

# Softball: Crystal River opens season in style /B1

WEDNESDAY

TODAY & Thursday morning  
**HIGH 75** Partly sunny with winds at 5 to 10 mph.  
**LOW 51** PAGE A4

# CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE

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**INSIDE**  
**BROOKSVILLE BUST:**  
**\$1M in assets seized**  
 Authorities arrest money laundering suspects, find underground tunnel. /Page A4

**NEWS BRIEFS**

**Three Sisters workshop today**

The workshop to get the ball rolling on a sometimes controversial plan to turn Three Sisters Springs into an ecotourist draw is Wednesday at 6 p.m.

The conceptual landscape blueprint transforms the 57-acre urban parcel into trails, parking areas, a possible off-site visitor center, manatee viewing areas and a kayak landing/launch.

But some elements of the plan have drawn the ire of residents of the area, who are seeking changes to the plan they deem intrusive. This is the second workshop in as many months to address the concerns of those residents.

Those who oppose the plan were told to come up with concrete alternatives so the work on the property stays within the bounds of mandates set by the major benefactors in the public/private deal that helped save the land from becoming a residential development.

The Crystal River City Council is expected to give a final vote on the issue at its next regular meeting Feb. 13.

**Valentine's Day: Yea or Nay?**

Here's your opportunity to tell us how you really feel about Valentine's Day. We're looking for people who love the holiday and those who don't. Holiday lovers: Why do you love Valentine's Day?

Holiday haters: What soured you to the day dedicated to love and romance? Tell us your story by emailing Nancy Kennedy at nkennedy@chronicleonline.com.

—From staff reports

**INDEX**

Comics . . . . .C7  
 Community . . . . .C5  
 Crossword . . . . .C6  
 Editorial . . . . .A12  
 Entertainment . . . . .B6  
 Horoscope . . . . .B6  
 Lottery Numbers . . . . .B4  
 Lottery Payouts . . . . .B6  
 Movies . . . . .C7  
 Obituaries . . . . .A5  
 Classifieds . . . . .C8  
 TV Listings . . . . .C6



## Female DUIs on the rise

*Survey points to possible thinking behind increase*

**A.B. SIDIBE**  
 Staff Writer

Nationally, between 2001 and 2010, the number of women arrested for driving under the influence has jumped 36 percent, according to Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) data.

While more men than women get arrested for DUI, the number of males

being charged declined nearly 11 percent for the same period.

In Citrus County from 2009 to 2010, the numbers either stayed the same or fell by a person among females, but held to form with the national figures among males.

An American Automobile Association (AAA) survey indicated two-thirds of

**SURVEY SAYS**

- Twelve percent of men said they drink alcoholic beverages daily, equal to the 11 percent of women who said they drink daily
- Twenty-eight percent of men said they drink alcoholic beverages 2 to 3 times a week, compared

to 18 percent of women who said they drink alcoholic beverages 2 to 3 times a week

- In the past 12 months, 13 percent of men said they have been concerned for a female friend and/or family member's safety who seemed to be intoxicated.

—SOURCE: AAA

respondents (66 percent) still believe men are more likely to be charged with

DUI than women.

See DUI/Page A8

## Last known WWI veteran dies at 110

Associated Press

LONDON — Florence Green never saw the front lines. Her war was spent serving food, not dodging bullets.

But Green, who has died aged 110, was the last known surviving veteran of World War I. She was serving with the Women's Royal Air Force as a waitress at an air base in eastern England when the guns fell silent on Nov. 11, 1918.

It was not until 2010 that she was officially recognized as a veteran after a researcher found her service record in Britain's National Archives.

Green died Saturday at the Briar House Care Home in King's Lynn, eastern England, two weeks before her 111th birthday, the home said.

Retired Air Vice-Marshal Peter Dye, director-general of the RAF Museum, said it was fitting that the last survivor of the first global war was someone who had served on the home front.

"In a way, that the last veteran should be a lady and someone who served on the home front is something that reminds me that warfare is not confined to the trenches," Dye said.

"It reminds us of the Great War, and all warfare since then has been something that involved everyone. It's a collective experience ... Sadly, whether you are in New York, in London, or in Kandahar, warfare touches all of our lives."

She was born Florence Beatrice Patterson in London on Feb. 19, 1901, and joined the newly formed Women's Royal Air Force in September 1918 at the age of 17.

The service trained women to work as mechanics, drivers and in other jobs to free men for front-line duty. Green went to work as a steward in the officers' mess, first at the Narborough aerodrome and then at RAF Marham in eastern England, and was serving there when the war ended.

Decades later, Green remembered her wartime service with affection.

"I met dozens of pilots and would go on dates," she said in an interview in 2008. "I had the opportunity to go up in one of the planes but I was scared of flying. I would work every hour God sent. But I had dozens of friends on the base, and we had a great deal of fun in our spare time. In many ways, I had the time of my life."

After the war she stayed in the area, raising three children with her husband, Bob Green.

Once her service record was rediscovered, the RAF embraced the centenarian veteran, marking her 110th birthday in February 2011 with a cake.

Asked what it was like to be 110, Green said "It's not much different to being 109."

She praised the officers she had served during the war as perfect gentlemen.

See VET/Page A8

## Sidewalk a no-no?



CATHY KAPULKA/Chronicle

**ABOVE:** From left, Lehman and Sandra Strickland and Ann and Dave McLaughlin exit the Withlacoochee State Trail in Floral City and head to Hampton's Edge Trailside Bicycles in Floral City. **BELOW:** Regis Hampton talks with customers in front of Hampton's Edge Trailside Bicycles as two bicyclists use the sidewalk leading from his business to the Withlacoochee State Trail to head south.

### Bicycle shop's concrete walkway causes stir with state

**NANCY KENNEDY**  
 Staff Writer

FLORAL CITY — File this under "No good deed goes unpunished." Or, file it under "Grit your teeth and just go through all the bureaucratic red tape rigmarole that everyone hates and save yourself some grief."

Either way you look at it, Regis Hampton is learning the hard way that living in a society with rules and regulations is a fact of life.

Hampton owns Hampton's Edge Trailside Bicycles, 8294 E. Orange Avenue in Floral City, right next to the Withlacoochee State Trail.

For the two and a half years, he and co-owner Cindy Messer have been in that location. People riding bikes on the trail who want to come to the shop had a choice: walk their bikes through sand or use the street.

"When people come off the trail with their bikes, the tires get all full of sand, and the sand gets carried into the shop," Hampton said. "And



to use the street — this is a busy, bad intersection (County Road 48 and U.S. 41), and cars come whipping around the corner.

So he had an idea. He put patio stones down for people to walk on. But then people parked their cars on them and

they cracked.

Then he had another idea. "We had just bought the building and put a new roof on it, and back in October or November we decided to put in a sidewalk from the shop to the trail," Hampton said. "I did it for the convenience and the safety of people so they don't have to go out on the street."

He spent \$860 and hired someone to construct the concrete walkway, even adding an artistic touch with decorative bike tracks running the length of it and bicycle gears embedded in it.

As sidewalks go, it's a short one — about 44 feet.

The problem is, only part of the sidewalk is Hampton's property. Less than half of it is an easement belonging to the state.

All was well, until he got a letter signed by Harry Mitchell, Withlacoochee State Trail park manager, based at Fort Cooper State Park, which spells out a list of things

See SIDEWALK/Page A8

## Teen suspected of armed burglary

**A.B. SIDIBE**  
 Staff Writer

HERNANDO — A high-school student who was caught shooting a gun he allegedly swiped from a vehicle he reportedly stole thought the weapon was "cool," according to the Citrus County Sheriff's Office report.



**Jason MacDonal**

Jason Michael MacDonal, 18, 16 S. Adams St., Beverly Hills, was arrested Monday on six charges including burglary, theft of

auto, burglary becoming armed, armed trespass and carrying a concealed firearm. Bond is \$53,000.

MacDonal, a Lecanto High School senior, reportedly entered the garage of a residence with the Hernando homeowner inside and jumped into the man's vehicle and drove off. The vehicle had a

loaded semi-automatic pistol in it. MacDonal allegedly also stole the keys

See TEEN/Page A8



RON KORNATOWSKI/Special to the Chronicle

**A high school student suspected of armed robbery came through the woods Monday and onto Shetland Lane. The suspect saw a sheriff's office car and threw his gun down behind a tree. The young man was apprehended and handcuffed.**

# Ambassador wants to get Canadians to Fla. faster

Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE — Canada's ambassador is urging the United States to expand its pre-clearance of tourists from his country so southbound Canadians can get to Florida in time for lunch — and a beer.

Ambassador Gary Doer also touted a proposed oil pipeline between Canada and the United States on Tuesday at an international trade gathering sponsored by the Florida Chamber of Commerce.

Conducting customs, immigration, agriculture and other screenings before passengers depart from foreign ports and airports is designed to reduce congestion and delays upon arrival. The United States has eight such pre-clearance facilities at Canadian airports.

Canadians "want to leave early in the mornings to

they can have a beer by lunch," Doer said. "More pre-clearance people will mean more tourists having more beer earlier."

The wisecracking ambassador also took a shot at actress Darryl Hannah after complaining that her opposition to the pipeline is getting more publicity than pro-pipeline comments by U.S. Energy Secretary David Chu.

"I was on a panel with Darryl Hannah in Copenhagen and I noticed that she said she's weaned herself completely off fossil fuels, which begs the question: How long is that kayak ride from Hollywood to Copenhagen and back again?" Doer said.

Hannah was among anti-pipeline activists arrested while protesting outside the White House.

Chu, meanwhile, has said the pipeline would offer the advantage of buying oil

## Citrus County port authority members attend international days

Citrus County Commissioners Rebecca Bays and Winn Webb attended the International Days presented by the Florida Chamber of Commerce on Tuesday and Wednesday. The two, along with the other three county commissioners, are members of the Port Authority of Citrus County, which is working to establish a seaport, Port Citrus, to become part of international trade channels.

—From staff reports

from a close ally rather than less stable sources in the Middle East or South America and that new technology makes such operations safer.

President Barack Obama rejected the Keystone XL pipeline last month. Obama said his decision was not based on the merits of the issue but on the "arbitrary nature" of a Feb. 21 deadline set by congressional Republicans as part of tax legislation he signed into law.

Canada has begun looking at other options such as a pipeline to the Pacific Coast so oil could be shipped to China, but Doer said his government hasn't given up on getting U.S. approval of the north-south route.

He was followed to the podium by U.S. Commerce Undersecretary for International Trade Francisco Sanchez, a Florida State University graduate who got his start in government working for then-Florida Lieutenant Gov. Wayne Mixson, who was in the audience Tuesday.

"I have every confidence

that we will work together to find a solution" to the pipeline issue, Sanchez said.

Gov. Rick Scott also addressed the International Days conference. Attendees applauded when chamber president and CEO Mark Wilson noted Scott has gone on more trade missions in his first year than his predecessor, Charlie Christ, did during his entire four-year term.

Scott has visited Canada, Panama, Brazil and Israel, and he plans to take three more trips this year to Spain, England and Columbia.

The Republican governor, in a rare instance of agreement with Obama, cited the president's signing of an executive order designed to promote foreign tourism. It increases non-immigrant visa processing capacity in China and Brazil by 40 percent this year and expands a visa waiver program that lets foreign travelers stay in the United States for 90 days or less without a visa.

Obama visited Walt Disney World last month to make the announcement. Scott said it's a big opportunity for Florida to attract more tourists from Brazil.

# Property tax cut proposal dies

Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE — A ballot proposal that would have further slashed property taxes for Florida homeowners failed on a tie vote in a House subcommittee Tuesday after opponents said it would shift the tax burden to non-homestead properties and "bully" local governments.

Supporters argued the proposed state constitutional amendment (HJR 1289) would have helped cure inequities among homeowners created by the existing Save Our Homes amendment.

Voters, though, still will have a chance to cut property taxes through another proposal lawmakers last year placed on the November 2012 ballot. Amendment 4 includes a "super exemption" for primary homeowners except for school taxes, as well as some relief for businesses and other non-homestead properties.

The proposal that went down 7-7 in the House Community and Military Affairs Subcommittee would have added another non-school tax super exemption for primary homeowners. It also would have authorized the Legislature to increase homestead exemptions in the future.

"It lets the state bully local ... governments and say 'We know best, we're going to take your money; you figure out how to fund all the things you need to do with less money,'" said Rep. Frederick Costello, R-Ormond Beach. "That's wrong."

Costello's comment drew a retort from Rep. Charles Van Zant, R-Keystone Heights.

"This bill isn't bullying," Van Zant said. "In fact, it is defending our citizens to stop the decades of bullying through property taxes that have been invoked on them by local government."

Van Zant said the proposal, sponsored by Rep. Jason Brodeur, R-Sanford, should be passed as a step to eventually eliminating property taxes and replacing them with a sales tax increase.

Rep. Scott Randolph said that kind of piecemeal approach would reduce bond ratings, which would increase governmental borrowing costs, and cause taxes for non-homestead properties to go up.

"Don't look at this bill as a tax cut," said the Orlando Democrat. "This is a tax shift."

The proposal is one of several attempts lawmakers have made, including Amendment 4, to reduce inequities that resulted from Save Our Homes amendment, which passed through a citizens initiative in the 1990s.

It put a 3 percent annual cap on assessment increases for primary homes. That's resulted in recent home buyers paying larger tax bills than longtime beneficiaries of Save Our Homes although the market value of their homes may be the same. It's also meant non-homestead properties, including rentals and second homes, have paid more to make up for savings that have gone to ri-

many homeowners. Save Our Homes also discouraged homeowners from moving because they would have lost their Save Our Homes benefits. The Legis-

lature proposed an amendment that voters adopted in 2008 to let homeowners to take some of their Save Our Homes benefits with them if they move to another home.



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*Around*  
**THE STATE**

**Citrus County**

**Homeless coalition set to meet next week**

Mid Florida Homeless Coalition's Citrus County Committee will meet at 8:30 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 16, at the Citrus County Detention Facility, 2604 W. Woodland Ridge Drive, Lecanto. It's necessary to arrive 15 minutes early. No cell phones are allowed and photo identification is required.

The committee will discuss the needs of those being released and re-entering the community, as well as how the community can help meet those needs and prevent homelessness. The meeting is open to the public and all are encouraged to attend to learn more about homelessness in Citrus County.

A tour of the jail will be provided to interested persons immediately following the meeting.

Contact Barbara Wheeler at 352-860-2308 or, by e-mail, at mfhc01@gmail.com, or Sean McKenna at 352-527-5900.

**Plantation to host Star Party**

Plantation on Crystal River will host a free Star Party at 7:30 p.m. Friday.

AstroGuyz.com's David Dickinson and his telescope will be available to guide guests and visitors through several objects in the night sky. Highlights include viewing Andromeda Galaxy and Jupiter, to name a few. Moonrise is at 9:30 p.m., at which time participants will be able to experience an up-close-and-personal view of various portions of the lunar surface.

Call 352-795-4211. The event is open to the public, with free parking. Visit the website at www.Plantationon-CrystalRiver.com.

**Tallahassee**

**Solicitor general to replace Hawkes**

Florida's solicitor general is replacing an appellate judge who resigned after playing a lead role in building an opulent courthouse that critics dubbed a "Taj Mahal."

Gov. Rick Scott on Monday appointed Scott Makar to the vacancy on the 1st District Court of Appeal.

As solicitor general, Makar represented the state in cases before the Florida and U.S. supreme courts and other appellate courts.

He succeeds Judge Paul Hawkes, who resigned from the 1st District Court effective Jan. 4.

The resignation ended an ethics case against Hawkes that included allegations related to the 1st District's new \$48.8 million courthouse in Tallahassee.

Hawkes, a former lawmaker, was accused of having the project's manager removed for questioning its cost and taking actions that exceeded legislative intent regarding the building's construction.

**Polk deputy named officer of year for 2011**

A Polk County sheriff's deputy who fatally shot a gunman after he and his partner were wounded is Florida's officer of the year for 2011.

Gov. Rick Scott and Attorney General Pam Bondi presented the award Tuesday to Deputy Michael Braswell in Tallahassee.

Braswell and now-retired Deputy Paul Fairbanks stopped a suspicious-looking bicyclist in Lakeland in June 2010.

The bicyclist pulled a gun and shot both deputies. Braswell returned fire and wounded the young man.

When he ignored warnings and tried to recover his gun, the deputy fired again, killing the suspect.

— From staff and wire reports

# Hospital tiff rears head at city council

## Foundation member calls member of taxing authority 'snake oil salesman'

**NANCY KENNEDY**  
*Staff Writer*

INVERNESS — After Citrus County Hospital Board Chairman Mike Smallridge informed the Inverness City Council about intentions to create a community health plan, as per mandate from the Florida Legislature, an impassioned David Langer approached city officials at Tuesday evening's council meeting.

Langer, a member of the Citrus Memorial Health Foundation board of directors, apologized for breaking protocol, then said, "I was going to tell a little joke, but I can't after I just heard this snake oil salesman try to sell you something that does-

n't belong to him — it belongs to the citizens of Citrus County."

Smallridge had not mentioned much of anything other than that the community health plan was on the horizon and would involve looking at Citrus County as a whole and finding ways to stop duplicating services.

Langer brought up county residents' taxes and asked council members, "Do you want your tax dollars to go to a community development agency or to the hospital to treat the patients of this county?"

Langer said that, in 2010, the Citrus County Hospital Board of Trustees collected \$9.7 million and gave the hospital \$1.5 million; and

in 2011, the board — which is the gubernatorial-appointed taxing authority for the hospital — collected \$2.5 million and gave the hospital \$250,000.

"That amounts to 15 percent of the taxes collected," Langer said. "The money belongs to the hospital and its patients."

Citrus Memorial Health Foundation leases the hospital from the Citrus County Hospital Board of Trustees and oversees day-to-day operations. The two entities are suing one another in a dispute that began more than two years ago.

"He can't give away this money willy-nilly," Langer continued. "As of now they're holding close to \$10 million of your money, their money and my money that's supposed to go to the citizens of this county for patient care and capital improvements of this hospital."

Smallridge did not respond to

Langer's accusations. When he asked to see the graph Langer brought that shows the revenues collected and the actual distribution to the hospital, Langer refused.

At the end of the night's meeting, Councilman Ken Hinkle said, "People are tired of the fighting and spending money on lawyers. The first gentleman brought up the plan for a community health center, and that's what it should be about. It's not about politics or who controls the money. It's about health care."

Also at Tuesday's council meeting, City Manager Frank DiGiovanni presented a resolution to amend and adjust the fees for Whispering Pines Park pool, which the council voted to adopt. See Thursday's *Chronicle* for details.

*Chronicle reporter Nancy Kennedy can be reached at nkennedy@chronicleonline.com or 352-564-2927.*

# Firefighters training



CCSO/Special to the Chronicle

## Big changes in store for Withlacoochee Tech program

When the county's Fire Rescue division officially merged with the Citrus County Sheriff's Office as of Oct. 1, a name change also came to the Criminal Justice Academy located at the Withlacoochee Technical Institute in Inverness.

A joint project of the Sheriff's Office and the Citrus County school district, the academy is under the direction of Lt. Phil Royal, who also heads up Sheriff Jeff Dawsy's training unit. In the past, academy programs were geared specifically to aspiring law enforcement and corrections officers.

Recently renamed as the Citrus County Public Safety Training Center, the academy is gearing up for its first-ever Fire Academy. A part-time (evenings and Saturdays) Firefighter I training course is scheduled to begin on Feb. 8, and run for 17 weeks through June 2.

Besides serving as an incentive to attract more volunteers to the sheriff's Fire Rescue division, the program includes extensive classroom and practical elements that are requirements for becoming a certified firefighter.

By the end of January, close to 25 enrollees were on board, including committed CCSO deputy sheriffs, 911 dispatchers and even Sheriff Dawsy.

According to Fire Rescue's training coordinator, Curt Clendenney, classroom instruction and hands-on skills development will be conducted at the Citrus County Fire Training Center located at 1300 S. Lecanto Highway, Building 26, in Lecanto.

A state-certified training facility since 1999, the center routinely handles the in-service training needs of Fire Rescue personnel, as



CCSO/Special to the Chronicle

well as the training requirements for those who have an interest in becoming firefighters or furthering their firefighting education. Besides multiple classrooms, it boasts a four-story training tower, 1,200-square-foot burn building, two-story maze, a vehicle extrication pad, simulated propane props, plus a number of state-certified instructors.

Successful completion of the Firefighter I program qualifies the participant to be a volunteer combat firefighter anywhere in the state of Florida. If the student is looking to become a career firefighter, then additional hours of training are needed to fulfill the state requirements of the Firefighter II program.

The curriculum explored during the course of study includes a history of firefighting; a look at HazMat (hazardous materials); leadership skills; fire origin and cause investigation; the latest firefighting/safety

techniques, tactics and strategies; plus much more.

In addition, advanced training and continuing education classes are available for those who aspire to become a fire investigator, driver/engineer, fire officer, fire inspector, or want to learn more about first responder medical training.

For more information, contact either Fire Rescue training coordinator Clendenney at 352-527-7612, or volunteer coordinator John Beebe at 352-527-5406. Or call the Citrus County Public Safety Training Center at 352-726-2430, ext. 4352, for more detailed information about the Fire Academy curriculum, application process, scheduling and associated fees.

*Gail Tierney is public information officer for the Citrus County Sheriff's Office. She has been with the agency for 22 years. Comments or suggestions may be directed to Gail at 352-341-7460, or gtierney@sheriffcitrus.org.*

# State insurer sued

## Case alleges software issues

*Associated Press*

TALLAHASSEE — An 82-year-old woman from the Tampa Bay area trying to survive on a meager social security check is among customers of Citizens Property Insurance Corp. suing the insurer for the way it calculates replacement values.

Ruth Lauro said Tuesday that she isn't sure how long she'll be able to remain in her New Port Richey home of 33 years after a \$69 increase in her monthly insurance premium. Nearly half of the increase was for flood insurance, which went from \$400 to \$800 annually. Lauro's only income is a \$637 Social Security check each month.

"Never had a puddle where I live," Lauro said. "They really did me in good."

She is among hundreds of plaintiffs in a suit filed Tuesday in Pasco County that names Citizens and Xactware Solutions Inc., as defendants. Xactware is a Utah-based company also known as 360Value that sells computer programs to insurance companies to determine property replacement costs.

"Our motivation in establishing an accurate replacement cost valuation is to protect our policyholders and make sure they can restore their home after a catastrophic loss," Citizens' spokeswoman Christine Ashburn said Tuesday. "Any assertion to the contrary is simply wrong."

Joe Freitas, who is also from New Port Richey, is the individual named as plaintiff on behalf of the others in the class action. The plaintiffs are represented by attorneys Mark Beausoleil of Fort Lauderdale and Shane McClelland, who works for a Houston law firm.

The suit said Freitas purchased his home in September for \$109,000, slightly below a \$117,000 appraisal from his mortgage company, which required property casualty coverage. The premium with Citizens was \$917. However, 30 days after closing, Freitas was told by his insurance agent that Citizens would not insure his home for less than \$236,700, doubling the premium to \$1,846 annually.

"It changed the way we were going to live our lives," Freitas, 44, said at a news conference in front of the Old Capitol.

Freitas, a service technician for the Icee Corporation, said he tried to talk with Citizens, but was told that Citizens did not accept appraisals and followed the figures provided them by the company's software program.



Obituaries



**Robert Farnan, 77**  
DUNNELLON

The Service of Remembrance for Mr. Robert Walter Farnan, age 77, of Dunnellon, Florida, formerly of Inglis, will be held at 5 p.m. Thursday, February 9, 2012, at the Inverness Chapel of Hooper Funeral Homes, with Father Eugene Rueman officiating. Cremation will be under the direction of Hooper Crematory, Inverness, Florida. The family will receive friends from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday at the chapel. Online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.Hooper-FuneralHome.com](http://www.Hooper-FuneralHome.com).

Mr. Farnan was born November 2, 1934, in Bronx, NY, son of the late Jacob and Isabella (Coleman) Farnan. He died February 5, 2012, in Dunnellon, FL.

Mr. Farnan was an Army veteran, retiring after serving his country for more than 20 years, attaining the rank of Master Sergeant. Following his retirement, he moved to Inglis, where he was the owner and operator of the Port Inglis Restaurant for more than 30 years.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Jo Farnan; son, Kevin Farnan; four daughters, Christine (Jamal) Ne-jame, Cindy (Glenn) Townsend, Char (Steve) Stacy, Kaylynn Farnan; brother, Billy Farnan; sister, Winnie Carcaterra; and numerous grandchildren.

**Ollie Stephens, 72**  
GROVETOWN, GA.

Ollie Jo Stephens, 72, of Grovetown, Ga., died Sunday, Feb. 5, 2012.

Graveside services will be at 11 a.m. Friday, Feb. 10, 2012, at Garden of Memories in Tampa.

**Tordis Roland, 77**  
HERNANDO

Tordis Roland, 77, of Hernando, FL, died on Sunday, February 5, 2012, at the Hospice of Citrus County Care Unit at CMH in Inverness.

Tordis was born on January 4, 1935, in Lista, Norway, the daughter of Oscar and Margarete Andersen. She and her husband owned Roland Building Corporation in Huntington, Long Island, NY, before moving to Hernando in 1994. Tordis was a member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Hernando. She was also a member of the Citrus Hills Golf & Country Club, the Citrus Hills Women's Club, the Scandinavian Club in Beverly Hills and the Sons of Norway in New York.

Tordis was preceded in death by her brother, Olav Andersen and sister, Martha Lunde.

Survivors include her husband of 58 years, Tor Roland of Hernando, FL; sons, George Roland and wife Joanna, of Bettendorf, IA, Kevin Roland and wife Karen of Custer, WI, and Lloyd Roland and wife Karin, of Huntington, Long Island, NY; sister, Astri Torkelsen Southold, Long Island, NY; and four grandchildren, Erik and Elizabeth Roland, of Bettendorf, IA, and Matthew and Andrew Roland, of Custer, WI.

A memorial service for Mrs. Roland will be held at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 439 E. Norvell Bryant Hwy., Hernando, FL 34442. Heinz Funeral Home & Cremation, Inverness, FL.

Sign the guest book at [www.chronicleonline.com](http://www.chronicleonline.com).

**Robert Perkins, 89**  
INVERNESS

Robert Melvin Perkins, 89, Inverness, died Feb. 7, 2012, at Citrus Memorial hospital. Private cremation arrangements under the direction of Chas. E. Davis Funeral Home with Crematory.

**Mary Ann Walton**  
LECANTO

Mary Ann Walton (nee Fiorucci), of Lecanto, Florida, died on January 21, 2012.

Originally from Baltimore, Maryland, she was the beloved wife of Richard C. Walton Sr.; devoted stepmother of Richard Walton Jr., of VA, Matthew Walton and wife Becky of VA, sisters Geraldine Liberatore, of MD, Emily Hennigan, of FL, and husband Elmer (Skeets) Hennigan. Also survived by many nieces and nephews, great-nieces and -nephews.

Family and friends will honor Mary Ann's life at St. Thomas Apostle Roman Catholic Church, Homosassa, FL, on Saturday, February 11, at 8 a.m. Mass. Contributions may be made to Guide Dogs for the Blind, P.O. Box 151200, San Rafael, CA 94915-1200.

Sign the guest book at [www.chronicleonline.com](http://www.chronicleonline.com).

SO YOU KNOW

- The Citrus County Chronicle's policy permits both free and paid obituaries.
- Obituaries must be submitted by the funeral home or society in charge of arrangements.

**John Grace Jr., 63**  
CRYSTAL RIVER

John Willard Grace Jr., age 63, of Crystal River, FL, passed away Saturday, February 4, 2012, at Cypress Cove Care Center in Crystal River, FL.

He was born February 12, 1948, in Powhatan, WV, to John Willard and Dottie (Armstrong) Grace. He came here one year ago from Winthrop Harbor, IL. He was a retired mechanic and was of the Christian faith.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister Gloria. Surviving is his son, Dr. John Willard Grace III, of Crystal River, FL; and three grandchildren. Private Cremation arrangements are under the care of Strickland Funeral Home with Crematory Crystal River, FL.

Sign the guest book at [www.chronicleonline.com](http://www.chronicleonline.com).

Man who warned of Challenger disaster dies

Associated Press

NEPHI, Utah — Roger Boisjoly, a NASA contractor who repeatedly voiced concerns about the space shuttle Challenger before it exploded, has died. He was 73.

Boisjoly died of cancer on Jan. 6 in Nephi, about 40 miles south of Provo, his wife Roberta Boisjoly said. The 1986 Challenger tragedy shocked the nation. Seven astronauts, including a schoolteacher, were killed when the shuttle disintegrated 73 seconds after liftoff from Cape Canaveral, Fla.

Boisjoly, an engineer at rocket-builder Morton Thiokol Inc., warned in 1985 that seals on the booster rocket joints could fail in freezing temperatures.

"The result would be a catastrophe of the highest order — loss of human life," he wrote in a memo.

On the eve of the ill-fated flight, Boisjoly and several colleagues reiterated their concerns and argued against launching because

of predicted cold weather at the Kennedy Space Center. They were overruled by Morton Thiokol managers, who gave NASA the green light.

Slow-motion video of the launch showed a tongue of flame sprouting from one of the shuttle's solid rocket boosters, licking the main fuel tank.

After the accident, Boisjoly testified to a presidential commission investigating the Challenger accident. The group determined that hot gases leaked through a joint in one of the booster rockets shortly after blastoff that ended with the explosion of the shuttle's hydrogen fuel.

Boisjoly said he was shunned by colleagues and neighbors after emerging as a whistleblower. He took an extended leave of absence while Morton Thiokol worked on a re-design of the rocket joint.

"When I realized what was happening, it absolutely destroyed me," Boisjoly told The Associated Press in a 1988.

**OBITUARIES**

- Paid obituaries are printed as submitted by funeral homes or societies.
- Deadline is 3 p.m. for obituaries to appear in the next day's edition.
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- Phone 352-563-5660 for details.

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PAID ADVERTISEMENT

# Local Residents in Amazement Yesterday As Collectors Provide A Stimulus Package to Crystal River!

By KEN MCINTOSH  
STAFF WRITER

ICCA will be placing ads in newspapers, radio and running television spots this week asking people to bring in any old silver and gold coins made before 1970. Those that do bring in their coins will be able to speak with collectors one on one and have their coins looked at by a specialist. With the help of these ICCA members, offers will be made to those that have coins made before 1970. Offers will be made based on silver or gold content and the rarity of the coins. All coins made before 1970 will be examined and purchased including gold coins, silver coins, silver dollars, all types of nickels and pennies. Those that decide to sell their coins will be paid on the spot.

If you are like a lot of people, you might have a few old coins or even a coffee can full lying around. If you have ever wondered what they are worth, now might be your chance to find out and even sell them if you choose. They could be worth a lot according to the International Coin Collectors Association, also known as ICCA. Collectors will pay a fortune for some coins and currency for their collections. If they are rare enough, one coin could be worth over \$100,000 according to Eric Helms coin collector and ICCA member. One ultra rare dime, an 1894S Barber, sold for a record \$1.9 million to a collector in July of 2007. While that is an extreme example, many rare and valuable coins are stashed away in dresser drawers or lock boxes around the country. The ICCA and its collector members have organized a traveling event in search of all types of coins and currency. "Even common coins can be worth a significant amount due to the high price of silver and gold," says Helms. Washington quarters and Roosevelt dimes and worth many times their face value. Recent silver markets have driven the price up on even common coins made of silver. Helms explains, "All half dollars, quarter and dimes made before 1970 contain 90% silver and are sought after any time silver prices rise. Right now it's a sellers market."

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### GOLD COINS

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### PLATINUM

Anything made of platinum.

### SILVER

Flatware, tea sets, goblets, jewelry, etc. and anything marked sterling.

### WAR ITEMS

Civil war, WWI AND II, all others, swords, daggers, bayonets, etc.

### OTHER ANTIQUES

Toys, trains, dolls, advertising, banks (basically anything old we want to see).

The rarest coins these collectors are looking for include \$20, \$10, \$5 and \$2 1/2 gold coins and any coin made before 1850. These coins always bring big premiums according to the ICCA. Silver dollars are also very sought after nowadays.

Other types of items the ICCA will be purchasing during this event include U.S. currency, gold bullion, investment gold, silver bars, silver rounds, proof sets, etc. Even foreign coins are sought after and will be purchased.

Also, at this event anyone can sell their gold jewelry, dental gold or anything made of gold on the spot. Bring anything you think might be gold and the collectors will examine, test and price it for free. If you decide to sell you will be paid on the spot – it has been an unknown fact that coin dealers have always paid more for jewelry and scrap gold than other jewelers and pawn brokers.

So, whether you have one coin you think might be valuable or a large collection you recently inherited, you can talk to these collectors for free and if your lucky you may have a rarity worth thousands. Either way, there is nothing to lose and it sounds like fun!

For more information on this event visit the ICCA website at [www.internationalcoincollectors.com](http://www.internationalcoincollectors.com).



## Here's How It Works:

- Gather items of interest from your attic, safe deposit box, garage, basement, etc. There is no limit to the amount of items you can bring
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- If interested in selling, we will consult our collector's database to see if a buyer exists. 90% of all items have offers in our database
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# TEEN

Continued from Page A1

to the man's second vehicle.

Deputies later responded to a property with no trespassing signs about reports of a white male shooting a gun into the woods in Crystal River. MacDonald reportedly dropped the gun as investigators tried to take him into custody. The deputy noted in their report that MacDonald hid behind a

tree when they first got to the property and when he was ordered to have his hands in the air, investigators heard a thud as he lowered his hands long enough to drop the gun near a tree.

After his arrest, MacDonald reportedly admitted to all charges against him and said he took the gun because he thought it was cool.

*Chronicle reporter A.B. Sidibe can be reached at 352-564-2925 or asidibe@chronicleonline.com.*

## ON THE NET

■ For more information about arrests made by the Citrus County Sheriff's Office, go to [www.sheriffcitrus.org](http://www.sheriffcitrus.org) and click on the Public Information link, then on Arrest Reports.

■ Also under Public Information on the CCSO website, click on Crime Mapping for a view of where each type of crime occurs in Citrus County.

# DUI

Continued from Page A1

While this is accurate, according to AAA, more women are making the lethal decision to get behind the wheel when intoxicated as shown by the increasing number of females charged with DUI.

Citrus County Sheriff's Office data shows the following for DUI arrests in 2009 and 2010:

### 2009

- City of Crystal River: 7 females, 29 males / 36 total
- City of Inverness: 7 females, 20 males / 27 total
- Rest of the county: 48 females, 159 males / 207 total

### 2010

- City of Crystal River: 6 females, 26 males / 32 total
- City of Inverness: 7 fe-

males, 19 males / 26 total

■ Rest of the county: 43 females, 114 males / 157 total

The rise in women driving while intoxicated may be due to several factors such as greater social acceptance of women drinking, more venues that cater to women's-only happy hours and increasing social or work functions which may trigger pressure to drink, according to AAA.

In the same survey, 79 percent think it is more socially acceptable for women to drink now compared to 20 years ago, and 30 percent do not think women process alcohol differently than men.

According to AAA, many of the respondents weren't aware that women can become intoxicated faster than men because women have a higher concentration of body fat or variations in hormonal levels can cause

women to become intoxicated quicker.

One 16-ounce frozen margarita or a few cocktails can easily cause an average-sized female within a two-hour time period to reach the 0.08 blood alcohol limit quicker than a man.

"Going over the limit is very easy to do, and many people may not realize how little alcohol it takes to reach the legal limit," said Joanna Newton, AAA spokeswoman.

"Simple planning before you head out for a good time can greatly reduce the chances you will end up behind the wheel of a vehicle when it may not be safe for you to drive. This will help to ensure you, and everyone else on the roadways, makes it home safely to family and friends."

*A.B. Sidibe can be reached at 352-564-2925 or asidibe@chronicleonline.com.*

# SIDEWALK

Continued from Page A1

Hampton needs to do in order to keep the sidewalk — provide an aerial photo, obtain a letter from a local planning agency confirming that the proposed easement is "consistent with the local government's comprehensive plan," send the state a county tax map identifying "the parcel to be encumbered with the easement" and two prints of a certified survey of the "proposed easement area."

There's more: He is required to send a written statement explaining the public benefits that will occur from the easement, give reasons why he needs the easement and why no other alternatives are possible and provide information as to the projected revenue to be generated from the proposed easement. Plus, send in \$300.

"First of all, it's not a 'proposed' easement — it's already done," Hampton said. "It sounds to me like they think I want to buy it or they want to sell it to me."

Hampton admitted that he didn't pull a permit before pouring the sidewalk. However, the sidewalk itself is constructed to code requirements.

"Mea culpa, I'll pay the \$300," he said. "I admit it. I don't like bureaucracy and I don't play well with bureaucrats because they want all

this stuff."

He did say, however, that he spoke to someone from the Office of Greenways and Trails who gave verbal approval to his plans, which he can't prove.

Now he's thinking about taking a sledge hammer to the whole thing and chalking it up to an \$860 lesson learned.

However, it just might be a matter of much ado about nothing.

According to Harry Mitchell, the state's intent is not to punish or harass Hampton, nor is it to sell him the easement or make him remove the sidewalk.

They just want him to fill out the paperwork he should've filled out before he began.

"Actually, the sidewalk is a nice idea, but he went about it the wrong way," Mitchell said. "I've been told by my boss that because it's such a small piece of property, there's no charge involved."

"I'm going to recommend (keeping) it, and my district office will recommend it," Mitchell said. "He just needs to fill out the paperwork."

*Chronicle reporter Nancy Kennedy can be reached at nkennedy@chronicleonline.com or 352-564-2927.*



Associated Press

This Feb. 19, 2010 photo released by the British Ministry of Defense, MOD, shows Florence Green, left, on her 109th birthday being presented with a birthday cake by LAC Hannah Shaw on behalf of the RAF at her home in King's Lynn, eastern England. Florence Green, the world's last known veteran of World War I, has died at the age of 110, the care home where she lived said Tuesday.

# VET

Continued from Page A1

"It was very pleasant and they were lovely," she said. "Not a bit of bother. They kept us on our toes and there was no slacking."

A delegation from the air base had been due to visit Green on Feb. 19 to celebrate her 111th birthday.

"When we heard the news there was a palpable silence, because we all hoped she would make it," said Squadron Leader Paula Willmot.

RAF Marham's station commander, Group Captain

David Cooper, said Green "will be sorely missed and our thoughts are now with her friends and family."

World War I — "the war to end all wars" — killed about 20 million people in four years of fighting between the Allied powers — including Britain, France and the United States — and Germany and its allies.

The last known soldier to have fought in the brutal trench warfare that has become the enduring image of the conflict was Britain's Harry Patch, who died in 2009 aged 111.

The last American veteran of the conflict was Frank Buckles of Charles

Town, West Virginia, who drove ambulances in France for the U.S. Army. He died in February 2011.

The war's last known combatant, Royal Navy veteran Claude Choules, died in Australia in May.

There are no known French or German veterans of the war left alive.

After Choules' death, Green became the war's last known surviving service member, according to the Order of the First World War.

Green's husband died in 1970. She is survived by two daughters, a son and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

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**Lace at: [info@yogawithlace.com](mailto:info@yogawithlace.com)**

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## State BRIEFS

## Sheriff's 10-43



Special to the Chronicle

Tune into the next edition of the Sheriff's 10-43 Show on Wednesday, Feb. 8 from 7:30-8 p.m. channel 16 for cable customers. Lt. Kevin Purinton is the special guest on the show. He and host Heather Yates discuss the nationally recognized School Resource Officer program, the challenges of being a Special Victims Unit detective, the many responsibilities of the sexual predator unit, as well as the important role the Internet Crimes Against Children unit plays in the agency. The Sheriff's 10-43 is broadcast on WYKE, which is channel 16 for all cable customers. It can also be viewed on Fridays at 11 a.m. For those with satellite, prior Sheriff's 10-43 shows can be seen via the Sheriff's website at [www.sheriffcitrus.org](http://www.sheriffcitrus.org).

## Senate boosts schools by \$1B

The Florida Senate is proposing a nearly \$1.2 billion increase in state spending on schools.

A Senate panel on Tuesday rolled out its initial school budget that includes the proposed increase. The Senate proposal to boost state support for schools would increase per-student funding by 3.1 percent.

Gov. Rick Scott warned that he would veto the 2012 state budget if lawmakers did not set aside a significant amount of money for public schools. The House is scheduled to vote on a budget later this week that would increase per-student funding by 2.27 percent.

Sen. David Simmons, R-Altamonte Springs and chairman of the Senate education budget committee, wants to use some of the extra money to pay for intensive reading training for students attending low-performing schools.

## Lawmakers back tuition hike

The Florida Senate is recommending college students pay three percent more in tuition this fall.

A Senate panel on Tuesday rolled out budget recommendations for the state's 11 public universities and 28 colleges. The tuition hike would apply to those students enrolled in colleges and workforce education programs.

The Senate proposal does not raise tuition for university students, but university officials have the power to raise tuition up to 15 percent a year without legislative approval.

Gov. Rick Scott kept tuition flat in his budget proposal for 2012. He has said he is generally opposed to raising the cost of college this year.

The House budget includes an eight percent tuition hike for both college and university students.

## House votes to block prison closing

The Florida House wants to block the closing of a Panhandle prison.

The House budget chief on Tuesday proposed keeping open a prison in Jefferson

County that residents say is the county's biggest employer.

Rep. Denise Grimsley, R-Sebring, is also proposing to have the state spend \$50,000 on a study to look at the potential impact of closing the Jefferson Correctional Institution.

The House is expected to approve Grimsley's proposal on Wednesday when it takes up a proposed \$69.2 billion budget.

A House spokeswoman said Grimsley made the move after listening last week to a group of Jefferson County residents who pleaded with lawmakers to block the closing proposed by the administration of Gov. Rick Scott. Grimsley's proposal orders the Scott administration to reevaluate its plans to consolidate prisons.

## Committee scuttles Homestead plan

A proposal to provide additional homestead exemption to property owners went down in

defeat Tuesday with members of a House subcommittee rejecting a proposal to increase the exemption to 15 percent of the homestead property's value up to \$200,000 and thereafter 10 percent of the value less than or equal to \$400,000.

Members of the House Community and Military Affairs Subcommittee rejected the proposal, HB 1289, which was opposed by local governments that face a barrage of proposals this session to lower local taxes, saying their budgets are drastically threatened. The bill, sponsored by Rep. Jason Brodeur, R-Sanford, died on a tie vote.

## Compromise seen in vaccine fight

The House Health & Human Services Committee on Tuesday approved a compromise bill that would expand the power of pharmacists to give vaccinations. Doctors and pharmacists have long clashed

about the issue. But the committee voted 16-1 to approve a revised bill (HB 509) that emerged after negotiations between doctor and pharmacy groups. The bill would allow pharmacists to administer pneumonia vaccines, similar to their current authority to give flu shots. It also would allow pharmacists to give vaccinations for shingles, though those shots would require prescriptions from physicians. The revised bill also calls for pharmacists to complete vaccination-related continuing education courses

that likely would be administered by the Florida Medical Association. Sponsor Ana Rivas

Logan, R-Miami, said the bill would make it more convenient for people to receive vaccinations. "This is about health care, and this is about access," she told the committee. But Rep. Ronald "Doc" Renuart, a Ponte Vedra Beach Republican who was the only dissenting vote, raised concerns about issues such as pharmacists being able to give shots to children. "This is a slippery slope toward children even bypassing their wellness visits (to doctors' offices)," said Renuart, an osteopathic physician.

## Lawmakers mull school bus cameras

Drivers who fail to stop for school buses that have their stop sign out at a school bus stop could be caught on cameras placed on the bus, under a bill approved Tuesday by the Senate Transportation Committee. The measure (SB 250), sponsored by Sen. Oscar Braynon, D-Miami Gardens, was approved 9-1, with Sen. Rene Garcia, R-Hialeah, the only vote against. "This bill is about changing habits," said Braynon, saying it is rare that a police officer is around to catch people who don't stop for school buses and that children often dart in front of buses. Under the measure, the local jurisdiction would be responsible for using the pictures to issue tickets.

— From wire reports

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SCORE in partnership with CCF is pleased to offer the Small Business Institute again, this Spring. Sessions are \$10 each or \$100 for the entire 11 weeks program. Individuals who complete the program will receive a certificate plus a coupon for \$100 for future advertising in the Citrus County Chronicle.

March 8	Introduction
March 22	Elements of a Business
March 29	BP Part I-Executive Summary
April 5	BP Part II-Business Description
April 12	BP Part III-Market Analysis
April 19	Business Information Forum
April 26	BP Part IV-Marketing Plan
May 3	BP Part V-Operations & Mgt.
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May 17	BP Part VII-Competition Development Plan
May 24	Graduation

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THE MARKET IN REVIEW

NYSE MOST ACTIVE (\$1 OR MORE) Table with columns: Name, Vol(00), Last, Chg. Includes Bk of Am, S&P500ETF, SprintNex, etc.

AMEX MOST ACTIVE (\$1 OR MORE) Table with columns: Name, Vol(00), Last, Chg. Includes CheniereE, Newsung, NovaGold, etc.

NASDAQ MOST ACTIVE (\$1 OR MORE) Table with columns: Name, Vol(00), Last, Chg. Includes Cisco, BKO9464, SiriusXM, etc.

Here are the 825 most active stocks on the New York Stock Exchange, 765 most active on the Nasdaq National Market and 116 most active on the American Stock Exchange. Tables show name, price and net change.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST Table with columns: Name, Div, Yld, PE, Last, Chg, %Chg, YTD. Includes AK Steel, AT&T Inc, Ametek, etc.

GAINERS (\$2 OR MORE) Table with columns: Name, Last, Chg, %Chg. Includes ChinaDech, MclClath, StdPac, etc.

GAINERS (\$2 OR MORE) Table with columns: Name, Last, Chg, %Chg. Includes Lightbridge, DARAbio, SmtHeats, etc.

GAINERS (\$2 OR MORE) Table with columns: Name, Last, Chg, %Chg. Includes Lightbridge, DARAbio, SmtHeats, etc.

Stock Footnotes: cld - Issue has been called for redemption by company. d - New 52-week low. dd - Loss in last 12 mos. ec - Company formerly listed on the American Exchange.

LOSERS (\$2 OR MORE) Table with columns: Name, Last, Chg, %Chg. Includes Cambrex, RTI Int'l, GenCorp, etc.

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LOSERS (\$2 OR MORE) Table with columns: Name, Last, Chg, %Chg. Includes Cambrex, RTI Int'l, GenCorp, etc.

Source: The Associated Press. Sales figures are unofficial.

INDEXES Table with columns: High, Low, Name, Last, Net Chg, % Chg, YTD % Chg, 52-wk High, 52-wk Low. Includes 12,876.00, 10,404.49 Dow Jones Industrials, etc.

DIARY Table with columns: Name, Last, Chg. Includes Advanced, Declined, Unchanged, etc.

DIARY Table with columns: Name, Last, Chg. Includes Advanced, Declined, Unchanged, etc.

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DIARY Table with columns: Name, Last, Chg. Includes Advanced, Declined, Unchanged, etc.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of NYSE listings with columns: Name, Last, Chg. Includes ABC Ltd, AEC Corp, AFLAC, etc.

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AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of AMEX listings with columns: Name, Last, Chg. Includes AbdASaf, AbdmEMT, AbdmES, etc.

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NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table of NASDAQ listings with columns: Name, Last, Chg. Includes ACI Wwde, AMCO Net, ARCA Bio, etc.

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Table of NASDAQ listings with columns: Name, Last, Chg. Includes ACI Wwde, AMCO Net, ARCA Bio, etc.

CURRENCIES

Table of currency exchange rates with columns: Country, Yesterday, Pvs Day. Includes Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, etc.

MONEY RATES

Table of money rates with columns: Instrument, Yesterday, Pvs Day. Includes Prime Rate, Discount Rate, Federal Funds Rate, etc.

COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices with columns: Commodity, Exch, Contract, Settle, Chg. Includes Wheat, Soybeans, Corn, etc.

FUTURES

Table of futures prices with columns: Commodity, Exch, Contract, Settle, Chg. Includes Wheat, Soybeans, Corn, etc.

SPOT

Table of spot prices with columns: Commodity, Yesterday, Pvs Day. Includes Gold, Silver, Copper, etc.

MUTUAL FUNDS

HOW TO READ THE MUTUAL FUND TABLES

Here are the 1,000 biggest mutual funds listed on Nasdaq. Tables show the fund name, sell price or Net Asset Value (NAV) and daily net change.

Name: Name of mutual fund and family. NAV: Net asset value. Chg: Net change in price of NAV.

Data based on NAVs reported to Lipper by 6 p.m. Eastern.

Table with 3 columns: Name, NAV, Chg. Lists various mutual funds like Advance Capital, Fidelity Divd, etc.

Table with 3 columns: Name, NAV, Chg. Lists various mutual funds like Fidelity Divd, Fidelity Divd, etc.

Stocks end higher, erasing early losses

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Stocks resumed their slow but steady climb Tuesday as Greece appeared close to announcing a deal with creditors to cut its debt.

Stock indexes rose after a report that Greece and the investors who bought its government bonds were close to a deal to reduce what Greece owes.

The Dow rose 33.07 points, or 0.3 percent, to close at 12,878.20. It has not closed higher since May 19, 2008, four months before the financial crisis.

The average fell 17 points to start the week. On Tuesday, it was down as much as 62 points in the first half-hour of trading.

McDonald's rose 1.4 percent, best among the 30 stocks in the Dow, to \$100.91, close to its 52-week high.

NEW YORK — It was just last summer that the Dow Jones industrial average shed 2,000 points in three terrifying weeks.

Now the Dow is within reach of the rarefied 13,000 mark — a level it hasn't seen since May 2008, four months before the financial system almost came apart.

LONDON — Anglo-Swiss mining group Xstrata PLC announced plans Tuesday to merge with commodities trading giant Glencore International PLC in a deal that will create the world's fourth largest natural resources group.

The combined company, to be called Glencore Xstrata with a combined market value of \$90 billion, will control a chain of businesses from mining to refining, storage and shipping of basic commodities like coal, copper and corn.

WASHINGTON — Ben Bernanke on Tuesday reiterated the Federal Reserve's plan to hold interest rates near record lows until at least late 2014.

None of the senators asked Bernanke if better job figures were holding rates low for that long.

Advertisement for The Dentist Place for Kids. Includes text: 'The Dentist Place for Kids', 'CLEANING, Exam & X-rays', '\$59 (Reg. \$305)', 'Anjali Rajani, DMD', 'Robert A. Capozza, DMD', 'Call today! (352) 340-3219'.

Table titled 'NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE' with columns for Name, Last, Chg. Lists various stocks like SwtTms, Swnovus, Sysco, etc.

Market watch

Table showing market indices: Dow Jones Industrials (+33.07), Nasdaq Composite (+2.09), Standard & Poor's 500 (+2.72), Russell 2000 (-1.00), NYSE diary (Advanced: 1,722), Nasdaq diary (Advanced: 1,194).

The utilities sector was the best performer in the S&P 500, indicating that investors are hanging on to stocks they consider to be relatively safe.

In the bond market, the yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note rose to 1.98 percent from 1.90 percent late Monday.

The euro rose to a two-year high against the dollar as worries eased about Greece's and Europe's debt problems.

Among the stocks making big moves in the U.S.:

Yum Brands, which owns Taco Bell and KFC, jumped 2.6 percent. Its income surged 30 percent in the fourth quarter because of strong growth overseas and a turnaround in its Pizza Hut business in the U.S.

Becton, Dickinson & Co., a medical technology company, fell 3.8 percent. Its profit fell 17 percent in the latest quarter because of higher costs for raw materials and other expenses.

Michael Sheldon, chief market strategist at RDM Financial Group in Westport, Conn., said that while investors are becoming more optimistic about the economy, there are still signs that they're allocating

money cautiously.

► "There are some jobs in which it is impossible for a man to be virtuous."  
 Aristotle, 384-322 B.C.

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 — David S. Arthurs publisher emeritus

LOVE YOUR LIBRARY

# Support events that support library system

Our libraries are multi-purpose facilities already, but Friday, Feb. 17, will be special. That evening, from 7 to 9 p.m., Central Ridge Library in Beverly Hills transforms for a festive, after-hours Love Your Library event featuring live music, wine, hors d'oeuvres and a silent auction. Tickets are \$20, available at any of the Citrus County Library System sites. Last year's event, the first, drew more than 300 guests and raised about \$3,700 for the library system's capital projects fund. This year's Love Your Library event proceeds also are intended for long-term library system needs and special projects that cannot be provided for through general funding sources.

We're fortunate to have strong community support, including the Library Advisory Board, whose members spearhead the Love Your Library events. There is, in addition, the extremely active Friends of the Citrus County Library System, whose very popular book sales generate monies for short-term needs including book purchases, and enhance current programs and services. The county's library system has felt the local government belt-tightening, losing double-digit positions early in the budget-cutting process and most recently experiencing two rounds of shortened hours. That highlights the importance of dedicated Friends groups, which have donated some

\$700,000 over the past 10 years, and volunteers on-site at libraries to allow the system to operate effectively with fewer employees.

Our libraries are busy places, averaging some 2,000 visits a day system-wide. More than 96,000 registered library patrons borrow almost 2,500 items every day. The library isn't just a spot to get books, either. There are also DVDs, CDs, reference services, access to 81 online reference databases, local, state and federal information resources, adult and youth programs, plus community meetings and presentations. The library system also leads Citrus County's very successful Adult Literacy Education program, using 90 volunteer tutors.

There are public access computers (with e-book services coming soon), and wireless zones where you can use your own equipment, in addition to computer skills classes from the "getting started" level to advanced, specialty functions. A special program features teens doing individual tech tutoring.

Our libraries put the entire world in our back yard — and we need to support them to keep it that way. For the price, the Love Your Library event gives a great return on investment. Get your ticket soon. And if you can't attend, give your ticket to a friend who would like to get better acquainted with the Citrus County Library System.

**THE ISSUE:**

Citrus County Library Foundation's second Love Your Library event.

**OUR OPINION:**

Great way to support and retain local library facilities and services.

**LOVE YOUR LIBRARY EVENT**

- Central Ridge Library in Beverly Hills. available at the libraries.
- 7 to 9 p.m., Friday, Feb. 17. More information: <http://www.citruslibraries.org/love>
- Tickets — \$20 per person, love

**FRIENDS OF THE CITRUS COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM SPRING BOOK SALE**

- Friends of the Citrus County Library System Spring Book Sale
- Citrus County Auditorium in Inverness
- March 9-13.
- Saturday, March 10, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Sunday, March 11, from 1 to 4 p.m.
- Monday, March 12, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. (half-price day).
- Tuesday, March 13, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (\$3 per bag).
- Friday, March 9, from 5-8 p.m. (opening night sale; \$5 donation entry).

**Bad parenting**

Have you ever noticed a child who is a complete stranger to you say, "Hello," multiple times in a supermarket? This parent continues to shop and does not react to the child or you. Obviously, this child doesn't get enough attention from the parent. The child is like the untrained dog, at the mercy of strangers.



**Choosing temps**

I just wondered at what temperature in the house most people turn on the heat during the colder weather. Do you put a robe on until the sun warms the house up or do you dress light and turn the heat on? What about in the summer? What temperature does the house have to be to turn on the air conditioning?

# Romney's businessman curse?

Mitt Romney has based nearly his entire presidential campaign on his experience as a businessman. "I spent my career in the private sector," Romney told Fox News in late November. "I think that's what the country needs right now."

Romney has said roughly the same thing hundreds of times since. Indeed, there are campaign appearances in which he dwells on his experience as a private equity consultant and does not even mention that he was once governor of Massachusetts.

Romney and his campaign aides have made the calculation that an I-know-how-to-create-jobs appeal will work in today's difficult economy. But his strategy raises a question: How often have American voters chosen a businessman as president?

They didn't when they elected Barack Obama, who had zero experience in business.

They didn't when they elected George W. Bush, a failed oilman whose family connections helped win him a stake in a professional baseball team, which provided him the fortune he needed to enter politics and run for president on the strength of his record as governor of Texas.

They didn't when they elected Bill Clinton, who almost never held a nongovernment job.

They didn't when they elected George H.W. Bush, whose extensive experience in government service was the basis for his appeal.

They didn't when they elected Ronald Reagan, whose career as an actor was the backdrop to a life spent building the conservative movement — and serving two

terms as governor of California. Jimmy Carter used his business as a peanut farmer as part of his campaign pitch, but he also stressed a broad range of experience — including a term as governor of Georgia — and, above all, his integrity in a post-Watergate campaign.

No one elected Gerald Ford president, but if they had, it would not have been on the basis of a career in business.

The voters didn't elect a businessman when they chose Richard Nixon.

They didn't when they elected Lyndon Johnson.

They didn't when they elected John F. Kennedy.

They didn't when they elected Dwight Eisenhower.

They didn't when they elected Harry Truman.

They didn't when they elected Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The last president elected as a businessman was Herbert Hoover in 1928, and even he relied on a campaign biography that included a Cabinet post and a high-profile stint as relief organizer. "Hoover's appeal, before his reputation became tarnished by the Depression, was as a problem solver and a solid businessman," says Princeton University historian Fred Greenstein. "Someone who was not erratic — to the point of being dull."

Certainly businessmen have tried to win the presidency. Ross Perot ran on his business experience and won 19 percent of the popular vote in 1992. Wall Streeter Wendell Willkie made a strong run against Roosevelt in 1940. But it's safe to say that running as a businessman has not been a sure-fire route to the White House.

"Business skill and political skill are qualitatively different," says Steven Hayward, author of

"The Age of Reagan." "They do not transfer well into the other domain."

On the stump, Romney has stressed his business past more than his governing experience, in part because many in the Republican base don't like what he did in Massachusetts. They don't like Romneycare, they don't like the strongly pro-choice platform he ran on for governor in 2002, and they don't like his handling of issues involving gay marriage, global warming and guns.

If Romney makes it through the Republican nomination process, he will likely be able to talk about his Massachusetts experience a bit more in a general election campaign. But even if that happens, he has already established himself as the businessman candidate.

Rival Newt Gingrich has argued that his own government experience is more valuable than Romney's time in business. "With all due respect to Gov. Romney, there is an enormous difference in our understanding of both how to move the nation and how to actually get things done in Washington," Gingrich told a Florida crowd in late January. "We need someone who knows enough about Washington to know how to change Washington."

Gingrich has struggled in the campaign, but of all the things voters might hold against him, having spent a career in government doesn't seem to be one of them. Still, given today's economic worries, plus anti-Washington sentiment in the electorate, Romney is hoping this might be the moment for a businessman candidate. That hasn't happened in a long, long time.

Byron York is chief political correspondent for *The Washington Examiner*.



LETTERS to the Editor

**Paper saves the day!**

Once again, our local newspaper has helped ensure success of a worthwhile fundraiser in our community — The Cattle Baron's Ball.

Two weeks ago, ticket sales were just 72 percent of projection. We called our friend, Gerry Mulligan, who immediately ramped up awareness by providing an excellent editorial, publishing photos and really promoting our plight to assist the American Cancer Society.

We have now reached 93 percent of our ticket sales goal. For those who wish to purchase tickets for this gala event to be on Saturday, Feb. 11, at the Citrus Springs Community Center, please phone the American Cancer Society office at 1-800-940-1969, ext. 5607.

Thank you again to Gerry and the *Chronicle* staff for your generosity for all the worthwhile causes in our county.

Diane Brashear and Steve Latiff, co-chairs  
*The Cattle Baron's Ball*

**Leave EDC alone**

The recent flap at the Economic Development Council is just a continuation of their history of power struggles and politics.

**OPINIONS INVITED**

- The opinions expressed in *Chronicle* editorials are the opinions of the newspaper's editorial board.
- Viewpoints depicted in political cartoons, columns or letters do not necessarily represent the opinion of the editorial board.
- Groups or individuals are invited to express their opinions in a letter to the editor.
- Persons wishing to address the editorial board, which meets weekly, should call **Charlie Brennan** at 352-563-5660.
- All letters must be signed and include a phone number and hometown, including letters sent via email. Names and hometowns will not be printed; phone numbers will not be published or given out.
- We reserve the right to edit letters for length, libel, fairness and good taste.
- Letters must be no longer than 350 words, and writers will be limited to three letters per month.
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sign is a personal decision. I can fully understand his feelings since I did the same when the Crystal River Council changed after an election and I chose to remove myself from what I felt was an impending impossible situation.

That being said, I found today's article regarding the problems at the EDC as presented at the commission meeting very interesting.

Commissioner Dennis Damato's comments were very enlightening. He admits that the commission intentionally set up the EDC utilizing the city managers to avoid politics. Interestingly, by allowing an elected county commission to represent the county, they actually added to the politics by treating the three incorporated bodies differently. From where I stand, the action was not to prevent politics but to place the cities in a subservient position.

The subject was brought up by a citizen who often is supportive of the commission's actions and one can only wonder why. I would hope that at some point all elected and those hoping to be elected would stay out of the EDC and allow it to do what it was formed to do, and that is to create jobs.

Roger B. Krieger  
*Beverly Hills*

Sound OFF

**Name one**

Can you name one Republican who's done something good for our country except for himself and his party? The heck with the regular people, and that is their terms.

**Thank you**

I'd like to send a thank-you to the people who helped me out on Sunday at the Manatee Festival. I had a bad fall and several people just came right up and started helping my daughters to help take care of me. And I'd like to thank the sheriff's deputy (who) was there, the paramedics who were there (who) were supposed to be taking care of the festival itself but they came to my aid, and the young girl who brought ice for my head. I truly thank them all for their help.

**Great job**

Congratulations to our school district, (which) once again came out on top across the state. Your hard work and dedication does not go unnoticed and all of us Citrus Countians appreciate your efforts. Thanks, and great job.

**Criminals' rights**

I'm calling the *Chronicle* in reference to your article ... on GPS devices. I mean how much more rights are you

going to give these criminals? Here they put a GPS device on a suspect and they found him after four weeks, they found the house he was in, they found money and drugs, he got life in prison and now he got released and everything got overturned because they didn't have a warrant to put a GPS device on his vehicle, saying that it's a violation of his constitutional rights. Let's amend the Constitution and stop giving these criminals rights. Take all their rights away. This is ridiculous.

**Campaigning**

I've just finished listening to what I consider to be our president's first reelection campaign speech under the smokescreen of his requirement to make the State of the Union Address to Congress and the American people.

**Promises, promises**

(Recently) we heard the "State of Illusion," which was supposed to be the State of the Union, by Mr. Obama. He promised a whole lot of things and a whole lot of changes like he did when he came into office. He just worked a year and a half on this health program that nobody wanted while the country suffered, doing nothing about the real problems



STALKER. UNIVERSAL UCLICK/2012

that we had on hand. I hope people don't believe his rhetoric again. We need a change (in) America to bring us back from the socialistic policies that he's trying to put in place and have government run every part of our lives.

**Speed changes**

What in the world is the sheriff's department doing to us people who live here on Turner Camp Road, especially down at the end of Turner Camp Road, with these speed signs that

they're changing constantly to 30, 35, 45? I mean we've lived out here for years and we know how to travel this road. It's just keeping you constantly shifting your car up and down up and down, up and down. And besides that, it takes forever to get

out here at 30 mph. You know, I don't know if it's supposed to be a big speed trap or what, but you know you're punishing us.

**Pretty picture**

That was a beautiful picture on the front page of the paper today of the cat that was taken in the Florida park, but what kind of a cat was it?

**Editor's note:** The animal in the photograph on Page A3 of the Jan. 25 edition of the *Chronicle* is a bobcat.

**Disappointing**

I was wondering how many of your readers were thoroughly disappointed in the (Republican) debate from Tampa ... NBC — with their rules of no comments, no applause, no nothing — they kept it under complete control. The liberal Democrats must have been happy. I think this is right out of Obama's playbook. I don't know. It's very sad what's going on in this country.

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**Nation BRIEF**

**Big splash**



Associated Press

An LCAC loaded with artillery and trucks approaches the well deck during operations Saturday aboard the Amphibious Assault Ship USS Wasp in support of Operation Bold Alligator off the coast of Jacksonville, N.C.

**Marines practice amphibious war**

**ABOARD THE USS WASP** — A small group of Marines trudged onto the beach sands in pitch-black night with an armada of U.S. Navy warships sailing just off the shore.

Military officials say the operation being conducted in Virginia and North Carolina is the largest amphibious training exercise they've attempted in at least a decade. Marines have been fighting wars in landlocked countries like Iraq and Afghanistan for years, and many have never even set foot on a Navy ship. That's of particular concern as the military shifts its strategic focus toward the coastal regions of the Middle East, such as Iran, and the Pacific, where North Korea and China are drawing increasing attention from the U.S.

"Sooner or later, the nation is going to require a sizeable force to go somewhere where folks don't want us to go. So, no, the image is not Iwo Jima, Tarawa and so forth, but nevertheless, when we go to shore someplace where we're not wanted ashore, we have to be ready to defend force to accomplish the mission and then to sustain the force once it's ashore," said Brig. Gen. Christopher Owens, deputy commanding general of 2nd Marine Expeditionary Force.

**World BRIEFS**

**On ice**



Associated Press

People skate Tuesday on the frozen Keizersgracht canal in Amsterdam, Netherlands. Volunteers poured onto frozen rivers and lakes in the northern Netherlands to shovel away snow that is one of the major hurdles in the way of a grueling speedskating race called Elfstedentocht, or 11 Cities Tour, being held for the first time in 15 years.

**Greek debt talks drag on**

**ATHENS, Greece** — Greece's private creditors signaled progress late Tuesday in a bond-swap deal but crucial debt negotiations over another round of austerity measures dragged into another day. The talks came after more than 20,000 protesters marched through central Athens as unions called a general strike against the new job cuts and tax hikes.

The strike halted trains and ferries, closed down schools and banks and put state hospitals on short staffing. Greek Premier Lucas Papademos delayed a meeting with his coalition parties until Wednesday, staying in talks until late in the night with top bank negotiators as well as with debt inspectors from the European Union and the International Monetary Fund.

—From wire reports

# Russia pushes Syrian reforms

Associated Press

**BEIRUT** — Days after blocking a U.S.-backed peace plan at the U.N., senior Russian officials pushed for reforms Tuesday during an emergency meeting with Syrian President Bashar Assad, promoting a settlement to end the uprising without removing him from power.

Thousands of flag-waving government supporters cheered the Russians in the Syrian capital of Damascus, while to the north, Assad's forces pounded the opposition city of Homs.

The violence has led to the most severe international isolation in more than four decades of Assad family rule, with country after country calling home their envoys.

France, Italy, Spain and Belgium pulled their ambassadors from Damascus, as did six Gulf nations, including Saudi Arabia. Germany, whose envoy left the country this month, said he would not be replaced. The moves came a day after the U.S. closed its embassy in Syria and Britain recalled its ambassador.

Turkey, once a strong Assad supporter and now one of his most vocal critics, added its voice to the international condemnation, with Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan saying his country cannot remain silent about massacres in Syria. He said Turkey would "launch a new initiative with countries that stand by the Syrian people instead of the regime."

Over the weekend, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton called for "friends of democratic Syria" to unite and rally against Assad's regime.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov flew into Damascus on Tuesday, accompanied by his foreign security chief, to try to boost a plan that would keep Assad in power, even though many prominent members of the opposition reject that entirely.

"It's clear that efforts to stop the violence should be accompanied by the beginning of dialogue among the political forces," Lavrov said, according to the Russian news agency ITAR-Tass. "Today we received confirmation of the readiness of the president of Syria for this work."



Associated Press

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov speaks Tuesday to reporters after his meeting with Syrian President Bashar Assad at the presidential palace in Damascus, Syria. Thousands of Syrians waving Russian flags cheered Russia's foreign minister as he arrived in Damascus for talks with embattled President Bashar Assad on the country's escalating violence, as activists reported a fourth day of shelling in Homs and worsening humanitarian conditions.

# 50 years, no cigar



Associated Press

Commuters ride past a billboard Tuesday that reads, in Spanish: "70 percent of Cubans have been born under the Embargo," in Havana, Cuba. The United States economic embargo on Communist-run Cuba turned 50 on Tuesday.

## Cold War-era trade ban against neighbor Cuba continues

Associated Press

**HAVANA** — When it started, American teenagers were doing "The Twist." The United States had yet to put a man into orbit around the Earth. And a first-class U.S. postage stamp cost 4 cents.

The world is much changed since the early days of 1962, but one thing has remained constant: The U.S. economic embargo on communist-run Cuba, a near-total trade ban that turned 50 on Tuesday.

Supporters say it is a justified measure against a repressive government that has never stopped being a thorn in Washington's side. Critics call it a failed policy that has hurt ordinary Cubans instead of the government.

All acknowledge that it has not accomplished its core mission of toppling Fidel and Raul Castro.

"All this time has gone by, and yet we keep it in place," said Wayne Smith, who was a young U.S. diplomat in Havana in 1961 when relations were severed and who returned as the chief American diplomat after they were partially

re-established under President Jimmy Carter.

"We talk to the Russians, we talk to the Chinese, we have normal relations even with Vietnam. We trade with all of them," Smith said. "So why not with Cuba?"

In the White House, the first sign of the looming embargo came when President John F. Kennedy told his press secretary to go buy him as many H. Upmann Cuban cigars as he could find. The aide came back with 1,200 stogies.

Kennedy announced the embargo on Feb. 3, 1962, citing "the subversive offensive of Sino-Soviet communism with which the government of Cuba is publicly aligned."

It went into effect four days later at the height of the Cold War, a year removed from the failed CIA-backed Bay of Pigs invasion meant to oust communism from Cuba and eight months before Soviet attempts to put nuclear missiles on the island brought the two superpowers to the brink of war.

Washington already had some limited sanctions in place, but

Kennedy's decision was the beginning of a comprehensive ban on U.S. trade with the island that has remained more or less intact ever since.

Little was planned to mark Tuesday's anniversary, but Cuban-American members of Congress issued a joint statement vowing to keep the heat on Cuba.

Supporters of the policy acknowledge that many U.S. strategic concerns from the 1960s have been consigned to the dustbin of history, such as halting the spread of Soviet influence and keeping Fidel Castro from exporting revolution throughout Latin America. But they say other justifications remain, such as the confiscation of U.S. property in Cuba and the need to press for greater political and personal freedoms on the island.

"We have a hemispheric commitment to freedom and democracy and respect for human rights," said Jose Cardenas, a former National Security Council staffer on Cuba under President George W. Bush. "I still think that those are worthy aspirations."

# Dad who killed self, sons left voicemail

Associated Press

**GRAHAM, Wash.** — Before setting his house ablaze and killing himself and his two young sons, Josh Powell left a voicemail for family members saying he couldn't live without the boys and didn't want to go on anymore.

ABC News obtained what it says was a voicemail Powell left for his family members. Tuesday on the recording played Tuesday on "Good Morning America," Powell also said he was calling to say goodbye and apologize.

"I'm sorry to everyone I've hurt," he is heard saying. "Goodbye."

Powell, the husband of missing Utah woman Susan

Powell, died along with his children Sunday in Washington. An autopsy showed the children also suffered hatchet wounds to their necks. He was a person of interest in his wife's 2009 disappearance.

As authorities work to determine exactly why Powell committed the murders at the Washington residence, investigators said they're no closer to answering the question they've had for two years.

"We still haven't identified or found where Susan Powell is," said West Valley, Utah, Police Chief Buzz Nielsen, who is in charge of the investigation into the young mother's disappearance. The father of the 5- and 7-

year-old boys painted himself as a tortured man, ridiculed without reason in the disappearance of his wife, steadfastly insisting he was innocent until the end.

Yet the investigation and autopsy reports released late Monday show the acts of a violent man who meticulously planned the double murder-suicide of himself and his two young sons, culminating Sunday in Powell setting his house ablaze and taking a hatchet to his children's necks.

For now, even with the longtime "person of interest" in the probe dead, police say the case remains open, though some mysteries may never be solved.



Associated Press

Don Easton collects evidence Tuesday in the charred rubble of the home where Josh Powell and his two sons were killed in Graham, Wash.

# Court rules Calif. gay marriage ban unlawful

Associated Press

**SAN FRANCISCO** — A federal appeals court on Tuesday declared California's same-sex marriage ban unconstitutional but agreed to give sponsors of the bitterly contested, voter-approved law time to appeal the ruling before ordering the state to resume allowing gay couples to wed.

The three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled 2-1 that a lower court judge correctly interpreted the U.S. Constitution and Supreme Court precedents when he declared in 2010 that Proposition 8 — a response to an earlier state court decision that legalized gay marriage — was a violation of the civil rights of gays and lesbians.

"Proposition 8 serves no purpose, and has no effect, other than to lessen the status and human dignity of gays and lesbians in California, and to officially reclassify their relationships and families as inferior to those of opposite-sex couples," states the opinion written by Judge Stephen Reinhardt, one of the court's most liberal judges.

However, the appeals panel took pains to note that its decision applies only to California, even though the court has jurisdiction in nine western states.

California is the only one of those states where the ability for gays to marry was granted then rescinded, the court noted in its narrowly crafted opinion.

"Whether under the Constitution same-sex couples may ever be denied the right to marry, a right that has long been enjoyed by opposite-sex couples, is an important and highly controversial question," the court said. "We need not and do not answer the broader question in this case."

The ruling will not take effect until the deadline passes for Proposition 8's backers to appeal to a larger panel of the 9th Circuit. Lawyers for the coalition of conservative religious groups that sponsored the measure said they have not decided if they will seek a 9th Circuit rehearing or file an appeal directly to the U.S. Supreme Court.

One legal analyst said the U.S. Supreme Court might not agree to take up the case on appeal because the appeals court focused its decision exclusively on California's ban.

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■ Hitting the Links/B2  
 ■ Golf, Tennis/B3  
 ■ Scoreboard/B4  
 ■ Sports briefs/B4  
 ■ NFL, TV, lottery/B4  
 ■ Basketball, NHL/B5  
 ■ Entertainment/B6

# Bulldogs beat Pirates by four in OT

## Turnovers, inexperience take toll on Crystal River as Tavares wins 59-55

**STEVE MCGUNNIGLE**  
*Correspondent*

BROOKSVILLE — Despite a valiant effort, growing pains proved key in the Crystal River boys basketball team's loss to Tavares on Tuesday night, and thus

the cause for the end to its season. The sixth-seeded Pirates forced the No. 3-seeded Bulldogs to overtime, but were outlasted for a 59-55 loss in the District 5A-7 tournament quarterfinals at Nature Coast Technical School. Ty Reynolds paved the way with

28 points in the defeat, along with five assists and four rebounds, guiding the Pirate offense through surges and fighting back from repeated deficits. Crystal River (7-16 overall) came out of the gate quickly, opening an early 9-1 lead. But Tavares (11-12) went on a decisive 12-0 run that carried over into the second quarter, where the Bulldogs would lead by as many as nine. Darian Anthony and Coy Patterson each scored 21 points for

Tavares, netting seven and six points, respectively, in the second quarter. But Reynolds connected on a three from the wing with 30 seconds remaining, cutting it to 29-23, before Sam Franklin blocked an Anthony layup to end the half. Franklin, a freshman, was a dominant force for the Pirates, scoring 13 points while pulling down 20 rebounds and blocking six shots. Crystal River sophomore Damien Westfall chipped in

with six points and six boards. "It's no secret, that those two guys are our future, basically," Crystal River head coach Steve Feldman said of the Reynolds/Franklin tandem. "You've got a sophomore point guard that was all-county last year, and a kid who's just scratching the surface of his ability in Franklin." After Crystal River played a solid third quarter to tie Tavares

See PIRATES/Page B4

## SPORTS BRIEFS

### Ricky Williams retiring from NFL

OWINGS MILLS, Md. — Baltimore Ravens running back Ricky Williams says he's retiring from football. The 34-year-old Williams still has a year left on his contract with Baltimore, but told the team Tuesday he does not intend to play next year. After winning the Heisman Trophy with Texas, Williams broke into the NFL in 1999 with the New Orleans Saints. He had five 1,000-yard rushing seasons during 11 years. This season, his first in Baltimore, he ran for 444 yards and scored two touchdowns as a backup to Ray Rice. Williams led the NFL in 2002 with 1,853 yards rushing with the Miami Dolphins and made the Pro Bowl that season. He retired previously before the 2004 season when facing a four-game suspension for violating the league's drug policy. He returned in 2005.

**Contador may appeal doping ban**  
 MADRID — Spanish cyclist Alberto Contador says he may appeal the two-year doping ban handed down by sport's highest court. Contador says he is "innocent" and has no plans to retire despite hinting previously he might quit if banned. He spoke a day after the Court of Arbitration for Sport stripped him of the 2010 Tour de France title. CAS rejected his claim that his positive drug test for clenbuterol was caused by eating contaminated meat. Contador says his lawyers are examining whether to appeal.

**WADA seeking Armstrong info**  
 LAUSANNE, Switzerland — The World Anti-Doping Agency urged U.S. federal authorities to quickly hand over evidence collected in their lengthy probe into seven-time Tour de France winner Lance Armstrong and doping in American cycling. WADA President John Fahey said federal agencies in the United States gathered "significant evidence" in the criminal investigation that was abruptly closed last week with no charges filed. Fahey said Tuesday it would be "very, very helpful if information was handed over" to the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency, which said it will continue its own probe into doping in cycling. Federal prosecutors dropped their investigation of Armstrong last Friday.

— From wire reports

**Crystal River wins with mercy rule against Central**

**JAMES BLEVINS**  
*Correspondent*

CRYSTAL RIVER — No first-game jitters were readily apparent Tuesday in the regular-season opener between the Pirates' and Bears' softball teams. Instead you would see a team that looked strong defensively and even more impressive at bat. Outitting Central High School 14-4, Crystal River would take the game with an 11-1 mercy-rule decision in the bottom of the sixth inning. "We're stacked with hitters," Crystal River head coach Dennis Jenkins said. "Usually (when it's) early in the season, it takes your hitters a little while to get going, which tonight (it didn't). We hit when we had to and bunted when we had to." The hits came early for the Pirates. Crystal River shortstop Meagan Unverdorben turned a single into a double with her speedy base running. Cheyenne Phelps followed with a bunt good enough to put her on first and Unverdorben on third. Marissa Pool's well-placed single batted in the two runs, taking the lead 2-0. Unverdorben was the standout hitter in a game decorated with Crystal River hitters, going 4-for-4 with two doubles and a triple. Emily Laga also went 2-for-4 with two triples and three RBIs. In the second inning, Crystal River added another run to its lead after Unverdorben's triple brought in Tabby Augsburger. The Pirates made it 4-0 in the third following Laga's first triple of the game. Pool scored on Laga's hit. Pirates pitcher Rachel Roe turned in a solid performance on the mound with eight strikeouts. She struggled briefly in the fourth inning, walking two straight batters and allowing Central to bat in its first and only run of the game. But Roe didn't struggle for long though. Regaining control, she retired the next two batters and caught the third out on a pop-up. Roe had no trouble in the final two innings, facing eight batters and allowing only two more hits. "(Roe) misses a few pitches, she gets behind on a few batters, walks a couple (of) kids (but) never lets it bother her," Jenkins said about his pitcher. "That's

See CR/Page B4

# Showing no mercy

*Crystal River wins with mercy rule against Central*

**JAMES BLEVINS**  
*Correspondent*

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more right-hander threw a four-inning no-hitter with nine strikeouts. Kayla Quesenberg relieved her in the fifth, adding a pair of strikeouts to preserve the no-hitter. Fellow Hurricanes did their part, hammering Wesley Chapel 14-0 in a five-inning mercy-rule game at

Vicki Overman Field. "It feels really good," Abramowich said after the regular-season opener for Citrus. "I feel good. The fastball worked and I was hitting my spots. This was my first varsity game. I didn't know (about the no-hitter) until coach told me. I'm really happy."

See CITRUS/Page B4



DAVE SIGLER/Chronicle

Central High School's Rachelle McClean fielded a pop-up for an out, but was unable to tag Crystal River's Marissa Pool at first base during the play in the second inning. The Lady Pirates beat the Bears on Tuesday at Crystal River High School.

## Citrus pitcher earns no-hitter in opener

**LARRY BUGG**  
*Correspondent*

INVERNESS — Kelly Abramowich wore a sheepish grin Tuesday night following her performance from the pitcher's circle. The Citrus High School sopho-

more right-hander threw a four-inning no-hitter with nine strikeouts. Kayla Quesenberg relieved her in the fifth, adding a pair of strikeouts to preserve the no-hitter. Fellow Hurricanes did their part, hammering Wesley Chapel 14-0 in a five-inning mercy-rule game at

Vicki Overman Field. "It feels really good," Abramowich said after the regular-season opener for Citrus. "I feel good. The fastball worked and I was hitting my spots. This was my first varsity game. I didn't know (about the no-hitter) until coach told me. I'm really happy."

See CITRUS/Page B4

## Wildcats tear apart Gators

### No. 1 Kentucky clobber Florida 78-58 at home

*Associated Press*

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Freshman Michael Kidd-Gilchrist had 13 points and 13 rebounds and top-ranked Kentucky easily passed its toughest Southeastern Conference test to date with a 78-58 victory over No. 8 Florida on Tuesday night. The Wildcats (24-1, 10-0)

have won 49 straight at home and matched their best start in league play since 2005 thanks to three freshmen starters who have jelled into a formidable defense to go along with their high-powered offense. Doron Lamb scored 18 points and freshman Anthony Davis added 16 for Kentucky, which won its 16th straight overall and ended Florida's run of seven consecutive wins. Kenny Boynton led the Gators (19-5, 7-2) with 18 points, but the team with the nation's most 3-pointers this season went 6 of 27 from be-

hind the arc and shot 34.9 percent overall from the field. One of the last remaining questions for a team that continues to believe it can play for a national championship in under two months had been the quality of opponents the Wildcats had faced after not meeting a ranked team in over a month. Kentucky answered it emphatically. Freshman point guard Marquis Teague finished with 12 points and 10 assists as the Wildcats attacked on both ends.

See GATORS/Page B4



Florida's Bradley Beal shoots under pressure from Kentucky's Michael Kidd-Gilchrist during the second half of Tuesday's game in Lexington, Ky. The Wildcats won 78-58.

Associated Press









# Heat turn it up against Cavaliers, 107-91

## Pierce moves into second place all-time on Celtics' scoring list

Associated Press

MIAMI — Dwyane Wade scored 26 points, LeBron James added 24 against his former team and the Miami Heat tuned up for a long road trip by beating the Cleveland Cavaliers 107-91 on Tuesday night.

Chris Bosh finished with 15 points for the Heat, who have won 11 of their last 13 games. Mario Chalmers and Udonis Haslem each scored 14 for Miami, which starts a stretch of five road games in seven nights at Orlando on Wednesday, then caps the trip with a visit to Cleveland on Feb. 17.

Antawn Jamison scored 25 points and had nine re-

bounds for Cleveland, which got 17 from Alonzo Gee, and 16 points, six rebounds and six assists from Kyrie Irving.

### Celtics 94, Bobcats 84

BOSTON — Paul Pierce passed Larry Bird for No. 2 on the Celtics' career scoring list, finishing with 15 points as Boston increased its winning streak to five straight with a 94-84 victory over the Charlotte Bobcats.

Pierce needed nine points to tie Bird's total of 21,791. He had seven points at halftime, then hit a 3-pointer with 10:23 left in the third quarter to pass Bird.

Pierce nearly celebrated the



Associated Press

Cleveland Cavaliers' Antawn Jamison, left, and Miami Heat's LeBron James chase a loose ball during the first half Tuesday in Miami. The Heat emerged victorious 107-91.

milestone with a triple-double, coming up just short with nine assists and eight rebounds.

Rajon Rondo added 14 assists and 10 points, Kevin Garnett scored 22 and Ray Allen finished with 17 points.

Reggie Williams scored 21 for the Bobcats, who lost their 12th straight despite staying within 11 points through the first three quarters. Cory Higgins added 20 points and Kemba Walker had 16 points and

seven assists for the Bobcats.

### Pacers 104, Jazz 99

INDIANAPOLIS — Danny Granger scored 12 of his 16 points in the fourth quarter, and Darren Collison had 25 points to lead the Indiana Pacers to a 104-99 win over the Utah Jazz.

Collison shot 10 of 14 from the floor and added five assists. Paul Millsap had 18 points and 10 rebounds for the Jazz, who lost their second straight game at the end of a back-to-back.

### Suns 107, Bucks 105

MILWAUKEE — Steve Nash hit a driving layup with 5 seconds left, giving the Phoenix Suns a 107-105 victory over Milwaukee Bucks.

Michael Redd scored 14 points and came away with a win against his former team, but it wasn't easy. The Suns

blew a big lead in the second half and had to rally at the end.

Marcin Gortat scored 21 points and Jared Dudley added 19 for the Suns, who have won three straight. Nash had 18 points and 11 assists.

### T'wolves 86, Kings 84

MINNEAPOLIS — Nikola Pekovic had 23 points and 10 rebounds, and Michael Beasley added 17 points and 14 boards to lead the Minnesota Timberwolves to an 86-84 victory over the Sacramento Kings in their first game without the suspended Kevin Love.

Ricky Rubio had 14 assists and five steals and Derrick Williams scored seven of his 14 points in the final four minutes to give the Timberwolves their third straight win.

DeMarcus Cousins had 10 points and 11 rebounds while battling foul trouble for most of the game.

# Kings too strong for TB

Associated Press

TAMPA — Kyle Clifford and Dustin Penner had second-period goals to lead the Los Angeles Kings past the Tampa Bay Lightning 3-1 on Tuesday night.

After withstanding pressure in the defensive end, the Kings took a 2-1 lead when Clifford scored on a breakaway off a long pass by Rob Scuderi at 10:16. Penner made it 3-1 from the slot with 2:14 left in the period.

Anze Kopitar also scored for the Kings, who are 15-0-1 this season when scoring three goals or more. Jonathan Quick, who entered with a 2-0-0 record and 0.38 goals-against average in three games against Tampa Bay, made 24 saves.

Steven Stamkos got his NHL-leading 35th goal on his 22nd birthday for the Lightning, who are 6-1-1 over their last eight games.

### Islanders 1, Flyers 0, SO

PHILADELPHIA — Evgeni Nabokov made 45 saves and Frans Nielsen and John Tavares scored on Ilya Bryzgalov in a shootout, helping the New York Islanders beat the Philadelphia Flyers 1-0.

Nabokov was sensational, turning aside every shot he faced — including two in the shootout.

The last-place Islanders are 6-1-2 in their last nine games and 11-5-2 in their past 18.

Coming off losses to New Jersey and the New York Rangers last weekend, the Flyers hoped to rebound against a team they used to dominate. But they couldn't get one past Nabokov.

### Capitals 4, Panthers 0

WASHINGTON — Mathieu Perreault scored with 13 seconds elapsed, Alex Ovechkin had two goals and the Washington Capitals beat the Florida Panthers 4-0 to take over first place in the Southeast Division.

Former Panthers goalie Tomas Vokoun stopped 42 shots in his fourth shutout of the season, the second against Florida.

Jason Chimera contributed a goal and an assist to help the Capitals supplant the Panthers atop the division. Washington has 60 points and Florida is at 59 with a game in hand.

Winning the Southeast title is imperative to both teams, because the runner-up may not end up among the eight Eastern Conference teams that qualify for the playoffs.



Associated Press

Tampa Bay Lightning defenseman Victor Hedman upends Los Angeles Kings left wing Dustin Penner during the third period Tuesday in Tampa. The Kings defeated the Lightning 3-1.

### Devils 1, Rangers 0

NEW YORK — Martin Brodeur stopped 30 shots for his first shutout of the season and the record 117th of his NHL career, and the New Jersey Devils beat the Eastern Conference-leading New York Rangers for their fifth consecutive win.

Brodeur was sharp and steady throughout, despite going several stretches without facing much action. David Clarkson gave him all the offense he needed with a first-period, power-play goal. Brodeur made it stand for the Devils, who didn't need any help from Ilya Kovalchuk, who had three points in each of his previous three games.

The Rangers appeared to score the tying goal with 3.5 seconds left, but it was disallowed because Marian Gaborik was called for goalie interference when he crashed into Brodeur in the crease after being shoved from behind by New Jersey defenseman Anton Volchenkov.

### Canadiens 3, Penguins 2, SO

MONTREAL — Tomas Plekanec

scored on Montreal's eighth attempt in the shootout to lead the Canadiens to a 3-2 win over the Pittsburgh Penguins.

Carey Price made 32 saves during regulation and then stopped six of eight Pittsburgh shooters in the tiebreaker, including Jason Williams on the Penguins' final attempt.

Evgeni Malkin used a spin-around move to convert Pittsburgh's second attempt after Rene Bourque shot and scored on Montreal's first.

Montreal's Lars Eller and Pittsburgh's Chris Kunitz both scored in the fifth round.

The Canadiens, who beat Winnipeg 3-0 on Sunday, won for the second time in nine shootouts this season.

### Blues 3, Senators 1

OTTAWA — David Perron scored twice and Brian Elliott made 28 saves in his regular-season return to Ottawa and the St. Louis Blues handed the Senators their seventh straight loss, 3-1.

Elliott was traded to the Colorado Avalanche prior to last season's trade

deadline for Senators' No. 1 goalie Craig Anderson.

Elliott then moved on to the Blues in the offseason.

Anderson, meanwhile, didn't last four minutes Tuesday for the Senators.

Chris Porter also scored for the Blues, who won for just the second time in their past five games.

Daniel Alfredsson scored his 18th goal of the season for Ottawa.

### Blue Jackets 3, Wild 1

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Rookie defenseman David Savard scored his first career goal and added an assist to lift the Blue Jackets past the Minnesota Wild and give Columbus' Todd Richards a win in his first game as coach against his former team.

Antoine Vermette added a power-play goal and Jeff Carter scored his second goal in as many games after missing 10 with a shoulder injury for Columbus.

Curtis Sanford made 28 saves to improve to 10-12-4.

# Irish women triumph

Associated Press

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Devoreaux Peters had a season-high 21 points and grabbed 16 rebounds, Kayla McBride added 19 points and No. 2 Notre Dame beat Syracuse 74-55 on Tuesday night.

It was the 21st straight win for Notre Dame (24-1, 11-0 Big East) and improved its road record to 12-1 against Syracuse (15-10, 4-7), which lost at home by 41 points to No. 3 Connecticut two weeks ago.

Skylar Diggins, the Irish's leading scorer, finished with 11 points, all in the second half.

### No. 3 UConn 56, No. 20 Louisville 46

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Caroline Doty had 15 points to lead Connecticut.

Doty, scoreless in her last game against Rutgers, made 5 of 11 3-point attempts. Tiffany Hayes added nine points and 11 rebounds before fouling out for UConn (22-2, 10-1 Big East).

Shoni Schimmel led Louisville (17-7, 6-5) with 20 points and eight rebounds. Sara Hammond added 10 points, eight in the second half.

### MEN

### Evansville 65, No. 17 Creighton 57

EVANSVILLE, Ind. — Colt Ryan's 17-footer with 3:08 to play broke a 56-56 tie, and Evansville pulled away for a 65-57 upset of No. 17 Creighton.

The nation's best shooting team was out of sync all night and wound up losing a second straight game for the first time this season. Creighton (21-4, 11-3 Missouri Valley Conference) was led by Doug McDermott with 21 points.

Kenny Harris scored 15 points to lead Evansville (12-12, 7-7).

# Report: Memphis in talks to join Big East conference

Associated Press

Memphis is the latest school to sign up for a spot in the new Big East.

A person familiar with the decision said Memphis is joining the Big East for all sports in 2013. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because an official announcement would be made Wednesday.

The Big East announced it would hold a teleconference with Commissioner John Marinatto, University of Memphis President Shirley C. Raines and Memphis Athletic director R.C. Johnson, though it did not give any details about what would be discussed.

Johnson said a new conference would be held in Memphis after the teleconference to discuss the university's athletic affiliation. U.S. Rep. Steve Cohen (D-Tenn.) couldn't wait until the news became official to celebrate.

"I am thrilled that my hometown team and alma mater the University of Memphis is being invited to join the Big East," Cohen said in a statement. "Joining the Big East will not only be great for the University of Memphis, but it will be an economic catalyst for the City of Memphis."

"Thanks to Louisville Coach Rick Pitino for his strong support. And Congratulations to Dr. Shirley Raines and R.C. Johnson."

The Tigers will become the fourth Conference USA team to move to the Big East in the past two months, along with Houston, Central Florida and SMU.

CBSports.com first reported Memphis was on the verge of joining the Big East.

Memphis is the seventh future member the Big East has added in the past two months, but the first that brings more value in basketball than football. The Tigers haven't had a winning record in football since 2007, but the



Associated Press

A person familiar with the talks says the Big East is in discussions with Memphis about the Tigers joining the conference in all sports. The person spoke on the condition of anonymity Tuesday because talks were ongoing between Memphis and the Big East.

men's basketball team has been a Top 25 mainstay.

The Big East is trying to replace basketball powers Syracuse and Pittsburgh and West Virginia, and create a football league with at least 12 teams. Syracuse and Pittsburgh are leaving for the Atlantic Coast Conference and West Virginia is headed to

the Big 12.

The Big East has been adding new future members for the past two months. In December, Boise State and San Diego State agreed to join for football only in 2013, along with SMU, UCF and Houston.

Last month, the Big East announced Navy will be-

come a football-only member in 2015.

When West Virginia, Syracuse and Pitt will leave the Big East is still up in the air. West Virginia has sued the Big East in an effort to join the Big 12 in 2012. The Big East filed a countersuit trying to force WVU to abide by the conference's bylaws, which require a 27-month notification period for schools to depart.

Big East Commissioner John Marinatto has said the league intends to hold West Virginia, Pitt and Syracuse until the summer of 2014.

Memphis has been trying to move from Conference USA since being snubbed when the Big East expanded in 2005, losing a long-time rivalry with Louisville. A departure now would be pricey for the Tigers. The exit fee from Conference USA for 2013-14 is \$500,000 plus Memphis' share of television rights revenue, which is approximately \$6.13 million, according to a league spokeswoman.

The Tigers have one of the strongest basketball programs in the country. Memphis had made 23 NCAA tournament appearances and lost in the national title game in 1973 and 2008. They also reached the Final Four.

Louisville coach Rick Pitino has been lobbying the Big East to add Memphis to help strengthen the league in basketball. Louisville and Memphis have spent years together first in the Missouri Valley Conference, the Metro Conference and Conference USA. Pitino again called out for league officials to consider Memphis after Louisville beat Memphis on Dec. 17.

"I'm just hoping the Big East gets smart and does something about that and allows them to come into the league," Pitino said. "I keep getting on the pulpit and saying this: We got hurt big time and we need Memphis. Memphis doesn't need us, we need Memphis. We need Temple. We need to build up basketball again."

# ENTERTAINMENT

CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE

## Spotlight on PEOPLE

### Mars-Jones has top 'Hatchet Job'

LONDON — A critic who accused a Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist of scattering literary allusions like "tin cans tied to a tricycle" has won a prize for the year's most lacerating book review.

Adam Mars-Jones' review of Michael Cunningham's novel "By Nightfall" was named the winner of the Hatchet Job of the Year Award.

The review condemns the novel's pretensions, saying it is "filled with thoughts about art, or (more ominously) Thoughts about Art."

Mars-Jones, a British-born novelist, was awarded a golden hatchet and a year's supply of potted shrimp at a ceremony Tuesday in London.

### Gibson unlikely to testify at trial

LOS ANGELES — A judge says she is inclined to block Mel Gibson from testifying during the workplace discrimination trial of the deputy who arrested the Oscar-winner for drunken driving.



Mel Gibson

Superior Court Judge Barbara Schepert tentatively ruled Tuesday that the deputy's case shouldn't focus on Gibson's arrest or his anti-Semitic remarks at the time.

Deputy James Mee, who is Jewish, claims he suffered religious discrimination by superiors after arresting Gibson in 2006 and that he was ordered to remove the actor-director's inflammatory rants from a report.

### Zsa Zsa out of sight at birthday

LOS ANGELES — After what felt like an eternity but was actually just a few minutes, Fred-eric Prinz von Anhalt emerged from a white door into the foyer of the old-fashioned Bel-Air mansion that he shares with his wife of 25 years, former glamour queen Zsa Zsa Gabor.

The self-proclaimed German prince held a chocolate birthday cake he said was a gift from celebrity chef Wolfgang Puck.

Smoke from the expunged candles jabbed into the small cake was still drifting in the air.

Surrounded by paintings and photographs depicting Gabor when she was an infamously sassy Hungarian actress, a few dozen guests quietly sipped champagne and mingled in the common areas of the home overlooking the twinkling lights of Los Angeles.

But Gabor was nowhere to be seen. Von Anhalt presented the cake to his bedridden beloved out of sight from the partygoers who had gathered for the occasion.

— From wire reports

# Hollywood maverick



Associated Press

A commercial by Chrysler Group LLC shows actor Clint Eastwood, in an ad titled "It's Halftime in America," which aired Sunday during Super Bowl XLVI.

## Clint Eastwood shrugs off critics, does things his own way

LYNN ELBER  
AP Television Writer

— LOS ANGELES

The plot seemed familiar: A hotshot Hollywood filmmaker skills for a bailed-out car industry, yet another limousine liberal going to bat for big government.

Except the star of Chrysler's "It's Halftime in America" Super Bowl spot was Clint Eastwood, who has made a habit out of confounding expectations in his work and his politics. He's a tough guy who makes anti-violence films, a fiscal conservative who takes left-leaning stands on social issues.

Eastwood also is an opponent of government bailouts who just happened to appear in a commercial for a company that benefitted from government support.

He's said that politics had nothing to do with his turn as pitchman for job growth and American resilience. But the ad has turned up the spotlight on the Academy Award-winning director who, at 81, shuns complacency and retirement (next up: directing Beyonce in a remake of "A Star is Born").

"It's a cliché, but he is an American icon and he's often been ahead of the culture in the movie choices he's made, the acting choices he's made," said Democratic ad-maker Bill Carrick. "He's a wonderful, unique voice, and this spot was a gutsy call."

The cinematic Super Bowl commercial, two minutes of Eastwood exhorting the nation to reclaim its spirit and economic glory, was the star at his best. His acting trademarks — the determined squint, the quiet, life-roughened voice — were even more effective amid an ad circus of talking babies

and dieting dogs.

"This country can't be knocked out with one punch," Eastwood murmurs, urgently. "We get right back up again and when we do, the world's gonna hear the roar of our engines."

There are Oscar best-picture nominees out now with less dra-

matic punch. Eastwood, who's already given pop culture his fair share of hallmark moments (as police detective Dirty Harry, with gun trained on a robber: "You've got to ask yourself one question: 'Do I feel lucky?' Well, do ya, punk?"), helped create one that went beyond fiction and into the nation's economic struggle.

All that, and it threw the right and left into a tizzy — no big deal for a guy who's used to upending expectations.

In movies, Eastwood has often played the unyielding tough guy who could turn vicious if pushed too far. As a filmmaker, he's poetically shown the anguish of conflict in works including the Western "Unforgiven," World War II companion films "Flags of Our Fathers" and "Letters from Iwo Jima," and the urban drama "Gran Torino."

Then came the buzzed-about commercial, which drew millions of hits online after it aired for a record TV audience of 111-plus million viewers.

There was a quick reaction in political circles, with GOP strategist Karl Rove saying he was "offended" by the ad he called tantamount to spending tax dollars on corporate advertising, and White House senior adviser David Axelrod calling it "powerful."

"I think you have to be almost troublingly obsessed with politics to see it through that lens," said Republican strategist Mike Murphy. "It's not a political ad. It's the trivia we're talking about today because nothing else happened."

The ad and the tempest it created may have a limited shelf life. Eastwood, back at work starring in a movie with Amy Adams and Justin Timberlake, clearly has other business to think about — and we'll hear what he has to say, like it or not.

**"This country can't be knocked out with one punch. We get right back up again and when we do, the world's gonna hear the ROAR of our engines."**

**— Clint Eastwood**

## 2.1 million viewers live stream Super Bowl

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The first live stream of the Super Bowl drew 2.1 million unique viewers, NBC said Thursday.

That's a small fraction of

the record 111.3 million viewers that watched NBC's broadcast of the big game. But it was still enough to make it the most-watched single-game sports event online, according to the network.

The New York Giants 21-17 win over the New England Patriots was streamed on NBCSports.com and NFL.com. The Internet web-cast included optional camera views, tweeting from a handful of personal-

ities and HD-quality video. But it didn't feature the live TV broadcast commercials (they were clickable for on-demand viewing) or the Madonna halftime show, and the feed lagged behind the broadcast.

## Florida LOTTERIES

### SO YOU KNOW

■ Last night's winning numbers, Page B4.

#### MONDAY, FEB. 6

Fantasy 5: 5 - 8 - 9 - 13 - 18  
5-of-5 6 winners \$35,733.59  
4-of-5 485 \$71  
3-of-5 12,456 \$7.50

#### SUNDAY, FEB. 5

Fantasy 5: 10 - 21 - 23 - 26 - 27  
5-of-5 2 winners \$95,518.44  
4-of-5 241 \$127.50  
3-of-5 8,368 \$10

#### SATURDAY, FEB. 4

Powerball: 15 - 23 - 43 - 45 - 56  
Powerball: 7

5-of-5 PB No winner  
5-of-5 No winner  
No Florida winner

Lotto: 9 - 16 - 34 - 39 - 41 - 46

6-of-6 1 \$12 million

5-of-6 45 \$4,999.50

4-of-6 2,236 \$80

3-of-6 46,825 \$5

Fantasy 5: 4 - 10 - 21 - 34 - 36

5-of-5 4 \$74,372.41

4-of-5 462 \$103.50

3-of-5 12,830 \$10

### INSIDE THE NUMBERS

■ To verify the accuracy of winning lottery numbers, players should double-check the numbers printed above with numbers officially posted by the Florida Lottery. Go to [www.flalottery.com](http://www.flalottery.com), or call 850-487-7777.

## Today in HISTORY

Today is Wednesday, Feb. 8, the 39th day of 2012. There are 327 days left in the year.

#### Today's Highlight:

On Feb. 8, 1587, Mary, Queen of Scots was beheaded at Fotheringhay Castle in England after she was implicated in a plot to murder her cousin, Queen Elizabeth I.

#### On this date:

In 1693, a charter was granted for the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg in the Virginia Colony.

In 1904, the Russo-Japanese War, a conflict over control of Manchuria and Korea, began as Japanese forces attacked Port Arthur.

In 1910, the Boy Scouts of America was incorporated.

In 1922, President Warren G. Harding had a radio installed in the White House.

In 1952, Queen Elizabeth II proclaimed her accession to the British throne following the death of her father, King George VI.

In 1971, NASDAQ, the world's first electronic stock exchange, held its first trading day.

**Ten years ago:** The Winter Olympics opened in Salt Lake City with an emotional tribute to America's heroes, from the pioneers of the West to past Olympic champions to the thousands who'd perished on Sept. 11.

**Five years ago:** Model, actress and tabloid sensation Anna Nicole Smith died in Florida at age 39 of an accidental drug overdose.

**One year ago:** Wael Ghonim, a Google executive who'd helped ignite Egypt's uprising, appeared before protesters in Cairo's Tahrir Square for the first time after being released from detention; he told them, "We won't give up."

**Today's Birthdays:** Composer-conductor John Williams is 80. Newscaster Ted Koppel is 72. Actor Nick Nolte is 71. Actor-rock musician Creed Bratton is 69. Actress Mary Steenburgen is 59. Author John Grisham is 57. Rock singer Vince Neil (Motley Crue) is 51. Actress Mary McCormack is 43. Retired NBA player Alonzo Mourning is 42. Actor Seth Green is 38. Rock musician Phoenix (Linkin Park) is 35. Rock musician Jeremy Davis (Paramore) is 27. Rock musician Max Grahm (Carolina Liar) is 24.

**Thought for Today:** "Discussion is an exchange of knowledge; an argument an exchange of ignorance." — Robert Quillen, American journalist (1887-1948).

## Today's HOROSCOPE

**Birthday:** Because you'll be placing a considerably greater emphasis on your material interests in the year ahead, chances are your probabilities for success will be increased. Take a little time to smell the roses as well.  
**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)** — It looks like one of your talents will get a workout at this juncture. You have a special aptitude for organizing things, and you will be asked to do so for others. Stay alert: You still have to run your own ship.  
**Pisces (Feb. 20-March 20)** — If you have a special talent that can be meaningful to others, use it post haste. Make sure you benefit from your gift as well, and you'll have reason to be more successful than usual.  
**Aries (March 21-April 19)** — Even though you'll be the one endowed with excellent leadership qualities, it will be others who recognize it before you do. Don't allow any self-doubts to dilute your talents.  
**Taurus (April 20-May 20)** — Although your financial pic-

ture looks especially good, you may be slow to recognize it. This may be due to your using different methods, which will at first obscure the gains you're making.  
**Gemini (May 21-June 20)** — Because you enjoy your friends for who they are and not for what you can get from them, you'll be surprised when some pals shower you with favors. Ask not and you shall receive.  
**Cancer (June 21-July 22)** — Don't hesitate to share your secret desires with friends whom you truly trust. True pals will want to help you figure out ways to fulfill your wishes, not make life harder on you.  
**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)** — It behooves you to closely study the associates whom you admire. Chances are there is something of value you can learn from them.  
**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** — If you fail to get something you really want on your first try, push harder during a second attempt. Your probabilities for achieving what you want

are good, as long as you don't give up.  
**Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)** — Once you're able to view situations from other people's perspectives, you'll be more effective in dealing with both the situations and the people. When you widen your outlook, you widen your acceptance.  
**Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)** — You're in an unusually good earning cycle, which should increase your income stemming from special skills, knowledge and/or services you have to offer. Don't hesitate to ask for what you're worth.  
**Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)** — Obligatory social activities with friends are likely to be more enjoyable than usual. It might be due to the fact that they will take place outside the house in inexpensive, fun venues.  
**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** — Although it's usually unwise to attempt to do more than one thing at a time, this may not be true in your case. You can handle multiple tasks when there are dollars to be made.

**Looking For A Boat?**  
 You can find it  
 in today's classifieds.  
**SHOP NOW!**



# Weaving words



Kelsey Miles, left, poses for a picture Monday with mystery author Alane Ferguson after an author's lunch. Jacquelyn Kistenmacher snaps their picture.

*Good writing no longer a mystery; author instructs middle-schoolers*

**MATTHEW BECK**  
 Staff Writer

Alane Ferguson needs to see it, smell it and maybe even taste it.

And she's not shopping for produce at the grocery store.

That's how the mystery fiction author and self-described writing doctor explains how to go about packing specific details into a story to make it more vivid for the reader.

That writing tip and many more were shared with dozens of middle school students Monday at an intensive writer's workshop and an author's lunch in the Lecanto Middle School media center.

Media Specialist Jeannene Riddle has kept in touch with Ferguson, 55, since the writer first visited the school several years ago for a similar workshop.

"We just bonded at that time and we've kept in touch ever since," she said. "This is a wonderful, wonderful thing for our students."

Ferguson, popular with many elementary and middle school-age children, came to Florida by way of her home in Colorado for a series of workshops at a number of schools in Citrus and

Orange Counties.

She addressed the students in medical scrubs and a lab coat, playing the part of the writing doctor.

"I really believe in revision. I teach writing workshops all around the country and that's my big thing," she said. "I can teach on just about any kind of writing but I concentrate on what I write and that's fiction. So I'm really big on how to restructure, how to build a plot and how to get dialog into the story correctly. I'm really keen on teaching kids and adults how to revise their work. That's the key."

She feels revision, or tightening up a story, is a critical component to a strong story.

"You won't get your best work the first time out of the chute. I call it vomiting up words," she said.

After the first draft is written and edited, she said, "Then it's a matter of picking the best and throwing out the rest. That's one of the things I teach."

Through the lunch hour a select group of about 30 students gathered with Ferguson for a catered Italian meal.

She enthusiastically answered questions from the group of children, grades 6 to 8.



Mystery author Alane Ferguson tells Lecanto Middle School students that the plot in a story is like a human skeleton. "It holds things together," she said. Ferguson led a writer's workshop for students at the school.

When asked who had read Ferguson's books, most of the students in the room raised their hands. Many in the group have been reading the four-book series she's penned called "The Christopher Killer." A fifth book in the series is on the way

and expected to be on the shelf later this year.

After lunch a new group of students flowed into the media center for the writing workshop.

Using large sheets of paper on an easel, Ferguson, the author of more than 30 books, il-

lustrated her lesson on plot with a crudely-drawn skeleton.

"A skeleton to your body is the same thing as the plot is to your story," she said. "It's the structure that holds it up. You have to

See AUTHOR/Page C2



President Barack Obama watches Tuesday as a marshmallow is launched by a gun designed by Joey Hudy, of Phoenix, Ariz., in Washington D.C., during the White House Science Fair. Obama revealed his inner science geek as he delightedly helped fire the eighth grader's marshmallow air cannon at the drapes of the White House's elegant State Dining Room.

## New Obama plan to help math, science teacher prep

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama called on Tuesday for millions of dollars in new funding to improve math and science education, an effort he said would be crucial to the nation's long-term success.

Obama said his upcoming budget proposal, set to be released next week, would include a request for \$80 million from Congress for a

new Education Department competition to support math and science teacher preparation programs. Obama made a similar request to Congress last year but the measure didn't pass.

Separately, he announced \$22 million in investments from the private sector to support math and science efforts. Among the organizations committing fresh funding are Google and the Carnegie Corporation of

New York.

Obama said a renewed focus on math and science education should be an American imperative.

"The belief that we belong on the cutting edge of innovation, that's an idea as old as America itself," Obama said. "We're a nation of thinkers, dreamers, believers in a better tomorrow."

Obama has set a goal of

See OBAMA/Page C2

## Digital textbooks allow more student interaction

*Gov't wants new technology implemented*

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Are hardbound textbooks going the way of slide rules and typewriters in schools?

Education Secretary Arne Duncan and Federal Communications Commission chairman Julius Genachowski last Wednesday challenged schools and companies to get digital textbooks into students' hands within five years. The Obama administration's push comes two weeks after Apple Inc. announced it would start to sell electronic versions of a few standard high-school books for use on its iPad tablet.

Digital books are viewed as a way to provide interactive learning, potentially save money and get updated material faster to students.

Digital learning environments have been embraced in Florida, Idaho, Utah, and California, as well as Joplin, Mo., where laptops

“... we're talking about a much more robust and interactive and engaging environment.”

Karen Cator

director, Education Department's office of education technology.

replaced textbooks destroyed in a tornado. But many schools lack the broadband capacity or the computers or tablets to adopt the technology, and finding the money to go completely digital is difficult for many schools in tough economic times.

Tied to Wednesday's announcement at a digital town hall was the government's release of a 67-page “playbook” to schools that promotes the use of digital textbooks and offers guidance. The administration hopes that dollars spent on traditional textbooks can instead go toward making digital learning more feasible.

Going digital improves the learning process, and it's being rolled out at a faster pace in other countries such as South Korea, Genachowski said in an in-

terview. Genachowski said he's hopeful it can be cost effective in the long run, especially as the price of digital tablets drops.

"When a student reads a textbook and gets to something they don't know, they are stuck," Genachowski said. "Working with the same material on a digital textbook, when they get to something they don't know, the device can let them explore, it can show them what a word means, how to solve a math problem that they couldn't figure out how to solve."

Students can use the textbooks for video explanations to help with homework, they can interact with molecules, and they can manipulate a digital globe to see stories and data about countries, said Karen Cator, director of the Education Department's office of education technology.

"We're not talking about the print-based textbook

See DIGITAL/Page C2

# Computer users announce class schedule

Special to the Chronicle

Crystal River Users Group (CRUG) has announced its schedule of spring classes, which are at Crystal Oaks Community Center, 4958 W. Crystal Oaks Blvd., Lecanto. All class descriptions and registration can be found at [www.crug.com](http://www.crug.com). Directions can be found on the website, along with membership applications.

structor Laura Boetto will be offered 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Thursdays, Feb. 9 and 16. Cost is \$15 for members; \$23 for nonmembers.

Learn to create scrapbook pages digitally. Using photo editing programs on your computer, you can create beautiful scrapbook pages with your photos and realistic digital elements and papers. This class will be fun and informative plus you will be creating your first scrapbook pages in no

## ON THE NET

www.crug.com

time. The class will include gathering digital files, downloading them from the Internet, unzipping files, resizing and altering your own photographs, adding text, drop shadows and other effects to create your own unique pages.

Items needed are: laptop com-

puter, a few digital images to use for practice, a photo editing program (Photoshop Elements 10 will be used in class for the lessons).

A free 30-day trial edition of Photoshop Elements, version 10, can be downloaded by going to the Adobe site: [www.adobe.com/products/photoshopel/](http://www.adobe.com/products/photoshopel/).

Word 2010 Basic Class with instructor Lynn Page will be offered 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays, Feb. 27, and March 5 and 12. Cost is \$20 for

members; \$30 for nonmembers.

Office 2010 introduced new features to Microsoft's suite of office applications, including Word. This class will look at some of the new features and how they made generating interesting and attractive documents, including how to apply artistic effects to photos and text right within Word. See how to use the Ribbon interface to generate documents for printing or sharing.

## AUTHOR

Continued from Page C1

have good plot structure. I believe that if you do not have a proper structure to hang your story on then it will just kind of turn into what your body would look like if you didn't have any bones to hold you up; a blob of goo."

A quick start to her stories, or the hook as she calls it, is what several students

acknowledged they like best about Ferguson's books.

"I just got done reading her last book," said Autumn Graham, 14. "She starts her books out in a way that really hooks you. It's fast pace and exciting. And I like how there is a lot of factual information in the books, even though it's fiction."

The writer gave students solid building blocks from which to work on making a strong story.

Topics like hooking a reader at the beginning,

limiting back story, and incorporating dialog and vivid detail into the story were other topics of discussion.

"Your job is to look at yourself as a word weaver," she said to the students.

Ferguson said she has been writing since the age of four under the watchful eye of her mother, Gloria Shurzyski, an accomplished author in her own right. Shurzyski has about 60 books to her credit.

The mother-daughter

team collaborated on a series of books called the Mysteries in Our National Parks which has been popular with elementary school children, according to the media specialist.

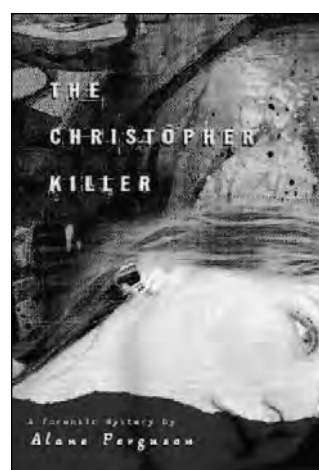
School Board member Ginger Bryant, a teacher for 28 years in the Citrus County School District, was on hand for the lunch and shared her thoughts on how critical reading and writing is for students.

"I just think it's important for children to be exposed

to good writing and go through the process with somebody who does it well," she said. "I used to teach writing in the classroom, but I never wrote a book. I taught the fundamentals with my students years ago but this author is actually publishing books that they read. That's awesome."

The Christopher Killer series is a popular forensic science series for teens.

MATTHEW BECK/Chronicle



## DIGITAL

Continued from Page C1

now being digital. We're talking about a much more robust and interactive and engaging environment to support learning," Cator said.

About \$8 billion is spent annually in the U.S. on textbooks for children in kindergarten through 12th grade, said Jay Diskey, the executive director of the school division of the Association of American Publishers. Diskey said textbook companies have been working on the technology for the past five to eight years to transform the industry, but that in many cases, schools simply aren't ready.

"It's not only the future, it's the now. The industry has embraced this, but the difficulty does lie in the fact that schools are not yet fully equipped with the hardware. We hope that they get there soon," Diskey said.

After the tornado last May destroyed several schools in Joplin, the decision was made essentially to go textbook free at three sites hosting high school kids from Joplin High School and the Franklin Technology Center. The United Arab Emirates donated money to buy each student a laptop.

The response from students has been mixed, said Angie Besendorfer, the district's assistant superintendent. She said the transition has proved difficult for some kids accustomed to a standard routine of answering questions at the end of a chapter.

"It's a little bit more work on the side of the students in that they are having to think and problem solve and do things differently, and some of our kids are not so fond of that, whereas other kids like it a lot," said Besendorfer.

## OBAMA

Continued from Page C1

preparing more than 100,000 math and science teachers and training a million additional math, technology, engineering and science graduates over the next decade.

Seeking to highlight the benefits of math and science education, Obama hosted a White House science fair earlier Tuesday, featuring projects designed by more than 100 students from across the country. The projects included a robot that helps senior citizens connect with their families via Skype, and a portable disaster relief shelter that could be used to house people who have been displaced from their homes.

"It's not every day you have robots running all over your house," Obama said of the science fair. "I'm trying to figure out how you got through the metal detectors."

The president said the students participating in the science fair were an inspiration, and made him confident that the nation's best days were yet to come.

"You're getting America in shape to win the future," Obama said.



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**WED. ....Trivia**  
**THURS. Maine Lobster Pie....\$20.00**

MAKE VALENTINE'S RESERVATIONS SPECIAL MENU

## FUNDRAISERS

■ The Lecanto High School Band is having a **yard sale** from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25 at the Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park.

They are accepting donations for the yard sale.

For more information, call Jinnie Zuniga at 352-228-2756.

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND CONTESTS

■ **BFF Society** will offer a minimum of two \$1,000 scholarships. Those eligible are U.S. citizens attending Citrus County schools or Citrus County residents seeking a professional career. Applicants must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above, and applicants may be interviewed.

The scholarship must be used to attend an accredited college, junior college or professional school. Applicants may be graduating high school seniors or adult students seeking to further their education, regardless of gender.

Candidates will be judged on academic achievement and financial need. Scholarships are to be used for tuition and books only. The check will be made payable to the educational institution for the benefit of the scholarship recipient.

Scholarship winners will be notified by April 2012. It will be necessary for the scholarship winner(s) to attend the BFF Society Awards Banquet on May 14 or forfeit the scholarship. If the money for the scholarships is not used as indicated, it will be rescinded to the Founding Chapter.

All applications must be postmarked by March 31; no exceptions. The application must be in its entirety or it will not be considered for review. Applications can be obtained at school guidance offices.

Mail applications to: BFF Society, c/o Dianne Micklon, 2833 W. Laureen St., Lecanto, FL 34461-9529. For more information, call 352-527-7442 or email trechuck@tampabay.rr.com.

■ Each year, Yankeetown-Inglis Woman's Club searches for deserving students to receive a **scholarship**. The awards are open to students who attended Yankeetown School for at least two years and graduated, or will graduate, from Dunnellon High School or Crystal River High School.

Also eligible are home-schooled seniors, those who are attending college and maintain a 3.0 GPA, and those who have worked after graduation but now have concrete plans for resuming their education.

To be considered for a scholarship, students are asked to write a personal essay and complete a questionnaire, have a 3.0 GPA or higher, and submit teacher and counselor recommendation letters. Those who wish to apply may obtain an application from guidance counselors at Dunnellon or Crystal River high schools, at A.F. Knotts Library on 56th Street in Yankeetown or download from the Woman's Club website, [www.yiwomansclub.com](http://www.yiwomansclub.com). Selection will be made by members of the Yankeetown-Inglis Woman's Club Education Committee.

Completed applications should be mailed to: Yankeetown-Inglis Woman's Club Education Committee, P.O. Box 298, Yankeetown, FL 34498, and must be postmarked no later than April 4 to be consid-

ered. For more information, call the club at 352-447-2057, Tuesday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., or email [yiwomansclub@gmail.com](mailto:yiwomansclub@gmail.com).

■ Disabled American Veterans, Gerald A. Shonk Chapter 70 of Inverness, is offering a **\$1,000 scholarship for the 2012-13 school year**. The scholarship is offered to a disabled veteran, a veteran, a survivor of a veteran or a dependent of a veteran.

The recipient shall be enrolled in a full-time course of instruction leading to a degree program or to a vocational skill. Selection shall be conducted by the scholarship committee and will be based on the applications submitted. The procedure requires that applicants write a statement detailing their course of study, goals and why they are deserving of this award.

Applications are now available and may be picked up at guidance department offices in area high schools, the Withlacoochee Technical Institute, Central Florida Community College guidance department offices, or by calling John Seaman at 352-860-0123.

All applications must be returned to the DAV Chapter at 1039 N. Paul Drive, Inverness, FL 34453 by March 16.

■ **Citrus Garden Club** is accepting applications for its annual \$500 Environmental Scholarship to be awarded to a senior graduate from Citrus High School, Crystal River High School, Lecanto High School and the Academy of Environmental Science.

The scholarship will be awarded to a senior planning to continue his or her education in an environmental field. Applications can be obtained from school guidance counselors' departments. Deadline to apply is March 31.

For more information, call Lucy Murphy at 352-527-4239.

■ **The Business Women's Alliance of Citrus County Chamber of Commerce** announces the opening of its 2012 scholarship award program to offer financial assistance for students planning further education for health occupations, as well as for students planning a future in businesses other than health care. Proceeds from BWA's 2011 Women's Health & Fitness Expo and quarterly networking luncheons will fund the scholarships, being offered to students in Lecanto, Crystal River and Citrus high schools, plus Withlacoochee Technical Institute.

Applicants must be Citrus County residents planning to attend a university, college or technical school in Florida, or attend WTI, and who demonstrate financial need. Completed application form and personal statement, financial resources affidavit, transcript and letters of reference are required. Applications are available at the school guidance offices. For the high schools, deadline date for return of completed applications to the guidance office is March 30. For WTI, consult the Student Services office. For more information, call the Citrus County Chamber of Commerce's Crystal River office at 352-795-3149.

■ The Citrus County Shooting Club is offering **scholarship money** to students graduating from Citrus County High Schools who are planning on a career in law enforcement.

# Chalk Talk

Students interested can inquire at their school's guidance office. Applications are available at the club's website, [www.cccs.us](http://www.cccs.us), or by calling Greg Cwick at 352-382-2530 or Luis Michaels at 352-746-2414.

■ The Aaron A. Weaver Chapter 776 Military Order of the Purple Heart announces **two scholarship opportunities** for college-bound students — Chapter 776's College of Central Florida (CF) Endowed Scholarship and the Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH) Scholarship for Academic Year 2012-13.

■ **Chapter 776 Scholarship**: Chapter 776's CF Endowed Scholarship for Academic Year 2012-13 awards up to \$500 to an applicant accepted or enrolled at CF as a full-time student (12 or more semester credit hours). Chapter 776 scholarship information and application can be obtained at [www.citruspurpleheart.org](http://www.citruspurpleheart.org) or by calling 352-382-3847. Chapter 776 must receive scholarship applications no later than 5 p.m., Feb. 28.

■ **American Legion Post 155** has been running its **Oratorical Contests** in Citrus County area high schools since 1950. Information packets with rules and entry forms for The American Legion Oratorical Contest have been given to the guidance counselors of Crystal River, Lecanto and Seven Rivers Christian High Schools.

All high school students (no matter what grade) — public, private or home-schooled children — are eligible to enter. Scholarships are awarded the winning contestants ranging from \$100 to \$18,000. The contest consists of an eight- to 10-minute prepared oration on some phase of the Constitution of the United States and a three- to five-minute assigned topic discourse on a particular article or amendment.

Each year, American Legion Post 155 does this contest; in 2009, Ben Ferrone of Homosassa went on to win the Department of Florida contest and took third place in the national contest and won an accumulative total of \$18,500 in American Legion scholarship money.

The purpose of the American Legion's High School Oratorical Contest is to develop a deeper knowledge and appreciation of the Constitution. Other objectives include development of leadership qualities, ability to think and speak clearly and intelligently, and preparation for acceptance of the duties and responsibilities, the rights and privileges of American citizenship.

For more about scholarships, including grants, visit [www.NeedALift.org](http://www.NeedALift.org) (College Financial Aid Handbook). The American Legion puts out the book to educate students on educational opportunities, scholarships, grants, student loans, careers and employment. The latest downloadable copy of the book, now in its 61st year of publication, is available on the website. Copies are also at county and school libraries.

More information and entry forms are available by calling Oratorical Contest coordinator Larry White at 352-249-7663.

■ The Citrus Community Concert Choir Inc. is now accepting applications for its **2012 scholarship award** of \$1500. Application is open to graduating high school seniors or enrolled college students and residents of Citrus County, or children of Citrus County residents. Past and present choir members and relatives of choir members are also eligible. Applicants may obtain scholarship qualifications and application forms from their school guidance counselors or online at [citruschoir.com](http://citruschoir.com). Completed applications must be received no later than April 30.

■ U.S. high school students and their teachers are invited to participate in the Bill of Rights Institute's sixth annual **Being an American Essay Contest**.

The Being an American Essay Contest explores the Founding principles outlined in the Constitution. The contest is administered by the Bill of Rights Institute, a nonprofit educational organization in the Washington, D.C. area devoted to educating young people about the Constitution and Founding principles. The 2011-12 contest is sponsored by the History Channel.

Students are asked to share their thoughts on the Constitution by answering the following question: "How does the Constitution establish and maintain a culture of liberty?"

The top three student winners from each of the five geographical regions will be awarded cash prizes of \$1,000 (first place), \$500 (second place), and \$250 (third place). Teacher sponsors for each student winner will also receive a cash prize of \$100.

Further information, including submission criteria, lesson plans and background information on the Constitution, Bill of Rights, founders and the founding principles are available at [www.BillofRightsInstitute.org/Contest](http://www.BillofRightsInstitute.org/Contest).

■ Your child may be eligible for a wonderful opportunity — a **Take Stock in Children college scholarship**. Take Stock in Children is a program that helps economically disadvantaged students and their families realize their dream of sending their child to college. To be considered for a scholarship, your child must be in public school in the sixth, seventh or eighth grade, meet the financial eligibility requirements, agree to remain drug- and alcohol-free and get good grades.

Take Stock in Children scholarships are provided through the Florida Prepaid Foundation. Applications are now available. To obtain more information about the program, call 352-344-0855.

■ The College of Central Florida is now awarding **dozens of scholarships** to

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Fri., Feb. 10 &  
Sat., Feb. 11  
9am-2pm  
A Thrivent Event  
at  
Faith Lutheran Church  
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Off 44 & 490  
352-527-3325

qualifying students interested in taking honors classes at the Citrus campus this fall semester. A major component of CF's Honors Institute, the Community of Scholars Honors Program offers incoming high school graduates two-year tuition scholarships, currently valued at \$3,000 per academic year, while offering partial scholarships to those who are currently attending CF.

Students in the honors program are free to pursue the degree option of their choosing at CF, with the scholarship requirement being successful participation in a limited number of honors level classes that also serve to fulfill degree requirements. Students may also take classes at any of the CF locations each term, and are not bound to enrolling only in classes offered at the Citrus Campus. Besides financial benefits, the Community of Scholars offers members priority registration each term.

Typically, a cumulative high school GPA of 3.75 is needed to qualify for the Community of Scholars, although applications for those with a slightly lower GPA may be considered in some cases. Students wishing to be considered for scholarships should call Dr. June Hall at 352-746-6721.

## CLASSES AND COURSES

For information about outdoors and recreational classes in Citrus County, see the Sunday sports section of the *Chronicle*.

■ The College of Central Florida has announced that its **January to June 2012 CF Institute schedule** is now available.

The schedule can be viewed online at [CFtraining.cf.edu](http://CFtraining.cf.edu) and includes hundreds of classes on arts, culture and leisure; business, industry and leadership; child care and family; computers; driving; insurance; real estate; security officer training and more.

Printed copies are available at the Ocala Campus, 3001 S.W. College Road; Citrus Campus, 3800 S. Lecanto Highway, Lecanto; Levy Center, 114 Rodgers Blvd., Chieffland; and the Hampton Center, 1501 W. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala. For information, visit [CFtraining.cf.edu](http://CFtraining.cf.edu) or call 352-873-8504.

■ The College of Central Florida is offering a variety of

non-credit courses:

● A **"Writing Your Memoirs"** course is being offered at the Citrus campus.

Whether your life has been filled with disasters, unbelievable events or even if your life has been mundane, a memoir is a way to find meaning in the world, make sense of your existence, leave a legacy for family and friends, and maybe help someone benefit from your experience. This course will cover the ways to make this project happen.

The class will be offered once more this semester: sign up for Monday, March 26, from 6 to 8 pm. Cost is \$25 and includes handouts.

● **How to Write and Publish Your Own Book** will be presented from 3 to 5 p.m. Wednesdays, Feb. 8, 15 and 22 from 3 to 5 pm. The six-hour course will cover all the specifics, details, advantages and disadvantages of writing and publishing. The fee for the course is only \$49 and includes handouts.

● For more information on these course and registration, call the College of Central Florida at 352-249-1210 or 352-746-6721 or go online at [CFI-training.cf.edu](http://CFI-training.cf.edu).

## MISCELLANEOUS

■ The Citrus County International Baccalaureate Parent Organization, CCIBPO, will be hosting its **next meeting** on Tuesday, Feb. 21, at 6:30 p.m. in the Lecanto High School cafeteria, 3810 W. Educational Path, Lecanto.

Parents of PIBS and IB students are encouraged to attend. The group also invites Citrus County professional business leaders to meet the CCIBPO board members and parents.

For more information, contact David Strickland, CCIBPO president, at [DSTRICKLAND18@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:DSTRICKLAND18@tampabay.rr.com) or call 352-302-4272.

■ Inverness Primary School's **17th annual Veterans Dinner** will be at 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 17, in Inverness Primary School Cafeterium.

Students and staff at Inverness Primary School invite all veterans and a guest to come and be honored at the dinner and program. There is no cost. Dinner is at 5 p.m. and the program will be at 6 p.m.

For more information, call 352-726-2632.

# SCORE Free Business Seminar "R U READY"

**Thursday, Feb. 9th  
6 PM - 8 PM**  
(Followed by an hour  
of individual counseling)

The seminar will be held at the  
**College of Central Florida  
Citrus Campus in Lecanto,  
3800 S. Lecanto Hwy., Lecanto  
(Building C-4, Room 103)**

The Citrus County Chapter of SCORE is offering a free seminar for individuals thinking about starting their own business.

The two hour session will cover the main issues involved in becoming an entrepreneur - from the business idea to the reality of owning your own business. Following the seminar, interested participants will have the opportunity to meet with seasoned SCORE counselors to further discuss their ideas.

"R U READY" is specifically designed for individuals who are not business owners, but who are interested in learning what is involved in becoming one. If you have ever asked yourself "Do I have what it takes to be an entrepreneur?" then this seminar is for you!

**A one hour counseling session will follow for those interested in meeting with a SCORE counselor.**

For more information and to register for the seminar, please contact Dale Malm at SCORE

**352-249-1236**

Seating is limited.

**Citrus Springs Library  
BOOK SALE**  
is coming to  
the **COMMUNITY CENTER**  
on Citrus Springs Blvd.



**February 17, 10am - 7pm  
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Call **563-5966**  
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# The Mini Page

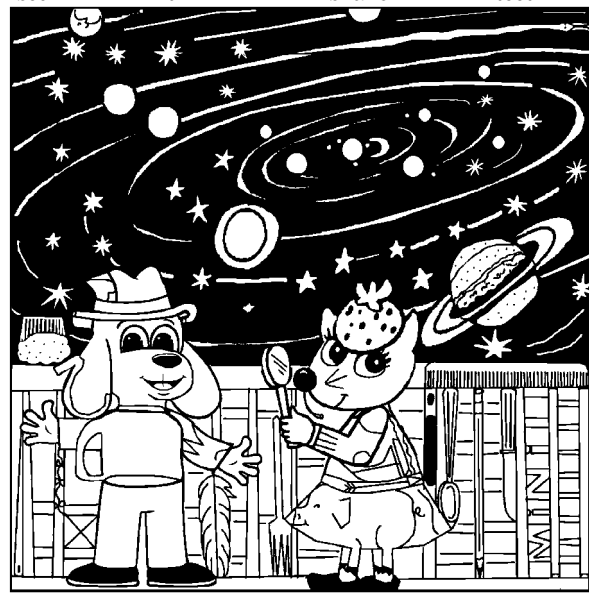
Betty Debnam, Founding Editor and Editor at Large



## Mini Spy . . .

Mini Spy and Basset Brown are observing a map of a galaxy. See if you can find:

- exclamation mark
- man in the moon
- pig
- pencil
- kite
- feather
- ladder
- hamburger
- sailboat
- knife
- number 0
- heart
- word MINI
- needle
- fork
- number 2
- spoon
- cane
- comb
- strawberry
- arrow
- mug
- sock
- muffin
- snake
- tooth



## Planets Outside Our Solar System

# Seeking New Worlds

In December, NASA announced that it had confirmed the discovery of a planet orbiting a different star, or star. Two things made this discovery especially exciting. First, the planet was roughly the size of Earth. Second, the planet was at the necessary distance from its star to support life.

We don't know if there is life on that planet. We just know it's in the right place to make life possible. This planet, Kepler-22b, is one of thousands of **exoplanets** we have found in the last few years. An exoplanet (EX-o-PLAN-et) is a planet outside our **solar system**. \*Until about 20 years ago, we had not found any.

The Mini Page talked with an expert at NASA to find out more about these exciting new discoveries. **Planets around our sun** Until the late 1700s, people knew of only six planets, including Earth. In 1781, an astronomer discovered Uranus. Observers had spotted it before, but had thought it was a star. In 1846, astronomers discovered Neptune. Pluto, now called a dwarf planet, was discovered in 1930.

\*The solar system is made up of the sun and all the bodies that orbit it, including planets, moons and asteroids. "The sun" is what we call our star.



This is an artist's idea of what planet Kepler-22b might look like. No one knows yet if it's mostly gaseous, liquid or rocky, like Earth. We don't know if it has an atmosphere and clouds, although the artist is imagining it might.

### Beyond our solar system

Then, in 1992, astronomers found the first exoplanets. They were **orbiting**, or going around, a type of star called a **pulsar** (PUL-sahr).

A pulsar is basically a dead star that has collapsed. It looks as if it is giving out regular **pulses**, or bursts, of light or radio waves, much like a lighthouse beam.

Experts say if you took a planet like Earth, blew off all the water and blasted it with heat, the hot ball remaining would be like a planet orbiting a pulsar. Nothing living would survive.

### Orbiting an alien star

About three years later, astronomers found the first exoplanet orbiting a regular star. It was about the size of Jupiter. It was so close to its sun that its year was only about four days.

This discovery astonished astronomers. They had expected other star systems to be like our own solar system, with big planets far from the sun and smaller planets closer to the sun.

### Earth-size planets

Most exoplanets scientists have found have been giant planets like Jupiter or Saturn. That does not mean there are more giant planets out there. It just means the big planets are easier to find.

Kepler-22b is nearly 2 1/2 times as big as Earth. It is a super-Earth-size planet. About 200 of the 2,300 exoplanets found so far have been roughly Earth-sized.



Jupiter is a much bigger planet than Earth. More than 1,300 Earths could fit inside it.

## Rookie Cookie's Recipe

### Cherry Tomato Snacks

#### You'll need:

- 10 to 12 cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1/3 cup spreadable cheese (any flavor)
- 1/4 cup chopped olives

#### What to do:

1. Place cherry tomato halves on a plate; blot the tops with paper towels.
2. Spread cheese evenly on tops of tomatoes.
3. Spoon chopped olives on tops.

You will need an adult's help with this recipe.

## Meet Steven Spielberg

Steven Spielberg directed and co-produced the movies "The Adventures of Tintin" and "War Horse."

Steven is a well-known director and producer. Some of the movies he has directed include "Jaws," "E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial," "Close Encounters of the Third Kind," the "Indiana Jones" movies and "Jurassic Park." He has won three Academy Awards. His motion pictures have won many more.

Steven, 65, was born in Cincinnati, Ohio. He began his career by directing TV shows and short movies.

He has supported many charities, including groups helping to keep the memory of Holocaust victims strong. He has helped lead the Starlight Children's Foundation, an organization that aids seriously ill children.

## Gus Goodsport's Report

### Supersport: Jordan Taylor

To make Wisconsin basketball coach Bo Ryan's "swing" offense zing, it helps to have a point guard like Jordan Taylor. Noted for his efficiency, the senior protects the ball as if it were gold, dishes out assists and scores in double digits.

As a second-team All-American last year, Taylor averaged 18.1 points and shot almost 43 percent on three-pointers.

The tenacious Badger is one of the nation's most complete players, having also made first-team All-Big Ten and the league's All-Defensive Team last year.

A solid student, Taylor won Minnesota's High School League Academic Achievement Award. Now he's a business major — and he's all business on the basketball court.

# Planet Hunting

### Hidden by the light

It is very hard to find planets. A star can be a million times brighter than a planet. The glare of the star makes it hard to see exoplanets. We have seen only a few of them directly.

Astronomers find most planets by noticing whether the star's light changes on a regular basis. If it does, it means a planet may be orbiting it.

There are two main ways of watching starlight to find planets.

### Checking a star's rainbow

Light can be divided into bands of color like a rainbow. This rainbow effect is called a **spectrum** (SPEK-trum).

Astronomers watch for tiny changes in a star's spectrum. The gravity of the planet and star pull each other like two dancers. The star's spectrum appears to shift back and forth.



This is an artist's idea of what two planets would look like crossing in front of a star. These two planets are from the recently discovered Kepler-9 system. The planets are each about the size of Saturn. Kepler-9 is the first star system the Kepler Mission found with several planets crossing their sun.

### Star-crossed planets

Watching for the change in a star's spectrum works well for big planets. But it is much harder with smaller planets.

To find smaller planets, astronomers search for signs that a planet is crossing in front of a star. This crossing is called a **transit** (TRAN-zit).

A planet transit causes a small dip in the starlight. If the planet is large enough, this dip can be measured from telescopes on Earth. But this doesn't work for Earth-size planets.

### The Kepler Mission

NASA's Kepler spacecraft was launched in March 2009. Its mission is to find Earth-size planets that could possibly support life.

It examines about 150,000 stars, measuring regular, tiny dips in the starlight. The starlight must dip three times, showing three orbits, before Kepler marks a planetary discovery.

Each planet discovered by Kepler must be confirmed by other methods. Until then, the new planet is called a "planet candidate."

# Discovering Alien Worlds

### Alien worlds count soaring

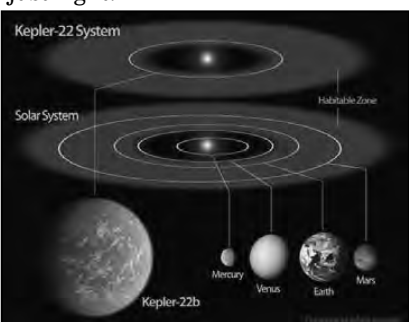
So far, the Kepler Mission has found more than 2,300 exoplanet candidates. Astronomers expect that most of these discoveries will be confirmed as true planets.

Astronomers throughout the world are discovering more exoplanets. Here are some exoplanet discoveries that excite our imaginations.

### The Goldilocks planet

The discovery of Kepler-22b is so important because it is the first Earth-size exoplanet that we know is in an area where there could be liquid water. If there is water, there could be life.

This special area is called the "habitable zone." Some experts also call it the "Goldilocks Zone." It is not too hot or too cold to support life. It is just right.



This diagram shows how the Kepler-22 habitable zone compares to our own.

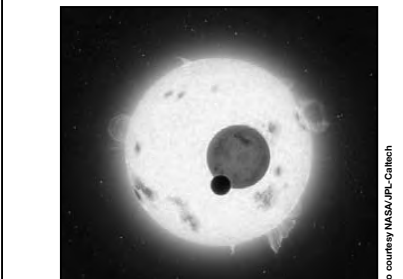


Kepler-10b is the first rocky planet discovered by the Kepler Mission. Planets like Earth are rocky planets. Giant planets like Jupiter are called gas planets because much of their body is made up of gas. This is an artist's idea of what Kepler-10b might look like in front of its sun.

### A planet like Tatooine

The Kepler Mission has also found an exoplanet with two suns, like Luke Skywalker's home planet, Tatooine, in "Star Wars." This planet, Kepler-16b, would not support life, however.

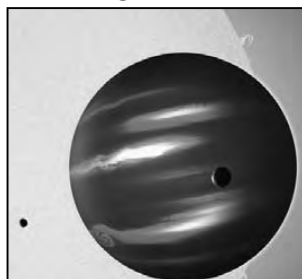
When the first "Star Wars" movie came out, most scientists thought a planet that circled two suns was impossible. Now, astronomers have found that exoplanets can orbit double stars.



Kepler-16b is a gaseous planet. People could not actually live there.

### A planet as dark as coal

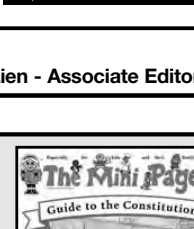
Astronomers have found a planet that reflects so little light, it is darker than coal. Astronomers are not sure what is in its atmosphere that makes it so dark. It is so hot, though, that it does make a bit of its own red light.



The dark planet TrES-2b is about 750 light-years away. One light-year is about 6 trillion miles!

### Diamond planet

Astronomers have found an exoplanet made of carbon so tightly pressed together that it has probably turned to diamond. It may have once been a star.



## Mighty Funny's Mini Jokes

All the following jokes have something in common. Can you guess the common theme or category?

**Perry:** What planet most resembles a fish?  
**Paul:** Neptuna!

**Pete:** What planet has the worst environment?  
**Pam:** Polluto!

**Patty:** How did one planet take another to court?  
**Percy:** It filed a space suit!

## Basset Brown The News Hound's Planets

Words that remind us of exoplanets are hidden in the block below. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally. See if you can find: ALIEN, ASTRONOMERS, ATMOSPHERE, COAL, DIAMOND, EARTH, EXOPLANET, GAS, GOLDILOCKS, HABITABLE, HOT, LIFE, SKY, SOLAR, STAR, SUN, SYSTEM, TATOOINE, TELESCOPE, TRANSIT, WATER.

OUR SKY IS FULL OF SURPRISES!

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

## Ready Resources

The Mini Page provides ideas for websites, books or other resources that will help you learn more about this week's topics.

### On the Web:

- nasa.gov/kepler
- planethunters.org
- planetquest.jpl.nasa.gov
- jpl.nasa.gov/education/telescopes

### At the library:

- "13 Planets: The Latest View of the Solar System" by David A. Aguilar

## The Mini Page® Guide to the Constitution

The popular nine-part series on the Constitution, written in collaboration with the National Archives, is now packaged as a colorful 32-page softcover book. The series covers:

- the preamble, the seven articles and 27 amendments
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Please send \_\_\_\_\_ copies of *The Mini Page Guide to the Constitution* (Item #0-7407-6511-6) at \$13.45 each, total cost. (Bulk discount information available upon request.) [www.smartwarehousing.com](http://www.smartwarehousing.com)

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City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_



**News NOTES**

**Oakwood Village homeowners meet**

The Oakwood Village Homeowners' Association will meet at 1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9, at the Central Ridge Library.

The speaker will be Citrus County Sheriff Jeff Dawsey. For more information, call Dee Brown at 352-249-7651.

**Wisconsinites to gather in C.R.**

The Wisconsin Social Club will meet at 11:30 a.m. today, Feb. 8, at Crystal Point Community Center off Citrus Avenue north, Crystal River.

All former Wisconsinites and snowbirds are welcome to attend the potluck luncheon. Everyone is asked to bring a dish and a good appetite. Plans will be made regarding next month's meeting. Anyone wishing to stay after lunch and play cards or board games is encouraged to do so.

For more information, call Joyce at 352-860-1292.

**Butterfly Club meeting is Sunday**

Beverly Hills Butterfly Club will meet at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 12, at the community building in Beverly Hills, 1 Civic Circle.

Speaker will be Gary Maidhof about the dark side of butterfly collecting. This promises to be a great subject for all interested in butterfly conservation and nature.

For more information, call Chris at 352-527-8629.

**Jazz concert will be sweet treat**

The sweet sounds of jazz will be heard Thursday, Feb. 9, in the Old Courthouse Heritage Museum in Inverness. The concert, sponsored by the Citrus County Historical Society, features the music of Southern Exposure, with vocalists Kim Evans and Eddie Lawrence.

The concert begins with a 6 p.m. reception with appetizers from Deco Café and a cash bar. The duo Double Trouble, consisting of cellist Jim Davis and violinist Mariah Dixon, will perform during the reception.

Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased over the phone or at the museum. Call 352-341-6427.

**Pool closed for maintenance**

Bicentennial Park Pool, 8145 W. Bicentennial Park Drive, Crystal River, is closed for maintenance through Friday, Feb. 10. The pool should reopen on Saturday, Feb. 11. Call 352-795-1478.

**Adopt A RESCUED PET**

**Baby Boy**



Special to the Chronicle  
**Baby Boy is a darling black pug weighing approximately 23 pounds, and is approximately 5 years old. He is a very sweet, calm boy with a wonderful disposition. He gets along great with other dogs. Adopt A Rescued Pet Inc. does home visits prior to adoptions and can only adopt to the Citrus County area. Call 352-795-9550 and leave your name, number and pet's name for a return call. Visit [www.adoptarescuedpet.com](http://www.adoptarescuedpet.com) for our other pets and the adoption calendar with locations, dates and times.**

**Time for veggie gardens**

*Master gardeners to present free clinics*

*Special to the Chronicle*

Spring and all our fancies turn to thoughts of — vegetable gardening. Now is the time to start planning/seeding warm-season vegetables.

The start time for tomatoes, peppers and summer squash (among oth-

ers) is now and not April/May as it was up North. The February Master Gardener Plant Clinics will focus on "Warm Season Vegetable Crops."

The remaining schedule is:

■ Wednesday, Feb. 8, at 1:30 p.m., Central Ridge Library, Beverly Hills;

■ Friday, Feb. 10, at 1:30 p.m., Coastal Region Library, Crystal River;

■ Tuesday, Feb. 14, at 1 p.m., Lakes Region Library, Inverness;

■ Wednesday, Feb. 15, at 1 p.m., Citrus Springs Library;

■ Tuesday, Feb. 28, at 2 p.m., Homosassa Library.

Master gardener volunteers will share their expertise and answer questions on this topic or any other gardening topic.

For more information, call the Extension Service at 352-527-5700.

**NAMI Citrus welcomes Joshua Simon**

Anyone who is in the "Mental Health Orbit" — whether as volunteers in a group such as NAMI, or as parents, consumers and professionals — all know that when it comes to shortages, we have an abundance. One real shortage across our 50 states is in the area of doctors of child psychiatry.

The Centers is fortunate to have contracted with Dr. Joshua Simon, a certified

child psychiatrist, one of a limited number in the U.S. His wife, Minerva, is now the director of The Centers on County Road 491 in Lecanto.

Dr. Simon has just written a book, with one chapter being devoted to the issues of self-esteem that plague teenagers and "those who have been teenagers," and he will be addressing NAMI

Citrus on the subject at its meeting Monday, Feb. 13, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on County Road 486.

Doors will open at 6:30 p.m., with our speaker beginning at 6:45. We have invited any with an interest in teen issues, especially counselors in our public school system, to be guests for the evening.

As always, all those with

an interest in mental health issues are welcome. Following the speaker's presentation, there will be question-and-answer time and refreshments.

NAMI Citrus' Warm Line continues to be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, at 352-341-2273 for information and referrals.

Marilyn Booth is a member of NAMI Citrus.

**Seniors vs. Crime**



Special to the Chronicle

Region IV leaders of Seniors vs. Crime, a joint project of area law enforcement agencies and the Florida Attorney General's Office, recently recognized some of Citrus County's key players for their vision, commitment and active role in advocating for victims of scams, frauds and deceptive business practices. Plaques of appreciation were presented to Sheriff Jeff Dawsey and SvC storefront manager Don Moran, while longtime Seniors vs. Crime volunteer Robert "Bob" Multer received the regional director's award for his service. Operational since July 2002, Citrus County's SvC storefront in Beverly Hills has recovered more than \$2 million in losses for local seniors bilked by unscrupulous telemarketers, vendors and others. From left are: Dawsey, Multer, Region IV Deputy Director Stephen Renico, Region IV Regional Director Barbara Thomas and Moran.

**News NOTES**

**Come swing with your sweetheart**

Encore Swing Band will have a Sweethearts Ball at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 10, at the Calvary Chapel Café, 960 S. U.S. 41 in Inverness.

Everyone is invited to bring a sweetheart for dinner, desserts, music and dancing. Tickets are \$30 per couple or \$15 for a single. Call 352-726-1480 for tickets and information.

**Yoga teachers to stage open house**

Nature Coast Yoga Teachers Association invites the public to join them for a free open house to celebrate Yoga Day USA 2012 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11.

Three free classes will be offered throughout the day, providing an opportunity to learn how to achieve that same fresh-from-sleep energized feeling with yoga.

The classes are for those with little or no yoga experience as well as those who want to strengthen the foundation of their yoga practice

The open house will be at Inverness Yoga & Wellness Center, 118 N. Pine Ave.

No registration is required. Free literature will be available.

For more information, email Lace at [lace@yogawithlace.com](mailto:lace@yogawithlace.com) or call 352-201-0149.

**Garden Club to look at crape myrtles**

Floral City Garden Club will meet at noon Friday, Feb. 10, at the Community Building on East Orange Avenue.

The program will start at 12:30 p.m. and the business meeting will start at 1:30 p.m. Michael Hamden will talk about pruning crape myrtles, followed by discussion time.

All meetings are open to the public. For more information, call club President Christine Hamden at 352-341-3247.

**Health Fair set at Citrus High School**

Mended Hearts of Citrus County Health Fair will take place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Feb. 10, in the Gulf Room at the Historic Citrus High School (the old red brick building). Parking is available in Lot A2 across from the main entrance of the hospital with shuttle service available. The public is invited.

For more information, call Cardio Vascular Services at 352-344-6416.

**Learn about dream analysis Feb. 11**

New Age Thinkers will meet at 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, at Ellie Schiller Homosassa Wildlife State Park (Florida Conference Room).

This month's topic will be "Dream Analysis" with guest speaker and author Bill Dodd. Dodd has been doing radio and TV presentations for more than 20 years. He has degrees in psychology and philosophy and studied at the Joseph Campbell Institute. Dodd will discuss his book "Dream On," as well as his shaman and spiritual works.

All are welcome. For more information, email [miss-donna@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:miss-donna@tampabay.rr.com) or call Donna at 352 628-3253.

**Bonsai enthusiasts gather in Inverness**

Buttonwood Bonsai Club will meet at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, at Key Training Center, 130 Heights St., Inverness.

Clay Gratz will demonstrate miniature bonsai techniques. The meetings are open to the public and visitors are welcome.

For more information, call president Bob Esketz at 352-556-4999 or Duane Finch Sr. at 352-726-9261.

**Group seeks to foster racial unity**

The Institute for Healing Racism, an informal discussion group to foster healing and racial unity, will meet from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, at Central Ridge Library, 425 W. Roosevelt Blvd., Beverly Hills.

All are welcome to the meetings, scheduled for the second Saturday each month.

**Nordic sons gather in Spring Hill**

SPRING HILL — Sons of Norway, Sun Viking Lodge No. 607 will meet at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 10, at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 6193 Spring Hill Drive.

All are welcome to the Valentine's Day celebration and lamb stew dinner. For reservations, call Jan at 352-686-6538 or Gladys at 727-868-6302.

Sons of Norway is an international fraternal society open to persons of Scandinavian background, affiliation by marriage or anyone interested in Nordic culture. Call Elsie at 352-666-2220.

**Concert to help Carver center**

The George Washington Carver Community Center Inc. will present the Tampa Bay Chapter Musical live in concert at 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11, at Pillar Ground IHOG, 557 N.E. Second Ave., Crystal River.

All proceeds will benefit the George Washington Carver Community Center Building Project. For more information, call Coressa Natteal at 352-257-8388, Jacqueline Hopkins at 352-795-3895 or Jarrod Campbell at 352-257-4348.

**News NOTES**

**Military Card Party on tap**

All are invited to a Military Card Party for the Crystal Oaks Civic Association on Thursday, Feb. 9, in the Crystal Oaks Community (State Road 44 and Crystal Oaks Drive, Lecanto).

Lunch will be served at noon; card play begins at 1 p.m. Tickets are \$12. Reservations are required. There will be lots of fun, prizes, lunch and a raffle.

Call either Anthea at 352-249-4415 or Edie at 352-746-4216.

**Club plans 'Oscar Night 2012'**

Rotary Club of Sugarmill Woods will host a gala on Feb. 26 at the Sugarmill Woods Country Club.

"Oscar Night 2012" will be an evening of fine dining and dancing with music from the movies, silent auction, prizes, four-course dinner featuring filet mignon with Gulf shrimp and a complimentary open bar during the evening.

Proceeds will be used in Citrus County to continue the club's many service projects.

Ticket price is \$125; \$500 for a reserved table of four. However, reserved tables of eight are available at \$795, or \$99 per person.

Call Angela Tanzer at 352-382-4700 or Linda Proffer at 352-422-6951 or visit [www.RotarySMW.com](http://www.RotarySMW.com) for more information.

There are also advertising and sponsorship opportunities for inclusion in the keep-sake program.

**Audubon Society will meet Feb. 15**

Citrus County Audubon Society will meet at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 15, at Unity Church of Citrus County.

Guest speaker will be Marianne Korosy, Audubon of Florida's Important Bird Area coordinator. Her presentation, "Forests, Beaches, Marshes and Shrublands: Chapter Opportunities in Important Bird Areas," will focus on some of Florida's 100 designated Important Bird Areas that encompass a range of habitats including forests, grasslands and shrublands, coastal beaches and tidal marshes, and migratory stopover habitats.

Tour some of Florida's special IBAs and find out where the birds can lead us in citizen science, conservation and outreach.

All CCAS events are open to the public. For more information, visit [CitrusCountyAudubon.com](http://CitrusCountyAudubon.com).

**Come learn about inventions**

Citrus County Inventors will meet at 10 .m. Friday, Feb. 10, at Lakes Region Library on Druid Road in Inverness.

Topic for this meeting will be "Favorite Inventions." The meeting is open to all interested in the invention process, including seasoned and potential inventors. Meetings are the second Friday each month. There are no dues.

Call Mary at 352-527-2827 for additional information.

**Meet new friends with Newcomers**

Citrus Newcomers Club will meet for its February luncheon at Black Diamond Golf and Country Club Thursday, Feb. 16.

Citrus County Chronicle writer, Christian author and inspirational speaker Nancy Kennedy will be featured speaker. Her topic will be "Laughing at the Days to Come." Reservations for the luncheon must be made by Thursday, Feb. 9. For more information, call Carolyn Moss at 352-746-6445 or Sharon Gatz at 352-270-3908.

WEDNESDAY EVENING FEBRUARY 8, 2012. Grid of TV channels and programs from 6:00 to 11:30 PM.

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek. Includes word search grid and cartoon illustration.

Answers tomorrow: Yesterday's Jumbles: BLAZE HATCH OBJECT SAILOR. Answer: Playing the sun in the play about the solar system allowed him to -- BE A STAR

Bridge PHILLIP ALDER Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

William Feather, a publisher and author who died in 1981, said, "Concentrate on your job and you will forget your other troubles..." Concentrate on your bridge and you will forget your other troubles...

Bridge hand. Dealer: South. Vulnerable: East-West. Cards: North (♠ 2-8-12, ♣ K 9 6 4 3, ♥ K J 10 9 6 4 3, ♦ --, ♠ Q), East (♠ --, ♥ --, ♦ J 9 7 6 5 4 2, ♣ A K 9 8 3 2), South (♠ 10 2, ♥ A Q 8 7 5 2, ♦ A K Q, ♣ J 6). Deal: South 1♥, West 2♠, North 4NT, East ??.

- ACROSS: 1 Hypnotized, 6 Swig, 11 Go hungry, 12 Tornado cloud, 13 Dreamed of, 14 Cheese often grated, 15 Oscar nominee, 16 Darth's daughter, 17 Rochester clinic, 18 Brewery tank, 19 Mlle., in Barcelona, 23 Had down pat, 25 Ball of yarn, 26 Uncle or granddad, 29 Ike's missus, 31 Tolerated, 32 Shout of surprise, 33 Bring cheer, 34 Mo. multiples, 35 Rubber tree sap.

- DOWN: 1 City near Syracuse, 2 Disgustingly dirty, 3 "Only Sixteen" group (2 wds.), 4 Anon's companion, 37 Ohio college town, 39 Ski lift (hyph-), 40 Part of mph, 41 Thin fog, 45 Jet engine noise, 47 Sponge features, 48 Carmaker's woe, 51 Loving gesture, 52 Rock tumbler stones, 53 Not plain, 54 Georgetown gridders, 55 Topsy-turvy.

Want more puzzles? Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com. Includes crossword puzzle grid with numbered starting points.

Answer to Previous Puzzle. Crossword grid with answers: VHF, AHS, LOGO, OUD, LOIS, EDIT, TRIALRUN, VOLT, ETCHED, OVERDO, EYE, RAE, TOGAS, GEISHA, ICED, BARN, ITD, ETAMAGS, MEMO, ORBITS, POSSE, YET, BUG, SELENE, UNUSED, SLOB, NECKLACE, TINY, SAKI, SHE, SAGE, TSE, HOP.

Dear Annie: I have been married to "Clifford" for 36 years. He recently told me he is in love with his secretary and wants to be with her. Did I mention she is 23 and in the process of getting a divorce? Clifford is the last person I would have expected to do this. I know I can be difficult, but he's not perfect, either. I love him and thought he felt the same. He says he doesn't know whom he wants to be with, but he spends all his time with his girlfriend, so I don't have much of a chance of getting him back.

ANNIE'S MAILBOX. Includes photo of Annie and text: We have two grown children who are totally disillusioned and disappointed in their father. Do I wait for him to decide? For how long? -- Crushed Heart. Dear Crushed: See a lawyer immediately. Whatever Clifford decides, you must protect yourself financially in the interim.

both work and make good incomes. He has two daughters, now aged 16 and 19, and I have been their stepmom for 12 years. I love them dearly. Last Christmas, each child received nearly \$400 in cash gifts from the extended family. A week later, both girls saw jackets they wanted. I said we would pay half and they could use some of their Christmas money to contribute the other half. One chose to buy a \$140 jacket. The other decided not to buy anything. I find that they are choosier when they chip in.

can't understand why their husbands still want intimacy. That was me a few years ago. I had no desire for sex, but complied, as I felt it was my "duty." Eight years ago, we moved to a new city, which meant new doctors. I found a wonderful ob-gyn who was compassionate and intuitive. She asked about my libido, and I told her the truth. She explained in depth about how hormones can become depleted after menopause. I had taken synthetic hormones, but stopped due to health concerns. She said they now have safer alternatives and suggested I try a low dose. Of course, there is always a slight risk involved with any medication, but I was willing to try.

Peanuts



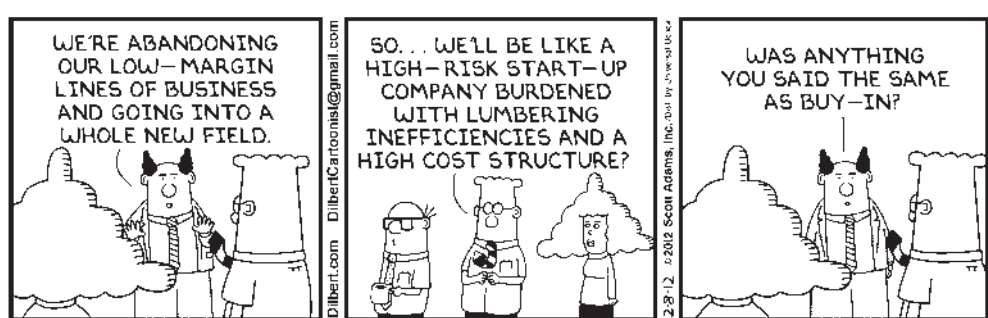
Pickles



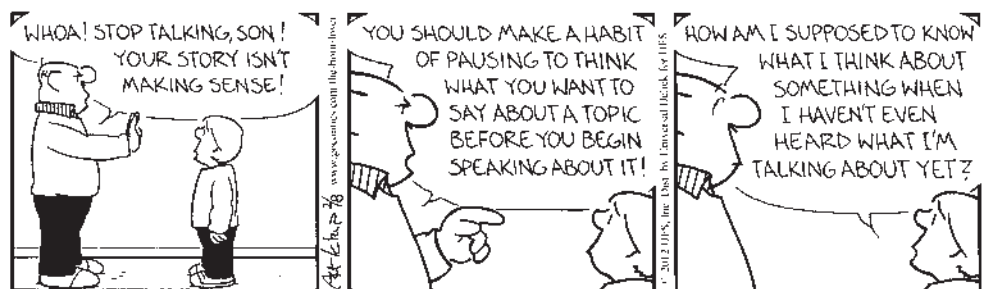
Sally Forth



Dilbert



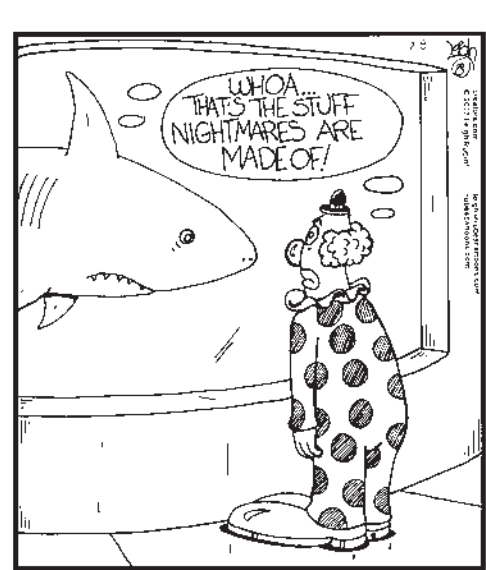
The Born Loser



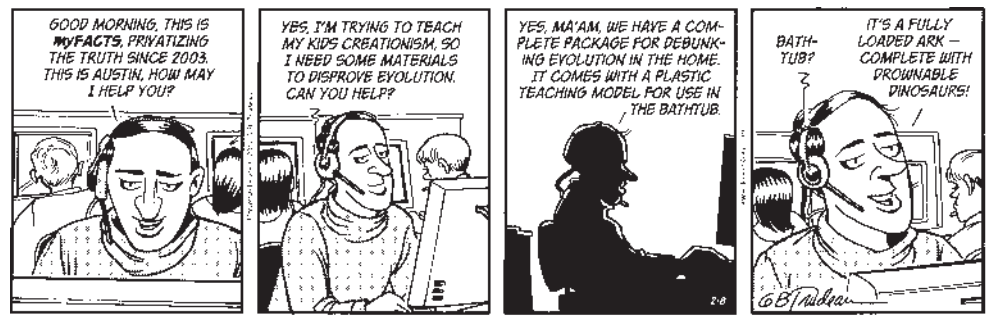
Kit 'N' Carlyle



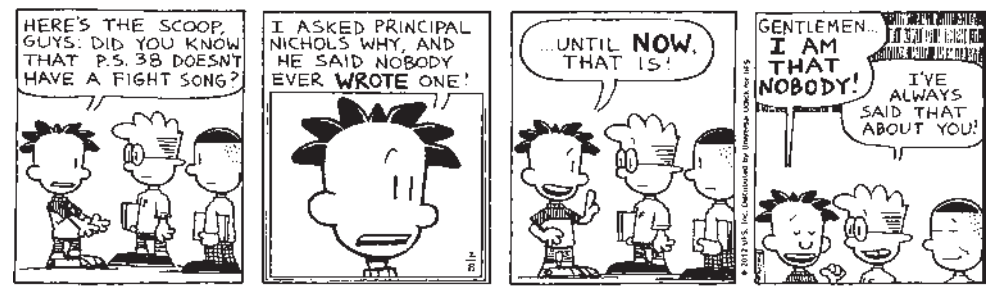
Rubes



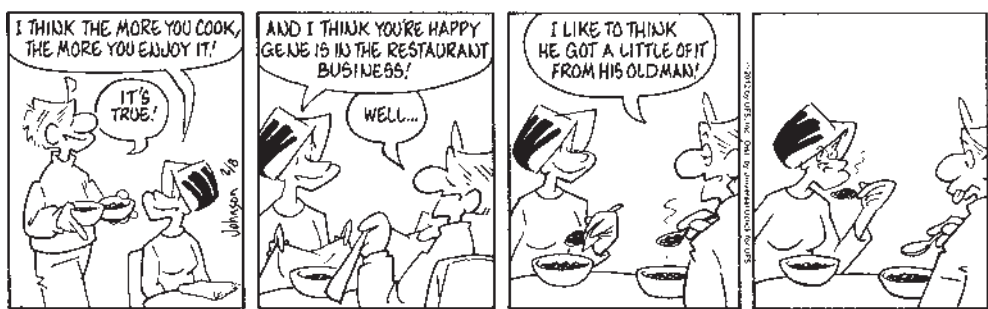
Doonesbury



Big Nate



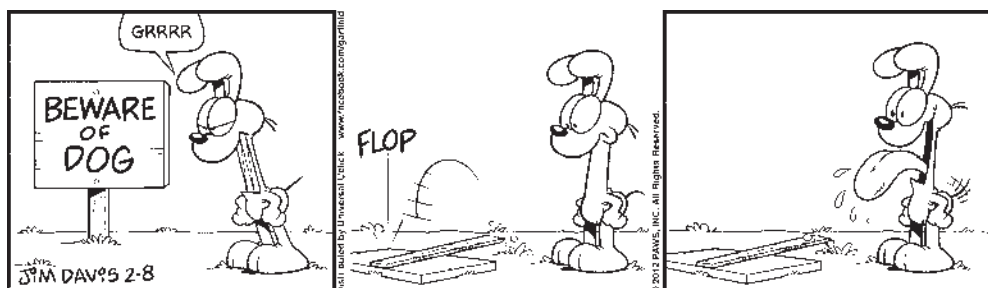
Arlo and Janis



Today's MOVIES

Citrus Cinemas 6 — Inverness; 637-3377
"Chronicle" (PG-13) 1:50 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 7:50 p.m.
"The Grey" (R) ID required. 1:20 p.m., 4:10 p.m., 7:20 p.m.
"Man on a Ledge" (PG-13) 1:30 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m.
"One For The Money" (PG-13) 1:40 p.m., 4:40 p.m., 7:40 p.m.
"Red Tails" (PG-13) 1 p.m., 4 p.m., 7:10 p.m.
"Joyful Noise" (PG-13) 1:10 p.m., 4:20 p.m., 7:05 p.m.
Crystal River Mall 9; 564-6864
"The Woman in Black" (PG-13) 1:55 p.m., 4:50 p.m., 7:45 p.m.
"Chronicle" (PG-13) 1:35 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m.
"Big Miracle" (PG) 1:20 p.m., 4:20 p.m., 7:20 p.m.
"Man on a Ledge" (PG-13) 2 p.m., 4:35 p.m., 7:50 p.m.
"One For The Money" (PG-13) 1:45 p.m., 4:05 p.m., 7:10 p.m.
"The Grey" (R) ID required. 1:30 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 7:40 p.m.
"Underworld Awakening" (R) ID required. In Real 3D. 1:30 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 7:40 p.m. No passes.
"Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close" (PG-13) 1:15 p.m., 4:10 p.m., 7:05 p.m.
"The Descendants" (R) ID required. 1:25 p.m., 4 p.m., 7 p.m.
Visit www.chronicleonline.com for area movie listings and entertainment information.

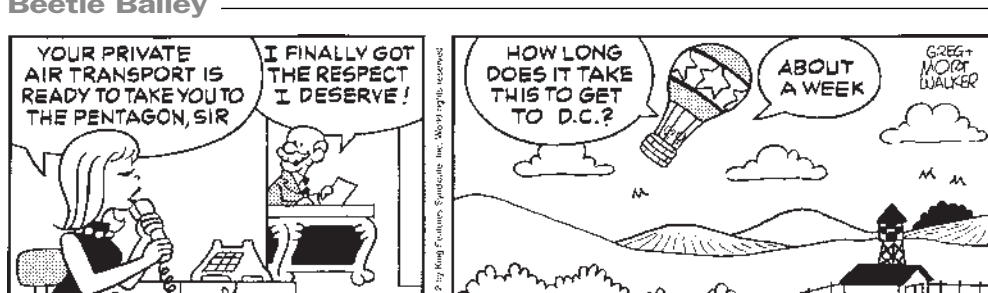
Garfield



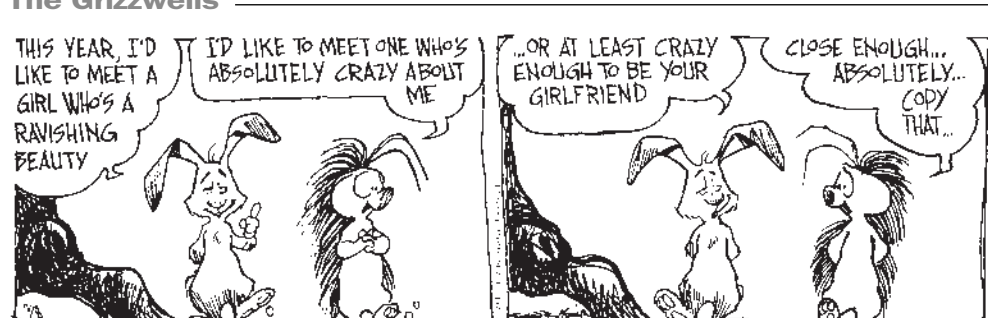
For Better or For Worse



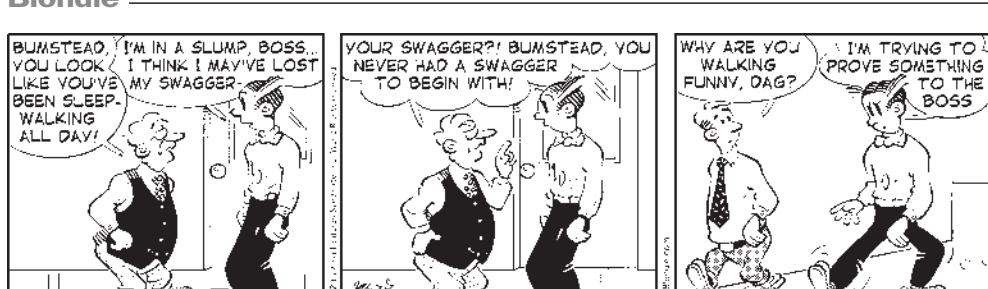
Beetle Bailey



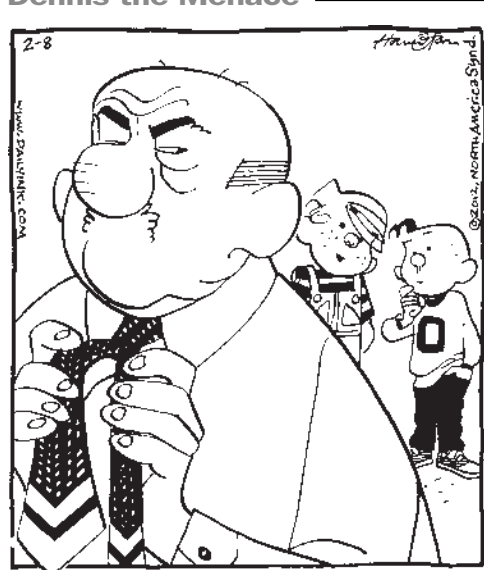
The Grizzwells



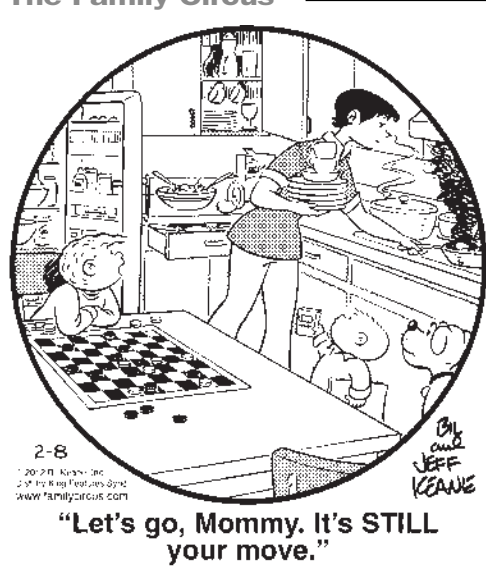
Blondie



Dennis the Menace



The Family Circus



Betty



Frank & Ernest



Local RADIO
WJUF-FM 90.1 National Public
WNGN-FM 91.9 Religious
WXCW-FM 95.3 Adult Contemp.
WXOF-FM 96.3 Adult Mix
WEKJ FM 96.7, 103.9 Religious
WSKY 97.3 FM News Talk
WXJB 99.9 FM News Talk
WRGO-FM 102.7 Oldies
WYKE-FM 104.3 Sports Talk
WUVV 105.5 FM Hudson
WJQB-FM 106.3 Oldies
WFJV-FM 103.3 '50s, '60s, '70s
WRZN-AM 720 Adult Standards

CELEBRITY CIPHER by Luis Campos
Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.
TODAY'S CLUE: W equals F
"KZKHSDEK BTENX ND JEGKHXNTEG
MTRENREY. BPS RX NPKHK ED TNNKAMN
ND JEGKHXNTEG NPK XDEY DW NPK
URHGX?" - MTUCD MROTXXD
Previous Solution: "Drama assumes an order. If only so that it might have - by disrupting that order - a way of surprising." - Vaclav Havel
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