominium	Seller Financing	231.23	1	2/14/2019	499000	FALSE
N6102999	Sold	4360 CORSO VENETIA BLVD	4	3	0	2006	Venetia	Single Family Residence	Cash	189.48	0.95	2/12/2019	515000	TRUE
N6103141	Sold	1308 GUARDIAN DR	3	2	0	1988	Venice Acres	Single Family Residence	Conventional	222.27	0.96	2/14/2019	529000	TRUE
T3138401	Sold	909 DAWN ST	3	2	0	1990	Venezia Park	Single Family Residence	Cash	278.47	0.98	2/15/2019	577000	TRUE
N6102613	Sold	840 THE ESPLANADE N #602	2	2	0	1974	Sansovino The	Condominium	Cash	501.2	0.96	2/14/2019	625000	FALSE
N6102457	Sold	755 EGRET WALK LN	4	3	0	2002	Waterford	Single Family Residence	Conventional	208.14	0.96	2/14/2019	690000	TRUE
N6103439	Sold	840 THE ESPLANADE N #201	2	2	0	1974	Sansovino The	Condominium	Cash	495.05	0.98	2/11/2019	750000	FALSE
A4206098	Sold	145 SHORELAND DR	4	3	2	2004	Towns-End Shores	Single Family Residence	Conventional	297.91	0.84	2/14/2019	1225000	TRUE

### ENGLEWOOD - COURTESY OF ENGLEWOOD AREA BOARD OF REALTORS

ML#	STATUS	ADDRESS	CITY	ZIP	LEGAL SUBDIVISION NAME	SQFT	PRICE	BE	FB	HB	BUILT	POOL	PROPERTY STYLE	SOLD TERMS	CLOSE	LP/SQFT	SP/SQFT	SP/LP
D6105060	SLD	900 S MCCALL RD Unit#1A	ENGLEWOOD	34223	HAR/LEMON BAY PH 1 BLDG 1	2,550	\$13,900				1972	None	Dock-Rackominium	Cash	2/15/2019	\$5.45	\$5.45	0.91
D6102998	SLD	1475 FLAMINGO DR Unit#30	ENGLEWOOD	34224	HOLIDAY TRAVEL PK ENGLWD	424	\$68,000	2	1	0	1982	Community	Mobile Home	Cash	2/15/2019	\$176.65	\$160.38	0.91
C7405140	SLD	6398 SPINNAKER BLVD	ENGLEWOOD	34224	PORT CHARLOTTE SEC 062	1,002	\$101,000	2	2	0	1987	None	Single Family Residence	Cash	2/12/2019	\$100.80	\$100.80	1
D6102913	SLD	6800 PLACIDA RD Unit#211	ENGLEWOOD	34224	FIDDLERS GREEN PH 01	1,092	\$125,000	2	2	0	1984	Community	Condominium	Conventional	2/12/2019	\$117.22	\$114.47	0.98
D6103639	SLD	718 BUTTERFIELD CIR	ENGLEWOOD	34223	TANGERINE WOODS	1,248	\$135,000	2	2	0	1983	Community	Manufactured Home	Cash	2/13/2019	\$114.58	\$108.17	0.94
N6103956	SLD	6800 PLACIDA RD Unit#1015	ENGLEWOOD	34224	FIDDLERS GREEN 02 PH 06	1,092	\$148,000	2	2	0	1991	Community	Condominium	Cash	2/15/2019	\$132.33	\$135.53	1.02
D6100242	SLD	5150 PLACIDA RD	ENGLEWOOD	34224	W OF ROAD	1,104	\$150,000	3	1	0	1960	None	Single Family Residence	FHA	2/12/2019	\$134.96	\$135.87	1.01
D6102165	SLD	725 TANGERINE WOODS BLVD	ENGLEWOOD	34223	TANGERINE WOODS	1,512	\$144,500	2	2	0	1983	Community	Manufactured Home	Cash	2/15/2019	\$99.14	\$95.57	0.96
D6103947	SLD	195 ANNAPOLIS LN	ROTONDA WEST	33947	ROTONDA WST OAKLAND HILLS	1,200	\$155,900	2	2	0	1979	Private	Single Family Residence	Conventional	2/15/2019	\$133.25	\$129.92	0.97
D6103580	SLD	850 E 7TH ST	ENGLEWOOD	34223	ROCK CREEK PARK 3RD ADD	1,665	\$132,000	3	2	0	1972	None	Single Family Residence	Cash	2/11/2019	\$96.04	\$79.28	0.83
N6103469	SLD	70 S BUENA VISTA AVE	ENGLEWOOD	34223	ALAMEDA ISLES	1,056	\$165,500	2	2	0	1978	Community	Manufactured Home	Cash	2/14/2019	\$160.70	\$156.72	0.98
A4420950	SLD	1170 MARTIN DR	ENGLEWOOD	34224	HARRIS	802	\$179,000	2	1	0	1960	None	Single Family Residence	Cash	2/14/2019	\$223.19	\$223.19	1
D6104331	SLD	6259 COLISEUM BLVD	PORT CHARLOTTE	33981	PORT CHARLOTTE SEC 095	1,212	\$163,000	3	2	0	2005	Community	Single Family Residence	Cash	2/15/2019	\$148.43	\$134.49	0.91
D6102064	SLD	10123 STONECROP AVE	ENGLEWOOD	34224	PORT CHARLOTTE SEC 064	1,502	\$153,500	3	2	0	1990	None	Single Family Residence	Cash	2/15/2019	\$119.77	\$102.20	0.85
D6104069	SLD	1120 LAMPP DR	ENGLEWOOD	34223	ROCK CREEK PARK 3RD ADD	1,108	\$169,500	2	2	0	1972	None	Single Family Residence	VA	2/13/2019	\$180.42	\$152.98	0.85
N6103051	SLD	1885 NEPTUNE DR	ENGLEWOOD	34223	OVERBROOK GARDENS	1,567	\$182,000	2	2	0	1979	None	Single Family Residence	Conventional	2/15/2019	\$130.82	\$116.15	0.89
C7407941	SLD	10309 GREENWAY AVE	ENG															



# Men strut their stuff for mammograms

## Bra Dazzle brunch raises money for uninsured, under-insured

By ELAINE ALLEN-EMRICH  
COMMUNITY NEWS EDITOR

VENICE — The Bra Dazzle brunch Saturday raised awareness of the importance of getting a mammogram in a fun, lighthearted way.

The event at Jacaranda West Golf and Country Club showcased a bra-decorating contest for individuals, business owners,

students, and cancer survivors, who helped raise thousands to pay for mammograms for those who are under-insured or have no insurance and are in need of the preventative test in Englewood, Charlotte County, North Port and Venice.

Local businesses also gave numerous prizes for the event by Rita Bertler and her

son Chris of Pro Audio Service, along with a team of volunteers and male models. The men showcasing homemade bras included Jake Campbell, Roman Romanenko, Brian Faro, Karl Thatcher, Rick O'Neal, Spencer Heldenbrand and Anthony Watts. For more information, visit [www.dollarsformammograms.org](http://www.dollarsformammograms.org)



SUN PHOTOS BY ELAINE ALLEN-EMRICH

The Bra Dazzle models, under the direction of Dollars for Mammograms founder Rita Bertler, take a second to show their sexiest pose. From left: Roman Romanenko, Spencer Heldenbrand, Anthony Watts and Rick O'Neal. Each of the bras sold between \$75 and \$400 at the sold out event Saturday.



Karl Thatcher, the owner of Kustom Firearms in Englewood, gets the crowd cheering as he raises money for Dollars for Mammograms.



Bra Dazzle supporter Evelina Hutton paid \$300 for the Victoria's Secret bra that came with a halo.



Bra Dazzle volunteer Irene Slattery collected singles donated from women each time the men modeled a bra.



Kristen Conti, of Coldwell Banker Sunstar Realty in Englewood, bought two bras totaling \$300.



Joan Mathews, supporter and friend of Rita Bertler, founder of Dollars for Mammograms and Bra Dazzle, paid \$575 for two bras at the event Saturday at Jacaranda West Golf and Country Club. Mathews is a longtime attendee of the annual event.

### Looking For A Lampshade?

A New Store In Port Charlotte Specializes In That

The Lamp Shade Store in Port Charlotte hasn't been around long, but keeping all inventory in stock has been challenging.

Q.) When did you open your business?

A.) We opened Oct 1. of this year.

Q.) How many employees do you have?

A.) One employee.

Q.) What is your most popular item or service?

A.) The retro drum lampshades are a popular shade that people want. We also provide lamp repairs.

Q.) What is the hardest part about your business?

A.) I think that would have to be keeping all the inventory in stock.

Q.) What sets you apart from other businesses?

A.) My customer service and the fact that we are a one of a kind business.

#### IF YOU GO

Name Of Business:  
**The Lamp Shade Store**

Address:  
2675 Tamiami Trail,  
Port Charlotte

Owner:  
Michael Langton

Hours:  
Tues. to Sat.

9:30am - 5 pm

Phone:  
941-624-2200

Q.) What advice do you have for someone just starting a business?

A.) Be very patient and have a large bank roll.

Q.) What does the future hold for your business?

A.) I am hoping to expand one day with multiple stores.

Photo outline:  
SUN PHOTO BY DEBRA  
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# It's a bird. No, it's a plane!

## Model aircraft enthusiasts gather in PG to spread their (small) wings

By LIZ HARDAWAY  
STAFF WRITER

PUNTA GORDA — Brightly colored wings buzzed through clouds, pushing against the slight wind.

Meanwhile, the actual pilot remained safely on the ground.

The Charlotte Radio Control Society had their Vintage RC Society Fellowship gathering Friday and Saturday at their Shell Creek model airfield in Punta Gorda.

This was where people from all around the area donned their sunglasses, puffed cigars and flipped burgers. They banded together and laughed while grading each other on their various landing techniques.

"Flying is social," said Dennis Fortunato, the club's president, but "you have to have thick skin to fly here."

"When you have to charge your battery, that's the best part," said snowbird John Klingele. "You get to interact with everyone."

The Charlotte Radio

Control Society has 104 members and growing. Some are retired pilots.

But every plane has an expiration date, said the club's president, Dennis Fortunato.

"Cashing is a part of flying," Fortunato said.

Multiple members said their love of model airplanes began with piloting control line airplanes as a kid.

The model planes, which are each registered with the FAA, are exempt to drone rules as they keep the planes where they can see them.

One model plane, their Wright Flyer, recently went on a road trip to North Carolina to be showcased at the NBA All-Star Dunk Competition. The plane was signed by De'Aaron Fox with the Sacramento Kings and Malcolm Brogden with the Milwaukee Bucks.

The plane took 9 guys working 10 hours a day to complete by the competition Feb. 16 in Charlotte, North Carolina.

And people can visit



SUN PHOTO BY LIZ HARDAWAY

**Joe Dolliver carries his Alaskan bush model plane to fly in the Shell Creek model airfield Saturday morning.**

the famous plane after Tuesday at the K&K Hobby Shop in Port Charlotte, which has acquired it.

The airfield is open seven days a week, with Tuesday and Saturday being the most popular flying days. Thursdays are usually reserved for maintenance.

"Anybody can come watch," Fortunato said, but he asks visitors to drive 10 mph on their road as it's hard to keep the asphalt in place.

To get to the model airfield, which doesn't have a postal address, take Highway 17 out of Punta Gorda to Washington Loop Road. Head east on Washington Loop Road for about a mile or so, until you see the Punta Gorda Water Works plant. The club's flying site is located behind the water plant. GPS Coordinates to the SHELL CREEK R/C FIELD main gate are: N 26° 58' 25.5" W 081° 55' 46.3".

For more information on the club visit: <https://charlotterc.com/>  
Email: [Liz.Hardaway@yoursun.com](mailto:Liz.Hardaway@yoursun.com)



# Explore Charlotte history at FGCU's Renaissance Academy

PROVIDED BY RICK RAMOS  
FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY

History is more than a simple chronology learned in school. It comes in a variety of forms depending on the perspective from which it is studied.

One form is the micro-history, which is the intensive historical investigation of a single event, individual or community. Micro-history, a term coined in 1959, asks "large questions in small places," in the words of Charles Joyner, the Burroughs Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Southern History and Culture at Coastal Carolina University and a past president of the Southern Historical Association.

In his class "Punta Gorda and Charlotte Harbor Area Prior to 1865," author Graham Segger explores the area's micro-history and how national and international events impacted it. The class is 10 a.m. to noon Feb. 28 at Florida Gulf Coast University's Renaissance Academy, 117 Herald Court, Suite 211, in Punta Gorda.

"The class is for people who have an interest in history or curiosity about the Punta Gorda and Port Charlotte region. When you know your history, you have a better sense of where you are and where you're going," Segger said. "One of the things I'm trying to do is

connect Charlotte Harbor to larger global events like the aboriginal presence in the early years, Spanish exploration and the Seminole and Civil Wars."

The class expands on Segger's self-published book "Where Do We Live? Research by a Seasonal Resident of Burnt Store Road," which is based on the correspondence, journals and memoirs of conquistadors, army officers, customs collectors, trading house operators, surveyors and other travelers. The book was featured in the Fort Myers News-Press and other publications. All proceeds from sales of the e-book at [wheredowelive.com](http://wheredowelive.com) go the Burnt Store-PPYC Charitable Boating Foundation.

In the class, Segger investigates a variety of diverse topics related to Charlotte Harbor and the surrounding region, such as: the indigenous Calusa people; the first Europeans to arrive in the area; a land dispute that took nearly a century to settle; Charlotte Harbor's role in the Seminole and Civil Wars; and how Spanish fishermen from Cuba underscored the other events.

Before Europeans arrived in southwest Florida during the 16th Century, the region was dominated by the Calusa Indians.

"The Calusa were notable as the only aboriginal people whose culture was almost exclusively

maritime based," Segger said. "Their food supply, tools and even the land their villages were built upon came from maritime resources."

Whether Ponce de Leon or Hernando de Soto was the first European to touch on the shores of Charlotte Harbor remains "a great ongoing debate to which there is no definitive answer," Segger said.

A dispute between the U.S. government and Richard Hackley, who claimed Spain had granted him ownership of nearly one-third of the state including Charlotte Harbor, arose in the early 19th Century. It took until 1905, or nearly 100 years to settle the issue of who owned Charlotte Harbor, according to Segger.

During the Seminole and Civil Wars, various engagements were fought in and around Charlotte Harbor. Small-scale naval actions were common during the Civil War, as Confederates tried to smuggle cotton out and needed supplies in to the area, while Union forces tried to halt the smuggling efforts.

Throughout most of this history, Cuban fisherman established temporary ranchos, fishing for mullet to meet the Lenten demand in Catholic Cuba.

For more information or to register for "Punta Gorda and Charlotte Harbor Area Prior to 1865," call 941-505-0130.

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# BUSINESS Journal

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auto mechanic and the business enjoys an excellent reputation. Dr. D's is located at 23415 Janice Avenue in the Whidden Industrial Park in Charlotte Harbor and the phone number is **941-743-3677**. For the best service at a reasonable price, call or stop by Dr. D's Auto Repair.

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jewelry are just a few of the items in stock. If you are on the search for timepieces, you can find them there, from vintage wristwatches to Rolexes. They also have the stock and knowledge to service Rolex watches. There are even designer pieces for a low price. Westchester Gold sells predominantly jewelry but antiques also line the shelves

and decorate corners. To browse jewelry online, visit Westchester Gold and Diamonds' website: <http://westchestergold.com/>. Whether you're in the market for a unique adornment or an interesting antique, Westchester Gold and Diamond might be the place for you!

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coverings for home or office, Absolute Blinds is there to assist you with free estimates. The store is at 2842 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte. Past and present customers can like Absolute Blinds' Facebook page. For more information, visit [www.absoluteblinds.com](http://www.absoluteblinds.com) or call **941-627-5444**.



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# Get all the new movies for free at your library

Check out the catalog and reserve a movie or three

The weather has been warmer than usual this week, and maybe you need to get out of the sun and watch a good movie. You can get them all for free at the library. Here are a few suggestions for what to watch next.

“Bohemian Rhapsody.” I asked a friend of mine if she had seen the new “Bohemian Rhapsody” movie and she said that she hadn’t wanted to spend the money at the theater. I guess I need to remember to remind my friends more often that you can get all the new movies for free at the library. This movie was incredibly well done; after only a few minutes I completely forgot that these were actors playing a part and not the actual band. Actor Remi Malek does an impressive job portraying Freddie Mercury and the other actors look eerily like the rest of the band. The scenes from “Live Aid” reminded us that we had the whole concert on DVD so we spent the rest of the weekend watching that and seeing a lot of old favorite artists. This movie is a must see for anyone growing up with rock music in the 1980s.

“The Front Runner.” This film is about Gary Hart’s presidential campaign in 1998; which is very timely since we are starting another presidential campaign cycle (already!). The story chronicles the ups and downs on the campaign trail. Hart wants to run a positive campaign and talk about issues facing the country, but the press just wants to know about his family and personal escapades. This type of scrutiny by the press would make anyone skeptical about running for office and it eventually ends Gary Hart’s campaign.

Most of these new movies are in high demand, so if you want to watch them right when they come out you need to get on the request list. You can access your library account on line



Englewood Charlotte Library  
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and put up to 15 items on hold at a time and we can call, text or email you when your items arrive.

And don’t forget, if you can’t get to the library in person you can still get movies at home through the library. If you have an iPad, Android device or smart TV we have streaming movies available through Hoopla on our website. To access Hoopla, go to the library website at <http://www2.youseemore.com/charlottecounty/>. Click on the desired button in the middle of the page for Hoopla, and you are on your way. Your library is there for you online 24/7.

## Great Decisions

The next installment of the Great Decisions Discussion is this Friday from noon to 2 p.m. Join with other community members for lively and informative discussions on the major global issues of our time. Discussions center on the topics outlined in the Great Decisions briefing book provided by the Foreign Policy Association. A copy of the book will also be available as a reference at the library.

Instructor John Randazzo is an Englewood resident and member of the Friends of the Englewood Charlotte Library. He has facilitated Great Decisions discussions in Maine and has a background in teaching English and creative writing. The topic for this week is “The Rise of Populism in Europe.”

I hope to see you soon at the library.

*The Englewood Charlotte Library is at 3450 N. Access Road in the Tringali Recreation Complex off State Road 776.*

## COMMUNITY NEWS BRIEFS

### Troop 26 benefit

The next Charity Quarter Auction will benefit Boy Scout Troop 26 of Englewood. It’s set for 6 p.m. Feb. 27 at American Legion Post 113, 3436 Indiana Road, Rotonda West. Games start at 7 p.m. There will be vendors, prizes and drawings. Paddles are \$3 or three for \$6. You must be 18 or older to play. Bring lots of quarters.

### Englewood Democrats

The Englewood Democratic Club will meet at 5:30 p.m. Feb. 27 at the Elsie Quirk Library, 100 W Dearborn St. Members will elect officers and board members for 2019 and vote on club bylaws. Democrats registered to vote in Florida are eligible to join as voting members. Any U.S. registered voter, regardless of affiliation, may join the club as an associate (non-voting) member. Members will meet the fourth Wednesday each

month at the library. For more information, contact Peter Imhoff, Muriel Glaim, or Pam Nolan at [Precinct527dems@gmail.com](mailto:Precinct527dems@gmail.com) or call 941-475-4607.

### Boating classes

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will have several classes in Englewood this February and March. GPS course for mariners is 6:30-9 p.m. Feb. 25 at 1949 Englewood Road. Cost is \$35 for one person, or \$50 for two, using same book. Boat Smart classes are 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Feb. 23 at the Elks lodge, 401 Indiana Road, Englewood. This course is free. “Suddenly in Command” is set for 10 a.m. to noon March 9 at 1949 Englewood Road. Cost \$20. Must register. Boating Skills and Seamanship is 1:30-4 p.m. Mar 19, 21, 26, 28. Cost is \$45 for, or \$65 for two using same book. Call 941-680-2860 or email [helenmcclaskie@hotmail.com](mailto:helenmcclaskie@hotmail.com) to register and for information.

# Sip, listen, dance



SUN PHOTOS BY LIZ HARDAWAY

Dancing in pink, Fort Myers resident Pamela Seudder has come to the Wine and Jazz Festival every year for seven years. “There are 16 of us that come every year,” she said, with some friends coming from Michigan and Virginia. “We met through a group from Naples,” she said, “and we’re always dancing.”

## 14th annual Wine and Jazz Festival swings to success

By LIZ HARDAWAY  
STAFF WRITER

PUNTA GORDA — Wine, or jazz?

Attendees at the Punta Gorda Chamber of Commerce’s 14th annual Wine and Jazz Festival in Laisley Park didn’t have to choose Saturday, as they got enjoy both.

“It’s a hard decision,” Naples resident Bob Miller said as he was trying to decide which was better. “You can have wine all the time, but you don’t get

to listen to live jazz everyday.”

His favorite part, though, were the clouds.

While spectators sipped on their fine wine, performances from Matt Marshak, Sax Pack and Gerald Albright filled the park with smooth, rhythmic jazz music.

About 1,800 people were in attendance Saturday, along with 20 vendors, according to the Punta Gorda Chamber of Commerce.

Email: [Liz.Hardaway@yoursun.com](mailto:Liz.Hardaway@yoursun.com)



The Sax Pack’s Steve Cole improvises on his saxophone as Jeff Kashiwa prepares for his solo.

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**B. BEACH HOUSE** Garden State Lucy twist underwire tankini top with removable soft cups and an H-back that fits and flatters the bust. Sizes 8-16, \$69 (Instore only). Emma solid skirt with hidden zip pocket. Sizes 8-16, \$46.

**C. COCO REEF** Santa Cruz 5-way bandini with molded cups and underwire for shapely support. Convertible neckline allows you to reinvent your look for versatility. Sizes 32/34D, 32/34DD, 36/38C-DDD, \$82 (Instore only). Solid side shirred classic bikini bottom. Sizes S-XL, \$42.

**D. JESSICA SIMPSON** Tijara cropped cami features removable soft cups. Sizes S-XL, \$58. Side shirred hipster. Sizes S-XL, \$44.

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## CHARLOTTE EVENTS

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**Chorale Concert: Bach to Bacharach**, The Charlotte Chorale accompanied by symphonic musicians will perform a selection of masterworks by Bach, Beethoven, Brahms, Bernstein & Bacharach. 300 yrs of powerful music with complex & captivating melodies and interweaving vocals. March 2, 4 p.m., CPAC in PG. Tickets \$25 call 941-204-0033

**Secular Community Meeting**, The monthly meeting of the Secular Community of SW FL will take place from 3 to 5 pm on February 24 at the Punta Gorda Boat Club, located at 802 W Retta Esplanade, Punta Gorda. Howard Goldson will speak about Secular Morality. If you have any questions, contact Barb Hazlett at 414-801-8163.

**Suncoast Statesmen Barbershoppers**, present their Annual Show, HARMONY SHOWCASE, on Sun Mar 24 at 4:30 pm at Burnt Store Presbyterian Church, 11330 Burnt Store Road PG 33955 featuring the multi-talented guest quartet, THROWBACK, & Enharmonics from Port Charlotte High School. Only \$20. Call Paul 419-343-7246 or Jack 941-625-1128

**"Whose Streets?" — Free Film at Library**, Monday, Feb. 25, 5:30 p.m. Mid County Regional Library. The documentary "Whose Streets?" is the story of the Ferguson uprising by the people who lived it. It shows young people fighting for the community they loved. Drive. Martha Bireda will lead a discussion following the film.

The Community Calendar items are entered by the event organizers and are run "as submitted." To submit an item, go to www.yoursun.com, select an edition and click on the "Community Calendar" link on the left. Click "Submit Event," and fill out the appropriate information.

## WINNERS CIRCLE

### American Legion Post 103

• Sunday Darts winners Feb. 17: Game 1: 1-Tommie Holl, Mike Vest; 2-Nancy Heder, Pat Seaman; 3-Fern Tropea, Tony Panacci. Game 2: 1-George Stern Jr., Geo Holl; 2-Tommie Holl, Nancy Becker; 3-Margaret Baldwin, Mike Vest.

### American Legion Post 110

• Bridge winners Feb. 18: Jane Cain, 5710; Ann Beers, 4870; Corlotta Crowell, 4110; Jerry Flower, 3750.

### Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club

• Slam Bridge winners Feb. 20: 1-Chuck Floramo; 2-Diane Floramo; 3-Carol Jeffrey.

### Cultural Center of Charlotte County

• Duplicate Bridge Club winners Feb. 14 (a.m.): (N/S) 1-Jessica Jenks, Mary Brose; 2-Peter Harrington, Bob Bonjean; 3-RJ Moore, Jean Holcomb. (E/W) 1-Bob Rancourt, Janet Williams; 2-Linda Jones, Aurel Leaf; 3-Gary and Judy Cole. Feb. 14 (p.m.): (N/S) 1-Phyllis Morgan, Bill Murphy; 2-Diana and Warren Prince; 3-Sue Zlotocha, Judy Nick. (E/W) 1-Rosalie Bourque, Mary Ann Baird 2-Ann Benmayer, Mary Knowles; 3-Nicole

Parker, Bill Sharp. Feb. 19: (N/S) 1-Bob Rancourt, Dottie Harrop; 2-Liz Barnes, Victoria Chaison; 3- Judy Nick, Sue Zlotocha. (E/W) 1-Bonnie Elliott, Steve Nick, 2- Doug Brenner, Ken Facer; 3-Ann Benmayer, Bruce Baurer.

• Mahjong winners Feb. 14: Table 1: Kathy Cimaglia, Toni Trezise; Table 2: Carole Drake, Linda Chappell; Table 3: Brenda Merran; Table 4: Julee Craig, Marie Devlin; Table 5: Emily Hughes. Feb. 19: Table 1: Carole Drake, Gina Adamo; Table 2: Merry Davine, Barb Polisar; Table 3: Stephanie Stromberg, Evelyn Kalmaer; Table 4: Marie Devlin; Table 5: Cindy Robertson; Table 6: Jerrie Lee.

• Port Charlotte Cribbage Club 147 winners Feb. 18: Bob Sheehan, 31; John McPherson, 27; Lorraine Titus, 27; Bea Cook, 25; Roland Cull, 25; Bob Labossiere, 25. Feb. 20: Frank White, 16; Bea Cook, 15; Lynn Davis, 15; John McPherson, 14; Bob Labossiere, 14.

### Englewood Elks

• Trivia Game winners Feb. 19: 1-Villains; 2-Oak Forest Nuts

### Fisherman's Village Yacht Basin

• Mahjong winners: Feb. 19:

Pauline Comeau, Connie Desplinter, 210; 2-Leslie Ryan, 170; 3-Julianna Smith, 145; 4-Peggy Healy 110. Feb. 21: 1-Marilyn Johnson, 285; 2-Julianna Smith, 265; 3-Fran Shoemaker, Martha Huntszicker, 170; 4-Patty Smith, 145.

### Isles Yacht Club

• Duplicate Bridge winners Feb. 20: 1-Jan Savino, Emma May Goddard; 2-Chip and Sally Smith; 3-Sherry Lane, Chris Taylor.

### Kings Gate

• Friday Night Double Deck Pinochle winners Feb 15: Kathy Garbowicz, 1269; Gary Sblendorio, 1202.

### Kingsway Country Club

• Ladies Bridge winners Feb 13: 1-Marlene Warburton, 2-Judy Mau. Feb 15: 1-Gerrie McGee, 2-Judy Mau. Feb. 20: 1-Marlene Warburton, 2-Linda Bellmore.

• Partners Bridge winners Feb. 13: 1-Jim and Gerrie McGee; 2-Bev Bossert, Jeanne; 3-Rodger Dowdell, Lucy Schmidt. Feb. 20: 1-Dave Baker, Norma Block; 2-Linda Bellmore, Bev Bossert.

### Moose Lodge 2121

• Euchre Card Game winners Feb. 21: John Farney, 83; Bonnie

Cumper, 77; Rolf Boehler, 74; Alice Williams, 71; Gary Fisher, 70; Larry Barratt, 70; Denny Solomon, 70; Debby Laczek, 70.

• Contract Bridge winners Feb. 20: Andy Sponogle, 5080; Barbara Allore, 5070; Carolanne, Hoehle, 4960; Jay Oberlander, 4790; Art Fritz, 4780.

### Port Charlotte Bridge Club

• Bridge winners Feb. 15: 1-Cleta Clark, 4860; 2-Marla Johanson, 3930; 3-Blanche Thum, 3900; 4-Pat Mulligan, 3790.

### PGI

• PGICA Monday Night Duplicate Bridge winners Feb. 18: 1-Melissa Brown, Jeanne Hogan; 2-Jackie and Bob Whiteaker; 3-Lila Jameson, Jack Bulkeley.

### Riverwood

• Friday Night Trivia Game winners Feb. 15: 1-Sawgrass Sharks; 2-Riverwood Rebels.

### Twin Isles Country Club

• Duplicate Bridge winners Feb. 20: 1-Emma Mae Goddard, Pam Lawler; 2-Joan Lasley, Dagmar Shepard. Feb. 21: 1-Katie Costello, Mary Lou Miller; 2-tie — Nancy Padgett, Sharon Groff and Nancy Scheer, Joanne Ryder.

## ENGLEWOOD EVENTS

### TODAY

**Breakfast Buffet**, Am. Legion 113 3436 Indiana Road. 697 3616 Open to the public for breakfast, buffet or to order from kitchen 8-12

**Chicken BBQ**, BBQ Chicken Dinner \$10 donation. 11:30 am — 1 pm. 941-525-7212 265 Pine St. Public Welcome. Great value.

**Sunday Dinner**, Broasted Chicken Dinner 2-5 p.m.. Eat in or get to go! Bar food available all day. Rotonda Elks, members & guests

**Bar Poker**, Bar Poker

— Rotonda VFW Post. Starts at 1 pm. Stop in and join the fun. Members & guests. 697-1123

**Saxophones Concert**, 3 p.m., top area artists, classical to jazz, freewill offering, EU Methodist Church, 474-5588, www.Englewoodumc.net

**Ballroom Classes**, Starting Monday Feb. 25 4:00 Beginner/Intermediate Englewood Sports Complex for info call 941-496-9692

**Fc Fuel Teen Group**, FUEL High School Youth Group meets Sun. 4 p.m. @ 140 Rot. Blvd. W. Join us for fun, food & Bible Study. 475-7447

## NORTH PORT EVENTS

### TODAY

**AMVETS 2000 Special**, Best Breakfast in Town Large menu to choose from. Only \$7 incl/bev 401 Ortiz Blvd NP 941-429-1999

**North Port Moose**, Sunday Funday with Nascar! March 9 dinner and music! Get your tickets now! 14156 Tamiari Trl NP

**North Port VFW**, Members & Guests, Euchre Tourney 1-4, \$0.25 off drafts, domestic bottles & wells, 4860 Trott Cir, NP 426-6865

**SOA Fry & Grill Day**,

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**Saxophones Concert**, 3 p.m., top area artists, classical to jazz, freewill offering, EU Methodist Church, 474-5588, www.Englewoodumc.net

### MONDAY

**Basic Exercise**, \$3/class 9-10 a.m. NP Senior Center 4940 Pan American Ave 426-2204 Join Brenda for a good workout/feel better

## WEEKLY RECORD

### Charlotte County marriage licenses

• Kent Wayne Renner of Port Charlotte, and Kelley Anne Wright of Port Charlotte  
• Roland Emile Olivier of Milan, N.H., and Joan Paulette Paustian of Milan, N.H.  
• Ronald Wayne Dyer of Greensburg, Ind., and Kimberly Rene Pittman of Greensburg, Ind.  
• Mark Andrew Nugent of Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., and Sue Ann Rokus of Wisconsin Rapids, Wisc.  
• Maria Consuelo Romero of Central Islip, N.Y., and Luis Ricardo Gomez Florez of Central Islip, N.Y.  
• Weston Gabriel King of Romulus, Mich., and Keeley Marie Sanders-Masch of Romulus, Mich.  
• Richard John Sleezer of Toms River, N.J., and Mary Fraser Judge of Island Heights, N.J.  
• James Donald Lenway of Faribault, Minn., and Bonnie Lou Stoltz of Faribault, Minn.  
• Simone Natasha Nembhard of Port Charlotte, and Vincent Simpson of Port Charlotte  
• Danny Joe Quick of Port Charlotte, and Kathy Joy Brantley of

Port Charlotte  
• Mohit Rajendrabhai Patel of Port Charlotte, and Jennifer Renea Harrison of Port Charlotte  
• Casey Levi Eaton of Port Charlotte, and Talisa Lynn Meng of Port Charlotte  
• James Curtin Taylor of Port Charlotte, and Deborah Janice Cascio of Port Charlotte  
• William Russell Knowles of Punta Gorda, and Danna Marie Vanantwerp of Punta Gorda  
• Adrian Jacob Bowen of North Port, and Devon Rowand McCarthy of North Port  
• Romario Brian Dino Williams of North Port, and Kimberley Delesha Richards of North Port  
• Salvador Morales of Port Charlotte, and Marta Graciela Rodriguez Flores of Port Charlotte  
• Louis Walter Winter of Orlando, and Ruth Marie Sommers of Punta Gorda  
• David Juan Sousa of Port Charlotte, and Amber Dawn Burrell of Port Charlotte  
• David James Neel of Port Charlotte, and Amanda Marionna Kunstmann of Port Charlotte  
• Robert Aulden McLean of Port

Charlotte, and Tanya Liberty Purcell of Port Charlotte  
• Beatrice Stephanie Liautaud of Fort Myers, and Travonte Daray Russ of Fort Myers  
• Luigi Amabile of North Port, and Dorothy Denice Packett of North Port  
• Fernando Arturo Putzeys of Port Charlotte, and Angela Dawn Jones of Port Charlotte  
• Aaron Alex Salcedo of Sarasota, and Kristen Elizabeth Barker of Sarasota  
• Kyle Anthony Vulgamore of Port Charlotte, and Kristen Nichole Roughton of Port Charlotte  
• Melissa Sue Odom of North Port, and Carlington Obraime Sinclair of North Port  
• Nicholas Charles Daniels of North Port, and Riana Lea Neil of North Port

### Charlotte County divorces

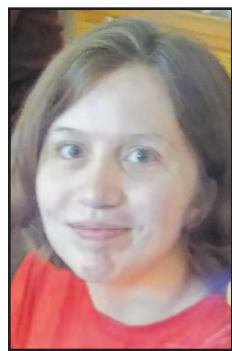
• Lynette M. Alexander v. Robert C. Alexander  
• Annie Rachel Arroyo v. Carlos Gabriel Mercado  
• Jeffrey George Beeten v. Tina

Ann Beeton  
• Julia A. Bennie v. Robert Joseph Bennie  
• Gary Bills v. Leather Marie Bills  
• Cherie Sue Bolyard v. David Alan Bolyard  
• Adrian J. Bowen v. Darlene Marie Bowen  
• Miranda Leigh Dansky v. Kelly Lynn Nancy Dansky  
• Amanda Davis v. Joshua Davis  
• Jacob Evan v. Cherain Evan  
• Jessica Giglia v. Jeremy William Giglia  
• Jamie Hunt v. Stephanie Hunt  
• Barbara A. Letendre v. Michael J. Letendre  
• Robin Long v. George Long Jr.  
• Melanie McCall Moulton v. William Coburn Moulton  
• Brittanie Amber Nunez v. Eudiu Portillo  
• Thomas J. O'Connell v. Amanda O'Connell  
• Mark Stadtmiller v. Joy Marie Stadtmiller  
• Margaret G. Thomas v. William H. Thomas  
• Danielle Anne Vander Ploeg v. David Thomas Vander Ploeg  
• Desmond S. Wint v. Annette A. Wint

## BIRTHDAYS



Happy 95th birthday to Marjorie Morrison on her special day Feb. 23.



Happy 20th birthday to Hannah Hernandez on her special day Feb. 25.



Happy 76th birthday to Diane "Red" Jacobs on her special day Feb. 25.



Happy 10th birthday to Elizabeth AnnMarie Miles on her special day Feb. 25.



Happy 62nd birthday to Rumpung West on her special day Feb. 26.



Happy 88th birthday to Albert Johnson on his special day Feb. 27.



Happy 9th birthday to Bryce Matthew Morse on his special day March 1.

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## St. Baldrick's: Shaving heads for kids with cancer

Organizers seeking people to volunteer to have their heads shaved/donate for research

By **DAN MEARNS**  
FEELING FIT CORRESPONDENT

There is nothing more heartbreaking than a child with cancer. This was recognized by President Trump in his recent State of the Union address, which came 10 days before International Childhood Cancer Day on Feb. 15. Joining First Lady Melania Trump in the gallery for the speech was 10-year-old Grace Eline, whom the president said completed treatment for brain cancer last fall.

The president said he will ask the Congress for \$500 million over the next 10 years to fund childhood cancer research, which is extremely underfunded. More money will be needed and needed sooner.

An opportunity for locals to contribute takes place on March 9, when the Celtic Ray Public House in Punta Gorda hosts the area's first St. Baldrick's Shave-a-Thon from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Organizers Ben and Kathi Haynie are seeking people who will volunteer to have their heads shaved and encourage their friends to donate money for childhood cancer research.

"Whether they decide to shave their head, volunteer, or donate, we hope everyone will be a part of the excitement," said Kathi Haynie,

### ST. BALDRICK'S SHAVE-A-THON

The Celtic Ray Public House, 145 E. Marion Ave., Punta Gorda, hosts the area's first St. Baldrick's Shave-a-Thon from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. March 9.

Organizers Ben and Kathi Haynie are seeking people who will volunteer to have their heads shaved and encourage their friends to donate money for childhood cancer research.

For more information on St. Baldrick's, visit [www.stbaldricks.org](http://www.stbaldricks.org) or call Kathi at 775-220-1644.

The event includes many raffle prizes and a 50-50 raffle. Everyone who shaves their head and raises at least \$50 will receive a St. Baldrick's T-shirt.

A nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization, the St. Baldrick's Foundation is the leading private funder of childhood cancer research grants in the United States and around the world. Kids with cancer often lose their hair during treatment, so the head shaving shows kids with cancer that they're not alone.

The charity was started in 2000 by a trio of insurance executives who shaved their heads at Jim Brady's Irish pub in Manhattan on St. Patrick's Day. The name is a combination of "bald" and St. Patrick's — St. BALDRick's. St. Baldrick's became an independent



PHOTO PROVIDED

Kathi, Shaun and Ben Haynie wear shirts honoring childhood cancer victim Joshua at a St. Baldrick's event in Las Vegas.

foundation 2005 and has raised more than \$258 million to support research.

The Haynies, who moved to Punta Gorda in April of last year, brought the St. Baldrick's concept with them from Nevada, where they attended events in both Las Vegas and Reno.

"My husband was the first to shave his head," Kathi said. "This will be the ninth year he's done it, and he raised money each time. I did it two years ago, and my stepson Shaun's done it for two years in a row, and he'll be coming from San Diego to do it again this year."

Kathi said Reno has one of the most successful St. Baldrick's shave events on the West Coast.

"It's a lot bigger there than it is here," she noted. "It's just not taken off on the East Coast much, I guess. I think they do two in Fort Myers and one up in Tampa, but nothing in between. In Vegas, there

were probably 10 or 12 on the same day."

Although Kathi watched her husband and others have their heads shaved in Nevada, she was reluctant.

"I couldn't do it. I was too vain," she said. "Then my boss at the time came

KIDS | 4

## Take Safety to Heart

Positive Aging Symposium addresses senior safety

By **RUSTY PRAY**  
FEELING FIT CORRESPONDENT

Stephen Carter, executive director of the Cultural Center of Charlotte County, glanced around one of the center's meeting rooms.

Vendors, from the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office to Lifelong Learning to Bayfront Health lined the walls. At least 100 people sat at tables waiting for the seventh annual Positive Aging Symposium to begin.

The theme was Take Safety to Heart.

"What we're trying to do is get everybody in the community together to let people know how seniors

can go out and do things, where they would go to do them, and how we can help them," he said.

The Positive Aging Symposium was hosted and coordinated by a community group — the Positive Aging Committee — that was formed in 2016 with focus on educating elders in Charlotte County on relevant issues and local resources related to those issues, according to a press release. The group is co-chaired by the Friendship Centers of Charlotte County and the Florida Department of Health. Additional members include representatives

For more photos, see page 4.

from Bayfront Health and various industries including health care, social services, and others who serve the elder residents and visitors of Charlotte County.

Carter is a board member.

"What we find is, as we get older, there's the isolation factor," he said. "Maybe you're by yourself now, and it's 'What do I do? Where do I go?' That's the idea behind doing these."

The agenda included a presentation by Jennifer McManus of Bayfront Health on stopping bleeding, applying tourniquets and performing compression-only CPR. Gregory Whyte of the Cultural



Jennifer McManus demonstrates a combat application tourniquet from the Stop the Bleed program.

Center demonstrated the importance of balance and fall prevention, Tammy Wilkie of the Sheriff's Office talked about Project Lifesaver; Diane Young of the Sheriff's Office made a presentation on scams and economic crimes against seniors; and Kris Chana of Chelsea Place discussed a free senior referral service.

"It's beautifully laid out and full of information,"



FEELING FIT PHOTO BY JERRY BEARD

Charlotte County Sheriff's Office Community Affairs Specialist Tammie Wilkie, demonstrates the Project Lifesaver transponder, at the Positive Aging Symposium, in Port Charlotte. The wristband shown on the left, can be found by the radio on the right. This helps the Sheriff's Department locate someone who is wearing the wristband and who may be in trouble.

AARP's Tess Canja said. "You should be able to leave here with an excellent idea of how to save yourself and how to help others."

Wilkie presented

an underpublicized but vitally important Sheriff's program called Project Lifesaver, that fits

SAFETY | 4



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# Doctors in Charlotte County are prepared to fight breast cancer

By JOHN F. GUARINO M.D., P.A.

Patients in Charlotte County can receive excellent, effective treatment for breast cancer. Charlotte County has a multi-



GUARINO

tude of specialists with experience and expertise in treating breast cancer. We have board-certified radiologists, general surgeons, radiation oncologist, medical oncologist as well as plastic surgeons that are all well trained in treatments of breast cancer care.

Dr. Vance Wright-Browne, oncologist at Florida Cancer Specialists stated "Charlotte County is able to provide all facets of state of the art breast care including 3D

mammography, stereotactic and ultrasound guided biopsies, breast conservation surgery, mastectomy, 3D conformational radiation and systemic chemotherapy. Patients can feel comfortable that their experience and care here is equivalent to that in large volume centers, while performed in close proximity to their homes, family and community."

Charlotte County hospitals, as well as outpatient imaging centers, have state of the art, breast imaging modalities. Minimally invasive stereotactic, ultrasound guide and MRI guided biopsies are done on an outpatient basis.

Dr. Margo Roca, a radiologist at Millennium's Women's Center explained, "For years I have referred breast cancer patients to local colleagues of

general surgeons, radiation oncologists and medical oncologists. Their multi-disciplinary approach has been highly successful and efficient, while providing excellent cosmetic results and patient satisfaction."

General surgeons complete a five year surgical residency. Breast surgery is a large component of the training. Surgeons, through continuing medical education, stay up-to-date with the latest treatment options in regards to mastectomy vs. lumpectomy with sentinel lymph node biopsy. I perform a variety of breast procedures in my office and outpatient surgery center with excellent results and patient satisfaction.

Breast conservation surgery will require post-operative radiation. Dr. David Rice of

21st Century Oncology stated, "Radiation is used along with surgery to reduce the chances of cancer recurrence. In Charlotte County we have radiation machines capable of treating the affected areas effectively without exposing normal tissue to excessive dose. New technology allows for shorter treatment interval, compliance and convenience. Patients who had surgery locally were treated appropriately, with excellent cosmetic results and high patient satisfaction."

At times, patients will need chemotherapy to minimize a recurrence or metastasis. Dr. Ivor Percent, oncologist at Florida Cancer Specialists added, "In Charlotte County we utilize a multi-disciplinary treatment approach to breast cancer. Our radiologists,

surgeons, pathologists, radiation oncologists and oncologists closely work together to ensure patients in our community have access to world class medicine in a hometown environment. We accomplish this through an interdisciplinary conferences and continual communication between the treating physicians. We also have access to national clinical trials. Charlotte County has comprehensive breast care available that is second to none."

The doctors in Charlotte County are prepared to fight this disease.

*John F. Guarino M.D., P.A. is a general surgeon who practices in Charlotte County. He is located at 4245 Kings Highway, Unit A, Port Charlotte. He can be reached at 941-391-5102.*

# Diabetes still a dangerous condition in era of modern medicine

By AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION NEWS

Despite medical advances, having diabetes is still linked to a higher risk of dying from cardiovascular disease, new research shows.

It's long been known that diabetes – a condition that causes blood sugar to rise – increases the risk of death from multiple causes. Past research

showed people with diabetes are twice as likely to develop and die from cardiovascular diseases, including heart disease, heart failure, heart attack and stroke.

But there has been little research looking into diabetes-related mortality among patients getting routine care in the modern era of reducing cardiovascular disease risk. For the new study,

published Tuesday in the Journal of the American Heart Association, researchers from several Veterans Affairs hospitals looked at data from more than 960,000 people – including nearly 330,000 with diabetes – who received routine primary care from 2002-2014 in the VA Healthcare System.

After analyzing an average eight years' worth of data for each patient,

researchers concluded that while diabetes-related deaths were lower than they were in the 1980s and 1990s, diabetes still had a major impact on higher death rates. The study found diabetes was associated with a 16 percent increase in dying from any cause and an 18 percent increase in dying from cardiovascular disease.

The study also showed that for people who had diabetes, an A1C level of 6 to 6.9 percent was associated with the lowest levels of death, regardless of how old they were. An A1C test measures a person's average blood glucose control for the past two to three months.

"I think that's notable, because it shows age alone isn't that informative. Treatment decisions are a lot more complicated than just basing decisions on someone's age," said Dr. Sridharan Raghavan, the study's lead author.

Raghavan, a professor at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, said that while the exact relationship between A1C levels and mortality rates — and how to use A1C measurements to guide care — remains unclear, doctors should watch the levels closely in patients with diabetes.

"Even if we don't understand the relationship, it can still tell us something

about a person's overall health and risk of mortality," he said.

Dr. David Aguilar, a cardiologist who wasn't involved in the study, said the research was limited by being an observational study of mostly male military veterans. But he said the results added to the body of evidence for treating diabetes to lower mortality risk.

"It shows that we're doing better, but it also reminds us of the importance of glucose control. We need to treat people according to guidelines and get their hemoglobin A1C levels to less than 7 percent if they can tolerate that safely," said Aguilar, an associate professor of cardiovascular medicine at the McGovern Medical School at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston.

Aguilar, who wrote an editorial that accompanied the study, called for future studies that explore the best strategies to lower cardiovascular risk with newer diabetes medications. Raghavan said more research is needed to pinpoint which patients are best able to lower their mortality risk by maintaining specific A1C levels.

Both agreed that education is key to dropping the risk even further. Aguilar pointed to "Know

Diabetes by Heart," a new initiative launched by the American Diabetes Association and American Heart Association to raise awareness about the link between the two diseases.

According to a recent Harris Poll, only about half of people 45 and older with Type 2 diabetes recognized their risk for a heart attack or stroke. About 26 million American adults have been diagnosed with diabetes, and an additional 92 million have prediabetes, a condition that increases the risk for Type 2 diabetes.

"You can actually mitigate a lot of the mortality risk related to diabetes by controlling cardiovascular risk factors like smoking and cholesterol levels and blood pressure levels," Raghavan said.

Aguilar said doctors need to have frank discussions with patients about the relationship between diabetes and cardiovascular disease, and talk about how exercise and maintaining a healthy weight decreases heart disease risk.

"It's not just about blood sugar," he said. "Health care providers have to focus on a comprehensive approach and discuss all the different issues and strategies that will empower the patient to lower their risk."



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**Deadlines:**  
Support groups and News & Notes  
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To be included send the information to  
feelingfit@sun-herald.com.  
Deadlines for listings are the Monday prior  
to publication.

## Correction

A photo in the Feb. 17 edition of Feeling Fit misidentified Mari Usera in the photo caption. The correct photo is below.



FEELING PHOTO BY SANDY MACYS

**Mari Usera, left, leads others in a start of their walk at the 2019 Charlotte County Heart Walk held at Lashley Park, 120 Lashley Court, Punta Gorda.**

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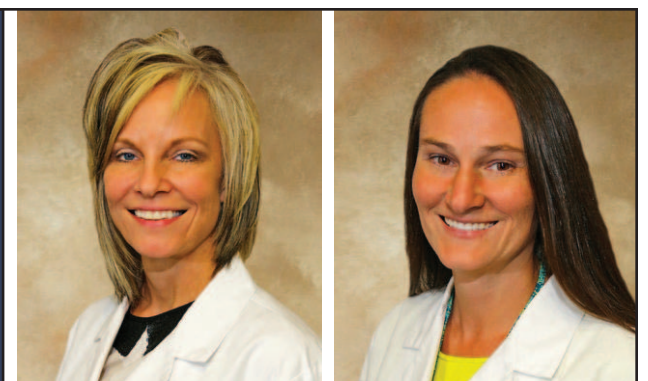
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# 3D printer helps surgeons rebuild deformed jaws in Haiti

By TOM AVRIL

THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

For five years, Jefferson University Hospital surgeons have been traveling to Haiti to rebuild the jaws of patients whose faces are disfigured by benign, yet massive tumors. These are delicate operations, made all the more challenging because the doctors cannot see what they are dealing with until they arrive in a sparsely equipped operating room in Port-au-Prince and meet their patients.

This year they tried a new tactic: making models of the patients' jaws in advance, with 3D printers in Philadelphia.

The idea was to use the plastic models as a guide, allowing the physicians to bend titanium surgical plates in the exact shape of each patient's jawbone — a task normally done during surgery. Shaping the plates in advance would save up to an hour in the operating room, reducing time under anesthesia, the risk of infection, and other complications, and it also would help the surgeons achieve a more faithful reconstruction of each patient's original anatomy.

The concept is unusual even in the United States. Jefferson physicians have been making jaw models for this type of surgery only for the past year and a half, using a suite of printers housed in a former bank vault in Philadelphia.

For patients in poverty-stricken Haiti, still recovering from the 2010 earthquake, the high-tech advance was like something from another world.

"It was life-changing," said Patrick Jean-Gilles, chief resident of the ear, nose and throat/head and neck surgery department at Haiti State University Hospital.

Jean-Gilles sent discs containing three patients' CT scans to Jefferson in early January, and Robert S. Pugliese, director of Jefferson's Health Design Lab, got to work. Assisted by medical

students, he converted the scans into computer files that could be interpreted by the lab's printers. Then he kept watch for days as the printer nozzles glided back and forth, depositing layer after layer of plastic in the shape of the patients' jaws and other facial bones.

Though invented decades ago, 3D printers have only recently begun to transform medicine in various ways, as the cost of the boxy machines has declined. Some physicians use printed models of body parts as a visual aid, planning the best approach for surgery when a patient's anatomy is especially complex. Others use printers to fashion actual devices to be implanted in a patient. Those typically are made from plastic and other inert materials, though increasingly, researchers are experimenting with devices that can "print" cartilage and other living tissue.

A printed model of a jawbone lies somewhere in between. It can help in visualizing the best strategy for a surgery, and it also serves as a template for bending the titanium plate that is screwed into what remains of a jaw eroded by a tumor.

Dominick Gadaleta, Jefferson's chief resident for ear, nose, and throat/head and neck surgery, demonstrated the process last month, shaping a narrow strip of metal with a device that looked like a heavy-duty pair of pliers. He matched the metal's curvature precisely to the contours of a jawbone model made from one of the Haitian patient's scans.

"It's a much better anatomical fit" than what can be achieved in the operating room, Gadaleta said.

Jefferson surgeons have used this technique on two dozen U.S. patients so far, and they say it is especially useful for patients in Haiti, some of whose tumors are so large that the bone beneath has been destroyed. In the case of a 26-year-old Haitian woman

whose right jaw was completely gone, physicians planned to bend the metal in a mirror image of her left jaw, said Joseph M. Curry, a Jefferson head and neck surgeon who is a co-leader of the Haiti project.

The various benign tumors of the jaw are no more common in Haiti than in the U.S., but here they typically are removed while still small. In Haiti, where such surgeries were not readily available until recently, some patients' tumors have grown to half the size of their faces. They need both a delicate tumor removal and also a complex reconstructive procedure that is not yet performed by Haitian physicians.

The growths are generally not painful, but patients can suffer from stigma, isolation, and difficulty eating and finding a job, Curry said.

Curry flew to Miami the night of Jan. 15, then caught an early morning flight to Haiti the next day, the first of four days he would spend in the operating room at St. Luke's Hospital in Port-au-Prince. He was one of a team of 20, including Jefferson surgeon David Cognetti, two surgeons from the University of Miami, and nurses, residents, and students from both institutions. Two of the group were there on a different mission: discussing a potential "tele-health" program through which Haitian physicians could consult their U.S. counterparts.

Eight patients underwent tumor removal and facial reconstruction surgery. The surgeons had 3D-printed models in only two of the cases, as the necessary CT scans cost more than \$300 — out of reach for many people in the impoverished country, Jean-Gilles said. A third 3D-printed model had been made for a ninth patient, but the physicians were concerned she might have cancer, and elected to postpone the surgery pending the results of a biopsy.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Dr. Joseph Curry, right, and Robert Pugliese look at a 3D-printed model of the jaw of a Haitian woman with a disfiguring tumor.

The surgeons occupied two operating rooms at St. Luke's, tackling one case per day in each room. Some of the clinicians were tasked with cutting away the tumors while others handled the reconstruction. Jean-Gilles took part as well.

On each patient's jawbone, the surgeons screwed in a sterilized metal plate. In the two cases with the printed models, the plates had been custom-bent in advance.

Then the surgeons cut pieces from each patient's fibula, the smaller of the two lower-leg bones, and attached those to the metal plates. (People can still walk with most of that bone removed.) With painstaking care, they attached the blood vessels in the implanted bones to veins and arteries in the patients' necks. In the two cases where models were printed in advance, the time saved during surgery meant less time for the pieces of leg bone to go without oxygen, in addition to the other advantages. Each case took all day.

The team worked with limited resources. Unlike in the U.S., the patients did not undergo scans of their legs to ascertain the health of blood vessels before the surgeons removed the fibula. Because the patients were fairly

young, the team decided it could omit that step, Curry said.

Also unlike in the U.S., the patients recovered with non-opioid pain medications. Opioids can suppress the respiratory system, and the Haitian hospital had limited technology to monitor the patients' breathing rate. But the non-opioid alternative, though safer, provided less pain relief.

"They do remarkably well," Curry said. "They're not comfortable, but they're OK."

While all eight surgeries were successful, the surgeons achieved a better fit for the two patients whose jaw models had been printed in advance, Curry said.

"It's giving them basically their old jawline back," he said.

A week later, Jean-Gilles said all eight were recovering well.

"They are all so satisfied," the Haitian surgeon said.

And with the knowledge gained from working alongside the Jefferson and Miami surgeons, Jean-Gilles plans eventually to undertake the complex reconstructive surgeries himself.

But at Jefferson, lab director Pugliese said that because the printers have already saved so much time in the operating room, they already have paid for themselves.

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# Positive Aging Symposium

The Positive Aging Symposium was held at the Charlotte Cultural Center, in Port Charlotte, on Feb. 14. Speakers presented information on identity theft, CPR, fall prevention and bleeding.

Sponsors of the Symposium spoke to the crowd. Lunch was served, and a raffle held. For more information on Stop the Bleed, visit [BleedingControl.org](http://BleedingControl.org). For information on the Project Lifesaver wristband, contact Tammy Wilkie of Charlotte County Sheriff's Office, at 941-833-1824.



FEELING FIT PHOTO BY JERRY BEARD

Jennifer McManus demonstrates Hands Only CPR.

## SAFETY FROM PAGE 1

Alzheimer's patients and others with a propensity to wander with a personalized wristband that emits a tracking signal. When a caregiver notifies 911 that a person is missing, a search-and-rescue team is dispatched with the tracking device.

Currently, she said, 31 are enrolled in the Charlotte County program. Considering an estimated 8,000 people in Charlotte County are afflicted with the disease,

and more than half of them tend to wander from home, that number could be higher.

"We have to make sure there's a way to help them and a way to help the caregivers," she said. "When I go to a house to put a Project Lifesaver band on a family member, I watch the caregivers breathe a sigh of relief."

"They have an additional tool to keep their loved one safe, and it gives our deputies a tool to be able to find them and get them back home."



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FEELING FIT PHOTO BY JERRY BEARD

Charlotte County Sheriff's Office Economic Crimes Unit's Sgt. Diane Young, tells the crowd how to avoid scams and identity theft.



FEELING FIT PHOTO BY JERRY BEARD

Tidewell Hospice's Nafi Cunningham explains how hospices work.



FEELING FIT PHOTOS BY JERRY BEARD

Martial arts and fitness instructor Gregory Whyte tells the crowd how to prevent falls, at the Positive Aging Symposium, in Port Charlotte.



FEELING FIT PHOTO BY RUSTY PRAY

Jesse Cantwell of LifeCare Center of Punta Gorda was among the more than 20 vendors to attend the Positive Aging Symposium at the Cultural Center of Charlotte County.



FEELING FIT PHOTO BY RUSTY PRAY

Tammie Wilkie, left, and Judy Prummell work a table on behalf of the Charlotte County Sheriff's Office at the Positive Aging Symposium. Wilkie made a presentation on Project Lifesaver.

## Support Groups

### Alzheimer's support groups

The Alzheimer's Association holds monthly caregiver support groups for spouses, adult children and family members who want to connect and share insight with others in similar situations. RSVP is not required to attend. For questions on groups and services through the Alzheimer's Association, please call 941-235-7470.

- Port Charlotte area
  - 3 p.m. third Tuesday at South Port Square (Harbor Terrace), 23033 Westchester Blvd., Port Charlotte.
  - 3 p.m. third Thursday at Port Charlotte United Methodist Church, 21075 Quesada Ave., Port Charlotte.
- Punta Gorda area
  - 3 p.m. third Monday at Life Care center, 450 Shreve St., Punta Gorda.
  - 3 p.m. second Tuesday at Punta Gorda Civic Association, 2001 Shreve St., Punta Gorda.
- Englewood area
  - 10:30 a.m. third Friday, Englewood United Methodist Church, 700 E. Dearborn St., Englewood.

941-426-8349 to register.

### Amputee Support Group

The Amputee Support Group meets at 3 p.m. on the second Monday of every month at the Life Care Center, Punta Gorda. Contact George Baum at 941-787-4151 for more information.

### At Ease, Veterans

Combat veterans from Gulf Cove United Methodist Church are providing some of the support and discussion that our veterans deserve. On the first Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m., they are at the American Legion Post 113, at 3436 Indiana Road in Rotonda West. Veterans are invited and encouraged to join them. Gulf Cove UMC is located at 1100 McCall Road in Port Charlotte, just ¾ mile south of the Myakka River on Route 776. The church can be reached at 941-697-1747 or [GulfCoveUMC@gmail.com](mailto:GulfCoveUMC@gmail.com) and their website is found at <http://GulfCoveChurch.com>.

safe place for newly diagnosed and survivors to talk with informative speakers in alternate months. Contact Dawn Moore at 941-408-9572 or <http://www.jfcs-cares.org/services/cancer-support/>.

### Breastfeeding support group

The Florida Department of Health, local partners and organizations, such as the American Academy of Pediatrics, strongly recommend babies exclusively breastfed for the first six months of life and continue to breastfeed for one to two years.

There are a variety of programs and resources to empower breastfeeding moms. Health professionals and peer counselors provide a range of services from right after birth at the hospital to breastfeeding support groups in the community as noted below:

- Tuesdays, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., WIC in partnership with Lactation Love Breastfeeding Support Group, Jacaranda Library, 4143 Woodmere Park Blvd., Venice. Contact: Arielle Ball, DOH-Sarasota, WIC and Nutrition Services, [Arielle.Ball@FLHealth.gov](mailto:Arielle.Ball@FLHealth.gov) or 941-685-3324.
- Second Wednesday each month, 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., North Port Library conference room, 13800 Tamiami Trail, North Port. Contact: Jamee Thumm, Healthy Start Coalition of Sarasota County, [jamee.thumm@gmail.com](mailto:jamee.thumm@gmail.com) or 941-373-7070, ext. 307.

### Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group

The Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group meets from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. the second Tuesday every month at The Springs at South Biscayne, 6235 Hoffman St., North Port. Call

### Breast cancer networking

The Venice Breast Cancer Networking Group meets on the third Tuesday of the month at the Elite Health Wellness Center at 4125 S. Tamiami Trail, Suite 2, Venice. Time is from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. It is a

## KIDS FROM PAGE 1

to me crying and she said she had to leave work. I asked her what happened, and she said her nephew Joshua passed away. She was in her 30s, and I figured he was probably in his 30s, too. I said, 'I'm sorry. What happened?' She said, 'Oh, well, he had cancer.' I said, 'Oh, I'm sorry. Cancer is a terrible thing.'

"Then she really lost it. He was only 7 years old. That was the turning point for me. I lost my ego and said I'm going to do it in Joshua's honor. We raised \$5,000 that year,

the three of us. Now we're continuing Joshua's legacy cross-country."

Kathi admitted that getting people to shave their heads was proving a little tougher here than in Nevada.

"We're still trying to recruit people," she said. "I think a lot of people, on the day of the event, will decide to shave. We're getting the word out there, and we're telling people what it is. This first year is probably going to be a little slow, but we've already raised \$2,000."

Kathi praised Celtic Ray owner Kevin Doyle for providing the venue for the March 9 St. Baldrick's.

"Kevin actually knew the event," she said. "It's usually at a pub because it's always around St. Paddy's day. When I brought the idea to Kevin, he was very excited about it. When I told him we did it at McMullan's Irish Pub last year in Vegas, he goes, 'Oh, I know McMullan's. We've got better fish and chips than they do.'"

The Celtic Ray is located at 145 E. Marion Ave., on the corner of Marion and Nesbit St., in Punta Gorda. For more information on St. Baldrick's, visit [www.stbaldricks.org](http://www.stbaldricks.org) or call Kathi at 775-220-1644.

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# Zero-waste grocery shopping comes to US

EMAGAZINE.COM

**Dear EarthTalk:** I've heard about zero-waste grocery stores in Europe where everything is sold in bulk and customers bring and fill up their own reusable containers and bags. When will we get some of these here on this side of the pond?

— Jane Smith, Boston

Many mainstream American grocery stores and chains now have bulk sections for dried foods like nuts and spices, though most everything else still comes sealed in plastic, cardboard, aluminum or glass, which customers then recycle or discard once they devour the contents.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates that containers and packaging make up almost a quarter of all landfill waste, with the average American generating four pounds of trash a day, most of it food-related. Furthermore, Americans throw out about a third of the food we

buy, largely because we're forced to buy more than we need due to the way food is prepackaged for sale.

One solution to both of these problems is the zero-waste grocery store, which sells in bulk (or "loose") to customers who bring their own containers and shopping bags and fill them up with just the amount of food they will eat. Besides the obvious environmental benefits of reducing the stream of waste to landfills and energy-intensive recycling processors, zero-waste grocery stores also tend to be easier on the wallet — given that packaging adds upwards of 40 percent to the cost of many everyday food items.

Zero-waste food stores began turning up in Europe in just the last 15 years. The success of stores like Germany's Original Unverpackt, France's Day By Day, Denmark's LOS Market and the UK's Bulk Market and Earth.Food.Love shows a strong proclivity, at least in Europe, for a

green grocery experience.

Zero-waste markets are a harder sell in the U.S., but that hasn't stopped a few entrepreneurs from trying. The nation's first zero waste grocery store, In.redients in Austin, Texas, opened with fanfare in 2012 but had trouble competing with a nearby traditional grocery store — and finally shut its doors for good last April. "We realized ... we weren't changing shoppers' habits," Erica Howard Cormier, In.redients' former GM, told CNBC. "You have to plan a lot to go to the grocery store with your own containers, and people would go to the store across the street because they forgot their container."

Nevertheless, others have ventured forth undaunted. Some of the biggest are Precycle and the Filling Station in New York City, Dill Pickle Co-op in Chicago, Simply Bulk Market and Zero Market in Colorado, the Refill Shoppe near Los Angeles, People's Food Co-op in Portland,



PHOTO PROVIDED

**Zero-waste grocery stores sells in bulk (or "loose") to customers who bring their own containers and shopping bags and fill them up with just the amount of food they will eat.**

OR and Central Co-op in Seattle. And in Vancouver, BC is Nada, one of the biggest and most successful zero waste markets in the world. The store claims to have diverted some 30,500 containers from landfills since opening in 2014.

A search on the Litterless.com's "Zero Waste Grocery Guide" turns up dozens of zero waste grocery options in most major U.S. metropolitan areas, even if some are smaller specialty stores or just sections in traditional markets. So grab a few containers and that old college reunion tote bag and get shopping.

## This messy school cafeteria project dives into how students eat and waste food

By ANN DOSS HELMS

THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER

Whitewater Middle School students in Charlotte donned plastic gloves and plunged into some 200 pounds of food their classmates trashed after eating in the cafeteria.

They mucked out the remains of pasta, tacos and yogurt parfaits. They tallied untouched green salads, fresh Asian pears and whole-grain rolls with only a bite or two nibbled out, all destined for the landfill.

It was, they said, both disgusting and enlightening.

"You don't realize how much food waste you're making till you actually see it," said eighth-grader Cody Gist.

"People don't eat half their food — or any of their food," marveled classmate Destiny Davis.

After the food audit, in which students sorted and weighed food waste, liquids, disposable trays and other types of cafeteria trash, Whitewater switched to compostable paper trays. Working with Every Tray Counts, a nonprofit group based in Chapel Hill, the school hopes to set the stage for a full-district switch from polystyrene to paper trays, following the lead of Chapel Hill-Carborro, Durham and, most recently, Wake County Public Schools.

On one level, it's a lesson on choices, tradeoffs and unintended consequences. The northwest Charlotte school added environmental science as a school-wide theme and magnet program this year. Teachers are guiding their pupils through research on the ways food and waste are linked to profit and poverty, healthy and toxic neighborhoods, social justice and global trends.

But this isn't just an academic exercise. Whitewater is joining a network of schools, businesses and neighborhoods working to make composting as mainstream as recycling. The strategies being crafted today have big implications for taxpayers and residents across Mecklenburg County.

"The larger issue is conservation of landfill space," said Laurette Hall, an environmental management official with Mecklenburg County Solid Waste. The county has enough space to last maybe 25 more years, she said, which isn't as much as it sounds like in a rapidly

growing and urbanizing area.

And Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools is a major player, generating more than 10,000 tons of trash a year.

### WHAT'S UP WITH THE TRAYS?

To trace the challenges of school cafeteria trash, let's start with the question most adults ask: "What happened to the hard plastic plates and trays we remember?"

Some CMS schools still use them, says Catherine Beam, executive director for school nutrition. But there are two big barriers, she says.

One is hiring the staff to scrape the plates and put reusable items into dishwashers. Cafeteria assistants make less than \$12 an hour and work part time. In a healthy economy, not only school cafeterias but restaurants around the region are struggling to fill dishwasher jobs, Beam said.

The other is speed. Some crowded schools use disposable trays and utensils so students can dump everything in the trash and clear out quickly for another lunch shift to take their place, Beam said.

In either case, the solution can be divided polystyrene trays. They're convenient but they take up landfill space and are suspected of releasing carcinogens, according to the federal government's National Toxicology Program.

Every Tray Counts began when a couple of Chapel Hill mothers realized their kids were eating from and throwing out the polystyrene trays. They launched the push for paper trays that can be turned into soil.

The sturdy paper trays cost about 6 cents each, compared with about 3.5 for polystyrene, says Beam. That doesn't sound like much until you consider that CMS uses about 2 million polystyrene trays a year. That means switching to paper would cost the district about \$50,000.

Every Tray Counts is picking up the tab for the Whitewater pilot.

### WHERE DOES IT GO?

Mecklenburg County composts yard waste but doesn't have a facility for food waste, Hall said. For that, the county turns to the private Earth Farms Organics in Gaston County.

For about five years,



PHOTO PROVIDED

**Teachers are guiding their pupils through research on the ways food and waste are linked to profit and poverty, healthy and toxic neighborhoods, social justice and global trends.**

the county has worked with up to 25 public schools to haul food waste to Earth Farms, but without the compostable trays, Hall said. And she noted that the city of Charlotte is testing a neighborhood curbside pickup program for food scraps to be hauled to Earth Farms.

Mecklenburg County is paying to get Whitewater's compostable waste to Earth Farms.

Part of the project will be teaching students to sort what goes into composting bins, said Susan Scope of Every Tray Counts, who's working with the school. For instance, paper napkins can go with the food scraps, but if students drop in chip bags, plastic forks or other unsuitable trash the whole load could be too contaminated to use.

Scope said her vision is not just for CMS to adopt composting districtwide, but to see public landfills across the state add food-waste composting and have commercial garbage haulers agree to deliver it. "We would like North Carolina to be a leader," she said.

### WHY ALL THE UNEATEN FOOD?

During the food audit, the students doing the sorting got a dramatic lesson in unintended consequences, as they saw green salads and fresh fruit deposited in the trash untouched. Why?

Anyone who has read Michelle Obama's best-selling memoir "Becoming" knows about the former first lady's passion for fighting childhood obesity, partly through making school lunches healthier. Because the

students would just make smarter choices and pick something they like.

### THE BIG PICTURE

The final tally: From one day's lunch, just over 700 students at Whitewater generated 207 pounds of food waste and other compostable material, just over 50 pounds of discarded liquid and almost 16 pounds of trays, said Jeffie Hardin, staff coordinator for the school's Green Team environmental club.

That comes to almost 274 pounds of waste each school day that could be diverted from the landfill, she said.

"That would equal 49,266 pounds which could be kept out of the landfill" in a school year, Hardin said. "Multiply that by the number of schools in CMS.... Mindblowing."

The kids also collected almost 34 pounds of cartons, cans, bottles and foil that could potentially be recycled, and about 39 pounds of plastics and other trash, Hardin said.

Principal Beth Thompson said she has watched the students advise each other about the new approach to sorting their trash.

"Students understand why it mattered because of the extensive learning they had experienced and so not one student resisted, fussed about or refused to do a little extra work when throwing away their waste,"

Thompson said.


Whitewater teachers like Kenan Kerr and Mollie Lyman make sure students understand how their own eating habits are part of bigger issues. In Kerr's environmental literature class, for instance, they read novels such as Carl Hiaasen's "Scat" and nonfiction books such as Eric Scholsser's "Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the All-American Meal."

Lyman, who works with several language arts classrooms, makes sure classes are discussing such issues as how impoverished neighborhoods often have less access to healthy food and how food choices affect animal welfare and the global economy. They had a visit from Alicia Pruett of The Bulb, a Charlotte nonprofit that takes donated food and creates "mobile markets" in neighborhoods that lack healthy food access. She told them, for instance, how one bad clementine in a bag makes it unusable for a retailer, but the group removed the spoiled fruit and repackages the good items.



The challenges of poverty aren't theoretical at Whitewater. It's one of 80 CMS schools where poverty levels are so high it qualifies for federal Title I money.


Lyman says she wants all her students to ask some basic questions: "What do we eat? What do we waste? And how is that a social justice issue?"

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## NEWS & NOTES

### Florida Department of Health Environmental Health staff moving

The Florida Department of Health in Charlotte County announces plans to move its Environmental Health staff from its current location in the building department of Murdock Circle to the Department of Health location at 1100 Loveland Blvd., Port Charlotte. The move will be effective March 1. This concludes a transition that began a year ago as part of consolidation of resources to improve services.

Staff will cease operations at Murdock Circle at the close of business on March 1. For client convenience there will be a drop box in Murdock, with collections scheduled daily.

The Environmental Health program provides inspections of facilities such as tattoo and piercing shops, group care facilities, food establishments, mobile home parks, and swimming pools, as well as processes applications and conducts site evaluations for septic systems.

For more information, call 941-624-7200.

### Fundraiser to benefit local rider

Family and friends of Michelle Davidson will hold a fundraiser from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Feb. 24 at the Cold River Saloon, 3149 Duncan Road, Punta Gorda. Michelle, an experienced motorcycle rider, was in a horrific accident on Jan. 4, when she was hit by a car. The injuries she sustained were acutely serious. She faces numerous surgeries and extensive recovery. There will be great music by Yes Dear; a cash bar, Boss BBQ will be serving up their famous barbecue; there will be a 50/50 raffle; a Tricky Tray auction; a "Booze Basket" will also be up for grabs. For more information, call Fay at 305-331-5519 or email fluepnitz@gmail.com.

### Healing Hearts Group to meet

The Healing Hearts Group will hold its February gathering at 11:30 a.m. on Feb. 26 at Olde World Restaurant, 14415 Tamiami Trail, North Port. The group meets to offer fellowship and friendship for those who are lonely and single. Supported by The North Port Community United Church of Christ, all ages and faiths are invited. For more information, call 941-423-3031.

### Nutrition management for diabetes

Deciding what and how much to eat can be one of the most challenging parts of living with diabetes. Please join for a comprehensive, two-part class, where the focus will be on diet and lifestyle approaches to manage diabetes. Feb. 26, from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. at H2U Center of Fawcett Memorial Hospital, 3280 Tamiami Trail, Suite 493, Port Charlotte. Speaker: Ashley Pospisil, MS, RD, LDN at Fawcett Memorial Hospital registered dietitian. Please make reservations by calling 941-624-4441.

Transportation Ambassadors needed. Join the team, become a volunteer. For an application and more information, visit the volunteer office at Fawcett Memorial Hospital or call Judy at 941-624-8007.

### Neuro Challenge Foundation for Parkinson's

• North Port JFCS Care Partner Connection with Carolyn Stephens, LCSW (Open Forum and Sharing); "Parkinson's Power Hour with Courtnie Giddens; Feb. 27 from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Neuro Challenge North Port, 5600 Peace River Road.

• Voice Aerobics with Mary Spremulli, SLP; Feb. 28 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at 5600 Peace River Road, North Port.

• Movers and Shakers PD Discussion Group with Dr. John Moore, Care Partner Support Group (Open Forum and Sharing); Feb. 28 from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Jacaranda Public Library, 4143 Woodmere Park Blvd., Venice.

• Care Partner Support Group with Courtnie Giddens (Open Forum and Sharing); March 5 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. THE BEAN on 41 Coffee Shop, 2705 Tamiami Trail, Punta Gorda.

• North Port JFCS Care Partner



**Mary Anne Crecelius and her husband Roy Taylor celebrate Crecelius's mother, Anne Bastianelli's 100th birthday on Feb. 12, at Solaris Healthcare Charlotte Harbor.**

*Happy 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday*



**Betsy Smith and Craig Smith celebrate with Anne Bastianelli.**

Connection with Carolyn Stephens, LCSW (Open Forum and Sharing); Parkinson's Power Hour with Kelly and Peter Gaylord "Strategies for Living Well with PD A PwP & CarePartner's Perspective Lessons Learned & Tips"; March 6 from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Neuro Challenge North Port, 5600 Peace River Road.

• Parkinson Wellness Club "Choosing the Health Care professionals for your PD Team" (with Cindy Underwood); March 7 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Jacaranda Trace 3600 William Penn Way Venice.

• Cause 4 Hope Gala, March 9 from 5:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Michael's On East, 1212 S East Ave, Sarasota.

• Port Charlotte Parkinson's Support Group with Courtnie Giddens (Open Forum and Sharing); March 12 from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Murdock Baptist Church, 18375 Cochran Blvd., Port Charlotte.

• Parkinson Wellness Club "Choosing the Health Care professionals for your PD Team" with Cindy Underwood; March 13 from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. at SMH ER and Health Care Center, 2345 Bobcat Village Center Road, North Port.

• Englewood Parkinson's Support Group (Open Forum and Sharing); March 15 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at St. David's Episcopal Church 401 S. Broadway, Englewood.

• North Port JFCS Care Partner Connection with Carolyn Stephens, LCSW (Open Forum and Sharing) Parkinson's Power Hour with Courtnie Giddens; March 20 from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Neuro Challenge North Port: 5600 Peace River Road, North Port.

• Punta Gorda Parkinson's Support Group and Courtnie Giddens "Transitioning Through Phases of Care with Your Loved One" (with Bruce Lopes from Care Patrol); March 22 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Punta Gorda Civic Association, 2001 Shreve St., Punta Gorda.

• North Port JFCS Care Partner Connection with Carolyn Stephens, LCSW (Open Forum and Sharing) Parkinson's Power Hour with Courtnie Giddens; March 27 from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Neuro Challenge North Port, 5600 Peace River Road.

• Voice Aerobics with Mary Spremulli, SLP; March 28 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at 5600 Peace River Road, North Port.

• Movers and Shakers Parkinson's Support Group (with Dr. John Moore) Venice Care Partner Support Group (Open Forum and Sharing); March 28 from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Jacaranda Public Library, 4143 Woodmere Park Blvd., Venice.

For a full listing of Neuro Challenge programs and services, visit [www.neurochallenge.org](http://www.neurochallenge.org).

### Trivia night

Chelsea Place Adult Day Care, 3626 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte, will host a sports theme trivia night from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Feb. 28. A \$10 donation at the door includes trivia, food and drinks. Wear your favorite sports jersey. Proceeds will benefit Senior Friendship Centers. For more information, call Aime at 941-787-0687 or RSVP to Anthony 352-533-8414.

### Charlotte County 'Fit for Life' Senior Games 2019

Charlotte County Community Services will host "Fit for Life" Senior Games 2019 from March 2-31. This Olympic-style event focuses on athletic competition and recreation opportunities for senior citizens. The games are sanctioned by the Florida Sports Foundation and serve as a qualifier for the Florida Senior

Games State Championships. Events will take place at various county recreation facilities and parks. Registration is now open. Additional information is available at the Tringali Recreation Center, 3460 N. Access Road, Englewood and on our website [www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov](http://www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov). Registration deadline for games shirt is Feb. 8. For more information, contact Padmini Sooknanan at 941-681-3742 or [Padmini.Sooknanan@CharlotteCountyFL.gov](mailto:Padmini.Sooknanan@CharlotteCountyFL.gov).

### Tappercise dancers to perform annual show

On March 2, there will be a lively group of Tappercise dancers from Venice, Sarasota and Englewood performing in an annual show to benefit Tidewell Hospice for the last time. The event will take place at the Venice Gardens Civic Center, 406 Shamrock Blvd., at 7 p.m. followed by open dancing from 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. with the band Twice as Nice. All proceeds go to Tidewell Hospice. Tickets are on sale for \$15, or purchase tickets at the door for \$18.

Tappercise will still be available to do road shows at Nursing Homes, Assisted Living Facilities and smaller communities, but no big public shows after this one. For more information about Tappercise, to become a dancer or to purchase tickets now, please call Sharon de Marc at 941-408-0019.

### 'Show the Love Luncheon'

"Show the Love" Luncheon, raising funds for Charlotte County mothers and babies, will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on March 8 at the 2421 Event Center, 2421 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte. Cost is \$20 per person. For more information, call 941-764-9700. Call Healthy Start for tickets or sponsorship opportunities, 941-764-9700.

### Shave-A-Thon fundraiser for children's cancer

The Celtic Ray, 145 E. Marion Ave., Punta Gorda, will host "St. Baldrick's" a shave-a-thon for children's cancer from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. on March 9. The fundraiser includes a silent auction and 50/50 raffle. For more information, call 775-220-1644 or visit [www.stbaldricks.org/events/puntagorda](http://www.stbaldricks.org/events/puntagorda).

### Registration is open for golf charity event

The fifth annual ARCHway Institute for Mental Health and Addictive Disorders Golf Scramble is set for March 9, at Twin Isles Country Club, 301 Madrid Blvd., Punta Gorda, starting with registration at 7 a.m. with an 8:15 a.m. shotgun scramble. Entry fee is \$100. The fee includes greens fees/cart and buffet lunch following scramble. For lunch and the silent auction only, cost is \$35. ARCHway is also hosting a Tennis Mixer beginning at 2 p.m. on March 8 at Twin Isles.

Half of the proceeds of this outing will benefit the CBHC (Charlotte Behavioral Health Care) in Charlotte County and the Sheriff's Addiction Recovery Initiative to be used to help an individual who is in need of financial help for recovery. Some monies will also go to help pay for someone's first month in a structured sober living facility in Florida. To register online for either or both events, go to [www.thearchwayinstitute.org](http://www.thearchwayinstitute.org).

For more information, contact Dan Stuckey at [DStuckey57@hotmail.com](mailto:DStuckey57@hotmail.com) for more information or 314-452-4982.

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# Understanding and using protein

By GREGORY WHYTE

THE CULTURAL CENTER OF CHARLOTTE COUNTY'S FITNESS CENTER

Protein is the building and repairing material used by the body and is important at every stage of life. It is also used as a source of energy and is important for blood cell formation. The word protein is a Greek one meaning "of principal or first importance." The main constituent of body tissue is protein. It is the substance found in muscles, nails, hair, skin and etcetera. A considerable portion of our food should be protein.

Proteins are created from approximately 20 basic amino acids. Unfortunately, not all living things are able to synthesize (create) all 20 of the amino acids. Most plants and micro-organisms are able to do so, but humans and other animals must secure some of the amino acids through the food they eat. The amino acids secured in this manner are referred to as "essential amino acids" and include:

lysine, valine, histidine, threonine, leucine, tryptophan, isoleucine, methionine and phenylalanine. The protein foods we consume are digested so as to release their amino acids.

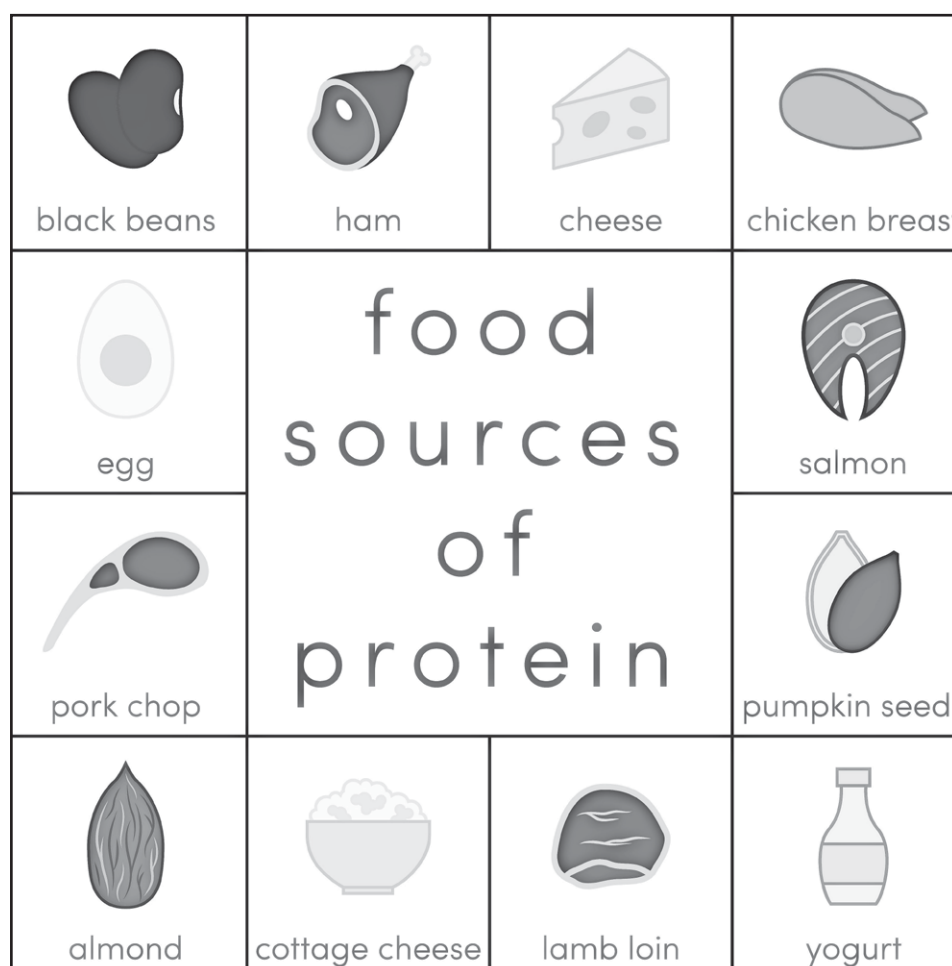
Ensuring that we get the protein we need each day, will require that we secure food items that supply the various essential amino acids. In some ways, this process becomes similar to putting together a puzzle. Each piece (an amino acid) is important for the completion of the whole (a protein food item). Since different foods will supply different amino acids, a good way to ensure that all the essential amino acids are had each day is to eat a wide variety of foods that are good sources of amino acids.

Foods that are good sources of protein are milk and its products, meat, fish, eggs and soy which is a plant protein that comes closest to being considered a "complete protein." Other sources of protein — especially those of a vegetarian nature — are cereals and grains, nuts

and seeds and legumes. Today, the use of protein powders is quite popular. Soy, egg, rice and whey are common ones. Making use of these powders is a good way to help satisfy your protein needs.

Consuming even the highest quality protein foods is not enough. You must also ensure that you are getting adequate amounts of those foods. If you are an athlete or an extremely active person you should know the types and amounts of foods that are specific to your needs. A woman who is lactating or a person in his/her senior years will all require varying amounts of protein.

The more active you are, the more protein you will need. Athletes, bodybuilders, endurance and strength-trained individuals will need more protein each day than the less active (sedentary) members of the society. Protein needs will also increase for women who are pregnant or breastfeeding and for persons who are overly stressed or recovering from



GRAPHIC PROVIDED

illnesses.

To determine the amount of protein you need each day, you simply divide your weight (in pounds) by 2.2. The result will be your weight in kilograms. Next, you

multiply your weight (in kilograms) by 0.8 to 1.8 (this range, 0.8 to 1.8 represents your level of activity; low to high respectively). The result of your calculation is the grams of protein your

body requires each day.

For answers to your health and fitness related questions, call 941-625-4175, ext. 263 or visit the Cultural Center's Fitness Center at 2280 Aaron St., Port Charlotte.

# Medical Alliance targets opioid awareness

By DEBBIE FLESSNER

CORRESPONDENT

Since 1947, the Sarasota County Medical Society of America has served Sarasota County in creating impactful health projects and endeavors.

An all-female group consisting of both physicians and physician spouses, it supports medical families through education and advocacy, provides fellowship for members and helps promote and support the health and well-being of families in the community.

The Sarasota Medical Alliance Foundation is the nonprofit arm of SCMSA that promotes health education, identifies and addresses health care needs and issues, and supports health-related charitable endeavors in the Sarasota County community.

Erin Lilly, who also holds down a paying job at the Venice Area Chamber of Commerce, is in her second year as foundation executive board president. During her involvement in the organization, she has made quite an impact, primarily with a project she finds very important.

"When we first moved here to Venice and I joined the Sarasota Medical Alliance, I heard them talking about supporting Sarasota Drug Free Youth, so I signed up for that committee," Lilly said. "There were a lot of

stories in the news about opioid issues and during a meeting with the Drug Free Sarasota coalition, I said to them, 'You need to create something like a Physician's Advocate Award that will enable physicians to passively educate their patients about opioids.'"

Her thought was that physicians assumed that patients knew about all the dangers associated with opioid use but didn't necessarily have the time to broach the subject with them during busy office visits. In conjunction with Drug Free Sarasota, she came up with what she believed was a viable solution. And three years later, it still is.

They created the Drug Free Sarasota Physician Advocate Award Program, to find a way to connect physicians with the addiction and recovery community. To get started, they conducted focus groups with three major addiction and recovery family organizations in Sarasota County and formulated a two-part component project.

"We came up with a waiting room literature model to help fix the disconnect between the doctors and patients, when it came to discussing opioids," Lilly said. "When we wrote it, we wanted to address the question, 'What do you wish your physician had told you?' It's really just a patient



PHOTOS PROVIDED

Carole Lash, third from right, is a Venice Medical Academy instructor and the scholarship liaison who works with the Sarasota Medical Alliance Foundation to provide scholarships to students.

education piece."

The first part of the program consists of an educational tear sheet, which is given to the patient to read just before they receive an opioid. The second component is an award module that also serves as a literature holder for existing Drug Free Sarasota literature. It sits in the waiting room or exam room of physician offices and has information about Sarasota County's Drug Free Youth program, the Marchman Act (which offers support for individuals who have been involuntarily committed to a drug program, and their families), information about the availability and use of naloxone (opioid overdose reversal), and advice about how to spot signs of overdose.

Physicians and health-care facilities can enroll in the program simply by agreeing to have the waiting room literature award module brought to their office, and having

their assistants trained to hand out the tear sheets.

The Physician Advocate Award Program even earned Lilly and her collaborators the Southern Medical Association Alliance award for best health project in 2017. All four major hospitals in Sarasota County and the Lakewood Ranch Medical Center in Manatee County got behind the project.

Some of the other projects supported by the SMAF are a scholarship program for local aspiring medical students, the sponsorship of a video series aimed at educating teens about dealing with depression, anxiety and abuse, G.E.M.S. (a long-standing comprehensive babysitting course) and other community efforts.

Coming up in May will be the organization's spring fundraiser. It's only open to SMAF members, but if you or your company make a sponsorship donation, you will be welcome to attend.

Lilly said that though



Casino Royale 2019 is the theme of this year's Sarasota Medical Alliance Foundation fundraising event.

the SMAF has traditionally been a fellowship organization, she is pleased that the community outreach aspect has become even more important.

"We have more than 200 total female physicians and physician spouses and partners in our group," she said. "We're really focusing on creating and sustaining meaningful health projects in Sarasota County, and

we're proud to be partnering with Drug Free Sarasota on the Physician Advocate Award project. Physicians like being able to show their patients they care in this way."

For more information about the Sarasota Medical Alliance Foundation, and to find out how you can donate toward the spring fundraiser, visit the website at Donate-SMAF.org.

## Support Groups

### Lung cancer support group

The North Port Lung Cancer Support Group meets from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. the third Wednesday of every month at Sarasota Memorial ER in North Port along Toledo Blade Boulevard. The group is for people with lung cancer along with their caregivers. No RSVP nor charge is required. For more information, call or email Marc Cohen at 941-240-8989 or marcscohen@aol.com.

### NAMI Family support groups

Port Charlotte: The National Alliance on Mental Illness will have a Family Support Group meeting from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month at Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 1532 Forrest Nelson Blvd., Port Charlotte. This is for family members and caregivers of individuals with a mental illness. For

more information, contact Ken and Ginger at 701-306-0023.

North Port: The family support group meets from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on the fourth Monday of the month at Shannon Staub Library, 4675 Career Lane North Port. The National Alliance on Mental Illness family support group is a peer-led group for family members and caregivers of adults living with mental illness. All meetings are free and confidential. For more information, call 941-376-9361 or visit the website at namisarasotacounty.org.

Venice: The family support group meets from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month at Venice Health Park, 1201 Jacaranda Blvd., room 1283. The National Alliance on Mental Illness family support group is a peer-led group for family members and caregivers of adults living with mental illness. All meetings are free and confidential. For more information, call 941-376-9361 or visit the website at

namisarasotacounty.org.

### Holly's Hope

Holly's Hope, a group formed by Joan and Ed Morgan after their daughter Holly died by suicide in 2017, will host the first support group in North Port to help with grief from suicide. The group will meet on the fourth Monday of every month at 6 p.m. in Module Three outside New Hope Community Church, 5600 S Biscayne Drive. For more information on the group, contact Vogel at 317-250-7316, or email at amy.vogel98@gmail.com.

### Lung Matters support group

Lung Matters support group meets from 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month. Call Port Charlotte Rehab Center for locations and more information at 941-235-8011.





# The fix for foot pain could be a surgery you didn't know about

By **STACEY BURLING**

THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

Brian Adams was born with very flat feet.

They didn't stop him from playing a variety of sports — volleyball, baseball, basketball — in his youth. He grew to be a 6-foot-3-inch man who loved to “run, not jog.” Those flat feet served him well.

Until they didn't.

In the last few years, Adams, now 50, started having shin splints. The odd out-toed positioning of his feet compressed a nerve in his leg. “It felt like a burning poker behind my left ankle,” said Adams, a state property management specialist who lives in Edgewater Park, N.J. The pain grew so intense that he started dragging his foot “like Igor.” Neither a special orthopedic boot nor physical therapy helped. His knees started hurting too. The inside of his foot was numb.

“I was worried that this one issue was going to disrupt the balance and structure of everything,” Adams said. “I thought I was just doomed, to be honest with you.”

But he wasn't, Steven Raikin, director of the foot and ankle service at Rothman Orthopaedic Institute, told him. That is how Adams ended up in an operating room recently, his bare left foot held high in the air as Raikin prepared to surgically repair its fallen arch. Like many people, Adams had not even known that the procedure existed.

It would not be easy. Raikin would make multiple incisions and then cut, hammer, saw and sew the foot into a more normal shape. Full recovery will take a year, but Raikin said most patients wind up with about 80 percent of normal function, far better than they had before surgery.

Foot problems are among the most common complaints of middle and older age. They are not trivial. When people's feet hurt, they are less likely to exercise and more likely to fall, doctors said. About a third of people over 65 have foot pain, stiffness or aches. Almost everyone will have it at some point.

“It's incredibly prevalent,” said Casey Jo Humbyrd, chief of the foot and ankle division at Johns Hopkins Medical Center and head of health policy for the American Orthopaedic Foot and Ankle Society. It's harder, she said, to find

older people who don't have foot problems.

Many of us take our feet for granted, but we quickly learn how much they matter when they hurt. Surgeons, Raikin said, often tell patients, “You take 10,000 steps a day and you never think about your feet until they hurt. Then that's all you think about.”

Later-life problems with bones and tendons stem from a combination of unfortunate genes, wear and tear, old injuries, and more controllable risk factors such as obesity and diabetes. Women who cram their feet into too-small, too-pointy, too-tall shoes may pay for their fashion consciousness with bunions, hammer toes, and arch problems.

Though they can happen at any time, the deformities become more common as people reach their 50s and increase from there. You just have to live with some conditions, such as thinning fat pads on the ball of the foot and the heel. The pain from others can be controlled with orthotics, physical therapy, and better-fitting, lower-heeled shoes with arch support.

When none of those work, surgery is a last-resort fix for several of the most common complaints: flat feet, bunions, arthritis and hammer toes.

Surgeons said the test for whether you should go under the knife is never how your feet look. “You should only be having surgery for pain,” Humbyrd said.

The foot is made up of 28 bones that are supported and moved by multiple muscles, tendons and ligaments. They absorb three to five times more force than the hips, Raikin said, one reason they are stressed by extra body weight.

You might expect that the arch of the foot is a hard structure like a bridge, but the primary support is ligaments that, over time, can become stretched or torn.

“I tell patients it's like a rubber band,” Raikin said. “Once a rubber band has been in the sun too long and lost its elasticity, it can never get its elasticity back.”

Older patients also often have severe arthritis in joints that affect the arch. Every foot is different, and repairs involve a tapas menu of small steps that may replace and reroute tendons, free constricted muscles and nerves, realign the heel and, in the case of arthritis, fuse painful joints.



TNS PHOTO

**Orthopedic surgeon Steven Raikin, left, and Dr. Alexis Williams, an orthopedic surgery resident, right, begin 50-year-old Brian Adams' surgery for fallen arches by releasing tightened calf muscles at Rothman Orthopaedic Specialty Hospital in Bensalem.**

Each patient may need a different combination of four to six surgical steps, said Kate O'Connor, a Penn Medicine orthopedic surgeon.

In Adams' case, Raikin began by releasing the calf muscle. It had been compressing the tibial nerve, causing the foot numbness.

Compared with orthopedic surgeons who replace big joints such as hips and knees, he used more delicate tools, a small scalpel and long-handled tweezers. He made two more incisions along the side and back of the foot. He found the posterior tibial tendon, which runs underneath the arch. It was about twice the normal size — bloated and riddled with tears.

Raikin explained that the tendon enlarged as it tried, futilely in this case, to heal itself. He cut away about 2 1/4 inches of the damaged tendon. He pointed out a yellow, Y-shaped structure, a nerve that had been compressed by the awkward position of the foot, which tends to roll outward when feet are flat.

He cut away bands of tissue that were constricting it. Then he pulled out the flexor digitorum longus, a tendon that normally moves the toes. This one was healthy. It was stretchier, thinner and shinier than the one Raikin had removed. He would reroute it to take the place of the damaged tendon.

Tendons, he said, travel on specific tracks, like trains. He moved

this one from the toe track to the arch track. Other tendons would allow Adams to keep moving his toes but not as well as before. He pulled the tendon until an arch formed — “Right now, that's a normal arch,” he said — and attached it to a bone with a special screw.

Raikin was not done. In severe flat footedness, the heel bone tilts outward “like a banana falling on its side.” Fixing that required yet another incision. Then Raikin inserted a slim, rectangular saw blade that cut the 1.5-inch heel bone in half laterally. He shifted the back piece half inward about 3/8 inch and screwed the two pieces together with a long, titanium screw. He sawed off some extra bone and tamped the heel in place with a hammer.

He pressed the foot against a clear piece of plastic to make sure the arch on the inside looked right. It did. It was noticeably thinner and more shapely.

In less than an hour, Raikin was done. Next it would be Adams' turn to work, but first he would have to go home and do nothing for two weeks.

Surgical procedures are also available to help people with unremitting pain from bunions, arthritic joints and hammer toes.

Hammer toes, which generally affect the second, third and fourth toes, become more common from the 50s on. Toes get locked in a bent position that is painful in

shoes. Surgeons release the locked joint and pin or fuse it straight.

Arthritis can affect any of the 33 joints in the foot and ankle. Ankle replacement surgery is growing in popularity, but patients should know that replacement parts don't last forever, O'Connor said. Some may prefer fusion surgery, which affects mobility but lasts longer than artificial joints.

In the big toe, another common arthritis site, doctors can now replace damaged cartilage with a cushion that preserves toe movement. Fusion is an option there, too, and it is the most common solution for pain in other joints, O'Connor said. The pain comes from the bones rubbing against each other. That stops when they are fused.

Fixing bunions is a bigger deal — requiring longer recovery time — than many people realize. Bunions look like a growth on the inner edge of the front of the foot, but they actually are a malformed joint.

Some combination of genetics and too-tight shoes makes the big toe migrate toward the outer edge of the foot. This puts pressure on the metatarsophalangeal joint — the place where the toe joins the foot — and makes it bow outward. To fix the bunion, surgeons cut and realign bones leading to the big toe. Many people with bunions also have hammer toes.

## A new study finds a way for people to cut their risk of developing a dangerous superbug infection after leaving the hospital

By **MARILYNN MARCHIONE**

AP CHIEF MEDICAL WRITER

Think of it as decontaminating yourself. Hospitalized patients who harbor certain superbugs can cut their risk of developing full-blown infections if they swab medicated goo in their nose and use special soap and mouthwash for six months after going home, a study found.

It's a low-tech approach to a big problem: About 5 percent of patients have MRSA — antibiotic-resistant Staph bacteria — lurking on their skin or in their noses, putting them at high risk of developing an infection while recovering from an illness or an operation. These can affect the skin, heart, brain, lungs, bones and joints, and most of them land people back in the hospital.

The hygiene steps that researchers tested trimmed

that risk by nearly one third.

“It's a very simple solution. You don't have to swallow a medicine, you just have to clean the outside of your body for a little while longer,” said Dr. Susan Huang of the University of California Irvine School of Medicine. She led the federally funded study, published Wednesday by the New England Journal of Medicine.

A lot has been done to curb infections in hospitals and attention is shifting to what happens after patients leave. Nine states — California, Washington, Nevada, Minnesota, Illinois, South Carolina, Pennsylvania, Maine and New Jersey — require that hospitals test the most vulnerable patients, such as those in intensive care, for MRSA. Many other places do it voluntarily.

The study involved more than 2,000 patients

at hospitals in southern California who were found to carry MRSA, or methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus bacteria. All were given information on ways to avoid infection, and half also got special products — mouthwash, liquid soap containing an antiseptic and an antibiotic ointment to swab in the nose. They were told to use these Monday through Friday, every other week for six months.

A year later, 6 percent of those in the deep-clean group had developed a MRSA infection versus 9 percent of the others. They also had fewer infections from other germs. Doctors estimated that 25 to 30 people would need to be treated to prevent one case.

There were no serious side effects; 44 people had dry or irritated skin, and most continued using the

products despite that.

Heather Avizius was one. The 41-year-old nanny has had MRSA infections in the past and entered the study after severe complications of Crohn's disease landed her in St. Jude Medical Center in Fullerton, California, eight years ago.

“I took the regimen very, very seriously” and has not had MRSA since, she said. “I felt cleaner and safer” and less worried about spreading germs to her children, she said.

Nearly half dropped out of the study early or couldn't be found for follow-up.

“Many people may think ‘I feel fine, I don't really need to do this,’” said Dr. John Jernigan of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. But “the risk doesn't end once you go home.”

Federal grants paid for the products. They would



AP PHOTO

**Researcher Raheeb Saavedra demonstrates how to use a medicated ointment for a study on preventing superbug infections.**

cost \$150 to \$200 for six months otherwise, Huang said. The antiseptic soap was a 4 percent chlorhexidine solution sold in many drugstores.

Other soaps, even ones labeled antibacterial, “may not have the active ingredients to remove MRSA,” said Dr. Robert Weinstein,

another study leader and an infections specialist at Cook County Health and Rush University Medical Center in Chicago.

It's worth it for patients to do whatever they can to prevent an MRSA infection, he said.

“You left the hospital, you don't want to go back.”

## Support Groups

### Caregivers Support Group

Port Charlotte United Methodist Church, 21075 Quesada Ave., Port Charlotte, hosts a caregiver support group from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. every Wednesday. The cost is free and is open to any caregiver dealing with a care-receiver with any debilitating disease. There are no requirements to join the group. For more information, contact Mike Boccia at 941-815-6077.

### Codependents Anonymous

Co-Dependents Anonymous (CoDA) is a Twelve Step Fellowship of men and women whose common purpose is recovery from CoDependence and the development and maintenance of healthy relationships. The CoDA meetings in the area meet at the Oasis Alana Club at 2936 S. McCall Road, Englewood.

Monday Step from 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

Thursday Open from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Friday from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. starting in October.

For more information, contact Barbara at 941-474-4190.

### Courage Over Cancer

Gulf Cove United Methodist Church's cancer care program, Courage Over Cancer, offers support and ministry to men, women, and families who are affected by cancer. Church and community members

touched by this disease are provided with help and spiritual counsel that are specific to their needs as a cancer patient, caregiver, or loved one. This ministry is based on the outreach program Our Journey of Hope which was developed by the Cancer Treatment Centers of America. If you or someone you know could benefit from a friend to support them through this journey, contact the church at 941-697-1747 or GulfCoveUMC@gmail.com.

Gulf Cove UMC is located at 1100 McCall Road in Port Charlotte.

### Food Addicts Anonymous

A 12-step program for those who wish to recover from food addiction. Group meets from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Thursdays, at First Alliance Church, 20444 Midway Blvd., Port Charlotte. For more information, call 941-380-6550.



# The new game-a-day platform Meditations proves there is joy in fleeting, text-free play

## Games are experiences designed to provoke emotion

By **TODD MARTENS**  
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Over the last several weeks, new video games have tackled unexpected subjects in unpredictable ways. One release was designed to capture the sensation of seeing a newborn smile for the first time. Another sought to illustrate how an entire family could drift apart after the death of a beloved grandfather.

The former was over in about 30 seconds. The latter took a couple of minutes. Both have since disappeared.

The games are part of the online project Meditations, which officially launched Jan. 1. The free, web-based platform, led by independent developer Rami Ismail, delivers a new game each day of the year — yes, all 365 of them.

The games are bite-size and can be completed in less than five minutes, but there's a catch: Each is available for only 24 hours, at which point it gets archived until it appears again on the same day in 2020.

So far, there has been a wide swath of games; some are puzzles, others are relatively abstract and most are lightly interactive experiences designed to provoke an emotion. There have been games, for instance, about family, pets, anger, anxiety and pure effervescent joy.

More than 350 developers created games for Meditations; many are professionals, some are students, and they come from all over the globe.

If there's any sort of connective thread among the works, it's that they all feel deeply personal and embody a belief that

games are as intimate as they are playful. The games are also text-free; that's one of Ismail's requirements.

"What I want to prove with this is that games are a more global language than any written or spoken language we have," says Ismail, co-founder of Dutch studio Vlambeer ("Ridiculous Fishing").

"English is a lovely lingua franca for our planet, but if you put a soccer ball on the ground and kick it toward someone, they understand they need to kick it back," he continues. "There's no discussion needed beyond a signal of me being playful. So play with me."

Think of each new game in the Meditations series as akin to discovering a song; after all, they're about the same length. Most, when finished, simply close, a digital representation of self-destructing. And while it's likely that many people will hear about a Meditations game after the 24-hour window has passed, for some of the participating designers, that was the draw.

"I think the fact that you can only play each game on a certain day gives them additional value," says Spanish developer Luis Diaz Peralta, who releases many of his games for free and often wonders if they'll find an audience.

"There is something beautiful about fleeting things," says Southern California developer John Vanderhoef, "like shooting stars or a momentary field full of fireflies."

Ismail was inspired in part to start the project after discovering and playing the short puzzle game "Tempres," a work

that asks the player to slow down to solve it.

"After completing it," he says, "I felt calmer. I thought that was fascinating. It was a little five-minute thing I played, and my day had a color to it. It had a tone to it."

He began to want a daily game-based ritual. "I wanted 365 days to have a color from a game — an inspiration, a thought, a moment of empathy, a challenge, a consideration or thoughtfulness."

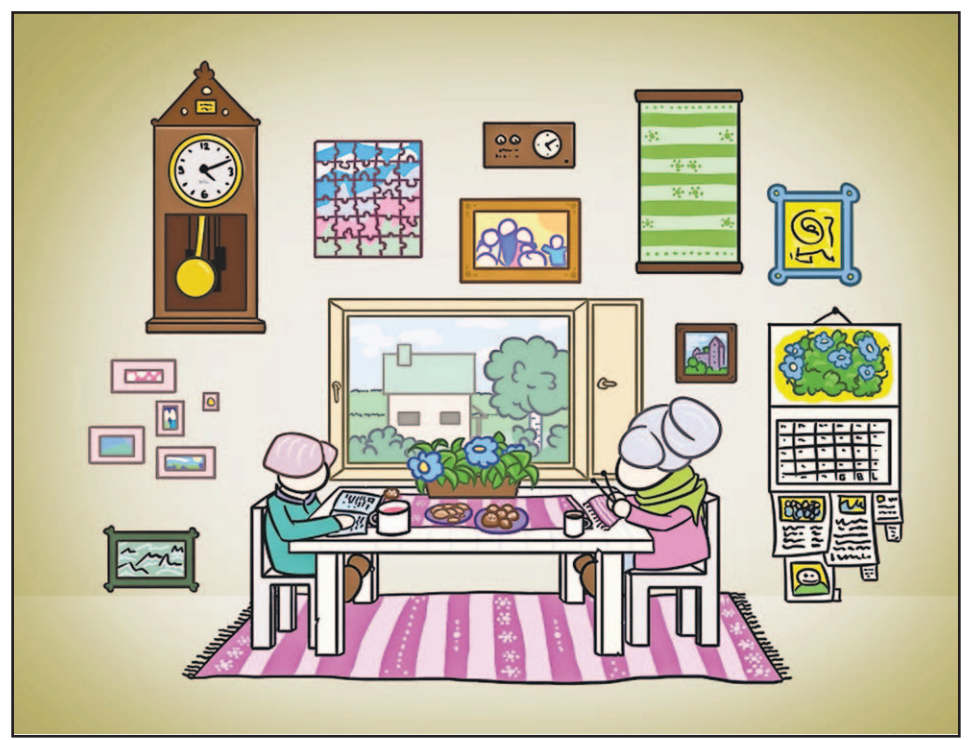
Each Meditation is preceded with a brief mission statement from the designer.

For Jan. 2, Adriel Wallick wrote of the struggles of an introvert. Wallick's game required players to carefully manage the growth of a circle to conserve and expend its energy, serving as a metaphor for time alone versus time spent socially.

The following day, Lisa Brown went deep on depression. Brown's stark game put players in control of a tiny purple fairy who struggled to get a human-like figure to leave the room. Make it out and you are enveloped by beaming light. But doing so was a challenge and required flopping up and over a pit of a despair; succumbing to its bleakness was far easier.

"I think a lot of games, especially larger games, are forced to take a more literal approach," says Ismail. "When you make a game that is more akin in length to a song, you get more abstract modes of interaction and abstract modes of communication."

"That means they map better to the human experience," he continues,



TNS GRAPHIC

Finland's Kimmo Lahtinen designed a brief game about memories and family for the web-based Meditations project. The free, web-based platform, led by independent developer Rami Ismail, delivers a new game each day of the year.

adding, "It's like, 'Here is a feeling.' It's a single statement and action."

Adds Jupiter Hadley, who helped curate the project, "These are like concentrated versions of the feelings and emotions the developers wanted to bring out."

Peralta's black-and-white game focused on his family's celebrations on Three Kings Day and how they were forever changed when a grandfather died. In one scene, we see the family gathering to sing. In another, years later, the family members are isolated and drift off on their own.

"My mother saw people on Twitter talking about the game and asked me to show it to her," Peralta says. "That caught me off guard. I started the game and sat behind her silently, not knowing what to expect. I was quite nervous. When she was finished, she told me it was beautiful and she sent it over to a few more relatives, who also wrote me back to say they loved it."

Love and loss also figured into the game of Finland's Kimmo Lahtinen, who used an innocent and inviting drawing to show a young

child sitting at a table with a grandparent. As the game unfolds, the player tries to stop everything on the screen from disappearing — an ultimately fruitless act.

"The sadness and overwhelming futility of fighting against time was definitely intentional — make people remember their loved ones and think about things they remember and haven't thought about in a long time," Lahtinen says. "Sadness in itself isn't necessary the feeling I have about my memories of my grandmother — they are more happy and hopeful — but you have to let the project be what it wants to be instead of forcing it into some specific direction."

Not all the games, of course, have such a diary-like tone. Vanderhoef, a gamemaker and assistant professor of film, television and media at Cal State Dominguez Hills, was approached late in the project, and Jan. 19 was simply one of the remaining dates. So he found a true-life event — a helicopter carrying workers to an oil rig that was struck by lightning.

A docu-game, Vanderhoef's entry used old-school pixels

to illustrate the rescue mission. Players had little control, as the game shifted from day to night in silence. "Ocean storms, though terrible to be in, have a natural and horrific beauty to them," Vanderhoef says. "The game wants to capture a sense of adventure, dread — existential dread — and ultimately salvation. I wanted the audience to feel the beats of that journey, short as it may be."

The hoped-for audience, says Ismail, is those who don't consider themselves game players — the people, perhaps, who participated in Netflix's choose-your-own adventure "Black Mirror: Bandersnatch" and discovered that games not only surround us but can tackle any subject.

"Being playful would once save your life," Ismail says. "If you climbed a tree for fun, and a tiger came, you'd be in that tree a lot faster than someone who didn't. We want to be playful. It gets beaten out of us by society, but we want to play. It's a powerful part of being a human."

"It's not a wonder," he concludes, "that this is the defining medium of our century."

## Support Groups

### TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)

TOPS (Take-Off-Pounds-Sensibly) support group meets weekly throughout the year at South Punta Gorda Heights Civic Association, 11200 1st Ave., Punta Gorda. Weigh-in starts at 8:45 a.m. and support group meeting starts at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome. TOPS is a low-cost support group. Rather than focus on a specific diet, the group examines behaviors underlying weight problems such as stress-induced and emotional eating, the relationship between weight and health and strategies for obtaining and maintaining a healthy weight. Strategies such as portion control, dealing with emotional eating, reducing carbohydrate consumption, journaling, eating more slowly and engaging with others and many more topics are discussed each week. Members are welcomed with smiles and hugs, have a non-judging environment to share their struggles and gain inspiration by working with others who are dealing with similar challenges. For more information visit us at topschapter0828.wordpress.com or on Facebook at TOPS Chapter 0828.

### Lung Cancer Support Group of Punta Gorda

Lung Cancer Support Group of Punta Gorda meets the second Tuesday of each month at 2 p.m. on the 4th floor of the medical office building at Bayfront Health hospital campus on E. Marion Ave., Punta Gorda.

Speakers:  
March 12: Dr. Bobe, Pulmonologist  
April 9: Dr. Glick, Oncologist Florida Cancer Specialists  
May 14: Thomas Cappello, speaking on estate planning

For more information, call 941-637-9575 or email icgarg@embarq mail.com.

### Alcoholics Anonymous

Call 941-426-7723 for information on meetings in the Arcadia, Venice, Port Charlotte, Punta Gorda, North Port and Englewood areas, including dates times and places.

### Ostomy support meetings

The Charlotte County Ostomy Support Group meets at 2 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month in Port Charlotte. For more information and assistance, contact Jerry

Downs at 941-629-7568 or Gloria Patmore at 941-627-9077.

### The Charlotte Prostate Support Group meeting

The Charlotte Prostate Support Group will meet from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. March 15, at the Fawcett

Hospital H2U facility located 3280 Tamiami Trail, Suite 493, Port Charlotte, FL 33982 (Promenades Mall, behind the Winn-Dixie, next to the Sheriff's Office). The speaker will be Mr. Bradlee Robbert, Director of Patient Services, UF Proton Therapy Institute. He

will address the patient experience both medical and social at UF's Proton facility in Jacksonville. A cancer diagnosis is not required for attendance... many of our members have other prostate issues. We try to present an open, casual, environment to discuss any prostate concern.

Women are cordially invited to attend and participate. Refreshments and room provided by Fawcett Memorial Hospital. Our next meeting will be April 12, and the speaker will be Dr. Luis Fernandez, M.D., Primary Care and Family Practice physician from Port Charlotte.

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# Are teens getting high on social media?

## The surprising study seeking the pot-Instagram link

By **PETER ROWE**  
THE SAN DIEGO  
UNION-TRIBUNE

This is a teen's brain on marijuana.

This is a teen's brain on social media.

See any difference?

In a groundbreaking study, a UCSD psychiatrist is investigating whether social media affects the adolescent brain in the same way as cannabis. Establishing a link could change how medical professionals view teens' engagement with Instagram, Snapchat and other social media platforms.

"Psychiatrists don't recognize excessive social media use as addictive behavior," said Dr. Kara Bagot, a child psychiatrist and assistant professor in residency at the University of California San Diego. "If it shows similar changes in the activation of the brain's reward circuitry, then we can develop a treatment model."

Other researchers have looked at how social media, for better or worse, affects teens. But Bagot's study is the first to compare social media to cannabis.

"There are studies already that show video games, computer games, social media and increased tech use associated with poor outcomes in physical health, mental health and risk-taking," she said. "We have to have more conversations about how to responsibly use social media."

### RARE STANCE

Bagot was a high school

junior in Los Angeles when AOL introduced Instant Messenger, an early texting system. She was not an avid user.

As an undergraduate at Johns Hopkins, a medical student at the University of Illinois at Chicago and then a resident at Yale, she paid scant attention to online platforms.

That pattern continues. The last time she posted to her Facebook page, George W. Bush was in the White House. She's never Tweeted, although her Twitter account contains messages from others, with several applauding her December 2018 appearance on "60 Minutes," discussing adolescent brains and social media.

"I have too much going on in my real life to worry about other people's lives or some representation of my life," she said. "We communicate in other ways that are more real and more meaningful."

Bagot insists she has no bias against social media, but she is concerned about electronic media's effects on children. The mother of two sons, ages 5 and almost 3, she limits what and when they can watch when it comes to videos and television.

"Now," she said, "my 5-year-old knows. He doesn't even ask about watching 'Paw Patrol' on a weekday. It just doesn't happen."

Hers is a rare stance, Bagot acknowledges: "I had to drag my husband into that."

In the U.S., it would be virtually impossible to create a social media-free bubble around adolescents. In a 2018 Pew

Research Center survey, 95 percent of teens said they had a smart phone, the device most often used to access social media. Moreover, 89 percent said they were online "almost constantly" or "several times a day."

Evidence shows that social media usage offers some benefits. While roughly six in 10 teens have experienced cyberbullying, eight in 10 insist that social media makes them feel more connected to friends.

Researchers have noticed that, at the same time that social media use among adolescents has risen, teens are delaying getting their drivers' licenses. Rates of underage use of alcohol, cigarettes and illicit drugs are all falling.

"The thinking is," Bagot said, "if you are not hanging out with your peers you tend to use drugs less."

Yet studies also link social media use to depression, insomnia and negative body images. And while postponing some rites of passage (learning to drive, say) may benefit society (and other drivers), Bagot wonders whether this is healthy.

"Kids are increasingly engaging with each other online," she said, "but they are engaging less with real life."

### FOUR GROUPS

Bagot's study is a small part of the massive, \$300 million Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development (ABCD) initiative, which will track nearly 12,000 children



TNS PHOTO

Dr. Kara Bagot, a researcher at the University of California, San Diego, poses for a portrait on the campus on Feb. 13, in San Diego, California. Bagot conducts research into the brain activity of teenage social media users.

across a decade. The largest study ever conducted on the minds of teenagers, it was launched in 2015 with experts from more than 20 research institutions, including UC San Diego.

When ABCD began, Sandra Brown, UCSD's vice chancellor for research, predicted that it could "lead to novel approaches to education as well as new types of interventions for common problems emerging during adolescence."

The "novel approach" Bagot plans to use: scanning teens' brains as they view images of marijuana, pot paraphernalia and their own Instagram posts. Researchers will alter the latter, adding or subtracting "likes," to inspire positive or negative emotions.

Looking at images

captured by a functional MRI, Bagot's team will see if images of marijuana and Instagram posts light up the same portion of the brain.

While the 60 adolescent subjects will be evenly divided into four groups — heavy marijuana users, light marijuana users, heavy social media users and light social media users — none will be intoxicated while undergoing brain scans.

"We drug test them before they go in," Bagot said. "We want them to go in completely sober."

Subjects, 14- to 18-years-old, are still being recruited and none have yet undergone a brain scan. Bagot's experiment is funded through the spring, so she plans to finish by the end of the school year.

Education on social media, the professor said, should continue even further.

"We have to teach kids to be good stewards of their own information," Bagot said, citing instances where old Instagram or Facebook posts of reckless or risqué behavior have led to rescinded job offers. "They don't understand that they are leaving a digital footprint."

And those footprints sometimes track mud on other people. Often, objectionable posts include more than one person.

"At some point," Bagot said, "you are responsible for your friends' information as well."

Acting responsibly, though, can be difficult if you are high — on cannabis or social media.

## Support Groups

### Cancer support group

Fawcett Memorial

Hospital, an HCA affiliate, now offers a cancer support group for cancer patients, their families

and caregivers. The group meets the last Wednesday of each month from noon to 1:30 p.m. with

lunch provided. Research shows that social support has benefits for cancer patients, those recovering from treatment and their family and loved ones by reducing anxiety and stress, emotional distress and depression, fatigue and the experience of pain while improving mood, self-image, ability to cope with stress and feelings of control. In addition, having a supportive social network can help with recovery and adjusting to life after treatment. The support group allows those experiencing a cancer diagnosis to cope with the

emotional aspects by providing a safe place to share their feelings and challenges while allowing people to learn from others facing similar situations.

Cancer patients and their family members are encouraged to attend. Active participation is not required, listeners are welcome. Physicians and other health professionals will periodically speak to the group on cancer related topics. For more information or to RSVP, please call Fawcett's oncology patient navigators at 941-624-8318.

ministry to anyone affected by this life altering diagnosis. Whether you are new diagnosis or have been battling for a long time, the cancer ministry provides a place where people who understand the treatment journey are available to help, listen and support patients, as well as survivors, caregivers and family members. The Cancer Support Ministry meets the first Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in room 9 at 507 W. Marion Ave., Punta Gorda. All adult cancer survivors and their caregivers are welcome to attend, regardless of cancer type, church affiliation or faith base. For more information, contact Mitzi Kohrman, kohrman1562@comcast.net.

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# What's new with the nutrition facts label?

By **BARBARA QUINN**

THE MONTEREY COUNTY HERALD

What's the most important information to look for — always, always, always — on a food label? Most people say calories. Others say fat. Sugar is important, too, especially added sugar.

But what's the most important information? Serving Size. Everything else is based on that particular amount of food.

Let's say, for instance, I want to compare different brands of ice cream. The US Food and Drug Administration (the folks who recently updated the Nutrition Facts label) has changed some of the standard serving sizes on food labels "to reflect what people actually eat and drink. For example, the serving size for ice cream was previously 1/2 cup and now is 2/3 cup."

Right. So, back to my example. When comparing ice creams, I need to know that the calories and other nutrients listed on the label are accurate only if I eat 2/3 cup. If twice that much gets accidentally scooped into my bowl, I will chalk up double the calories, fat, sugar and you get the picture.

Of course, calories are important, too. So important that the newest Nutrition Facts label now shows CALORIES in BIG, BOLD letters.

"Calories from fat" is one item that was removed from the newest food label. That's because research now shows that the amount of fat we consume is less important than the type of fat. And that explains why we still see Saturated and Trans fats on this new label; they are the types of fat

most associated with inflammatory conditions such as heart disease.

"Added Sugars" has been added to the newest Nutrition Facts label to help us see the difference between those that occur naturally in a food (such as raisins in cereal) and those that are added (such as sugar in cereal). Other sugars in the Added Sugar category include syrups, honey and concentrated sugars from fruit or vegetable juices. This information can help us stay within the guideline to limit our intake of added sugar to no more than 10 percent of our daily calories.

Nutrients on the new label have changed as well. Vitamins A and C have been replaced with vitamin D and potassium, since these nutrients are more apt to be lacking in our diets. Another good addition: We will now see the actual amounts (in milligrams or micrograms) of nutrients on the label instead of just the percent Daily Value (percentDV).

And to help those who wonder what in the heck is the percentDaily Value, a footnote has been added to the bottom of the Nutrition Facts label to better explain it. In short, percentDV tells us what percentage of the recommended amount of a nutrient is contained in one serving of a particular food. A 3-cup serving of raw spinach, for example, provides 8 percent of the calcium we need in a day.

By the way, you won't see the newest Nutrition Facts label on everything for awhile. The deadline for large manufacturers is Jan. 1, 2020. Smaller companies have until 2021 to comply, says the FDA.

## Support Groups

### Overeaters anonymous

Overeating a problem? Overeaters Anonymous offers free meetings at 10 a.m. Thursdays at Pilgrim United Church of Christ, 24515 Rampart Blvd., Port Charlotte. Call 941-626-8969 for more information.

Port Charlotte Pulmonary Hypertension & Pulmonary Fibrosis Support Group

The group meets from noon to 2 p.m. on the second Thursday of every month at 2370 Harbor Blvd., Port Charlotte. RSVP Linda Milo at 941-255-5043.

### Sex Addicts Anonymous

Sex Addicts Anonymous is a 12-step support group for those who are struggling with sexual compulsion and/or emotional dependency. No dues or fees. The meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. Mondays in Englewood and 7 p.m. in Port Charlotte. For more information, call 941-222-0539 or email [saaenglewood@gmail.com](mailto:saaenglewood@gmail.com).

### Stroke support group

A stroke support group will be held at 1 p.m. on the last Friday of each month at Fawcett Memorial Hospital, Executive

Dining Room, 21298 Olean Blvd., Port Charlotte.

### Substance abuse support group

The Substance Abuse support group meets at 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays at the Lifeworks Substance Abuse Services, 4678 Tamiami Trail, Suite 105, Port Charlotte. Contact George at 941-979-5023 for more information.

### Women's cancer support group

Celebrate Life women's cancer support group meets at 10 a.m. on the first Wednesday of each month at the Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association, 2001 Shreve St., Punta Gorda. There typically is a speaker. Lunch at a Punta Gorda restaurant follows the meeting. Contact either Diane Mabye at 941-575-7746 or Sara Benson at 941-575-6765 to learn a little more about Celebrate Life.

To submit information about your support group, email the details to [FeelingFit@sun-herald.com](mailto:FeelingFit@sun-herald.com).

## BAYFRONT NEWS & NOTES

**Feb. 25, 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.** Quit Your Way. Bayfront Health Port Charlotte, Conference Center, 2500 Harbor Blvd., Port Charlotte. Quitting tobacco isn't easy. Finding help should be. Bayfront Health and Tobacco Free Florida offer free tools and services to help you get started. Free. Call 866-534-7909 to register

**Feb. 26, 1:15 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.** Emotions of the Heart: Stress Management Class. Bayfront Health Wellness & Rehab Center, 733 E. Olympia Ave., Punta Gorda. Everyone experiences stress from time to time; however, excessive stress can take a toll on your health. Learn techniques to recognize, manage, overcome and cope. Free. Call 941-637-2450 to register.

**Feb. 27, 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.** Attend a Seminar: What Do You Have To Lose? Bayfront Health Punta Gorda Medical Office Plaza, 713 E. Marion Ave., Suite 131, Punta Gorda. If you're considering weight loss surgery, the best place to start is with the right information. That's why we offer free weight loss seminars as an opportunity to talk with the experts. Seminars are

interactive and include members of our weight loss team. You are invited to bring a family member, friend, or other support person with you. Free. Register at [www.BayfrontCharlotteWeightLoss.com](http://www.BayfrontCharlotteWeightLoss.com) or call 941-766-4564 to schedule a free consultation.

**Feb. 28, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.** Hands-Only CPR and Early Heart Attack Care (EHAC). The Friendship Center of Desoto County, 219 W. Oak St., Arcadia. Hands-only CPR is a method of CPR that has been recommended by the American Heart Association (AHA) since 2010 and is ten times more likely to save someone in cardiac arrest than not doing anything. Help given immediately in an emergency can often make the difference between life and death. Free. Seating is limited. RSVP required. Call 863-494-5965 to register.

**Feb. 28, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.** Forever Bonds Breastfeeding Support Group. Bayfront Health Port Charlotte, Conference Center, 2500 Harbor Blvd., Port Charlotte/ New moms — and moms-to-be — are invited to share and learn about breastfeeding. Free. Call 941-624-7214 to register.



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# Doctors talk heart health at Fawcett's cardiovascular symposium

By KAYLA GLEASON  
FEELING FIT CORRESPONDENT

"How many of you have experienced heart problems," asked Fawcett Memorial Hospital's President and CEO Bill Hawley.

Nearly half of the guests filling the Charlotte Harbor Event and Conference Center stood up.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, heart disease is the leading cause of death in American men and women.

And, in an effort to get the word out on both preventative measures and care options, the hospital held their second annual Cardiovascular Health Symposium on Wednesday.

"I'm sorry that you have to be here," said Dr. Dennis Stapleton, a cardiovascular surgeon, "that's what I tell all my patients."

As the first of three guest speakers, Stapleton went on to detail the choices patients have when facing heart surgery.

His number one piece of advice?

"Ask your friends, nurses, primary care doctor, cardiologist who the best choice is, who they would recommend. Ask them who they would pick if it was them or a family member looking



Bill Hawley President and CEO of Fawcett Memorial, introduces Dr. Dennis Stapleton, at the Fawcett Memorial Cardiovascular Health Symposium.

for a surgeon."

And doctors at Fawcett continue striving to be a first choice.

"We are currently a top 100 hospital for cardiac intervention according to Hospital Grade and a 5-star recipient for treatment of heart failure and heart attack care. I'm very proud of that," Hawley said.

Stapleton added: "If I keep you here to operate, you can trust there's no one better in the area to do your surgery. I'll be the one who sees you every day, I'll be the one holding your hand and helping you through the process."

Many patients, however, might never even have to meet Stapleton due to the preventative measures of other staff, including Dr. Melody Stratton and Dr. Sergio Cossu.

Stratton, a cardiologist, detailed early warning signs, as well as ways to



FEELING FIT PHOTOS BY JERRY BEARD

The majority of the crowd stands, when asked by Bill Hawley, President and CEO of Fawcett Memorial, to show who has been affected by Cardiovascular disease, at the Fawcett Memorial Cardiovascular Health Symposium, in Punta Gorda, Wednesday.



Cardiothoracic Surgeon Dr. Dennis Stapleton answered common questions about open heart surgery.

deter heart problems. "Cardiovascular disease is largely preventable. Heart disease has been so well studied we know what causes it and we know how to prevent it," she said.

Some risk factors, unfortunately, are unchangeable, including age, being male or having a family history of heart disease.

Still, there are many more influences we can control and help to lower the risk such as tobacco use, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, obesity and lack of physical activity.

"Everyone is different, so heart disease looks different in everyone - we had one lady come in with stomach pains and, turns out, she was having



Electrocardiologist Dr. Sergio Cossu, explains heart rhythm problems.

a heart attack. But early recognition is key, we try to keep you away from Dr. Stapleton," Stratton said.

Another common cardiac issue comes in the form of atrial fibrillation, or irregular rhythm, which Cossu specializes in. "We're still cardiologists, we just have extra training in the electrical system - we like to say cardiologists are divided into plumbers and electricians," he said.

An irregular heartbeat can be divided into tachyarrhythmia - meaning it's too fast - and bradyarrhythmia - too slow. Both issues can cause palpitations, dizziness and shortness of breath and lead to everything from blood clots to stroke.



Dr. Melody Stratton explained catheterization lab procedures.

### MORE INFORMATION

The American College of Cardiology has a heart disease risk calculator on their website for those interested at <http://tools.acc.org/ASCVD-Risk-Estimator-Plus/#/calculate/estimate/>

The risk calculator should not replace regular health screenings.

construction project, Fawcett is also adding more patient rooms, expanding their cardiac catheterization labs and planning for a helipad, all to better treat and provide for those coming through their doors. "You can get your life back and get back to the people and things that you love," Stapleton said.

## Yoga

- Englewood Beach: Daily at 8:30 a.m.; and Wednesday at 5 p.m. 941-473-0135. Sunset class on Wednesday nights will be at 6 p.m., effective March 13.

- Manasota Beach, 8570 Manasota Key Road: Monday-Friday at 8 a.m. and 9 a.m.; Saturday 9 a.m.

- Venice Beach Yoga, Daily 8 a.m. and 9 a.m.; Monday-Thursday at 5 p.m.

- North Jetty, Nokomis Beach Yoga, 1000 S. Casey Key Road: 9 a.m. Monday-Friday. All ages and abilities bring a

towel or blanket and join. Free will donation.

- Yoga Tots - The Punta Gorda Library, 424 W. Henry St., hosts the free program Yoga Tots Storytime from 10:15 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. on Fridays for children ages 12-36 months. Bring your toddler, towels or yoga mat to stretch your mind and muscles with a story and fun yoga poses. For more information, call 941-833-5460 or email: [PuntaGordaLibrary@charlottecountyfl.gov](mailto:PuntaGordaLibrary@charlottecountyfl.gov).

If you would like your free yoga event added to our events, email [feeling-fit@sun-herald.com](mailto:feeling-fit@sun-herald.com).



# High cost of insulin may be sending consumers to use over-the-counter version, researchers say

By SARAH GANTZ  
THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

As drug prices continue to rise, patients who can't afford their medicine are taking some truly drastic steps.

Some travel across borders or order through international online pharmacies, where medications commonly retail for much less. Others try to ration or skip doses.

Researchers at Christiana Care Health System in Delaware set out to learn more about an option for people struggling to manage diabetes amid rising insulin prices: Over-the-counter insulin.

Human synthetic insulin has been available over the

counter, without a prescription, since the 1950s and retails for a fraction of the price of the newer, analog insulins that are now commonly prescribed.

Still, Walmart-brand ReliOn human insulin is available without a prescription in every state except Indiana and retails for a fraction of the cost of brand-name versions, making it popular among patients who can't afford the pricer versions their doctors prescribed, according to the researchers' findings, published in a research letter in JAMA Internal Medicine Feb. 18.

Researchers surveyed 582 Walmart and chain pharmacies about their sales and customers.

Just over half of the 557 pharmacies that completed the survey were Walmart pharmacies. Among them, 87 percent said they sold over-the-counter insulin daily. Non-Walmart pharmacies reported infrequent over-the-counter insulin sales.

Fifty-five percent of the pharmacies surveyed said they were aware of patients who purchased over-the-counter insulin because they could not afford their prescription insulin.

A 10 milliliter vial of ReliOn costs \$24.88, compared to between \$152 and \$163 for a vial of Novolin or Humulin, according to the report.

"Many patients with diabetes are struggling to afford their medication. The availability of insulin over the counter is potentially a solution for some patients, but doesn't come without potential consequences, especially for patients who do not have access to a health care provider to help use that medication safely," said lead author Jennifer N. Goldstein, a doctor and assistant program director of internal medicine at Christiana Care System.

Human synthetic insulins predate federal drug prescribing regulations established in 1951 and have continued to be available without a prescription since then.

These days, patients are more commonly prescribed a combination of newer, analog insulins that help keep blood sugar levels even throughout the day. They're often considered easier to use and more predictable, Goldstein said.

Human insulins like ReliOn don't last as long and must be taken more often. But they are effective in managing diabetes for many patients with careful attention to diet, meal times, and when insulin peaks.

While the pharmacy survey found that this type of insulin is popular, it's unclear whether the type of insulin a patient chose had any effect on their health.

"It's really unclear whether over-the-counter insulin is associated with better or worse outcomes for patients because there's no data," Goldstein said. "The next step is really to try to examine use and outcomes."

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St. David's, 401 S. Broadway, Englewood, is welcoming Neuro Challenge, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life of people with Parkinson's and their caregivers. Neuro Challenge provides ongoing monthly support groups, educational programs, and individualized care, advising to help empower people with Parkinson's

and their caregivers with A Better Approach to Parkinson's. They will meet in St. David's Parish Hall every the third Friday of every month at 10 a.m. Neuro Challenge serves Manatee, Sarasota and Charlotte counties - there are an estimated 9,000 people with Parkinson's in the three county service area. For more information, call 941-926-6413, 941-474-3140 or go to [www.neurochallenge.org](http://www.neurochallenge.org). Neuro Challenge is happy to include people with other neurological illnesses - ie: MS; ALS; etc.





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# Wanted: Public servants for thankless jobs. OK, who's in?

By **CHRISTOPHER BORRELLI**  
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

CHICAGO — Earlier this month, on a cold, foggy night in the Chicago Loop, students in a public administration class at DePaul University had a conversation about whether they wanted to be public administrators. They wondered, if federal shut-downs and unpredictable governing are the State of Public Service in 2019, maybe they didn't care to become public servants?

They didn't ask what their country could do for them.

They asked why they should do for their country.

Bradly Johnson sat at the front of the class wearing a concerned expression and a dark sweater. He said he didn't feel confident, he felt scared. He said, "Maybe it's a selfish reason, but I would worry about a paycheck — could it be taken away by someone with an agenda?" He said if anyone came to him right now with a federal job he's perfect for, "I guess I would have to tell them, seriously, 'Hell no.'"

"I mean, do I want to be a part of that?"

Angela Tucker, seated in the back row, shook her head slowly. Her dad



TNS PHOTO

Bradly Johnson participates in a discussion about ethics in teacher Samantha Loo's class on Feb. 12 at the School of Public Service at DePaul University in Chicago, Illinois.

works for the Department of Defense, he was paid throughout the latest shutdown, he was essential. "But I wonder, should I work for a department that might be less likely to be affected by any future shutdowns? Or do I work for a department more aligned with my passions?"

The room went still. They are graduate students, most in their mid-20s. They were seasoned; a handful already had worked for the federal government. But this was not what they signed up for when they considered public service — and there is statistical evidence

that all of this wariness is having a toll on public administration programs nationwide.

The students' textbooks were open to a section on "General Ethical Perspectives," textbooks that never anticipated the general perspective that the U.S. federal

government might partially close someday and not pay nearly one million public servants for a month, then only weeks later veer toward yet another shutdown, because the executive branch wants to build a gigantic wall on the Mexican border. For the almost two dozen students in MPS 594 Ethical Leadership in Public Service, recent history loomed large. So Samantha Loo, their instructor, who prides herself on discussing with students the everyday ramifications of a life in government, set aside time to ask her public service students if the lurching, uncertain trajectory of government had them rethinking the future.

"I mean, even if you're not planning to work for the federal government," she said to them, "how has (the potential for more shutdowns) effected outlooks on public service?"

The room was cold, the students buried beneath layers of sweatshirts, down jackets and knitted shawls. Luis Gonzales, wrapped in a heavy blanket, said he works in HR hiring, "and so I think the worry now is those individuals who might be passionate about public service might not,

you know, consider work in a place that's just not stable."

Students said they can't stop thinking of anxious families.

They said they can't stop thinking about federal employees making long commutes to "jobs that are no longer the secure government work they thought they signed up for."

In other words, working for the government now is like working anywhere. Curse the federal bureaucracy, but once, for millions, bureaucracy meant a degree of stability, owning a home, having a family.

James Perry, distinguished professor emeritus at the School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University in Bloomington, said there was a time when a worker entering the government in the '60s "might expect to spend 30 years in a federal job — certainly there are people there now who still have those type of jobs."

Indeed, ask around and public administration schools report that enrollment is either up or booming; the University of Chicago's Harris School of Public Policy says enrollment doubled in as

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Retired, sitting at home doing nothing, thinking about working a few hours a day a couple days a week? We might just have the answer. We are currently seeking on-call drivers and attendants to staff our rapidly growing Mortuary Transport Service. All training and equipment is provided. Call our office if you think you might be interested for an interview. Our employees must be well mannered, no criminal histories and drug free. Position requires you to be on-call 24 hours a day on the days you commit to work. Must have operating cell phone and we require professional dress. Night-time Dispatcher(1P-8A) positions also available to work from home after training. 941-429-0406 1pm-4pm

## 1000 REAL ESTATE

"We Are Pledged To The Letter And Spirit of U.S. Policy For The Achievement Of Equal Housing Opportunity Throughout The Nation. We Encourage And Support An Affirmative Advertising And Marketing Program In Which there Are No Barriers To Obtaining Housing Because of Race, Color, Religion, Sec. Handicap, Familial Status Or National Origin."

## REAL ESTATE 1010 - 1650

- 1010 Open House
- 1015 Real Estate Auctions
- 1020 Homes/General For Sale
- 1030 Waterfront Homes For Sale
- 1031 Foreclosures For Sale
- 1035 Golf Course Community For Sale
- 1040 Condos/Villas For Sale
- 1060 Townhouses For Sale
- 1070 Duplexes For Sale
- 1075 Tri-Plex For Sale
- 1080 Apartments For Sale
- 1090 Mobile Homes For Sale
- 1100 Interval Ownership
- 1100 Out of Area Homes For Sale
- 1115 Trade/Exchange
- 1120 Wanted To Buy

## RENT

- 1205 Lease Option Homes
- 1210 Condos/Villas
- 1240 Townhouses
- 1280 Duplexes
- 1300 Apartments
- 1320 Hotel/Motel
- 1330 Mobile Homes
- 1340 Misc. Rentals
- 1345 Efficiencies
- 1350 Room To Rent
- 1370 Rentals To Share
- 1390 Vacation/Seasonal
- 1420 Wanted To Rent

## LOTS

- 1500 Lots & Acreage
- 1515 Waterfront
- 1520 Out Of Area Lots
- 1530 Commercial Lots
- 1540 Trade/Exchange

## BUSINESS

- 1600 Business For Sale
- 1610 Business Rentals
- 1615 Income Property
- 1620 Commercial/Industrial Prop.
- 1640 Warehouse & Storage
- 1650 Farm/Ranches

## 1010 OPEN HOUSE

## 1010 OPEN HOUSE

**BRAND NEW GULF-ACCESS MODEL HOME! OPEN 12-4 SAT. & SUN. or by Appt. 2000sf 3/2/3 Car Garage w/POOL!**  
2989 Cabaret St., Port Charlotte  
SUN REALTY 941-875-4150  
Hope Sage, Owner/Agent

## CANAL FRONT POOL HOME

OPEN SUN. 12-3PM 3/2/2 Remodeled w/ major updates. Open concept home on private, oversized lot. Granite countertops with breakfast nook. Formal dining room. Must See \$299,900.  
For Sale by owner  
10190 CHARLEMONT AVE Englewood 941-740-1687

## FOR SALE BY OWNER

**ENGELWOOD-** Park Forest  
OPEN THURS - SUN 12-3PM  
250 PARK FOREST BLVD 2/2/2, Den, Lg. Encl. Lanai. Hurricane Windows & Garage Door. Klitchen & Baths Updated! \$245K 941-475-4223

## FIVE STAR REALTY OPEN HOUSES

"Stop by Five Star Realty to pick up a home tour flyer with directions."  
SUNDAY 2/24/2019  
3400 Bal Harbor Blvd, Punta Gorda, FL 33950, 12:00PM-3:00PM  
1315 Penguin Court, Punta Gorda, FL 33950, 12:00PM-3:00PM  
572 Toulouse Drive, Punta Gorda, FL 33950, 1:00PM-3:00PM  
509 Royal Poinciana, Punta Gorda, FL 33955, 1:00PM-3:00PM  
2840 Suncoast Lakes Blvd, Port Charlotte, FL 33980, 1:00PM-3:00PM  
1400 Mineo Drive #10A, Punta Gorda, FL 33950, 1:00PM-3:00PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND PHOTOS, VISIT: WWW.FIVESTARREALTY.COM/BLOG/

**New listing** beautiful maintenance free Trotter home in White Stone section of Southwood of Venice. 3/2 pool home with many upgrades **Sunday 12-5.** 5073 Winter Rose Way Call Helen 941-320-1737 or office 941-954-4443

**OPEN BY APPOINTMENT 18431 ALPHONSE CIR, PT CHARLOTTE, FL 33948**  
Spacious 3/2/2 Pool Home on DOUBLE Lot \$264,900 Bobbi Bevis-941.815.1176 The Bevis Group

## FIND YOUR BEST FRIEND IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

**OPEN FRI. & SUN. 1-4 11826 SW DALLAS DR. S LAKE SUZY. NEWLY RENOVATED, MAGNIFICANT WATERFRONT! 3/2/2, 1982sf. \$299,900. RUSSELL du TOIT, MVP REALTY 941-623-3500**

## 1010 OPEN HOUSE

**OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY 1 PM - 4 PM**  
2179 Palm Ct in Charleston Park, North Port. Gated Community \$74/mo HOA fees 3/2/2 - 2,458 sf under roof, Original Owner, Room for a Pool \$269,900 Seller Financing Available  
Your Host: Kimberlee Hicks Nix & Associates Real Estate Blue Mind Group 941-916-8289

## FOR SALE BY OWNER

OPEN SUN. 1-4  
13868 Alafaya St ISLAND WALK 2/2/2 PLUS DEN, 1600SF, 2 YRS OLD. \$271,000 (618)-910-1408

## Find your Best Friend in the Classifieds!

## BUTTONWOOD VILLAGE PUNTA GORDA

RESORT STYLE 55+ Community  
OPEN HOUSE WED. 10-2  
701 Aqwi Esta Dr P.G. Preview our homes at [www.buttonwoodvillage.com](http://www.buttonwoodvillage.com) 941-515-1701

## VENTURA LAKES

Resort Style 55+ Community  
OPEN HOUSE WED 10-2P  
27110 Jones Loop, PG Preview our homes @ [www.venturalakes.net](http://www.venturalakes.net) 941-575-6220

## 1020 HOUSES FOR SALE

## FOR SALE

SELLING YOUR HOME, CONDO, OR LOT?  
WE CAN HELP YOU.  
Advertise your home, condo, or lot with us and reach over 150,000 readers in Charlotte, Sarasota, & DeSoto Counties and online everyday.

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Realtors Welcome!

**BISCAYNE BREEZE FROM \$199,900 COMPLETE ON LOT! PORT CHARLOTTE NEW 3-2/2, With HUGE LANAI/ OVERSIZED 2 CAR GARAGE WITH CITY WATER, LOCATED IN "X" FLOOD ZONE ON 80 X 125 HOME SITE. CALL FOR FLOOR PLANS AND YOUR TOUR TODAY! RELIANCE PROJECT MGMT, LLC CGC #1512533 941-468-8300**

**CUSTOM HOME ROTONDA WEST NEW 3/2/2 WITH SPLIT LAYOUT, OPEN FLOOR PLAN, OVERSIZED 2 CAR GARAGE, LOCATED IN AN "X" FLOOD ZONE, CITY SEWER/WATER, GORGEOUS POOL AND CAGE, \$299,900 RELIANCE PROJECT MGMT, LLC CGC # 1512533 CALL TODAY FOR FLOOR PLANS AND YOUR PERSONAL TOUR 941-468-8300**



1020 HOUSES FOR SALE



**DEEP CREEK'S Finest!**  
Built strong in 1998, this updated 2198 sq ft 3/2.5 pool home is beautiful. 13' ceilings, crown moldings, huge kitchen with center island, large master suite with spacious bath and 2 walk in closets. Lanai with huge pool is 41x21. Expansive greenbelt views! Call today for info and list of upgrades!  
**\$335,000**  
Pat Walker 941-276-4674  
REMAX Anchor Realty



**ENGLEWOOD** 3/2 family room, lg. Scr. porch, 2 car garage. Great floor plan. New kitchen & hurricane windows. \$225,000 and Lot next door \$15,000 941-492-5050  
INVESTMENT REALTY OF W.F.L.




**ENGLEWOOD** 3/2/2, 2217sf 2019 Home w/corner lot Rm f/RV & boat storage Tile/granite throughout 9'4 walls/wood cabinets \$239,900.  
Call 941-662-0833



**ENGLEWOOD** NEW 3/2/2, 1600+ SF., SPLIT LAYOUT, OPEN FLOOR PLAN, OVERSIZED 2 CAR GARAGE, LOCATED IN "X" FLOOD ZONE, WITH CITY WATER, 80' x 125' HOME SITE. SPRING DELIVERY. \$239,900. CALL FOR FLOOR PLANS AND YOUR PERSONAL TOUR TODAY! Reliance Project Management, LLC CGC # 1512533 941-468-8300




★ ★ **\$179,900** ★ ★ ★  
New Custom Homes From \$179,900. on Your Lot. Custom 3/2/2 - Classic Series. We Also Have Home Sites Available. Reliance Project Mgm't. Call Today For Plans & Your Tour! CGC#1512533 941-468-8300



**MaxTheGain**  
103 BROADMOOR LN. PORT CHARLOTTE 3+2, LIKE NEW, BUILT 2016, TRADE CONSIDERED. CARL ANDERSON, REAL ESTATE BROKER 941-441-6808




**NORTH PORT** 2305 Shackleford Ave. 3/2.5/2 2262 SF, 2 Story, Upgraded and Move in Ready, New AC, Appli, Paint, Carpet. JUST REDUCED! \$223,900 Allison James Estates & Homes David Lucarini 941-993-8336



**NORTH PORT** 4911 Whispering Oaks Dr., GOLF OR NOT, YOU'RE GOING TO LOVE THE LEISURELY, LUXURIUS RESORT LIFESTYLE afforded in this LIKE NEW MAINTENANCE-FREE TURN-KEY FURNISHED 1500 SF 2-bedroom, 2-bath + den/office with 2-car garage in fabulous gated golf community of Heron Creek. NEW exterior paint! AC replaced in December 2015! \$215,000 Patty Gillespie Remax Anchor 941-875-2755

**You Save Big Bucks Shopping Classifieds!**




**NORTH PORT** 5574 Gagnon Terrace. SOLAR POWERED HOME!! Immaculate, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, Pool home, 1987sq ft, built in 2004. Fenced yard, private setting. RV parking. Beautiful! Don't miss this energy efficient home. Perfect! \$289,900 Pat Walker 941-276-4674 REMAX Anchor Realty

1020 HOUSES FOR SALE



**REDUCED!!**  
**NORTH PORT** MAKE THIS 4/3/3 + OFFICE/DEN POOL HOME YOURS! CROWN MOULDING, TRAY CEILINGS, INTERCOM/RADIO THROUGHOUT, TILE. SITUATED ON GOLF COURSE LOT. IMMECAULATLY KEPT! 1 YEAR PREMIUM HOME WARRANTY! \$464,900. Sharon Kerr 941-286-7315 Coldwell Banker Sunstar Realty

**FIND YOUR BEST FRIEND IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!**



**ON THE RIVER** 1935 CITRON ST. PT CHAR MAJESTIC VIEWS 200' OF WATERFRONT 3/3/2 WITH POOL, 3000SF LIVING, NEW ROOF, OVERSIZED LOT, BY OWNER POSS. OWNER FIN. \$678,000 941-286-5175



**PORT CHARLOTTE** 15341 Mille Fiore Blvd., CHARACTER, CHARM, AND ARCHITECTURAL DETAIL ABOUND in this STUNNING MEDITERRANEAN DESIGN. 2000 SF 3/2/2 WITH 12x27' HEATED PEBBLE TECH POOL with serene wooded view (privacy) in rear. Located in NW Port Charlotte's very private gated community of Villa Milano. Available turn-key furnished! CITY WATER & SEWER! LOW HOA FEES! \$300,000 Patty Gillespie Remax Anchor 941-875-2755



**PORT CHARLOTTE** 15349 Mille Fiore Blvd., Seller Paid \$450K to build this spectacular home: it's priced at only \$315K! STUNNING CUSTOM 1-OWNER Waterfront 2200 SF 3/2/2 + Formal Dining Room, Breakfast Nook & Den/Office. Huge Screened Lanai Highlighting incredible pond with waterfall in gated community of Villa Milano. Low HOA (\$98/MO) \$315,000 Patty Gillespie, Remax Anchor 941-875-2755



**PORT CHARLOTTE** 21963 Catherine Ave. Great investment/starter home, move in ready, newly screened lania, all appliances, rv/boat parking, reduced price \$97,000 call for appointment 941-391-2650



**PORT CHARLOTTE** 3/2/2 CUSTOM BUILT SAILBOAT POOL HOME! BUILT IN 2000, 2,199 SQ. FT., CONCRETE SEAWALL, NEW DOCK, SS APPLIANCES & MORE! \$422,000. McCARTHY REALTY, INC. CALL ELLEN 941-628-6954



**PORT CHARLOTTE** 33948 COMPLETELY UPDATED 3/2/2. BRAND NEW PLUMBING, CARPET, GRANITE, APPLIANCES & MORE! FRESHLY PAINTED IN & OUT. MOVE IN READY! ONLY \$214,000. BIANCA MESA, K COMPANY REALTY 941-286-6069



**PORT CHARLOTTE** 3504 Harbor Blvd., A spacious 1800+ SF 3/2/2 POOL home with fully fenced yard in a very convenient area priced to fit your budget at just \$180,000! CITY WATER & SEWER! Patty Gillespie, Remax Anchor 941-875-2755



**PORT CHARLOTTE** Beautifully Remodeled Home 4201 Yucatan Circle, 2/2/2 1,200 sqft open floor plan. \*\*Price Reduced \$ 174,900\*\* A must see upgraded turn key home excellent location. Call Neil Macklin 941-822-5955

1020 HOUSES FOR SALE



**PORT CHARLOTTE** Suncoast Lakes Gated community, 3 bdrm 2 bath, large lanai, 1936 sq ft, 2 car gar, community pool Freshly painted, new carpet in bedrms \$250,000. Pat Walker 941-276-4674 REMAX Anchor Realty



**PORT CHARLOTTE** Suncoast Lakes is a gated community and home to this 3/2 open and spacious great room floor plan, (1913 sq ft). Lovely lanai looking out to greenbelt area. Large kitchen with lots of counter space and large pantry. Built in 2006. See this one today! \$245,000 Pat Walker 941-276-4674 REMAX Anchor Realty



**PORT CHARLOTTE**- 3/2/2 Awesome POOL Home That Sits on 3 Lots. Fireplace, New Appl., Fenced Yard. Move in Ready! Great Location & Privacy. \$270,000. 941-456-5059 or 941-628-8392



**PUNTA GORDA** 3/3/2 27013 Creekridge Dr. 3328 SF pool home w/extra lot & privacy fence. 11 rooms, & upgrades too numerous to mention. \$315,000 941-914-4071



**PUNTA GORDA** Nice 2/2/CP Doublewide on Sailboat Canal w/ CHA. \$140,000. ALSO 28' Hunter Sailboat Available. 941-624-0355 or 941-800-7105



**RIVERWOOD**- GATED/GOLF RESORT STYLE COMMUNITY. YOU HAVE TO SEE THIS 180 DEGREE VIEW OF GOLF & WATER 3/2 COME SEE TO APPRECIATE! OFFERED AT \$284,000. MAUREEN DUSO OR KELLI GEDDEIS 941-625-7653 OCEAN PARTNERS REAL ESTATE



**ROTONDA** to-be-built 2711sf Permitted 3/2/2 Oversized Lakefront Lot Tile/granite throughout 9'4 walls/wood cabinets \$329,900. Call 941-662-0833



**ROTONDA WEST** 129 Mariner Lane. 3/2/2 Pool Home, 1900 SF, Split Floor Plan, Updated Kitchen and Baths, New AC, Private Backyard. Beautiful Landscaping. Call For Showing! \$269,000 330-312-1434




**WEST VILLAGES REALTY LLC**  
Florida Lic. Real Estate Broker



**VENICE** 4/2/3 20750 Granlago, Gran Paradiso, Water & preserve view. West Villages Realty. OPEN HOUSE Sun 2/24, 1-4p. \$399,000 239-634-6404



**VENICE** THIS STUNNING, UPGRADED 3/2.5/2 LAKEFRONT HOME LOCATED IN LAKES OF JACARANDA SHINES! COVERED FRONT PORCH, QUARTZ COUNTERS, RESURFACED CABINETS W/ ISLAND, NEWER APPL., EIK THAT OPENS TO FAMILY ROOM! INCREDIBLE PAVER LANAI W/ LAKE VIEWS. CLUBHOUSE, POOL, TENNIS & MORE! \$422,500. Sharon Kerr 941-286-7315 Coldwell Banker Sunstar Realty



**ROTONDA** 2/2/2 Waterfront home with canal view. Furniture and Appliances included. By Owner \$194,900 941-662-6250

1030 WATERFRONT HOMES



**10578 RIVERSIDE RD PORT CHARLOTTE, FL 33981 \*REDUCED\* OPEN BY APT**



**UNIQUE ONE OF A KIND SAILING COMPOUND**  
A SAILOR'S DREAM! GORGEOUS 3 BEDROOM 2.5 BATH 4 CAR GARAGE HOME WITH HEATED POOL & SPA AND OVER 2,550 SF UNDER AC OF LIVING SPACE (3284SF TOTAL) A 160' CONCRETE SEAWALL, 145' OF DOCK INCLUDING 2 BOAT LIFTS. IF SAILING AND LIVING ON THE WATER IS YOUR DREAM, THIS IS YOUR DESTINATION. FLA GOLF PROPERTIES INC 941-698-4653



**FOR SALE BY OWNER**  
2/2 2nd bath off carport. Sits on canal with dock. Great view. 6379 Pontiac Lane, North Port, FL. \$195,000. 812-789-3393



**LUXURIOUS WATERFRONT HOME IN PGI** 3BR/2.5 BTH, PLUS a Study/den and more, situated on a fabulous waterfront location in PGI. SAILBOAT ACCESS and QUICK OUT to CHARLOTTE HARBOR. Beautiful open kitchen & family room design. Great for entertaining! Water views from virtually every room. Designer pool & spa. \$1,199,000.00 Jeff Cardillo, Re/Max Harbor Realty 941-626-1613



**PUNTA GORDA** 2/2.5/2 99 VIVANTE BLVD #313, AMAZING WATER VIEWS, FULLY FURNISHED condo at Vivante. Garage w/storage room. \$445,000 Call 401-536-7670



**PUNTA GORDA ISLES** Prime Sailboat location. 3 BR/2.5 BA plus Loft Over 2600 Sq.Ft. Heated Pool, Spa, Boat Lift Built in 2001 with updates. \$784,000 Marie Sellitto 941-626-3770 Coldwell Banker Sunstar



**PUNTA GORDA**- SAY WOW TO THIS 2 STORY 4/5.5/2 ESTATE ON 30 ACRES INCLUDES FREESTANDING 2 STORY GARAGE WITH 2 IN-LAW APTS. & DETACHED 1 STORY HOME. PRIVATE BOAT RAMP, NATURAL SPRING, SECURITY CAMERAS, GATED, GRANITE, 10-20' CEILINGS, TRAVERTINE, MARBLE, ONYX, & SO MUCH MORE!! COME AND SEE THE PINNACLE OF LUXURY IN PARADISE! \$3,900,000. STEFANIE PISH, 941-716-1334 COLDWELL BANKER SUNSTAR



**PUNTA GORDA** 701 Aquil Esta Lot 9, Doublewide in Buttonwood Village, 55+, 1450 SF plus scrnd & tiled Lanai, Turn Key 3bdrm/2bath. Location ideal for snowbirds. Furn'd, Park rent incl's Trash pick up. 941-505-5096




**DEEP CREEK** 2Bd/2Ba/1Cg CLEAN & NICELY DECORATED Pool, 1200+ Sq Ft., in 55+ Pine View Villas complex. Huge 28' Lanai. \$159,000 Charlotte Harbor Properties Susan Postle 941-628-5412



**LAKE SUZY** \$144,500 North Shore Condo Beautiful and in perfect condition with expansive lake view. Meticulously maintained this 2 bd 2 bath is fully furnished with lovely furniture, 20 in. ceramic tile flooring, vaulted ceilings, freshly painted in neutral colors. Nothing to do but move in and enjoy! Community pool nearby. Condo fee \$666 per quarter! Pat Walker 941-276-4674 REMAX Anchor Realty

To Advertise in The Showcase of Homes Please Call 866-463-1638 or Email; special@sunnewspapers.net

1040 CONDOS/VILLAS FOR SALE



**NORTH PORT** 4790 TURNBERRY TRACE. ONE OF THE MORE DESIREABLE GATED COMMUNITIES IN THE AREA! GREAT LOCATION, MINUTES FROM ALL! 1480SF, 2 BEDROOMS W/ MEDIA ROOM OR THIRD BEDROOM, 2 BATH, 2 CG W/ SINK & FRIDGE. ALL NEW APPL. 2018. LANAI W/ LARGE PATIO. WELL FURNISHED UNIT! CLUBHOUSE W/ WORKOUT AREA, LARGE HEATED POOL. LOW HOA FEES! TURN-KEY W/ ALL FURNISHINGS! \$259,900. 941-426-1364



**NORTH PORT** Fairway Villas Meticulously Maintained 2/2/2 Villa Lakefront W/Great View Loads of Upgrades & Updates! Gated Community W/Pool. \$224,900 BARB McHENRY 941-833-1667 COLDWELL BANKER SUNSTAR REALTY



**NORTH PORT**- CONDO in 55+ Community! 2/2 Beautifully Maintained, Fully Furnished, Granite Counter Tops, Walk-in Closet in Master. Low Fees. \$144,500. RICHARD LUNDGREN, HORIZON REALTY INTERNATIONAL OF VENICE. 941-276-0029



**TALON BAY-NORTH PORT** Beautiful Well Maintained 2/2/2 w/Den. Great Floorplan & Upgrades! Private View of Lush Greenery! Gated Community W/Pool-\$219,900 Barb McHenry 941-833-1667 COLDWELL BANKER SUNSTAR REALTY



**WEST VILLAGES REALTY LLC**  
Florida Lic. Real Estate Broker



**VENICE CHARMING!** Pool side/golf course SW Sunset Views. 1BR/1BA. w/ newly remodeled kitchen w/ granite counter tops. AC & water-heater less than 3 yrs old. \$134,900 407-416-0384




**ENGLEWOOD** SPACIOUS 2BR/1BA 14x52 55+ PARK, NO DOGS ALLOWED. REDUCED TO \$11,900. 941-474-1353



**PUNTA GORDA** 701 Aquil Esta Lot 9, Doublewide in Buttonwood Village, 55+, 1450 SF plus scrnd & tiled Lanai, Turn Key 3bdrm/2bath. Location ideal for snowbirds. Furn'd, Park rent incl's Trash pick up. 941-505-5096

**Find the new You in the Classifieds!**



**VENICE RANCH** MOBILE HOME ESTATES BEAUTIFUL LOT RENTAL & 55+ COMMUNITY. NEW & PRE-OWNED HOMES NO DOGS. CATS OK Call 941-488-5672 www.VeniceRanch.com



**Wagner Realty LaCasa mhp** 55+ North Port 2bd/2ba new roof, new a/c & new kitchen in 2018, updated decor, carport, Florida room. \$139,900 Call Myrna Ryan 941-840-8338

1095 MANUFACTURED HOMES FOR SALE



**ARCADIA VILLAGE COUNTRY CLUB AN ACTIVE**  
55+ COMMUNITY Come Visit One of Florida's Best-Kept Secrets, or Take a Drone Tour on Our Website... Call to Schedule an Appointment For a Tour!!! Ted 800-538-2590 www.arcadiavillage.com



**LOOK** NEW 3/2 DblWide Delivered & Set-Up on Your Lot w/ Skirting, Steps & Air! Only \$59,695. + Tax. Financing For ALL Credit Scores Avail! Prestige Homes, Punta Gorda 941-637-1122

1210 HOMES FOR RENT  
● NEED A RENTAL ● Paradise Properties & Rentals, Inc 941-625-RENT



**Look Here**  
LYONS BAY WATERFRONT 2 docks and davits 2bd/2ba walk to nokomis beach Annual \$2400 month 941-445-4338



**LOOK** PORT CHARLOTTE/GULF COVE- 3/2/2, \$1,200/mo. Deposit Required. No Pets. 941-800-7105 or 941-624-0355

VENICE Villa in Myrtle Trace of the Plantation, 2 master suites, 2 car garage, No Pets, April-Oct, \$1800/mo. 1 month min. Call Ron 941-266-3880

1240 CONDOS/VILLAS FOR RENT

**FOR RENT**

**PORT CHARLOTTE** 2/2 Remodeled, Pool, Water Incl. near Harborview. \$895mo 1st, Last, Sec. 612-532-1291 leave msg

**FOR RENT**

**PORT CHARLOTTE** 55+ furn'd 1 bdrm in Hampshire House. 2nd Floor, Like New! \$980/mo 1st, Last, Sec. 941-268-1304

**FOR RENT**

**PUNTA GORDA EMERALD POINTE** 1BR/1BA Newly updated, Resort style living. Avail April 15th or May 1st \$1600/mo 1st, Last, Sec. No pets 941-268-1304

**VENICE BEAUTIFUL BIRD BAY COMMUNITY** 2 Bed/ 2 Bath RECENTLY REMODELED. GOLF, TENNIS, GYM, POOL. CLOSE TO DOWN TOWN AND BEACH. \$1,200 1-773-517-1745

**VENICE BEAUTIFUL BIRD BAY COMMUNITY** 2 Bed/ 2 Bath RECENTLY REMODELED. GOLF, TENNIS, GYM, POOL. CLOSE TO DOWN TOWN AND BEACH. \$1,200 1-773-517-1745

**FOR RENT**

**VENICE BEAUTIFUL BIRD BAY COMMUNITY** 2 Bed/ 2 Bath RECENTLY REMODELED. GOLF, TENNIS, GYM, POOL. CLOSE TO DOWN TOWN AND BEACH. \$1,200 1-773-517-1745

**FOR RENT**

**PUNTA GORDA** Charming 3 Rooms in Historic P.G. Walking Distance to Everything. Sm Pet OK, \$850/mo 1st & Security. Available 2/24. 941-575-9195

1320 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

**VENICE ISLAND EFFICIENCY**- 1 & 2 br, Call for Details. No Pets, 1 Year Lease 941-416-5757or 323-6466

1350 EFFICIENCIES FOR RENT

**HARBOUR HEIGHTS** close to river, newly renovated efficiencies w cable & internet, SunnybrookMotel 941-625-6400



1360 ROOMS FOR RENT
FOR RENT
MURDOCK Room for Rent, w. kitchen, bathrm, living etc. Furn'd, No pets or Smoking. 941-883-8083

NEED CASH? Have A Garage Sale!

PORT CHARLOTTE hospital area, use of house, pool, on water, laundry, all Cable. \$650/mo plus \$450 dep. 941-623-3775

PORT CHARLOTTE Lovely 3BR/2ba home w/ full house privd. seeks Mature man, No smoke/drugs, Call for interview 513-731-4008

1390 VACATION/ SEASONAL RENTALS

AWARD WINNING SUNBELT MGT. SERVICES RENTALS

★ 2/2/CP Tile, Lanai, Gated Comm., Heritage Oak Park, P.C. \$1100/Mo

SEASONAL

★ 2/2 Furnished Pool Home Saltwater Canal, P.C. \$2200/Mo

\*We Welcome NEW Listings\* COMPLETE LISTINGS (941) 764-7777 sunbeltmgtsservices.com

PUNTA GORDA ISLES 2 units ON WATER 2BR/2BA See @ www.FLGUESTHOUSE.COM 843-860-3000 814-450-6808

1500 LOTS & ACREAGE

FOR SALE

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ROTONDA SHORES 3415 ETHLYN LANE BACKS UP TO A 200+ ACRE PRESERVE. NICE, QUIET, CLEAN NEIGHBORHOOD. ONLY \$19,900. NO HOA, SO BRING YOUR BOAT & RV 941-769-0200

1515 WATERFRONT LOTS

DIRECT GULF ACCESS LOWEST PRICED LEMON BAY LOT DEEP SAILBOAT WATER, NO BRIDGES 1/4 ACRE, BAY VIEWS, NEW SEAWALL, 2 MINS TO ICW, 6 MINS TO GULF ONLY \$239,900 941-769-0200

MANASOTA KEY LOT 1/2 acre, Wooded & Private! 4 Public Beaches within 5 mins, No HOA! Close to Everything! 1 Lot off Water. 200' to Bay and 350' to Gulf. \$165,000 941-475-1379

1515 WATERFRONT LOTS SEVEN ROTONDA WATERFRONT LOTS. SIX IN NEWEST UPSCALE WHITE MARSH NEIGHBORHOOD. NO FLOOD ZONES FOR ECON. BUILDS & NO FLOOD INSURANCE. PLUS, 1 LOT ON GIANT LAKE. OWNER/BUILDER RETIRING! NOW FROM ONLY \$19,900. 941-769-0200

1620 COMMERCIAL/ INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

MERCHANT'S CROSSING COMMERCIAL LOT (1 AC +/-) ACROSS FROM BEALLS AND PUBLIX AT 1599 PLACIDA RD. WATER, SEWER & TURNING LANE. SUPER HIGH TRAFFIC COUNT. ONLY \$329,900, FINANCING POSSIBLE. BROKERS WELCOME. 941-769-0200

3000

NOTICES

3010 ANNOUNCEMENTS

MARTIN B. ZIEMAN OD DR. ZIEMAN has closed his Independent Optometry practice located at 1441 TAMiami TRl #0801 PORT CHARLOTTE FL., 33948 AS OF FEBRUARY 9, 2019. Patients can be seen by DR. JESSE HICKS AT SEEPORt OPTOMETRY where copies of records can also be obtained. 4381 AIDAN LANE, NORTH PORT, FL., 34287 941-876-4400

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3065 BIBLE STUDY & CHURCHES

CALVARY BIBLE CHURCH 1936 E. Venice Ave. Venice Friday at 9am. Study features video teachings of noted Bible Scholars on various subjects. For more info. Call Rev. Jones at 941-485-7070 or visit www.CBCVenice.com

CERTIFIED CHRISTIAN COUNSELING 941-876-4416 Liberty Community Church North Port Charlotte

Charlotte County House of Prayer Night Watch Fridays 7pm-9pm Bible Study-Mondays 7pm Did You Learn to Love? 992 Tamiami Trail Unit I Port Charlotte 941 249-8946 cchop.org

COMMUNITY CENTER 4PM - 7PM each Wednesday. Christ the King Lutheran Church, 23456 Olean Blvd. PC, Open to All Ages. For more info 941-766-9357

FAITH BUILDERS A Basic Study to Build your Christian Faith. Call Pastor Gumm at Christ the King Lutheran Church for times. 941-766-9357 Port Charlotte

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GATEWAY WORSHIP PRAYER & HEALING ROOMS If you need healing, we want to pray with you! Our prayer teams are available to minister to you every Thursday 7:30 pm-8:30 pm. For information call 863-832-4418 5377 Dunkin Rd., Punta Gorda 33982 Jesus Still Heals Today!

Lutheran Church of the Cross 2300 Luther Rd., Deep Creek Bible Study - Thursdays 10-11:30 and Sunday's @ 9 AM Questions and/or Info (941) 627-6060

NEW SEASON FULL GOSPEL MINISTRIES Meets Every Wednesday at 3320 Loveland Blvd Port Charlotte, FL (Held at Board of Realtors Building Near Visani's Restaurant) Food at 6:30PM and Fellowship Starts at 7:00PM Everyone Welcome!! Pamela Sams 941-268-3589

THE SOUND OF SOUL Saturday, February 23, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon, Mid-County Regional Library, Room B, Forrest Nelson Blvd., Port Charlotte. Sing HU, the God sound, an ancient name for God, and learn how to connect to the Holy Spirit. Experience inner peace and calm, divine love, expanded awareness, spiritual self-discovery and growth, and healing of the heart. Then participate in Spiritual Conversation. Fellowship, Light refreshments, and Free CD Presented by Eckankar in Port Charlotte for people of all faiths. 941-766-0637. www.TheSoundofSoul.org.

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3090 LOST & FOUND

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3091 ARTS CLASSES

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3094 EDUCATION

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3095 EXERCISE CLASSES

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GULF COAST ACUPUNCTURE 151 Center Rd. Wednesdays 5:30pm Thursdays 9:00 am Saturdays 8:30am YOGA FOR BEGINNERS Proceeds to Venice Wildlife Center Call Rick or Mary 941-488-1769

To Announce Your Class Information Call 866-463-1638 or Email; special@sunnewspapers.net

3096 RELIGION CLASSES

BEGIN YOUR DAY IN BIBLE STUDY Christ the King Lutheran Church, 23456 Olean Blvd. Tuesdays 10AM-11AM. For more info 941-766-9357 Port Charlotte

3096 RELIGION CLASSES

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START YOUR DAY RIGHT Bible Study Thursdays 10:00-11:30 LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS 2300 Luther Rd., Deep Creek and Sundays at 9:00 a.m. Questions and/or Info (941) 627-6060

5000

BUSINESS SERVICES

AN OCCUPATIONAL LIC. may be required by the City and/or County. Please call the appropriate occupational licensing bureau to verify.

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- 6002 Lake Suzy
- 6003 Deep Creek
- 6004 Port Charlotte
- 6005 Punta Gorda
- 6006 North Port
- 6007 Englewood
- 6008 Rotonda
- 6009 Gulf Cove
- 6010 S. Gulf Cove
- 6011 S. Venice
- 6012 Venice
- 6013 Nokomis/Osprey
- 6014 Garage Sales
- 6015 Flea Market
- 6020 Auctions

**MERCHANDISE**

- 6013 Moving Sales
- 6025 Arts & Crafts
- 6027 Dolls
- 6030 Household Goods
- 6035 Furniture
- 6038 Electronics
- 6040 TV/Stereo/Radio
- 6060 Computer Equip
- 6065 Clothing/Jewelry/Accessories
- 6070 Antiques & Collectibles
- 6075 Fruits/Vegetables
- 6090 Musical
- 6095 Medical
- 6100 Health/Beauty
- 6110 Trees & Plants
- 6120 Baby Items
- 6125 Golf Accessories
- 6128 Exercise/Fitness
- 6130 Sporting Goods
- 6131 Firearms
- 6132 Firearm Access.
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- 6160 Lawn & Garden
- 6161 Outdoor Living
- 6165 Storage Sheds/Buildings
- 6170 Building Supplies
- 6180 Heavy Constr. Equipment
- 6190 Tools/Machinery
- 6220 Office/Business Equip & Supplies
- 6225 Restaurant Supplies
- 6250 Appliances
- 6260 Misc. Merchandise
- 6270 Wanted to Buy/T rade

**FIND YOUR BEST FRIEND IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!**

**6003 DEEP CREEK GARAGE SALES**

**Estate Sale**  
**JIM'S ESTATE SALE**  
 FRI & SAT. 9AM-3PM  
 SUNDAY 10-12  
 26045 COIPIAPO CI  
 ENTIRE CONTENTS OF HOME!

**6004 PORT CHARLOTTE GARAGE SALES**

**SAT & SUN. 9-4P**  
**4419 LARKSPUR CT.**  
 Household, furniture, clothes, collectibles, fishing and more.

**SAT. 10-4** 13497 Palau Circle, Port Charlotte. Fishing, table saw, airless paint sprayer, patio furniture, & SS BBQ grill

**6005 PUNTA GORDA AREA GARAGE SALES**

**ESTATE SALE**  
 Assisted by The Isles Girls & Guys  
**FRI., March 1 - 8-12PM**  
**SAT., March 2 - 8-10AM**  
**4002 LaCosta Island Ct.**  
 Twin & Queen bedroom furniture; kitchen table, chairs, bar stools; queen sofa sleeper; living room pieces with accent tables; dining room set; office furniture & equipment; wall décor; plants; lamps; linens; lanai furnishings; kitchen items; garage items; power washer; golf clubs; fishing equipment & MORE!  
 Please check out our website www.islesgirlsandguys.com.

**PACKED ESTATE SALE, IN PUNTA GORDA. Feb 23 & 24 // 8a-2p**

**Thousands of items. Fishing Stuff, Antiques, Decor, Furniture, Everyday Items + So Much More**  
**312 Trieste Dr**  
 Don't miss this estate sale!  
 www.aether.estate (239) 451-3137

**SAT-SUN. 9AM-5PM CLOSING BUSINESS SALE!!**

**28041 AIRPARK DR. UNIT 117 33982. TONS OF HAND TOOLS, FILE CABINETS, PARTS RACKS, HEAVY DUTY SHELVING, POWER TOOLS, PARTS WASHER, TABLES, CHAIRS, CABINETS, OFFICE FURNITURE, WORK BENCHES, PRINTERS, COPIERS & MUCH MORE! ALL MUST GO!!!! CHEAP!!!! CASH ONLY PLEASE!!**

**6007 ENGLEWOOD AREA GARAGE SALES**

**SAT-SUN 8:00AM-3:00PM**  
 730 South McCall Road.  
 Sale: power tools, building materials, doors, skylight, windows, trolling motor, foot pedal

**6012 VENICE GARAGE SALES**

**FRI-SUN. 9AM-4PM**  
 1231 Schooner Ln. Tons of Vintage Records, Books, Games, Knick Knacks, Matchbox, Hot Wheels, Toys, Tools, auto and Electronics, Cameras, Costume Jewelry, Art and More

**6025 ARTS AND CRAFTS**

**OIL PAINTING-42X54** Beautiful art! Great frame! MINT BARGAIN! \$145 941-639-1517

**PELICANS (5) PICTURE**  
 40"x18" Five on pier logs \$25  
 941-766-8236

**SIZZIX ITEMS** and assorted stamps and dies \$40, OBO 941-426-5696

**6026 SEWING**

**SEWING MACHINE** Bernina 1008 \$385 941-740-4300

**SEWING MACHINE** Bernina 125-S Ready to work \$425 941-740-4300

**SEWING MACHINE** MyLock 234 Surger like new ready to go \$195, OBO 941-740-4300

**SEWING MACHINE** Singer 221-1 portable elect.feather weight. Excellent cond. Instruction manual and all accessories. \$350 941-639-0468

**6027 DOLLS**

**DOLL 19** " Zaph collection German Zaph collection doll. Exc cond. \$40, OBO 941-629-6374

**DOLL PORCELAIN** musical 21" Howard Kaplan French collection \$40 941-629-6374

**6030 HOUSEHOLD GOODS**

**10-QT STOCK POT** Revere-Ware with lid and metal handles \$25, OBO 941-575-6003

**BANKERS LIGHT** ex cond \$15 941-743-0582

**BLANKET** King-Size lavender, textured pattern, warm, exc cond \$18 941-306-7882

**BUDMAN BEER STEIN** 1989 collector edit. Anheuser Busch in orig box \$57 941-830-0346

**CARPET** New. 9"x12" new in plastic, tan nice quality \$75, OBO 716-374-2950

**CHINA 101PC** serves 12, 11 serving pieces, white, platinum edge, LN \$110 941-830-0524

**CHINA CABINET** Nice 2pc. Top is glass/enclosed whitewash. \$75, OBO 941-544-8321

**CHOPPING BLOCK** solid maple 30 x 40 x 16 apx 50 yrs old \$500 941-875-2631

**COFFEE TABLE SET** 3 pc. Coffee, sofa and end table, nice quality. \$50 941-544-8321

**COMFORTER** queen, skirt, shams, cream as new \$30 941-485-0108

**COMFORTER**, sheets, throw pillows. King. 10pc aquas, grns, lavendr \$59 941-306-7882

**CORNER CURIO** Glass front, lighted. real nice Whitewash color \$75 941-544-8321

**CRYSTAL 40PC** 12 water 12 champagne 8 wine 8 cordial silver rim LN \$50 941-830-0524

**6030 HOUSEHOLD GOODS**

**FLATWARE 88PC** serves 16 Silkema German SS 8 serve pcs like new \$100 941-830-0524

**FOLDING CARD TABLE & 4 MATCHING CHAIRS** GOOD CONDITION \$40 716-348-6217

**FOOD DEHYDRATOR** RONCO 5 SHELF W/BOOKLET. LIKE NEW. \$20 941-916-8211

**FREEZER UPRIGHT** freezer White \$225 941-423-2339

**GLASSES**, Candlewick two different sizes - \$2/ each 941-255-3092

**"HAMILTON" MARINE** quartz clock wood w/brass trim; works great! \$20 941-639-1517



**6035 FURNITURE**

**BEVELED 48" Rd Glass Top** Bronze leaf base like new \$300 941-629-3727

**CABINET** Solid Wood 2 draws, storage underneath \$200 941-698-2951

**CABINET** white seaside, cathedral top, 8ft.h \$375 941-235-2203

**CHAIR ROCKER/RECLINER,** Leather, Cream Color. New! \$130 941-257-5500

**CHERRY LIVE EDGE TABLE** wrought iron base 67"x17" slab \$150 941-474-4200

**COFFEE/SIDE TABLES/SETS** various sizes and shapes starting at \$20 941-307-9211

**COMPUTER DESK** 28"x28"x34 formica, wheels locks \$75 941-496-9252

**COUCHES FOUR** to choose from delivery available starting at \$50 941-307-9211

**CURIO CABINET** Small&slim tanish swirl color, 2lights 3 glass shelves \$95 716-374-2950

**DESK COMPUTER/EXECUTIVE,** six drawers plus keyboard drawer in center. 27 x 60. LIKE NEW! \$175 941-412-6473

**DESK LARGE,** L-shape w/top, 2 Bookcases w/door bottoms. File Cabinets (2) All wood. Good Cond. \$500 614-565-7889

**DESK SECRETARY** 33x41 rattan like new, desk area, 3 drawers \$120, OBO 941-740-3286

**DESK Small,** Solid oak, 19"x34", 30" tall \$45 616-536-0106

**DINING OVAL** glass 4 chrs whitewash \$500 941-423-2339

**DINING ROOM SET** Solid oak table w/ 6 chairs, 1 leaf, custom made pad, China cabinet w/ light \$900 540-602-9741

**DINING ROOM TABLE** 4 chairs w/ extra leaf \$300; High-Back Tan Chair \$200, 3 Hitop bar stools \$30, Nice Couch \$300, and Tall Kitchen table & 4 chairs \$125 941-258-1276

**DINING SET** Dark Rattan 4 arm chairs, 45" glass, Ex con \$299, OBO 941-356-0129

**DINING TABLE** and chairs Heywood Wakefield, solid wood, perfect condition, with 6 chairs \$499 208-419-1401

**DINING TABLES/SETS & CHAIRS** various styles starting at \$100, OBO 941-307-9211

**DISPLAY UNIT** Shabby chic french carved \$250 941-423-2339

**DRESSER HIGHBOY,** Oak Veneer, good condition. \$125 208-419-1401

**DRESSER OAK,** with mirror, sleek, great condition. \$125 208-419-1401

**ENTERTAINMENT UNIT** Cottage style Like new, 4 pieces \$350 941-356-0129

**FLOOR LAMP** Tiffany stone dome, 20" wide, like new \$200 518-763-9936

**HEADBOARD** white wicker twin d/dr ns 6 dr hi/boy Mir Lamp Glass Tops \$480 941-408-7535

**HUTCH** mahogany, 47x78-5 drawers, doors glass, key NICE \$100 941-624-3551

**HUTCH,** Heywood Wakefield, solid wood, perfect condition. \$499 208-419-1401

**I BUY FURNITURE Or anything of value! 941-485-4964**

**LIFT CHAIR** Microfiber. Located in North Port. \$230 Ask for Chuck 941-423-3974

**LOVE SEAT** Beige, rose & light green fabric. EC Can deliver. \$25 540-230-5561

**MATTRESS & BOX QUEEN \$175 ALSO HAVE KING 941-629-5550**

**MEDIA CENTER** Five piece. Bookshelves/TV stand with lights. \$50 814-450-3617

**PATIO & Lounge Set,** 9 Pieces, 7 cushions, Picture available. \$150 941-766-6161

**PATIO TABLE** White oval 41" wide, 63" long. Great shape \$40 217-622-6169

**PLANTERS 30" TALL** 2 rattan wicker 11x11" sq btm shelf med color NEW \$50 941-830-0346

**RECLINER LEATHER** beige 39X35X40 delivery available \$60 941-307-9211

**ROCKER,** Wood Hand Crafted \$75 941-698-2951

**ROCKER/RECLINER SAND** color, Leather, New! \$325 941-916-5820

**ROLL-TOP DESK** Oak, 7 dovetail drawers \$225 941-698-2951

**ROLLTOP SECRETARY DESK** Pretty wood 35" w X 43" t X 20" d \$135 941-493-3851

**SECRETARY DESK** 80"H X 30"W X 16"D solid wood 1950's drop front \$225 941-585-8149

**SLEEPER SOFA** Floral sleeper sofa excellent condition \$100, OBO 386-314-5325

**SLEEPER SOFA,** Queen, Blue, 76" long, Picture available. \$150, OBO 941-766-6161

**SOFA** , 2 Reclining rockers, Curio cabinets, patio furniture. will sep \$300 941-585-9701

**SOFA AND LOVESEAT** Medium brown, 4 matching pil-lows \$100 814-450-3617

**SOFA** large and love sofa with early American chair and ottoman. excellent condition \$499 208-419-1401

**6035 FURNITURE**

**SOFA SLEEPER & Loveseat** Neutral colors. Exc. \$250, OBO 941-626-0967

**SWIVEL BAR STOOLS (2)** Blk/Crome , adj 24" to 30" \$125 941-661-4477

**SWIVEL RECLINER** Bonded Leather, Cranberry Color \$50 941-697-8347

**TABLE 5'** round folding legs Max Chief \$75 941-496-9252

**TABLE AND CHAIRS** Rd. Bev. Edges Wh. Wicker, Gl. Top 42 x 42 \$100 941-697-8347

**TABLE GLASS TOP** Round Beveled Edge 54" Must see!! \$30 941-423-9371

**TABLE TOP 54"** Round Beveled Glass \$30 941-423-9371

**TABLE** with Four chairs Like New \$140 954-865-7866

**WALL UNIT 6PC** unit w drop desk walnut finish \$250 941-423-2339

**WALL UNIT** Maple 3 piece Canadian maple. Excellent condition \$299 651-245-1608

**WICKER DESK** 49" x 18" x 30" high w/4 drawers & glass top CLEAN \$150 941-828-1411

**6038 ELECTRONICS**

**SURROUND BAR & SUB-WOOFER** POLKAUDIO USED ONCE. \$75 941-916-8211

**6040 TV/STEREO/RADIO**

**23" TV** Admiral Model 12800 with remote control in PG area \$25, OBO 941-575-6003

**4 RECEIVERS** Surround AM/FM JVC Sony Kenwood Pioneer starting @ \$25 954-642-6599

**RECORDS 500 OLDIES** 45 RPM's at \$1.00 each U pick. 941-496-9252

**STEREO SYSTEM** /cassette player/recorder/turntable Sears \$150 941-255-3092

**STEREO SYSTEM** Yamaha Cassette deck, CD, tuner, Amp & turntable \$75 941-214-8188

**TV** Toshiba regza flat screen 46" remote, like new works perfect \$175 716-374-2950

**6060 COMPUTER EQUIPMENT**

**PRINTER INK CANNON** - NEW #40 black & #41 color \$30 941-255-0489

**6065 CLOTHING/JEWELRY ACCESSORIES**

**JACKET LEATHER** black, btms short soft Avanti womens 2/3X NEW gift \$69 941-830-0524

**JACKET LEATHER** black, zips short, Max USA, women L/M, NEW gift \$59 941-830-0524

**SNEAKERS MENS** 928V2 New Balance Sz 16 2E \$40 941-426-0760

**SNEAKERS** Nike. Each Blue & Red Sz 12 Revolution 2 New \$30 941-421-4020

**WEDDING GOWN** Beaded & sequins 8/10 veil & train shantily lace \$75 716-374-2950

**6070 ANTIQUES COLLECTIBLES**

**14 BOOKS** Time-Life's volumes on the history of World War II \$50 941-258-0512

**1918 D E McNicol** Antique calendar world time ceramic plate exec cond \$18 941-914-6945

**1918 SHEET MUSIC** Framed "The Girl of My Dreams" from musical \$20 941-258-0512

**1960 BASEBALL SET** Complete MINT set minus the keys \$299 810-210-9553

**1993 ATLANTA** Braves Five Aces 22" x 34" Poster, Englewood \$10 941-473-1026

**1993 CLINTON** Inaugural Presidential coffee mug with 12 Pres signatures \$10 941-914-6945

**'20S RECORD** Nat Shilkert's How I Miss U Tonite & Light of the Stars \$20 941-258-0512

**'25 FILM POSTER** John Gilbert silent Flesh and the Devil (seen on TCM) \$60 941-258-0512

**'69 BOOKS** 12-Vol LIFE History of United States thru LBJ Great Society \$50 941-258-0512

**ALWAYS BUYING ANTIQUES, ART, SILVER NEW ENGLAND ANTIQUES (941) 639-9338**

**ANTIQUE TABLE** w/drawer, great for entry or bedside \$45 941-235-2203

**ANTIQUE WOODEN TRUNK** 44"x20", 24" tall \$50 616-536-0106

**ATLANTA BRAVES** 1993 Poster 34" x 22", Justice, Gant, Sanders \$10 941-473-1026

**BELGIUM BISCUIT** tin antique Snow White, 2 lunch boxes, thermos \$145, OBO 941-828-1411

**BUDMAN BEER STEIN** 1989 collector edit. Anheuser Busch in orig box \$57 941-830-0346

**BUYING OLD MONEY SILVER COINS & PAPER MONEY.** 941-626-7785

**CENTS INDIAN HEAD** \$2 781-956-8891

**COIN 1850** Lg copper cent Braided hair type \$30 941-214-8188

**COIN 1877-S** Seated Liberty silver half dollar AU \$175 941-214-8188

**COIN 1964** silver Greek 30 Drachma Wedding Commemorative \$20 941-214-8188

**COIN HISTORY** Of our Presidents 40 coins Washington to Bush \$18 941-914-6945

**6070 ANTIQUES COLLECTIBLES**

**COINS** Proof and mint sets \$7 781-956-8891

**DEREK JETER** Rookie baseball card PSA graded MINT 9 \$14 \$30 810-210-9553

**DEREK JETER** Rookie baseball card PSA graded MINT 9 \$14 \$29 810-210-9553

**DEREK JETER** Rookie baseball cards Mint PSA-9 \$14- \$30, OBO 810-210-9553

**DISNEY (2) SNOW WHITE/7** Dwarfs vintage puzzles in frame \$45 941-828-1411

**HUMMEL ORCHESTRA** 7 figurines with stand. Exc. Cond. \$320 941-629-6374

**IKE DOLARS** silver proof \$20 781-956-8891

**LENOX HEART BATTERY** CLOCK Mint; fabulous price! \$15 941-639-1517

**LONGABERGER BASKETS** catalog & boardwalk w/liner, protect \$30 941-235-2203

**MICKEY MANTLE** 1963 Baseball card call mornings \$24, OBO 810-210-9553

**MONK CREAMER/SUGAR** made W. Germany Blue Label \$125 941-255-3092

**OLD KEYSTONE** Movie Camera Model A3 \$40, OBO 845-323-6550

**OLD WOODEN** Bocce Balls Set Good condition \$100, OBO 845-323-6550

**POSTER JAMES DEAN,** framed, walking in city \$35 941-235-2203

**PRECIOUS MOMENTS** 62 pcs Membership/Retired each \$25 941-255-3092

**RED RIDER** Daisy model 1938-B made USA FINE COLLECTOR \$50 941-214-8188

**SILVER COINS** u.s. silver coins roll \$75 781-956-8891

**SILVER DOLLARS** 1878 to 1935 \$25 781-956-8891

**TOTE 45** Record carrying case and 46 records \$15 941-423-2585

**TOY FIRE** truck vintage Radio Flyer #9 EX shape \$95 941-214-8188

**VINTAGE LAMP** Milkglass w/roses. 13"H 5"W Ex cond \$55, OBO 941-697-8598

**WALKING LIBERTY** HALF 1921P 200K+ minted VG cleaned \$70 941-408-7535

**WATCH SWISS** Stunt Sicra Quarts Brevet mod #8500 new batt \$40 941-214-8188

**"WORLD WAR 2 Remembered"** 2 HB books w/uncancelled stamps EA. \$15 941-639-1517

**6090 MUSICAL**

**DRUM SET** 5 drums, 5 cymbals, 3 pedals, stool \$499 941-235-2203

**KARAOKE CD+G** disc's 288 disc's with my label in good condition \$150 941-235-3303

**KARAOKE** cd+g dj used. Selling 288 disc's with his label \$150 941-235-3303

**MUSICAL INSTRUMENT** TOCA Bongos Regular Red Mint \$65, OBO 941-375-9851

**WASHBURN ELEC.** NEW Amp Gig Bag DVD lifetime War Adj Neck \$275 941-408-7535

**6095 MEDICAL**

**4 WHEEL WALKER** with Basket, Brakes and Seat, NICE \$70 941-268-8951

**ADULT WALKER** 4 wheel w/brakes, seat, light weight. Folds easy \$79 941-493-3851

**6095 MEDICAL**

**INVACARE LIFT SLING** with commode opening model 9047 new \$50 941-626-8060

**KNEE SCOOTER** knee scooter ex. cond. \$150 941-391-4968

**MEDICAL HOYER** Lift Good Condition \$150 954-865-7866

**NEBULIZER INNOSPIRE** Essence Phillips. New Tubing \$20 941-426-0760

**PRIDE LIFT CHAIR** /recliner quality combo dark green like new \$400 941-474-4200

**SHOWER CHAIR** With ARMS LIKE NEW \$35 941-268-8951

**TRANSFER BENCH** by Home Care STURDY for tub or shower Like NEW \$50 941-268-8951

**TRANSPORT WHEELCHAIR** Like NEW \$65 941-268-8951

**WHEELCHAIR 18" SEAT** by Drive NICE \$85 941-268-8951

**6110 TREES & PLANTS**

**ALOE AGAVE** begonia devil's backbone fern paddle plant purple queen \$5 941-202-3696

**ANGEL TRUMPET, TAMARIND, PAPAIA** or PLANTAIN tree 3-4' \$10 941-258-2016

**AVOCADO & CITRUS** (1-3') & Aechmea Primera Bromeliads each \$10 941-202-3696

**BROMELIADS VARIOUS** kinds shapes colors and sizes in pots starting at \$3 941-202-3696

**CROWN OF THORNS** larger blooms healthy in 2 qt pot \$6 941-258-2016

**FRANGIPANI JATROPHA** oyster pineapple pothos snake spider lily \$5 941-202-3696

**OYSTER PLANTS** dwf 12-14" great border or ground cover 2 qt pot \$5 941-258-2016

**PONYTAIL PALM PAIR** (5' tall) Madjool Palm Pair others each pair \$100 941-202-3696

**TOMATO PLANTS** 10-12" healthy, variety, each \$2 941-258-2016

**TOMATO PLANTS** Yes it's time! /Red Cherry or Beefsteak. \$2 941-258-2016

**6125 GOLF ACCESSORIES**

**ADAMS SUPER S.** 3 hybrid, slot tech, 19", RH, reg flex, excel cond \$30 941-488-7774

**COBRA AMP** 3 Wood LH 15" stiff, adjustable, excellent cond \$25 941-488-7774

**GOLDEN BEAR** Men's LH, 1-4 Woods, 5-8 Irons, PW, Putter & Bag like new \$75 941-258-6275

**GOLF BALLS** Great used Per dozen \$2 941-235-2613

**GOLF BALLS,** like new, mixed brands, no scuffs, or logos, per dozen \$5 941-488-7774

**GOLF CLUBS** Men's. New Nitro Men 13 pc golf set \$60 941-698-0445

**GOLF CLUBS** with bag \$45 586-436-0076

**GOLF SET LADY** 3,5,7,9, putter, 2 woods, bag \$40, OBO 941-740-3286

**GOLF SHOES** NEVER WORN WHITE SIZE 10. \$30, OBO 941-740-3286

**IRONS** Lady Fairway 7 wood Ladies MacGregor 5 iron \$35/ea 941-423-3974 \$35

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**MEDICAL HOYER** Lift Good Condition \$150 954-865-7866

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**TOMATO PLANTS** Yes it's time! /Red Cherry or Beefsteak. \$2 941-258-2016

**Tremendous Tree, Inc. NURSERY**

**HUGE PINEAPPLE PLANTS** w/ lots of fruit 2 for \$50/ea

**MANY OTHERS AVAILABLE!**

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**COBRA AMP** 3 Wood LH 15" stiff, adjustable, excellent cond \$25 941-488-7774

**GOLDEN BEAR** Men's LH, 1-4 Woods, 5-8 Irons, PW, Putter & Bag like new \$75 941-258-6275

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**GOLF SET LADY** 3,5,7,9, putter, 2 woods, bag \$40, OBO 941-740-3286

**GOLF SHOES** NEVER WORN WHITE SIZE 10. \$30, OBO 941-740-3286

**IRONS** Lady Fairway 7 wood Ladies MacGregor 5 iron \$35/ea 941-423-3974 \$35

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**2015 Club Car Precedent \$3995** BOB-CAT Green BRAND NEW BATTERIES Yellow Jacket Cables Monsoon Roof Matching Club Cover 48 volt ERIC Charger Factory Upholstery Folding Windshield Cooler, Sandbucket Excellent DOT Tires Wide Angle Mirror STK# 1824 941-769-1431 Visit DarsGolfCarts.com WE DELIVER FREE (25 MI.)

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**2016 CLUB CAR Precedent \$3995\*** MIDNIGHT BLACK 2 or 4 passenger Golf Cart, Igloo Cooler, Sand Bucket Sunbrella Club Protector New LED Head & Taillights Folding Windshield 48 volt E.R.I.C. Charger Rear View Mirror Low battery light Reverse buzzer Batteries load tested Tires, Mirror, Top \*Flip Rear Seat add \$395 941-769-1431 DELIVERY INC. (25 MI.) VISIT DARSGOLFCARTS.COM



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**Skills shortage tightens job market; 83% of HR professionals report difficulty recruiting**

ALEXANDRIA, Va.(BUSINESS WIRE) — The skills gap is real and getting worse, with 83 percent of HR professionals saying they had difficulty recruiting suitable candidates in the past 12 months, according to new research from SHRM — the Society for Human Resource Management. The findings highlight the urgent need to address the training of workers and improve public-policy governing work.

“A majority of Americans (63 percent) believe what employers facing difficulty in recruiting have known for some time — there is a skills shortage in the workforce,” said Johnny C. Taylor, Jr., SHRM-SCP, president and chief executive officer of SHRM. “What is now clear is that innovative thinking and resolute action are needed, and public policy must change.”

Additionally, 83 percent said they have noticed a decrease in the quality of job applicants, with one-third citing a lack of needed technical skills.

The gap is evident in the trades, middle-skilled positions and highly skilled STEM positions. Carpentry, plumbing, welding and machining are the technical abilities most lacking in the workforce. Data analysis, science, engineering, medical and finance are other areas in short supply.

The survey found a contrast between the most common remedies used by employers to address the talent shortage — expanding advertising and outsourcing recruiting, among them — and those that HR professionals say are the most effective:

Providing onsite training to employees (seminars and training programs); Starting or expanding training programs to help improve skills of new hires; Providing offsite training to employees (workshops and development programs); Increasing compensation.

Other remedies identified by SHRM are better preparing the youngest workers through collaboration with educational institutions and recruiting from nontraditional sources such as people with criminal backgrounds and military veterans.

More than one-quarter of HR respondents said their businesses collaborate with schools to build a pipeline of job candidates. But almost one-half believe that the education system has done very little to help address the issue.

For some jobs with labor shortages, employment-based immigration is the right remedy.

A majority (85 percent) of HR respondents to the SHRM Employment-Based Immigration Survey said it was very important to recruit workers regardless of their national origin.

While about three-quarters of survey respondents said foreign-born workers contribute positively to U.S. economic growth and help drive innovation, more than one-third said their businesses were challenged by an insufficient number of employment-based visas, such as H-1Bs, to recruit these workers. Additionally, one-third said the employment-based immigration process was lengthy and complex with unpredictable results.

Respondents also called for the removal of roadblocks to ensuring a legal workforce. What is needed now, according to HR professionals:

More employment visas: 33 percent of those who use work visas in recruiting say more are needed to recruit, hire, transfer and retain talented employees. Mandatory E-Verify: 81 percent support a national, entirely electronic system that accurately confirms identity for employment and combats identity theft. Trusted Employer Program: 56 percent approve its creation for low-risk, immigration-compliant employers.

Methodology: The SHRM Skills Gap Survey polled 1,028 HR professionals and the SHRM Employment-Based Immigration Survey polled 785 HR professionals. Both were conducted in September 2018. A separate NORC Amerispeak Omnibus poll asked 1,059 Americans about national issues of significance to them.

**JOBS FROM PAGE 1**

many years. That said, students at many of these schools are considering nongovernment careers in advocacy groups, non-profits or consulting firms.

“Plus, at least in Illinois, you have public service students who saw a state not being able to fund itself, and now they’re wondering ‘Why am I doing this?’” said Bob Blankenberger, chairman of the public administration department at the University of Illinois at Springfield. “It might be exacerbated lately but they see our ongoing love-hate with public administration, they hear the politicians’ vow to fix ‘lazy government workers’ at the same time those same people tend to rely on the good graces of their expertise. So they get distressed over the negative atmosphere and taking a step towards that job.”

Or as Rebecca Hendrick, director of the doctoral graduate studies program in public administration at the University of Illinois at Chicago, put it: “I wouldn’t work for the federal government myself today, and I would instruct my own students to do the same.”

Despite what local universities say, according to the Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs and Administration, national enrollment in public administration programs has been trending downward, particularly among those schools that have a curriculum focused on public administration at the federal level. The organization, a Washington-based group that provides accreditation to more than 300 university public administration programs, plans to formally study

this year how the shut-down is affecting the attitudes of students.

Until then, ask a future public servant.

Patrick Hanley, a second-year graduate student at the Harris School, said “I firmly believe in public service, even at the federal level, but it breaks my heart.” He interned for the U.S. Senate, the Department of Justice and worked in the office of the city treasurer in Chicago. He intends “to work on high-impact interesting projects that bring service to people.” But “when your (college) debt payments are higher than your rent payments — and I’m a single guy without a family — your priorities are different. In a perfect world I would work directly for the government.”

Instead, he’s going into private consulting.

Perry said that at Indiana University, about 30 percent of public administration students now steer toward private consulting firms (that nevertheless often rely on government contracts).

“The ‘why,’ however, is a combination of things. During the ‘90s, (federal jobs) became less secure. There were shutdowns, yes. But hyperpartisanship now means coming to agreements is harder. And so we have started to see a decline in the pursuit of those bipartisan public interests we thought we had in common — like initiatives for clean air and water. You start to see disagreements in what public service means to us.”

There is optimism. Joe Wenzel, a UIC graduate student in public administration who served five years in the military, said some of his fellow students are “looking to the nonprofit side (after graduating) where at least

they don’t have to deal with a random political appointee who doesn’t believe in the mission of the agency they run,” but for him, “all this turbulence within the government has only reinforced in me the need to have decent public servants.”

At Northern Illinois University, Kurt Thurmaier, chairman of the public administration department, said his program rarely hears about discouraged students, “because we never see the federal government as their pinnacle anyway.” He said the school — which claims to have graduated a third of the city managers in Illinois — sticks to local government, “and there are dysfunctional city councils but you don’t hear much about local governments shutting down over ideological clashes.”

Meanwhile, at DePaul, Meghan Mathew sat in the back corner. She had done two years in the Peace Corps, spent time in Zambia with developmentally disabled students.

She raised her hand slowly and spoke with a toneless anger.

“I feel pushed away from public service now, I don’t feel valued, because you see how someone who doesn’t value public service themselves can use power to take away health care and impact my family. So yeah, of course it affects my outlook, no question.”

Dana Dutcher nodded fast in agreement. She said that she worked for a nonprofit and would like to be part of an organization that works closer with government, “but to work for a government, with an ‘America First’ agenda, that doesn’t care about the human rights of its employees? I do have faith this will end when someone is out of office.”



# Yelp fired manager after he didn't take calls, check email '24/7/365,' lawsuit claims

By **ETHAN BARON**

THE MERCURY NEWS (TNS)

Mark Weathers' path to termination at Yelp started with an email his boss sent him a few minutes before midnight on Good Friday. Weathers didn't answer it, because he wasn't checking his email a few minutes before midnight on Good Friday.

That's according to a religious-discrimination lawsuit Weathers filed against the San Francisco online-review company, claiming he was fired after not being responsive to work communications "24/7/365."

A Yelp spokesperson said the suit was without merit. "Yelp respects religious and personal responsibilities and makes reasonable accommodations when requested," the spokesperson said in an emailed statement. "While the company does not typically comment on personnel actions, the claims alleged here are inaccurate and Yelp will respond to them in the appropriate forum."

Weathers worked as a San Francisco-based security manager for Yelp from October 2016 till June 2018, according to the suit filed Tuesday in San Francisco County Superior Court.

On Good Friday last March, Weathers' boss, head of security Rick Lee, sent him an email about an employee in Yelp's Phoenix offices seeking after-hours access to a building, the suit said. After Weathers failed to respond to the 11:49 p.m. email, an upset Lee called him Saturday to find out why the message had not been answered, the suit said.

"Mr. Weathers indicated that he had not checked his email because it was Easter weekend and he was spending time with his family and attending church services," according to the suit. "In fact, Mr. Weathers was attending a church-sponsored event when he answered Mr. Lee's phone call."

"Mr. Lee said Mr. Weathers needed to be responsive, even while he was

attending church services."

The following day, Easter Sunday, while Weathers was in church with his family, Lee emailed him and site managers, and told Weathers to contact the managers to find out what happened with the after-hours-access request and make sure it didn't happen again, the suit said.

"He demanded that Mr. Weathers provide an 'after action review' to him by the close of business the following day, necessitating that Mr. Weathers contact each of his co-workers on Easter Sunday," the suit alleged. "In addition, Mr. Lee admonished, 'Each leader on this email should make a regular practice of checking email and setting cell phones to take inbound calls 24/7/365.'"

Weathers provided the report, and explained to Lee that he had "made a choice to focus on Easter Weekend," as it was a very important weekend for him, so he did not check email as he would on other weekends, the suit said.

"Mr. Lee responded, 'You should be checking emails and vmails/inbound calls every day (regardless of weekend or holiday),' " the suit claimed. Lee, according to the suit, said he understood that Weathers would need to turn off devices during church services, but that "a 12-hour gap of non-checking is not acceptable." Lee reminded Weathers that one Christmas Eve, Lee had spent four hours working on an incident, when he would have preferred to be with his family, the suit said.

Lee also told Weathers, who is pursuing a degree in ministry leadership and has a severely autistic son, that he didn't care about Weathers' religious holidays or children, the suit claimed.

Meetings over the matter with Lee and Yelp's human resources department led up to Weathers' firing on June 5, 2018, according to the suit. Weathers claims Yelp discriminated against him on the basis of religion, and that it fired him in part over his religious practices. He is seeking unspecified damages.

# If your boss is a bad fit, do this before you head for the door

By **LIZ REYER**  
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

**Q:** I want a manager who knows what I'm doing and can help as needed, but who also lets me just do it without constantly jumping in and telling me what or how.

I know my new manager well — I reported to her before — and while I like her as a person, she's the opposite of my ideal boss. How can I manage this?

—Jeanne, 49, product development manager

**A:** Get off to a fresh start based on open and respectful communication.

To prepare, think about what has worked well in your professional relationship.

It's helpful to build on positives.

You may have to dig deep, particularly if you are still carrying a lot of baggage from the first round of working for her.

Focus on what you like about her as a person, and think about ways that can help now.

For example, you may be confident that her intentions are good as a manager.

That's no small thing. It gives you cause to think that she really is interested in your best interests, in the company's success, and in doing a good job as a leader.

This creates an opening to express your needs framed within acknowledgment of this positive attribute.

For example, you might say, "I know that you care a lot about the success of your employees. I appreciate that and would like to share ways that you can best help me succeed in my role."

This will be better than "it drives me crazy when you ..."

Also allow for the possibility that

things may have changed since you reported to her before.

She may have learned how to lead without neglecting or micromanaging, and you may find that she doesn't get under your skin as much.

On the other hand, her patterns may be much the same as before.

Give thought to the underlying motivations that may be driving her behavior.

She may have been burned in the past or might not know how to share goals without defining action.

If her background is as a highly effective problem solver, her go-to action will be to solve problems.

She may also be somewhat scattered, thus accounting for her lack of attention at some times.

If you understand, then you can adapt and manage the interactions with her.

Set up the structure that you'd like and that you think will work for her style. For example, you might maintain a simple list of tasks, their status, and support you would like, and review it with her regularly.

Build in a chance for her to share how she would approach it, but also set an expectation that you're bringing your own expertise and approach.

If she mandates that you do things in certain ways that you disagree with, outline the risks and be prepared to advocate for your approach.

Finally, don't let it get into your head.

Avoid any tendency to ruminate it outside of work — vent and move on.

Managers come and go, and, if it really is unmanageable, you can take charge by looking for new opportunities.

While that may not be preferable, sometimes just knowing that there are alternatives make the challenges more workable.

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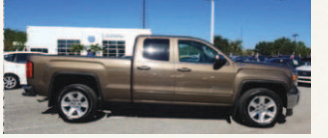
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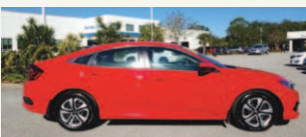
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Severely ill children left in limbo by Venezuela-US crisis

See page 2



## Maduro's opponents brave tear gas in push to deliver aid



AP PHOTOS

Demonstrators stand next to a torched bus during clashes with the Bolivarian National Guard in Urena, Venezuela, near the border with Colombia, Saturday, Feb. 23, 2019. Venezuela's National Guard fired tear gas on residents clearing a barricaded border bridge between Venezuela and Colombia on Saturday, heightening tensions over blocked humanitarian aid that opposition leader Juan Guaido has vowed to bring into the country over objections from President Nicolas Maduro.

### They rescued boxes of emergency food from burning trucks during violent clashes on the Colombian border

By **CHRISTINE ARMARIO and LUIS ANDRES HENAO**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CUCUTA, Colombia — Opponents of Venezuela President Nicolas Maduro braved tear gas as they rescued boxes of emergency food and medicine from burning trucks during violent clashes on the Colombian border with security forces blocking the entry of U.S.-supplied humanitarian aid.

The panicked scene Saturday on the binational Santander bridge was the dramatic high point of a day that also saw two people killed in unrest near Brazil, at least 23 soldiers switch loyalties to opposition leader Juan

Guaido, and Maduro break off diplomatic relations with Colombia amid an increasingly unpredictable and unruly fight for power in the oil-rich South American nation.

For weeks, the opposition has been amassing aid on three of Venezuela's borders with the aim of launching a "humanitarian avalanche" exactly one month after Guaido declared himself interim president at an outdoor rally in a direct challenge to Maduro's rule.

Even as the 35-year-old lawmaker has won the backing of more than 50 governments around the world, he's so far been unable to cause a major rift inside the military — the

socialist leader's last-remaining plank of support in a country ravaged by hyperinflation and widespread shortages.

"Our call to the armed forces couldn't be clearer: put yourself on the right side of history," Guaido said in an appeal to troops as he pulled himself onto a truck and shook hands with its driver during a ceremonial send-off of the aid convoy from the Colombian city of Cucuta.

But almost as soon as the aid convoy departed, the limitations of Guaido's high-stakes gamble became clear.

At the Santander bridge, a group of activists led by exiled lawmakers managed to escort three

flatbed trucks of aid past the halfway point into Venezuela when they were repelled by security forces firing tear gas and buckshot. In a flash the cargo caught fire, with some eyewitnesses claiming the National Guardsmen doused a tarp covering the boxes with gas before setting it on fire. With a black cloud rising above, the activists — protecting themselves from the fumes with vinegar-soaked cloths — unloaded the boxes by hand in a human chain stretching back to the Colombian side of the bridge.

"They burned the aid and fired on their own people," said 39-year-old David Hernandez, who was hit in the forehead with a tear gas canister that left a bloody wound and growing welt. "That's the definition of dictatorship."

He said he decided to join Saturday's protest thinking of his father, who is dying from advanced bone cancer they can't treat because of Venezuela's shortages.

Amid the aid push, Maduro struck back, breaking diplomatic relations with Colombia, whose government he accuses of serving as a staging ground for a U.S.-led effort to oust him from power.

"My patience has run out," Maduro said,

## Prosecutors paint dark portrait of manipulative R. Kelly

His bond set at \$1 million

By **MICHAEL TARM**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO — Prosecutors on Saturday painted a dark portrait of a manipulative and sometimes violent R. Kelly, describing how he repeatedly sought out underage girls for sex, including one he encountered at her 16th birthday party and another who met the R&B star while he was on trial for child pornography.

The accounts emerged as Kelly made his first court appearance since being accused of sexually abusing four people in a case that could produce another #MeToo reckoning for a celebrity.

A judge gave Kelly a chance to go free while awaiting trial, setting bond at \$1 million. That means the 52-year-old Grammy winner must post \$100,000 to be released or remain



R. KELLY

behind bars until he is tried on the allegations that date back as far as 1998 and span more than a decade.

The prosecution released four documents — one for each accuser — outlining the basis for the charges.

A 16-year-old girl reported meeting Kelly in 1998 at a restaurant where she was having a birthday party. Kelly's manager gave her the

KELLY | 4

## NKorea confirms leader Kim Jong Un on train to summit



PHOTO PROVIDED BY KOREAN CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY/KOREA NEWS SERVICE VIA AP

In this Saturday, photo provided by the North Korean government, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un waves from a train before leaving Pyongyang Station, North Korea, for Vietnam. The content of this image is as provided and cannot be independently verified.

## 2nd summit with Trump set for Wednesday

By **DAKE KANG**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

DANDONG, China — North Korean leader Kim Jong Un was on a train Sunday to Vietnam for his second summit with President Donald Trump, state media confirmed.

Kim was accompanied by Kim Yong Chol, who has been a key negotiator in talks with the U.S., and Kim Yo Jong, the leader's sister, the North's official Korean Central News

Agency reported. TV footage and photos distributed by the North's state-run news agency showed Kim inspecting a guard of honor at the Pyongyang station before waving from the train.

Late Saturday, an Associated Press reporter saw a green-and-yellow train similar to one used in the past by Kim cross into the Chinese border city of Dandong via a bridge.

SUMMIT | 4



A man is detained during clashes with the Bolivarian National Guard in Urena, Venezuela, near the border with Colombia, Saturday.

AID | 4

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# Smile: Some airliners have cameras on seat-back screens

Airlines say cameras are not being used currently

By DAVID KOENIG  
AP AIRLINES WRITER

Now there is one more place where cameras could start watching you — from 30,000 feet.

Newer seat-back entertainment systems on some airplanes operated by American Airlines, Delta Air Lines, United Airlines and Singapore Airlines have cameras, and it's likely they are also on planes used by other carriers.

All four airlines said that they have never activated the cameras and have no plans to use them.

However, companies that make the entertainment systems are installing cameras to offer future options such as seat-to-seat video conferencing, according to an American Airlines spokesman.

A passenger on a Singapore flight posted a photo of the seat-back display last week, and the tweet was shared several hundred times and drew media notice. BuzzFeed first reported that the cameras are also on some American planes.

A United spokeswoman repeatedly told a reporter Friday that none of its entertainment systems had cameras before apologizing and saying that some did. On Saturday, Delta also said some of its in-flight entertainment screens have the cameras.

The airlines stressed that they didn't add the cameras — manufacturers embedded them in the entertainment systems. American's systems are made by Panasonic,



AP FILE PHOTO

**Newer seat-back entertainment systems on some airplanes operated by American Airlines and Singapore Airlines have cameras, and it's likely they are also on planes used by other carriers. American and Singapore both said Friday, that they have never activated the cameras and have no plans to use them.**

while Singapore uses Panasonic and Thales, according to airline representatives. Neither Panasonic nor Thales responded immediately for comment.

As they shrink, cameras are being built into more devices, including laptops and smartphones. The presence of cameras in aircraft entertainment systems was known in aviation circles at least two years ago, although not among the traveling public.

Seth Miller, a journalist who wrote about the issue in 2017, thinks that equipment makers didn't consider the privacy implications. There were already cameras on planes — although not so intrusive — and the companies assumed that passengers would trade their images for convenience, as they do with facial-recognition technology at immigration

checkpoints, he said.

American Airlines spokesman Ross Feinstein said cameras are in "premium economy" seats on 82 Boeing 777 and Airbus A330-200 jets. American has nearly 1,000 planes.

"Cameras are a standard feature on many in-flight entertainment systems used by multiple airlines," he said.

Singapore spokesman James Boyd said cameras are on 84 Airbus A350s, Airbus A380s and Boeing 777s and 787s. The carrier has 117 planes.

While the airlines say they have no plans to use the cameras, a Twitter user named Vitaly Kamluk, who snapped the photo of the camera on his Singapore flight, suggested that just to be sure the carriers should slap stickers over the lenses.

# Mueller: Manafort 'brazenly violated the law' for years

By CHAD DAY and ERIC TUCKER  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort committed crimes that cut to "the heart of the criminal justice system" and over the years deceived everyone from bookkeepers and banks to federal prosecutors and his own lawyers, according to a sentencing memo filed Saturday by special counsel Robert Mueller's office.

In the memo, submitted in one of two criminal cases Manafort faces, prosecutors do not yet take a position on how much prison time he should serve or whether to stack the punishment on top of a separate sentence he will soon receive in a Virginia prosecution. But they do depict Manafort as a longtime and unrepentant criminal who committed "bold" crimes, including under the spotlight of his role as campaign chairman and later while on bail, and who does not deserve any leniency.

"For over a decade, Manafort repeatedly and brazenly violated the law," prosecutors wrote.

Citing Manafort's lies to the FBI, several government agencies and his own lawyer, prosecutors said that "upon release from jail, Manafort presents a grave risk of recidivism."

The 25-page memo, filed in federal court in Washington, is likely the last major filing by prosecutors as Manafort heads into his sentencing hearings next month and as Mueller's investigation approaches a conclusion. Manafort, who has been jailed for months and turns 70 in April, will have a chance to file his own

sentencing recommendation next week. He and his longtime business partner, Rick Gates, were the first two people indicted in the special counsel's investigation. Overall, Mueller has produced charges against 34 individuals, including six former Trump aides, and three companies.

Manafort pleaded guilty to two counts of conspiracy arising from his Ukrainian political consulting work and his efforts to tamper with witnesses. As part of that plea, he agreed to cooperate with Mueller's team, a move that could have helped him avoid a longer prison sentence. But within weeks, prosecutors say he repeatedly lied to investigators, including about his interactions with Konstantin Kilimnik, a business associate who the U.S. says has ties to Russian intelligence. That deception voided the plea deal.

The sentencing memo comes as Manafort, who led Donald Trump's 2016 campaign for several critical months, is already facing the possibility of spending the rest of his life in prison in a separate tax and bank fraud case in Virginia. Mueller's team endorsed a sentence of between 19.5 and 24.5 years in prison in that case.

Prosecutors note that the federal guidelines recommend a sentence of more than 17 years, but Manafort pleaded guilty last year to two felony counts that carry maximum sentences of five years each.

Prosecutors originally filed a sealed sentencing memo on Friday, but the document was made public on Saturday with certain information still redacted, or blacked out.

# Amazon cargo plane crashes; 3 believed dead

By MARC FREEMAN  
SUN SENTINEL

An Amazon Prime cargo plane originating from Miami crashed into a bay east of Houston early Saturday afternoon, killing three people on board, local officials said.

"Knowing what I saw I don't believe anyone could

have survived," Chambers County Sheriff Brian Hawthorne said, describing floating debris.

The plane, a twin-engine Boeing 767 cargo jetliner operated by Atlas Air, crashed into Trinity Bay near Anahuac, Texas, shortly before 12:45 p.m., according to the Federal Aviation Administration.

Atlas Air Flight 3591, flying from Miami to Houston, lost radar and radio contact about 30 miles southeast of Houston George Bush Intercontinental Airport.

Purchase, N.Y.-based Atlas Air Worldwide, which has an office in Miami, said in a statement that the company is fully

cooperating with investigators and confirmed there were three people on the plane when it went down.

According to the website Flight Aware, the plane left Miami at 11:33 a.m. and its last reported altitude was about 3,000 feet, when it appeared the aircraft was descending toward Houston.

# Invacare is an exception, and not in a good way

**Dear Mr. Berko:** About six years ago, you wrote that medical stocks and defense stocks are not so affected by the changes in our country's economy as mining, beverage, hotel and retail stocks are. So I bought 100 shares of Lockheed

Martin at \$73 and 200 shares of Invacare a few months later at \$28. I have a good profit in Lockheed Martin, which is now about \$300, but I'm down \$24 with Invacare, which is in the medical equipment business. Should I buy more shares of Invacare at \$5 or take my loss and sell

my shares? And should I take my profit on Lockheed Martin, which traded at over \$360 last year? — LG, Akron, Ohio

Dear LG: Indeed, I did say that, and I'd say it again if you hadn't already done so. But that axiom doesn't apply to every company in the defense and medical businesses, and it's apparent that Invacare (IVC-\$5.10) was one of last year's 273 (more or less) exceptions that imploded.

IVC's revenues came in at less than \$1 billion in 2018, much less than the \$1.4 billion it brought in the year you purchased the stock. The company's president, CEO and chairman, Matthew Monaghan, has been able to consistently lose money every year since you bought the stock,

and I can't figure out how he does it. The few observers I talked with believe that IVC will lose money in the next year. However, there's a 72 percent degree of probability IVC will earn 40 cents a share by 2020.

IVC, with its various subsidiaries, designs, manufactures and sells medical equipment and supplies for the home health care and extended care markets around the globe. It makes custom manual wheelchairs and power wheelchairs. All sops are generously paid for by Medicare and Medicaid. IVC also markets, designs and sells such lifestyle products as pressure-relieving overlays and mattress replacement systems. Again, generous commissions are paid by Medicare and Medicaid.

IVC designs, manufactures and distributes home care beds and accessories and numerous personal care products. In addition, IVC sells respiratory therapy products, such as stationary oxygen concentrators. And Medicaid and Medicare don't give a hoot in hell what they shell out.

CEO Monaghan owns 207,000 shares of IVC, while its largest shareholders — Vanguard, BlackRock and Dimensional Fund Advisors — own 11 million shares. One of the few positives that might make IVC attractive to some investors is IVC's \$11.30 book value — meaning that if IVC decided to close its business, liquidate every asset at an almost fair price and eliminate its \$240 million debt with the

proceeds, there'd be about \$11.30 in cash remaining per share to pay off all the shareholders. Ergo, if you bought 1,000 shares of IVC today at \$5.10 and management liquidated the company, you'd get back about \$11,300. In 2017, the book value was \$12.89.

Management tells us that IVC's poor performance has been caused by high material costs, soft demand overseas (especially in Asia), President Donald Trump's tariffs, changes in development and consent decrees issued by the Food and Drug Administration. Those reasons for IVC's failures over the past six years are valid, but IVC's statements have failed to tell us the primary reason: management. The bumbling bipeds in

management stink at what they do. Furthermore, the feeble-minded board of directors has failed to protect the shareholders. Those wankers ought to be tarred and feathered, be sent to the gulag and have their board attendance fees clawed back. Shareholders should consult a law firm about suing the board for failing to protect investors.

IVC is untimely, and I doubt the shares have any recovery potential for at least a year. Sell IVC and take a loss. However, hold on to Lockheed Martin (LMT-\$299.33) for a recovery back to the mid-\$300s. Peace isn't about to break out. War is wonderfully profitable.

Email Malcolm Berko at [mjberko@yahoo.com](mailto:mjberko@yahoo.com).



Malcolm BERKO  
COLUMNIST

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## AID

FROM PAGE 1

speaking at a massive rally of red-shirted supporters in Caracas and giving Colombian diplomats 24 hours to leave the country.

The clashes started at dawn in the Venezuelan border town of Urena, when residents began removing yellow metal barricades and barbed wire blocking the Santander bridge. Some of the protesters were masked youth who threw rocks and later commandeered a city bus and set it afire. At least two dozen people were injured in the disturbances, according to local health officials.

At the Simon Bolivar bridge, a group of aid volunteers in blue vests calmly walked up to a police line and shook officers' hands, appealing for them to join their fight.

But the goodwill was fleeting and a few hours later the volunteers were driven back with tear gas, triggering a chaotic stampede.

At least 23 members of the National Guard deserted the force and took refuge inside Colombia, according to migration officials.

A video provided by Colombian authorities shows three soldiers at the Simon Bolivar bridge wading through a crowd with their assault rifles and pistols held above their heads in a sign of surrender. The young soldiers were then ordered to lie face down on the ground as migration officials urged angry onlookers to keep a safe distance.

"I've spent days thinking about this," said one of the soldiers, whose identity was not immediately known. He called on his comrades to join him: "There is a lot of discontent inside the forces, but



AP PHOTO

**A woman moves away from the flames of a burning bus after it was pushed away during clashes with the Bolivarian National Guard in Urena, Venezuela, near the border with Colombia, Saturday.**

also lots of fear."

Guido, who has offered amnesty to soldiers who join the opposition's fight, applauded their bravery, saying it was a sign that support for Maduro was crumbling. Later, he greeted five of the military members, who in turn offered a salute, calling the opposition leader Venezuela's "constitutional president" and their commander in chief.

"They aren't deserters," Guido said. "They've decided to put themselves on the side of the people and the constitution ..."

International leaders including U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres are appealing for the sides to avoid violence.

But at least two people were killed and another 18 injured in the town of Santa Elena de Uairen, near the border with Brazil, according to local

health officials. The town was also the site of deadly disturbances a day earlier when members of the indigenous Pemon tribe clashed with security forces.

The push comes on the heels of a giant concert organized by British billionaire Richard Branson aimed at pressuring Maduro to accept the aid. Tens of thousands of Venezuelans gathered in a field to hear pop stars like Juanes sing beneath a scorching sun. Guido made a surprise appearance toward the end.

The opposition planned to hold three simultaneous aid pushes on Saturday. Aside from the events in Colombia, they also hope to get humanitarian assistance delivered by sea and through Venezuela's remote border with Brazil, which the government of Maduro has ordered closed.

Amid the sometimes-chaotic and hard-to-verify flow of information, opposition lawmakers and Guido said the first shipment of humanitarian aid had crossed into Venezuela from Brazil — although reports from the ground revealed that two trucks carrying the aid had only inched up to the border itself.

Dueling demonstrations also took place in the capital. Government opponents, one of them dressed like Captain America in a nod to the administration of U.S. President Donald Trump's prominent role cornering Maduro, headed toward an air base. With the opposition mostly mobilized along the border, a much larger mass of red-shirted government supporters, some of them on motorcycles, filed downtown toward the

presidential palace.

Venezuela's military has served as the traditional arbiter of political disputes in the South American country, and in recent weeks, top leaders have pledged their unwavering loyalty to Maduro. However, many believe that lower-ranking troops who suffer from the same hardships as many other Venezuelans may be more inclined to now let the aid enter.

Opposition leaders are pushing forward in belief that whether Maduro lets the aid in or not, he will come out weakened. They also contend that if the military does allow the food and medical gear to pass, it will signify troops are now loyal to Guido.

Analysts warn that there may be no clear victor and humanitarian groups have criticized the opposition as using the aid as a political weapon.

## KELLY

FROM PAGE 1

singer's business card and suggested she call Kelly. The girl's mother heard the exchange, took the card and told the manager her daughter was 16. But her daughter later retrieved the card from her purse. She contacted Kelly, who gave her instructions and taxi fare to his studio, where they had sex periodically for a year, the documents said.

Another accuser, also 16, met Kelly at his 2008 trial, where he gave her an autograph. He later invited her to his home in the Chicago suburb of Olympia Fields, where they had sex multiple times, according to the documents, which said he also slapped, choked and spit on her.

In early 2003, a Chicago hairdresser told prosecutors that she thought she was going to braid Kelly's hair, but he pulled down

his pants and instead tried to force her to give him oral sex. The woman, who was 24, was able to pull away, but Kelly ejaculated on her and spit in her face, the documents said.

Prosecutors also described a witness who had access to videotapes showing Kelly having sex with a 14-year-old girl. The witness turned the tape over to authorities and identified the girl, who repeatedly states her age on the footage, according to the documents.

Kelly's DNA was found in semen on one of the accuser's shirts, and semen found on a shirt worn by another was submitted for DNA testing, Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx said. It was not clear when the accusers turned the shirts over to authorities, whether it was shortly after the abuse or more recently.

At the bond hearing,

Kelly's attorney, Steve Greenberg, said his client is not a flight risk. He told the judge, "Contrary to the song, Mr. Kelly doesn't like to fly." One of Kelly's best-known hits is "I Believe I Can Fly."

The judge called the allegations "disturbing." The singer-songwriter looked down at the floor as the judge spoke.

After the hearing, Greenberg told reporters that Kelly did not force anyone to have sex.

"He's a rock star. He doesn't have to have nonconsensual sex," Greenberg said.

The judge ordered Kelly to surrender his passport, ending his hopes of doing a tour of Europe in April. Kelly defiantly scheduled concerts in Germany and the Netherlands despite the cloud of legal issues looming over him. Greenberg denied that any tour was planned.

The recording artist, whose legal name is Robert Kelly, has been

trailed for decades by allegations that he violated underage girls and women and held some as virtual slaves. He was charged with 10 counts of aggravated sexual abuse.

Kelly, who was acquitted of child pornography charges in 2008, has consistently denied any sexual misconduct.

The jury in 2008 acquitted Kelly of child pornography charges that centered on a graphic video that prosecutors said showed him having sex with a girl as young as 13. He and the young woman allegedly seen with him denied they were in the 27-minute video, even though the picture quality was good and witnesses testified it was them, and she did not take the stand. Kelly could have gotten 15 years in prison.

Charging Kelly now for actions that occurred in the same time frame as the allegations from the 2008 trial suggests the

accusers are cooperating this time and willing to testify.

Because the alleged victim 10 years ago denied that she was on the video and did not testify, the state's attorney office had little recourse except to charge the lesser offense under Illinois law, child pornography, which required a lower standard of evidence.

Each count of the new charges carries up to seven years in prison, and the sentences could be served consecutively, making it possible for him to receive up to 70 years. Probation is also an option.

The walls began closing in on Kelly after the release of a BBC documentary about him last year and the multipart Lifetime documentary "Surviving R. Kelly," which aired last month. Together they detailed allegations he was holding women against their will and running a "sex cult."

## SUMMIT

FROM PAGE 1

The Trump-Kim meeting is slated for Wednesday and Thursday in Hanoi.

Their first summit last June in Singapore ended without substantive agreements on the North's nuclear disarmament and triggered a months-long stalemate in negotiations as Washington and Pyongyang struggled with the sequencing of North Korea's nuclear disarmament and the removal of U.S.-led sanctions against the North.

Kim's overseas travel plans are routinely kept secret. It could take more than two days for the train to travel thousands of kilometers (miles) through

China to Vietnam.

Vietnam's Foreign Ministry announced Saturday that Kim would pay an official goodwill visit to the country "in the coming days" in response to an invitation by President Nguyen Phu Trong, who is also the general secretary of Vietnam's ruling Communist Party.

In his upcoming meeting with Trump, experts say Kim will seek a U.S. commitment for improved bilateral relations and partial sanctions relief while trying to minimize any concessions on his nuclear facilities and weapons.

While Kim wants to leverage his nuclear and missile program for economic and security benefits, there continue

to be doubts on whether he's ready to fully deal away an arsenal that he may see as his strongest guarantee of survival.

Last year, North Korea suspended its nuclear and long-range missile tests and unilaterally dismantled its nuclear testing ground and parts of a rocket launch facility without the presence of outside experts, but none of those steps were seen as meaningful cutbacks to the North's weapons capability.

While North Korea has repeatedly demanded that the United States take corresponding measures, including sanctions relief, Washington has called for more concrete steps from Pyongyang toward denuclearization.

Hanoi has been gearing

up for the summit with beefed-up security. Officials say the colonial-era Government Guest House in central Hanoi is expected to be the venue for the Trump-Kim meeting, with the nearby Metropole Hotel as a backup. Streets around the two places have been beautified with flowers and the flags of North Korea, the U.S. and Vietnam.

Workers were also putting final touches on the International Media Center. Vietnam's Foreign Ministry says some 2,600 members of the foreign press have registered for the event.

Meanwhile, Vietnam has announced a traffic ban along Kim's possible arrival route.

The Communist Party's

mouthpiece Nhan Dan newspaper quoted the Department of Roads as saying the ban will first apply to trucks 10 tons or bigger, and vehicles with nine seats or more on the 105-mile stretch of Highway One from Dong Dang, the border town with China, to Hanoi from 7 p.m. Monday to 2 p.m. Tuesday, followed by a complete ban Tuesday on all vehicles from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The People's Committee in Lang Son province, where the Dong Dang railway station is located, issued a statement Friday instructing the road operator to clean the highway stretch and suspend road works, among other things, on Feb. 24-28 as "a political task."

## ALMANAC

Today is **Sunday, Feb. 24**, the 55th day of 2019. There are 310 days left in the year.

### Today in history

On **Feb. 24, 1942**, the SS Struma, a charter ship attempting to carry nearly 800 Jewish refugees from Romania to British-mandated Palestine, was torpedoed by a Soviet submarine in the Black Sea; all but one of the refugees perished.

### On this date

In **1761**, Boston lawyer James Otis Jr. went to court to argue against "writs of assistance" that allowed British customs officers to arbitrarily search people's premises, declaring: "A man's house is his castle." (Although Otis lost the case, his statement provided early inspiration for American independence.)

In **1920**, the German Workers Party, which later became the Nazi Party, met in Munich to adopt its platform.

In **1961**, the Federal Communications Commission authorized the nation's first full-scale trial of pay television in Hartford, Connecticut.

In **1983**, a congressional commission released a report condemning the internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II as a "grave injustice."

In **1988**, in a ruling that expanded legal protections for parody and satire, the Supreme Court unanimously overturned a \$150,000 award that the Rev. Jerry Falwell had won against Hustler magazine and its publisher, Larry Flynt.

### Today's birthdays

Actor-singer Dominic Chianese Singer Joanie Sommers is 78. Actress Jenny O'Hara is 77. Actor Barry Bostwick is 74. Actor Edward James Olmos is 72. Rock singer-musician George Thorogood is 69. Actress Debra Jo Rupp is 68. Actress Helen Shaver is 68. News anchor Paula Zahn is 63. Baseball Hall of Famer Eddie Murray is 63. Country singer Sammy Kershaw is 61. Actor Mark Moses is 61. Actress Beth Broderick is 60. Actor Emilio Rivera is 58. Singer Michelle Shocked is 57. Movie director Todd Field is 55. Actor Billy Zane is 53. Actress Bonnie Somerville is 45. Jazz musician Jimmy Greene is 44. Boxer Floyd Mayweather Jr. is 42. Rhythm-and-blues singer Brandon Brown (Mista) is 36. Rock musician Matt McGinley (Gym Class Heroes) is 36. Actor Wilson Bethel is 35. Actor Alexander Koch is 31. Actor Daniel Kaluuya (Film: "Get Out") is 30. Rapper-actor O'Shea Jackson Jr. is 28.

### Bible verse

"But Jesus said unto them, they need not depart: give ye them to eat." — Matthew 14:16.

This is not a call to compromise but to complete surrender of the church that Christ may be made irresistible to the soul who tends to wonder.

## ODD NEWS

### Turtle disaster? 100-pound tortoise missing

ROSWELL, N.M. (AP) — A New Mexico woman is on a desperate hunt for her disappearing pet that can't run fast and can't be missed — a 100-pound tortoise.

KOB-TV reports Dusty the Turtle went missing earlier this month in Roswell, New Mexico after strong winds knocked open a gate that housed him.

Shana Emmert, who was pet sitting Dusty for her niece, says she believes the turtle strolled away from the backyard and into the desert during the wind storm.

According to Emmert's neighbors, the 100-pound Dusty was last spotted near Berrendo Creek in Roswell and hasn't been seen since.

The family is offering a \$500 reward for the turtle's safe return.



NEW YORK TIMES SUNDAY CROSSWORD

No. 0217

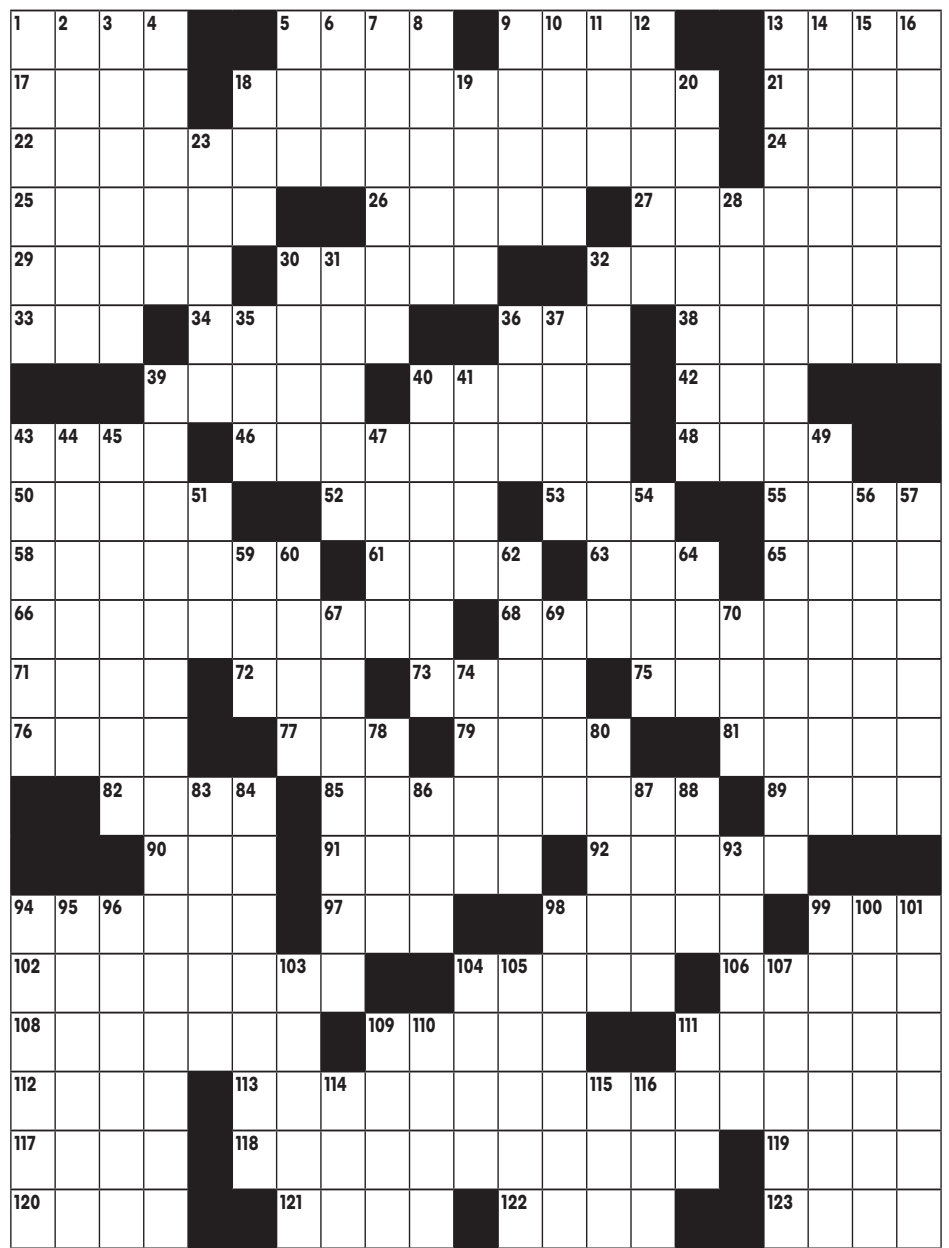
TRIVIAL MATTERS

BY DAVID KWONG / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

David Kwong is a professional magician and crossword constructor. He was the head magic consultant for the hit 2013 film "Now You See Me" (see the sly nod at 96-Down). He is currently performing in a one-man magic-and-puzzles show, "The Enigmatist," in New York City. Audience members must solve four puzzles in an anteroom to get into the show. (Hints are available, if needed.) This is David's 19th puzzle for The Times. — W.S.

- ACROSS
1 Not rumpled, as a bed
5 Slice, for example
9 Veal topper, informally
13 Cookie containers
17 "Yeah, right!"
18 Certain body of believers
21 Part of a Latin 101 conjugation
22 What kind of tree \_\_\_?
24 High-grade cotton
25 Capital that was home to the world's tallest building before the Burj Khalifa
26 Pears and apples
27 Vladimir Lenin's real last name
29 Nahuatl speaker
30 Answer to 22-Across [Science & Nature]
32 Multipurpose
33 Fixed
34 Polite
36 Moving vehicle
38 "Carmen" and "Elektra"
39 "Jeez!"
40 Mimicking
42 Director Anderson
43 Simulated
46 Answer to 113-Across [Geography]

Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 4,000 past puzzles, nytimes.com/crosswords (\$39.95 a year).



- DOWN
1 Some roadsters
2 Brightly lit
3 Clinton who once ran for president
4 Tour de France stage
5 "Pipe down!"
6 60 minuti
7 Get rid of
8 "When it comes to ..."
9 Scorer of 12 World Cup goals
10 Spanish ouzo flavoring
11 Nutritional std.
12 Bump on a slope
13 Where were battleships sunk in an 1894 \_\_\_?
14 Key of Beethoven's "Für Elise"
15 Quimby of children's books
16 Lines on sheet music
18 CBS debut of 2000
19 Comic actor known for his shock humor
20 1966 Donovan hit with a rhyming title
23 "That tastes bleah!"
28 "Holy cow!"
30 Cole Porter's "Well, Did You \_\_\_?"
31 Jungle tangle
32 Sweet and kind
35 1962 hit for the Ikettes
36 Part of an itinerary
37 Cost to get a hand
39 What annual game have the \_\_\_ won more than any other team?
40 Too
41 Condition once called "shell shock," for short
43 Process
44 How chicken teriyaki is usually served
45 Gave reluctantly, with "up"
47 Court plea, in brief

- 49 Oregon city that was the first permanent U.S. settlement west of the Rockies
51 A, B, C or D, in multiple choice: Abbr.
54 Foal's mother
56 Like Fenway among all major-league ballparks
57 Folds
59 Cinephile's channel
60 "Buzz off!"
62 Natty neckwear
64 Locale for Jacques Cousteau
67 Crankcase device
69 Like a moray
70 Director Burton
74 Follower of the Gospels
78 Wry Bombeck
80 Resilience
83 "It's a waste of time"
84 Loaves from whole-grain flour
86 Put away, in a way
87 Longtime Steelers coach Chuck
88 Small digit
93 Reeked
94 Gain entry to
95 Kind of scholar
96 Freeman of "Now You See Me"
98 TV Tarzan player
99 Hot stuff
100 Fate
101 Unwelcome looks
103 Be of \_\_\_ (aid)
104 Syracuse player, once
105 Sacha Baron Cohen character
107 Original edition of this puzzle's theme
109 Actor Diggs
110 Words of triumph
111 Whack
114 Length of a pool and back
115 Partner of tuck
116 Suffix with elect

FOR ANSWERS TURN TO PAGE 2

Ask the Fool

Buy-side, Sell-side

Please explain the difference between buy-side and sell-side analysts. — T.W., Ashland, Kentucky

They both study companies and make buy and sell recommendations, but buy-side analysts work in-house for institutions such as mutual funds and pension funds that buy assets, while sell-side analysts are often employed by banks and brokerages, providing broad analysis and recommendations to their customers.

You may be able to access many sell-side analysts' research reports through your brokerage. Learn more at Broker.Fool.com.

What's a REIT's "FFO"? — F.P., Norfolk, Virginia

The acronym REIT stands for Real Estate Investment Trust, a special kind of company that typically owns many properties and collects rents from tenants; a REIT (rhymes with "beef") often focuses on a niche such as offices, laboratories, nursing homes, hotels, shopping centers or apartments.

Investors studying companies often look at net income, which reflects the bottom-line profit after expenses have been subtracted from revenue. With REITs, the book value of their properties is decreased over time, with the depreciation charged against their net income, reducing it.

Since a REIT's net income tends to understate its health, investors should look at its "funds from operations," or FFO, instead. The FFO metric ignores the effect of depreciation and other noncash charges, so it gives you a better picture of the REIT's true performance. Learn more about REITs at REIT.com.

Want more information about stocks? Send us an email to foolnews@fool.com.



Fool's School

How to Make Millions or Billions

If you're wondering how you might become a billionaire — or even if you'd settle for millionairehood — don't assume that you have to stay busy trading in and out of stocks. Yes, some people have gotten rich through frequent trading, but they're not the norm — and it's not the most effective wealth-building strategy.

A much better strategy has worked for the likes of Jeff Bezos, Warren Buffett and Bill Gates: sticking with strong and growing companies for decades.

Yes, they founded their own companies, but you don't have to. Instead, invest in a handful of great businesses, aiming to own them for many years. Here are some common characteristics of companies many billionaires have owned:

- A sustainable competitive advantage that keeps them at the forefront of their industries.
A shareholder-friendly management team that, preferably, owns a

piece of the company, giving them a stake in its success.

- A solid balance sheet, featuring little debt or at least manageable debt.
A business that pumps out lots of cash.

Ideally, find these businesses when they're still relatively small. Many billionaire investors also make the most of market downturns, snapping up bargains.

Of course, many of us don't have the time or talent to study stocks and pick winners. But that's OK, because we can do what Warren Buffett has recommended: "Own a cross-section of businesses that in aggregate are bound to do well. A low-cost S&P 500 index fund will achieve this goal." He also advises investors to "accumulate shares over a long period" and not sell when the market drops.

Following these guidelines may not make you a billionaire, but many of us can become millionaires by saving and investing significant sums in strong stocks — and being patient.

Name That Company

I trace my roots back to 1937, when a mechanic launched a company to make piston rings for Toyota. After World War II, I focused on making motorized bicycles and then motorcycles, and by 1964 I was a top motorcycle maker. My first car debuted in 1963.

I was the first automaker to meet the Clean Air Act standards in the 1970s. Today I'm a major global manufacturer of cars, motorcycles, power products and aviation products, churning out close to 30 million engines annually. My worldwide employees number more than 200,000. I've made more than 100 million cars. Who am I?

Think you know the answer? We'll announce it in next week's edition.



Motley Fool Goes Mobile!



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My Dumbest Investment

A Fastest-Growing Implosion

I bought into the hype and bit the dust big-time on a penny stock. It taught me to invest more gradually and be leery of penny stocks.

On a positive note, I invested a tenth of my assets in some Fool recommendations and have recouped more than my cost. — A., online

The Fool Responds: Penny stocks are a great way to lose most or all of your money. The stock you invested in, from a British company specializing in mobile payments, had many investors hopeful — but like many penny-stock companies, it didn't have a long track record of solid growth and profits.

Visa sold its stake in the company in 2014, and the stock lost close to 90 percent of its value in 2015 — a year in which the company also lost its CEO and other executives. Once worth more than a billion pounds sterling, it ended up bought by another business for 70 million pounds.

For best results in investing, stick with proven and profitable companies. We're happy that you recouped your losses — albeit via other stocks.

The Motley Fool Take

What's Up, Doc?

Not all medical needs require extensive in-person visits with your doctor. Sometimes all you need is a visual inspection, a question-and-answer session, an order for lab work or a prescription.

Enter Teladoc Health (NYSE: TDOC), a leader in telemedicine, in which patients see providers via telecommunications services such as video conferencing. If you can get the medical care you need without traveling to a doctor's office, it's a win for you. If your doctor — or some doctor in your network — can spend more time on diagnosis and treatment while spending less money on overhead costs, it's a win for the doctor.

Teladoc has grown quickly both organically and through acquisitions, and now claims customers representing roughly 40 percent of the Fortune 500. Its revenue grew 62 percent year over year in its third quarter, to \$111 million.

Though Teladoc has been posting losses instead of profits, that's because it's spending about half its revenue on sales and marketing, growing its market share and cementing its leadership in the industry now so it can focus on profit later.

With a long-term growth opportunity in telehealth, Teladoc could be a big winner over the next decade. (The Motley Fool owns shares of and has recommended Teladoc Health.)

LAST WEEK'S TRIVIA ANSWER

I trace my roots back to 1937, when a man from Winston-Salem, North Carolina, bought a doughnut recipe from a New Orleans French chef and started selling doughnuts to local markets and to passersby drawn by their aroma. I trademarked my bowtie logo in 1955 and opened my first retail store in 1989. In 1992 I introduced my "hot now" light, which, when lit, meant that there were hot doughnuts available. Today, my offerings can be bought in about 12,000 supermarkets, convenience stores and other stores, as well as in my own 1,400 retail locations in 33 countries. Who am I? (Answer: Krispy Kreme)



Want to Invest? Email us at foolnews@fool.com, and we'll send you some tips to start investing. Sorry, we can't provide individual financial advice.



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

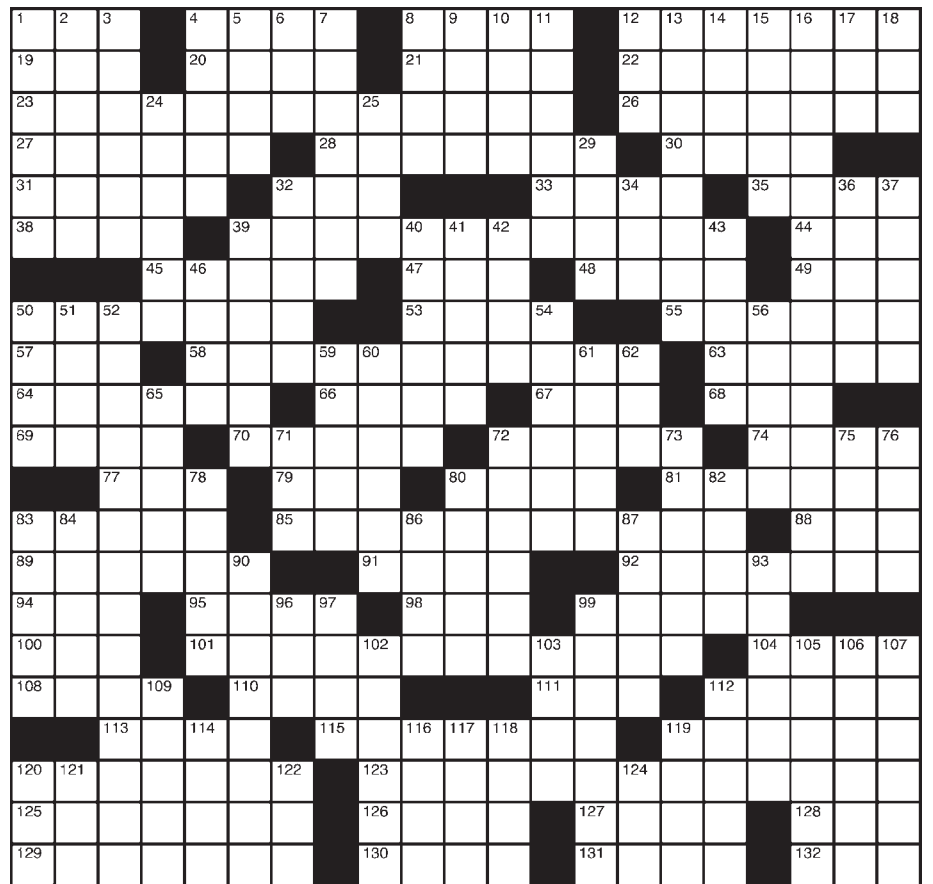
PREP-POSITIONING

By Gail Grabowski

- ACROSS**
- 1 Cheese companion
  - 4 Brewery fixtures
  - 8 Minute dispute
  - 12 Sandal features
  - 19 "Barefoot Contessa" cook Garten
  - 20 Journalist Larson
  - 21 Pro shop purchase
  - 22 Group bar orders
  - 23 Revenue for a monarchy?
  - 26 Crêpe cousin
  - 27 "My mom is gonna kill me!"
  - 28 San Simeon family
  - 30 Sleep \_\_\_
  - 31 Running total
  - 32 "The Hurt Locker" backdrop
  - 33 Upscale automaker
  - 35 It might be generic
  - 38 Novelist Waugh
  - 39 Kids nagging parents about lack of air conditioning?
  - 44 Which one
  - 45 Predator and Ionia computers
  - 47 Jack Reacher creator Child
  - 48 Dept. formed under Carter
  - 49 Bread grain
  - 50 Agassi rival
  - 53 Muses' domain
  - 55 Massage offering
  - 57 Important span
  - 58 Bungalow inundated with vacationing relatives?
  - 63 \_\_\_ column: concrete-filled steel support
  - 64 Rope in
  - 66 Quite a stretch
  - 67 Freshly stained
  - 68 Dr. Leary's turn-on
  - 69 Sullen
  - 70 Old Venetian coin
  - 72 Capital that's home to the Potlata Palace
  - 74 "This is my \_\_\_"
  - 77 Dodge logo critter
  - 79 Poor, as excuses go
  - 80 Ghee-brushed bread
  - 81 Unwitting victim
  - 83 Puts the worm on
  - 85 Funny BBQ scene that got cut?
  - 88 It's often bookmarked
  - 89 Be there
  - 91 Decorative jug
  - 92 It may be lit during the holidays
  - 94 Withdrawn
  - 95 They may be wireless
  - 98 Ristorante suffix
  - 99 Links army leader
  - 100 Loan letters
  - 101 Unlikely winner of a trite joke contest?
  - 104 Vicksburg soldiers
  - 108 One of Tom Brady's three
  - 110 "JAG" spin-off
  - 111 Has too much
  - 112 Piazza De Ferrari city
  - 113 Humorist Barry
  - 115 Takes care of a toy?
  - 119 "To conclude ..."
  - 120 Govt. water-testing sites
  - 123 Group unhappy with election results?
  - 125 SoCal daily
  - 126 Pre-calc course
  - 127 Rich deposit
  - 128 Job ad abbr.
  - 129 Pose a greater climbing challenge
  - 130 "I'll get this one"
  - 131 Chuck
  - 132 Chekov's orig. "Star Trek" rank
  - DOWN**
  - 1 NHL Hall of Famer Stan
  - 2 Dog or doggie
  - 3 It may be scented
  - 4 WWII surrender celebration
  - 5 2016 MLB retiree
  - 6 Virginia senator
  - 7 Vail toppers
  - 8 Gp. advocating adoption
  - 9 Substandard
  - 10 Charity
  - 11 Line dance step
  - 12 On the job, initially
  - 13 "Rebel Without a Cause" actor
  - 14 The Bee Gees, e.g.
  - 15 New-product div.
  - 16 Preview from St. Peter?
  - 17 Candy invented in Austria
  - 18 Dallas-to-Houston dir.
  - 24 Easy pill to swallow
  - 25 Pianist Peter
  - 29 Confident
  - 32 Less favorable
  - 34 Unpleasant noise
  - 36 DIY mover
  - 37 Sidestepped
  - 39 Flung with force
  - 40 Put on conspicuous display
  - 41 Seedless plants
  - 42 Green of "Robot Chicken"
  - 43 Question doggedly
  - 46 Shoe with lots of holes
  - 50 Tourney ranking
  - 51 River of Pisa
  - 52 "You're a big girl now?"
  - 54 "Who cares?"
  - 56 Roundup catcher
  - 59 Postgame staple
  - 60 Band aide
  - 61 Should have said
  - 62 Area 51 creatures, it's said
  - 65 Doggone mad
  - 71 Battleship letters
  - 72 Hugh of "House"
  - 73 "Just \_\_\_"
  - 75 Fiend of fantasy
  - 76 Legendary soccer star
  - 78 "Morning Joe" network
  - 80 Ad infinitum
  - 82 Hatcher of "Desperate Housewives"
  - 83 Jazz count
  - 84 Pal of Aramis
  - 86 Relative who shares your birthday, perhaps
  - 87 "Hair" styles
  - 90 Queen's mate
  - 93 Mother canonized by Pope Francis
  - 96 Hammer throw trajectory
  - 97 Impudent sort
  - 99 Pasta water prep instruction
  - 102 Did, but doesn't now
  - 103 Campus recruiting gp.
  - 105 Dining selection
  - 106 Balladeer Michael
  - 107 Give the okay
  - 109 Bush or Clinton, once
  - 112 Rubbernecks, with "at"
  - 114 Seductive sort
  - 116 Struggling to decide
  - 117 Triathlon component
  - 118 "Picnic" playwright
  - 119 Bygone Fords
  - 120 2015 Payne Stewart Award honoree Ernie
  - 121 Touch gently
  - 122 Return ID
  - 124 Great Lakes' \_\_\_ Canals

Los Angeles Times Sunday Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis



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2/24/19

GOREN BRIDGE

BLOODLINES

North-South vulnerable, North deals

**NORTH**  
 ♠ 7  
 ♥ A Q 8 3 2  
 ♦ K 10 6  
 ♣ K Q 8 6

**WEST**  
 ♠ J 5 4 3 2  
 ♥ K J 7 5 4  
 ♦ Q 3  
 ♣ J

**SOUTH**  
 ♠ A Q 8  
 ♥ 9  
 ♦ A 8 5 4 2  
 ♣ A 7 3 2

**EAST**  
 ♠ K 10 9 6  
 ♥ 10 6  
 ♦ J 9 7  
 ♣ 10 9 5 4

wavelength and bid the slam in the suit that, luckily, was breaking 3-2.

It looked easy at first, so Bethé won the ace of hearts on the opening lead, led a spade to the ace, and ruffed a spade. He cashed the king of diamonds, ruffed a heart to his hand, and ruffed the queen of spades. A club to his ace and the ace of diamonds left this position:

**NORTH**  
 ♠ Void  
 ♥ Q 8  
 ♦ Void  
 ♣ K Q 8

**WEST**  
 ♠ J 5  
 ♥ K J 5  
 ♦ Void  
 ♣ Void

**EAST**  
 ♠ K  
 ♥ Void  
 ♦ J  
 ♣ 10 9 5

**SOUTH**  
 ♠ Void  
 ♥ Void  
 ♦ 8 5  
 ♣ 7 3 2

The bidding:  
 NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST  
 1♥ Pass 2♦ Pass  
 3♣ Pass 3♠ Pass  
 4♦ Pass 5♣ Pass  
 6♦ All pass

Opening lead: Five of ♥

South in today's deal was Paul Bethé. A good player in his own right, he is the son of Henry and Kitty Bethé. His father was a National Champion and his mother a World Champion. He and his partner had a lucky misunderstanding in the auction. Paul thought his fourth-suit forcing three-spade bid followed by five clubs set clubs as the trump suit. His partner was on a different

Bethé led a club and would have claimed 12 tricks had both opponents followed. He won with dummy's king and led a heart. He didn't know who held the last trump, but it didn't matter. Should either opponent ruff, Bethé would have the rest. He ruffed the heart, led a club to the queen, and led another heart, scoring his last trump "en passant".

CRYPTOGRAMS

CRYPTOGRAMS BE A GOOD SPORT by Myles Mellor

1. Z F Z E R F Z C C S C Z N R D B Z E P M L D E P N .  
 M R K R R U R U E V H R B Z P R D . E V P M R  
 H Z K Z Q R D F D L Q M P C N O Z C C R U J V D P M R  
 D R C L R J S L P O M R D !
2. S D N N J W S Y Y I N S I R A N J O P S Y Y Z X S V  
 S D J P O J R P U P T V L T A X S I R L T P W O N E P .  
 R P Z P Y Y P V F C L I E Y Z , " A L U P X P X Z  
 F C S O J P O W S I E ! "
3. M T U O F P W Y M T F P C G M T M I M I ,  
 F U O N M A O Y A P U M A A O Y M W R C O M W W G  
 M H H C O E R M F O Y P S O A M I R E A P A O S F P N  
 E P Q C T O , F U O H Q S E U W R S O !
4. N W F F B X Z E B N W Z E B K R I G A W K M S W X  
 H A M B X N W O M E X , F M B X G V H S W . L D W Y !  
 N D W L I H G W O X H O W H I Y H G X O H B X B F V  
 H O H K R W N .

PUZZLE ANSWERS

(Puzzles on previous pages)



JUMBLE

Answer:

CLOSET GLANCE SUPERB  
 EITHER IRONIC THROWN

Her jeans had worn out and were —

ON THEIR  
 LAST LEGS

1. A baseball player was thirsty. He needed some water. So the manager brightly called for the relief pitcher!
2. A football coach got really mad after the vending machine broke. He yelled quickly, "Give me my quarterback!"
3. As he told a story as a gag, the famed Mohammed Ali really appreciated one magic moment of course, the punch line!
4. Tennis quite quickly becomes a boisterous, noisy game. Phew! The players are always raising a racket.

HOLIDAY MATHIS HOROSCOPES

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19). The most beautiful things have something a little unpolished about them to keep them accessible and imperfect, because inaccessibility isn't very compelling and perfection is boring.  
**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20). You and a loved one may disagree on a few things, which is why it's very important to recognize and unite on that which you do agree. No one needs to be convinced or changed. Everyone just needs to be accepted.  
**GEMINI** (May 21-June 21). You're observant, clever and convincing. The bottom line is that you can sway people, and this is both a power and a responsibility. Before you get going, stop and ask yourself what's best for all.  
**CANCER** (June 22-July 22). Whether you're the teacher, the boss or the cheering section, repeated uplift is the way. It's not enough to give encouragement once and then expect people to do well. It's the habitual enthusiasm that will make a difference.  
**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). Groups change. Organizations become reorganizations or splinter into factions, or they dissolve, allowing new groups to form. The thing to do is to accept that the way it is now isn't how it will always be and to show up strong anyway.  
**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You've been thinking about an endeavor that's extremely interesting and enticing on many levels, although it's also a real stretch for you. When you put your mind to it and plan well, you can pull off something amazing.  
**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You follow the same path and end up somewhere different. How could this be? Maybe you go further than before, or maybe

the company you keep changes everything about the journey.  
**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It's as if your whole mind is lit up and ready to wrap around this day. That's why nothing exists in one dimension for you, and three is also too few, because you are understanding things on levels unexplainable.  
**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Optimism comes naturally to you today. You'll so easily see how things are working and work even better once you make a few small adjustments.  
**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). The talks won't go as anticipated — a good sign you're doing it right. The only conversation that's predictable is the terrible kind in which one person speaks and never lets the other person contribute.  
**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Quite simply and suddenly, what appealed to you before won't anymore. It's as if the attraction just lifted — floated off. Taking its place will be freedom and more options than you knew existed.  
**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20). Do all you can to get the right amount of sleep; it's crucial to this educational cycle you're in. Learning is a physical process. When you sleep, the neurons in your brain build the architecture to use what you've learned.  
**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY** (Feb. 24). You get newer instead of older this year because of improvements. Fresh education gives you all the motivation you need, and by May, you'll be looking back, already impressed as to how far you've come. Loved ones follow your lead. Love and friendship are the centerpiece in carefree days of July. Leo and Cancer adore you. Your lucky numbers are: 3, 7, 20, 12 and 45.



CROSSWORD PUZZLE

7 LITTLE WORDS

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

- | CLUES                              | SOLUTIONS |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1 study of Earth's surface (9)     | _____     |
| 2 study of viruses (8)             | _____     |
| 3 study of reliable inferences (5) | _____     |
| 4 study of diamonds and such (8)   | _____     |
| 5 study of "buried treasures" (10) | _____     |
| 6 study of elements (9)            | _____     |
| 7 study of mushrooms (8)           | _____     |

- |      |     |     |     |     |
|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| ARCH | PHY | GIC | GY  | GEO |
| LO   | EOL | GRA | GY  | GEM |
| GY   | CHE | OGY | VIR | OLO |
| TRY  | OLO | OLO | MIS | MYC |

Today's Answers: 1. GEOGRAPHY 2. VIROLOGY 3. LOGIC 4. GEMOLOGY 5. ARCHEOLOGY 6. CHEMISTRY 7. MYCOLOGY

JANRIC CLASSIC SUDOKU

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and 3x3 block. Use logic and process elimination to solve the puzzle. The difficulty level ranges from Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest).

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

Rating: GOLD

Solution to 2/24/19

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

DEAR ABBY

Wife refuses conversation with husband about important topics

**DEAR ABBY:** My husband and I have problems communicating because I don't talk enough, but that's the way I was raised. My family just didn't talk about serious things. I'm not saying avoidance is right, but I have a hard time talking seriously.



Dear Abby

When I feel put on the spot, I find it difficult to form my words correctly, and I shut down.

My husband doesn't understand why I don't talk when it comes so easy for him. This gives him the impression that I don't "want" to talk, and therefore, I don't care about our marriage as much as he does. Any advice? — MY LIPS ARE SEALED

**DEAR MY LIPS:** Issues that are not discussed often grow greater until they erode relationships. If you value your marriage, use this issue as a jumping-off point to start talking with a psychologist or other licensed mental health professional.

The way you were raised was unhealthy. It is destructive to building relationships

as well as self-esteem, and can have lifelong consequences, as you are finding out.

Please don't put it off, because your communication problem won't resolve until you do something proactive about it.

**DEAR ABBY:** May I educate your readers about a little-known disorder called misophonia?

It means "hatred of sound," and it can cause rage or panic. Misophonia is triggered by sounds such as breathing, eating, yawning, chewing or whistling. It can also be caused by a repetitive motion, such as when someone is fidgeting, jostles you or taps their foot continuously.

I suffer from this disorder. I work in the health care field

and am often surrounded by people who chew and/or pop/crack their gum. I have had the difficult, often embarrassing, conversation about my disorder many times to no avail. The gum-chewing continues.

Do you agree it is unprofessional to chew gum in the workplace?

How do I make people understand this is a real disorder that causes me physical pain and duress? — SUFFERING IN THE WEST

**DEAR SUFFERING:** I have to agree that chewing gum in the workplace is both unsightly and unprofessional. In the interest of full disclosure, I confess I'm guilty of the crime.

Before I condemn anyone for eating, chewing, yawning, foot-tapping, etc., allow me to point out that the solution to your problem may be as simple as noise-canceling headphones. I urge you try it before requesting a private office.

**DEAR ABBY:** Is it selfish for a 62-year-old recently widowed grandmother to

want more in her life besides her one daughter and three grandchildren? — WANTS MORE IN THE EAST

**DEAR WANTS MORE:** Of course it isn't selfish! If "someone" is trying to sell you that nonsensical idea, my advice is not to buy it.

You deserve happiness and fulfillment, and you should not allow anyone to prevent you from seeking it.

(Could it be the "someone" wants a free baby sitter?)

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

*Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$16 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)*

HELOISE

**Dear Readers:** Identity theft is a huge national problem. It's essential that you protect your identity and your credit cards.

When you get a new card, sign it in ink and record all of the information. Here are more hints:

— Never lend credit cards to anyone. Do not leave your card or receipts behind, where people could find them.

— Tear up incorrect receipts. Keep all accurate receipts for your tax files.

— Never give out your credit card number over the phone — unless you have made the call. Scammers call day and night claiming that they are checking your record and numbers, that you have a charge that is overdue that you have to pay immediately, or that you have to buy gift cards to cover the charges. They can be aggressive and threatening, but don't fall for this. Contact your credit card company directly.

— Open billing statements as soon as you get them and check all of the charges.



Hints from Heloise

Call the credit card company to correct errors right away. — Heloise

**Dear Readers:** Are crawdads, mudbugs, crayfish and crawfish all the same? Here's the answer to this fish question.

1. Yes. These are freshwater crustaceans that really look like tiny lobsters with claws and are about three to six inches long.

2. Crawfish are normally boiled and turn fire-engine red when cooked.

3. However, crawfish also are battered and deep-fried and often called Cajun popcorn because this dish was touted by the famous New Orleans Chef Paul Prudhomme. — Heloise

**Dear Heloise:** I have too many clothes inside my closet. It's such a mess that I just don't know where to start. Help me! — Loretta in New Jersey

**Dear Loretta:** There's an easy way of tackling this job by sorting through your closet and getting rid of unwanted or unused garments. Try my A-B-C method to first organize and then sort.

Take out all your clothes and put them into three piles:

- A. Clothes you wear often.
- B. Clothes you put on just occasionally.
- C. Clothes you have not worn in at least a year.

Then do the following: Examine the clothes in the A pile to see if they need any repairs. If not, return to the closet. If you decide that you are going to wear a number of the B pile clothes, place them in the back of the closet.

The rest that you don't want to ever wear again should be put into the C pile. Clothes in the C pile should be tossed out if they are ripped or worn out.

The rest of the clothes in the C pile should be donated to charity. — Heloise

**Dear Readers:** Our refrigerators get so much daily use, and we stuff them full. It's easy to forget what's lurking inside containers or take-out cartons that get shoved to the back of the shelves once new items are put in front. When it's crammed, it's time for a clean-out.

First, give the fridge a smell test to discover where the smell is coming from on each shelf. Toss out old or outdated items and anything with green fuzz.

Put leftovers in sealed containers or zip-top bags and label with a date. Clean the shelves with soapy water to clear off any spills, and wipe walls with white vinegar.

To control odors, pour baking soda into a plastic margarine tub. Poke holes in the lid and put it in the fridge. Replace every three months or so.

Put small dishes of lemon or lime slices on different shelves. — Heloise

KENKEN THE LOGIC PUZZLE THAT MAKES YOU SMARTER.

EASY

3-			12X	
2-			4	
2÷			6+	3-
3				

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CHALLENGING

75X		2÷		5-	
2÷		30X	2-	3-	
	6			1-	
1-			5	2÷	3-
6	3+		18+		
2÷					4

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RULES

- Each row and each column must contain the numbers 1 through 4 (easy) or 1 through 6 (challenging) without repeating.
- The numbers within the heavily outlined boxes, called cages, must combine using the given operation (in any order) to produce the target numbers in the top-left corners.
- Freebies: Fill in single-box cages with the number in the top-left corner.

2-24-19

TODAY'S ANSWERS

1	2	3	4
2	3	4	1
3	4	1	2
4	1	2	3

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JUMBLE

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

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

SOLTCE  
EEHIRT  
CNALEG  
CNIPIO  
BRUPSE  
WHOTNR

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

You know, we can buy you new jeans. Yep, I think these may have fallen apart sooner than I thought. I thought that was the style.

HER JEANS HAD WORN OUT AND WERE ---

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

PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW

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|--|---|
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| 2. PRESERVE AT WEST VILLAGES<br>D.R. HORTON<br>Twin Villas & Single-Family Homes<br>from the mid \$200s* | 8. CALUSA CREEK<br>EXPRESS HOMES<br>Single-Family Homes<br>from the high \$100s*                                  |
| 3. PEACHLAND HOMESITES<br>EXPRESS HOMES<br>Single-Family Homes<br>from the high \$100s*                  | 9. WATERFORD<br>EXPRESS HOMES<br>Twin Villas & Single-Family Homes<br>from the high \$100s*                       |
| 4. DEEP CREEK HOMESITES<br>EXPRESS HOMES<br>Single-Family Homes<br>from the mid \$200s*                  | 10. MAGNOLIA LANDING<br>D.R. HORTON & EXPRESS HOMES<br>Twin Villas & Single Family Homes<br>from the high \$100s* |
| 5. GULF COVE HOMESITES<br>EXPRESS HOMES<br>Single-Family Homes<br>from the high \$100s*                  | 11. GATOR CIRCLE<br>EXPRESS HOMES<br>Single-Family Homes<br>from the high \$100s*                                 |
| 6. THE LANDINGS AT CORAL CREEK<br>EMERALD HOMES<br>Luxury Townhomes<br>from the mid \$300s*              | 12. ENTRADA<br>D.R. HORTON & EXPRESS HOMES<br>Single-Family Homes<br>from the mid \$200s*                         |

<sup>^</sup>As reported by Builder Magazine. \*Home and community information including pricing, included features, terms, availability and amenities are subject to change and prior sale at any time without notice or obligation. Pictures, photographs, features, colors and sizes are approximate for illustration purposes only and will vary from the homes as built. Florida Registered Building Contractor License CBC#1258802







## Familiar face in new town

Ex-Ray Jake Bauers hopes to have big year with Cleveland Indians. See the story on page 6.

Sunday, February 24, 2019

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### ■ RAYS

# 0 Canada, next part-time home or native land?

Rays' principal owner wants to keep team in Tampa Bay but doesn't deny Montreal report



TAMPA BAY TIMES PHOTO

Fans walk into Tropicana Field for Fan Fest on Feb. 9. With a new stadium in Tampa Bay not on the horizon, speculation persists regarding the team's future. One recent report stated that a plan has been floated to split the Rays between Montreal and Tampa. Rays' principal owner Stuart Sternberg wouldn't deny talks involving a group looking to bring baseball back to Montreal.

By **MARC TOPKIN**  
TAMPA BAY TIMES

**PORT CHARLOTTE** — The Rays are headed across the bay to Ybor. Or they're staying in St. Petersburg. Or they're eventually moving to Portland, Vegas or Nashville. Then there's the latest rumeur chaude that they're going to split home games between the Trop and Montreal.

That's life with low attendance, a lack of sponsors and no firm plan for a new stadium to replace Tropicana Field, which, going by its 1990 opening date (as opposed to the 1998 start of Rays play), is eighth oldest in the majors.

In addressing questions about the latest time-share silliness out of Montreal, Rays principal owner Stuart Sternberg said Friday that the speculation "unfortunately" comes with territory, that if they had a new stadium in the works "this stuff

wouldn't be happening."

While reiterating his focus is getting a new stadium built to keep the team in the Tampa Bay area (and that he has "no intention" of selling all or part of it), Sternberg pointed out it's positive for the game that other cities want a team.

And, certainly, it's not the worst thing for his cause that the Rays are the ones most speculated on relocating if it can create any urgency or action among Tampa Bay folks.

Though the Rays are locked in to play all home games at the Trop through 2027, Sternberg has been saying more frequently of late that given logistics and construction timetables, they will soon have to start considering options for 2028, which will only fuel more relocation speculation in numerous places.

The Montreal sharing

RAYS | 6

# Mottola's aggressive, analytical style suits Rays

By **BEN BAUGH**  
STAFF WRITER

It's seemed as if Rays hitting coach Chad Mottola was destined for a career in sport in his home state of Florida.

The future Major League Baseball outfielder grew up in Broward County, and his predilection during the early years of his interscholastic career pointed toward the sport of football. But as fate would have it, he would be directed toward another discipline, one that found him being drafted by the Baltimore Orioles in the 10th round.

"I didn't sign, but that kind of steered me in the direction of baseball," said Mottola. "I was just kind of maturing. I was a

17-year-old high school kid."

It was that interscholastic success that saw Mottola receive interest from a number of Division I schools, eventually choosing one in his home state. He chose one in Orlando.

"I had never heard of UCF, growing up three hours away, to show you how far that's come," said Mottola, who attended St. Thomas Aquinas in Fort Lauderdale.

Mottola's hard work would begin paying dividends, excelling collegiately, eventually becoming a first round selection, going fifth overall in the 1992 Major League Baseball draft, taken by the Cincinnati Reds.

"Growth spurts came in college rather than in high school

for me, and got me on the map then," said Mottola. "I had been drafted earlier on, so I had an idea of what I wanted to do, but it came pretty fast."

However, being selected in the first round of the MLB draft was life transforming, and with it came a series of adjustments and eye-opening experiences.

"I knew it was coming, but until it happens, it kind of sinks in later in life," said Mottola.

"At the time, I didn't have an agent. My dad did everything. I don't think that's close to happening anymore. We just assumed everybody had your best interest at heart. Than you learn that this is a business, and there's another side to this



SUN PHOTO BY TOM O'NEILL

**MOTTOLA | 4** Tampa Bay Rays hitting coach Chad Mottola talks with another coach during the first official full squad workout on Monday at Charlotte Sports Park.

### ■ NFL

# Goodell has wide-ranging powers to discipline Kraft



AP PHOTO

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell, right, talks with New England Patriots owner Robert Kraft before the Patriots faced the Oakland Raiders in 2017, in Mexico City. Kraft, 77, faces a likely league probe after being charged with two counts of soliciting a prostitute in a Jupiter massage parlor.

By **BARRY WILNER**  
AP PRO FOOTBALL WRITER

NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell has wide-ranging powers to discipline teams, coaches, players, and, yes, owners.

Pending the completion of police investigations in Florida — and likely a league inquiry as well — Goodell could punish New England Patriots owner Robert Kraft for being charged with two misdemeanor counts of soliciting a prostitute.

The 77-year-old Kraft was twice videotaped in a sex act at a shopping-center massage parlor in Florida, police

said Friday. The charges come amid a crackdown on sex trafficking in which hundreds of arrest warrants were issued.

Goodell could fine and/or suspend Kraft from any activities involving the Super Bowl champions.

Goodell fined Kraft and the Patriots \$250,000 in 2007 for filming other teams' signals, and \$1 million in 2014 for deflating footballs during the AFC title game. The "Deflategate" case damaged Goodell's close relationship with Kraft.

Even though Goodell is employed by the owners, at a cost of about \$40 million annually in

salary and bonuses, he views the commissioner's role as one protective of the game and the league.

Indianapolis Colts owner Jim Irsay, was suspended by Goodell after he was arrested in 2014 near his home in suburban Carmel and was held overnight after he failed sobriety tests and police found prescription medications in his car.

He was charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated, along with four felony counts of possession of a controlled substance.

He pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor count of

driving while intoxicated.

Irsay drew a six-game suspension and \$500,000 fine from Goodell.

Last year, Jerry Richardson essentially was forced to sell the Carolina Panthers after allegations of his sexual and racial misconduct in the workplace. Following a six-month investigation, he was fined \$2.7 million by Goodell.

In 2012, following a long investigation into the New Orleans Saints' bounties system, Goodell fined Saints owner Tom Benson \$500,000 and stripped the team of second-round draft picks in 2012 and 2013.

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**Florida Lottery**

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**PICK 2**

Feb. 23N	7-7
Feb. 23D	7-4
Feb. 22N	0-3
Feb. 22D	3-7
Feb. 21N	4-0
Feb. 21D	6-4

D-Day, N-Night

**PICK 3**

Feb. 23N	4-7-9
Feb. 23D	4-4-2
Feb. 22N	2-0-3
Feb. 22D	5-1-7
Feb. 21N	7-8-7
Feb. 21D	4-7-6

**PICK 4**

Feb. 23N	0-3-9-0
Feb. 23D	8-0-3-0
Feb. 22N	1-2-0-8
Feb. 22D	5-5-0-8
Feb. 21N	3-6-3-5
Feb. 21D	0-9-9-2

**PICK 5**

Feb. 23N	7-3-4-9-6
Feb. 23D	9-8-5-5-4
Feb. 22N	3-8-2-2-9
Feb. 22D	0-3-6-8-0
Feb. 21N	4-5-3-5-4
Feb. 21D	3-1-5-7-8

**FANTASY 5**

Feb. 23	Late
Feb. 22	3-25-34-35-36
Feb. 21	5-20-24-26-34

**PAYOFF FOR FEB. 22**

1 5-digit winners	\$208,309.37
309 4-digit winners	\$108.50
8,822 3-digit winners	\$10.50

**CASH FOR LIFE**

Feb. 21	3-4-34-38-39
Cash Ball	2

...

Feb. 18	1-37-39-48-54
Cash Ball	4

**PAYOFF FOR FEB. 21**

0 5-5 CB	\$1,000/Day
0 5-5	\$1,000/Week
7 4-5 CB	\$2,500
7 4-5	\$500

**JACKPOT TRIPLE PLAY**

Feb. 22	2-9-11-25-30-38
Feb. 19	7-8-18-25-43-46
Feb. 15	8-11-19-35-36-41

**PAYOFF FOR FEB. 22**

1 6-of-6	\$1,600,000
49 5-of-6	\$430.00
2,150 4-of-6	\$23.50
38,404 3-of-6	\$1

**ESTIMATED JACKPOT**  
\$500,000

**LOTTO**

Feb. 23	Late
Feb. 20	14-30-32-34-52-53
Feb. 16	2-12-16-29-43-52

**PAYOFF FOR FEB. 20**

0 6-digit winners	\$3.5 million
17 5-digit winners	\$4,958
646 4-digit winners	\$87.50

**ESTIMATED JACKPOT**  
\$4 million

**POWERBALL**

Feb. 23	Late
Powerball	Late

...

Feb. 20	27-49-50-51-52
Powerball	2

**PAYOFF FOR FEB. 20**

0 5-5 + PB	\$282 million
0 5-5	\$1 million
1 4-5 + PB	\$50,000
45 4-5	\$100

**ESTIMATED JACKPOT**  
\$304 million

**MEGA MILLIONS**

Feb. 22	18-24-31-34-55
Mega Ball	4

...

Feb. 19	17-24-34-56-65
Mega Ball	3

**PAYOFF FOR FEB. 22**

0 5 of 5 + MB	\$224 million
0 5 of 5	\$1 million
1 4 of 5 + MB	\$10,000
22 4 of 5	\$500

**ESTIMATED JACKPOT**  
\$245 million

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**NHL: Roundup**

# Reinhart's hat trick snaps four-game skid, leads Sabres to 5-2 victory over Capitals

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — Sam Reinhart scored three goals and the Buffalo Sabres snapped a four-game skid with a 5-2 victory over the

**SPORTS ON TV**

<b>AAF FOOTBALL</b> 4 p.m. CBSN — Birmingham at Atlanta
8 p.m. NFL — San Antonio at San Diego
<b>AUTO RACING</b> 2 p.m. FOX — NASCAR Monster Energy Cup Series: The Fold of Honor QuikTrip 500, Atlanta, Ga.
<b>BOBSLEDDING/SKELETON</b> 12:30 a.m. (Monday) NBCSN — IBSF World Cup: four-man bobsled, Calgary (taped)
<b>BOWLING</b> 3 p.m. FS1 — PBA Bowling: Indianapolis Open, Indianapolis, Ind.
<b>MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL</b> 12 p.m. CBSN — SMU at Central Florida
1:30 p.m. CBS — Villanova at Xavier
2 p.m. CBSN — Drake at Illinois State ESPN — Cincinnati at UConn
3:45 p.m. CBS — Michigan State at Michigan
4 p.m. ESPNU — Loyola-Chicago at Southern Illinois
6 p.m. ESPNU — Wake Forest at North Carolina State
8 p.m. ESPN2 — Stanford at Arizona
<b>WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL</b> 12 p.m. ESPN2 — Florida State at Miami ESPNU — North Carolina State at North Carolina
2 p.m. ESPN2 — Michigan at Michigan State
ESPNU — Houston at Memphis FS2 — St. John's at Georgetown SEC — Vanderbilt at Mississippi State
4 p.m. BTN — Penn State at Illinois ESPN2 — South Carolina at Tennessee
6 p.m. SEC — Georgia at Alabama
6:30 p.m. BTN — Minnesota at Rutgers
<b>WOMEN'S COLLEGE LACROSSE</b> 12 p.m. BTN — North Carolina at Maryland
<b>MEN'S COLLEGE VOLLEYBALL</b> 2 p.m. BTN — Loyola-Chicago at Ohio State
<b>GOLF</b> 12 p.m. GOLF — PGA Tour Golf: WGC-Mexico Championship, final round, Mexico City
1:30 p.m. GOLF — PGA Tour Golf: Puerto Rico Open, final round, Rio Grande NBC — PGA Tour Golf: WGC-Mexico Championship, final round, Mexico City
<b>NBA G LEAGUE BASKETBALL</b> 2 p.m. NBA — Sioux Falls Skyforce vs. Raptors 905
<b>NBA BASKETBALL</b> 5 p.m. NBA — LA Clippers at Denver
7:30 p.m. NBA — San Antonio at New York
<b>NHL HOCKEY</b> 12:30 p.m. NHL — NY Rangers at Washington
7 p.m. NBCSN — St. Louis at Minnesota
<b>RODEO</b> 12 p.m. CBS — PBR Bull Riding: Iron Cowboy, Los Angeles, Calif.
<b>RUGBY</b> 12 p.m. ESPNEWS — Pro14: Cheetas vs. Scarlets
NBCSN — Six Nations Championship: round 3, Italy vs. Ireland
2 p.m. NBCSN — Premiership: Leicester vs. Worcester
7 p.m. CBSN — Major League Rugby: United New York vs. Seawolves de Seattle
<b>SOCCER</b> 6:25 a.m. ESPNU — Serie A: Sampdoria vs. Cagliari
9 a.m. NBCSN — Premier League: Manchester United vs. Liverpool
9:30 a.m. FS1 — Bundesliga: Hannover 96 vs. Eintracht Frankfurt
11:50 a.m. FS2 — Bundesliga: Bayer Leverkusen at Borussia Dortmund
<b>SKIING</b> 10:30 p.m. NBCSN — FIS Alpine World Cup, women's combined, Switzerland (taped)
11:30 p.m. NBCSN — FIS World Nordic Championships: cross country women's team sprint finals, Austria (taped)
<b>TRACK AND FIELD</b> 4 p.m. NBCSN — U.S. Indoor Championships: Day 3, Staten Island, N.Y.

Washington Capitals on Saturday.

Jack Eichel had two assists in picking up his 66th point — two more than the fourth-year player's career high set last season. Rookie Rasmus Dahlin and Jason Pominville also scored in a game in which the Sabres never trailed.

Carter Hutton stopped 31 shots, and Buffalo snapped a 0-3-1 skid while topping the three-goal mark for the first time in eight games, dating to a 6-5 overtime loss to Carolina on Feb. 7.

The Sabres avoided a major scare when leading scorer Jeff Skinner was helped off the ice five minutes into the second period and was unable to place any weight on his left leg. Skinner, however, returned for the start of the third period.

Alex Ovechkin scored his league-leading 44th goal for the Capitals, while extending his goal streak to five games. Andre Burakovsky also scored for Washington, which squandered a chance to win three straight for the first time since Jan. 6-10.

Braden Holtby stopped 33 shots in dropping to 6-8-2 in his past 18 appearances. Holtby has allowed 59 goals over that span and has failed to win consecutive starts.

The Sabres showed no signs of being the team that coach Phil Housley described as "soft" a week earlier when they closed a seven-game homestand with a 6-2 loss to the New York Rangers.

Buffalo jumped to a 2-0 lead in the first period. The Capitals cut the lead to one in the second period before Reinhart capped the third hat-trick of his career by scoring into an empty net with 56 seconds left.

Ovechkin had cut the Sabres' lead to 2-1 in the second by scoring on a breakaway 2:28 into the frame.

Dahlin responded with a power-play goal with 31 seconds remaining in the period, and Nic Dowd serving a tripping penalty for upending Buffalo's Nathan Beaulieu in the corner.

Rasmus Ristolainen started the play by feeding Eichel in the left circle. Eichel then immediately fed the puck through the middle to an open Dahlin, who one-timed a shot inside the right post before Holtby could get across.

Buffalo had another response in the third period after Washington's Burakovsky tipped in Christian Djoos' point shot 4:16 into the frame.

Reinhart scored 1:23 later by deflecting in Matt Hunwick's shot from the blue line.

**Panthers 6, Kings 1**

Aleksander Barkov and Keith Yandle scored on the power play and Florida had three goals in the second period on the way to a 6-1 victory over the Los Angeles Kings on Saturday.

Jonathan Huberdeau, Vincent Trocheck, Jamie McGinn and Ian McCoshen also scored, and Barkov, Huberdeau and Yandle added assists for the Panthers, who have won four of five and are 10-5-0 in their last 15.

Florida's Roberto Luongo stopped 18 shots and tied Ed Belfour for third place in career wins among goaltenders with 484.

Dustin Brown scored for the Kings, who dropped their seventh straight. Jonathan Quick stopped 17 of 23 shots before being lifted in the third period. Jack Campbell made two saves in relief.

Huberdeau broke a 1-all tie in the first period. He stepped out of the penalty box and collected an errant Kings slap shot that wrapped around the boards. Huberdeau then skated in on Quick and scored his 17th goal of the season at 13:33.

Barkov netted his 25th goal at 18:16 for a 3-1 lead during a 5-on-3 power play after the Kings' Derek Forbort and Oscar Fantenberg went off for penalties.

Yandle pushed the lead to 4-1 when he scored the second man-advantage goal, his ninth, at 19:22, through plenty of traffic in front of Quick.

Trocheck skated into the left circle in the second period, took a pass from Evgenii Dadonov and scored his sixth goal, and first Jan. 21 at 11:56 of the first.

Brown tied it at 1 when he stole a pass just outside the blue line, raced in on Luongo and scored his 13th goal at 13:59.

Brown, who ended a run of 12 games without a goal, nearly scored his second to give Los Angeles its first lead on a short-handed breakaway in the period's last

minute, but Luongo denied him.

McGinn and McCoshen scored their first goals of the season in the third period — McGinn at 6:14, McCoshen 28 seconds later — for the final margin.

**Rangers 5, Devils 2**

Ryan Strome had two goals, Chris Kreider and Jimmy Vesey each had a goal and an assist, and the New York Rangers beat the New Jersey Devils 5-2 on Saturday.

Brady Skjei also scored. Mika Zibanejad and Pavel Buchnevich each had two assists and Alexandar Georgiev made 19 saves for the Rangers.

Andy Greene and Kenny Agostino scored and Cory Schneider had 29 saves for the Devils.

Both teams sat key players with the league's trade deadline two days away. The Devils traded defenseman Ben Lovejoy to Dallas for defenseman Connor Carrick and a third-round pick earlier in the day and also kept out forward Marcus Johansson.

The Rangers sat forwards Mats Zuccarello and Kevin Hayes as well as defenseman Adam McQuaid.

Trailing 3-0 in the third period, the Devils scored when Agostino got his third of the season at 2:20. He took advantage of a turnover in the Rangers' zone to score his first goal with the Devils.

The Rangers answered as defenseman Brady Skjei sent a one-timer past Schneider for his fourth of the season. The score withstood a video review for goalie interference.

The Devils rallied again as Greene took a pass from Kyle Palmieri and wristed it past Georgiev for his fourth of the season at 12:59.

Strome added an empty-netter in the final minute for his second of the game to clinch the win.

Early on, the Rangers dominated the matchup between the area rivals and playoff also-rans in the Eastern Conference. They opened the scoring with two goals early in the first period.

Vesey scored his 14th of the season off a scramble in front of the net at 4:48 just as a Devils penalty expired. A few minutes later and with a Devils power play about to end, Vladislav Namestnikov

drew a tripping penalty on Drew Stafford to give the Rangers another man advantage. And they took advantage.

With the power play nearly over, Kreider sent a no-look pass to Strome, who scored his ninth of the season. Buchnevich assisted on both of the goals.

The Rangers kept up the pressure and made it 3-0. Kreider scored on another scramble in front of the Devils' net for his 25th of the season. The Rangers outshot the Devils 15-4 in the period.

**Blue Jackets 4, Sharks 0**

Sergei Bobrovsky recorded his second shutout in two nights, Matt Duchene scored his first goal for his new team and the Columbus Blue Jackets beat the San Jose Sharks 4-0 on Saturday.

Bobrovsky had 26 saves and got shutouts in both games of a back-to-back for the first time in his career. He was in the net when the Blue Jackets beat Ottawa 3-0 on Friday night, hours after the Senators traded Duchene to Columbus.

Duchene, making his home debut after being dealt for a pair of top prospects and draft picks, tapped in a loose puck after a rebound early in the second period to put the Blue Jackets up 2-0.

Cam Atkinson had a goal and an assist, and Boone Jenner and Pierre-Luc Dubois also scored for the Blue Jackets, who have won seven of their last 10. They started the day in third place in the Metropolitan Division.

Martin Jones had 19 saves for the Sharks before being replaced by Aaron Dell halfway through the third period after Columbus scored for the fourth time. Dell had three more stops.

San Jose is in second place behind Calgary in the Pacific Division.

A charging Jenner collected a great centering pass from Josh Anderson and finished from the slot to get the Blue Jackets on the board nine minutes into the game.

Duchene tallied 59 seconds into the second period. Late in the period, with San Jose's Micheal Haley in the penalty box for interference, Atkinson poked in a puck that got loose behind Jones, snapping a six-game power-play drought.



Florida Panthers defenseman Mark Pysyk (right) and Los Angeles Kings right wing Dustin Brown battle for control of the puck during the second period on Saturday in Sunrise. Brown scored the lone goal for the Kings in the 6-1 loss, their seventh straight.

AP PHOTO

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■ HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING: Class 2A-District 10 Championship

# Charlotte dominates field to take district title

By **SCOTT LOCKWOOD**  
SUN CORRESPONDENT

VENICE – Outside of winning another district championship, the Charlotte Tarpons wrestling team had one big goal at Saturday's Class 2A-District 10 tournament: qualify all 14 of their wrestlers for the upcoming regional tournament.

They met that goal with relative ease.

The Tarpons had 11 wrestlers win individual district titles, and the other three starters qualified by placing in the top four in the annual meet at Venice High School. Charlotte also claimed the district title, outscoring runner-up Venice 275-153.

Charlotte freshman Andrew Austin opened up the finals on a winning note, defeating Venice junior Lauren Stone on a technical fall in the 106-pound final. Stone, who won her third straight girls wrestling state championship last weekend and qualified for the boys state finals a year ago, also earned a regional berth.

Defending state champion Donovan Cataldi (120-pound class), Malachi Schaeffer (126), Ted Gjerde (132), Richard Lawyer (138), Cody Rice (145), Cade Newton (182), Anthony Andou (195) and Lucas Willis – another former state champion – won the 152-pound title and claimed his 200th career victory.

The 170-pound tilt between Charlotte's Sean Taft and Palmetto's Matt Wyatt was one of the day's best. The duo squared off to a scoreless draw in the

first two rounds before Taft scored 7 quick points in the final minute to earn a 7-2 win.

"He's a first-year kid and he's come a long way this year," Charlotte coach Evan Robinson said.

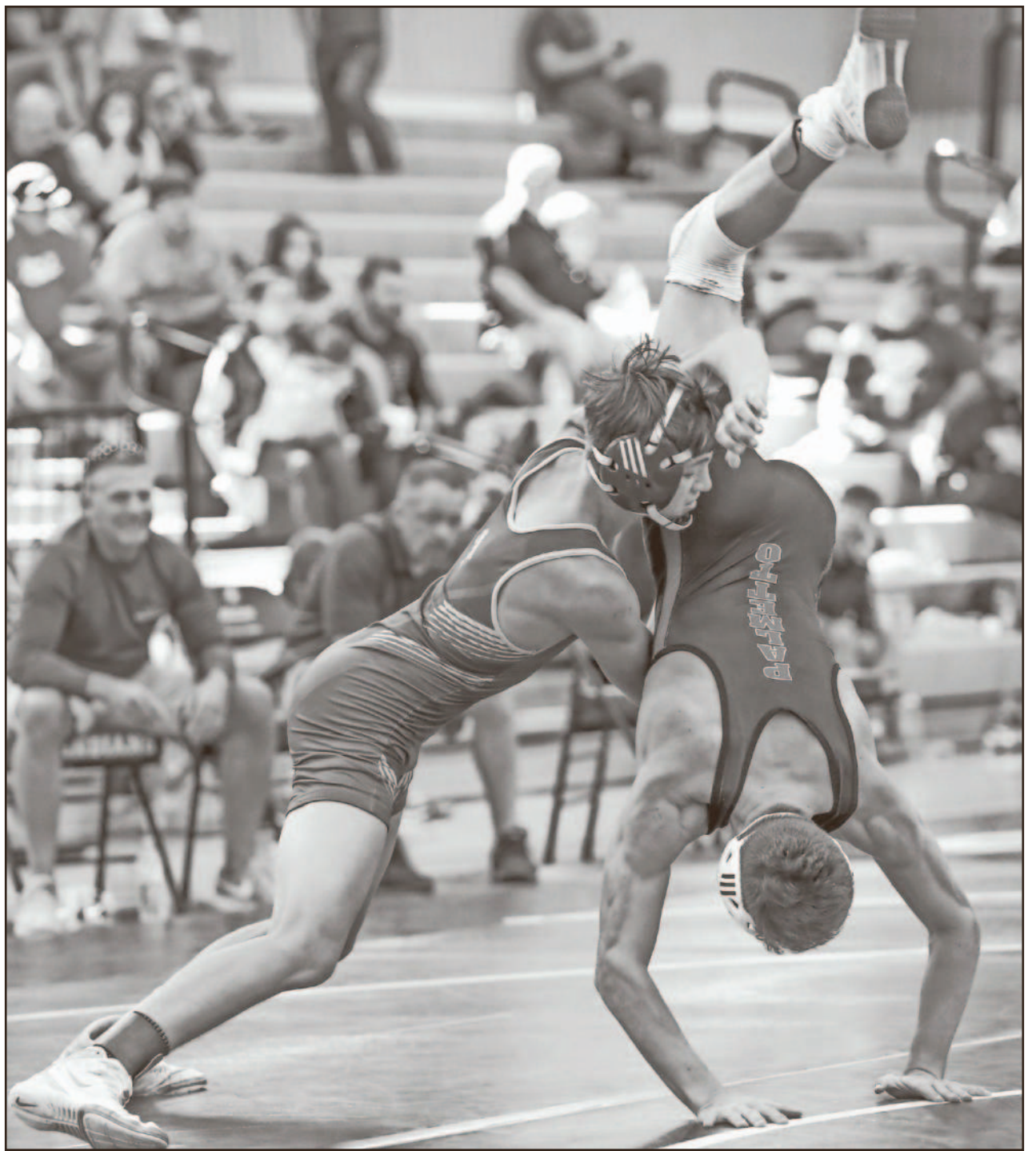
Charlotte's Jose Valdez and Venice's Jack Marble staged an epic battle for the 220-pound title. Marble kept things close for most of the match until Valdez took him to the mat and came away with a pin. The Charlotte senior improved to 46-1 on the season.

"The sky is the limit and Jose has his sights set on a state title," Robinson said of Valdez, a state runner-up a year ago. "He's working hard and hopefully he can get to that goal. He's a hungry kid and he fights for every moment."

Patrick Nolan (113), Matthew Andou (160) and Taylor Johnson (285) also earned regional berths for the Tarpons, who will host a Class 2A regional tournament next Saturday at the Wally Keller Gym.

"Everybody pretty much did their job," Robinson said. "You couldn't ask for more. With 14 guys next week that's a lot of points we can score. Hopefully we don't leave many on the table...and that our home field advantage pays off."

Jack Stone won the 113-pound title for Venice, while Tyler Conway (138), Eric Beck (120), Josh Stewart (160), Elijah Day (170) and Will Litzler (182) qualified for the regional.



SUN PHOTO BY JUSTIN FENNEL

Charlotte's Donovan Cataldi takes Palmetto's Colby Smith to the mat during Saturday's Class 2A-District 10 wrestling tournament at Venice High School. Cataldi went on to win the 120-pound district title over Smith via pinfall and improved to 42-4 for the season.

"We competed really well," Venice coach Pat Ryan said.

"In tournaments like this there's people that wrestle at and above

expectations...and unfortunately there's times where kids wrestle below expectations. The key is to punch your ticket to next

week, where everybody is 0-0 again." Port Charlotte's Nick Sloane (126), Okten Logue (220) and Anthony Mandile

(runner-up in 285) qualified for Saturday's regional tournament. The Pirates finished sixth in team points with 30.

■ HIGH SCHOOL WRESTLING: Class 1A-District 12 Championship

# Mantas capture district title, send 12 to regionals

By **BEN BAUGH**  
STAFF WRITER

The Lemon Bay Manta Rays wrestling team sent an authoritative message Saturday afternoon, by dominating the competition in District 12, and in the process sending 12 wrestlers to regionals.

Their definitive victory in the District 12 tournament, saw them better runner-up Immokalee by a margin of 216.5 to 110.5, and with the victory cementing their status as one of the area's premier teams.

"We have a core group of guys who we figured would do well, and they have," said Mike Schyck, Lemon Bay wrestling coach.

"I have a few other young kids who came out this year, and have steadily improved. Louis Baldor just keeps getting better."

The seven Mantas that captured district honors were Bryce Taranto, Eric Dagg, Derick Dagg, Lance Schyck, Tyson Davids, Louis Baldor and Brock LaVallee. Luke Heffner and Marshall Locke advance to the regionals based on their runner-up performances.

Jonathon Hartsikov, Shae Dixon and Kyle Dragon placed third and will be moving on.

Imagine School at North Port also took part in the district tournament and has seven wrestlers moving onto regionals this Friday and Saturday.

The Sharks continued to evolve throughout the season, and their persistence and hard work paid off, with a strong performance when it counted most.

"It's been a fantastic season watching these boys grow into the sport," said Tyler Crane, Imagine High School at North Port wrestling coach.

"I've focused a lot of energy into building a team. We lost a lot of kids last season. Some graduates and a few transfers when Coach McCabe left," Crane said.

"But we were able to take a group of 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th graders, who were led by two seniors, and put together a season and build our team."

Fr. Caleb McRae, 106-pound division, second place; eighth-grader Koen Hoffman, 126-pounds, second place; Sr. Jonathan Thornhill, fourth place; eighth-grader Tyler Rodriguez, 138-pounds, third place; eight-grader Nick At, a two-time regional qualifier, 145-pounds, third place; Fr. Aksel Johnson, 170-pounds, third place and Sr. Nick Berhalter, 195-pounds, third place, are advancing to regionals.

"We will be carrying this momentum into the post season, and more importantly the off-season," said Crane.

"We're hungry, the season isn't over yet, and we're excited for the next."



SUN PHOTO BY TIM KERN

Kyle Dragon tries to make his move on a tough Dunbar opponent in the Class 1A-District 12 championships on Saturday.

## LOCAL PREP BRIEFS

### BASEBALL

**Snowbird Baseball Classic**  
The Northeastern Howlin' Huskies defeated the South Dakota State Jackrabbits, 12-9.

### SOFTBALL

The North Port Lady Bobcats defeated the Island Coast Gators Friday night, 17-0. The game was mercy ruled after three innings. The Lady Bobcats raised their record to 3-0.

## PREP SPORTS CALENDAR

### SUNDAY

■ **Baseball**  
RAYS: Yankees at Rays, 1:05 p.m.  
**Snowbird Baseball Classic**  
South Dakota State vs. Northeastern, North County Recreation Park, 10 a.m.

### MONDAY

■ **Baseball**  
RAYS: Miami at Rays, 1:05 p.m.  
Port Charlotte at Charlotte, Season opener, 7 p.m.  
■ **Tennis**  
Charlotte Boys and Girls Tennis vs. Ida Baker, Home, 3 p.m.



## WORLD GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

# Johnson overcomes tree trouble for four-shot lead

By **DOUG FERGUSON**  
AP GOLF WRITER

MEXICO CITY — Dustin Johnson watched a six-shot lead shrink to two before putting together enough birdies Saturday for a 5-under 66 and a four-shot lead over Rory McIlroy going into the final round of the Mexico Championship.

Johnson nearly threw away his six-shot lead through eight holes when McIlroy made a 35-foot birdie putt on No. 9, and then Johnson ran into some serious tree trouble on the 10th hole. He hit trees with three consecutive shots and had to two-putt from across the green to salvage a double bogey.

It was his first score worse than par at Chapultepec Golf Club this week.

And it was his last of the day.

"I didn't let it bother me because I knew I was playing well and there were plenty of holes I could make birdie," Johnson said.

Johnson answered with two straight birdies, sandwiched two birdies around a big par save, and restored a cushion going into Sunday. McIlroy got no closer than two shots all day and had to settle for a 68.

No one else was closer than seven shots of the lead.

Tiger Woods pulled within four shots after Johnson's blunder, but his hopes ended on the

greens.

Woods had a 5-iron from the middle of the fairway on the par-5 15th, put it into a bunker, blasted out weakly to 25 feet and four-putted for a double bogey, with the last three putts from just outside 3 feet.

He followed that with a three-putt bogey on the 16th, and a birdie on the final hole gave him a 70. Woods, who hit 16 greens in regulation, was 10 shots behind and in no mood to speak to anyone after the round.

Johnson, the only player to capture all four World Golf Championships, is going for his sixth WGC title and his 20th career victory on the PGA Tour, which would make him a lifetime member at age 34.

McIlroy did his best to hang around. He made back-to-back bogeys on the front nine that put him six behind, and then ran off three straight birdies to close the gap. He missed a 3-foot par putt on the 14th hole and was suddenly left a tall order for Sunday.

It's even tougher on everyone else.

Masters champion Patrick Reed finished with three straight birdies for a 64 and was in the group seven shots behind with Patrick Cantlay (65), Sergio Garcia (69) and Cameron Smith (68).

Reed started birdie-eagle and missed plenty of short putts. He said he would need as many opportunities on Sunday



AP PHOTO

**Dustin Johnson hits the ball on the third hole during the third round of the WGC-Mexico Championship at the Chapultepec Golf Club in Mexico City. Johnson has a four-shot lead over Rory McIlroy going into the final round on Sunday.**

and even a better score.

"It's going to take a really special day tomorrow," Reed said.

"I don't think 7 under is going to get it done. I'm thinking it's going to at least take 10 (under) to maybe even a 59 depending on how he finishes the day."

Johnson had a two-shot lead to start the third round over McIlroy and Matt Kuchar, whose hopes for a Mexican

sweep of PGA Tour events fizzled with a 79. Johnson seized command on the second hole, when he hit a driver over the trees

on the 367-yard hole, hopped it onto the green to 4 feet and made the putt for eagle.

He holed a 10-foot birdie on No. 5 and kept getting looks at medium-range birdie attempts without making them.

The 10th hole was merely a detour.

Johnson hit driver off the tee into the trees and had a reasonable gap through the trees. But his lob wedge came out high, hit a tree and bounced into the bushes. Johnson was able to get a free drop from a sprinkler line, but that did him no good. His

next shot came out soft and struck a tree trunk, rolling into the bushes. He did well to punch that away from the bunker and onto the far left side of the green.

McIlroy smashed his drive and flipped a wedge into short range for birdie, making it a two-shot swing.

That was as close as anyone came to Johnson, who looks poised to win for the second time in four weeks after his victory at the Saudi International.

Then again, Johnson had a six-shot lead in

the HSBC Champions in Shanghai at the end of 2017 and wound up tying a PGA Tour record for largest 54-hole lead lost in the final round. He has a 4-3 record on the PGA Tour when he has the lead.

"D.J. is playing very well. He seems to be comfortable on this golf course. He's going to be very tough to beat," McIlroy said.

"Tomorrow I'm going to have to go out there and probably shoot something similar to what I shot the first day (63) to have a chance."

## NHL

# Only history's best are ahead of the Lightning

By **JOHN ROMANO**  
TAMPA BAY TIMES

TAMPA — They are architects of history. They built teams, and they built legacies.

One is a Hall of Fame coach, the other a Hall of Fame executive. They were rivals for parts of two decades, and partners for parts of two others. Combined, they have 21 Stanley Cups on their resumes.

And for the past four months Scotty Bowman and Jimmy Devellano have been watching, sometimes together, as the Lightning has shredded the league and flirted with the NHL record of 62 victories.

Their NHL record of 62 victories.

Only two teams have ever eclipsed the 60-win mark, the 1977 Canadiens (60) and the 1996 Red Wings (62). Devellano

was the general manager for that Detroit team, and Bowman coached them both.

So what is their assessment of Tampa Bay?

The Lightning could skate with either team. "I'd like to see the Lightning play that Detroit team," said Devellano. "They're very similar. All kinds of talent, goals coming from different places, a stud on defense, a good goaltender. Oh yeah, the Lightning could have played with Detroit."

"Most teams you can look at and say they need better goaltending or better this or better that," Bowman said. "You don't say that with these guys. They're deep, they're very good. Very impressive."

Bowman, 85, and Devellano, 76, know this first-hand. Both retired in the Sarasota area, and both are frequent

spectators at Amalie Arena.

They agree that, in some ways, what the Lightning has done in 2018-19 is already as remarkable as their Montreal and Detroit teams in the 1970s and 1990s. There is one champion every year, but truly great teams have been harder to come by in the salary cap era.

Building a stellar roster today requires sharp accountants as well as dedicated scouts. Even if the Lightning falls short of 62 wins or 130 points — and Tampa Bay is on pace for both — it will still likely be the most dominant regular season since the cap was instituted 15 years ago.

In that sense, the Lightning is a bit different from the Canadiens and Red Wings. Those teams were part of legitimate dynasties, built during a

time when it was easier to keep a roster intact.

That '77 Montreal team was in the middle of a seven-year stretch with five Stanley Cup titles. The '96 Red Wings lost in the Western Conference finals, but went on to win three of the next six Stanley Cups.

The Lightning may not have that luxury. Winning the Presidents' Trophy for the best regular season record is a grand accomplishment, but the window for a Stanley Cup will not stay open long.

"The Presidents' Trophy is a wonderful thing. I give it more credit than fans and media do," Devellano said.

"But our sport isn't geared that way. The big thing is the Stanley Cup, and that's the way it is. We learned that lesson in Detroit. That's a lesson the Lightning needs to pay attention to."

Tampa Bay will not likely match either Montreal or Detroit for sheer star power. The Canadiens had nine Hall of Famers on that '77 team, not including Bowman. The Red Wings had seven, plus Bowman.

Montreal also dominated the league in ridiculous ways. The Canadiens outscored their opponents by 216 goals, or an average of 2.7 goals a game.

While those numbers were particularly gaudy, Bowman says its an example of the Lightning having a tougher schedule in a league now geared for parity.

"I don't remember a lot of teams that were ever expected to give us a challenge," Bowman said.

"What the Lightning is doing is hard. I know it's a little easier to score now, but not at the rate they're scoring. They

can get 3 or 4 goals in a period. They've done a nice job adding young guys like (Brayden) Point, (Mathieu) Joseph, (Anthony) Cirelli and Yanni Gourde with (Steven) Stamkos and (Nikita) Kucherov and (Tyler) Johnson. There's not much difference from one line to the next."

So can Lightning players do it? Can they match Detroit's 62 wins? Can they join the Canadiens and Red Wings as the NHL's only 60-game winners?

"They're so far ahead, I don't even check the standings," Devellano said. "What do they need to do?"

It would take a 15-5 finish to catch the Red Wings, or 13-7 to reach 60 wins.

"Oh hell yes, they can do that," Devellano said.

"I'd like to see it. They're a good group."

## MOTTOLA

FROM PAGE 1

game. That you don't anticipate, until you go through it."

Those vagaries associated with the game, and the opportunity to play for a number of organizations would play a significant role in Mottola's career, providing him with the necessary tools to become a Major League Baseball coach.

"At the time, the journey wasn't too fun, and what happens when you're a prospect, everybody tinkers with you and wants to give you that last thing to get you over the hump," said Mottola.

"Then I became a free agent and started bouncing around and learning things on my own terms."

He had a breakout year for the Syracuse SkyChiefs in 2000, hitting .309, with 33 Home Runs, 102 RBI and 30 stolen

bases, earning the International League Most Valuable Player Award.

"It came together in 2000, but you get a label in this game," said Mottola.

"As you get older, you wait for injuries, you don't control your destiny anymore. I finally got to have fun again, be me and do the things that I wanted to do, rather than the things the Reds wanted me to do. And that's when I discovered a lot of stuff."

Mottola, who played for the Reds, Blue Jays and Orioles, returned the Major Leagues in 2001 with the Florida Marlins.

"That was kind of cool to return home, so that kind of checked a box," said Mottola. "It's one of those things, I bounced around pretty good for 16 years, my last eight or nine years, I knew what I was doing. My first eight or nine, I had no idea. It really helped me a lot, hearing so many

voices in those organizations and being able to apply it now."

Mottola's career as a player ended in 2007, and he was looking forward to life after baseball, his second child having just been born, with the intention of staying involved in sport, having a number of friends in the NFL, but he received a propitious phone call from someone who was always a great believer in his ability. Former Major League player, New York Mets bench coach and current Marlins director of player development, Dick Scott.

Scott, who was working as the Blue Jays director of player development at the time, reached out to Mottola, with a proposition that would be life-transforming.

"He called me in January, and said, 'Are you really done.' and I said, 'Yes, it physically hurts too much to get ready

every day. I feel like I gave it all I had, and I'm done.' He invited me to spring training and I got really mad at him. He said, 'I think you'll really like this.' It was a very loose first year of doing it, and I ended up loving it. I kind of saw it through."

Mottola continued to rise up through the organization, eventually reaching the major league level as the Blue Jays hitting coach.

A couple of former major league outfielders played an influential role in Mottola's career.

"Dwayne Murphy really impacted me as a player, then he impacted me as a coach," said Mottola. "I got to see him turn around Edwin Encarnacion and Jose Bautista. The things he did, I was part of it as a player, I was part of it as a coach. And with Cito Gaston there, knowing about hitting, I really got advanced fast being

around those types of guys who are forward thinking that don't really get the credit they deserve."

It's that evolution that's served Mottola well as he continues to progress as a coach. The aggressive style that he brought from the Blue Jays organization and the analytical side applied by the Rays, and the Rays' front office's approach has allowed him to grow.

"I'm in a great organization now, the way we think outside the box, because I know the traditional baseball style of hitting doesn't work," said Mottola. "Now all of these hitting thoughts are coming in. It's just been an enjoyable ride on the coaching side that the playing side prepared me for. I give a lot of credit to the front office, the way they discover players, so we have a plan going in. I think it's been a great blend of growth."



# SCOREBOARD

## PRO BASKETBALL

### NBA

#### Eastern Conference

W	L	PCT	GB
Milwaukee	44	14	.759
Toronto	44	16	.733
Indiana	40	20	.667
Philadelphia	38	22	.633
Boston	37	22	.627
Brooklyn	31	30	.508
Charlotte	28	31	.475
Detroit	27	30	.474
Miami	26	31	.456
Orlando	27	33	.450
Washington	24	36	.400
Atlanta	20	40	.333
Chicago	15	44	.254
Cleveland	14	46	.233
New York	11	48	.186

#### Western Conference

W	L	PCT	GB
Golden State	42	16	.724
Denver	40	18	.690
Oklahoma City	38	20	.655
Portland	36	23	.610
Houston	33	25	.569
Utah	32	26	.552
San Antonio	33	27	.550
L.A. Clippers	33	27	.550
Sacramento	30	28	.517
L.A. Lakers	29	30	.492
Minnesota	28	30	.483
Dallas	26	32	.448
New Orleans	27	34	.443
Memphis	23	38	.377
Phoenix	11	50	.180

### Friday's Games

Chicago 110, Orlando 109  
Indiana 126, New Orleans 111  
Charlotte 123, Washington 110  
Toronto 120, San Antonio 117  
Detroit 125, Atlanta 122  
Minnesota 115, New York 104  
L.A. Clippers 112, Memphis 106  
Denver 114, Dallas 104  
Oklahoma City 148, Utah 147, 2OT

### Saturday's Games

Portland 130, Philadelphia 115  
Atlanta 120, Phoenix 112  
Brooklyn 117, Charlotte 115  
Cleveland 112, Memphis 107  
Indiana 119, Washington 112  
New Orleans 128, L.A. Lakers 115  
Detroit at Miami, 7:30 p.m.  
Boston at Chicago, late  
Sacramento at Oklahoma City, late  
Houston at Golden State, late  
Minnesota at Milwaukee, late  
Dallas at Utah, late

### Today's Games

Orlando at Toronto, 3:30 p.m.  
L.A. Clippers at Denver, 5 p.m.  
San Antonio at New York, 7:30 p.m.  
**Monday's Games**  
Golden State at Charlotte, 7 p.m.  
Indiana at Detroit, 7 p.m.  
Portland at Cleveland, 7 p.m.  
Phoenix at Miami, 7:30 p.m.  
San Antonio at Brooklyn, 7:30 p.m.  
Atlanta at Houston, 8 p.m.  
L.A. Lakers at Memphis, 8 p.m.  
Milwaukee at Chicago, 8 p.m.  
Philadelphia at New Orleans, 8 p.m.  
Sacramento at Minnesota, 8 p.m.  
Dallas at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

### Trail Blazers 130, 76ers 115

Harkless 6-9 0-0 13, Aminu 5-9 5-5 15, Nurkic 9-13 6-7 24, Lillard 5-10 6-6 17, McCollum 6-17 2-2 15, Layman 3-8 2-2 8, Labissiere 0-0 0-0 0, Collins 2-3 0-0 4, Kanter 6-14 4-5 16, Curry 4-7 2-11, Trent Jr. 0-1 0-0 0, Hood 3-8 0-0 7, Totals 49-99 27-29 130.  
**PHILADELPHIA (115)**  
Butler 5-9 5-5 15, Harris 8-14 1-1 20, Marjanovic 2-5 0-2 4, Bismimons 11-17 7-8 29, Redick 1-10 4-7, Ennis III 0-2 2-2 2, Bolden 3-4 0-0 7, Scott 5-8 2-4 15, Johnson 1-2 0-0 2, McConnell 3-9 0-0 6, Simmons 3-7 1-2 8, Totals 42-87 22-28 115.

### Portland 27, 32 41 30 -130

**PHILADELPHIA** 25 31 26 33 -115  
3-Point Goals—Portland 5-23 (Harkless 1-1, Hood 1-3, Curry 1-3, McCollum 1-5, Lillard 1-5, Trent Jr. 0-1, Collins 0-1, Aminu 0-2, Layman 0-2), Philadelphia 9-24 (Scott 3-4, Harris 3-7, Bolden 1-2, J.Simmons 1-2, Redick 1-5, Ennis III 0-1, Johnson 0-1, Butler 0-3). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Portland 53 (Layman 11), Philadelphia 33 (Harris 8). Assists—Portland 29 (Lillard 8), Philadelphia 28 (B.Simmons 10). Total Fouls—Portland 23, Philadelphia 23. Technicals—Nurkic, Kanter, B.Simmons, Scott. A—20,619 (20,478).

### Hawks 120, Suns 112

**PHOENIX (112)**  
Oubre Jr. 5-19 1-2 14, Jackson 3-6 0-0 6, Ayton 6-8 2-2 14, Johnson 10-16 5-6 29, Booker 8-23 8-26, Bridges 2-10 0-0 6, Bender 1-2 1-2 4, Holmes 2-2 0-0 4, Melton 2-3 0-0 4, Daniels 2-4 0-0 5, Totals 41-93 17-20 112.  
**ATLANTA (120)**  
Prince 6-15 7-9 21, Collins 4-10 10-10 19, Dedmon 7-15 3-4 18, Young 5-14 11-12 23, Bazemore 9-19 0-0 23, Bembry 2-5 1-2 5, Spellman 4-6 0-1 9, Len 0-2 0-0 4, Adams 0-1 0-0 0, Carter 0-2 0-0 0, Anderson 1-3 0-0 2, Totals 38-92 32-38 120.

### Phoenix 33 26 28 25 -112

**ATLANTA** 33 20 34 -120  
3-Point Goals—Phoenix 13-37 (Johnson 4-6, Oubre Jr. 3-9, Booker 2-6, Bridges 2-8, Bender 1-2, Daniels 1-3, Melton 0-1, Jackson 0-2), Atlanta 12-33 (Bazemore 5-9, Prince 2-6, Young 2-6, Spellman 1-2, Collins 1-3, Dedmon 1-4, Len 0-1, Adams 0-1, Carter 0-1). Fouled Out—Oubre Jr. Rebounds—Phoenix 41 (Ayton 12), Atlanta 50 (Collins 14). Assists—Phoenix 25 (Booker 8), Atlanta 22 (Young 8). Total Fouls—Phoenix 29, Atlanta 22. Technicals—Phoenix coach Suns (Defensive three second), Jackson, Phoenix coach Igor Kokoskov. A—15,214 (18,118).

### Nets 117, Hornets 115

**BROOKLYN (117)**  
Harris 5-7 6-6 19, T.Graham 3-6 0-0 7, Allen 4-8 3-6 11, Russell 14-31 6-6 40, LeVert 2-8 0-0 6, Carroll 2-5 4-6 10, Kucurs 2-2 0-0 4, Davis 3-4 1-2 7, Napier 4-10 0-0 10, Crabbe 1-6 0-0 3, Totals 40-87 20-26 117.  
**CHARLOTTE (115)**  
Bridges 2-4 0-0 4, M.Williams 3-7 4-4 11, Zeller 3-9 7-13, Walker 12-28 2-3 32, Batum 4-11 2-2 14, Kidd-Gilchrist 3-6 2-2 9, Biyombo 1-1 4-4 6, Parker 10-16 1-2 21, Lamb 1-3 2-2 4, Monk 0-1 1-2 1. Totals 39-86 25-30 115.

### Brooklyn 34 29 27 27 -117

**CHARLOTTE** 20 30 34 31 -115  
3-Point Goals—Brooklyn 17-43 (Russell 6-15, Harris 3-4, Carroll 2-4, LeVert 2-4, Napier 2-6, T.Graham 1-3, Crabbe 1-5, Allen 0-2), Charlotte 12-35 (Walker 6-15, Batum 4-9, Kidd-Gilchrist 1-1, Lamb 0-2). Fouled Out—Zeller. Rebounds—Brooklyn 42 (Allen 11), Charlotte 42 (Zeller 11). Assists—Brooklyn 23 (Russell 7), Charlotte 15 (Parker 5). Total Fouls—Brooklyn 26, Charlotte 23. A—19,158 (19,077).

### Pacers 119, Wizards 112

**INDIANA (119)**  
Bogdanovic 8-15 0-4 18, Young 9-11 3-3 22, O'Quinn 4-6 0-0 8, Collison 4-7 6-6 15, Matthews 5-9 2-2 14, McDermott 4-7 0-0 12, Sabonis 5-9 3-7 13, Leaf 2-3 0-0 4, Joseph 5-10 0-0 11, Evans 1-6 0-0 2, Totals 47-83 14-22 119.  
**WASHINGTON (112)**  
Ariza 4-10 0-1 8, Green 1-6 2-3 4, Portis 3-7 0-0 7, Satoransky 5-7 0-0 12, Beal 12-22 8-8 35, W.Brown Jr. 3-1 2-1, Parker 4-8 2-3 12, Johnson Jr. 0-1 0-0 0, Bryant 9-11 2-4 23, Randle 4-4 0-0 10, Totals 42-79 15-21 112.

### Indiana 29 36 24 30 -119

**WASHINGTON** 21 29 30 32 -112  
3-Point Goals—Indiana 11-25 (McDermott 4-5, Bogdanovic 2-5, Matthews 2-6, Young 1-1, Collison 1-2, Joseph 1-3, Evans 0-3), Washington 13-35 (Bryant 3-4, Beal 3-8, Randle 2-2, Satoransky 2-3, Parker 2-4,

Portis 1-2, Brown Jr. 0-1, W.Johnson 0-3, Green 0-4, Ariza 0-4). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Indiana 41 (Sabonis 12), Washington 32 (Bryant 12). Assists—Indiana 29 (O'Quinn, Collison 5), Washington 27 (Ariza 7). Total Fouls—Indiana 21, Washington 23. A—19,648 (20,356).

### Cavaliers 112, Grizzlies 107

**MEMPHIS (107)**  
Holiday 4-7 0-0 10, Rabb 4-7 0-0 8, Valanciunas 11-19 2-3 25, Conley 5-12 8-8 18, Bradley 1-5 2-3 4, Parsons 1-7 2-2 4, Miles 1-6 0-0 3, Caboclo 2-5 0-0 4, Noah 5-8 6-10 16, Wright 6-14 2-2 15. Totals 40-90 22-28 107.  
**CLEVELAND (112)**  
Osman 4-9 0-0 11, Love 9-15 8-8 32, Zizic 6-7 6-7 18, Sexton 8-16 0-0 20, Knight 2-5 0-4, Nance Jr. 2-6 0-2 4, Chriss 2-8 1-2 2, Dellavedova 3-7 3-4 10, Nwaba 1-3 0-0 0, Clarkson 2-10 0-0 5, Stauskas 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 39-88 18-23 112.

### Memphis 24 32 28 23 -107

**CLEVELAND** 37 26 19 30 -112  
3-Point Goals—Memphis 5-25 (Holiday 2-4, Valanciunas 1-1, Miles 1-3, Wright 1-3, Bradley 0-2, Rabb 0-2, Conley 0-3, Caboclo 0-3, Parsons 0-4), Cleveland 16-42 (Love 9-9, Sexton 4-6, Osman 3-6, Dellavedova 1-4, Chriss 1-5, Clarkson 1-6, Nance Jr. 0-1, Nwaba 0-1, Stauskas 0-1, Knight 0-3). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—Memphis 43 (Valanciunas 11), Cleveland 52 (Love 14), Assists—Memphis 18 (Rabb, Noah 4), Cleveland 25 (Dellavedova 6). Total Fouls—Memphis 21, Cleveland 26. Technicals—Noah, Memphis coach JB Bickerstaff. A—19,432 (20,562).

### Pelicans 128, Lakers 115

**L.A. LAKERS (115)**  
James 11-17 2-6 27, Kuzma 7-14 1-2 16, McGee 4-4 2-2 10, Ingram 10-18 6-9 29, Bullock 2-6 3-4 9, Chandler 0-0 0-0 0, Wagner 2-4 0-0 4, Caruso 0-0 0-0 0, Rondo 3-5 0-0 7, Stephenson 2-3 0-0 4, Caldwell-Pope 2-6 3-7 7, Hart 1-4 0-0 2. Totals 44-81 17-26 115.

### New Orleans (128)

K.Williams 4-10 0-1 11, Randle 9-17 4-6 24, Okafor 4-7 2-2 10, Payton 5-10 2-2 14, Holiday 10-18 2-3 27, Johnson 1-4 0-0 2, Diallo 8-8 2-2 18, Jackson 2-10 0-0 5, Clark 7-12 1-1 17, Totals 50-96 13-16 128.  
**L.A. LAKERS** 42 27 31 28 -115  
3-Point Goals—L.A. Lakers 10-29 (Ingram 3-4, James 3-6, Bullock 2-4, Rondo 1-3, Kuzma 1-5, Stephenson 0-1, Caldwell-Pope 0-2, Hart 0-2, Wagner 0-2), New Orleans 15-40 (Holiday 5-9, K.Williams 3-7, Payton 2-4, Clark 2-5, Randle 2-7, Jackson 1-6, Johnson 0-2). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—L.A. Lakers 39 (Kuzma 8), New Orleans 41 (Diallo 10). Assists—L.A. Lakers 33 (James 12), New Orleans 31 (Payton 9). Total Fouls—L.A. Lakers 21, New Orleans 21. Technicals—Stephenson. A—18,626 (16,867).

## ODDS

### PREGAME.COM LINE

FAVORITE	LINE	O/U	UNDERDOG
at Toronto	9½	219½	Orlando
at Denver	9	232	L.A. Clippers
San Antonio	8½	221½	at New York

### COLLEGE BASKETBALL

FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG
at UCF	7½	SMU
at S. Illinois	1	Loyola Of Chicago
at IUPUI	5	Green Bay
Villanova	5	at Xavier
at Illinois State	1½	Drake
Cincinnati	6	at UConn
at Michigan	3½	Michigan State
at Ill.-Chicago	9	Milwaukee
at Arizona State	18½	California
at N.C. State	17½	Wake Forest
at Rutgers	Pk	Minnesota
at Arizona	4½	Stanford

### NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

FAVORITE	LINE	UNDERDOG	LINE
at Chicago	-120	Dallas	+110
at Washington	Off	N.Y. Rangers	Off
at Detroit	Off	San Jose	Off
Calgary	-260	at Ottawa	+230
at Minnesota	-109	St. Louis	-101
Winnipeg	-128	at Arizona	+118

Updated odds available at Pregame.com

## TRANSACTIONS

### BASEBALL

**American League**  
CHICAGO WHITE SOX — Agreed to terms with RHP Ervin Santana and OF Preston Tucker on minor league contracts.  
CLEVELAND INDIANS — Signed RHP Tyler Clippard to a minor league contract.  
DETROIT TIGERS — Agreed to terms with INF Josh Harrison on a one-year contract.  
SEATTLE MARINERS — Promoted Joe Bohringer to assistant general manager.  
**National League**  
CINCINNATI REDS — Signed INF Jose Iglesias to a minor league contract.  
NEW YORK METS — Claimed SS Hanser Alberto off waivers from Baltimore.  
ST. LOUIS CARDINALS — Signed OF Jose Martinez to a two-year contract.  
SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS — Designated RHP Jake Barrett for assignment.

### BASKETBALL

**National Basketball Association**  
NBA — Fined Houston G James Harden \$25,000 for public criticism of officiating.

### GOLF

USGA — Elected Mark Newell president.

### HOCKEY

**National Hockey League**  
CAROLINA HURRICANES — Activated C Jordan Staal from injured Reserve.  
DALLAS STARS — Traded D Connor Garrick and a 2019 third-round draft pick to New Jersey for D Ben Lovejoy. Assigned G Colton Point from Texas (AHL) to Idaho (ECHL).  
DETROIT RED WINGS — Assigned G Harris Sateri to Grand Rapids (AHL). Recalled RW Filip Zadina from Grand Rapids.  
PITTSBURGH PENGUINS — Recalled D Jeff Taylor from Wheeling (ECHL) to Wilkes-Barre/Scranton (AHL).  
**American Hockey League**  
TEXAS STARS — Assigned G Colton Point to Idaho (ECHL).  
TORONTO MARLIES — Recalled D Sam Jardine from Newfoundland (ECHL).  
WILKES-BARRE/SCRANTON PENGUINS — Recalled F Cam Brown from Wheeling (ECHL).  
**ECHL**  
ECHL — Suspended Rapid City coach Daniel Tetrault three games.  
BRAMPTON BEAST — Released F Stefano Pezzetta.  
CINCINNATI CYCLONES — Released G Josh Taylor as emergency backup.  
KANSAS CITY MAVERICKS — Loaned F Jared VanWormer to Colorado (AHL).  
MANCHESTER MONARCHS — Traded D Eric Schurhammer and F Zeb Knutson to Indy. TOLEDO WALLEYE — Released G Derick Burton as emergency backup.

### SOCCER

**Major League Soccer**  
PHILADELPHIA UNION — Traded F CJ Sapong to Chicago for general and targeted allocation money.

## COLLEGE BASKETBALL

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

**THE AP TOP 25 RESULTS/SCHEDULE**  
All times Eastern  
**Friday's Games**  
No. 21 Iowa 76, Indiana 70, OT

### RESULTS

**SATURDAY'S GAMES**  
**EAST**  
Albany (NY) 84, UMBG 75  
Boston U 72, Loyola (Md.) 65  
Brown 68, Dartmouth 65  
Bryant 81, Mount St. Mary's 58  
Colgate 93, Navy 71  
Drexel 68, Delaware 60  
Duke 75, Syracuse 65  
Fairleigh Dickinson 74, Wagner 66  
Hartford 75, Mass.-Lowell 73  
Harvard 88, Yale 86  
James Madison 104, Hofstra 99, OT  
LIU Brooklyn 69, St. Francis (Pa.) 66  
Marquette 76, Providence 58  
Md.-Eastern Shore 62, Delaware St. 56  
Northeastern 73, Towson 58  
Penn 68, Cornell 50  
Richmond 84, La Salle 75  
Robert Morris 67, St. Francis Brooklyn 62  
Sacred Heart 80, Central Connecticut 62  
St. Bonaventure 74, Fordham 53  
Temple 84, Tulsa 73  
UMass 80, Saint Joseph's 79  
Vermont 69, Binghamton 63  
Maine at Stony Brook, late  
Seton Hall at St. John's, late  
Columbia at Princeton, late  
**SOUTH**  
Alabama 68, Vanderbilt 61  
Alcorn St. 74, Alabama St. 69, OT  
Austin Peay 92, UT Martin 78  
Belmont 97, SIU-Edwardsville 75  
Bethune-Cookman 67, Florida A&M 54  
Campbell 74, Longwood 72  
Clemson 76, Boston College 66  
Coastal Carolina 95, Georgia St. 82  
Coll. of Charleston 84, Elon 74  
Duquesne 79, George Mason 78  
Florida 79, FAU 76  
Flu 64, Missouri 60  
Florida Gulf Coast 78, Kennesaw St. 56  
Georgia Southern 92, Appalachian St. 69  
Hampton 74, Radford 71  
High Point 87, Gardner-Webb 79  
Howard 74, Coppin St. 73  
Jackson St. 71, Grambling St. 60  
Jacksonville St. 104, E. Kentucky 101, 2OT  
Kentucky 80, Auburn 53  
LSU 82, Tennessee 80, OT  
Maryland 72, Ohio St. 62  
Mercer 74, Chattanooga 69  
Miami 80, Georgia Tech 65  
Middle Tennessee 86, Charlotte 67  
Mississippi 72, Georgia 71  
Mississippi St. 76, South Carolina 61  
NC A&T 63, SC State 62  
NC Central 78, Savannah St. 69  
NJIT 77, Jacksonville 73  
New Orleans 60, McNeese St. 51  
Nicholls 100, Cent. Arkansas 57  
Norfolk St. 75, Morgan St. 74  
North Carolina 77, Florida St. 59  
North Florida 75, Liberty 70  
East Carolina at Louisiana Tech, late  
Old Dominion 67, W. Kentucky 63  
Presbyterian 71, UNC-Asheville 55  
South Alabama 68, Troy 52  
Southern U. 59, Alabama A&M 49  
Stetson 63, North Alabama 60  
The Citadel 87, Samford 83, OT  
UAB 76, Southern Miss. 72, OT  
VCU 85, George Washington 57  
Virginia 64, Louisville 52  
William & Mary 71, UNC-Wilmington 63  
Winthrop 80, Charleston Southern 78, 2OT  
Wofford 72, Furman 54  
Cleveland St. at N. Kentucky, late  
VMI at W. Carolina, late  
Columbus 4, San Jose 0  
North Texas at Louisiana Tech, late  
East Carolina at Tulane, late  
SE Missouri at Murray St., late  
E. Illinois at Tennessee St., late  
Alabama A&M at Southern U., late  
Morehead St. at Tennessee Tech, late

### WAKE FOREST AT NC STATE, 6 p.m.

### MIDWEST

Green Bay at IUPUI, 1 p.m.  
Villanova at Xavier, 1:30 p.m.  
Drake at Illinois St., 2 p.m.  
Michigan St. at Michigan, 3:45 p.m.  
Loyola of Chicago at S. Illinois, 4 p.m.  
Milwaukee at Ill.-Chicago, 4:12 p.m.  
**FAR WEST**  
California at Arizona St., 6 p.m.  
Stanford at Arizona, 8 p.m.

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

**THE AP TOP 25 RESULTS/SCHEDULE**  
All times Eastern  
**Friday's Games**  
UCLA 74, No. 2 Oregon 69  
No. 7 Stanford 56, Arizona 54  
Butler 61, No. 11 Marquette 57  
No. 12 Oregon State 68, Southern Cal 61  
California 69, No. 17 Arizona State 69  
No. 24 Drake 66, Evansville 39  
**Saturday's Games**  
No. 1 Baylor 73, No. 20 Iowa State 60  
No. 15 Gonzaga 64, San Francisco 44  
No. 19 Texas 81, Texas Tech 57  
No. 25 Rice 59, North Texas 47  
**Today's Games**  
No. 2 Oregon vs. Southern Cal, 2 p.m.  
No. 3 UConn at Tulsa, 3 p.m.  
No. 4 Louisville vs. Boston College, 2 p.m.  
No. 6 Mississippi State vs. Vanderbilt, 2 p.m.  
No. 7 Stanford vs. No. 17 Arizona State, 4 p.m.  
No. 9 N.C. State at North Carolina, Noon  
No. 11 Marquette vs. Xavier, 3 p.m.  
No. 12 Oregon State vs. UCLA, 4 p.m.  
No. 13 South Carolina at Tennessee, 4 p.m.  
No. 14 Miami vs. No. 22 Florida State, Noon  
No. 16 Kentucky vs. LSU, 2 p.m.  
No. 23 South Dakota at South Dakota State, 2 p.m.  
No. 24 Drake vs. Indiana State, 3 p.m.

## PRO HOCKEY

### NHL

#### Eastern Conference

GP	W	L	OT	PTS	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	62	47	11	4	98	244
Boston	62	36	17	9	81	185
N.Y. Islanders	60	35	18	7	77	174
Toronto	60	36	20	4	76	210
Washington	62	34	21	7	75	207
Columbus	61	35	23	3	73	195
Montreal	61	33	21	7		



## ■ MLB

# Jake of all trades: Indians counting on Bauers

Indians hoping former Tampa Bay Rays infielder can offset loss of run producers in lineup

By **GABRIELLA KREUZ**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

GOODYEAR, Ariz. — The Cleveland Indians are heading into the 2019 season missing some big bats from last year's lineup. They hope Jake Bauers brought one from Tampa.

Bauers, who came over in a December trade with the Rays, is being counted on to help fill the power void left with the departures of sluggers Edwin Encarnacion and Yonder Alonso in trades and the Indians' decision not to re-sign All-Star Michael Brantley as a free agent.

As the three-time defending AL Central champions contend with unusually chilly and wet weather that has dumped an inch of rain on this arid area the past two days — significant for a region that typically only gets about eight inches a year — the 23-year-old Bauers has been getting in work to make sure he sprays the ball around this season.

"I'm trying to use the whole field again, trying to stay left center-center field and open everything up as opposed to just kind of pulling the ball too much," said Bauers, who batted .201 with 11 home runs and 46 RBIs in 96 games after being brought up by the Rays last season.

This year, Bauers is

optimistic he can make an impact in all facets of the game.

"Getting on base, maybe taking the extra base when I can, driving in runs, basically just doing whatever the situation calls for," the easygoing Bauers said while sipping coffee in the clubhouse on Friday. "I think that's what I was taught at a young age and it's something I'm fairly good at."

Bauers can play first base and he'll be one of several candidates to get a shot in a crowded outfield, a topic he discussed in a recent meeting with Indians manager Terry Francona.

"We talked a lot about playing first base or left field and what the mix is going to be like," said Bauers, who spends down time during camp hiking with his 9-month-old Golden Retriever-Cocker Spaniel mix, Praxton. "They just have some things to figure out. I'm sure as we get deeper into the spring, we'll sort that all out."

Bauers has displayed versatility, so what's his biggest strength?

With eyebrows raised, the self-proclaimed bad surfer from Huntington Beach, California, took in the question along with a deep breath.

"Knowing how to win," he said after a short pause. "I think that's



AP PHOTO

**Former Tampa Bay Rays first baseman Jake Bauers came to the Cleveland Indians in an off-season trade and the Indians are hoping the 23-year-old can help them fill the run-producing void left after the team traded Edwin Encarnacion and Yonder Alonso and decided not to re-sign All-Star outfielder Michael Brantley. Bauers could be asked to play the outfield as well as first base.**

an underrated thing in today's game. I think the things you can't put on paper aren't valued as much as they could be."

Bauers could also help the Indians in another vital area. The loss of Brantley, starter Josh Tomlin, All-Star catcher Yan Gomes and closer Cody Allen has created a

vacuum in the clubhouse and dugout.

"We've lost some guys that had terrific leadership qualities," Francona said. "Guys like Tomlin, Brantley, there's no getting around that. We don't need to anoint leaders. The best way to lead is by example."

If Bauers can produce

offensively the way he did for the Rays after his call-up last June, he'll be leading in no time.

Bauers batted .252 with five home runs in his first 36 games last season before the All-Star break. His numbers dipped toward the end of 2018, but the potential is evident.

He's eager to show his

new teammates what he can do, and anxious to start at first when the Indians open their Cactus League season on Saturday against the Cincinnati Reds.

"I think I got those excited butterflies when I think about it," said Bauers, who will bat second.

## Orioles veterans Cashner and Cobb looking to rebound

By **RICH DUBROFF**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SARASOTA, Fla. (AP) — In the new world of the Baltimore Orioles where youth and inexperience are the rule, there are two veteran pitchers hoping to prove they still have some skills.

Last spring training, the Orioles added two free agent pitchers, Andrew Cashner and Alex Cobb, and both had substantial years.

Cashner, who signed a two-year \$16 million contract, was 4-15 with a 5.29 ERA. Cobb, who late in spring training agreed to a four-year, \$57 million deal, had the worst season of his career, going 5-15 with a 4.90 ERA.

"I don't want to touch too much on what we had going on last year," Cobb said. "I felt like there were a lot of times where we were going into competition without a full arsenal, far behind the competition we were facing, and that's frustrating."

Baltimore was derided in the past because they lagged far behind what had become industry standard in the information age.

"It's tough to go in there with a lot of confidence because you know how much more information is being given to the other side because I've been on the other side," Cobb said. "I feel like it's an even playing field now."

Under new general manager Mike Elias and new manager Brandon Hyde, the Orioles are not only more analytically oriented, but they're a lot looser. Even better for the 32-year-old Cashner, they added pitching coach Doug Brocail to the staff last month.

In 2017, Brocail was the Texas Rangers' pitching coach, and Cashner had one of his best seasons under him with an 11-11 record and 3.40 ERA. Brocail is a hard-nosed coach, but he and Hyde, who was the Chicago Cubs' bench coach last year, have brought a different tone to camp, adopting some of Joe Maddon's practices.

As the pitchers took the

field for their first stretch on Feb. 13, suddenly loud music was blaring, a sharp difference from former manager Buck Showalter's tenure.

"It's kind of a lot more fun," Cashner said. "I think it's kind of just trying to let everybody be themselves. It's not so much worrying about certain things as it is showing up and being the best ballplayer you can be. That's kind of the style (Hyde) had under Joe Maddon."

Last season, Cashner missed time with a back strain, a neck strain and a knee injury that ended his season by mid-September. Good fortune and a new pitching coach could help.

"I think my biggest thing is health, first and foremost," Cashner said. "I feel like I kind of struggled with that last year. Working with Doug is a treat for me, and it's special just because he played for so long and me and him mesh really well together."

Along with Dylan Bundy, Cashner and Cobb are the most tenured starting pitchers Hyde has.

"I think experience is important," Hyde said. "Especially the right experience, the right type of people, really good veteran guys do make a major impact in how they prepare, just watching them play."

The 31-year-old Cobb

had an awful start to his first season with Baltimore. Before the All-Star break, Cobb was 2-12 with a 6.41 ERA. He improved markedly in the second half with a 3-3 record and 2.56 ERA.

Cobb is confident that with new management, the Orioles are on the right track.

"I feel like we've got the guys that have been around the league, seen championship caliber organizations," Cobb said. "When you have those guys come in and have seen that much success and tell you that your stuff is good, it does play; we need to tweak a few things here and there, it's not a full rebuild, it gives you confidence."

## RAYS FROM PAGE 1

plan would face myriad issues, topped by St. Petersburg mayor Rick Kriseman making it basically moot, saying he wouldn't even consider it.

Asked if he had talked to the group trying to bring baseball back to Montreal, Sternberg said, "I talk to people all the time. I'm not going to deny not speaking to them, speaking to them, other cities. People are always looking to talk to us. I don't go seek anybody out. ... I can't tell you how many times I get emails from people, 'I was in the game, would you meet with me...'" I try to generally avoid that stuff, and I do."

Sternberg will listen, but reiterated he wants to keep the team "for generations to come" in the Tampa Bay area, and "I don't want to move." But until they have a plan to stay, it's going to be an increasingly popular topic of conversation.

Players, knowing their shelf life with the team, say the uncertainty is not an issue or distraction. "We don't really concern ourselves with that," Matt Duffy said.

For now, anyway.

## Scherzer: Pitch clock disrupts game

By **CHUCK KING**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WEST PALM BEACH — If three-time Cy Young Award winner Max Scherzer has his way, Major League Baseball's pitch clock will die in the South Florida humidity.

"I know as players that's something that MLB is trying to negotiate," the Washington Nationals ace said Saturday night. "I don't think there's negotiation here. As players, it just shouldn't be in the game. Having a pitch clock, if you have ball-strike implications, that's messing with the fabric of the game. There's no clock in baseball and there's no clock in baseball for a reason."

After pushing for an agreement with players last season, management decided on its own to experiment with 20-second pitch clocks during spring training this year, part of the sport's effort to speed the pace of play. Owners have the right to implement the clocks for the regular season but would prefer to reach an agreement with the union.

Under the phase-in designed to allow teams to get used to the concept without fear of penalty, pitchers and batters who were taking too long in Saturday's games were merely warned to hurry up.

When the policy, which has been used in some minor leagues since 2015, is phased in, a ball could be charged in certain situations to pitchers who do not begin their motion in time. Batters delaying the game might draw a strike.

Washington played its Grapefruit League opener Saturday night against Houston. Scherzer came close to using the full 20 seconds on a couple of occasions with runners on base, but the clock didn't expire.

The Ballpark of the Palm Beaches features a pitch clock beneath the main outfield scoreboard and two at ground level behind home plate near each dugout.

"Now having to actually throw to it, I think it's more of a distraction than anything," Scherzer said. "I get that there



AP PHOTO

**Nationals pitcher Max Scherzer, a three-time Cy Young Award winner, said the pitch clock is "messing with the fabric of the game. There's no clock in baseball and there's no clock in baseball for a reason."**

are parts of the game that we can clean up and I think that there can be meaningful changes. I'm fundamentally against this."

A newly elected member of the Major League Baseball Players Association's executive committee, Scherzer felt his first outing dragging a bit, attributing the slow play to a high amount of foul balls. He referenced an article published a few days ago by FiveThirtyEight citing an increase in foul balls as being a major reason for longer games.

"I'm not going to put my name next to this clock," he said.

Scherzer allowed one run on Jake Marisnick's homer, one of three hits he gave up in two innings. He struck out three and walked one while throwing 25 of 44 pitches for strikes.

The home run by Marisnick to straightaway center field led off the game and came on a 2-2 fastball.



## ■ MEN'S BASKETBALL: Roundup

# Barrett, Zion-less No. 1 Duke, stop Syracuse

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — No. 1 Duke played without one of the nation's top players but found a new standout who helped the Blue Devils avenge an earlier loss.

Sophomore Alex O'Connell scored 20 points in his first start of the season while RJ Barrett scored 30 points as the Blue Devils beat Syracuse, 75-65, in ACC basketball Saturday night at the Carrier Dome.

The game was played before a crowd of 35,642, which established a new record for the largest attendance for an on-campus NCAA college basketball game.

The Blue Devils (24-3, 12-2 ACC) played their first game since star freshman Zion Williamson suffered a sprained right knee. The 6-7 All-American candidate was not in uniform for the first time this season.

Duke has played large parts of two games — an 80-78 win at Florida State on Jan. 12 and Wednesday's 88-72 loss to North Carolina — without Williamson after he was injured during those games. But Saturday marked the first time they'd played an entire game without their national player of the year candidate.

Still Duke, which lost 95-91 in overtime to Syracuse on Jan. 14 at Durham, found a way to win.

O'Connell played a big role, scoring 17 of his 20 points in the second half as Duke rallied from a five-point halftime deficit.

Syracuse (18-9, 9-5 ACC) struggled shooting down the stretch, making just three field goals over the game's final 12 minutes. The Orange finished at 34 percent from the field.

Duke, after shooting just 40 percent and 3 of 15 on 3-pointers in the first half, shot 48 percent in the second half. The Blue Devils hit six 3-pointers in the second half, finishing at 44.1 percent for the game (9 of 29, 31 percent on 3-pointers).

After Syracuse led, 34-29, the Blue Devils hit seven of their first 11 shots after halftime, including 3 of 4 3-pointers, to lead 50-46 with 13:49 to play.

O'Connell had a big play in that Duke push, grabbing a loose ball to sink a 3-pointer while being fouled. He added the free throw on play that gave Duke its first lead of the second half.

O'Connell's 3-pointer from the corner with 10:29 to play gave Duke a 56-52 lead.

Duke's lead grew to 58-52 when Barrett scored inside with 9:16 to play.

Syracuse went seven consecutive possessions without scoring, a drought of 4:57 without scoring a point.

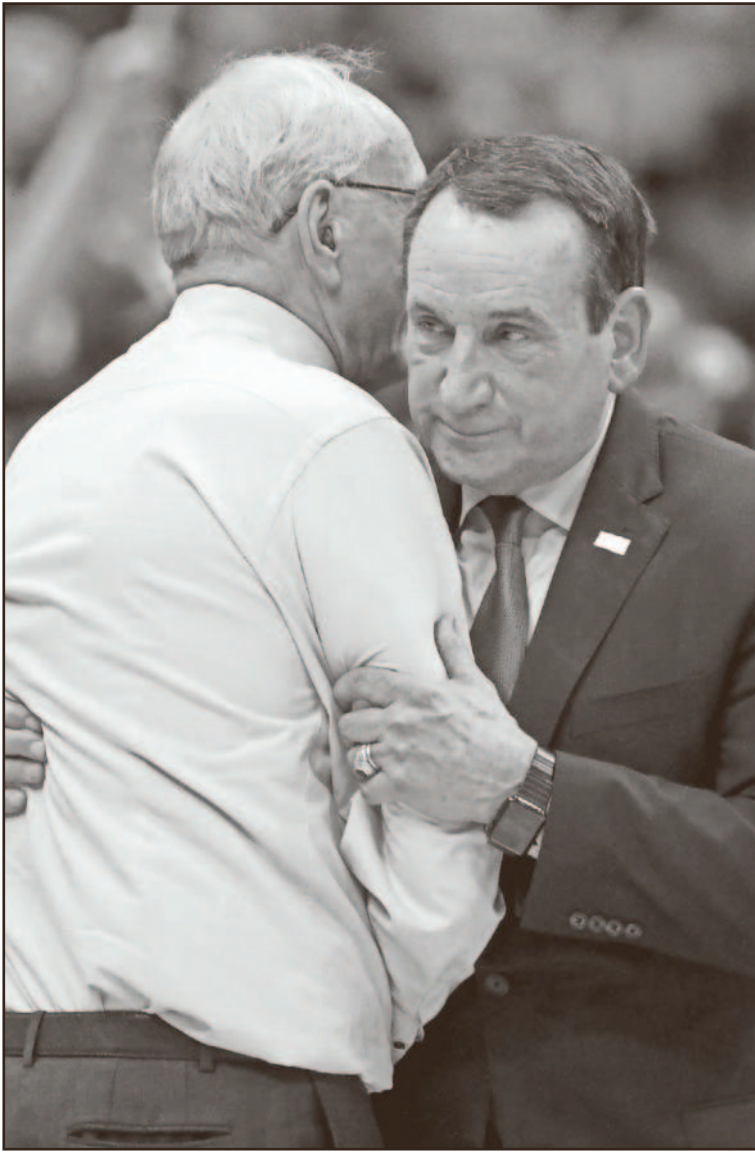
But Duke scored only five points during that stretch.

A Marek Dolezaj basket and two Elijah Hughes free throws cut Duke's lead to 58-56.

But Duke pulled away with its defense playing a big role.

Barrett's 3-pointer started a 7-0 Duke run. O'Connell's steal and slam dunk extended the lead. After a Tyus Battle miss, Barrett finished a fast break by taking a lob pass from Tre Jones for a slam dunk that put Duke up 65-56 with 4:44 to play.

Barrett scored 17 points over the game's first 20 minutes to keep Duke close while their 3-pointers weren't falling. But the Blue Devils got little



AP PHOTO

**Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski, right, embraces Syracuse coach Jim Boeheim after Duke won 75-65. It was the first game for Boeheim after he was involved in a fatal crash. Duke played without injured star Zion Williamson.**

production from anyone else as they shot 40 percent overall.

The first 20 minutes saw five lead changes and three ties. No team led by more than three points until six points in a row by Syracuse's Dolezaj turned a 23-22 Duke lead into a 28-23 Orange advantage with 4:58 left until halftime.

Barrett scored Duke's final six points of the half. But the Orange took their five-point lead to halftime.

Joey Baker, a 6-7 guard from Fayetteville, made a surprising debut for Duke thus eliminating the chance of him redshirting barring an injury.

### No. 3 Virginia 64, No. 18 Louisville 52

De'Andre Hunter scored 19 of his career-high 26 points after halftime, and No. 3 Virginia rallied from a 12-point deficit to beat No. 18 Louisville 64-52 on Saturday.

The Cavaliers (24-2, 12-2 Atlantic Coast Conference) trailed early in the second half before regrouping to hold the Cardinals (18-10, 9-6) to 6 of 30 from the field (20 percent) and 31 percent shooting overall. Virginia also found its offense, shooting 59 percent and using a 12-1 run over 4:36 for a 55-48 lead it stretched to 12 for its fourth consecutive victory.

Hunter was perfect after the break, making all six shots to finish 9 of 11 from the field. Mamadi Diakite added 14 points, while Jay Huff came off the bench to score 12.

### No. 4 Kentucky 80, Auburn 53

Kentucky coach John Calipari surpassed Joe B. Hall on the school's all-time wins list and is second behind Adolph Rupp. Calipari is 298-68 in 10 seasons with the Wildcats. Hall

compiled a 297-100 record in 13 seasons and led the Wildcats to a national championship in 1978.

PJ Washington scored 24 points to lead No. 4 Kentucky. Washington led three players in double figures and helped lead the Wildcats to a regular-season sweep of the Tigers. The Wildcats (23-4, 12-2 Southeastern Conference) defeated Auburn 82-80 last month and made things easier the second time around. Tyler Herro followed Washington with 17 points and Ashton Hagans added 14.

Kentucky played without senior forward Reid Travis, who sprained his right ankle in a 66-58 win at Missouri last Tuesday. Travis is expected to miss the next two weeks.

Chuma Okeke led Auburn (18-9, 7-7) with 14 points, followed by Jared Harper with 12 and Anfernee McLemore with 10.

### No. 13 LSU 82, No. 5 Tennessee 80 (OT)

Javonte Smart capped a career-best 29-point performance with a crucial rebound and go-ahead free throws in the final seconds.

Skyler Mays added 23 points, including a game-tying 3 with 1:16 left in regulation for LSU (22-5, 12-2 SEC), which pulled into a tie with Tennessee and Kentucky atop the Southeastern Conference despite playing without its leading scorer, point guard Tremont Waters.

Admiral Schofield had 27 points and Grant Williams 18 for Tennessee (24-3, 12-2).

Waters was ruled out with an undisclosed illness shortly before the game, and the challenge only got tougher for LSU when starting forward

Naz Reid committed two early fouls. Reid never found his rhythm, missing all nine shots he attempted from the floor. He scored his only point when he hit the second of two free throws in the final minute of overtime.

### No. 8 UNC 77, No. 16 Florida St 59

Cameron Johnson had 18 points and 10 rebounds, Luke Maye added 15 points and 11 rebounds, while freshman Nassir Little scored 18 points and Coby White finished with 10. The Tar Heels (22-5, 12-2 Atlantic Coast Conference) have won 10 of 11 to remain in a first-place tie.

David Nichols scored 16 points and Terance Mann added 10 for the Seminoles (21-6, 9-5).

### No. 11 Marquette 76, Providence 58

Sam Hauser had 18 points and 13 rebounds, while Sacar Anim scored 18. The Golden Eagles (23-4, 12-2 in the Big East) led by 11 points at half-time and showed no signs of letting up, shooting 53.6 percent in the second half to finish at 54.9 percent for the game. Anim went 8 for 12 and Hauser 7 for 10 for Marquette, which got only 14 points on 2-of-12 shooting from leading scorer Markus Howard.

Alpha Diallo had 19 points and six rebounds for the Friars (15-13, 5-10 Big East).

### No. 15 Purdue 75, Nebraska 72

Matt Haarms scored 17 points and Grady Eifert beat the shot clock for two huge baskets down the stretch. Purdue (20-7, 13-3 Big Ten) won its second straight close road game, having beaten Indiana 48-46 on a tip-in with 3 seconds left Tuesday. Ryan Cline's 3-pointer to end the first half gave the Boilermakers a two-point lead, and they never trailed again.

Their 14th win in 16 games pulled them into a brief three-way tie for first in the Big Ten with Michigan and Michigan State. The tie will be broken Sunday when those two teams meet in Ann Arbor.

Glynn Watson Jr. scored a season-high 25 points and James Palmer added 15 points and a season-high eight assists for Nebraska (15-13, 5-12), which lost for the ninth time in 11 games.

### TCU 75, No. 19 Iowa State 72

Kouat Noi had 20 points with 13 rebounds, while Alex Robinson also had a double-double and TCU ended a three-game losing streak.

TCU, which had blown a 10-point lead it built before halftime, finally went ahead to stay when Desmond Bane hit a 3-pointer from the left wing with just under two minutes left to snap a 68-68 tie. JD Miller later drove hard for a layup, knocking down one defender without a call and getting fouled by another to make it 73-70 in the final 41 seconds. He missed the free throw.

Iowa State (19-8, 8-6 Big 12) was within 73-72 when Marial Shayok found a gap and drove for a layup with 22 seconds left. Noi added two free throws before the Cyclones got to attempt two 3-pointers in the final three seconds, the last after a TCU turnover while the buzzer sounded before a lengthy review that added .4 seconds on the clock.

The Frogs (18-9, 6-8) hadn't won since a 92-83 victory at Iowa State two weeks ago.

### No. 20 Virginia Tech 67, Notre Dame 59

Kerry Blackshear Jr. had 22 points and 14 rebounds as No. 20 Virginia Tech defeated Notre Dame 67-59 on Saturday.

The Hokies (21-6, 10-5 Atlantic Coast Conference), leading from the game's first basket onward, grabbed to a 14-4 advantage over the initial eight minutes.

The Fighting Irish (13-14, 3-11), who got as close as six points on three occasions in the second half, lost their third straight game and their ninth in their last 11 outings.

T.J. Gibbs led Notre Dame with 18 points but was just 5 of 17 from the field with three 3-pointers. John Mooney added 12 points and 10 rebounds. Nickeil Alexander-Walker added 12 points for Tech.

### No. 23 Kansas St 85, Oklahoma St 46

Balanced offense, stellar defense and good shooting propelled No. 23 Kansas State.

The Wildcats had no problems as Xavier Sneed and Austin Trice led the team with 12 points each and Kamau Stokes had 11. K-State had 10 players score.

The Wildcats (21-6, 11-3 in Big 12 play) shot 62 percent and held the Cowboys to 31 percent. Oklahoma State (10-17, 3-11) was led by Yor Anei, who had 12 points as the Cowboys struggled the entire game to find the basket.

### No. 24 Maryland 72, Ohio State 62

Anthony Cowan Jr. scored 19 points, while Bruno Fernando had 14 points and 10 rebounds and No. 24 Maryland remained unbeaten at home in the Big Ten.

The Terrapins (21-7, 12-5) used a 13-0 run to take a 52-36 lead.

Although the margin dwindled to two points with 5:27 left, Maryland held on to improve to 14-2 at home, including 7-0 in the conference.

With three Big Ten games left, including two at home, the Terrapins are in fourth place and in position to secure a double bye in the conference tournament.

Fernando scored all of his points after halftime, and reserve freshman Serrel Smith Jr. contributed a career-high 14 points for Maryland.

Despite a slow start, Fernando secured his ninth double-double in his last 10 games.

Duane Washington Jr. scored 15 and Andre Wesson had 13 for Ohio State (17-10, 7-9).

## ■ NBA: Roundup

# Efficient Young leads Pacers over struggling Wizards

WASHINGTON (AP) Thaddeus Young scored 22 points on 9-of-11 shooting, Bojan Bogdanovic added 18 and the streaking Indiana Pacers held off the struggling Washington Wizards 119-112 on Saturday night.

Domantas Sabonis added 13 points and 12 rebounds, while Darren Collison scored 11 of his 15 points in the fourth quarter to help the Pacers overcome 23 turnovers and sweep a second straight back-to-back set.

Indiana has won eight of

nine. The Pacers previously dropped four in a row following the loss of All-Star guard Victor Oladipo for the season with a ruptured tendon in his right knee.

Bradley Beal scored 35 points for the Wizards, a night after posting a season-high 46 at Charlotte. He converted an exceptional four-point play that brought Washington within two midway through the fourth quarter.

Thomas Bryant added 23 points and 12 rebounds.

### Pelicans 128, Lakers 115

Jrue Holiday hit five 3-pointers and scored 27 points while Anthony Davis watched from the bench, and the New Orleans Pelicans beat the Los Angeles Lakers 128-115 on Saturday night.

Former Laker Julius Randle had 24 points for the Pelicans, who led in sync and motivated as they slowed LeBron James and the Lakers' push to qualify for the playoffs.

James had 27 points and 12 assists, and Brandon Ingram scored 29 points for Los Angeles.

### Trail Blazers 130, 76ers 115

Jusuf Nurkic and Enes Kanter took advantage of Joel Embiid's absence.

Nurkic scored 24 points and grabbed 10 rebounds, Kanter had 16 and eight, and the Portland Trail Blazers beat the Philadelphia 76ers 130-115 on

Saturday.

The Sixers struggled in their second game without Embiid, the All-Star center who is expected to miss at least a week with a sore left knee.

Ben Simmons had 29 points and 10 assists and Tobias Harris scored 20.

The Blazers had a 53-33 rebounding edge, including 19 offensive boards. Damian Lillard had 17 points as seven players reached double figures.

The Blazers (36-23) have won three in a row.



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TODAY / TONIGHT	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly sunny and humid Partly cloudy <b>HIGH 84°</b> 25% chance of rain <b>LOW 65°</b> 15% chance of rain	Mostly cloudy <b>78° / 63°</b> 15% chance of rain	Some sun, then clouds, a t-storm in spots <b>81° / 65°</b> 40% chance of rain	Mostly cloudy <b>80° / 63°</b> 25% chance of rain	A thunderstorm in spots in the afternoon <b>80° / 65°</b> 40% chance of rain	Rather cloudy with a thunderstorm possible <b>83° / 63°</b> 30% chance of rain

**69° GULF WATER TEMPERATURE**

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

FLORIDA CITIES			
City	Today	Mon.	Mon.
Apalachicola	72 49 t	67 56 pc	
Bradenton	81 64 pc	75 63 c	
Clearwater	79 62 pc	73 65 c	
Coral Springs	87 70 pc	80 71 pc	
Daytona Beach	84 56 pc	71 61 c	
Fort Lauderdale	85 71 pc	81 72 pc	
Fort Myers	84 65 pc	81 66 c	
Gainesville	84 49 t	73 54 pc	
Jacksonville	81 48 c	66 50 pc	
Key Largo	82 72 s	80 73 s	
Key West	84 75 s	82 75 s	
Lakeland	85 62 pc	74 61 pc	
Melbourne	87 64 pc	75 66 c	
Miami	85 70 pc	83 72 pc	
Naples	85 68 s	83 68 pc	
Ocala	82 51 pc	72 55 pc	
Okeechobee	86 64 pc	75 63 c	
Orlando	86 58 pc	75 61 pc	
Panama City	71 49 t	69 55 pc	
Pensacola	70 47 t	67 53 pc	
Pompano Beach	86 70 pc	81 73 pc	
St. Augustine	80 52 c	64 57 pc	
St. Petersburg	82 62 pc	78 64 c	
Sarasota	83 63 pc	79 63 c	
Tallahassee	74 45 t	69 49 pc	
Tampa	82 61 pc	76 63 c	
Vero Beach	88 65 pc	76 64 c	
West Palm Beach	86 69 pc	80 72 pc	

TIDES			
City	High	Low	High
Punta Gorda	Today 6:42a	12:48a	6:16p 12:27p
Englewood	Today 5:19a	10:43a	4:53p ---
Boca Grande	Today 4:35a	9:24a	4:15p 11:13p
El Jobean	Today 7:14a	1:17a	6:48p 12:56p
Venice	Today 3:34a	9:22a	3:08p 10:55p

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**PORT CHARLOTTE**  
Punta Gorda through 2 p.m. Saturday

**TEMPERATURES**  
High/Low 87°/66°  
Normal High/Low 78°/55°  
Record High 87° (2019)  
Record Low 33° (1978)

**PRECIPITATION** (in inches)  
24 hours through 2 p.m. Sat. 0.00"  
Month to date 0.29"  
Normal month to date 1.76"  
Year to date 2.69"  
Normal year to date 4.20"  
Record 1.70" (1966)

**VENICE**  
Venice through 2 p.m. Saturday

**TEMPERATURES**  
High/Low 84°/70°  
Normal High/Low 74°/55°  
Record High 86° (1997)  
Record Low 37° (1978)

**PRECIPITATION** (in inches)  
24 hours through 2 p.m. Sat. 0.00"  
Month to date 0.29"  
Normal month to date 1.76"  
Year to date 2.69"  
Normal year to date 4.20"  
Record 1.70" (1966)

**MONTHLY RAINFALL**

Month	2019	2018	Avg.	Record/Year
Jan.	3.77	1.98	1.80	9.93/2016
Feb.	1.63	0.66	2.43	11.05/1983
Mar.	0.53	3.28	9.26/1970	
Apr.	1.15	2.03	5.80/1994	
May	15.98	2.50	15.98/2018	
Jun.	6.23	8.92	23.99/1974	
Jul.	9.80	8.22	14.22/1995	
Aug.	12.37	8.01	15.60/1995	
Sep.	7.58	6.84	14.03/1979	
Oct.	2.60	2.93	10.88/1995	
Nov.	1.91	1.91	5.53/2002	
Dec.	2.47	1.78	6.83/2002	
Year	5.40	63.26	50.65	(since 1931)

Totals are from a 24-hour period ending at 5 p.m.

**SEBRING**  
Sebring through 2 p.m. Saturday

**TEMPERATURES**  
High/Low 87°/68°

**PRECIPITATION** (in inches)  
24 hours through 2 p.m. Sat. 0.00"

**AIRPORT**  
Possible weather-related delays today. Check with your airline for the most updated schedules.

City	Hi/Lo	Outlook	Delays
Ft. Myers	84/65	part cldy	none
Punta Gorda	85/64	part cldy	none
Sarasota	83/63	part cldy	none

**CONDITIONS TODAY**  
UV Index and RealFeel Temperature® Today

Time	UV Index	RealFeel
2 a.m.	2	74
4 a.m.	4	86
6 a.m.	6	91
8 a.m.	4	91
10 a.m.	4	84
12 p.m.	1	80
2 p.m.	0	80
4 p.m.	0	80
6 p.m.	0	80

**POLLEN INDEX**  
Pollen Index readings as of Saturday

Category	Level
Trees	Low
Grass	Absent
Weeds	Absent
Molds	Absent

**AIR QUALITY INDEX**  
Air Quality Index readings as of Saturday

Index	Category
28	Good

**THE NATION**  
Publication date: 02/24/19

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 ..... 90° at Immokalee, FL  
Low ..... -23° at Daniel, WY

**SUN AND MOON**

Day	Rise	Set
Today	6:57 a.m.	6:26 p.m.
Monday	6:57 a.m.	6:27 p.m.

**SOLUNAR TABLE**

Day	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Today	10:01a	3:48a	10:25p	4:13p
Mon.	10:54a	4:41a	11:19p	5:06p
Tue.	11:45a	5:32a	---	5:57p

**WORLD CITIES**

City	Today	Mon.	City	Today	Mon.
Amsterdam	55 35 pc	58 36 pc	Mexico City	75 51 pc	75 51 pc
Baghdad	70 46 s	71 50 s	Montreal	40 26 r	27 2 sf
Beijing	57 31 pc	50 29 pc	Ottawa	41 21 r	22 0 c
Berlin	53 32 pc	55 37 pc	Paris	59 35 pc	61 37 s
Buenos Aires	74 55 s	69 46 pc	Regina	-9 31 pc	-9 21 s
Cairo	72 58 pc	80 52 s	Rio de Janeiro	96 81 pc	96 80 pc
Calgary	2 -20 pc	1 -13 pc	Rome	54 33 s	57 36 s
Cancun	84 73 s	85 73 sh	St. John's	16 7 s	30 25 sn
Dublin	56 45 pc	59 41 pc	San Juan	83 71 pc	83 73 sh
Edmonton	-1 29 s	0 24 s	Sydney	73 68 c	77 66 pc
Halifax	29 27 sn	37 14 c	Tokyo	54 47 s	58 44 sh
Kiev	32 29 c	43 32 pc	Toronto	46 22 r	24 11 c
London	60 36 s	62 38 s	Vancouver	42 28 c	40 23 c
Madrid	65 36 s	67 37 s	Winnipeg	0 21 sn	-3 19 s

**NASCAR**

# New rules could lead to wrecks, inflame tempers

By JENNA FRYER  
AP AUTO RACING WRITER

HAMPTON, Ga. — NASCAR was long overdue for an added punch to its racing product and eagerly awaits the results from a new competition package designed to increase the entertainment factor for the troubled series.

The new rules debut Sunday at Atlanta Motor Speedway, where the prevailing opinion is that the bumpin-and-bangin and rubbin-is-racin lore of NASCAR will return.

"This is going to cause probably more wrecks and more tempers are going to fly and more drama is going to be there," said reigning NASCAR champion Joey Logano.

NASCAR for 2019 will use a package created to deliberately slow cars and keep them closer together. It isn't intended to be the "pack racing" beloved by fans at Daytona and Talladega, but drivers so far anticipate that will be the effect.

Packs usually lead to crashes, which typically create conflict and the headlines NASCAR needs. The series is coming off a season in which three drivers combined to win 20 of 36 races — results that did nothing to stop NASCAR's slide in attendance and television ratings.

NASCAR's solution was overhauling the competition package in

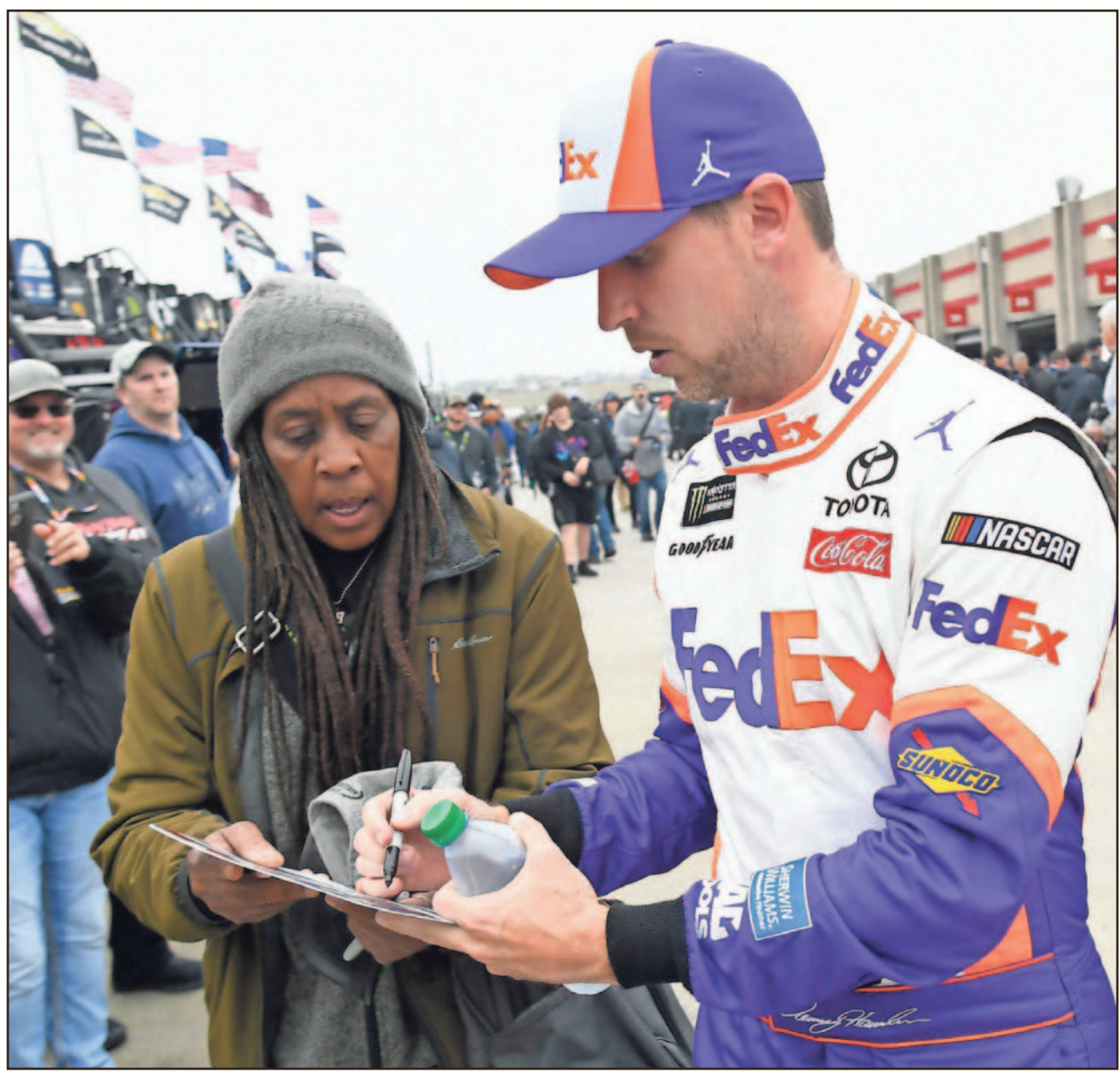
a way that, if it works, should close the gap between the top teams and the underdogs while spicing up the action.

"I think everybody is going to be in attack mode in a lot of ways," said Georgia native Chase Elliott. "How that translates into the race and how aggressive people get, I mean there is only so much space on the track, right? At some point, somebody is going to have to draw the line as to what is smart and what is not."

The package was not used in last week's season-opening Daytona 500, a crash-fest won in overtime by Denny Hamlin. Atlanta is not expected to be a true indicator of how the racing will look this season, in part because the fast and bumpy track has the oldest racing surface in the series. The track was last paved in 1997 and the abrasive asphalt eats tires and limits passing opportunities.

NASCAR knows a better indicator of what to expect will come from next week's race at Las Vegas Motor Speedway, followed by a completely different look in Week 4 when the series visits ISM Raceway in Phoenix, a 1-mile, low-banked tri-oval that is nothing like the 1.5-mile Atlanta and Las Vegas speedways.

NASCAR's second and final practice session, Saturday in a steady mist, got off to a bumpy start



Daytona 500 winner Denny Hamlin signs an autograph after practice before a NASCAR Xfinity race at Atlanta Motor Speedway on Saturday, in Hampton, Ga. NASCAR will unveil its new competition package on Sunday, which is expected to slow cars and keep them closer together. Reigning NASCAR champion Joey Logano expects this to lead to more crashes, more tempers and drama.

when Brad Keselowski couldn't make it to his car because of illness. Team Penske had Xfinity Series driver Austin Cindric start practice for Keselowski, but

Keselowski eventually got in the car and ran two stints. He was met at the Penske hauler by a medical crew that drove Keselowski to the care center, and crew chief

Paul Wolfe said the driver "isn't doing too good." Kyle Busch quickly posted the fastest lap of all Toyota drivers but then hit the wall and had to go to the garage with

damage that sidelined him the remainder of the session. Erik Jones, his teammate at Joe Gibbs Racing, later headed to the garage with a power steering issue.

AP PHOTO



# The FUNNIES

**PEANUTS**  
featuring  
"Good ol' Charlie Brown"  
by SCHULZ

OH, COME ON NOW... BE REASONABLE!

2-24

I TRY TO DO MY BEST! I ALWAYS HAVE YOUR SUPPER READY ON TIME, AND I ALWAYS TRY TO FIX IT JUST THE WAY YOU WANT IT...

BUT NOW YOU'RE GOING TOO FAR!

OH, ALL RIGHT... I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO... I MUST BE OUT OF MY MIND...

SOMETIMES EVEN I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW WISHY-WASHY I AM...

YOU WILL? GOOD... I REALLY APPRECIATE IT...

SO WHAT'S WRONG WITH WANTING TO BE SERVED BY A BEAUTIFUL WAITRESS?

**THE LOCKHORNS**  
BY BUNNY HOEST AND JOHN REINER

CHEZ BOUTIQUE

"I SHOULDN'T BE LONG, LEROY... THERE'S ONLY \$287 LEFT IN MY CHECKING ACCOUNT."

"JUST A MINUTE... I'M PRACTICING MY EXCUSES FOR WHY WE HAVE TO LEAVE THE PARTY EARLY."

CATS

"THE ASPCA CALLED."

"I KNOW YOU'VE HAD THIS EVERY DAY THIS WEEK... THAT'S WHY I SAID IT WOULD BE A SURPRISE."

"WHY DO THEY CALL IT 'COMMON SENSE' WHEN IT'S SO UNCOMMON?"

## Hi and Lois

YOU LOOKED GOOD ON THAT LAST RUN, CHAMP!

SHAUN WHITE BETTER WATCH OUT!

YOU'LL HAVE TO TAKE THE SNOWBOARD SLOPE BY YOURSELF.

SEE YOU AT THE BOTTOM.

LET'S TAKE THIS TRAIL.

WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?

YOU MISSED THE BEST RUN OF THE DAY.

YEAH, BUT I BEAT YOU DOWN.

IT'S NOT A COMPETITION.

WITH THEM, EVERYTHING IS.

**MARY WORTH**

"AS DADDY SAID, LIFE IS 95 PERCENT ANTICIPATION." - GLORIA SWANSON

THAT'S A NICE PICTURE OF YOU ON YOUR PROFILE, ESTELLE!

IT'S FROM A RECENT TRIP...

TO SAN DIEGO LAST MONTH!

WHEN MARY VISITS LIBBY, SHE LEARNS THAT ESTELLE HAS JOINED ONLINE DATING SITE, SILVERDATERS...

HERE'S WHAT I WROTE FOR MY PROFILE, MARY...

I'M PRESENTING MYSELF HONESTLY... "SIXTY YEARS OLD... LIKES CATS... ROMANTIC FICTION..."

"CREATIVE COOKING... TRAVELING... AND PIANO MUSIC..."

"LOOKING FOR A PARTNER WHO'S FUNNY... SMART... ENJOYS CATS, TRAVEL AND MUSIC... FOR A SERIOUS RELATIONSHIP."

MARY BRIGMAN 2/24/19

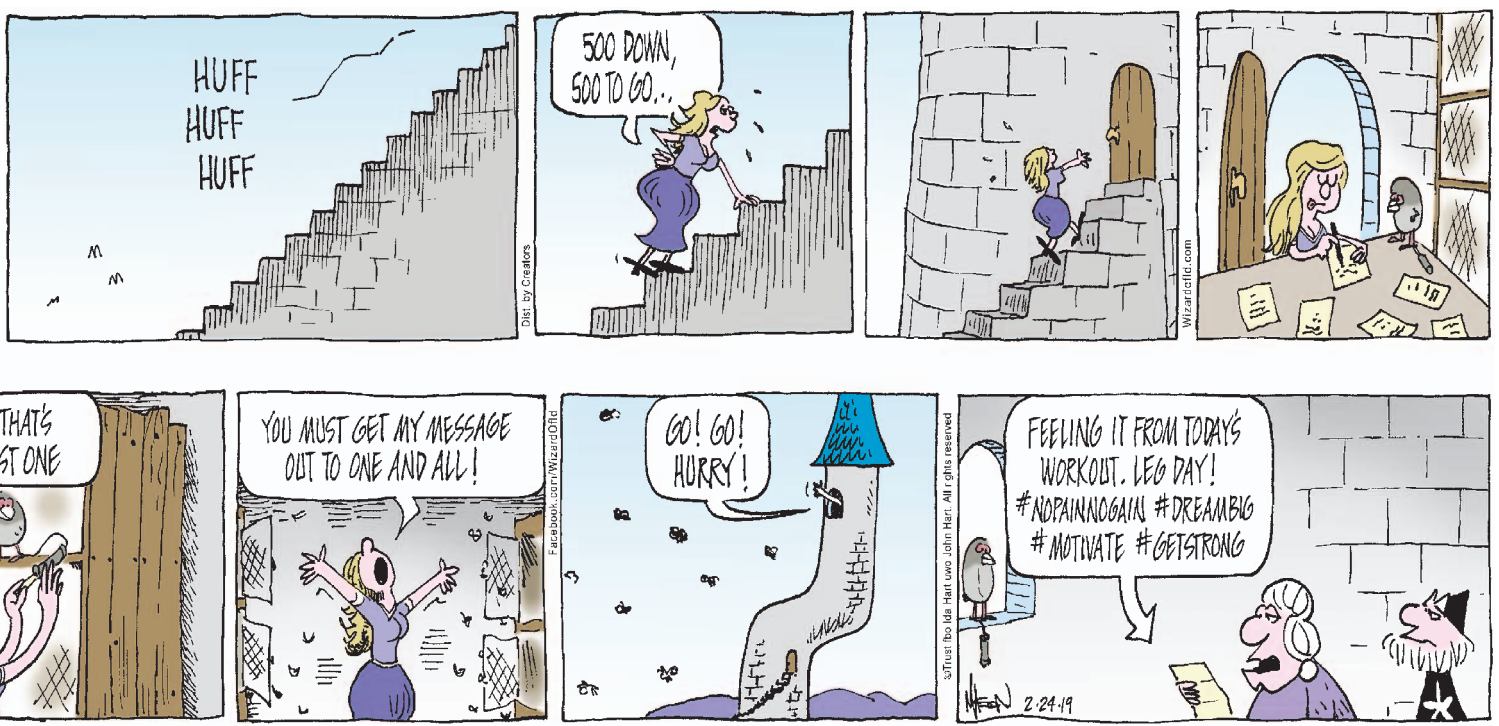
GOOD LUCK MEETING MR. RIGHT, ESTELLE! LET ME KNOW HOW IT GOES!



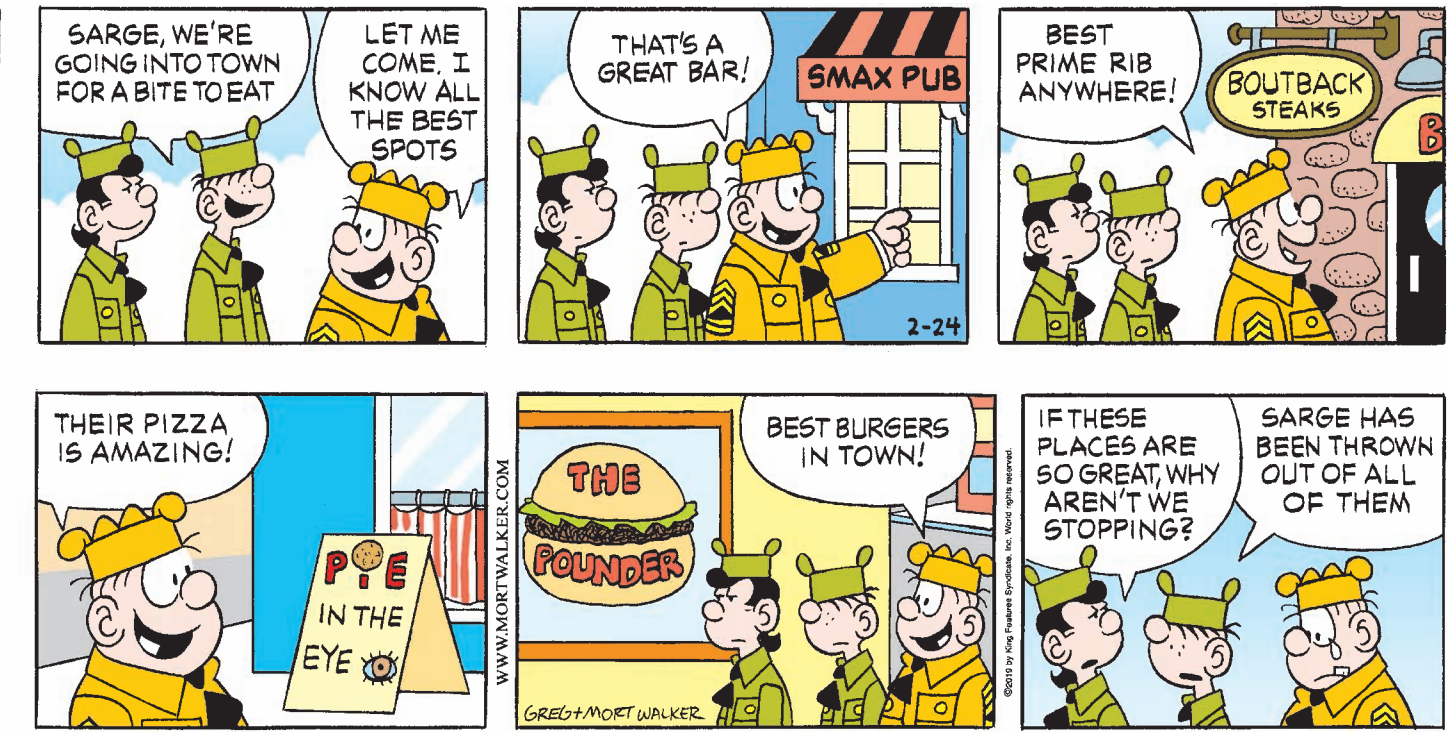
**The Family Circus**  
By Bil Keane



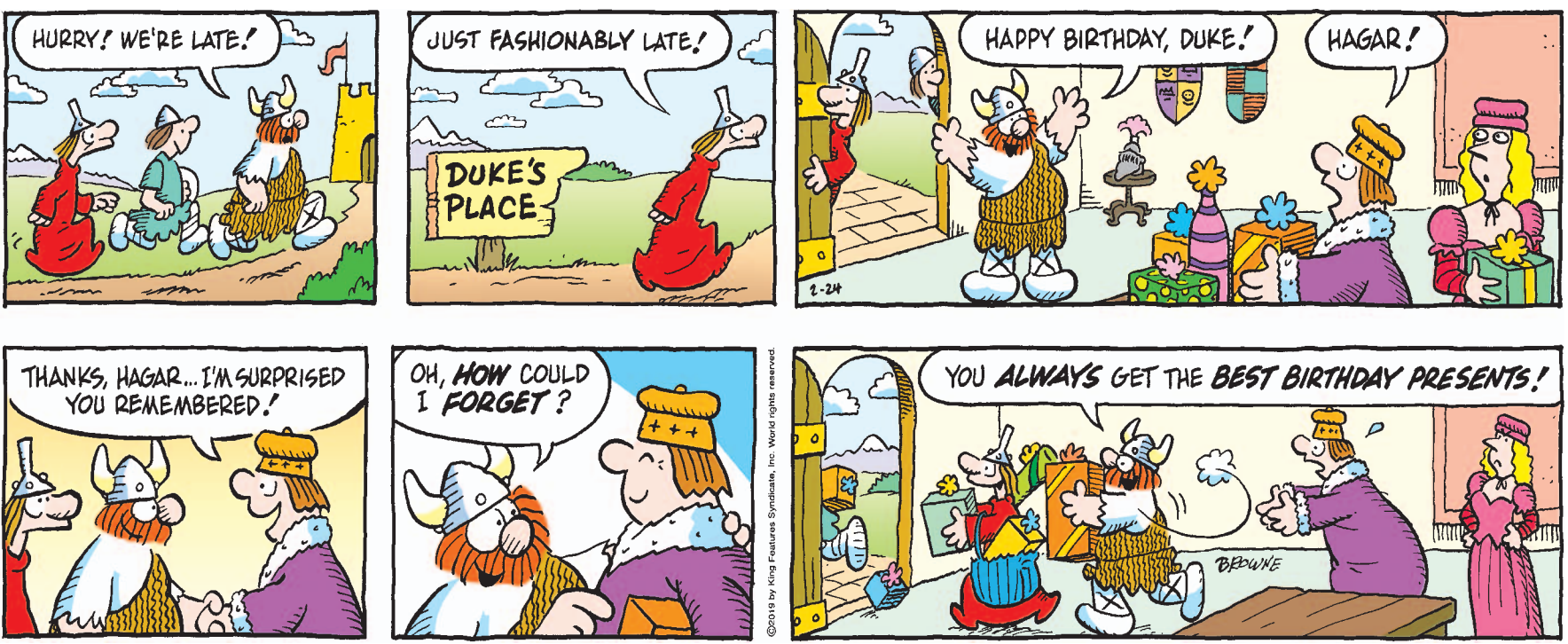
**Wizard of Id**  
by Hart, Mastroianni and Parker



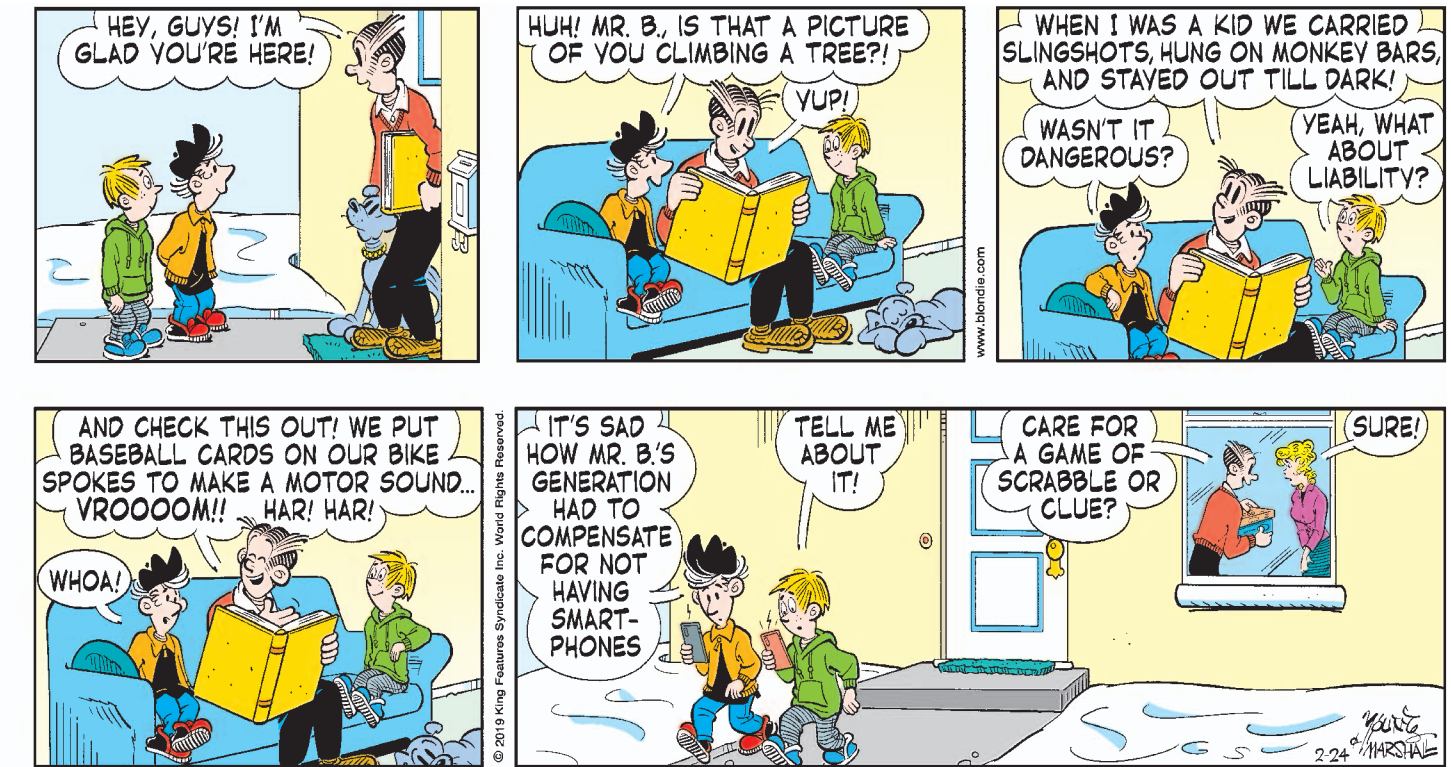
Mort Walker's  
**beetle bailey**



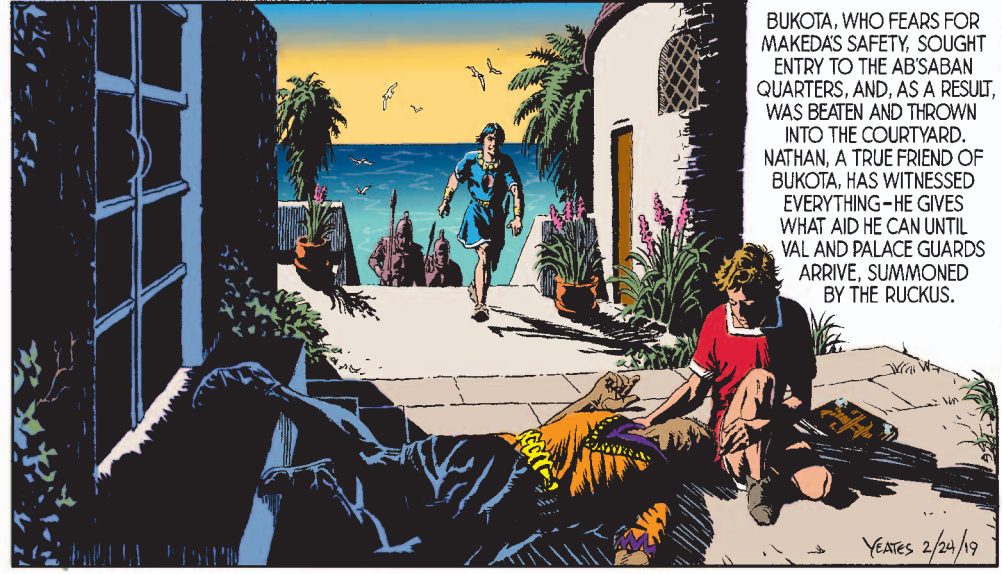
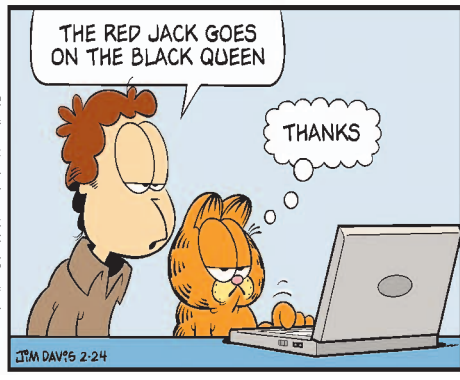
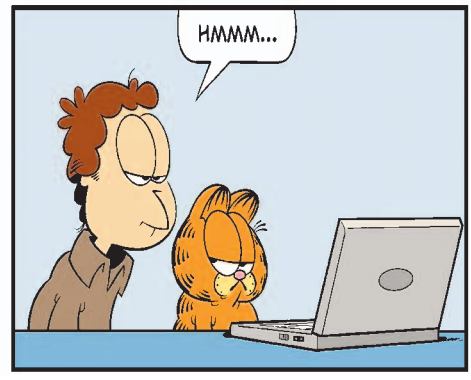
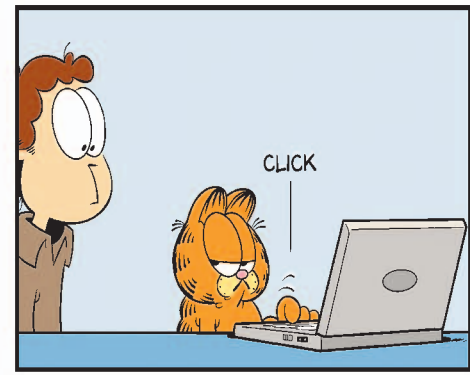
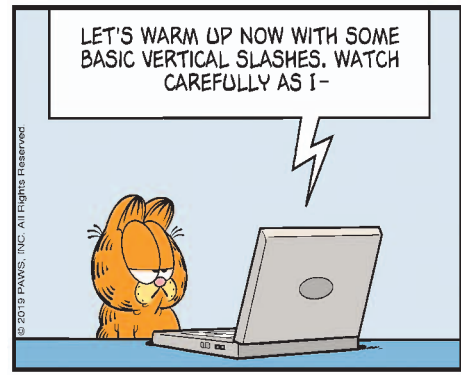
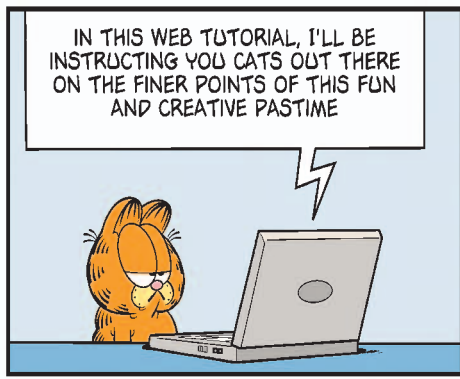
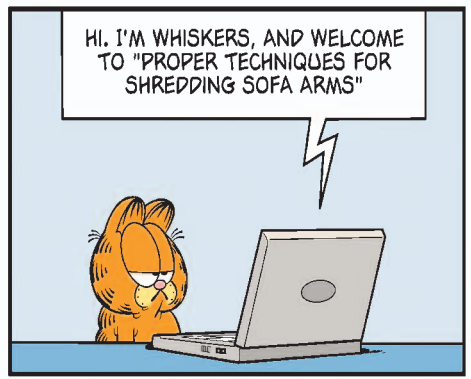
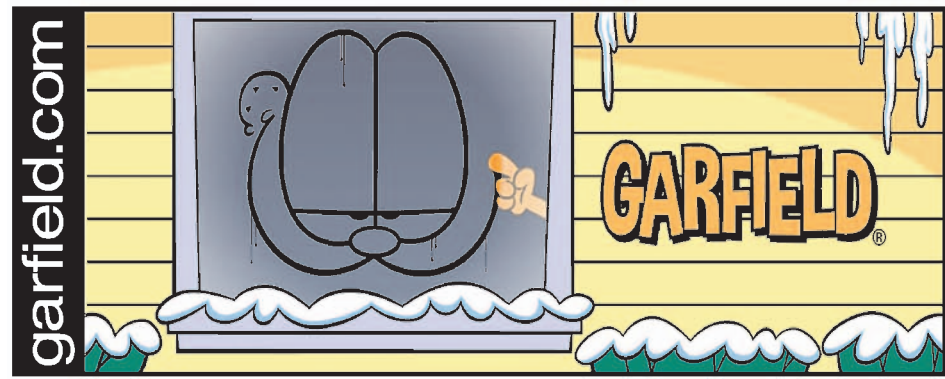
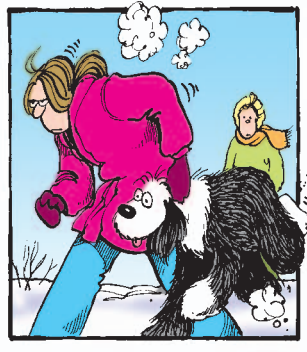
**HAGAR**  
the horrible  
by DIK BROWNE



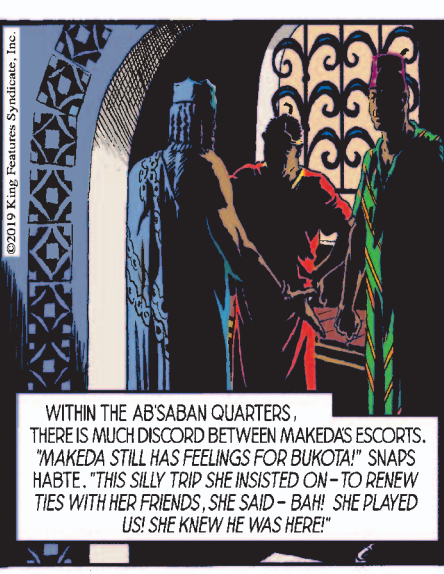
**BLONDIE**  
BY DEAN KUNIG & JOHN MARSHALL



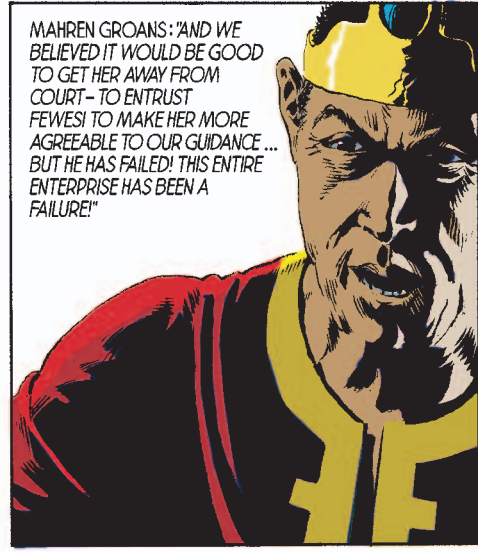




BUKOTA, WHO FEARS FOR MAKEDA'S SAFETY, SOUGHT ENTRY TO THE ABSABAN QUARTERS, AND, AS A RESULT, WAS BEATEN AND THROWN INTO THE COURTYARD. NATHAN, A TRUE FRIEND OF BUKOTA, HAS WITNESSED EVERYTHING—HE GIVES WHAT AID HE CAN UNTIL VAL AND PALACE GUARDS ARRIVE, SUMMONED BY THE RUCKUS.



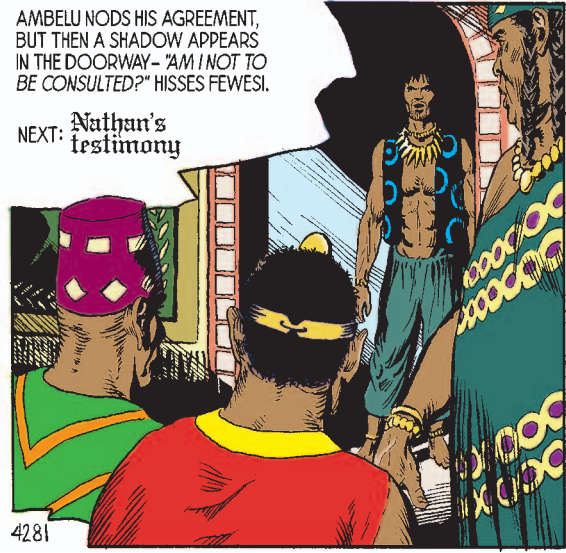
WITHIN THE ABSABAN QUARTERS, THERE IS MUCH DISCORD BETWEEN MAKEDA'S ESCORTS. "MAKEDA STILL HAS FEELINGS FOR BUKOTA!" SNAPS HABTE. "THIS SILLY TRIP SHE INSISTED ON—TO RENEW TIES WITH HER FRIENDS, SHE SAID—BAH! SHE PLAYED US! SHE KNEW HE WAS HERE!"



MAHREN GROANS: "AND WE BELIEVED IT WOULD BE GOOD TO GET HER AWAY FROM COURT— TO ENTRUST FEWESI TO MAKE HER MORE AGREEABLE TO OUR GUIDANCE... BUT HE HAS FAILED! THIS ENTIRE ENTERPRISE HAS BEEN A FAILURE!"



"WE MUST FACE FACTS. BUKOTA HAS COMPROMISED FEWESI'S TRAINING— AND NOW DRAWS LUNDIE ATTENTION. WE MUST RETURN HER TO ABSABA— NOW!"



AMBELU NODS HIS AGREEMENT, BUT THEN A SHADOW APPEARS IN THE DOORWAY— "AM I NOT TO BE CONSULTED?" HISSES FEWESI.

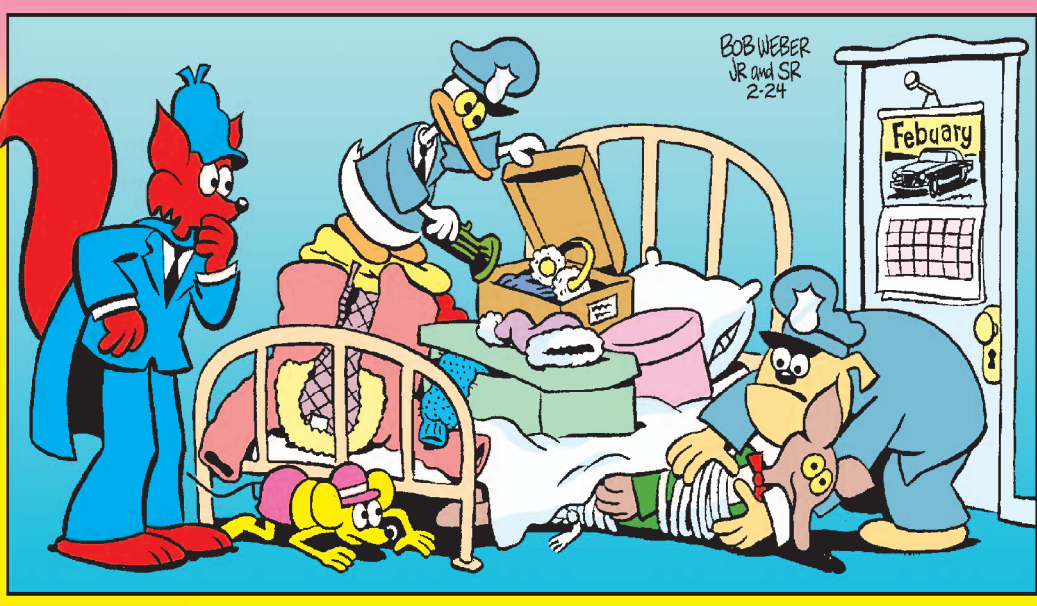
NEXT: Nathan's testimony

SLYLOCK FOX and COMICS FOR KIDS

BY BOB WEBER JR.

Andy Aardvark says he was scheduled to depart for a week-long trip to Australia today, but as he was selecting warm clothes to pack, a burglar broke in, tied him up, and stole his valuable coin collection. Why does Slylock Fox doubt Andy's story and suspects he is attempting to pull an insurance scam?

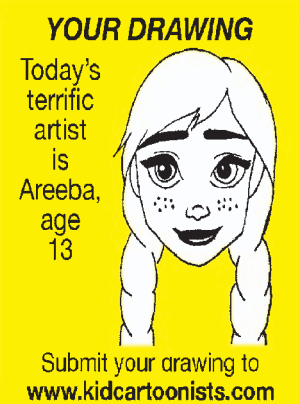
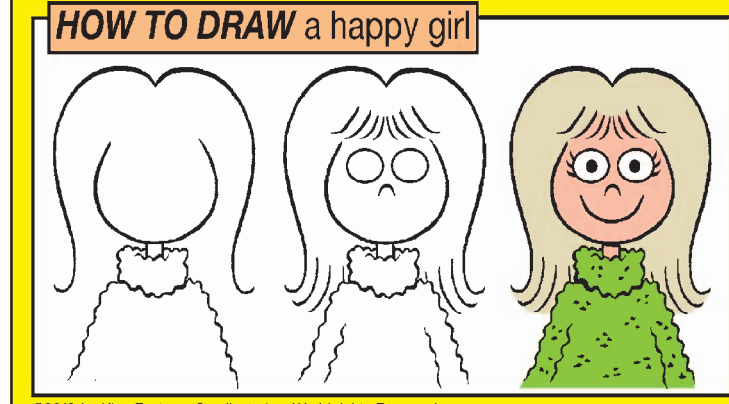
Solution -- February is a summer month in Australia -- February is a winter month in Australia. He forgot that fact while planning his scam.



Spot six differences between these panels.



Answer -- Bug, paw, duck, frog, fish, and bird.



Which one of these animals does not live in Australia?  
 a) Kangaroo  
 b) Koala  
 c) Aardvark  
 d) Wombat  
 e) Platypus

Answer is native to Africa. -- (c) The aardvark is native to Africa.



# ZITS

by JERRY SCOTT and JIM BORGMAN

2/24

JEREMY! AREN'T YOU GOING TO WEAR A COAT?

NO, MOM...

SLAM!

SLUSH! SLUSH!

YOU POOR FROZEN BABY!

CHATTER! CHATTER!

SHIVER!

WHY WOULD ANYONE WEAR A COAT?

© 2019 King Features. Dist. by King Features

# JEFF MACNELLY'S SHOE

By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly

2/24

Convicted Mafia hit man Doug "Dougie Boy" Gambelli finally met his fate today ...

... after spending the last five and a half years sitting in a solar-powered electric chair in Seattle.

© 2019 MacNelly-Dist. by King Features

# PICKLES

by BRIAN CRANE

DO YOU THINK YOU'D EVER GET ANY EARRINGS, GRAMPA?

UH HUH.

DO THE HOLES GO ALL THE WAY THROUGH?

YES.

DID IT HURT?

A LITTLE.

DID THEY POKE A NEEDLE THROUGH YOUR EARS?

NO, NELSON. THEY USED A SPECIAL GUN.

COOL!! HOW FAR AWAY DID THEY STAND?

© 2019 Brian Crane. Dist. by King Features

# THE BORN LOSER

by Art & Chip Sansom

YOU-HOO! I'M BACK!

I JUST HAD MY HAIR STYLED AT CHEZ NADEAN!

WELL, WHAT DO YOU THINK? DO YOU NOTICE A DIFFERENCE?

WOW! WHAT A DIFFERENCE! YOU LOOK LIKE A MOVIE STAR!

WHAT WERE YOU TALKING ABOUT, POP?

I DON'T GET IT—SHE LOOKED THE SAME TO ME!

SOMEDAY YOU'LL UNDERSTAND, MY BOY!

© 2019 Art & Chip Sansom. Dist. by King Features

# TIGER

BY BUD BLAKE

I'M MAKING A SNOWMAN

I NEED A HAT FOR MY SNOWMAN

AND A PIPE

AND A CARROT

LET'S SEE YOUR SNOWMAN

YOU JUST MADE A HEAD?

HES STANDING IN A HOLE

© 2019 Bud Blake. Dist. by King Features





# BABY BLUES

Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

HAMMIE, IF YOU'RE GOING OUTSIDE, BE SURE TO BUNDLE UP.

AWW, MOM!

DO I HAVE TO?

JUST WEAR A SCARF.

REALLY?

IT WOULD MAKE YOUR MOTHER VERY HAPPY.

OKAY.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING??

MAKING MOM HAPPY.

BARNEY GOOGLE and SNUFFMITH BY JOHN ROSE

YONDER COME TH' MILLERS !!

YEP, AN' THA-A-R THEY GO !!

MY KINDA NEIGHBORS !!

YA SEE TH' SHERIFF ENNYWHAR, LUKEY ?

NOPE !!

NO BOAR...

NO BEAR...

WELL, THAR'S GOTTA BE SUMPIN' CHASIN' 'EM !!

'CUZ WHO TH' HECK WOULD RUN JEST FER TH' FUN OF IT ?!

BY MASTROIANNI AND HART

BUMP

SUTHER SUTHER

I WISH THE THAW WOULD COME ALREADY.

POOP

PUSH

ROLL ROLL

NAB

SNAPE

WHO SAYS YOU NEED HANDS TO PLAY BALL...

# SALLY FORTH

by Francesco Marciuliano

UGH...

HOW GO FINANCES?

OH, LOVELY. JUST...LOVELY.

THAT BAD?

WELL, WITH THE WHOLE "WEREWOLF STATUE PATIO" FIASCO AND LINGERING HOLIDAY DEBT, IT'S GOING TO BE A LEAN FEW MONTHS.

WE'VE MADE IT THROUGH TOUGH TIMES BEFORE, THOUGH.

I ESPECIALLY REMEMBER HOW YOU STOPPED SHAVING AND WORE THE SAME HOODIE EVERY SINGLE DAY.

REMEMBER THAT YEAR I WAS UNEMPLOYED?

I WAS CULTIVATING A DEVIL-MAY-CARE, I-MIGHT-HAVE-GIVEN-UP ATTITUDE.

AND YOU STILL LOOKED CUTE. BUT I'M SO GLAD YOU GOT RID OF THAT HOODIE.

ANYWAY, WE'LL BE FINE. WE'LL JUST HAVE TO BE EVEN MORE MINDFUL THAN USUAL ABOUT OUR EXPENSES.

SOOOO...NO RETURN TO KAIJU THEME PARK THIS SUMMER, HUH?

TRUST ME, OUR ENTIRE SUMMER FUN THIS YEAR IS DEPENDENT ON WHETHER OR NOT WE PROPERLY STORED AWAY OUR OLD SLIP 'N SLIDE LAST YEAR.

# CRANKSHAFT

BY BATIUK & DAVIS

BREEEEEEEP!

AHHHHH!

THESE ALERTS ALWAYS STARTLE ME!

WHAT'S THE ALERT ABOUT?

THERE'S A PROBLEM WITH THE WATER AND THEY'VE ISSUED A BOIL ALERT.

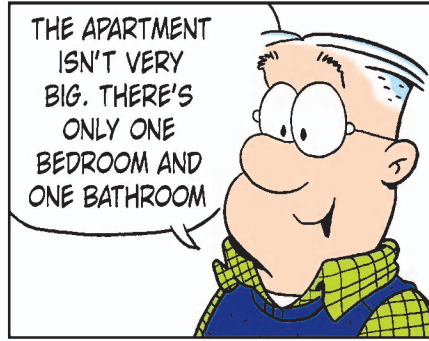
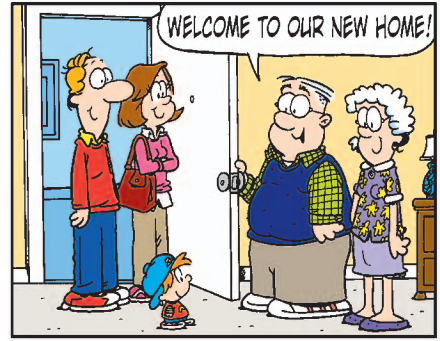
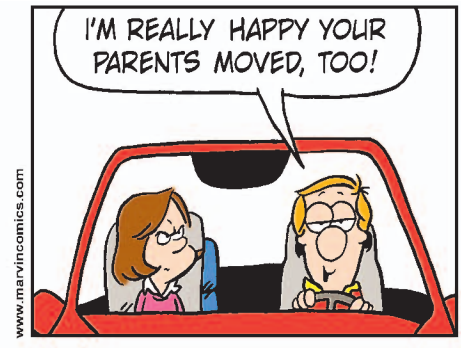
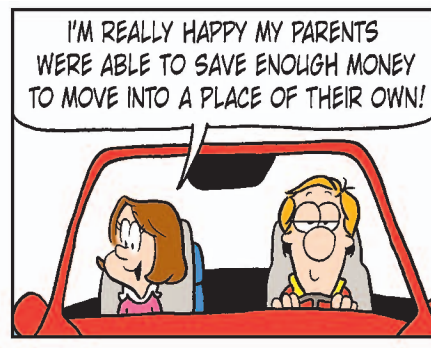
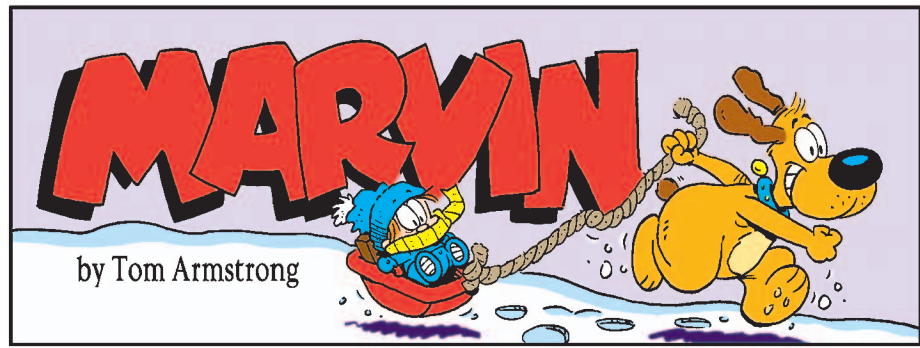
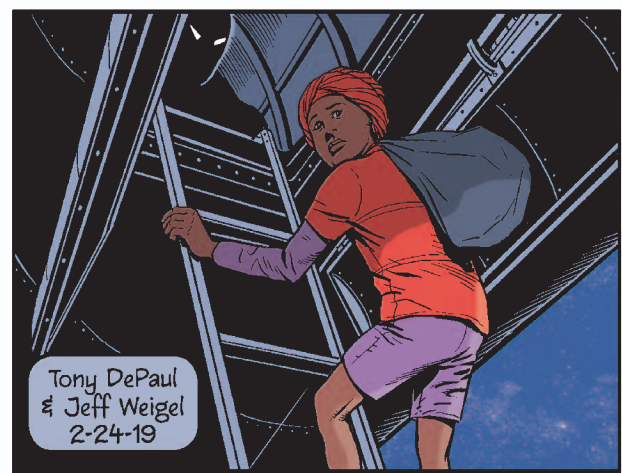
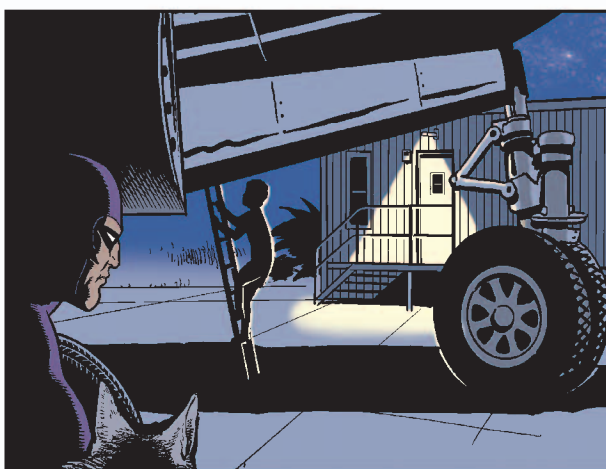
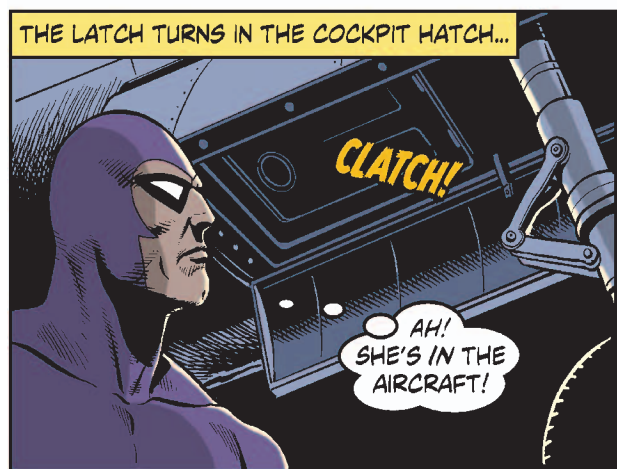
ALL OF A SUDDEN I'M INCREDIBLY THIRSTY!





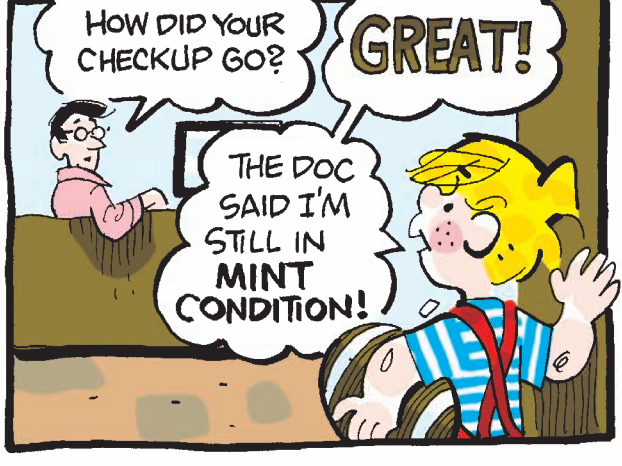
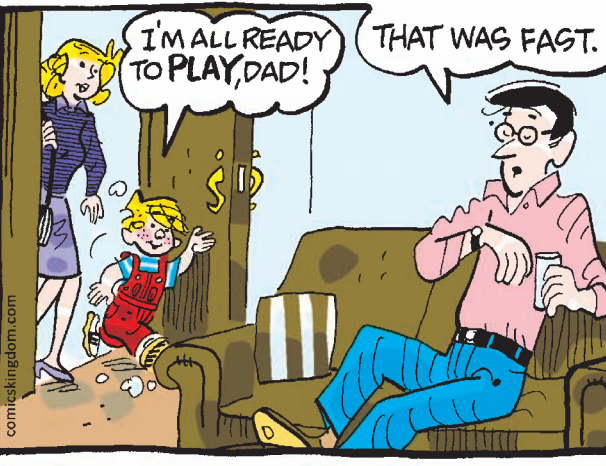
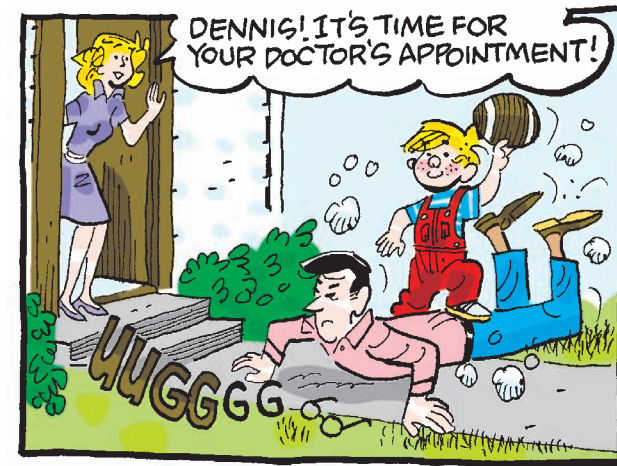
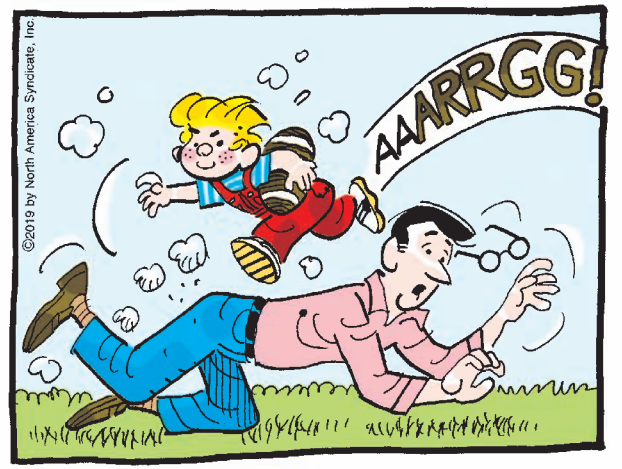
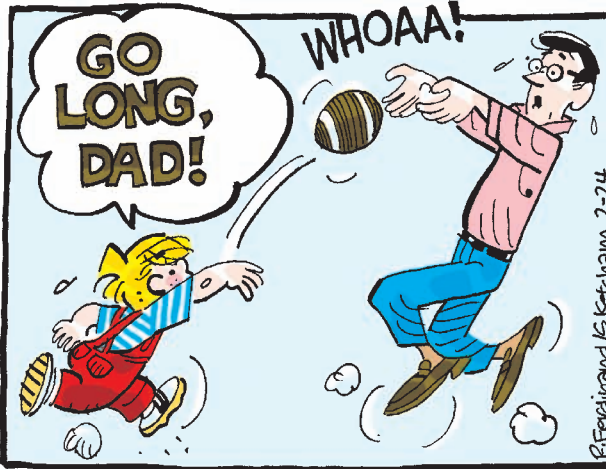
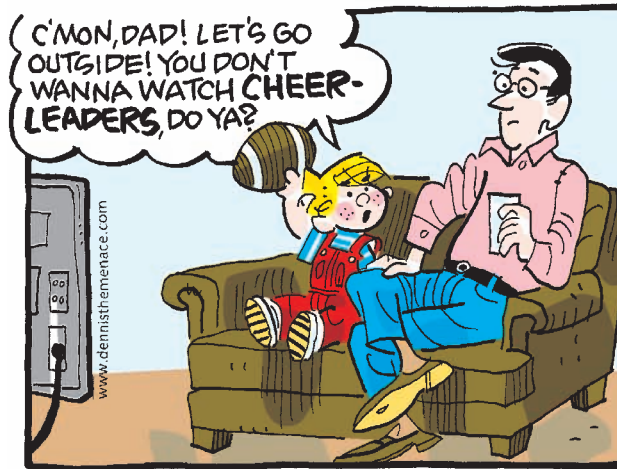
# THE PHANTOM

BY LEE FALK



# DENNIS THE MENACE

BY HANK KETCHAM



# PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

BY STEPHAN PASTIS

