

POPK NEWS SUN



2018 Polk County Charter Review Committee Voted
Three amendments to the Polk County Charter on the ballot Nov. 6
PG 4



Full sample ballot inside
Read up on the 12 proposed amendments to the Florida Constitution before you vote
PG 12



Two Bartow Middle School Students arrested
11 and 12-year old girls allegedly plot to kill other students
PG 19



Time to do your homework

WRITTEN BY CHARLES A BAKER III
cbaker@scmginc.com

POLK COUNTY - To those who have yet to make a final voting decision, there are no endorsements of candidates within, only summaries of what each has stated publicly. Read and make up your own mind. Every attempt was made to remain neutral on the candidates.

Speaking at a recent forum, Polk County Supervisor of Elections Lori Edwards said this is one of the largest ballots she has seen and Edwards recommended voters to, "do your homework." Inside the paper, a full sample ballot is printed to help you decide in advance.

First up is some homework reading about the 12 proposed amendments to the Florida Constitution, some that are fairly complicated. Each amendment was put on the ballot in one

of three ways: The Florida House and Senate can put amendments on the ballot if three fifths of the state legislators vote it on the ballot; Floridians can gather more than 766,200 unduplicated signatures to put an amendment proposal on the ballot; or the 37 members of the Florida Constitution Revision Commission can vote to put an amendment on the ballot. It takes 60 percent of votes (plus one) in favor for an amendment proposal to be passed.

VOTE | 6



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# THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

## "Patios, Pools, & the Invention of the American Backyard" Exhibit

**When:** Nov. 01-24, 2018  
**Where:** Lake Wales Museum & Cultural Center  
 325 S Scenic Hwy, Lake Wales.  
[cityoflakewales.com](http://cityoflakewales.com)  
 Presented by the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service (SITES) and the Smithsonian Gardens' Archive of American Gardens. The Lake Wales Museum is free and open to the public Tuesday - Saturday from 9 AM - 5 PM. (863) 676-1759

## Central Florida Job Fair

**When:** Nov. 01, 2018 | 10 a.m.-2 p.m.  
**Where:** Winter Haven Library  
 325 Avenue A NW, Winter Haven.  
[www.centralfloridamediagroup.com](http://www.centralfloridamediagroup.com)  
 Meet with some the area's top employers looking to fill positions at the Central Florida Job Fair. Career Source Polk will be in attendance to assist with program information and resources. Free Attendance Job Seeker Registration is Optional. Free Parking Pre-Register online at: [centralfloridamediagroup.com/job-fair/](http://centralfloridamediagroup.com/job-fair/)

## Turn That Yard Trash Into Black Gold

**When:** Nov. 01, 2018 | 10-11 a.m.  
**Where:** Mackay Gardens and Lakeside Preserve  
 945 Mackay Blvd, Lake Alfred.  
[polkgardening.eventbrite.com](http://polkgardening.eventbrite.com)  
 Recycling yard waste is a great way to clean your landscape and create less waste. Register online.

## "Fore the Kids" Dinner & Live Auction

**When:** Nov. 01, 2018 | 6 p.m.  
**Where:** Grove Roots Brewing Co.  
 302 3rd St. SW, Winter Haven.  
<https://secure.qgiv.com/for/ccbagci/event/793951/>  
 The "Fore the Kids" Golf Challenge is an annual fundraiser for the Citrus Center Boys and Girls Clubs, which serve an average of 700 children daily. This event is open to the public — you do not need to be participating in the tournament to attend! 100% of the proceeds benefit the Clubs! Purchase tickets online.

## "Fore the Kids" Golf Challenge

**When:** Nov. 02, 2018  
**Where:** Winter Haven Country Club  
 4200 Country Club Road S, Winter Haven.  
<https://secure.qgiv.com/for/ccbagci/event/793951/>  
 The "Fore the Kids" Golf Challenge is an annual fundraiser for the Citrus Center Boys and Girls Clubs, which serve an average of 700 children daily. Join us at the Country Club of Winter Haven, and its extraordinary golf course. Register online.

## First Friday Music: Coastal Acoustic Barefoot

**When:** Nov. 02, 2018 | 6:30-8 p.m.  
**Where:** Central Park, 4th St. NW, Winter Haven.  
 Bring a chair & listen to some music in the park!

## The Addams Family Young@Part

**When:** Nov. 02 - 04, 2018  
**Where:** Theatre Winter Haven  
 210 Cypress Gardens Blvd., Winter Haven.  
[www.theatrewinterhaven.com](http://www.theatrewinterhaven.com)  
 This fun-spirited musical will delight children of all ages with lots of quirky "family drama" like no other! (863) 294-SHOW (7469)

## A Nice Family Gathering

**When:** Nov. 02 - 18, 2018  
**Where:** Lake Wales Little Theatre  
 411 N 3rd St., Lake Wales.  
[http://lwlt.org](http://http://lwlt.org)  
 A story about a man who loved his wife so much, he almost told her. (863) 676-1266

## 12th Annual 39 Mile Yard Sale

**When:** Nov. 03, 2018 | 8 a.m.-3 p.m.  
**Where:** Ridge Scenic Highway.  
 The Ridge Scenic Highway (State Rd 17) will feature 7 "Official" locations in the Communities of Haines City, Lake Hamilton Dundee, Lake of the Hills, Lake Wales (2 sites) and Frostproof.

## Tai Chi in the Gardens

**When:** Nov. 03, 2018 | 8:30 a.m.  
**Where:** Bok Tower Gardens  
 1151 Tower Blvd., Lake Wales.  
<https://boktowergardens.org/>  
 Learn the ancient art of Tai Chi surrounded in the serenity of the Gardens. Individuals of all ages and physical conditions can use the fluid movements to help release tension, increase balance and relax. \$10 members/\$17 non-member. Buy tickets online. (863) 676-1408

## Lake Ashton Arts & Craft Fair

**When:** Nov. 03, 2018 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m.  
**Where:** Lake Ashton, 4141 Ashton Club Drive, Lake Wales.  
[www.hainescitychamber.com](http://www.hainescitychamber.com)  
 Fundraiser for the American Cancer Society. A variety of beautiful hand crafted items, Over 50 booths.

## Annual Garden Celebration

**When:** Nov. 03, 2018 | 9 a.m.-3 p.m.  
**Where:** HEART Village, 13895 Highway 27, Lake Wales.  
 Tickets are \$7.00 and can be purchased via EventBrite or at the entrance and includes lunch (while supplies last). Join us for garden workshops, shop with local vendors, say hello to the farm animals at our petting zoo, and join us for a Farm-To-Table meal (while supplies last) ALL included with your ticket.

## Touch-A-Truck

**When:** Nov. 03, 2018 | 10 a.m.-2 p.m.  
**Where:** Miracle Toyota  
 37048 HWY 27, Haines City.  
[hainescity.com](http://hainescity.com)

Bring the kids to explore all types of vehicles. We will also have bounce houses and food vendors!

## Make & Take Workshop: Creating Hypertufa Containers

**When:** Nov. 03, 2018 | 10 a.m.-12 p.m.  
**Where:** UF/IFAS Extension  
 1702 S Highway, Bartow.  
 Participants will make their own hypertufa pots to take home. Pre-registration is required. Come dressed for crafting. Cost is \$25.00 payable online by credit card only. If you have any questions, please contact us at [j.schelb@ufl.edu](mailto:j.schelb@ufl.edu) or 863-519-1041. For more information on our programs visit <http://polkextension.com>. 25

## Oak Hill Cemetery Tour

**When:** Nov. 03, 2018 | 11 a.m.  
**Where:** Polk County History Center  
 100 E Main St, Bartow.  
[www.polk-county.net/events](http://www.polk-county.net/events)  
 Regularly scheduled walking tours of historic Oak Hill Cemetery resume this month. The tour starts at the History Center with a short walk of approximately one mile to the cemetery. The cemetery tour is offered at 11 a.m. the first Saturday of every month, November through April. (863) 534-6000

## Fall Into the Gardens Wine Walk

**When:** Nov. 03, 2018 | 2-5 p.m.  
**Where:** Bok Tower Gardens  
 1151 Tower Blvd., Lake Wales.  
[boktowergardens.org](http://boktowergardens.org)  
 Sip and stroll through the Gardens while enjoying 10 carefully curated wines from around the world and light nibbles at each stop. Enjoy a special after party from 5pm-7pm with live music, dinner specials and shopping. \$25 members/\$35 non-members. Purchase tickets online or call (863) 734-1222.

## The Butler Did It

**When:** Nov. 03 - 18, 2018  
**Where:** Haines City Theatre  
 303 Ledwith Ave., Haines City.  
[hainescitytheatre.com](http://hainescitytheatre.com)  
 This deft and diabolically clever thriller mingles laughter and chills as it skillfully unwinds its twisted tale of murder and mayhem in the glittering world of the theatre. Director: David Smith. (863) 421-1893.

## Nature Tour

**When:** Nov. 04, 2018 | 2 p.m.  
**Where:** Mackay Gardens and Lakeside Preserve  
 945 Mackay Blvd, Lake Alfred.  
 Free nature tour at 2:00pm. (863) 291-5272.

## The Bartow Adult Concert Band: Back in The Swing Again

**When:** Nov. 04, 2018 | 2:30 p.m.  
**Where:** Bartow Civic Center  
 2250 S Floral Ave, Bartow.  
 A one-hour FREE concert with Conductor Phil Wharton.

## Cameos Memoirs Writing Class

**When:** Nov. 06, 2018 | 2-4 p.m.

**Where:** Winter Haven Public Library  
 325 Avenue A NW, Winter Haven.  
[www.mywinterhaven.com](http://www.mywinterhaven.com)  
 For more information, contact Beverly Lerner at (863) 294-6042 or [bevlerner@aol.com](mailto:bevlerner@aol.com)

## Yoga Dance

**When:** Nov. 06, 2018 | 5:30-6:30 p.m.  
**Where:** Bok Tower Gardens  
 1151 Tower Blvd., Lake Wales.  
[boktowergardens.org](http://boktowergardens.org)  
 Buy tickets online or call (863) 734-1222.

## Voting Day!

**When: Nov. 06, 2018**  
**Get out and VOTE!**

## POLK NEWS SUN

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# COUNTY NEWS

## Your Sheriff's Office is Well Trained

WRITTEN BY  
GRADY JUDD  
Sheriff

A part of being a ten star accredited agency is a dedication to continuous training that comports with the best practices of modern community-focused policing. There is a clear connection between high accreditation standards, quality technologically advanced training, and positive community relations.

On occasion, you will hear a story in the news where a law enforcement officer somewhere made a mistake or made a bad decision, and the results were not good. Mistakes, big and small, happen. In every profession, humans make errors. In the aftermath of these situations, people often say: "the police need better training." And that's a true thing, because you can never have too much training.

This is where I think you deserve to know that we at the Polk County Sheriff's Office are committed to ongoing top-notch training.

The men and women who work for us go through extensive training—annual, semi-annual, multi-annual, and even reminders and updates that occur at daily briefings. We have a culture of education and training. And it's not just for the deputies. There is online and classroom training for our office staff, crime scene techs, IT staff, and dispatchers (to name a few). And every single person who is employed at the agency goes through an annual customer service class to ensure that we put forth the best possible service to the people we serve.

The deputies, of course, do a wide variety of training, such as: weapons, protective action, community and proactive policing, effective communication, legal, medical training (AED, CPR, Basic First Aid, etc.), and mental health awareness. And there is much more.

We do all of this so hopefully we can avoid being in one of those stories, to keep our communities safer, and to better serve you.

## Construction underway!



City and county leaders broke ground on the Chain of Lakes Fieldhouse and Conference Center Oct. 26. The \$25M investment will include a 58K square foot gymnasium for the Lakeland Magic and community use, a large renovation for Theatre Winter Haven and the aquatics facility. Polk County Tourism and Sports Marketing Director Mark Jackson said he has already booked a few events. The renovated facility is expected to be completed by November 2019. Photo provided

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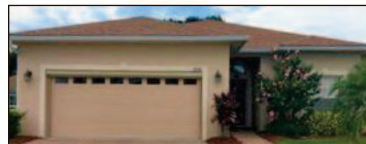
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Search P4901457 on cbhomes.com

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# Polk County Charter Amendments

WRITTEN BY  
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**POLK COUNTY** – As written in the Polk County Charter, a county version of the Florida Constitution, every eight years the Polk County Charter Review Commission meets to discuss the need for any amendments to the Polk County Charter.

The Polk County Charter Review Commission is similar to the Florida Constitution Revision Commission in that the members are all appointed and the appointments tend to be partisan. Because both commissions met in 2018, that is part of the reason why there are so many questions on the Nov. 6, 2018 ballot.

The Polk County Charter Review Commission met several times and held several public town halls between January and August 2018 to discuss what, if anything, to put on the ballot. The dozen county residents appointed to the commission came up with three proposed amendments.

## **Amendment One – Polk County Efficiency Commission**

The Polk County Charter currently states this commission meet every eight years to go over county and municipal budgets to determine if county politicians and staff could work more efficiently. When the commission last met, there was very little public input and they voted to recommend the commission be disbanded. Democrat-

ic candidate for Polk County Commission Karen Cooper Welzel said she was on this commission and that she did not vote to disband.

“There has to be a system of checks and balances,” Karen said recently.

A vote yes on this would remove the efficiency commission from the Polk County Charter.

## **Amendment Two – Term Limits**

The ballot question asks voters to approve a term limit to county commissioners to 12 years. That is somewhat confusing because it does not mention that the existing term limit for county commissioners is eight years. A vote yes on this would extend the term limit an additional four years. The committee, appointed by Polk County Commissioners, voted unanimously to propose extending term limits that could benefit some of the commissioners who appointed them.

## **Amendment Three – Charter Review Reform**

Like the Polk County Efficiency Commission, the public did not provide much input to the Polk County Charter Review Commission this year. Members on that committee unanimously voted to propose that the committee meet every 12 years, not every eight.



PHOTO PROVIDED  
The 2018 Polk County Charter Review Committee voted unanimously to put three amendments to the Polk County Charter on the ballot Nov. 6, 2018.

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# DeSantis comes to Bartow

WRITTEN BY  
CHARLES A BAKER III  
cbaker@scmginc.com

BARTOW – On Oct. 16 Republican candidate for Florida governor Ron DeSantis made a stump speech in front of the Old Polk County Courthouse to allege that his Democrat opponent Andrew Gillum was soft on crime.

Polk County Sheriff Grady Judd, Hernando County Sheriff Al Nienhuis, Sumter County Sheriff William Farmer Jr, Hardee County Sheriff Arnold Lanier, Hendry County Sheriff Steve Whidden and Pasco County Sheriff Chris Nocco all endorsed DeSantis, all claiming DeSantis is more qualified than Gillum on grounds of public safety.

“The contrast could not be greater between Ron DeSantis and Mayor Gillum of Tallahassee when it comes to public safety,” Sheriff Judd said. “Look at the Tallahassee crime rate under leadership of Ron’s opponent. It is 93 percent higher than the state average.”

According to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, while much higher than the state average, so are most other major Florida cities and Tallahassee

see is not in the top 25 of crime rate in Florida.

“DeSantis has our back and Andrew Gillum does not,” Sheriff Lanier said. “It disturbs me that he does not have our back in law enforcement.”

Sheriff Whidden claimed Gillum supported an anti-law enforcement group called Dream Defenders. Then DeSantis reached the podium and made another blanket statement of fear that could not be attributed to Gillum.

“Over the last several years there has been an unfortunate trend of trying to single law enforcement out for political attacks, painting with a broad brush, trying to manufacture controversies when you don’t have all the facts yet. I just want to say that is something I am not going to support as governor.”

Gillum does not appear to have made a public statement opposing law enforcement. Gillum said that Tallahassee is experiencing a five-year low in crime rate. Crime is lower than when he took office but it did spike relatively high in 2016 before coming back down the following year.



PHOTO BY CHARLES A BAKER III  
On Oct. 16 Republican candidate for Florida governor Ron DeSantis made a stump speech in front of the Old Polk County Courthouse with six area sheriffs including Polk County Sheriff Grady Judd.

**Get out and VOTE!**  
**Nov. 06, 2018**

# Final county commission member to be elected Nov. 6

WRITTEN BY  
CHARLES A BAKER III  
cbaker@scmginc.com

POLK COUNTY – With Rick Wilson winning his primary race and there be no Democrat running against him in the general, and with former county commissioner Melony Bell resigning before her term was over so that she could focus on her campaign for Florida Senate, Wilson is already on the county commission and the final member of the county commission will soon be sworn in after the Nov. 6 general election.

Both candidates for the final seat are women, ensuring that the county commission will not all be white, Republican men.

Of all of the local candidates for office, Mrs. Santiago may have been the most active. For the past 18 months, she has attended almost every major event and posted selfies as proof on her social media. Mrs. Santiago is the only candidate who has attended just about every county commission meeting over the last several months. She has also sat in on many other government meetings.

This will be her third attempt to get on the county commission but not from a lack of getting out in the public. Mrs. Santiago spoke at the Women’s Republican Club of Lakeland recently to pitch her case saying she represented Republican values and would fight for



PHOTO BY CHARLES A BAKER III  
Karen Cooper Welzel would be the only Democrat on the county commission if elected.

economic development, jobs, mental health problems and drug addiction as commissioner. She is endorsed by Sheriff Grady Judd.

“We need to make sure we vote for our Republican candidates from governor to Senate and all the way down,” Santiago said.

Karen Cooper Welzel, Santiago’s opponent, would be the only Democrat on the county commission if elected. The Winter Haven resident has also been active. She may have been a bit less active than Santiago over the past year but over the past 20 years, Karen has been a very active Democrat. Neither candidate has ever been elected. Republican John Wood defeated Karen in a 2012 Florida House race.

Recently Karen spoke at the Lake Ashton Democratic Club, saying that most of the county commissioners appear to be too heavily influenced by the Polk County Builder’s Association and other area developers.

“The commission does not represent us, the citizens, that is why I’m running,” Welzel said.

Welzel said Washington DC politics have a way of trickling down to local politics.

“I can’t let it go on anymore,” Welzel said.

This is a county-wide vote.



PHOTO BY CHARLES A BAKER III  
Martha Santiago is the Republican candidate for Polk County Commission.

# ON THE COVER

## VOTE

FROM PAGE 1

### **Amendment One – Increased Homestead Property Tax Exemption**

Proposed by the Florida legislature, this amendment is fairly simple to understand. Readers can check out the Oct. 17 edition of the newspaper at [www.winterhavensun.com](http://www.winterhavensun.com) to read about the Homestead Exemption expansion at length. During the Great Depression, many got behind on taxes but Florida politicians had no interest in taking away millions of homes. They passed a law making the first \$7K of primary residence property value exempt from taxes so that low-income families could afford to keep their homes during rough times.

In the 1960s the Florida legislature increased the exemption to \$10k. Voters passed Florida Constitution amendments expanding the exemption to \$25K in 1980, \$50K in 2008 and they will consider increasing it to \$75K on Nov. 6, 2018.

Currently, if you own a home valued at more than \$125K, the first \$25K in property value is exempt, the second is taxed, the third \$25K (value from \$50K to 75K) is exempt and all value beyond \$75K is taxed. If you vote yes in November, you would be voting in favor of an extension to exempt property value from \$100k to \$125K from being taxed.

Those who support an extension believe that local governments are using rising property tax values to increase taxes each year. For example, for years, the property tax millage rate in Winter Haven was 5.790 mills (or \$5.79 taxed for every \$1,000 in property value). Even though the millage rate did not change for many years, as property values rose, the city government collected more money to spend. State legislators want to restrict that local behavior through an amendment to the Florida Constitution.

Many local governments oppose the proposed expansion, saying local governments should set local tax policy, not tax mandates in the state constitution. Floridians with homes valued at under \$100K would get no financial benefit from Amendment One. It should also be considered that if the tax exemption is passed, it's likely some municipal and county millage rates may go up, meaning those with houses worth less than \$100K might end up paying more in property taxes whereas those with nicer homes pay less.

### **Amendment Two – Limitation on Property Tax Assessments**

In 2008 voters passed an amendment to the Florida Constitution placing a maximum property tax increase of 10 percent on non-homestead properties such as residential rentals and commercial properties. This was a temporary amendment set to expire in January 2019. A yes vote on Amendment Two means you are in favor of putting this 10 percent cap into the Florida Constitution permanently unless voters change it in the future. Voters approved a 3 percent cap on homestead property tax increases (with exceptions) in 1992. Like Amendment One, Amendment Two was put on the ballot by the state legislature. Supporters are generally business owners opposed to possible future tax hikes. Opponents say state law could change this and this is not something that should clutter the constitution.

### **Amendment Three – Voter Control of Gambling in Florida**

According to Lori Edwards, it is next to impossible for a citizen initiative to get an amendment to the Florida Constitution on the ballot without substantial help from powerful special interests with access to lots of money. Sometimes it helps knowing what special interests are involved and combining that information with some common sense on why they are involved in order to make an educated vote.

The Florida Chamber of Commerce and Hill Research Consultants polled voters about Amendment Three and found that most Floridians are in favor of this amendment. The wording is a bit misleading. "Voters shall have exclusive right to decide whether to authorize casino gambling," sounds as if Winter Haven voters want a casino, Winter Haven can vote for one. However, if you vote yes for this amendment, 60 percent of all Floridians would have to vote in favor of Winter Haven getting a casino.

Walt Disney World officers and the Seminole Tribe have spent nearly \$37M trying to get this on the ballot. Opponents say voting no means local casino referendums would still be legally viable.

### **Amendment Four – Voting Restoration Amendment**

This is an amendment with apparent support and opposition split on party lines. Many Florida Democrat politi-

cians support it. Gov. Rick Scott, Florida Commissioner of Agriculture Adam Putnam and Florida Speaker of the House Richard Corcoran, all powerful Republicans, have voiced opposition to it.

A yes vote means you support that felons not convicted of murder or sexual offenses get their right to vote automatically restored upon completion of probation and parole. Once he got elected, Gov. Scott reversed policy set by former Gov. Charlie Christ, making felons wait five to seven years after completing probation and parole before they can apply to have their rights restored. The courts have been divisive as to whether Gov. Scott's policy is constitutional. Commissioner Putnam has said he is not in favor of automatically restoring rights to all violent offenders except murderers and sexual offenders.

According to the Florida Commission on Offender Review, since 2011 around 30K applications have been received with only 10 percent approved. Florida is one of four states nationwide with similar policy. Around 1.5M Floridians cannot vote because of this policy. Over the last decade or so, many elections have been tight. For example, Hillary got 4,504,975 votes and President Trump got 4,617,886 in the last presidential election. Gov. Scott is currently in an anybody could win race for U.S. Senate with Sen. Bill Nelson. While a vote in favor of Amendment Four would not affect the Nov. 6 midterm election, it could affect subsequent tight elections in Florida.

### **Amendment Five – Supermajority Vote Required to Impose, Authorize or Raise State Taxes or Fees**

This is an amendment that Gov. Rick Scott asked be placed on the ballot in his last State of the State address that later passed the state legislature. Currently, it requires a simple majority or the legislature to raise taxes.

The Florida Chamber of Commerce did a poll on this and voters are split with one-third in favor, one-third in opposition and one-third undecided. Those who oppose it primarily say this amendment to the Florida Constitution would make it harder to raise taxes in the event of an emergency such as a major hurricane or an unforeseen extreme downturn in the economy. Those who support it favor making it harder for state legislators to raise taxes.

### **Amendment Six – Rights of Crime Victims; Judges**

This is an amendment placed on the

ballot by the Florida Constitution Revision Commission. Florida is the only state in the country with a commission that can place amendments to a state constitution on the ballot. According to Florida state law, the governor appoints 15 members to the commission, the Senate president gets nine, the Speaker of the House gets nine and the attorney general gets a seat. All of these politicians are Republicans who mostly appointed other Republicans to the commission. The Chief Justice of the Florida Supreme Court got to appoint three people, two of which were Democrats.

When there is a citizen initiative to amend the Florida Constitution or if an amendment put on the ballot by the legislature, state law mandates there be only one subject in the amendment. State law has no such restriction on proposals put on the ballot by the commission, meaning they put forward amendments that, some say, are confusing, with multiple subjects like Amendment Six: a proposal to increase victim rights, increasing the forced retirement age of judges and requiring judges not to rely on how state employees interpret state law in certain hearings.

Part one of this proposal basically puts some victim rights that are law already and adds them to the Florida Constitution such as the victim's right to be made aware of criminal hearings. Opponents to part one of Amendment Six say if a victim right already exists in Florida Statutes, it is not necessary to clutter the constitution with it. Expanding rights may also overburden court staff in an already busy system. Supporters want to expand some victim rights.

Raising the retiring age of judges from 70 to 75 is part two, something that makes sense but some question the need for it to be a part of the Florida Constitution. As to the third part of Amendment Six, current Florida law states that laws that instruct state employees how to do their job can be interpreted by said employees. This amendment would make it so that only judges had that power.

### **Amendment Seven – First Responder and Military Member Survivor Benefits; Public Colleges and Universities**

The first subject involves death benefits and waiving certain education fees. State law currently mandates that most first responders get death benefits from their employer. This amendment would expand first responders to include paramedics and EMTs for death benefits and waiving certain education fees.

**VOTE | 11**

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# Two Republicans face off for Florida House seat

WRITTEN BY  
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BARTOW – After more than a decade on the Ft. Meade City Commission and the Polk County Board of County Commissioners, Melony Bell has set her sights on a state house seat.

She is facing fellow Republican and political newcomer Jeff Mann.

The race for District 56, covering most of south Polk County and into Wauchula and Arcadia, has been somewhat controversial. During the primaries, the Ledger alleged in print that Mann had tricked one of his friends to run as a third party and then drop out at the last minute to void the primary election and give him, the underdog, more time to campaign.

Mann denied these allegations to the Winter Haven Sun. A few weeks ago, mail-in ballots were sent out in Hardee County labeling Mann as a Democrat.

Bell has referred to Mann as a liar. Mann has referred to Bell as being less conservative. Both are proud gun owners who are not shy talking about guns.

Recently the two spoke at the Women's Republican Club of Lakeland.

"We need to send more Republicans to not only Washington DC but Tallahassee and here in the county," Bell said.

Like county commission candidate Martha Santiago, Melony Bell has



PHOTO BY CHARLES A BAKER III  
Jeff Mann speaks at a Women's Republican Club of Lakeland candidate forum recently.

worked hard appearing at many public events over the past year campaigning. She said she is endorsed by all of the sheriffs in District 56, the Polk County Builder's Association, Polk County Farm Bureau and that she fully supports first responders, safety, economic development, and vocation education.

Jeff Mann said for years he has been traveling to Tallahassee to meet with his state legislators for weeks at a time and now he wants to be part of the team.

"People don't realize it's not a country club up there, it's hard work," Mann said.

Mann said the Polk County Commission has not worked well with state legislators over the past few years and that is one of the main reasons why he decided to run against Bell.

Each of the county commissioners, including Bell, have been critical of state legislators of late, primarily in opposition to the expansion of the homestead exemption, which would decrease the amount of money the county, and cities, can spend locally.



PHOTO BY CHARLES A BAKER III  
After terming at county commission, Ft. Meade resident Melony Bell is running for a Florida Senate seat.

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# US House District 9, a rematch

WRITTEN BY  
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WINTER HAVEN – There are three seats in the U.S. House up for grabs Nov. 6, but in places where the Sun is distributed, the vast majority of readers will be voting in Congressional District 9, a race against incumbent Democrat Darren Soto and Republican Wayne Liebnietsky.

After redistricting, District 9 has been heavy Democratic territory over the past two elections giving Liebnietsky an uphill battle.

In 2016, Congressman Soto defeated Liebnietsky 57.5 percent to 42.5 percent in the general election. In 2014, the very liberal Alan Grayson repre-

sented the district. Grayson lost to Soto in the 2018 primaries, putting up "Dump Trump" billboards everywhere. Rep. Soto appears to be more moderate than Grayson ever was.

Congressman Soto has heavily out-fundraised Liebnietsky. Congressman Soto has been fairly active in his first term in office. He sponsored or co-sponsored 770 bills according to the Library of Congress.

Mr. Liebnietsky is in favor of the tax cuts put in place and describes the liberals who opposed it as socialists. He is also in favor of building a wall between the United States and Mexico.

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# Florida Senate District 22

WRITTEN BY  
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WINTER HAVEN – The Florida Senate seat representing Winter Haven, Haines City, Auburndale, Polk City, Dundee and other areas of northeast Polk County is District 22, a district race featuring incumbent Republican Kelli Stargel and Democrat newcomer and retired Judge Bob Doyel.

This political race appears to have been somewhat civil. The candidates have their differences but neither appear as firebrand and emotional as some of the other candidates.

What the two appear to most disagree about involves whether charter schools equal more choice or a negative effect on traditional zoned public school funding.

Sen. Stargel has repeatedly gone on record to say that her children did not excel in their primary zoned school and that school choice gave her the opportunity to put her children in charter schools. As a state legislator,

Sen. Stargel has been a loud advocate for school choice.

Judge Doyel disagrees and thinks that forcing traditional zoned public schools to share public tax dollars with private non-profit charter schools is not a good use of tax dollars. Judge Doyel has produced ads saying he grew up in a low-income household, and that if it were not for good public school teachers and scholarships, he would not be the man he is today.

Both appear very well respected with their political base and it will be interesting to see who wins this race on the education issue alone.

On their websites, Judge Doyel said as a Vietnam veteran, he wants to provide more help to veterans and that he supports the concept of home rule. As a retired judge, public safety is also a priority.

Sen. Stargel wrote that she is business-friendly and also supports investments in public safety.

# Florida Senate District 26

WRITTEN BY  
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LAKE WALES – Florida Senate District 26 represents Lake Wales, Bartow, Mulberry, Frostproof, Ft. Meade and everything south of SR60. It is one of the largest districts in the state with Highlands, Hardee, DeSoto, Glades and Okeechobee counties represented plus parts of Lee County.

This is another race that should be interesting, pitting two intelligent and civil candidates against each other.

Ben Albritton is a Republican farmer from Hardee County who is terming out of the Florida House after eight years of service. Mr. Albritton has a running head start in terms of knowing how things work in Tallahassee compared to Lake Wales Democrat Catherine Price who has never been elected.

In terms of elections, Mr. Albritton has not received many qualified op-

ponents like Price over the years. His only opponent in 2010 was a write-in candidate. He ran unopposed in 2012 and 2014 and in the 2016 election he crushed his opponent whose name was not well known. Albritton has lots of experience on state committees and has received many accolades meaning he probably hasn't had to campaign much in the past. Aside from putting up a few signs of late, he did not campaign much in Polk County this year.

Price admitted Albritton has a head start but she also said he has not done as much campaigning and that when he is interviewed in newspapers he talks in platitudes using words like freedom instead of talking specifics. Albritton did not respond to a request for comment from the Sun.

Price said she opposes the privatization of schools, school vouchers, and charter schools and will work to increase school funding overall. She said she is also an advocate for the environment.

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# Polk County School Board votes

WRITTEN BY  
CHARLES A BAKER III  
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POLK COUNTY – The Polk County School Board race may come down to whether you support outspoken Billy Townsend, who has repeatedly challenged, and upset, several board members and state legislators ever since he was elected in 2016.

Townsend is a loud critic of House Bill 7069, which passed during a late night special legislative session in 2017. The 2017 legislative session ended with the governor, Senate President, and House Speaker all upset. The governor wanted money for corporate tax incentives and state legislators wanted funding for charter schools. Neither got into the final budget so they called a special session to get both projects funded. HB7069 forced local school boards to share funding with charter schools.

A majority of the other school members subsequently voted to sue the state over HB7069 but the others have not been nearly as vocal in their opposition.

Townsend aggressively went after school board member Tim Harris and Superintendent Jacqueline Byrd over alleged sexual harassment claims against a Tenoroc principal. More recently Townsend accused longtime school board member Kay Fields of starting a political alliance with Kelli Stargel and other charter school supporters.

There have been a few meetings where Fields has expressed emotion about some of these allegations but for the most part, keeps her emotions in check. Days after Townsend made accusations against Fields online, she posted this.

"I believe in being respectful in doing the work of the school board," Fields posted on social media recently. "We have an amazing superintendent, amazing career academies and amazing employees."

Longtime school board members Tim Harris and Hazel Sellers both decided not to run for re-election.

During the primaries, there were three open seats up for grabs. In the seat Harris vacated, Townsend endorsed Lisa Miller, who won in a landslide, avoiding a Nov. 6 runoff election. Townsend also endorsed Sarah Fortney, in the seat Sellers vacated, and Jennifer Sabin, who is running against five-term incumbent Kay Fields, in runoff elections Nov. 6.

Townsend appears to be hoping that Fortney and Sabin win to create a voting block more favorable to his paradigm. Fortney, a longtime science teacher, is running against Scott Jones, a store manager at Publix. Jones supports fiscal responsibility, policies that give teachers freedom and expanding career academies.

Sabin is a former teacher who opposes "rubber stamped management" and state school testing mandates.

## VOTE

FROM PAGE 6

It would also mandate the state pay death benefits and waive certain education fees to military families who suffered an in-death. Currently, the federal government provides death benefits to military families, this would also require the state to do so. Opponents say there is nothing in the proposal about how to fund this. Supporters want to give these Americans more benefits.

On the second part, currently, state law requires a simple majority to raise public college fees. This amendment would require college boards to have a supermajority of around 70 percent to raise fees. This amendment would also change how college boards are populated.

Most of the expressed opposition to this amendment is similar to opposition to everything proposed by the commission. Jumbling multiple subjects into an amendment proposed by partisan appointed members can be questionable to some. Supporters appear to be anybody willing to spend more money on first responders and less on education.

**Amendment Nine – Prohibits Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling; Prohibits Vaping in Enclosed Indoor Workplaces**

Amendment Eight was deleted. Based on research, most Florida newspapers and non-profits who publish amendment explanations, part one of Amendment Nine seems something most support, a constitutional ban of offshore drilling. The problem is many of these same people do not believe vaping should also be in the Florida Constitution. State legislators are capable of passing laws banning both.

**Amendment Ten – State and Local Government Structure and Operation**

Part one would mandate that voters in all 67 Florida counties elect a sheriff, a tax collector, a property appraiser, a supervisor of elections and a clerk of court. Miami-Dade appoints a public safety director and there is no elected sheriff. This would force change in that county. Polk elects all of these officials already. Part two mandates that legislative sessions in even years start in January, not March. Essentially what this would do is give incumbents in elections more time to campaign instead of lawmaking. Part three mandates FDLE

have a counter terrorism office. The FDLE is already the lead counter terrorism agency in the state.

**Amendment Eleven – Property Rights, Removal of Obsolete Provision, Criminal Statutes**

Part one repeals the part of the Florida Constitution that bans illegal immigrants from owning land in Florida. This law that is not currently enforced and as such may not need to still be in the constitution. Part two removes some language about high-speed rail which was not approved by voters in the past and is no longer applicable. Part three repeals a part of the constitution that says laws are not retroactive. In layman's terms, and hypothetically, let's say a few years from now marijuana possession becomes legal in small quantities. Voting yes would mean anybody already in jail for possessing a small amount would be let out if possession in small quantity became legal after said conviction.

**Amendment Twelve – Lobbying and Abuse of Office by Public Officers**

Current law states that politicians cannot become paid lobbyists for two years after leaving office. Voting yes on Amendment Twelve would increase that to six years. While this seems to make sense, why does such a rule need to be in the constitution? Legislators could easily amend existing law.

**Amendment Thirteen – Ends Dog Racing**

Of all the 12 amendment proposals on the ballot Nov. 6, the one that is getting the most attention on social media is Amendment 13. A line in the proposal reads, "The humane treatment of animals is a fundamental value of the people of the State of Florida."

Many on social media are claiming that voting yes on 13 would translate into animal rights activists trying to ban hunting, fishing and any human activity they believe hurts animals. Judicial review has already ruled that there is no legal justification for that social media legal argument. Opponents say the free market is already getting rid of greyhound racing all over the state. Supporters are generally animal rights activists who oppose dog abuse.

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## General Election Sample Ballot Polk County, Florida November 6, 2018

- Instructions: To vote, fill in the oval (●) completely next to your choice. Use black or blue pen.
- If you make a mistake, ask for a new ballot. Do not cross out or your vote may not count.
- To vote for a write-in candidate, fill in the oval (●) and print the name clearly on the blank line provided.

<b>United States Senator</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Rick Scott	REP
<input type="radio"/> Bill Nelson	DEM
<input type="radio"/> Write-in _____	
<i>Only voters who live in Congressional District 9 will vote in this race</i>	
<b>Representative in Congress, District 9</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Wayne Liebnitzky	REP
<input type="radio"/> Darren Soto	DEM
<i>Only voters who live in Congressional District 15 will vote in this race</i>	
<b>Representative in Congress, District 15</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Ross Spano	REP
<input type="radio"/> Kristen Carlson	DEM
<input type="radio"/> Write-in _____	
<i>Only voters who live in Congressional District 17 will vote in this race</i>	
<b>Representative in Congress, District 17</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Greg Steube	REP
<input type="radio"/> April Freeman	DEM
<b>Governor and Lieutenant Governor</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Ron DeSantis	REP
<input type="radio"/> Jeanette Nuñez	
<input type="radio"/> Andrew Gillum	DEM
<input type="radio"/> Chris King	
<input type="radio"/> Darcy G. Richardson	REF
<input type="radio"/> Nancy Argenziano	
<input type="radio"/> Kyle "KC" Gibson	NPA
<input type="radio"/> Ellen Wilds	
<input type="radio"/> Ryan Christopher Foley	NPA
<input type="radio"/> John Tutton Jr	
<input type="radio"/> Bruce Stanley	NPA
<input type="radio"/> Ryan Howard McJury	
<input type="radio"/> Write-in _____	
<b>Attorney General</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Ashley Moody	REP
<input type="radio"/> Sean Shaw	DEM
<input type="radio"/> Jeffrey Marc Siskind	NPA
<b>Chief Financial Officer</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Jimmy Patronis	REP
<input type="radio"/> Jeremy Ring	DEM
<input type="radio"/> Write-in _____	
<b>Commissioner of Agriculture</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Matt Caldwell	REP
<input type="radio"/> Nicole "Nikki" Fried	DEM
<i>Only voters who live in State Senate District 20 will vote in this race</i>	
<b>State Senator, District 20</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Tom Lee	REP
<input type="radio"/> Kathy Lewis	DEM
<i>Only voters who live in State Senate District 22 will vote in this race</i>	
<b>State Senator, District 22</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Kelli Stargel	REP
<input type="radio"/> Bob Doyel	DEM
<i>Only voters who live in State Senate District 26 will vote in this race</i>	
<b>State Senator, District 26</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Ben Albritton	REP
<input type="radio"/> Catherine Price	DEM
<i>Only voters who live in State House District 39 will vote in this race</i>	
<b>State Representative, District 39</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Josie Tomkow	REP
<input type="radio"/> Ricky Shirah	DEM

<i>Only voters who live in State House District 40 will vote in this race</i>	
<b>State Representative, District 40</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Colleen Burton	REP
<input type="radio"/> Shandale Terrell	DEM
<i>Only voters who live in State House District 42 will vote in this race</i>	
<b>State Representative, District 42</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Mike La Rosa	REP
<input type="radio"/> Barbara Cady	DEM
<i>Only voters who live in State House District 56 will vote in this race</i>	
<b>State Representative, District 56</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Melony Bell	REP
<input type="radio"/> Jeff Mann	REP
<b>County Commissioner, District 4</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Martha Santiago	REP
<input type="radio"/> Karen Cooper Welzel	DEM
<b>Justice of the Supreme Court</b>	
Shall Justice Alan Lawson of the Supreme Court be retained in Office?	
<input type="radio"/> Yes	
<input type="radio"/> No	
<b>District Court of Appeal</b>	
Shall Judge Anthony K. Black of the Second District Court of Appeal be retained in Office?	
<input type="radio"/> Yes	
<input type="radio"/> No	
Shall Judge Darryl C. Casanueva of the Second District Court of Appeal be retained in Office?	
<input type="radio"/> Yes	
<input type="radio"/> No	
Shall Judge Edward C. LaRose of the Second District Court of Appeal be retained in Office?	
<input type="radio"/> Yes	
<input type="radio"/> No	
Shall Judge Susan H. Rothstein-Youakim of the Second District Court of Appeal be retained in Office?	
<input type="radio"/> Yes	
<input type="radio"/> No	
<b>Circuit Judge, 10th Judicial Circuit, Group 10</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Melissa Gravitt	
<input type="radio"/> Keith P. Merritt	
<b>School Board, District 3</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Sarah Fortney	
<input type="radio"/> Scott Jones	
<b>School Board, District 5</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Kay Fields	
<input type="radio"/> Jennifer Sabin	
<i>Only voters who live in Golden Lakes Community Development District will vote in this race</i>	
<b>Golden Lakes Community Development District, Seat 3</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Larry Knapp	
<input type="radio"/> Alan Lukhaub	
<i>Only voters who live in Lake Ashton Community Development District will vote in this race</i>	
<b>Lake Ashton Community Development District, Seat 2</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Robert (Bob) Plummer	
<input type="radio"/> Lloyd J. Van Sickle	

<i>Only voters who live in Lake Ashton Community Development District will vote in this race</i>	
<b>Lake Ashton Community Development District, Seat 4</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Allen H. Goldstein	
<input type="radio"/> Harry Krumrie	
<input type="radio"/> Murray S. Zacharia	
<i>Only voters who live in Lake Ashton II Community Development District will vote in this race</i>	
<b>Lake Ashton II Community Development District, Seat 1</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> James Joseph Mecsecs	
<input type="radio"/> John Velebir	
<i>Only voters who live in Poinciana Community Development District will vote in this race</i>	
<b>Poinciana Community Development District, Seat 1</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Tony Reed	
<input type="radio"/> LeRue "Skip" Stelfox	
<i>Only voters who live in Poinciana Community Development District will vote in this race</i>	
<b>Poinciana Community Development District, Seat 2</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Cherry Brown	
<input type="radio"/> Michael Luddy	
<i>Only voters who live in Poinciana Community Development District will vote in this race</i>	
<b>Poinciana Community Development District, Seat 3</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Elizabeth Lambrides	
<input type="radio"/> Bill Land	
<i>Only voters who live in Poinciana West Community Development District will vote in this race</i>	
<b>Poinciana West Community Development District, Seat 1</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> William "Bill" Brown	
<input type="radio"/> Peggy Gregory	
<i>Only voters who live in Poinciana West Community Development District will vote in this race</i>	
<b>Poinciana West Community Development District, Seat 2</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Joe Gecewicz	
<input type="radio"/> Roy D. LaRue	
<b>Polk Soil and Water Conservation District, Group 2</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Joe Garrison	
<input type="radio"/> Greg Williams	
<b>Polk Soil and Water Conservation District, Group 3</b> (Vote for 1)	
<input type="radio"/> Kyle Carlton	
<input type="radio"/> OnDrew Hartigan	
<b>Proposed Constitutional Amendments</b>	
<b>No. 1 Constitutional Amendment, Article VII, Section 6, Article XII, Section 37</b> <b>Increased Homestead Property Tax Exemption</b>	
Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to increase the homestead exemption by exempting the assessed valuation of homestead property greater than \$100,000 and up to \$125,000 for all levies other than school district levies. The amendment shall take effect January 1, 2019.	
<input type="radio"/> Yes	
<input type="radio"/> No	

Proposed Constitutional Amendments
<p><b>No. 2 Constitutional Amendment, Article XII, Section 27</b></p> <p><b>Limitations on Property Tax Assessments</b></p> <p>Proposing an amendment to the State Constitution to permanently retain provisions currently in effect, which limit property tax assessment increases on specified nonhomestead real property, except for school district taxes, to 10 percent each year. If approved, the amendment removes the scheduled repeal of such provisions in 2019 and shall take effect January 1, 2019.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>
<p><b>No. 3 Constitutional Amendment, Article X, Section 29</b></p> <p><b>Voter Control of Gambling in Florida</b></p> <p>This amendment ensures that Florida voters shall have the exclusive right to decide whether to authorize casino gambling by requiring that in order for casino gambling to be authorized under Florida law, it must be approved by Florida voters pursuant to Article XI, Section 3 of the Florida Constitution. Affects articles X and XI. Defines casino gambling and clarifies that this amendment does not conflict with federal law regarding state/tribal compacts.</p> <p>The amendment's impact on state and local government revenues and costs, if any, cannot be determined at this time because of its unknown effect on gambling operations that have not been approved by voters through a constitutional amendment proposed by a citizens' initiative petition process.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>
<p><b>No. 4 Constitutional Amendment, Article VI, Section 4</b></p> <p><b>Voting Restoration Amendment</b></p> <p>This amendment restores the voting rights of Floridians with felony convictions after they complete all terms of their sentence including parole or probation. The amendment would not apply to those convicted of murder or sexual offenses, who would continue to be permanently barred from voting unless the Governor and Cabinet vote to restore their voting rights on a case by case basis.</p> <p>The precise effect of this amendment on state and local government costs cannot be determined, but the operation of current voter registration laws, combined with an increased number of felons registering to vote, will produce higher overall costs relative to the processes in place today. The impact, if any, on state and local government revenues cannot be determined. The fiscal impact of any future legislation that implements a different process cannot be reasonably determined.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>
<p><b>No. 5 Constitutional Amendment, Article VII, Section 19</b></p> <p><b>Supermajority Vote Required to Impose, Authorize, or Raise State Taxes or Fees</b></p> <p>Prohibits the legislature from imposing, authorizing, or raising a state tax or fee except through legislation approved by a two-thirds vote of each house of the legislature in a bill containing no other subject. This proposal does not authorize a state tax or fee otherwise prohibited by the Constitution and does not apply to fees or taxes imposed or authorized to be imposed by a county, municipality, school board, or special district.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>

Proposed Constitutional Amendments
<p><b>No. 6 Constitutional Revision, Article I, Section 16, Article V, Sections 8 and 21, Article XII, New Section</b></p> <p><b>Rights of Crime Victims; Judges</b></p> <p>Creates constitutional rights for victims of crime; requires courts to facilitate victims' rights; authorizes victims to enforce their rights throughout criminal and juvenile justice processes. Requires judges and hearing officers to independently interpret statutes and rules rather than deferring to government agency's interpretation. Raises mandatory retirement age of state justices and judges from seventy to seventy-five years; deletes authorization to complete judicial term if one-half of term has been served by retirement age.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>
<p><b>No. 7 Constitutional Revision, Article IX, Sections 7 and 8, Article X, New Section</b></p> <p><b>First Responder and Military Member Survivor Benefits; Public Colleges and Universities</b></p> <p>Grants mandatory payment of death benefits and waiver of certain educational expenses to qualifying survivors of certain first responders and military members who die performing official duties. Requires supermajority votes by university trustees and state university system board of governors to raise or impose all legislatively authorized fees if law requires approval by those bodies. Establishes existing state college system as constitutional entity; provides governance structure.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>
<p><b>No. 9 Constitutional Revision, Article II, Section 7, Article X, Section 20</b></p> <p><b>Prohibits Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling; Prohibits Vaping in Enclosed Indoor Workplaces</b></p> <p>Prohibits drilling for the exploration or extraction of oil and natural gas beneath all state-owned waters between the mean high water line and the state's outermost territorial boundaries. Adds use of vapor-generating electronic devices to current prohibition of tobacco smoking in enclosed indoor workplaces with exceptions; permits more restrictive local vapor ordinances.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>
<p><b>No. 10 Constitutional Revision, Article III, Section 3, Article IV, Sections 4 and 11, Article VIII, Sections 1 and 6</b></p> <p><b>State and Local Government Structure and Operation</b></p> <p>Requires legislature to retain department of veterans' affairs. Ensures election of sheriffs, property appraisers, supervisors of elections, tax collectors, and clerks of court in all counties; removes county charters' ability to abolish, change term, transfer duties, or eliminate election of these offices. Changes annual legislative session commencement date in even-numbered years from March to January; removes legislature's authorization to fix another date. Creates office of domestic security and counterterrorism within department of law enforcement.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>
<p><b>No. 11 Constitutional Revision, Article I, Section 2, Article X, Sections 9 and 19</b></p> <p><b>Property Rights; Removal of Obsolete Provision; Criminal Statutes</b></p> <p>Removes discriminatory language related to real property rights. Removes obsolete language repealed by voters. Deletes provision that amendment of a criminal statute will not affect prosecution or penalties for a crime committed before the amendment; retains current provision allowing prosecution of a crime committed before the repeal of a criminal statute.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>

Proposed Constitutional Amendments
<p><b>No. 12 Constitutional Revision, Article II, Section 8, Article V, Section 13, Article XII, New Section</b></p> <p><b>Lobbying and Abuse of Office by Public Officers</b></p> <p>Expands current restrictions on lobbying for compensation by former public officers; creates restrictions on lobbying for compensation by serving public officers and former justices and judges; provides exceptions; prohibits abuse of a public position by public officers and employees to obtain a personal benefit.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>
<p><b>No. 13 Constitutional Revision, Article X, New Section, Article XII, New Section</b></p> <p><b>Ends Dog Racing</b></p> <p>Phases out commercial dog racing in connection with wagering by 2020. Other gaming activities are not affected.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>
<p><b>Proposed Charter Amendments</b></p>
<p><b>Amendment No. 1</b></p> <p><b>Polk County Efficiency Commission</b></p> <p>Amends the County Charter to remove all provisions related to the Polk County Efficiency Commission. Terminates the current Charter requirement to appoint the Polk County Efficiency Commission every eight years. Deletes Charter provisions related to appointment standards, qualifications, duties of members and other officers, commission reports and required responses. Shall the above described amendment be adopted?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>
<p><b>Amendment No. 2</b></p> <p><b>Term Limits</b></p> <p>Amends the County Charter to prohibit an incumbent from appearing on the ballot for re-election to the office of County Commissioner if, by the end of the current term of office, the incumbent will have served (or, but for resignation would have served) as a Commissioner for twelve (12) consecutive years. Service as a Commissioner before November 20, 2018 shall be counted against the term limitation. Shall the above described amendment be adopted?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>
<p><b>Amendment No. 3</b></p> <p><b>Charter Review Reform</b></p> <p>Amends the County Charter to increase the time between appointments of the mandatory Polk County Charter Review Commission to twelve (12) years. Adds explanatory language to the County Charter confirming the County Commission's authority to propose charter amendments and to create a special advisory charter review board at any time. Shall the above described amendment be adopted?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>
<p><b>Proposed County Referendum</b></p>
<p><b>Continuation of Countywide School One-Half Cent Sales Surtax for Capital Improvements to Educational Facilities</b></p> <p>Shall the Polk County School Board continue to levy a countywide one-half cent sales surtax for the next 15 years to be used for capital expenditures to improve student and campus safety, renovate, expand, modernize existing schools and facilities, upgrade technology and security projects and for new construction for growth including the purchase of land for the overall improvement to facilities, for student achievement, and well-being to become effective January 1, 2019.</p> <p><input type="radio"/> For the one-half cent sales tax <input type="radio"/> Against the one-half cent sales tax</p>



# Judicial voting

WRITTEN BY  
CHARLES A BAKER III  
cbaker@scmginc.com

POLK COUNTY – The Florida Bar Association is likely the best source of information for whether any given judge should retain a seat.

Polk County is part of the Second District Court of Appeals, a district with four judges who must be retained by vote Nov. 6.

Those judges are: Alan Lawson, Anthony Black, Darryl Casanueva, Edward LaRose and Susan Rothstein-Youakim. According to the Florida Bar 2018 Merit Retention Poll, lawyers with considerable knowledge of these judges say 86, 91, 90, 91 and 85 percent of these lawyers believe the judges should be retained respectively.

Two local residents are campaigning to become a 10th Judicial Circuit judge, Keith Merritt, and Melissa Gravitt.

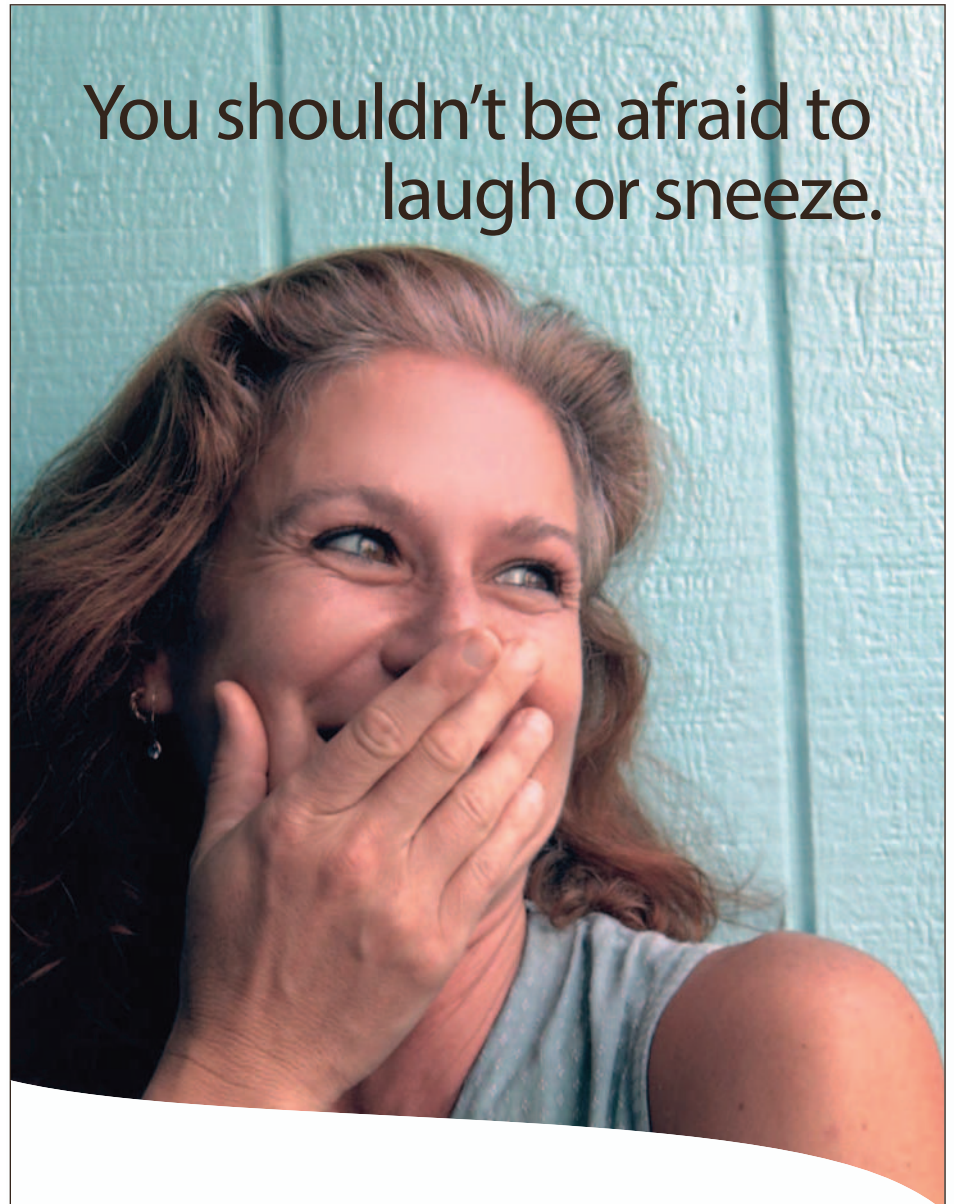
Mr. Merritt is a former Lakeland city commissioner who is a bankruptcy and foreclosure lawyer in private practice. Keith is a Navy veteran who has been a Guardian Ad Litem volunteer protecting abused children for many years.

“To be effective a judge must have service in his heart,” Merritt said.

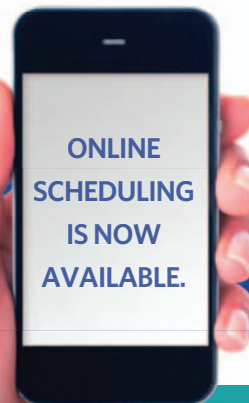
Melissa Gravitt has been an assistant state attorney for the past six years, three as felony division chief. She described that experience as prosecuting “the worst of the worst” on her website. Mrs. Gravitt has also been a longtime GAL volunteer working with abused children. She is also a member of the Federal Judicial Nominating Commission and she is an adjunct professor at Polk State College where she helps train law enforcement officer trainees.

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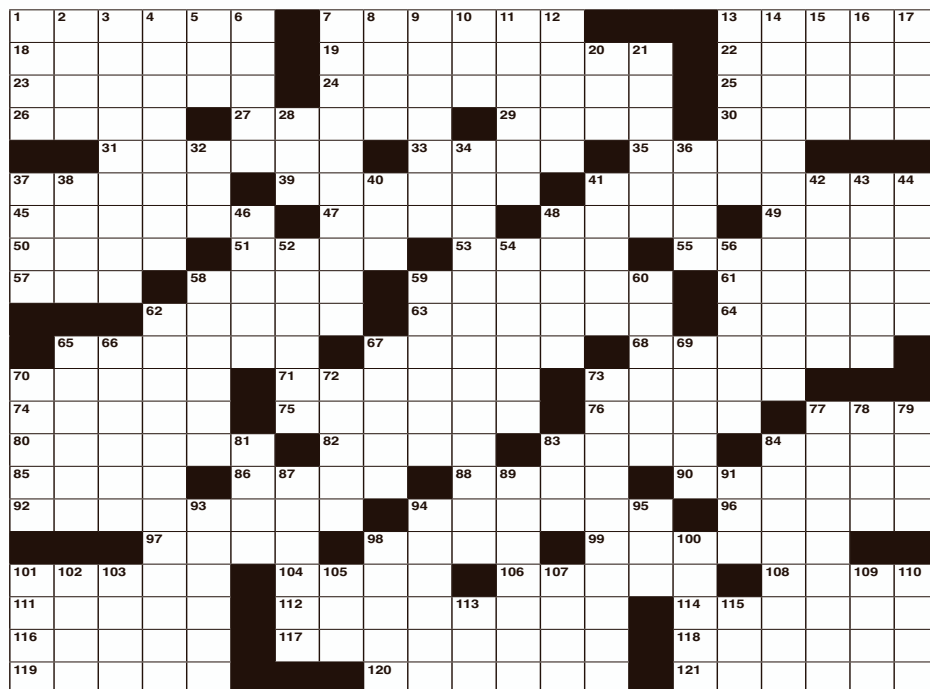
- 1 Pinocchio, e.g.
- 7 Aphrodisiacs boost it
- 13 Backpack feature
- 18 Where cuneiform was discovered
- 19 Superhero outfits, typically
- 22 Irritate
- 23 Give unsolicited advice
- 24 Weapon for William Tell
- 25 Coming back in
- 26 Popular singer born in County Donegal
- 27 Like many wine casks
- 29 Lie low
- 30 What starts with a spark of an idea?
- 31 Snide and sassy
- 33 Portrayer of TV's Det. Fin Tutuola
- 35 Jefferson Memorial topper
- 37 Nonfish aquarium attraction
- 39 Precalculator calculator
- 41 Where one might be well suited
- 45 Clue weapon
- 47 "Give it a \_\_\_\_"
- 48 Street crossing in Hollywood
- 49 Conservative
- 50 Job for a plastic surgeon, for short

- 51 Modern name in transportation
- 53 "Heavens!"
- 55 Squared building stone
- 57 Three short, three long, three short
- 58 Gnocchi \_\_\_\_ Romana
- 59 Rapper with the 2017 No. 1 hit "Bodak Yellow"
- 61 Brought about
- 62 Kindle download
- 63 Chant at a political rally
- 64 First sign
- 65 Manhattan neighborhood next to the Lower East Side
- 67 Popular line of dolls with "Kidz" and "Babyz" spinoffs
- 68 Hole foods?
- 70 Bundled, as hay
- 71 1960s-'70s police drama
- 73 Medicare provision for non-hospital expenses
- 74 Perch for pigeons
- 75 Plea to a superhero, maybe
- 76 Employs
- 77 Peter Pan rival
- 80 Trespass upon
- 82 Seventh-year exam in Harry Potter
- 83 Lhasa \_\_\_\_
- 84 "Toodles!"
- 85 Positive market move
- 86 Son of Adam
- 88 Trigger, as an alarm
- 90 Repossessed
- 92 Farm measures

- 94 Kind of humor
- 96 "Cuz I told you to!"
- 97 Like rain forests
- 98 Fourth-down play
- 99 Spasm
- 101 Fast-food chain with a hat in its logo
- 104 Jennifer who wrote "Manhattan Beach"
- 106 Printer brand
- 108 Spelunker's helmet attachment
- 111 Springs
- 112 Five-time Emmy nominee for "Grey's Anatomy"
- 114 Key of Dvorák's "New World" Symphony
- 116 World-weariness
- 117 "Silly me, rambling again!"
- 118 The Chainsmokers or Eurhythms
- 119 Declare
- 120 TV colleague of Hayes and O'Donnell
- 121 Didn't sleep well

- 8 About, on memos
- 9 Mixture of nature and technology
- 10 "\_\_\_\_ official"
- 11 Takes off in a hurry
- 12 Eye socket
- 13 Takes off in a hurry
- 14 "For a massage, go that way!," literally?
- 15 "Darn it all!"
- 16 Do for Jon Batiste
- 17 Drudge
- 20 Its HQ is the Pentagon
- 21 First country to legalize changing one's gender identity (1972)
- 28 First African-American sorority
- 32 Part of a circle
- 34 Like the dress shirt that's just adorable, literally?
- 36 Draftable
- 37 "Wise" ones
- 38 Chamber music group, often
- 40 \_\_\_\_ Lingus
- 41 Calf-length dresses
- 42 "Not so fast!"
- 43 Addresses a crowd
- 44 Firebugs
- 46 Signature
- 48 Capital of Liechtenstein
- 52 Puffs up
- 54 For nothing
- 56 Perspectives
- 58 Bore
- 59 Midnight, maybe
- 60 Total baller

- DOWN**
- 1 Embarrassment for an art curator
  - 2 "Sign me up!"
  - 3 Headline after a toddler C.E.O. resigns, literally?
  - 4 Coiner of the term "generative music"
  - 5 Certain med. specialist
  - 6 It may be cutting things close
  - 7 Car failure only a block from the mechanic, literally?



Online subscriptions: Today's puzzle and more than 4,000 past puzzles, [nytimes.com/crosswords](http://nytimes.com/crosswords) (\$39.95 a year).

- 62 Dissed with flowery language, literally?
- 65 Hip-hop dance move
- 66 Classic London theater
- 67 Angled edge
- 69 Snacks often paired with milk
- 70 "Mutiny on the Bounty" captain
- 72 Underwear brand
- 73 Punch vs. Judy, literally?
- 77 One answer to the question "What's your favorite music genre," literally?
- 78 Agenda entry
- 79 Music outro effect
- 81 Prominent parts of goblins
- 83 Not do so well
- 84 Haberdashery buys
- 87 Directive
- 89 CVS rival
- 91 "Alea iacta \_\_\_\_": Caesar
- 93 Barbie attendee
- 94 About 10 percent of Russia
- 95 Afternoon hour
- 98 Land in "The Hunger Games"
- 100 Bumbling
- 101 Orders at the Rose & Crown
- 102 Quote from a letter
- 103 Actor Eric
- 105 Frustrated cry
- 107 \_\_\_\_ stick
- 109 Pouty face
- 110 Urge on
- 113 Bloody, say
- 115 Barn greeting

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# WINTER HAVEN NEWS

## Beneath the Chinaberry Tree

### "Mrs. Moulton" Synonymous with Early School System

WRITTEN BY  
BY BOB GERNERT

In 1937 most Winter Haven residents thought the name Mrs. E. K. Moulton to be synonymous with the public school system. In September of that year, she marked 35 years as a teacher in the local system – she had been a teacher through nearly two-thirds of the community's school history at that time.

Edith Kronmiller Moulton was a native of Indiana and arrived in Winter Haven in 1902. She first taught in the Eloise district school in 1903-04 and from 1904 to 1937 was a respected member of the school faculty. There wasn't much of a "faculty" in the early days during the first several years, she and another teacher handled the entire school system. (See photo that accompanies this installment.)

During her first year (1904) John Garrison was the principal and he refused an increase in salary from the \$60 per month he was receiving. He resigned in 1905 and was succeeded by Mr. Walker who served one year followed by the Rev. Mr. Woolrich (a Baptist minister) and a Mr. Toennies each serving for one year (no first names were reported in this article). In 1908 Professor M. L. Hinderliter who had recently arrived from Illinois, became the principal and a second period of local school expansion ensued. Hinderliter served until 1913 when he retired from educational work. (He was still living in the area in 1937.)

Between 1913 and 1937 the schools would be led by C. E. Kensinger, Samuel Long, Walter Roberts, E.L. Beeson, C. I. Hollingsworth, and J. M. Leps.

Edith Moulton taught various grades from 1903 to 1915 from first through fourth. Then in 1915, the new Winter Haven High School was built and she taught first grade in what was to be called Central Grammar School. The article noted she was widely recognized for her teaching of "primarians."

Moulton and her husband W. G. (who taught in Indiana schools for 28 years) were active members of the First Methodist Church (now Beymer Memorial Methodist).

Researched by Bob Gernert Jr. Taken from the Daily Chief, October 28, 1937 - 27th Anniversary Trade and Progress Edition.

*The Museum of Winter Haven History is now open Saturdays from 9 a.m. to Noon. Group tours are available for four or more people by appointment. The museum, located at 660 Pope Avenue and Lake Howard Drive, is free and open to the public. Come explore. For further information contact Bob Gernert, 863-206-6855 or bobgernert@gmail.com*



PHOTO PROVIDED  
This early Winter Haven School stood where the downtown Post Office is today. Mrs. Moulton is believed to be the woman in the center wearing the dark skirt.



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<p><b>ADVERTISE YOUR WEEKLY SERVICE</b> <b>12.50/WK</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>ADVERTISE YOUR SPECIAL EVENT</b> <b>\$50/WK</b></p> <p style="font-weight: bold; font-size: large;"><b>863.804.3279</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">New Life BAPTIST CHURCH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sunday School 10 am</li> <li>• Morning Worship 11 am</li> <li>• Sunday Evening 6 pm</li> <li>• Wed Evening 7 pm</li> </ul> <p style="font-size: x-small;">*KJV Bible Preaching *Hymns &amp; Spiritual Songs <i>Pastor Maurice Thompson</i> 624 North Ingraham Ave Lakeland, FL 33801 863.229.6337 "ALL WELCOME"</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Everyone Welcome</b></p> <div style="text-align: right; font-size: 2em;">✝</div> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>BARTOW CHURCH OF GOD</b></p> <p>1460 East Stuart St Bartow, FL 33830 863.868.8603</p> <p style="font-size: small; text-align: center;"><i>Elwood F. Kern, Pastor</i> Sunday School, 10:00am Morning Worship, 11:00am Sunday Evening, 6:00pm Wednesday, 7:00pm</p>



# LAKE WALES NEWS

## PTO treasurer steals \$16.5K from Spook Hill Elementary

WRITTEN BY  
CHARLES A BAKER III  
cbaker@scmginc.com

LAKE WALES – A parent of a student at Spook Hill Elementary student wrote 32 checks to herself over the course of around a month to steal \$16.5K from the school Parent Teacher Organization checking account before Citizen's Bank and Trust manager Carlie Cosce got suspicious, froze the account and contacted the school.

Guillermina Delgado, 22, of 4825 Trek Pass in Lake Wales, was arrested Oct. 18 and charged with felony grand theft.

Upon contact, Lake Wales Police Detective Aubrey Davis discovered Delgado had \$14K in \$100 bills stashed inside a pair of teal green bedroom slippers inside Delgado's home. Delgado reportedly claimed the remaining \$2.5K was spent on students but had no proof. On Oct. 23 Det. Davis returned the \$14K cash to school principal Chabre Timmons.

School policy stated two signatures were required to cash a PTO check, and that blank checks were locked inside the school. Delgado reportedly used over the counter checks at

the bank, was the only signatory, and that one time she cashed three \$600 checks in a single day. When she attempted to cash a fourth, that is when Cosce stopped her suspicious behavior.

After being arrested Delgado allegedly told Det. Davis that she stole the money because the PTO was being disbanded, which was not true.

"Thank You to the Lake Wales Police Department for their quick response in the theft of funds from the Spook Hill Elementary PTO by PTO Treasurer Guillermina Delgado," Principal Timmons said. "We applaud them for their efforts in recovering a large portion of the money. The team acted immediately and professionally to resolve this crime."

According to a press release LWPDP Ofc. Amanda Ayers' quick response was also instrumental in Delgado's arrest.

Delgado was released after paying \$1K for bond at first appearance. The \$16.5 that she allegedly admitted to stealing was raised through student fundraisers. Delgado will be arraigned Nov. 19.

## CenterState Bank's Community Shred Day a success



PHOTO PROVIDED

CenterState Bank hosted a free Community Shred Day for their clients on Wednesday, Oct. 24th at their Lake Wales Branch. In total, the day ended with 5,595 lbs. shredded. "We had so many compliments on having our shred day and people loved it. We hope we can do this each year moving forward," noted Lake Wales CenterState Bank Vice President and Branch Manager, Kristie Reed.

Wednesday, October 31, 2018



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# BARTOW NEWS

## Voters asked to extend half-cent sales tax

WRITTEN BY  
JEFF ROSLOW  
News Correspondent

Over the last 15 years, \$561 million dollars has been raised to upgrade the school district through the half-cent sales tax. In that, there has been nine new schools built and 43 additions made to other schools, said Lynn Wilson the chair of the Polk County School Board.

Next week the ballot will be asking whether that tax should be renewed for another 15 years. The tax increased the sales tax in Polk from 6 percent to 6.5 percent which applies to the first \$500,000 of a taxable purchase. The half-cent money would go to construction of new schools and classrooms, getting rid of portables, renovation, safety improvements, and meeting ADA standards and improving technology. The 15 years approved by voters will sunset the tax at the end of this year.

In May 2003, the voters in Polk County approved the additional sales tax 59-41 percent. All seven current school board members have said they are in favor of continuing the tax. Much of the school district has older buildings, many more than 30 years old, and equipment and even old buses that this money would help. On its website, <https://www.polkpromise.net>, there is a list of 27 projects the money has been spent on.

If this extension is approved, the Polk County Half-Cent Sales Tax Committee said it would cost \$61.25 a year for a family of four that earns \$55,000 per year.

School and county officials believe this money is necessary because of the projected growth for Polk County, primarily in the northeast part of the county.

Tom Deardorff, Polk County manager for development, has said since the tax started, Polk County has grown by

150,000 residents, much of it in east and northeast Polk. He said in much of this area the roads are in poor shape and so were the schools.

"Polk County will continue to grow," he said in a videotape on <https://www.polkpromise.net>. "By 2040 there will be 1 million people in Polk with most in northeast Polk. This will help us plan for the growth."

School officials say the money is necessary because while Polk is the seventh largest school district in the

state, it is ranked 64th of 67 counties in funding. Half Cent Sales Tax Committee Chairman Ashley Troutman said \$1 billion in facility needs is necessary. He estimates the district has to raise about \$675 million in the next 15 years to meet current needs.

Without the tax, some projects will be delayed or called off altogether. This would be plans to build three more schools, modernize or replace another 11 schools and make additions to eight schools.

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# EDITORIAL

## It can't happen here? Guess again!

WRITTEN BY  
S.L. FRISBIE  
News Columnist

It is a common reaction after a senseless act of violence takes place on a school campus somewhere in America: "It can't happen here."

But the seeming increase in the number and lethality of attacks on school campuses and at other venues — and for Floridians, the proximity of the Parkland attack — has brought about a new paradigm:

"We don't see how it could happen here, but we better have a plan, just in case."

And sure enough, on Tuesday of last week, a deadly act of school violence at a Bartow school was foiled only minutes before it might have been carried out.

By the grace of God (a phrase I do not use lightly) school officials and law enforcement officers, following up on an "If you see something, say something" tip, said they found two children in a restroom, armed with knives, waiting for victims to walk in.

It is hard to understand how two girls — sixth and seventh graders, ages 11 and 12 — could conspire to stab to death up to 15 of their classmates. Police say the girls told them they were satanists, and planned to kill themselves after carrying out their massacre.

It was foiled because a classmate was warned to stay away from Building 500, in which the attack was planned. The classmate reported the warning to a teacher, who reported it to the principal, Chris Roberts, who alerted police.

When one of the girls was discovered to be absent from her second period class, a search of the campus was begun, leading to apprehension of the girls in a restroom, where they reportedly told authorities they were waiting for smaller children to enter.

The more grisly aspects of their plot have been widely reported, and I will not repeat them here. And the girls are entitled to a presumption of innocence in whatever venue pre-teens charged with conspiracy to commit murder are brought to justice.

Police Chief Joe Hall, who took part in the lengthy interrogation of the girls, has no doubt that their plan was genuine, not a joke.

While the details of school contingency plans are tailored to individual campuses and their vulnerabilities, the defense starts with a zero tolerance policy at the district level. Threats and even rumors are taken seriously.

In the words of School Supt. Jacqueline Byrd, "They did follow the plan, and it worked."

There is no room for the dismissive attitude that "It can't happen here." The chilling reality is that it can happen anywhere, and there is no single safeguard that can protect every student and every campus.

Armed guards can't do it; fences can't do it.

As shown at Bartow Middle School, it is an attitude of caution and alertness — and in this case, one student's judgment in reporting the suspicious comments of a classmate to her teacher — that triggered a pre-planned response that likely foiled an act of unthinkable violence.

---

*(S. L. Frisbie is retired. He is a parent of three grown children, and grandparent of six school-age youngsters in Lakeland and Gainesville. He also is a friend of Chris Roberts, principal of BMS, and of his parents. And he lives within walking distance of Bartow Middle School. As a journalist for nearly 50 years, few things have gotten to him like this incident. Deep within his soul of souls, he always believed that it can't happen here.)*

## Tragedy at Bartow Middle School Thankfully, no one hurt

WRITTEN BY  
JEFF ROSLOW  
News Correspondent

BARTOW — The arrest of two students Monday, Oct. 21, at Bartow Middle School last week who were described as Satan worshippers was an example of how the new school safety plan worked as it should, the school superintendent and city police chief said.

The 11 and 12-year-old girls were found in a bathroom at the school with knives preparing to kill and drink the blood of fellow students as they came into the bathroom.

The first girl was charged with conspiracy to commit first-degree murder, carrying a concealed electric weapon, possession of a weapon on school property, first-degree murder and disrupting a school administrator. The second girl was charged with carrying a concealed electric weapon, conspiracy to commit first-degree murder, possession of a weapon on school property, first-degree murder and disrupting a school administrator. The State Attorney's Office won't decide whether or not to charge them as adults until their first appearance, it said. The suspects have not made their first appearance.

"This is horrific, and if I had children in school I'd be scared to death. They wanted to kill at least 15 people. I believe both of these girls went into the bathroom to carry out their plan," Bartow Police Chief Joe Hall said Tuesday at a press conference, a day after the arrests. "A student heard something, told a teacher and they implemented the safety plan resulting in the apprehending of the students. The (safety) plan did work. The plan in Polk County is phenomenal and to our teachers, thanks to them."

That was echoed by Superintendent Jacqueline Byrd Tuesday, who said, "Teachers, administrators when they heard something, they did something. We have a plan and all students on campus are safe. I want to say to the parents again, all are safe."

No one was hurt in the incident.

School officials found out about the plot after one of the girls' mother called the school when she got an automated phone call telling her that her daughter was absent from her second period class. She called the school because

she knew her daughter was at school. This made Principal Chris Roberts' staff comb the school looking for the student. Both students were found in a bathroom in the 500 hall where they were both hiding in a stall.

Brought to the front office they were asked about skipping classes and asked to empty their pockets. The first girl pulled out a knife and knife sharpener, the police reported. The other girl pulled out three knives and a pizza cutter. Both told the police SRO and school staff they planned to kill as many students as they could before killing themselves so they could go to hell and be with Satan.

The girls said they made a plan to wait in the bathroom for smaller students to come in and attack them because they would be easier to overpower than larger students. They were to cut the students' throats and pile them into a stall. They would then cut them into pieces and eat parts of their body, the girls told police. The plan was to kill at least one student, but they were hoping to get 15-25, they said. When they completed this, their plan was to stab themselves under their left arm and bleed out. This, they said, would make them "worse sinners" ensuring they would go to hell.

Detectives, with permission from the one of the girls' mother, searched her home for evidence but did not find anything, they reported. The mother gave police permission to search the girl's cell phone.

In her Snapchat, messages were found between her and the other girl on when, where, and how to perform the murders. The last message from one of the girls was, "Today is health lessons (sic) thank Satan we're doing this in a bit."

When the girls were found and arrested a goblet cup was found in their possession in hopes of drinking their victim's blood.

When searching the other girl's house, detectives found a drawing of the school and hallways showing where they were to commit their "killings in the bathroom."

Both suspects were taken to the Juvenile Assessment Center. All evidence was impounded at the Bartow Police Department.

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Notice is hereby given that the Southwest Florida Water Management District has received Environmental Resource permit application number 772401 from Hunter's Meadow, LLC P.O. Box 92047, Lakeland, FL 33804. Application received: 09-21-18. Proposed activity: Residential Project name: Hunter's Meadow Project size: 9.77 Location: Section(s) 17 Township 27 South, Range 24 East, in Polk County. Outstanding Florida Water: no. Aquatic preserve: no. The application is available for public inspection Monday through Friday at Southwest Florida Water Management District 170 Century Boulevard, Bartow, Florida 33830-7700. Interested persons may inspect a copy of the application and submit written comments concerning the application. Comments must include the permit application number and be received within 14 days from the date of this notice. If you wish to be notified of intended agency action or an opportunity to request an administrative hearing regarding the application, you must send a written request referencing the permit application number to the Southwest Florida Water Management District, Regulation Performance Management Department, 2379 Broad Street, Brooksville, FL 34604-6899 or submit your request through the District's website at [www.watmatters.org](http://www.watmatters.org). The District does not discriminate based on disability. Anyone requiring accommodation under the ADA should contact the

## LEGAL NOTICE

Regulation Performance Management Department at (352)796- 7211 or 1(800)423-1476, TDD only 1(800)231-6103. October 31, 2018 322413 3624365

### DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Proposed Flood Hazard Determinations for Unincorporated Areas of Polk County, Florida, Case No. 18-04-5171P, The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) solicits technical information or comments on proposed flood hazard determinations for the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), and where applicable, the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report for your community. These flood hazard determinations may include the addition or modification of Base Flood Elevations, base flood depths, Special Flood Hazard

## LEGAL NOTICE

Area boundaries or zone designations, or the regulatory floodway. The FIRM and, if applicable, the FIS report have been revised to reflect these flood hazard determinations through issuance of a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR), in accordance with Title 44, Part 65 of the Code of Federal Regulations. These determinations are the basis for the floodplain management measures that your community is required to adopt or show evidence of having in effect to qualify or remain qualified for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program. For more information on the proposed flood hazard determinations and information on the statutory 90-day period provided for appeals, please visit FEMA's website at [www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm/bfe](http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm/bfe), or call the FEMA Map Information eXchange (FMIX) toll free at 1-877-FEMA MAP (1-877-336-2627). October 24, 31, 2018 387427 3622049

## LEGAL NOTICE

### LEGAL NOTICE

Under the provisions of Section 121.055, Florida Statutes, The Polk County Property Appraiser's Office, intends to designate the positions of IT Director, Exemptions Manager, and Systems Admin Manager for inclusion in the Florida Retirement System, FRS, Senior Management Service Class (SMSC)

**Additional information may be obtained by writing to**  
**The Polk County Property Appraiser's Office,**  
255 North Wilson Ave, Bartow, FL. 33830

## Crossword Answers from Page 15

F	I	B	B	E	R		L	I	B	I	D	O		S	T	R	A	P		
A	M	A	R	N	A		U	N	I	T	A	R	D	S		C	H	A	F	E
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## LEGAL NOTICES

### Notice of Public Hearing City of Bartow

The City of Bartow Planning and Zoning Commission/Local Planning Agency will hold a Public Hearing at 5:30 p.m. (EST), Monday, November 12, 2018, in the City Commission Chambers, at 450 N. Wilson Ave, Bartow, Florida. The purpose of this meeting is to review and recommend action to the City Commission on the following application:

Application #Z-18-04 Review and recommendation to the City Commission of a request to assign an Agricultural zoning classification to 39.7 (+/-) acres of land. The applicant is Kerry Hammock, c/o John B. Allen, Esq., Peterson & Myers, P.A. and the property is owned by Clear Springs Land Company, LLC. It is located on the north side of County Road 640; ¼ mile west of 80 Foot Road in Section 36, Township 30S, Range 25 E, Polk County, Florida.



All interested persons may appear at the meeting and be heard with respect to the proposed application. Notice is hereby given pursuant to Chapter 286.0105, F.S., that if a person decides to appeal any decision made with respect to any matter considered at this hearing, they will need a record of the proceeding and may need to insure (at their expense) that a verbatim record thereof is made. A copy of the complete application is available for inspection at City Hall, 450 N. Wilson Avenue, Bartow, Florida during normal business hours. If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the City Clerk's office at 450 N. Wilson Avenue, Bartow, Florida 33830 or phone (863) 534-0100 within 2 working days of your receipt of this meeting notification; if you are hearing or vision impaired, call 1-800-955-8771.

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given that on **November 13, 2018** Extra Space Storage will sell at public auction at the storage facilities listed below, to satisfy the lien of the owner, personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at the following locations:

**Extra Space Storage 1492 @ 1012 US Highway 92 Auburndale, FL 33823  
(863)-221-0007  
(November 13, 2018 @ 11:00 AM)**

H1043	Brandon Aukerman	Household Goods
D0325	Victor Rosas	Household Goods
D0335	Yvonne Jones	Household Goods
H1096	Sheri Higgins	Household Goods
H1048	Kayla Scott	Household Goods
H1080	Aundria Wiggins	Household Goods
H1029	Brandy Walker	Household Goods
H1197	Marjorie Ford	Household Goods
E0408	Joe Harris	Household Goods
H1017	David Beaver	Household Goods
H1098	Gisela Galan	Household Goods
G0842	James Tadlock	Household Goods
H1157	James Lumley	Household Goods
E0417	Latonua Spence	Household Goods
A0114	Genola Cablish	Household Goods
H1160	Lorraine Schulz	Household Goods
E0405	Henry Hann	Household Goods
C0302	Kwanza Owens	Household Goods
D0317	Brittaney Alls	Household Goods
H1093	Jennifer Harvin	Household Goods

**Extra Space Storage 1596 @ 2930 US Hwy 98 N Lakeland FL 33805  
(863) 224-2677  
(November 13, 2018 @ 12:00 PM)**

2301	Roy Williams	totes
4005	Ronnie Clements	household goods, tools
1212	Brittney Jones	furniture
3008	Alexandra Rivera	furniture
4404	Jasmin Freeman	furniture
4408	Maria Torres	displays
2232	Dean Dollar	furniture
5101	Reginald Sutton	furniture
1100	Terriyon Haynes	furniture
1413	Dianna Lord	furniture household goods
4205	Jessica Martinez	household goods

**Extra Space Storage 1494 @ 6445 S Florida Ave Lakeland FL 33813  
(863) 647-4172  
(November 13, 2018 @ 12:30 PM)**

P1518	Ralph Mervine	Household goods
H0815	Fernando Liwanag	Household goods
K0942	Rebecca Rudd	Furniture and boxes of household goods
0060	Vincent Cruz	1995 Toyota T 100 VIN#JT4VD12E3S0004538
B0229	Randy Sherlock	Furniture and household goods
L1210	Patrick Washington	Furniture and boxes of household goods
N1254	Jordan Pellicer	Furniture, washer & dryer, boxes of household goods
D0503	Rayshawn Gibbons	Furniture and boxes of household goods

**Extra Space Storage 1493 @ 2190 Harden Blvd, Lakeland FL 33803  
(863)-680-8092  
(November 13, 2018 @ 1:00PM)**

B0304	Judy L. McMillen	household goods
F0980	Emmanuel Gay	household items, mattress, furniture
F0921	Tabatha Stone-Fowler	household items
E0852	Starshemah McCaskill	household items, furniture
D0544	Janice Teaff	household items
E0794	Shikiria Day	household items, furniture
D0511	Karima Murray	furniture, household items
E0631	Tiffany OConnor	household items, appliances, desk

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

10/24,31 2018

# Health Events to Keep You Healthy

## BayCare Events in Polk County

### Women's Hospital Classes

**Prepared Childbirth (4-Session)**  
Registration is required: (855) 314-8352  
**Thursdays, November 1, 8, 15, 29, 6:30–8:45pm**  
Winter Haven Women's Hospital  
Classroom A  
Cost: \$40

**Sibling Class**  
Registration is required: (855) 314-8352  
**Saturday, November 3, 10–11am**  
Winter Haven Women's Hospital  
Classroom C  
Cost: \$10

**Newborn Care**  
Registration is required: (855) 314-8352  
**Saturday, November 3, 1–4pm**  
Winter Haven Women's Hospital  
Classroom A  
Cost: \$15

**Living with Gestational Diabetes and Beyond**  
Registration is not required.  
**Tuesday, November 6, 10–11am**  
Winter Haven Women's Hospital  
Classroom C  
Cost: Free

**Breastfeeding Class**  
Registration is required: (855) 314-8352  
**Saturday, November 10, 9:30am–12pm**  
Winter Haven Women's Hospital  
Classroom A  
Cost: \$15

**Birth Center Tour**  
Registration is required: (855) 314-8352  
**Tuesday, November 13, 5:30–7pm**  
Winter Haven Women's Hospital  
Classroom A  
Cost: Free

**Perinatal Bereavement Support Group**  
Registration is required: (855) 314-8352  
**Tuesday, November 27, 6:30–7:30pm**  
Winter Haven Women's Hospital  
North Entrance Sitting Area  
Cost: Free

### Support Groups (no cost to attend)

**Caregivers Support Group**  
Registration is not required.  
**Friday, November 9, 1:30–2:30pm**  
Winter Haven Hospital  
Wellness Center Conference Room

**Heart-to-Heart Cardiac Support Group**  
Registration is required: (863) 280-6066  
**Tuesday, November 13, 3–4pm**  
Winter Haven Hospital  
Wellness Center Conference Room

**Better Breathers Club**  
Registration is not required.  
**Wednesday, November 14, 1–2pm**  
Winter Haven Hospital  
Wellness Center Conference Room

**Ostomy Support Group**  
Registration is not required.  
**Friday, November 16, 10–11am**  
Winter Haven Hospital  
Wellness Center Conference Room

**Diabetes Support Group**  
Registration is required: (855) 314-8352  
**Thursday, November 29, 9–10am**  
Winter Haven Hospital  
Wellness Center Conference Room

**Mental Health Peer Recovery Program**  
Registration is not required.  
**Mondays, 11am–3pm**  
Lion's Park Clubhouse  
820 Ave. L S.W., Winter Haven  
**Wednesdays, 12:30–4:30pm**  
Winter Haven Hospital  
Center for Behavioral Health  
1201 First St. S., Winter Haven

### Weight Management (no cost to attend)

**Weight Management Information**  
Registration is required: (855) 314-8350  
**Tuesday, November 13, 6–7pm**  
Bartow Regional Medical Center  
Classroom 1

### Featured Event (no cost to attend)

**Anterior Hip Replacement**  
Learn all you want to know about anterior hip replacement. Light refreshments will be served.  
Registration is required: (855) 314-8352  
**Thursday, November 1, 5:30–6:30pm**  
Samuel Messieh, MD, Orthopedic Surgeon  
Winter Haven Hospital, Auditorium

### Cancer Support (no cost to attend)

**Woman to Woman Cancer Support Group**  
Registration is not required.  
**Mondays, November 10 and 26, 6–7pm**  
Winter Haven Hospital, Education Classroom F

**Look Good Feel Better**  
Registration is required: (800) 227-2345  
**Tuesday, November 13, 10am–12pm**  
Winter Haven Hospital  
Wellness Center Conference Room

**Ovarian Cancer Support Group**  
Registration is not required.  
**Monday, November 19, 5:30–7pm**  
Winter Haven Hospital  
Wellness Center Conference Room

**Man to Man Cancer Support Group**  
Registration is not required.  
**Tuesday, November 20, 1:30–2:30pm**  
Winter Haven Hospital  
Quality Improvement Conference Room

### Orthopedic Events (no cost to attend)

**Total Joint Replacement**  
**Thursdays, November 1, 8, 15, 28, 12:30–2pm**  
Winter Haven Hospital  
Wellness Center Conference Room  
Registration is required: (863) 297-1808

**Tuesdays, November 6, 13, 20, 27, 1–2pm**  
Bartow Regional Medical Center, Classroom 1  
Registration is required: (863) 519-1665

**Life After Total Joint Replacement**  
Registration is not required.  
**Tuesday, November 6, 6–7pm**  
Bartow Regional Medical Center, Main Lobby

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

**Bartow Regional Medical Center**  
2200 Osprey Blvd., Bartow

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

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



18-548242-1018

BayCareEvents.org





**Whitey Bulger,  
Boston gangster,  
slain in prison**

See Page 3



## Trump targets citizenship, stokes migrant fears

President says he's considering trying to end Constitutional right to birthright citizenship

By CATHERINE LUCEY, JILL COLVIN and COLLEEN LONG  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Thousands of U.S. troops to stop an "invasion" of migrants. Tent cities for asylum seekers. An end for the Constitution's guarantee of birthright citizenship. With his eyes squarely on next Tuesday's elections, President Donald Trump is rushing out hardline immigration declarations, promises and actions as he tries to mobilize supporters to retain Republican

control of Congress. His own campaign in 2016 concentrated on border fears, and that's his final-week focus in the midterm fight. "This has nothing to do with elections," the president insists. But his timing is striking. Trump says he will send more than 5,000 military troops to the Mexican border to help defend against caravans of Central American migrants who are on foot hundreds of miles away. Tent cities would not resolve the massive U.S. backlog of asylum seekers.

And most legal scholars say it would take a new constitutional amendment to alter the current one granting citizenship to anyone born in America. Still, Trump plunges ahead with daily alarms and proclamations about immigration in tweets, interviews and policy announcements in the days leading up to elections that Democrats hope will give them at least partial control of Congress. Trump and many top aides have long seen the immigration issue as the

most effective rallying cry for his base of supporters. The president had been expected to make an announcement about new actions at the border on Tuesday, but that was scrapped so he could travel instead to Pittsburgh, where 11 people were massacred in a synagogue on Saturday. Between the shootings, the deadliest attack on Jews in U.S. history, and the mail bomb scare targeting Democrats and a media organization, the caravan of migrants slowly trudging

north had faded from front pages and cable TV. But with well-timed interviews on Fox and "Axios on HBO," Trump revived some of his hardest-line immigration ideas: • An executive order to revoke the right to citizenship for babies born to non-U.S. citizens on American soil. • And the prolonged detention of anyone coming across the U.S.-Mexico border, including those seeking asylum, in "tent cities" erected "all over the place."

The administration on Monday also announced plans to deploy 5,200 active duty troops — double the 2,000 who are in Syria fighting the Islamic State group — to the border to help stave off the caravans. The main caravan, still in southern Mexico, was continuing to melt away — from the original 7,000 to about 4,000 — as a smaller group apparently hoped to join it. Trump insists his immigration moves have

TARGETS | 8

## Trumps pay tribute at synagogue where 11 were fatally shot

By ZEKE MILLER and JONATHAN LEMIRE  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PITTSBURGH — One stone and one white rosebud for each victim. President Donald Trump and first lady Melania Trump paid solemn tribute Tuesday to each of the 11 people slain in the worst instance of anti-Semitic violence in American history. As the Trumps placed their remembrances outside the Tree of Life synagogue, protesters nearby shouted that the president was not welcome.

The emotional, dissonant scene reflected the increasingly divided nation that Trump leads, one gripped by a week of political violence and hate and hurtling toward contentious midterm elections that could alter the path of a presidency. On their arrival in Pittsburgh, the Trumps entered the vestibule of the synagogue, where they lit candles for each victim before stepping outside. Shouts of "Words matter!" and "Trump, go home!" could be heard from demonstrators gathered not far from where a gunman had opened fire on Saturday.

Rabbi Jeffrey Myers, who had been conducting services when the shots rang out, gestured at the white Star of David posted for each victim. At each, the president placed a stone, a Jewish burial tradition, while the first lady added a flower. They were trailed by first daughter Ivanka Trump and her husband, Jared Kushner, who are Jewish.

Near the synagogue, flowers, candles and chalk drawings filled the corner, including a small rock painted with the number "6,000,011," adding the victims this week to the estimated number of Jews



AP PHOTOS

President Donald Trump and first lady Melania Trump visit a memorial outside Pittsburgh's Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh, Tuesday. The Trumps came to Pittsburgh to honor the victims of a mass shooting at the synagogue last week.

killed in the Holocaust. The Trumps later spent more than an hour at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, where some of the victims are recovering. The couple's motorcade passed several hundred protesters on the street and a sign that said: "It's your fault." Inside, Trump visited with wounded police officers and injured congregants but did not appear to meet with relatives of the deceased. Trump stepped into the role of national consoler, a title he wears uncomfortably, with his visit to the Squirrel Hill neighborhood. More at home waging partisan warfare than assuaging America's grief, Trump has shied away from public displays of unity in the wake of other tragedies.

Trump traveled to the historic hub of the city's Jewish community as the first funerals were held for



A man holds a sign outside the University of Pittsburgh's Presbyterian Hospital before the arrival of President Donald Trump's motorcade in Pittsburgh, Tuesday.

the victims, who range in age from 54 to 97. The dead include a set of brothers, a husband and wife, professors, dentists and a physician. Hundreds of protesters assembled to show their displeasure with Trump's presence. Squirrel Hill resident Paul Carberry said Trump should not have visited until the dead were buried.

"He didn't pull the trigger, but his verbiage and actions don't help," Carberry said. But Shayna Marcus, a nurse who rushed to the synagogue on Saturday to help with the wounded, said she felt that the president was taking an unfair portion of the blame. "I don't think focusing on Trump is the answer — or on politics," said Marcus.

## Al-Shabab's former No. 2 leader runs for office in Somalia

By ABDI GULED and CARA ANNA  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NAIROBI, Kenya — The normal-looking campaign rally in Somalia's capital this month was anything but. Dozens of people in T-shirts bearing the smiling candidate's image and "Security and Justice" were praising the former No. 2 leader of Africa's deadliest Islamic extremist group, the al-Qaida-linked al-Shabab, who until recently was the target of a \$5 million U.S. reward. Stunned, Somalia's federal government is in an awkward spot. If Mukhtar Robow's campaign for a regional presidency goes forward, observers say the man who once praised Osama bin Laden and tried to impose an Islamic state has a good chance at winning next month's election.

Ever since surprising Somalis by defecting to a delighted government last year, the former al-Shabab spokesman and founding father has not been shy. Robow openly discussed his break with



AP FILE PHOTO

Mukhtar Robow, who was once deputy leader of Africa's deadliest Islamic extremist group the al-Qaida-linked al-Shabab, is now running for a regional presidency in Somalia.

hardliners that led him to quit the extremist group — "I disagreed with their creed, which does not serve Islamic religion," he said — and the threats that pushed him to defect after years of living in the safety of his clan. Then he donated blood in a show of support after Somalia's deadliest attack, the October 2017 truck bombing in Mogadishu that killed over 500 people.

SOMALIA | 8

## Electric chair builder worried execution will fail

By TRAVIS LOLLER  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — If Tennessee electrocutes Edmund Zagorski on Thursday, it will be in an electric chair built by a self-taught execution expert who is no longer welcome in the prison system and who worries that his device will malfunction.

Fred Leuchter had a successful career in the execution business before his reputation was tainted

by his claim that there were no gas chambers at Auschwitz.

Tennessee's chair, which hasn't been used since 2007, is just one of many execution devices that Leuchter worked on between 1979 and 1990, according to an article by Fordham University professor Deborah Denno in the William and Mary Law Review. In addition to electric chairs, Leuchter built, refurbished and

CHAIR | 8

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# Concerns growing over rejections of vote-by-mail ballots

By **CHRISTINA A. CASSIDY**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA — Drawing on her years of military experience, Maureen Heard was careful to follow all the rules when she filled out an absentee ballot for the 2016 election.

She read the instructions thoroughly, signed where she was supposed to, put the ballot in its envelope and dropped it off at her county elections office in New Hampshire. She then left town to return to a temporary federal work assignment in Washington, D.C.

"I have learned over the years, many years

in the military of filling out forms, how to fill out forms — and I was very intimidated by the process," said Heard, who served in the Air Force and as a lieutenant in the U.S. Coast Guard. "I was like, 'Oh my gosh, I have to make sure I get it absolutely right.' And then it didn't count."

Heard, 57, discovered last year that she was among roughly 319,000 voters across the country whose absentee ballots were rejected during the last presidential election. The reasons varied, ranging from missing deadlines to failing to sign their ballot.

Heard's ballot was

tossed out because the signature did not match the one on file at her local election office.

More people than ever are returning their ballots by mail or dropping them off at a local election location rather than voting in a booth on Election Day. Those developments make it easier to cast ballots and are designed to boost turnout.

The trend also is raising concerns about whether voters can be assured their ballots will count or be notified in time if there is a problem. Voting rights activists want to ensure that voters are given a reasonable chance to fix any problems.

Earlier this month, the ACLU and other groups filed lawsuits in Georgia after an Atlanta-area county reported a comparatively high rate of rejected absentee ballots during the start of early voting. Those actions followed similar lawsuits in New Hampshire and California.

"It's hard to see what is missing," said Kim Alexander, president of the California Voter Foundation, which advocated for changes to California law. "People are all focused on what is the vote count. They are not focused on what ballots weren't counted."

Nearly one of every four

ballots cast in 2016 came through the mail or was handed in at a drop-off location, according to the U.S. Election Assistance Commission. The commission's data show that 99 percent of completed absentee and mailed ballots are eventually counted.

Election officials use signature matching to verify a person's identity, but advocates say many election offices lack training and standards. Matching signatures is particularly fraught because a person's handwriting can change over time and be affected by age or disability.

In August, a federal judge ruled that

New Hampshire's signature-matching process was "fundamentally flawed" because voters are not given notice if it's the reason a ballot was rejected. She also said the election office workers inspecting the signatures did not receive training in handwriting analysis or signature comparisons.

"For the most part, signature variations are of little consequence in a person's life," U.S. District Judge Landya McCafferty wrote. "But in the context of absentee voting, these variations become profoundly consequential."

A judge in California sided with the ACLU in a similar lawsuit in March.

## Stocks rally on earnings a day after ending at 5-month lows

By **MARLEY JAY**  
AP MARKETS WRITER

NEW YORK — U.S. stocks climbed Tuesday after solid earnings reports from several big companies. Stocks had closed at five-month lows the day before, and groups of companies that struggled badly made big gains.

Many of the best-performing stocks Tuesday came from parts of the market that have fared the worst during the market's plunge this month. Those included smaller and more U.S.-focused companies, internet and media companies, basic materials makers and energy companies.

Oreo maker Mondelez and athletic apparel maker Under Armour both jumped following strong third-quarter reports.

Corporate earnings are up about 20 percent this year as the U.S. economy gains strength and corporate taxes come down after last year's tax cut. Analysts expect company profits to keep growing in 2019, but at a slower pace.

The S&P 500 index jumped 41.38 points, or 1.6 percent, to 2,682.63. The Dow Jones Industrial Average gained 431.72 points, or 1.8 percent, to 24,874.64. The Nasdaq composite advanced 111.36 points, or 1.6 percent, to 7,161.65.

### MORE HEADLINE NEWS FROM AROUND THE NATION

#### Whitey Bulger, Boston gangster, slain in prison

BOSTON (AP) — James "Whitey" Bulger, the murderous Boston gangster who benefited from a corrupt relationship with the FBI before spending 16 years as one of America's most wanted men, was slain in federal prison. He was 89.

Bulger was found unresponsive Tuesday morning at the U.S. penitentiary in West Virginia where he'd just been transferred, and a medical examiner declared him dead shortly afterward, according to the Federal Bureau of Prisons. Authorities did not immediately release a cause of death, but Justin Tarovsky, a prison union official, told The Associated Press the death was being investigated as a homicide.

Bulger, the model for Jack Nicholson's ruthless

crime boss in the 2006 Martin Scorsese movie, "The Departed," led a largely Irish mob that ran loan-sharking, gambling and drug rackets. He also was an FBI informant who rattled on the New England mob, his gang's main rival, in an era when bringing down the Mafia was a top national priority for the FBI.

#### 3 siblings struck, killed by truck at bus stop

ROCHESTER, Ind. (AP) — The driver of a pickup truck that struck and killed three young siblings as they crossed a northern Indiana road to board a school bus is facing charges.

Indiana State Police say 24-year-old Alyssa Shepherd of Rochester was arrested and charged with three counts of reckless homicide and one misdemeanor count of passing a school bus when arm

signal device is extended, causing bodily injury. Shepherd was being held on a \$15,000 surety bond.

A Tippecanoe Valley School Corp. bus had stopped and lowered its stop-arm on the road near Rochester around 7 a.m., just before a northbound pickup truck slammed into the children as they crossed the southbound lane, Indiana State Police Sgt. Tony Slocum said.

Six-year-old twin brothers Xzavier and Mason Ingle and their 9-year-old sister, Alivia Stahl, died at the scene, he said. The rural Rochester residents were students at nearby Mentone Elementary School.

Slocum said an 11-year-old boy not related to the deceased siblings suffered multiple broken bones when he was also hit by the pickup. That child, Maverik Lowe, was in critical condition at a Fort Wayne hospital and was undergoing surgery.

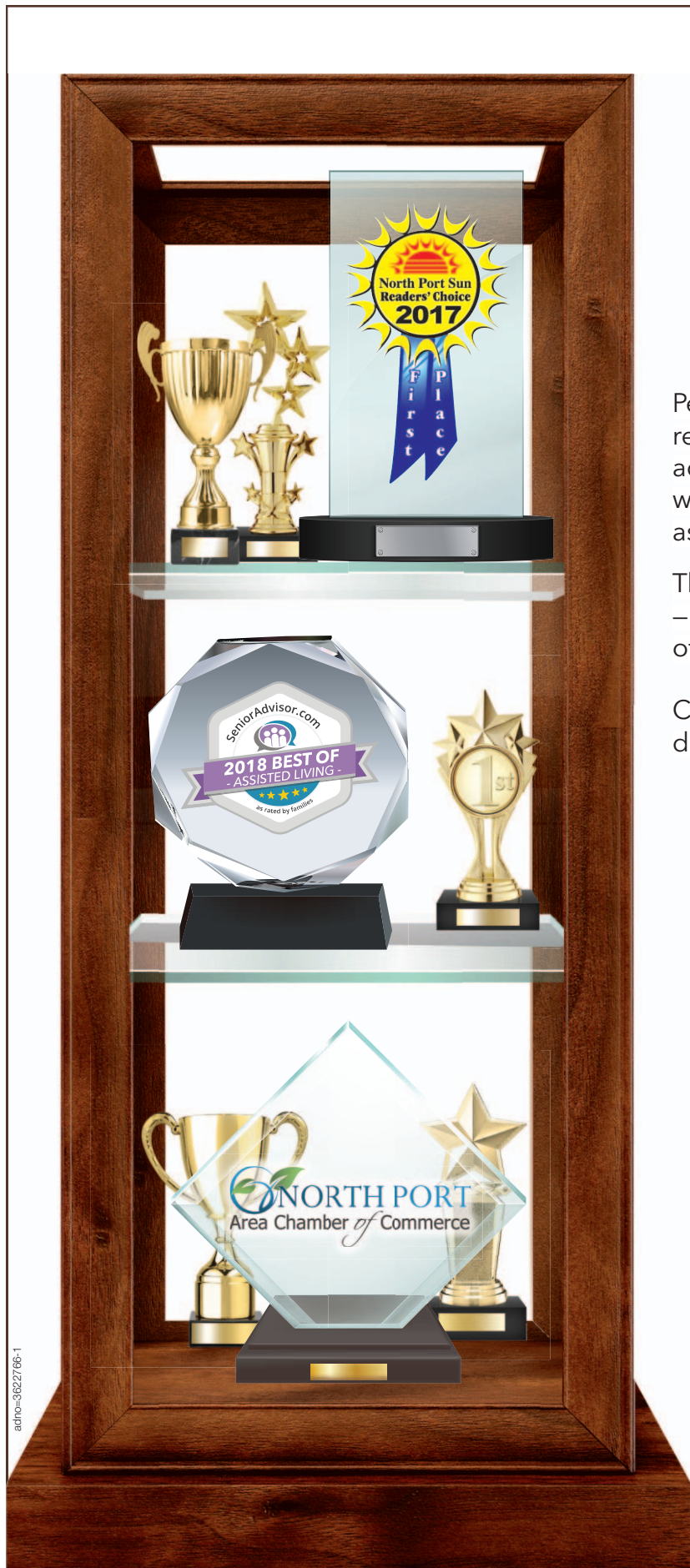
#### Ben & Jerry's unveils Pecan Resist flavor ahead of midterms

MONTPELIER, Vt. (AP) — Ice cream maker Ben & Jerry's is taking a stand against what it calls the Trump administration's regressive policies by rebranding one of its flavors Pecan Resist.

The company and its founders unveiled the limited batch ice cream flavor Pecan Resist Tuesday in Washington ahead of the midterm elections.

The company says Pecan Resist celebrates activists who are resisting oppression, harmful environmental practices and injustice.

As part of the campaign, Ben & Jerry's is giving \$25,000 each to four activist entities: Color of Change, Honor the Earth, Women's March and multi-media platform Neta.



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*Voted Best Assisted Living Facility in Best of North Port 2017 Reader's Choice Awards  
3RD YEAR IN A ROW!*



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STOCKS LISTING CHANGE - REQUESTS WELCOME! Mutual funds listings will run on Saturdays.

The Sun Newspaper is tweaking the way stocks are listed in the daily paper. We will continue to run a wide range of stocks, but we're trying to eliminate stocks

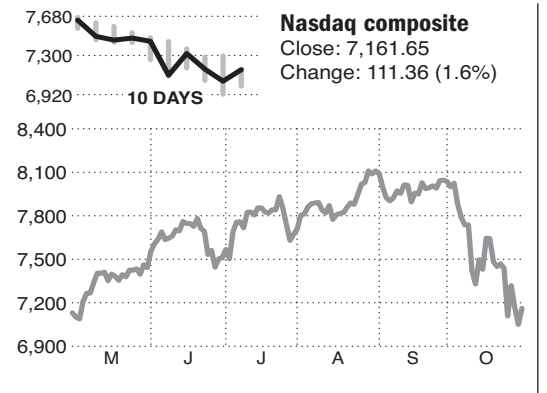
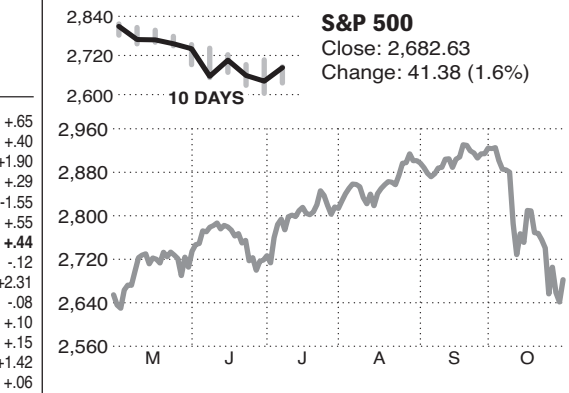
our readers don't want. If you do not see your stock in the paper, please let us know and we will put it in the listings. Email the name of the company and the symbol to nlane@sun-herald.com, or call 941-206-1138. You can leave the stock name and symbol on voice mail. If you reach voice mail, please leave your contact information so your call can be returned.

Market indicators: DOW 24,874.64 +431.72, NASDAQ 7,161.65 +111.36, S&P 500 2,682.63 +41.38, 10-YR T-NOTE 3.11% +0.03, 30-YR T-BOND 3.36% +0.03, CRUDE OIL \$66.18 -0.86, GOLD \$1,222.60 -2.10, EURO \$1.1342 -0.048

Money&Markets

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

Table of stock listings with columns for P/E Name, Last, Chg, and various stock symbols like A-B-C, 12 AES Corp, 5 AGNC Inv, etc.



Stocks Recap table with columns for NYSE, NASD, Vol. (in mil.), Pvs. Volume, Advanced, Declined, New Highs, New Lows

Table with columns for HIGH, LOW, CLOSE, CHG, %CHG, WK, MO, QTR, YTD

Table with columns for G-H-I, 13 eBay s, 13 EOG Rescs, etc.

Table with columns for M-N-O, 11 NY CmtyB, 8 NYMgTr, etc.

Table with columns for J-K-L, 14 JPMorgCh, 26 JacobsEng, etc.

Table with columns for S-T-U, 18 S&T Bop, 10 SCANA, etc.

Table with columns for V-W-X-Y-Z, 40 VF Corp, 10 VICI Pr n, etc.

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Interest Rates table with columns for TREASURIES, BONDS, LAST, PVS, NET CHG, 1YR AGO

Foreign Exchange table with columns for MAJORS, EUROPE/AFRICA/MIDDLE EAST, ASIA/PACIFIC, USD per British Pound, etc.

Commodities table with columns for FUELS, METALS, AGRICULTURE, Crude Oil (bbl), Ethanol (gal), etc.

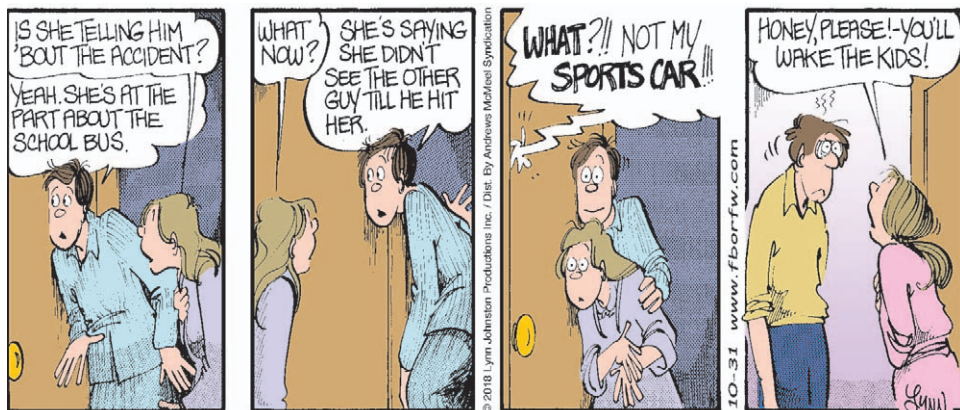
Large table of stock listings with columns for various stock symbols and their prices, including PnnNtGm, PennantPk, Penney, etc.

Stock Footnotes: g - Dividends and earnings in Canadian dollars. h - Does not meet continuing listing standards. i - Late filing with SEC. n - Stock was a new issue in the last year. r - Stock has undergone a reverse stock split of at least 50% within the past year. r1 - Right to buy security at a specified price. s - Stock has split by at least 10 percent within the last year. w - Trades will be settled when the stock is issued. wd - When distributed. wt - Warrant allowing a purchase of a stock. un - Unit, including more than one security. vj - Company in bankruptcy or receivership, or being reorganized under the bankruptcy law. Appears in front of the name. Stocks in bold are worth at least 5¢ and changed 5 percent or more in price. PE P/E ratio shown. cc - P/E exceeds 99. dd - Loss in last 12 months. Source: The Associated Press.

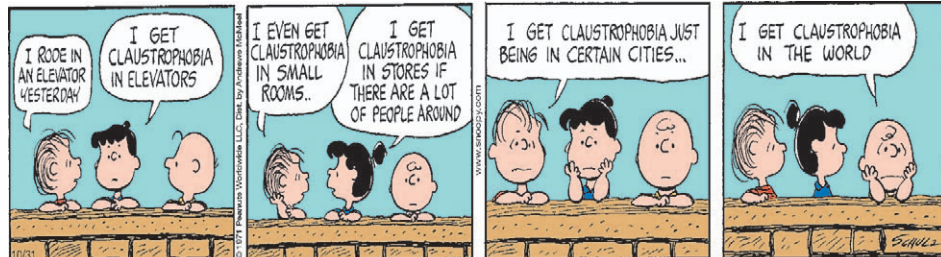




FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE By Lynn Johnston



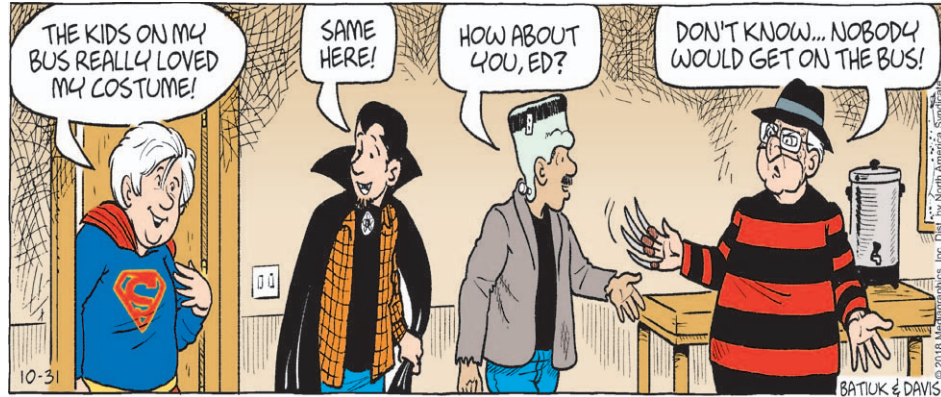
PEANUTS By Charles Schulz



MALLARD FILLMORE By Bruce Tinsley



CRANKSHAFT By Tom Batiuk & Chuck Ayers



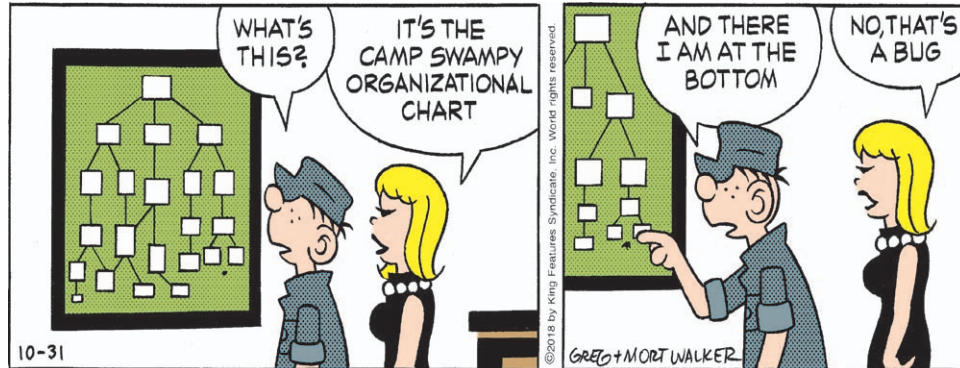
HI AND LOIS By Brian and Greg Walker



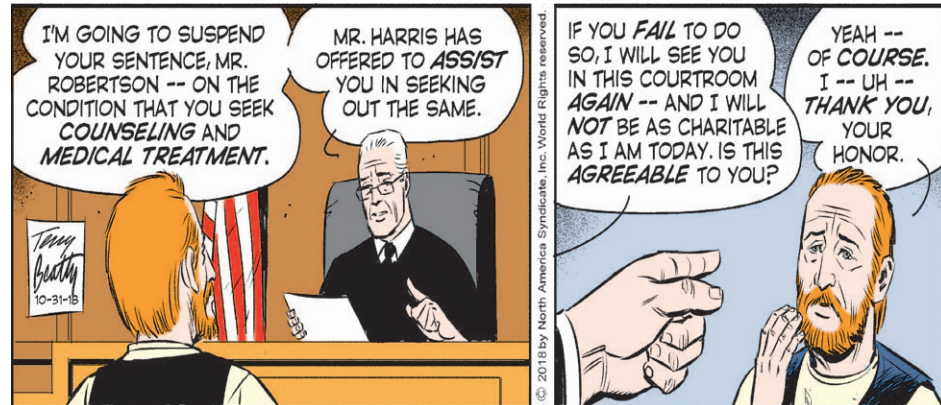
SHOE By Gary Brookins & Susie MacNelly



BETLE BAILEY By Mort Walker



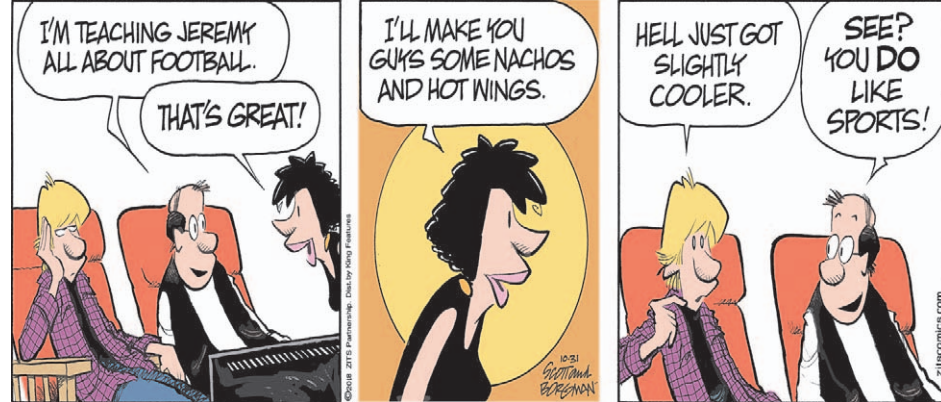
REX MORGAN By Terry Beatty



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE By Chris Browne



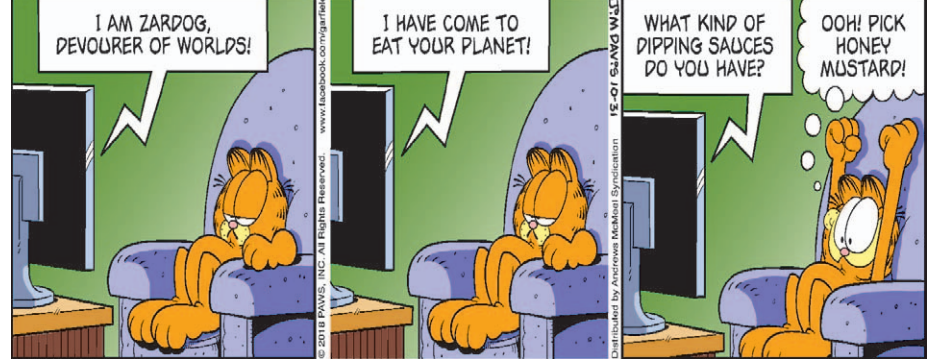
ZITS By Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman



THE WIZARD OF ID By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



GARFIELD By Jim Davis



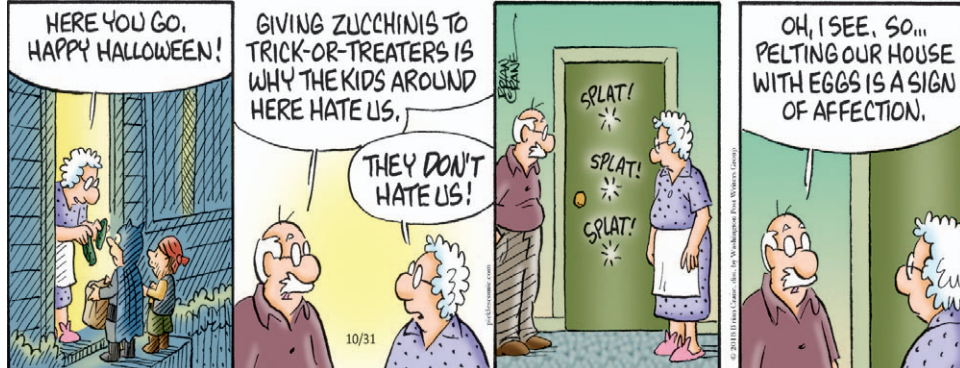
MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM By Mike Peters



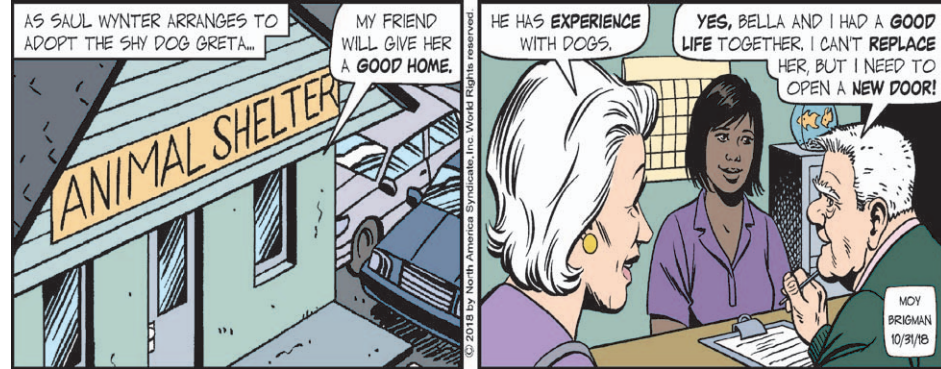
NON SEQUITUR By Wiley



PICKLES By Brian Crane



MARY WORTH By Karen Moy and June Brigman



B.C. By Mastroianni & Hart



DILBERT By Scott Adams















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**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY**

**FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

**Proposed Flood Hazard Determinations for Unincorporated Areas of Polk County, Florida, Case No. 18-04-5171P**, The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) solicits technical information or comments on proposed flood hazard determinations for the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), and where applicable, the Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report for your community. These flood hazard determinations may include the addition or modification of Base Flood Elevations, base flood depths, Special Flood Hazard Area boundaries or zone designa-

tions, or the regulatory floodway. The FIRM and, if applicable, the FIS report have been revised to reflect these flood hazard determinations through issuance of a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR), in accordance with Title 44, Part 65 of the Code of Federal Regulations. These determinations are the basis for the floodplain management measures that your community is required to adopt or show evidence of having in effect to qualify or remain qualified for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program. For more information on the proposed flood hazard deter-

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minations and information on the statutory 90-day period provided for appeals, please visit FEMA's website at [www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm/bfe](http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/fhm/bfe), or call the FEMA Map Information eXchange (FMIX) toll free at 1-877-FEMA MAP (1-877-336-2627).  
October 24, 31, 2018  
387427 3622049

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**LAST KNOWN ADDRESS:**  
Behrend, Mary K  
2725 State Road 60 E  
Bartow,33830  
Burgess, Gary D  
205 Parker Rd  
Loughman,33858  
Constantino, Anthony J  
140 Glendale St APT 105  
Lakeland,33803  
Destadio, Tyler R

1015 Meadowood Pointe Rd  
Lakeland,33811  
Foreman, Stevie K  
810 E Memorial Blvd UNIT 1363  
Lakeland,33801  
George, Shandria S  
1042 Buttercup Dr  
Lakeland,33801  
Gordon II, Earl C  
411 Harding Ave  
Lake Wales,33853  
Gumble, Cameron D  
107 Orion Ln  
Lake Wales,33898  
Hatcher, Katie L  
3510 Avenue U NW  
Winter Haven,33881  
Hickman, Dayna  
259 1St Ave N  
Lake Wales,33859  
Hosch, Kerrie A  
1530 Broken Arrow Trl N  
Lakeland,33813

Jenner II, John T  
2107 Spirit Lake Rd  
Winter Haven,33880  
Leroy, Cody R  
2210 Lake Lena Blvd  
Auburndale,33823  
Mathis, Austin  
709 Mosley RD  
Lake Alfred,33850-2438  
Pace, Edward R  
214 W 5th St  
Lakeland,33805  
Saenz, Daniel H  
5150 Michelle St  
Winter Haven,33881

You are hereby notified that your eligibility to vote is in question. You are required to contact the Supervisor of Elections, in Bartow, Florida, 863-534-5888, no later than thirty (30) days after the date of this publishing. Failure to respond will result in a de-

termination of ineligibility by the Supervisor and your name will be removed from the statewide voter registration system.

Por este medio, se le notifica que su elegibilidad para votar está en duda. Se requiere que usted contacte la Supervisora de Elecciones en Bartow, Florida, (863) 534-5888, a más tardar treinta (30) días después de la fecha de esta publicación. Fracaso en responder resultará en una determinación de inelegibilidad por la Supervisora y su nombre será removido del sistema de registro de votantes estatal.

Lori Edwards  
Polk County Supervisor of Elections  
October 31, 2018  
269850 3625046

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Continued from previous page

NYSE

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Lists various stocks including BIPSPBWr, BIP GCr, BIP Gbp, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Lists various stocks including BrownFB s, Brunswick, Buckeye, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Lists various stocks including CincB pIB, CincBell rs, Cincertr, etc.

Continued on next page

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Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like DCP Mid, DCP Mid pfB, DCP pIF, DGSE, etc.

NYSE

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like Drex300Chin, DxcHcrBll, DxcRetBull, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like EVETxAbDO, EV TxAkd, EV TxAOp, etc.

F

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes stocks like FBL Fin, FBL Fn, FBL Fin, etc.

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

NYSE

Table with columns: Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD. Contains stock data for various companies including FedRpt, FedSgnl, FedPnlvst, etc.

Table with columns: Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD. Contains stock data for various companies including GMAC Cpt, ALLYpA, GMS, etc.

Table with columns: Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD. Contains stock data for various companies including GpSuprvn, SUPV, GpTelevisa, TV, etc.

- G -

- H -

- I -

Continued on next page

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NYSE

Table of NYSE stock listings including columns for Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol, and YTD %Chg.

Table of NYSE stock listings including columns for Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol, and YTD %Chg.

Table of NYSE stock listings including columns for Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol, and YTD %Chg.

- J -

- K -

Continued on next page

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Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes KosmosEn, KRN, KramChina, etc.

L

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

M

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

NYSE

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes MedleyMgt, Mednax, Medtrnic, etc.

N

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

O

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

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes NovaBay rs, NovaGld, Novartis, etc.

P-Q

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes PBF Engy, PBF Logist, PCF Fund, etc.

Continued on next page

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NYSE

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like PS BSpk pW, PVH Corp, PerTmd450, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like Pro20 yrT, Pro7-10yrT, ProSSHOG, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High, Low, Vol 1000s, Last, YTD %Chg. Includes entries like RAITFn 19, RAYAdv pFA, RELX plc s, etc.

- S -

- R -

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NYSE

Main table containing NYSE stock listings with columns for Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, and YTD %Chg. Includes sub-sections for NYSE, - U -, - T -, and - V -.

Continued on next page



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NYSE

Table of NYSE stock market data including columns for Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, Vol, 52-week, YTD, and %Chg. Includes sub-sections for -W- and X-Y-Z.

Nasdaq

Table of Nasdaq stock market data including columns for Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, Vol, 52-week, YTD, and %Chg.

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

Nasdaq

Table with 15 columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, YTD %Chg, Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, YTD %Chg, Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, 52-week High/Low, Vol 1000s, YTD %Chg. Includes a central '- C -' section.

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

Nasdaq

Table with columns: Name, Ticker Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes tickers like DrgVlc n, DprOkw n, DprOkrt, etc.

- E -

Main table of Nasdaq stocks starting with 'E'. Includes tickers like E-Trade, eBay s, eFAYL, etc.

- F -

Main table of Nasdaq stocks starting with 'F'. Includes tickers like FAT Br n, FFBW n, FFLR Sys, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes tickers like FT EmkMty, FT Gmrry, FT Canada, etc.

Main table of Nasdaq stocks starting with 'G'. Includes tickers like G-WilliFood, G1Thera n, GCI Lb a, etc.

- G -

Main table of Nasdaq stocks starting with 'H'. Includes tickers like H&E Eqp, HD Supply, HFFG, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes tickers like GoredPol n, Gores III n, GovPrpIt, etc.

Main table of Nasdaq stocks starting with 'I'. Includes tickers like I-AMCap n, I-AMCap wt, IAMXR, etc.

- I -

Main table of Nasdaq stocks starting with 'J'. Includes tickers like J-AMCap n, J-AMCap wt, JAMXR, etc.

Continued from previous page

Nasdaq

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Lists various stocks including ImmuCell, ImmunoDs, ImmunG, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Lists various stocks including KingDjw, Kingstone, Kingtone, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Lists various stocks including MeritBio, MeritMed, MerrimP, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Lists various stocks including J&J Snack, J2Global, JCom, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Lists various stocks including JACOB, JAL, JALM, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Lists various stocks including J&J Snack, J2Global, JCom, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Lists various stocks including K2M, KBL, KBLM, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Lists various stocks including K2M, KBL, KBLM, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, Vol, YTD %Chg. Lists various stocks including K2M, KBL, KBLM, etc.

Continued from previous page

Nasdaq

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

Continued on next page

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Nasdaq

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes tickers like TexCapB 42, TheStreet, TXCapBsh, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes tickers like US5cBgy rs, USLime, UtdTherap, etc.

Table with columns: Name, Ticker, Symbol, Div, Yield, PE, High, Low, 52-week, Vol, YTD %Chg. Includes tickers like Vivopwr n, Vivus rs, Vodafone, etc.

Money Market Funds

Table with columns: Fund, Avg Maturity, Avg Yield, Fund, Avg Maturity, Avg Yield, Fund, Avg Maturity, Avg Yield, Fund, Avg Maturity, Avg Yield. Lists various money market funds like Cash Account Tr, US Gld rs, etc.

Continued on next page

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Money Market Funds

Table with 26 columns: Fund, Avg Maturity, Avg Yield, Fund, Avg Maturity, Avg Yield, Fund, Avg Maturity, Avg Yield, Fund, Avg Maturity, Avg Yield, Fund, Avg Maturity, Avg Yield, Fund, Avg Maturity, Avg Yield. Lists various money market funds and their performance metrics.

Tax Exempt

Table with 12 columns: Fund, Avg Maturity, Avg Yield, Fund, Avg Maturity, Avg Yield, Fund, Avg Maturity, Avg Yield, Fund, Avg Maturity, Avg Yield. Lists tax-exempt money market funds.

Toronto stocks

Table with 26 columns: Name, Vol, High, Low, Last, Chg, Name, Vol, High, Low, Last, Chg, Name, Vol, High, Low, Last, Chg, Name, Vol, High, Low, Last, Chg. Lists Toronto stock market data.

Treasury bonds

Table with 26 columns: Rate, Date, Bid, Ask, Chg, Yld, Rate, Date, Bid, Ask, Chg, Yld, Rate, Date, Bid, Ask, Chg, Yld, Rate, Date, Bid, Ask, Chg, Yld. Lists Treasury bond market data.

FOOTNOTE: Rate-The annual interest rate the Treasury bond provides to investors. Date-The month and year the bond will expire. Bid-The price investors will pay for the bond. Ask-The price at which investors will sell. A bond price is expressed as a percentage of its original purchase cost of \$1,000. The whole numbers and the decimals which represent 32nds of a point-must be converted to dollars and cents; for example, 103.18 equals \$1,035.63. Chg-The change between the preceding day's final bid price and the final bid price from the day before. Yld-The annual percentage return to the investor, based on the bond's current price, if the bond is held until it matures. K-Taxes on interest will not be withheld from non-U.S. citizens. n-Treasury note. p-Treasury note; taxes on interest will not be withheld from non-U.S. citizens.

Mutual Funds

How to Read the Mutual Fund Tables

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

Table with 2 columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk. Lists mutual fund names and their performance metrics.

Table with 2 columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk. Lists mutual fund names and their performance metrics.

Continued on next page

Top 20 Mutual Funds

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

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

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

Continued from previous page

Continuation of the 'By Year-to-Date Percent Return' table, listing mutual funds from TxMgAimKtlncA to American Century.

Mutual Funds

Main table of mutual funds with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD, 3-yr Rtn/Rk, Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD, 3-yr Rtn/Rk, Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD, 3-yr Rtn/Rk. Lists various mutual funds across multiple columns.

Continued on next page



Continued from previous page

Mutual Funds

Table with columns for Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk, and multiple columns for various mutual fund categories including Bond, Equity, and Money Market funds.



Continued from previous page

Mutual Funds

Table with columns: Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk, Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk, Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk, Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk. Lists various mutual funds and their performance metrics.

Continued from previous page

Table with columns for Name, Obj, NAV, 4-wk Rtn, YTD Rtn, 3-yr Rtn/Rk, and multiple columns for various mutual fund categories including M.D. Sass, MFS, Mairs & Power, Managed Account Seri, Manning & Napier, Needham, Neuberger Berman, Old Westbury, Oppenheimer, Oak Ridge, Oakmark, Oberweis, and others.



